

JOURNAL

OF THE

CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OF THE

DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA,

WHICH ASSEMBLED IN THE TOWN OF FREDERICKSBURG,

On the 18th day of May, 1836.

RICHMOND:
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1836.

JOURNAL, &c.

FREDERICKSBURG, Wednesday, May 18, 1836.

This being the day appointed by the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia, for the meeting of the Annual Convention of the same, the Right Rev. Richard Channing Moore, D.D. Bishop of the Diocese, and the Rt. Rev. William Meade, Assistant Bishop, with a large number of the Clergy and Laity, assembled at half past 10 o'clock, A. M. in St. George's Church.

Morning prayers were read by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Moore, assisted in part, by the Rev. James Milnor, D.D. Secretary and General Agent of the Foreign Committee of the Board of Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and a sermon was preached by the Rev. Adam Empie, D.D.

The Rt. Rev. R. C. Moore took the chair as President of the Convention.

A list of the Clergy entitled to seats was called over by the Secretary, and the following answered to their names and took their seats as members, viz:

- Rev. Ephraim Adams, Christ Church, Lancaster.
- " George Adie, Shelburne Parish, Loudoun.
- " C. W. Andrews, General Agent of the Virginia Colonization Society.
- " Hobart M. Bartlett, Assistant Minister of Bristol Parish, Petersburg.
- " Parke F. Berkeley, Raleigh Parish, Amelia, and Dale Parish, Chesterfield.
- " William V. Bowers, St. Martin's Parish, Hanover and Louisa.
- " Edmund Christian, Albemarle.
- " John T. Clark, Mount Laurel Church, Antrim Parish, Halifax.
- " N. H. Cobbs, Russel Parish, Bedford.
- " J. M. Cofer, Tillotson Parish, Buckingham.
- " John Cole, Abingdon and Ware Parishes, Gloucester.
- " John Cooke, Hanover.
- " Charles B. Dana, Christ Church, Fairfax Parish.
- " James Doughan, officiating in Bloomfield Parish, Madison, and St. Stephen's Church, Culpeper.
- " Charles Dresser, Antrim Parish, Halifax.
- " Adam Empie, D.D. Bruton Parish, Williamsburg.
- " William Friend, St. Mary's Parish, Caroline.
- " Zach. H. Goldsmith, St. Paul and Brunswick Parishes, King George.
- " John Grammer, St. Andrew's Parish, Brunswick, and Bath Parish, Dinwiddie.
- " Chaplin S. Hedges, officiating in Middleway and Harper's Ferry, Jefferson.
- " Johannes E. Jackson, Christ Church, Winchester.
- " William M. Jackson, Wickliffe Parish, Jefferson and Frederick.
- " Alexander Jones, St. Andrew's Parish, Jefferson.
- " William G. H. Jones, St. Thomas' Parish, Orange.
- " Reuel Keith, Professor in the Theological Seminary of Virginia.
- " William F. Lee, Editor of the Southern Churchman, Richmond.
- " Edward R. Lippitt, Professor in the Theological Seminary of Virginia.
- " Charles Mann, Secretary and General Agent of the Education Society.
- " Edward C. McGuire, St. George's Church, Fredericksburg.
- " John P. McGuire, St. Ann, and South Farnham Parishes, Essex.
- " George W. Nelson, Lunenburg and North Farnham Parishes, Richmond County, and Cople Parish, Westmoreland.

- Rev. Alexander Norris, Westover Parish, Charles City.
 " Charles H. Page, Lexington Parish, Amherst, and Nelson Parish, Nelson.
 " Nelson Sale, Amherst Parish, Amherst, and Cumberland Parish, Bedford.
 " Thomas Smith, Newport Parish, Isle of Wight.
 " Horace Stringfellow, Frederick Parish.
 " Charles C. Taliaferro, Cumberland Parish, Lunenburg.
 " Wm. N. Ward, St. Margaret's Parish, Caroline, and Berkeley Parish, Spottsylvania.
 " D. M. Wharton, Botetourt Parish, Botetourt.
 " J. P. B. Wilmer, Christ Church, and North Garden Church, Albemarle, and Rockfish Church, Nelson.
 " John H. Wingfield, Trinity Church, Portsmouth Parish, Norfolk County.
 " George Woodbridge, Christ Church, Richmond City.
 " John W. Woodville, St. Mark's Parish, Culpeper.

Philip R. Thompson and Edmund I. Lee, Esquires, were appointed a committee to examine and report upon the certificates of the Lay Delegates.

Resolved, That when this Convention adjourn, it be until half past nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Resolved, That the Rev. Edward C. McGuire, John Gray, and R. T. Thom, Esqs. be a Committee to assign pews for the use of the Convention.

The Secretary received the following contributions to the contingent fund and for the salary of the Bishop, viz:

	Contingent Fund.	Bishop's Fund.
Trinity Church, Staunton,	\$10 00	\$5 00
St. Stephen's Church, Culpeper,	10 00	5 00
St. Thomas' Church, Orange,	10 00	5 00
Russel Parish,	30 00	
St. Paul's Church, Lynchburg,	15 00	8 00
North Farnham Parish, Richmond,	5 00	2 50
St. Andrew's Parish, Brunswick,	15 00	6 86
Bath Parish, Dinwiddie,	15 00	
Bloomfield Parish, Madison,	2 00	2 00
Grace Church, St. Mary's Parish, Caroline,	5 00	4 00
Newport Parish, Isle of Wight,	5 00	2 06
Bristol Parish, Petersburg,	35 00	
Christ Church, Norfolk Borough,	30 00	30 00
Frederickville Parish, Walker's Church,	7 00	3 00
St. Paul's Church, Alexandria,	16 00	15 00
St. James' Parish, Mecklenburg,	12 00	8 00
St. Peter's Church, Port Royal,	15 00	13 00
St. John's Church, Berkeley Parish, Spottsylvania,	3 00	2 00
Trinity Church, Bowling Green,	4 00	1 00
Antrim Parish, Halifax,	20 00	6 00
Camden Parish, Pittsylvania,		2 00
South Farnham Parish, Essex,	10 00	2 60
Zion Church, Charlestown, Jefferson,	10 00	5 00
Shepherdstown Church,	10 00	5 00
Ware and Abingdon Parishes, Gloucester,	25 00	7 35
Botetourt Parish, Botetourt,	16 00	8 00
Trinity Church, Portsmouth Parish,	10 00	5 00
Christ Church Parish, Lancaster,	20 00	6 85
Lunenburg Parish,	5 50	2 50
Piedmont Church, Madison,	5 00	1 50
Lamb's Creek Church, Brunswick Parish, King George,	4 30	1 70
St. John's Church, Elizabeth City Parish,	3 00	2 00
Cumberland Parish, Lunenburg,	10 00	5 00
Frederick Parish, Frederick,	15 00	12 00
Lexington Parish, Amherst,	10 00	2 00
St. George's Church, Fredericksburg,	20 00	20 00
St. Ann's Parish, Essex,	30 00	10 00
Tillotson Parish, Buckingham,	10 00	4 62
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	<i>\$477 80</i>	<i>\$221 54</i>

	Contingent Fund.	Bishop's Fund.
<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	<i>\$477 80</i>	<i>\$221 54</i>
Wickliffe Parish, Jefferson and Frederick,	8 00	4 42
Nelson Parish, Nelson,	7 00	3 12
St. John's Church, Henrico,	15 00	5 00
Shelburne Parish, Loudoun,	26 35	8 75
Raleigh and Dale Parishes,	34 00	5 15
Westover Parish, Charles City,	3 28	2 88
Christ Church, Eastville, Hungar's Parish, Northampton,	14 00	
St. Mark's Parish, Kanawha,	3 04	1 96
St. Mark's Parish, Culpeper,	25 00	
St. Martin's Parish, Hanover and Louisa,	20 00	8 25
St. Ann's Parish, Albemarle,	8 50	
Christ Church, Winchester,	15 00	15 00
Mill Creek, Frederick,	5 00	5 00
St. Margaret's Parish, Caroline,	3 87½	3 00
Christ Church, Fairfax Parish, Alexandria,	30 00	15 00
Bruton Parish, Williamsburg	15 00	5 00
Hamilton Parish, Fauquier,	15 00	6 00
Leed's Parish, Fauquier,	15 00	6 00
Frederickville, Albemarle,	10 00	
Rock Fish Church, Nelson,	4 00	1 00
West Russel Parish, Bedford,	12 00	
St. Paul's Parish, King George,	9 60	2 30
Dr. M. Rowan of Middlesex,	2 00	
Monumental Church, Richmond,	30 00	
Christ Church, Richmond,	25 00	
	<u>\$833 44½</u>	<u>\$319 37</u>

Adjourned till to-morrow morning half past 9 o'clock.

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1836.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Committee appointed to examine the certificates of Lay Delegates presented the following

REPORT:

The Committee to whom was referred the examination of the credentials of the Lay Delegates to the present Convention, report that they have examined the same—and that the following persons, whose elections are authenticated in the manner prescribed by the Canon passed in the year 1829, are entitled to seats in the Convention:

- John Hooff, St. Paul's Church, Alexandria.
 Thomas Atkinson, Jr. Cumberland Parish, Lunenburg.
 Samuel Slaughter and Isaac Winston, St. Stephen's Church, Culpeper.
 William A. Powell, St. James' Church, Shelburne Parish, Leesburg.
 George F. Thornton, St. Asaph Parish, Caroline.
 John F. Conway, Trinity Church, Bloomfield Parish.
 Edmund I. Lee, Christ Church, Alexandria, Fairfax Parish.
 James A. Close, Tillotson Parish, Buckingham.
 Edward C. Thornton, Grace Church, St. Mary's Parish.
 Samuel Pryor, Bath Parish.
 John Smith, Jr. Russel Parish.
 Walter D. Bayne, St. George's Parish, Accomack.
 George M. Carrington, Henrico Parish.
 John Nelson, St. James' Parish, Mecklenburg.
 Philip R. Thompson, St. Mark's Parish, Kanawha.

Seth Ward, St. Paul's Church, Lynchburg.
 George Saunders, Lunenburg Parish, Richmond County.
 Henry Barnes, Piedmont Church, Bloomfield Parish.
 John L. Gardner, St. John's Church, Elizabeth City Parish.
 Daniel Morgan, Trinity Church, Shepherdstown.
 Philip Nelson, Frederick Parish.
 John L. Ransom, Zion Church.
 Robert P. Waring, St. Ann's Parish, Essex.
 Benjamin D. Rust, North Farnham Parish.
 Robert Wood, St. Margaret's, Caroline.
 William M. Waller, Lexington Parish, Amherst.
 Rawleigh W. Downman, Christ Church, Lancaster.
 Joseph F. Montgomery, Trinity Church, Nelson Parish.
 David M. Walke, Trinity Church, Portsmouth.
 Catesby Jones, Ware Parish, Gloucester.
 Edward Valentine and Samuel H. Lewis, Augusta.
 Thomas N. Burwell, Botetourt Parish.
 J. A. Marshall, Hamilton Parish.
 Josiah Tidball, Leed's Parish, Fauquier.
 Francis J. Wyatt, St. John's Church, Berkeley Parish.
 John R. Bryan, Parish of Abingdon, Gloucester.
 Thomas L. Latane, South Farnham.
 Burwell Bassett, Bruton Parish.
 James L. Woodville, Botetourt Parish.
 Reuben T. Thom, St. George's Church, Fredericksburg.
 Edward Colston, Norborne Parish.
 William Hodges, Antrim Parish.
 Jas. G. Taliaferro, Jr. and Edward T. Tayloe, Lamb's Creek Church, Brunswick Parish, King George.

The Committee further report, that the credentials of the following persons are not authenticated as required by the Canon:

Thomas Nelson—his certificate is given by the Rector of the Monumental Church.
 Peter Hansbury, St. Mark's Culpeper.
 Hilary Baker, Christ Church, Richmond, by the Rector.
 Robert G. Strachan, Petersburg, Bristol Parish, by the Rector.
 Mann A. Page, St. Thomas' Church, St. Thomas' Parish, by one Warden.
 William S. Jones, Christ Church, Winchester, by the Rector.
 Mallory M. Todd, New Port Parish, Isle of Wight County, by one Warden.

The Committee further report, that a certificate of three persons as trustees of Christ Church, in the Borough of Norfolk, states that Giles P. Cooke and R. Pollard, or one of them, is appointed the lay delegate from that Church.

The Committee have not been informed which of the persons thus designated attends and claims the seat—and of course cannot state which, if the appointment is properly authenticated, is entitled to the seat. The Committee not knowing what is the peculiar constitution of that church—nor whether the persons who have signed the certificate are the trustees of the legal title in the church house and lot only, or are to be considered as in the place of the Wardens and Vestry, submits to the decision of the Convention whether either of the gentlemen named in the certificate is entitled to a seat in the Convention.

On motion of the Rev. George Woodbridge,

Resolved, That the Report of the Committee on the certificates of Lay Delegates, so far as it relates to the delegates whose certificates have been correctly made, be accepted, and that those gentlemen who have been sent with informal certificates be received as the delegates from the several Parishes to this Convention, with the exception of Christ Church, Norfolk, from which, Mr. Giles P. Cook be recognized as delegate.

The Rev. William H. Hart, St. John's Church, Henrico Parish,
 Rev. J. T. Johnson, St. Paul's Church, Alexandria,
 Rev. R. K. Meade, Frederickville Parish, Albemarle, and
 Rev. Geo. Lemmon, Hamilton and Leed's Parishes, Fauquier, appeared and took their seats as members of the Convention.

Rev. Charles Mann presented a petition from certain persons, members of the congregation of the Falls Church, Fairfax Parish.

On motion,
Resolved, That the said petition and all of a similar character be referred to a special committee.

The following gentlemen were appointed said committee, with permission to sit during the sitting of the Convention:—Rev. Dr. Empie, Rev. John Grammer, Rev. Thomas Smith, Thomas N. Burwell, Burwell Bassett, and Edmund I. Lee, Esqs.

The following Rules of Order were adopted by the Convention:

1. The business of every day shall be introduced with prayer.
 2. When the President takes the Chair, no member shall continue standing, or shall afterwards stand up, except to address the Chair.
 3. No member shall absent himself from the service of the House, unless he have leave, or be unable to attend.
 4. When any member is about to speak in debate, or deliver any matter to the House, he shall with due respect, address himself to the President, confining himself strictly to the point in debate.
 5. No member shall speak more than twice in the same debate, without leave of the House.
 6. A question being once determined, shall stand as the judgment of the House, and shall not be again drawn into debate during the same session, unless with the consent of two-thirds of the House.
 7. While the President is putting any question, the members shall continue in their seats, and shall not hold any private discourse.
 8. Every member who shall be in the House when any question is put, shall, on a division, be counted, unless he be personally interested in the decision.
 9. No motion shall be considered as before the House unless it be seconded, and when required, reduced to writing.
 10. When any question is before the House, it shall be determined upon before any new subject is introduced, except the question of adjournment.
 11. All questions of order shall be decided in the first instance by the Chair, without debate; an appeal however, may be made from his decision to the Convention, by any member of the same.
 12. The question on a motion of adjournment shall be taken before any other, and without debate.
 13. When the House is about to rise, every member shall keep his seat until the President shall leave the chair.
 14. None of the Rules of Order shall be suspended without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.
 15. The President shall, in his discretion, select suitable accommodations within the limits of those pews allotted for the use of the members, which pew shall be appropriated for the accommodation of visiting Clergymen and Students of the Theological School, who may be invited to the same by the President without any special application to the Convention.
- The Chair appointed the following committees:
- Committee on the State of the Church*—Rev. Dr. Empie, Rev. John Grammer, Rev. Charles Mann, Rev. Edward C. McGuire, Thomas N. Burwell, Edmund I. Lee, Burwell Bassett, and Robert P. Waring, Esqs.
- Committee on Treasurer's Accounts*—Rev. John P. McGuire, Rev. Wm. V. Bowers, Samuel Slaughter, and Thomas Nelson, Esqs.
- Committee on the Fund for the support of Widows and Orphans of deceased Clergymen*—Rev. Charles Dresser, Rev. J. E. Jackson, and Philip Nelson, Esq.

Committee on Episcopal Fund—Rev. C. H. Page, Rev. Chas. B. Dana, and John Nelson, Esq.

Committee on the Accounts of the Treasurer of the Missionary Society—Rev. N. H. Cobbs, Rev. C. H. Page, Rev. J. H. Wingfield, and Rev. H. M. Bartlett.

Committee on Parochial Reports—Rev. Ephraim Adams, Rev. C. B. Dana, Rev. William M. Jackson.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Moore read the following address:

To the Clergy and Laity of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Virginia, assembled in Convention in the town of Fredericksburg, May 18th, 1836.

DEAR BRETHREN:

Several years have elapsed since I have had it in my power to meet you in Convention. Blessed, however, with better health than I have enjoyed for a great length of time, and that inability to travel, produced by the complaint under which I labored, being in a great measure removed, I am again favored with an opportunity of uniting with you in the Legislative Council of the Church; and of assuring you of my parental affection and respect. The satisfaction which swells my bosom on this occasion is sensibly increased, brethren, by seeing around me a few of those with whom I became acquainted at my first entrance into the Diocese; men, who took the Church by the hand, in the season of her greatest decrepitude; and who have been spared to witness the blessing of God on their efforts; and to behold the Zion they loved in her distress, now stripped of her weeds, and rejoicing in the God of her salvation.

In accordance with the duty prescribed by the Church, I shall now present you with a view of the Episcopal services I have performed since your last annual meeting.

In the month of June, I visited the county of Amelia, in company with the Rev. William F. Lee, and the Rev. John Cooke, and admitted to the Priesthood the Rev. Parke F. Berkeley. The service was read by the Rev. Mr. Cook; I preached to a very large audience, and administered the Lord's Supper. It is with great pleasure I state to the Convention, that the congregation are in a prosperous condition, and pleased with the labors of their pious and worthy pastor. The Sunday following I repaired to the county of Hanover, and admitted to the Priesthood the Rev. William V. Bowers; the Rev. Mr. Berkeley and the Rev. Mr. Cook being present, who united with me in the imposition of hands, and in the administration of the Lord's Supper. The Church in Hanover continues in a prosperous condition, and are highly satisfied with the services of the Rev. Mr. Bowers.

In the month of July I visited, as usual, that nursery of the Church, the Theological Seminary of Virginia, and attended the examination of the *Senior Class* of Students. In the investigation which was made, in relation to their studies, my mind was satisfied with their proficiency, and highly gratified with the evidence their improvement afforded me of the industry and ability of their teachers. Six of the class were recommended by the Standing Committee, as qualified for holy orders: and on the 16th of the month I admitted to the first grade of the ministry Messrs. Horace Stringfellow, Henry Williams, John Alberger, William H. Deihl, Charles S. Pleasants, and John Martin; and to the Priesthood, the Rev. Philip Slaughter, Jr. On the 23rd of the same month I ordained the Rev. Samuel J. Johnson, of North Carolina, to the Priesthood.

In the month of August I went to Philadelphia to attend the General Convention; and in company with several of my brethren, assisted Bishop White in the consecration of the Rev. Dr. Kemper, who was then set apart as the first Missionary Bishop in the Episcopal Church in these United States.

In the month of October the Rt. Rev. Bishop Otey visited his relations in Bedford county; and at my request confirmed 20 individuals belonging to the Parish of the Rev. Mr. Cobbs. In a letter written to me on the subject, Bishop Otey speaks in fervid terms of the progress of the Church in that district of the Diocese, and of the fidelity and worth of their Pastor, the Rev. Mr. Cobbs.

In December I visited Petersburg, upon which occasion I preached, and administered the rite of confirmation to 13 persons. On the first of April I preached in Christ Church in the city of Richmond, and confirmed 10 individuals.

On Sunday last I went to Port Royal, in the county of Caroline, at which place I consecrated a new Church: a building which is a great ornament to the town, and reflects the greatest credit upon those by whose munificence it has been erected, and which, I trust, will prove a blessing to them and to their children to their latest posterity. The congregation was very large and attentive during the whole service. Prayers were read by several

of the clergy who attended on the occasion—the discourse was delivered by myself—the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered—I baptized 3 children and confirmed 2 persons. It gives me the greatest pleasure to mention to the Convention that a very handsome large silver cup was presented for the use of the altar, by a benevolent gentleman in the Parish; and I have every reason to believe that the sound of an organ will soon accompany the voices of the congregation in singing the praises of God and of the Redeemer of mankind. The Rev. Mr. Friend stands high in the estimation of the people of his Parish; and I trust will see the work of the Lord prosper under his pastoral care.

In compliance with the wishes of the Rev. Mr. Friend, and as an expression of gratitude due to some of the benevolent inhabitants of the city of New York, it is with pleasure I inform the Convention, that on the application of Mr. Hord, (a gentleman to whom the Church in Port Royal is very greatly indebted for his exertions,) for assistance to enable the friends of the Church in Port Royal to finish the work they had undertaken, one of the citizens of New York presented him with an excellent bell; while a number of others united in a gift of several hundred dollars.

I cannot permit this opportunity to pass over without again commending to the attention of the clergy and members of our communion in Virginia, the religious paper published in Richmond by the Rev. William F. Lee.

While the members of other societies consider a weekly paper conducive to their advancement and information, I indulge a hope that the members of the Episcopal Church in Virginia will not permit the Southern Churchman to languish for the want of due encouragement. I take the liberty, therefore, of recommending to the Convention the propriety of considering what steps may be taken to extend its circulation; for, unless it should be better sustained it must shortly be discontinued. If each clergyman would use his best efforts to obtain a few subscribers, the efforts made by Mr. Lee, with the ability he manifests as the editor of the work, would insure the paper success. It is a periodical, brethren, which would prove eminently useful in extending the interests of our communion, by exhibiting to the view of the people, the purity of our doctrines and worship; and by an exhibition also, of that charity, which distinguishes the Church at whose sacred altars we serve.

The afflicting dispensation of Providence, with which the Rev. Thomas Jackson was visited the last autumn, has deprived the Church of the labors of an able Divine, and an excellent preacher; but while the Church in this Diocese has just reason to lament the suspension of his usefulness, it is myself, brethren, who feel most sensibly the privation. Mr. Jackson was my immediate assistant in the ministry; we went up to the house of God as friends and took sweet counsel together. Too far advanced in life to suffer any feelings but those of friendship to take possession of our bosoms, it was our mutual endeavor to bear each other's burthens, and by the interchange of good offices to render the path of duty a delight. In a moment apparently of the most perfect health, he was arrested by a disease, under the effects of which he still labors, and I am left for the present alone to discharge the duties of a very numerous congregation. This state of things, however, I have reason to hope will soon be changed, and by the aid of another assistant, brought within a compass more suitable to my advanced years.

I have received from the Secretary of the General Convention notice of some matters submitted by that body to the consideration of the Diocesan Conventions, all of which, I shall place at your disposal. The alteration *recommended* by the General Convention, in some parts of the services of the Church, I have refrained from adopting myself, and have thought it most proper to submit the subject to your consideration. It will be remembered, however, that the alterations to which I allude, have not been positively prescribed by the Church, but are only recommended.

Since the last Convention the Rev. Mr. Lamon, and the Rev. Mr. Slaughter have received the usual credentials and removed from the Diocese; and the Rev. Mr. Doughan and the Rev. Mr. Hart have presented to me letters dismissory, from the Bishops of Maryland and New York, and located themselves in Virginia.

During the past year an occasion has occurred, in which I was called to perform an act of ecclesiastical discipline. Some impropriety of conduct having been charged upon one of our Presbyters, a Council of Presbyters was summoned to inquire into the circumstances of the case, who recommended a short suspension from ministerial duty; which suspension was complied with, and being now removed, he is commended to the affection and confidence of his brethren and the Church; there having been nothing in the fact committed, which ought to have an injurious effect on his future ministry.

Having thus discharged the duty which the Canon of the Church required at my hands, I conclude with my sincere prayer to God, that our deliberations may be such, as will be approved by the Almighty, and made conducive to the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom.

RICHARD CHANNING MOORE.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Meade read the following address:

To the Clergy and Laity of the Convention of the Episcopal Church of Virginia, assembled in the town of Fredericksburg, May 18th, 1836.

DEAR BRETHREN AND FRIENDS:

The brief narrative of my labors during the past year must commence, as usual, with those interesting Sabbath exercises, which always occur the day after our Conventional proceedings are closed. It is always our endeavor, you well know, to have as little of mere business and legislation, and as much as possible of religious exercises during the whole time of our meeting, and thus it is that our hearts are the better prepared for the interesting solemnities of the Sabbath. On that day, we are nearly all together in one temple, taking our several parts in scenes, which can only be surpassed by those of heaven, for which they are so happily preparatory. On the day of which I now speak, you remember how we met at an early hour in the morning, to hear the solemn vows of those, who in the rite of confirmation renewed the baptismal covenant by which their parents and sponsors had bound them to the Lord. At that time, in the midst of many faithful prayers and sympathetic hearts, 41 persons received the imposition of hands and such feeble exhortation to a life of holiness as I was enabled to give. And may God, by his abundant grace, enable them to fulfil all they promised and to follow after the counsel which was given to them. At the usual hour we again assembled to engage in other holy ordinances. After prayers, offered up in the excellent words of our service, and the word faithfully preached, I admitted to the order of the Priesthood, the Rev. Mr. Nelson and the Rev. Mr. Ward, and to the order of Deacon, Messrs. Sale, Cofer, and Smith. Our evening exercises closed, as usual, with that affectionate farewell which brothers in Christ and fellow-laborers in the Gospel delight to take, when they are called to separate to their various scenes of duty for another year. On the next morning you were all returning to your homes and I was making ready for a visitation through some of the surrounding counties.

On Tuesday, the 26th, I passed over into the district which for many years has been the theatre of the unwearied labors of the Rev. Mr. Page. On that day I preached in Ruckner's Church, and confirmed 5 persons. On the 27th I preached at New Glasgow, confirmed 1 person, and baptized 1 child. On the 28th I consecrated a new Church in Nelson county, and preached in the same, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Jones of Orange. On the 29th I preached in Calloway's Church, in the latter county. All of the above churches are under the care of the Rev. Mr. Page. On the 31st of May and the 1st of June I preached at the new Church in Buckingham, administered the communion, baptized an infant, and introduced the Rev. Mr. Cofer to the Pastoral charge of that congregation. On the 3d of June I preached at St. John's, in Campbell county, where I confirmed 2 persons. The Rev. Messrs. Dresser and Clarke, of Halifax, met me there, and the former preached in the afternoon. On the following day I preached at the new Church in Pittsylvania, and confirmed one person. In the evening I administered the communion to an aged and infirm member of our Church of that county, Mrs. Cole, and baptized the infant child of her pious and most devoted daughter, Mrs. Whittle, who a few months after left her mother, husband, and child to mourn the loss of one of the most estimable of women. On the day following I proceeded to Halifax Courthouse, and spent two days in continual services, aided by the Rev. Mr. Steel and Mr. Clarke. During my stay there I ordained the Rev. Mr. Clarke priest, and confirmed 6 persons. On the following Monday I preached at the Brick Church, under the care of the Rev. Mr. Clarke, where I confirmed 5 persons; on the day following, at a small Church built by Messrs. Thomas and John Nelson, chiefly for the benefit of their servants; and in the evening administered the communion at the house of old Mrs. Nelson in that neighborhood. On Wednesday I preached at St. James' and confirmed 4 persons, and administered the communion. On Thursday I preached at the City Church, and proceeded that evening to Lunenburg. Saturday and Sunday were spent in continued exercises at St. Paul's Church, which was consecrated on the first day, and in which on the second day I confirmed 5 persons, and administered the communion. The Rev. Mr. Steel and myself preached alternately on each day. On Monday I attended at St. John's Church of the same county, and under the care of the Rev. Mr. Taliaferro, where I confirmed 21 persons, and baptized 1 child. I was too unwell to preach but was enabled to speak to the persons confirmed and to the parents of the child. On the next day I proceeded to an appointment at Red Oak Church in Brunswick county, but my sickness increasing, the duty of preaching devolved upon the Rev. Mr. Taliaferro. I was, however, enabled to add a few words of exhortation after his sermon. I was now obliged to decline all further duty for several days and adopt the proper means for restoring my health. For the first time I believe, since I have been clothed with the Episcopal office, I was under the painful necessity of disappointing several congregations which expected my services in that county.

By the good providence of God, I was sufficiently restored to perform such services as were required of me on the following Saturday and Sunday at Saponny Church, the old scene of the faithful and eloquent preaching of the Rev. Mr. Jarratt, now served by the Rev. Mr. Grammer. At this place I confirmed 7 persons. Accompanied by Mr. Grammer I set out on Monday morning for the county of Amelia, where I preached and confirmed 7 persons in Grub-hill Church, where the Rev. Mr. Berkeley now officiates. From thence I proceeded to Chesterfield county, where I attended at Saponny Church, which is also under the care of the Rev. Mr. Berkeley. My health being imperfectly restored, and having undertaken more than I could well accomplish, I was again obliged to devolve much of the duty on the minister of the Parish. I was much gratified with this my first visit to this Parish, not only with the great kindness shewn to me in my weak state of health in the private families, but with the spirit of piety which I think seemed to animate the little congregation in Saponny Church. I confirmed 13 persons there, and administered the communion, and though unable to preach at length to them from the pulpit, took great pleasure in spending what strength I possessed in exhorting them from the altar. I now proceeded to Richmond, where my presence was needed on business not immediately connected with my Episcopal duty, but which I did not feel myself at liberty to neglect. In order to meet this engagement indeed, I had been obliged to pass more rapidly through the various places now mentioned than I could wish to have done, and even to omit one or two places altogether. I tarried in Richmond for a week, and officiated several times in the churches of that place. I then visited Hanover county, and preached at Allen's Creek and Fork Churches, and from thence went up to Frederick county, where I preached to my old and much beloved parishioners on the following Sabbath. On Monday I proceeded to Alexandria and attended the annual examination of the students of our Theological Seminary. There I met Bp. Moore, and united with him in the duties which called us to that place. After the examination was over, the ordination of those young men who were prepared for orders took place. Of this Bishop Moore will give a more particular statement.

From Alexandria I proceeded through Fredericksburg again to Hanover, where I had left a sick wife, and preached the next Sunday at Trinity Church. The time of our General Convention was now approaching. The 19th of August was the day appointed but I was not able to reach there until the 21st, in consequence of the ill health of Mrs. Meade, which made it doubtful whether I should attend at all. The proceedings of this meeting, which continued for two weeks, have been spread before the public and need not be dwelt upon by me. Measures of great importance were proposed and adopted with the unanimity which usually marks our deliberative and legislative assemblies. Whether they were all sufficiently considered and carefully matured, for safe and efficient execution, may be matter of doubt, but as they were well designed, being intended for the wider and more rapid diffusion of the Redeemer's kingdom, and were, no doubt, accompanied by faithful prayers to God for his blessing, we may hope, and should certainly pray, that he will make them all contribute to the good of his Church and the welfare of mankind. In the month of September I was enabled to engage in some duties of my office in the counties above and beneath the Blue Ridge. On the 11th and 12th I met a number of the brethren at Upperville, in Loudoun county, and spent two days in continued exercise there, preaching twice myself. On the 17th and 18th I united in an association for two days at Wickliffe Church in Frederick county. On the 19th and 20th we transferred our services to Berryville, and on the latter day the Rev. William Jackson was ordained Priest. On the 23rd I preached at Middletown, and baptized an infant. This is an extreme point of Frederick county, and here is now about to be completed the seventh Episcopal Church, in what was formerly Frederick county, now divided into three parts. On the 2d of October, I preached again in Upperville, in which place there is also a new neat brick Church, nearly finished. On the 3d and 4th, I was engaged in Leesburg, where I preached four times, confirmed 12 persons—2 of whom were colored. I am happy to learn, that here also, the friends of the Church are at length in good earnest, engaged in the erection of a new and larger place of worship, to receive the increasing congregation of that place. On the 11th of this month, I set out on a visit to the Churches in Jefferson and Berkeley. On the evening of the 11th, I reached Smithfield and preached by candle light, and the next day being Sabbath, I preached twice and administered the communion. On Monday, the 12th, I preached morning and evening at Martinsburg. On Tuesday at Mount Zion, where I had a full house, administered the communion and baptized a child. I proceeded thence to Shepherdstown, where I met the Rev. Mr. Jones and Mr. Andrews. The latter preached twice and myself three times. On Friday, I preached at Charlestown, and then returned to my former residence in Frederick county. On the following Sunday, it became my duty to admit to the holy office of Deacon, one of my own children, whom I had often dedicated by prayer to the Lord, and who I hope, will never forget that solemn occasion, but by devoting himself with a willing mind to the work of the ministry, enable me ever to rejoice in looking back to that hour. These labors being ended, it was now time for me to return to the duties of that pastoral relation, which I had undertaken towards the congregation in Norfolk. On the last week in Octo-

ber, I left Frederick for that place, and passing through Alexandria, spent the Sabbath in the Churches of that place, preaching in both of them.

On the first Sunday in November, I entered anew on the discharge of parochial duties in Christ Church, Norfolk, and have been enabled by the blessing of Providence to perform them all without the least interruption by sickness for the last six months. During this time, I went twice to Richmond, on matters requiring conference with Bishop Moore, and on one of those visits preached repeatedly in the churches there. I have also visited Old Point Comfort once, and preached six times in Portsmouth. I had intended to visit the Eastern Shore, and indeed had actually appointed meetings in the congregation in Northampton and Accomack, but was unable to get over the bay in the first place, by reason of the tacker sailing of an earlier time than was notified, and then by the inclemency of the weather. Other visits I should have made to the neighbouring congregations in Gloucester, Williamsburg, Smithfield, Suffolk, and Princess Anne, but it pleased Providence to torment me by the continued and increasing indisposition of my wife, whom I could not leave for the last few months without a sacrifice of feeling, which I am sure my brother would not ask of my hands. My time, however, has been fully occupied by the claims of the large congregation which has been continually cast upon my care, and also by some services to the congregation of St. Paul's Church in Norfolk, whose hopes and zeal I have endeavored to cherish, until they can get some one to take the oversight of them.

I beg leave to add one remark to strengthen, if possible, the earnest recommendation given by Bishop Moore of the Southern Churchman. It appears to me that it each of our Clergy were daily to consider the importance of a religious paper as auxiliary to himself in promoting an active and zealous piety among the members and families of his charge, and would privately and publicly urge it upon all to provide themselves with this interesting and useful instrument of acquiring that information, of which every Christian should be ashamed to be ignorant, the Southern Churchman would be sustained, and a worthy brother, who is by Providence disabled from the discharge of ministerial duties, would be enabled to gratify the strong desire of his soul to contribute something to the cause of religion and the Church.

In the midst of painful uncertainty, as to the issue of that on which so much of my earthly happiness depends, I have been cheered, not merely by the unsurpassed kindness of the people in Norfolk, but by the hope that my labors among them have not been unblest. Since I have been there, between forty and fifty have been added to the Church, and I trust to the Lord, 18 were confirmed on Easter Monday, all of whom then partook, and some of them had before partaken of the Lord's supper. I hope ere long to have the aid of a brother, who will shortly, if the Lord permit, be clothed after the forms of our Church with authority to minister among us.

And now, my brethren, as to the services which are to be expected of me during the season upon which we have entered, and which I have sacredly consecrated to Episcopal visitation, I am unable to say more, than that I am in the hands of Christ, to do with as he pleases. Perhaps if we are permitted to meet together again, I may have very little to add, but of Episcopal duties performed during the present summer. There are claims of a private nature which may sometimes be permitted to take the place of more public duties. Such claims are now pressing heavily upon me, and I beg an interest in the prayers of all the brethren and friends here assembled, that I may be enabled now and always to do and suffer the will of God, in the spirit of our once suffering and now exalted Saviour.

Your faithful and affectionate brother and servant in the Lord,

W. MEADE,

Assistant Bishop of Virginia.

On motion,

Resolved, That so much of the Bishops' addresses as relate to the Southern Churchman be referred to a select committee.

The following gentlemen were appointed to compose said committee—

John Nelson, Esq. Rev. William G. H. Jones, Rev. Charles Dresser, Rev. William H. Hart, Rev. Charles W. Andrews, and Mr. Theo. Atkinson, Jr.

Resolved, That the Bishops' addresses be referred to the committee on the State of the Church.

The Convention suspended its proceedings for the purpose of attending Divine service.

Prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Dunn, and a sermon preached by the Rt. Rev. William Meade, D.D.

The Parochial Reports were read and referred.

The Convention then adjourned to to-morrow, at 9 o'clock. P. M.

The committee to whom was referred the petition from the congregation of the Falls Church, and other similar documents, made the following report, which, on motion, was adopted.

That the petition of Henry Fairfax and others, praying that the Falls Church, Fairfax County, may be received as a separate church, having been considered, and it appearing that the petitioners have proceeded according to the provisions of the 12th Canon—it is *Resolved*, That the said Falls Church be admitted into connection with this Convention as a distinct and dissenting Church from the Parish Church of Fairfax Parish.

That on examination it appearing that the Vestry of West Russell Parish, in the county of Bedford, have complied with the requirements of the 12th Article of the Constitution—*Resolved*, That the Parish of West Russell, in Bedford county, be admitted into connection with the Convention—and that William B. Whittan be admitted to his seat in this Convention as the delegate from said Parish.

That on consideration of the petition from the Vestry of St. Peter's Church, Port Royal, in the Parish of St. Mary, Caroline county, it appearing, that there is no objection to the division of the Parish, but that the interests of both churches render it necessary, and that the provisions of the 12th Canon have been complied with—

Resolved, That St. Peter's Church, Port Royal be admitted into connection with this Convention—and that John G. Lawrence be admitted to a seat in this Convention as the delegate from said Church.

That on examination of certain resolutions passed by the Vestries of Winslow Parish, Albemarle county, and of Rockfish Church, Nelson county, the committee with much regret find that the provisions of the 12th Canon have not been complied with in either of these cases, and that the said Parish and Church cannot be received into connection with the Convention, until the requirements of said Canon have been observed.

John G. Lawrence, Esq. a delegate from St. Peter's Church, Port Royal, presented the certificate of his appointment and took his seat.

John B. Coles, Esq. a delegate from Christ Church, St. Ann's Parish, Albemarle, presented a certificate of his appointment and took his seat.

Henry Major, Esq. a delegate from St. Andrew's Parish, presented a certificate of his appointment and took his seat.

On motion, the Convention proceeded to the consideration of the Revised Constitution, as adopted by the last Convention of this Diocese, and after some time, laid the same upon the table.

On motion of Bishop Meade, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That this Convention highly appreciate and approve the principles recognized and the measures adopted by the last General Convention of the Church, in furtherance of the cause of Missions.

Resolved, That the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church, as re-organized at said General Convention, and now consisting of all the baptized members of said Church, be recommended to the support and liberal patronage of the Bishops and Clergy in this Diocese.

Resolved, That the Rev. Dr. Milnor, the Secretary and General Agent of the Foreign Committee of the Board of Missions, being now on an official visit to this Diocese, is most cordially welcomed to the same, and that the Brethren of the Church in Fredericksburg, be requested to make the most suitable arrangements for presenting the subject committed to the care of Dr. Milnor to the members of the Church now assembled in this place.

On motion,

Resolved, That Edmund I. Lee, Edward Colston, and Thomas Nelson, Esqs. be a committee to consider what amendments are proper to be made in the Constitution of the Theological School, and report to the Convention such amendments as they shall consider to be proper.

The Convention adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1836.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The minutes of the proceedings of yesterday were read and approved.

Edmund I. Lee, Esq. proposed the following resolution:

Resolved, That the revised Constitution be considered article by article.

Decided in the negative—ayes 45, noes 55.

The Rev. John Grammer offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Convention do approve and adopt the Constitution as revised and adopted by the last Convention of this Diocese, and by them submitted to the Vestries for their action—and hereby declare the same to be the Constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia.

After some time spent in the discussion of this resolution, the proceedings of the Convention were suspended to attend Divine service by the Rev. E. Adams, and a sermon by the Rev. Dr. Milnor.

The certificate of John Gray, was referred to the committee on the Certificates of Lay Members.

L. B. Minor, Esq. a lay delegate from the Falls Church, Fairfax Parish, presented the certificate of his appointment, and was admitted to a seat in the Convention.

Leave of absence was granted to John L. Gardner, a lay delegate from St. John's Church, Elizabeth City Parish.

And then the Convention adjourned to 4 o'clock this afternoon.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

The committee on the Certificates of Lay Delegates made the following report, which was adopted by the Convention:

The Committee, to whom was referred the certificate of the election of John Gray as a delegate from St. Paul's Church, Bloomfield or Winslow Parish, Albemarle county, Va. report:

That they have examined the list of Parishes and can find no such Parish as Bloomfield and Winslow, Albemarle county. There is a Bloomfield Parish in the county of Madison, whose lay delegate is Charles R. Gibbs; the committee are therefore of opinion, that Mr. Gray is not entitled to a seat in the Convention.

The committee to whom were referred so much of the Bishops' addresses as relate to the Southern Churchman, presented the following report and resolutions, which resolutions were adopted by the Convention:

REPORT.

The committee to whom was referred so much of the Bishops' communications as relate to the expediency of increasing the circulation of the Southern Churchman, have had that subject under their consideration, and beg leave to report:

That they entirely coincide in the views expressed by the venerable head of this body, confirmed as they are, by the concurrence of the assistant Bishop. Experience, both in and out of the Church, here and in England, has fully proved that a well sustained and well conducted religious newspaper, is one of the most efficient means of advancing the interests of any denomination of Christians. By informing its readers of the condition, the prospects, the wants, and the expectations of the religious community to which they belong, it excites in them a far livelier interest in the operations conducted by such a community, while it stimulates them to more constant and zealous efforts for its advancement. The interests of religion unfortunately are not those to which we are most apt of our own accord to direct our thoughts and labors. And when the members of a Church are scattered over so large a territory as that of Virginia, and have few occasions to meet each other, except on the weekly or two-weekly visit of their minister, it cannot reasonably be expected that the welfare of the ecclesiastical body to which they belong, should often be uppermost in their

minds. It is in such a situation then, especially, where the voice of the living minister is seldom heard, that a religious newspaper, a monitor, constantly at the elbow, is needed, to remind Christians of their vows, their obligations, and the many opportunities they have of discharging them. So fully are these views appreciated by other denominations, that every one of any magnitude in our State, has a paper as its organ in Richmond, to diffuse intelligence interesting to its members, and to inculcate those opinions which they desire to establish. And it can scarcely be supposed that the Church stands in less need than any other of such an instrument of intercommunication, and of defence. On the contrary it may safely be asserted that no other so urgently requires a firm, temperate and able journal, to dispel prejudice, remove mistakes, and correct the gross, however unintentional, misrepresentations, with which we are so frequently assailed. There is another consideration which shows the necessity of such a paper for the Episcopal above all other churches. It is that, with the exception of the Methodist, other religious societies are but unions, more or less strict, of different congregations, which in many respects are considered as distinct churches. Our polity, however, recognizes but one Church, though as in this Diocese it may have nearly a hundred congregations, and seventy or eighty ministers, and thousands of members assembling at places hundreds of miles apart. Our union is not, however, such practically, as the theory of the Church contemplates. Every thing, therefore, which tends to strengthen this union, and to teach the member on the Roanoke to bear his brother's burden on the Kanawha, or to rejoice in the successes of those branches of the same great family who worship on the James or the Elizabeth River, tends so far to perfect our government. The committee have designedly refrained from noticing any of the advantages which recommend a religious paper to members of the Church as individuals; they have only considered those which commend it to this Convention, as the guardian of the organized Society which we represent, and for whose good we provide. In that view of the subject they hope they have said enough to show the expediency if not the absolute necessity of such a paper. If they have succeeded, then they have proved that something must be done by this body for the Southern Churchman. The committee have been assured that the net income of the paper last year did not exceed \$400, and that it will not greatly differ for the current year. It is perfectly evident that the services of a competent editor who is to live in such a place as Richmond, cannot be secured for such a sum; and the simple question presented to us is, whether, as a body or as individuals, we will do more to increase the circulation and the income of the Southern Churchman, or whether by our listlessness we will permit the paper to expire, and thus deprive the Church, in its present critical condition, of the services of so valuable an auxiliary to her ministry. The committee, however, will not recommend those decided measures, which to them, as individuals, seem expedient, but will only suggest what it is believed will be approved by the Convention generally if not unanimously. They, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Rev. Mr. Andrews, and Rev. Mr. Friend, be a committee to prepare a circular, to be addressed to the members and friends of the Church, earnestly recommending to them to patronize and extend the circulation of the Southern Churchman on a scale more commensurate with its importance to the interests of this Diocese.

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Convention, those whom Providence hath given the ability to do so, would perform a useful and commendable act, by sending the Southern Churchman gratuitously to such members of the Church as are unable to subscribe for it themselves.

Resolved, That the Clergy of this Diocese be requested, on some day previous to the first of August, to recommend from the pulpit the "Southern Churchman" to the patronage of their congregations, and that it be recommended to each clergyman, and where there is no clergyman, to the lay delegates, to consider themselves as pledged to secure five additional subscribers.

On motion of Col. G. M. Carrington the resolution offered by the Rev. John Grammer to adopt the revised Constitution was amended by adding thereto, "but not to take effect until after the adjournment of this Convention." And on the said resolution, thus amended, it was

Resolved, That the question be taken by orders and the ayes and noes recorded.

CLERGY—Ayes—Bishop Meade, Rev. Messrs. Adams, Adie, Andrews, Berkeley, Bowers, Clark, Cobbs, Cofer, Cole, Dana, Doughan, Dresser, Friend, Grammer, J. E. Jackson, W. M. Jackson, Alex. Jones, W. G. H. Jones, Lemmon, Lee, Lippitt, Mann, E. C. McGuire, J. P. McGuire, R. K. Meade, Sale, Stringfellow, Taliaferro, Ward, Wharton, Woodbridge, Woodville—33.

NOES—Bishop Moore, Rev. Messrs. Bartlett, Christian, Cooke, Empic, Goldsmith, Hart, Hedges, Johnson, Nelson, Page, Smith, Wingfield—13.

Lay—Messrs. Thos. Addison, Jr., Wm. A. Powell, Geo. P. Thornton, John F. Conway, Edmund L. Lee, Edward C. Thornton, Samuel Pryor, John Smith, Jr., Walter B. Byrne, John Nelson, Seth Ward, Henry Barnes, Philip Nelson, James I. Ransom, Robert P. Waring, Benjamin D. Rust, Robert Wood, Wm. M. Waller, Joseph R. Montcomery, David M. Walke, Catechy Jones, Samuel H. Lewis, Thomas N. Russell, Jasiah Tabbal, Francis J. Wyatt, John R. Bryan, Thos. L. Eaton, Reuben B. Thom, Edward Colston, William Hodges, Peter Hasbrough, Hilary Baker, Robert G. Strachan, Mann A. Pace, William S. Jones, Mallory M. Todd, John G. Lawrence, John B. Cole, Henry Mager, William B. Whittan, Dr. Carter Berkeley, Lancelot B. Miner, James A. Clay—49

Wives—Messrs. John Hooft, Samuel Slaughter, Isaac Winston, George M. Carrington, Geo. Saunders, Daniel Morgan, Edward Valentine, J. A. Marshall, Burwell Russell, Jas. G. Tahafero, Edward T. Taylor, Thos. Nelson, Giles B. Cooke, Raleigh Dowdman—11

On motion of Rev. Charles Page,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the members of the Church, both Clerical and Lay, to contribute materials, to insure the increased usefulness of the Southern Churchman.

On motion

Resolved, That one of the Bishops of this Diocese be requested to prepare a pamphlet setting forth the duties and responsibilities of Vestries.

And then the Convention adjourned, to meet in the Lecture Room of St. George's Church, at half past 5 o'clock to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY, 5 1/2 A. M. MAY 21, 1836.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The minutes of the preceding day were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Lewis, it was

Ordered, That such members of the Convention as were not present when the axes and noes were taken on yesterday, be permitted to record their votes.

The Rev. Mr. Cobbs, from the committee on the Accounts of the Treasurer of the Missionary Society, made the following report, which was approved.

The committee appointed on the Treasurer's Accounts of the Missionary Society of the Diocese of Virginia, report, that they have examined the said accounts, and find them to be correct. They would also report, that the funds now on hand amount to \$725.66.

N. H. COBBS, Chairman.

The Protestant Episcopal Missionary Society of the Diocese of Virginia, in account with George M. Carrington, Treasurer.

1835	Dr.	
May 23	To cash paid the Rev. Wm. Steel, appropriated last year, per Receipt, No. 1.	\$24.00
Decr. 5	To cash paid the Rev. A. H. Lamont (for six months Missionary services) appropriated this day, per Receipt, No. 2.	75.00
1836		
Jan'y 16	To cash paid the Rev. William N. Ward (for six months Missionary services) appropriated this day, per Receipt, No. 3.	50.00
March 5	To cash paid the Rev. M. L. Chevers (for Missionary services) appropriated on the 5th December last, per Receipt, No. 4.	50.00
April 15	To cash paid the Rev. Wm. N. Ward the third quarter of one year's appropriation to him for Missionary services, per Receipt, No. 5.	75.00
May 4	To cash paid the Rev. J. Doughan, the amount of appropriation to him for Missionary services rendered for the Rev. A. H. Lamont, per Receipt, No. 6.	75.00
May 16	To balance in hand this day.	\$725.66

1835	By balance in hand per last annual statement.	\$24.00
May 23	By cash received from the Prayers Book and Tracts Society of Washington, per the Rev. Dr. F. Hunt.	20.00
Jan'y 16	By cash received from St. George's Church, Fredericksburg, per the Rev. Edward C. McGuire, being the first monthly collection of Weekly Offerings.	25.40
Mar'ch 5	By cash received from St. George's Church, Fredericksburg, per the Rev. Edward C. McGuire, being the 2d monthly collection of Weekly Offerings.	31.04
Apr' 15	By cash received from St. George's Church, Fredericksburg, per Rev. Edward C. McGuire, being the 3d monthly collection of Weekly Offerings.	12.45
Jan'y 16	By cash received, dividends on four shares of the stock of the Bank of Virginia, due July, 1834, January and July, 1835, and January, 1836.	60.50
Mar'ch 5	By cash received, dividends on three shares of the stock of the Farmers Bank of Virginia, due July, 1834, January and July, 1835, and January, 1836.	39.00
Jan'y 16	By cash received of Mrs. Dabney Carr, per the Rt. Rev. R. C. Moore.	3.00
Mar'ch 5	By amount of sale of one share of the stock of the Bank of Virginia.	117.00
		\$348.66
1836		
May 16	By balance, as above stated.	\$24.00
	To which may be added three shares of the Bank of Virginia at \$115.	354.00
	Three shares of the Farmers Bank of Virginia at \$115.	348.00
	Available funds of the Society.	\$725.66

Respectfully submitted,

G. M. CARRINGTON, Treasurer.

The Rev. Mr. Wingfield, from the special committee appointed at the last Convention, made the following report, which was read and laid upon the table.

The committee appointed by the last Convention to examine the Journals of the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this Diocese from its first organization, and to ascertain what resolutions have been passed by this body from time to time, and still remain in force, and which of such resolutions, if any, ought to stand as the judgment and declaration of this Convention, and report the same at the next meeting, have discharged the duty assigned them, and report that, after a careful examination of the Journals since the organization of the Church in 1812, they have not discovered any resolutions other than those which they think ought to stand as the judgment and declaration of the Convention.

That the Secretary of the Convention be requested to transmit annually the Journals of the Conventions of this Diocese to the Secretaries of the Conventions of the other States, and to request of them to send in return, annually, the Journals of their respective Conventions. (Adopted May 26, 1816.)

It bears an erroneous impression on the minds of the members of the Protestant Episcopal Church of this Diocese, that the Convention of the last session in May, 1816, by its resolution, which was read and approved, and thereby to send in from ministers of the same, the power of this Convention, or of calling upon the communion, any member of the Church guilty of the crime of adultery, should be thereby annulled. This Convention, for the purpose of removing such an impression, and that members be bound to declare, as they do now, that the nullity of the same, should be considered as the effect of the repeal of the Convention of the last session, and that the members will conscientiously execute the same, or any other, which the Church, as it relates to communications, should require.

That the members of this Church, and particularly heads of families, to comply with the commands of the 3d and 5th Canons of the Church in this Diocese. (Passed May 26, 1816.)

Resolved, That the Standing Committee, at every meeting of

the Convention, to submit, in addition to the report of their proceedings, the documents also, which have been laid before them during the year. (Passed May, 1817.)

5. Whereas, differences of opinion prevail as to certain fashionable amusements, and it appears desirable to many that the sense of the Convention should be expressed concerning them, the Convention does hereby declare its opinion, that gaming, attending on theatres, public balls, and horse-racing, should be relinquished by all communicants of the Church, as having the bad effects of staining the purity of the Christian character; of giving offence to their pious brethren, and of endangering their own salvation, by their rushing voluntarily into those temptations, against which they implore the protection of their Heavenly Father; and this Convention cherishes the hope that this expression of its opinion will be sufficient to produce conformity of conduct, and unanimity of opinion among all the members of our communion. (Passed May, 1818.)

6. *Resolved*, That the annual contributions from Christ Church, in Alexandria, of \$100, for raising a fund for the support of the Bishop, which have now been paid, or which may hereafter be received, together with all other sums which may be any where subscribed and collected for the same object, be vested in bank stock, under the direction of the Standing Committee of this Diocese, in the names of the Church Wardens of Christ Church, Fairfax Parish, Alexandria, and their successors, for the purpose aforesaid.

7. *Resolved*, That, in aid of the Episcopal Fund, the several ministers of the Church, in their respective congregations, at some fit season in each year, deliver an appropriate discourse, recommending the pious object of the fund, and thereafter make a collection, the amount of which they shall specially mention in their respective parochial reports.

8. *Resolved*, That no part of the Episcopal Fund shall be withdrawn for any purpose until its annual interest shall suffice for the attainment of its object; and that in the interim, it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee to see that its enlargement is hastened by the prompt conversion of its revenue into principal. (Adopted May 21, 1818.)

9. *Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to the different clergymen and vestries of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this Diocese, to have collections made in their respective churches in the Sabbath preceding or succeeding the 4th of July, in aid of the funds of the Virginia Colonization Society. (Adopted May 20, 1825.)

10. *Resolved*, That this Convention do most fully approve of the holy enterprize of the Virginia Bible Society, and earnestly recommend it to the patronage of the various parishes and churches in this Diocese. (Adopted May 16, 1828.)

11. *Resolved*, That the General Protestant Episcopal Sunday School Union be recommended to the patronage and support of the members of our Church in this Diocese. (Adopted May 19, 1827.)

12. *Resolved*, That this Convention, regarding the intemperate use of ardent spirits as one of the most deploring and alarming vices of our country, as presenting one of the most formidable of all barriers to the spread of the gospel of our Lord and Saviour, feels itself called upon to express its decided approbation of the efforts that are making in many sections of our land to arrest the progress of this acknowledged evil, and to pray that abundant success may crown the labors of the christian, the patriot, and the philanthropist, in their laudable associations for this important purpose. (Adopted May 22, 1829.)

13. *Resolved*, That the restriction annexed to the election of the Assistant Bishop of Virginia, be hereby removed, and that the Rt. Rev. William Meade is hereby declared successor to our present venerable Diocesan, in case he should survive him. (Adopted May 22, 1830.)

14. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the clergy and laity of this Diocese, to make the week previous to the annual meeting of this Convention a special season of thanksgiving and praise to God, for his mercies in times past on such occasions, and of prayer and supplication for the continuance, increase, and efficacious outpouring of his Holy Spirit, to the conversion of sinners, edification of Christians, and building up of his holy Church. (Adopted May 19, 1832.)

15. *Resolved*, That the Treasurer be directed to pay, annually, to the Assistant Bishop, out of the contingent fund, the sum of three hundred dollars, besides paying the necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of his Episcopal duties. (Adopted May 23, 1834.)

16. *Resolved*, That the funds collected by the weekly contributions, on the plan suggested by Bishop Moore in his address in 1835, be paid into the hands of the Treasurer of the Missionary Society of this Diocese, to be appropriated by the Society as they shall deem expedient. (Adopted May 23, 1835.)

The committee in extracting the foregoing resolutions have occasionally made verbal alterations and omissions, rendered necessary by their severance from the connection in which they originally stood.

The committee recommend that all former resolutions, now in force, except those copied above, be rescinded; and that the Convention direct the foregoing resolutions to be appended to the journal of this body.

J. H. WINGFIELD, }
WILLIAM F. LEE, } *Committee.*

The Rev. Mr. Nelson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the expenses of the clergymen who attended at Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Martinsburg, during the last two years, on ecclesiastical business of the Diocese, be paid out of any funds in the hands of the Treasurer.

The Rev. Mr. Mann offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Treasurer be authorized to pay the expenses of the gentlemen who attended the Council of Presbyters summoned by the Bishop, to meet at Richmond during the last winter.

Adjourned until 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

The Convention met and proceeded to the consideration of the revised Canons.

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, and 5th Canons, as reported by the committee, were adopted, as follows:

CANON 1st.

Ministers to keep a Register.

The minister of each Parish shall make out and continue an exact register of all the adult members, communicants, baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and funerals, within his congregation; which register shall be left, upon his death or removal, for the use of his successor.

CANON 2d.

Ministers to converse with those who apply for Communion.

It shall be the duty of the ministers of our Church, to be careful in observing all the directions of the rubric, and of the General Convention, which relate to communicants; to maintain the most affectionate intercourse with all their members on religious subjects; but especially to converse with those who offer themselves for the first time for the communion, on those qualifications which are proper for the worthy receiving of that sacrament, unless they be otherwise satisfied that they are properly qualified.

CANON 3d.

Communicants to have Family Worship.

It shall be the duty of every communicant of this Church, who is the head of a family, to live in the habitual exercise of family worship.

CANON 4th.

The Members of this Church to instruct their Families in the Principles of Religion.

The members of this Church shall instruct their families, as far as they are able, in the principles of the Christian religion; and as soon as they are sufficiently informed and impressed with the importance and sacredness of their baptismal vows, and have come to a proper age to ratify the same in their own persons, they shall present them to the Bishop for confirmation, when conveniently in their power.

CANON 5th.

The Members of this Church to be Regular in their Attendance on Public Worship.

The members of this Church shall attend the public worship of God as regularly and as constantly, as from their age, infirmities, and circumstances in life, may be reasonably expected; and shall neglect the performance of this important duty for no cause whatever, but such as they might plead at the bar of God in the day of judgment.

Sec. 10. The Board, after considering the evidence, shall declare in a writing signed by them or a majority of them, their decision on the charge contained in the presentment, distinctly stating whether they find the accused guilty or not guilty of such charges respectively; which decision, together with the evidence and an attested record of all the proceedings, shall be delivered to the Bishop, accompanied with an opinion of the Board, as to what sentence should be pronounced—whereupon the Bishop shall pronounce such sentence as shall appear to him to be proper, provided the same do not exceed in severity the sentence recommended by the Board; and such sentence shall be final. But the Bishop, if satisfied that justice requires it, may grant a new trial to the accused; in which case a new Board of Presbyters shall be appointed, including none of those who sat upon the former trial, before which Board the proceedings shall be conducted as before provided.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Mann,

Resolved, That the consideration of the 7th Canon, and of the substitute offered therefor, be postponed until the next Convention, and that said canon and substitute be spread upon the journal.

On motion of the Rev. John P. McGuire, the remaining fourteen revised canons were laid upon the table until the next Convention.

Resolved, That so much of the existing canons as may conflict with the provisions of the canons adopted by the present Convention be, and the same are hereby repealed.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Lee, the following canon was adopted:

Delegates to the Convention from the several Parishes shall present a certificate to this effect, signed by the Secretary of the Vestry, or by the Rector, or by one of the Wardens: This is to certify that at a meeting of the Vestry of Church, held on the day of A. B. who is a communicant of good standing in the Church, was appointed a Lay Delegate to represent the same in the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia, to be holden on the day of in the year of our our Lord

Signed

The Rev. Dr. Empie, from the committee on the State of the Church, made the following report, which was accepted:

The committee on the State of the Church, beg leave respectfully to present the following report:

One of the main purposes for which your committee is annually appointed is, to report to the Convention, and spread out before the Church at large, the existing state of religion in the Diocese, and from an examination of its present condition to suggest such measures and considerations as may best tend to promote its future welfare.

In pursuance of this object your committee have this year again the gratification to remark that, as to her external condition the Church continues still to prosper, and that she is still increasing both in numbers and strength. Her outward and her growing prosperity is evinced both by the Parochial and Episcopal Reports, and by the steadily increasing numbers of her Laity and Clergy, and her Delegates to the Convention. And that the great Head of the Church continues to vouchsafe to her this blessing, calls aloud for gratitude and thanksgiving.

But experience and Scripture both show that prosperity is not always the condition that is either safest or best improved, and many circumstances induce and justify the belief that acts of contrition and humiliation should be blended with our songs of thanksgiving.

Testimony from all parts of the Diocese goes to show that, with a few insulated exceptions, comparatively much less religious sensibility is manifested than formerly; that a spirit of slumber seems creeping over the churches, and that even much spiritual apathy is beginning generally to prevail. Indeed for the space of two or three years past, it is to be feared that the interests of vital godliness have not been promoted in an equal degree with its outward forms, but that the cause of inward piety has at least been stationary if not in a state of declension.

Various causes probably have contributed their quota to this result. The painful political excitements that have of late years pervaded the State; the all-absorbing spirit of speculation that has spread its infection over all classes of society, and the re-action consequent upon that over excitement, which through a misguided zeal, some religionists of the age have labored to promote in many of the churches around us, from which it has, in many instances, exerted an unfavorable influence even upon our own congregations—in fine, the religious languor which we experience proves, and according to the laws of our Constitu-

tion, most generally succeeds even a state of moderate religious excitement—these have all had a tendency to induce a state of spiritual remissness—to bring religion into disrepute, and substitute the form for the power of godliness, and to withdraw both the attention and affections of Christians from the work of grace and the influence of Divine truth upon the hearts and characters of men.

Standing upon the watchtowers of Zion, your committee cannot but notice these evils now in their incipient stages, in order that the servants of God may at once gird up their loins and brace themselves to the task of counteracting and removing them.

These things cannot but address a powerful and stirring appeal to the hearts and consciences of the Clergy, and of all others who love the Church and the religion of the Saviour. And while they unfold the evil they suggest the remedy. Let the ministers of our Church faithfully do their duty—let the friends of Zion at once put themselves on the defensive and in a state of holy vigilance, and let every effort be made to redeem what we have lost, to excite our too languid zeal, and to resist the further encroachments of the above mentioned evils.

As to the recommendation from the General Convention in reference to the manner in which the general confession should be repeated—a subject which our Diocesan submitted to the Convention, and the Convention to your committee—we have to observe that, though a minority of us believe our former practice to be in conformity with the original intention of the rubric, and therefore, that it is not competent to the House of Bishops, or even the General Convention, to alter its obligation by a mere resolution or recommendation; yet the majority of your committee concur in believing that the proposed alteration is not inconsistent with the rubric, that it is expedient, and that for the sake of promoting uniformity, the observance of it ought to be recommended to all the churches of the Diocese.

At the same time they desire distinctly to state and to put it on record—and they are pleased to know that in this particular the Convention of South Carolina have set them the example—they desire unequivocally to state that they think it inexpedient for the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies to solicit the separate action of the House of Bishops in any case whatever.

The Rev. John P. McGuire, from the committee on the Treasurer's Account, made the following report, which was accepted:

The committee on the Treasurer's Account, report, that having examined the same, they find it to be correct. The various items are sustained by proper vouchers; and the balance in the Treasurer's hands is \$90 58, as appears on the face of the account.

Robert Greenhow, Treasurer, to the Episcopal Convention of the State of Virginia,

		Dr.	
1835.	May 14—Balance on hand as per last year's account rendered and passed,		\$508 84
	" 29—To cash of Mr. H. Baker on account of contingent fund,	\$440 00	
	" " To sundry receipts for payments made by him on the 23d instant,	420 00	
	June 27—To cash of him this day,	103 97	
		963 97	
			\$1,472 81
SUPRA Cr.			
1835.	May 23—By Bishop Meade's receipt for travelling expenses,	\$60 00	
	By his receipt for his annual Diocesan claim,	300 00	
	By his expenses of travel to General Convention,	50 00*	
	By Lewis Smith, Door Keeper to Convention at Lynchburg,	10 00	
		\$420 00	
	June 4—By paid Bishop Moore his annual Diocesan claim,	300 00	
	" 17—By paid Lewis Johnson for five days hack hire, per order of Bishop Moore,	20 00	
	" 24—By paid Wm. Howlett for four days hack hire, per order of Bishop Moore,	16 00	
	" " By paid Secretary, H. Baker for road expenses,	21 25	
	July 1—By paid discount of a Georgetown note of \$10, not current here,	50	
		\$777 75	
	<i>Amounts carried forward,</i>		\$1,472 81

*Of this, \$10 were applied to general travelling expenses.

<i>Amounts brought forward,</i>		\$777 75	\$1,472 81
July 3—	By paid Bishop Meade for travelling expenses,	25 00	
" 7—	By paid C. Yale for printing a Sermon on Temperance,	15 00	
" 16—	By paid J. Warrock for printing 1,500 copies of Journal,	145 63	
" 28—	By paid Rev. Henry Anthon, Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies,	60 00	
Aug. 6—	By paid Rev. N. H. Cobbs—travel to and from General Convention,	60 00	
" 10—	By paid J. Warrock for printing 100 copies of indefinite suspension of the Rev. Ira Parker,	4 00	
" 18—	By paid Rev. Mr. Croes for expenses incurred as a member of a committee summoned by Bishop Moore, which sat in Norfolk on the 5th instant,	16 00	
Sept. 2—	By paid Mr. John Nelson's expenses of travel to and from General Convention,	60 00	
" 5—	By paid Rev. E. C. McGuire's expenses of travel to and from General Convention,	34 25	
" "	By paid for postage of a letter,	10	
" 8—	By paid Rev. Dr. H. Anthon, Treasurer of the General Convention,	51 50	
" 12—	By paid Rev. W. F. Lee's expenses of travel to and from General Convention,	45 00	
" 14—	By paid Rev. Thomas Jackson's expenses to and from General Convention,	45 00	
Oct. 31—	By paid Bishop Moore for his expenses, viz:		
	To Norfolk in July,	4 00	
	To Alexandria,	12 50	
	To General Convention,	21 00	
		37 50	
Nov. 30—	By paid M. Howell for three days hack hire, per order of Bishop Moore,	10 50	
		1,387 23	
1836.		\$85 58	
April 14—	To cash of Rev. N. H. Cobbs in his letter of this day's date, being unexpended balance of \$60, furnished him to bear the expenses of his journey to and from General Convention,	5 00	
	Balance due the Convention,	\$90 58	

Errors Excepted.

April 21, 1836.

ROBERT GREENHOW, *Treasurer.*

The Chairman of the committee upon the Episcopal Fund, made the following report, which was accepted:

The Chairman of the committee upon the Episcopal Fund, reports, that he has examined the report of the Trustees of that fund. The result of which examination is this:

That the stock now held consists of 96 shares in the Farmers Bank,	\$4,800 00
Bank of Alexandria,	1,800 00
Potomac,	100 00
	6,700 00
Balance in hand,	19 00
	<u>\$6,719 00</u>

The Rev. Mr. Dresser, from the committee on the Fund for the support of Widows and Orphans of deceased Clergymen, made the following report, which was approved, and the concluding resolution thereof adopted:

The committee on the Accounts of the Treasurer of the Society for the relief of the Widows and Orphans of Clergymen, have examined the same, and find the present amount of the fund to be \$8,570 exclusive of five shares of the Bank of Alexandria, from which something may be hereafter realized.

From the journal of the last Convention, it appears that a resolution was then adopted requesting the Standing Committee of this Diocese, to inquire into the expediency of applying to the State Legislature for an act of incorporation in order the better to secure the funds of our Society—and in case of failure, into the expediency of so connecting this Society with a similar institution incorporated by the Legislature of Maryland, as to secure the same object. It having been found on inquiry useless and inexpedient to make application for a charter, your committee would respectfully recommend that measures be immediately taken to negotiate with the Maryland Society for the transfer of our funds to its Treasurer, to be held by him in trust, and managed for the benefit of those who have been, or shall hereafter become members of our Society—and to attain this object would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Rev. Mr. Mann and E. I. Lee, Esq. be authorized and requested to attend the approaching Convention of the Church in Maryland, to ascertain whether, and on what terms the arrangement above proposed can be made, and to report the result of their mission to the Standing Committee of this Diocese, and if by them thought expedient, that the Treasurer of this Society be directed to transfer its funds to the Treasurer of the Maryland Society to be held by him, and subject to such regulations as from time to time may be adopted by the Convention of this Diocese.

The Fund for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of Deceased Clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Virginia, with John Hooff, Treasurer,

1835. DR.		
July 2—	To cash transmitted Miss Maria Heath,	\$30 00
Aug. 4—	To cash loaned on bond, order Standing Committee, July 16,	120 00
Dec. 9—	To cash paid for two shares of Farmers Bank of Alexandria, stock at \$35 per share,	70 00
		1836.
Feb. 25—	To cash paid for three shares of Farmers Bank of Alexandria, at \$35,	105 00
May 14—	To cash paid for five shares of Farmers Bank of Alexandria, at \$40,	200 00
		<u>\$525 00</u>

1835. CR.		
May 11—	By old account, per balance,	\$154 96
Oct. 2—	By cash for dividend in Farmers Bank of Alexandria, on 113 shares,	113 00
" 30—	By cash for six months interest on loan of \$1,600,	48 00
		1836.
Feb. 10—	By cash for six months interest on loan of \$120,	3 60
" 25—	By cash for ten months interest, to 5th of March, on loan of \$600 to Education Society,	30 00
March 4—	By cash for dividend on one share Bank of Virginia stock, July, 1835,	4 70
" " Do. do. do. for January, 1836,		4 50
April 1—	By cash for dividend on 118 shares Farmers Bank of Alexandria stock,	118 00
" 30—	By cash for six months interest on loan of \$1,600,	48 00
	To balance due the Treasurer,	24
		<u>\$525 00</u>

E. E.

JOHN HOOFF, *Treasurer.*

The funds are as follows, viz:

123 shares of Farmers Bank of Alexandria stock, at par,	\$6,150 00
5 shares of Bank of Alexandria,	
1 share Bank of Virginia, at par,	100 00
Notes and bonds, bearing interest of 6 per cent.	2,320 00
	<u>\$8,570 00</u>

J. H., *Treasurer.*

On motion,

Resolved, That the Treasurer of said fund be directed to pay the expenses incurred by the committee in executing the above resolution.

Mr. Edmund I. Lee, from the committee appointed to consider and report what amendments are proper to be made to the Constitution of the Theological School, made a report recommending the following amendments:

The 1st Rule to be amended so as to read as follows:—"The Board of Trustees of the Theological School of the Diocese of Virginia, shall consist of the Bishop of the Diocese and thirteen members to be chosen by the Convention of the Church, who shall be elected every three years, and no Professor of the Institution shall be eligible as Trustee."

The 7th Rule to be amended so as to read as follows:—"At all meetings of the Board, whether general or special, eight members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum, provided, in cases where the object of the meeting is to appoint a Professor, regulate the salaries of officers, or prescribe the duties of the Professors, due notice shall be given to all the Trustees, (if it be not the regular annual meeting) declaring the particular business of such meeting."

The 9th Rule to be amended so as to read as follows:—"Vacancies occurring in the Board shall be supplied by the remaining Trustees until the meeting of the next Convention, when they shall be filled by that body."

The 12th Rule to be amended so as to read as follows:—"The Board of Managers shall keep a regular record of their proceedings, and report the same regularly to the annual meetings of the Convention."

On motion, the Rev. J. E. Jackson, Rev. Mr. Lemmon, and Edward C. Colston, Esq. were appointed a committee to nominate suitable persons as Trustees of the Theological Seminary.

The Rev. Mr. Woodbridge presented the following report, which was accepted:

The Executive Committee of the Missionary Society of the Diocese of Virginia, respectfully report to the Convention, that they have contributed to the support of the following gentlemen, for their Missionary services:—To the Rev. Mr. Lamon, late of Culpeper, for a half year's services, \$75; to the Rev. William N. Ward, of Caroline, \$100; to the Rev. Josias Clapham, \$50; and to the Rev. Mr. Doughlan, of Culpeper, successor to Mr. Lamon, \$75, for a half year's service. They have also appropriated, upon application, \$100, to the service of a minister for the county of Westmoreland, though none has yet been obtained; and \$125 to the service of the Rev. Mr. Pleasants for the counties of Goochland and Fluvanna, who, however, left the Diocese immediately afterwards.

They have also opened correspondence with the Rev. Messrs. J. E. Jackson, of Winchester, and J. Martin, of Kanawha, with respect to the situation of the counties immediately adjacent; and have pledged themselves to contribute to the support of a Missionary in Romney and the county of Hampshire, \$300, if desired and found necessary.

They have been endeavoring to obtain other Missionaries during the past year, but have not been able. The want of suitable men has been the great obstacle with which the Society has had to contend, and their exertions must be feeble, and far below their desires until the Lord shall send forth laborers into his harvest.

Adjourned until 4 o'clock, P. M.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

The Rev. Robert B. Croes appeared and took his seat.

Col. Lewis offered the following amendment to the 2d Article of the Constitution:

"Provided, however, that nothing contained in the said article of the Constitution shall be so construed as to exclude from seats in the Convention as Clerical members, the Secretary of the Education Society, and the acting agent or agents for any benevolent society or societies, being a clergyman of this Church, and who is under the canonical jurisdiction of the Bishop of this Diocese."

On motion,
Resolved, That the next Annual Convention of this Diocese be held in the town of Petersburg.

The committee who were appointed to nominate Trustees of the Theological Seminary of Virginia, made the following report, which was adopted by a majority of two-thirds:

The committee, to whom was referred the nomination of Trustees of the Theological Seminary of Virginia for the ensuing three years, nominate the following persons:

Rev. EDWARD C. MCGUIRE,	Mr. JOHN GRAY,
" JOHN H. WINGFIELD,	" PHILIP NELSON,
" JOHN GRAMMER,	" JOHN NELSON,
" JOHN P. MCGUIRE,	" ROBERT P. WARING,
" CHARLES B. DANA,	" JAMES M. GARNETT,
" ALEXANDER JONES,	" JOHN BRUCE.
" NICHOLAS H. COBBS,	

The committee beg to suggest to the Convention the propriety of so altering the 1st Rule of the Constitution as to include the Assistant Bishop of this Diocese, by inserting the words, *or Bishops*—so that the Rule will read thus:—"The Board of Trustees of the Theological School of the Diocese of Virginia shall consist of the Bishop or Bishops of the Diocese, and thirteen members, to be chosen by the Convention of the Church."

J. E. JACKSON, *Chairman*.

The report of the committee appointed to examine the Journals of the Convention, for the purpose of ascertaining what resolutions have from time to time been passed by the Convention, &c. and which had been laid upon the table (see page 17) was taken up and adopted.

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

The committee, to whom were referred the Parochial Reports, having discharged the duty assigned them, herewith return the same to be entered on the Journal. They have, however, to state, that, owing to the imperfect manner in which many of the reports have been prepared, they by no means give an exact statement of the condition of the Church in the Diocese. The following are the ministers from whom no reports have been received, viz:—The Rev. Wm. Armstrong, Josias Clapham, C. H. Hedges, Jacob Keeling, and William Steel.

Signed by order of the committee.

EPHRAIM ADAMS, *Chairman*.

Monumental Church, Richmond—R. C. Moore, Rector.—Baptisms, infants 38. Communicants 160. Bible Society \$230. Colonization Society \$400. Bishop Moore and Jackson Scholarships \$150.—Total \$780.

Christ Church, Norfolk—Wm. Meade, Rector.—Number of Communicants about 250; added during the last year 18. Funerals 17. Baptisms 29. Marriages 9. Sunday School Teachers between 20 and 30. Sunday Scholars nearly 200.

During the past year a regular Missionary Society has been established whose contributions are made four times a year. It is composed, according to the recommendation of the General Convention, of all the baptized members of the Church, whether children or adults. There are between two and three hundred subscribers on this plan, and more than three hundred dollars have been the fruit of the happy arrangement. Nearly three hundred dollars have been collected by the Agent of the Episcopal Sunday School Union for the benefit of that institution. The Education Society and Theological Seminary still share the generosity of the members of the congregation. More than two hundred dollars are annually given to the former—and those who united in the subscription of nearly four thousand dollars last year to the Seminary, payable in annual instalments, have not, I am sure, repented of their engagement, but will from year to year cheerfully discharge their obligation.

During the last spring a pious member of our communion, Miss Susan Boudoin, who departed this life in the triumphs of faith, bequeathed the sum of five hundred dollars to the Education Society, and the same sum to the Bible Society of Virginia; both of which bequests have been faithfully and cheerfully paid by the executor and heir to the proper authorities. During the present spring a generous donation of a lot and suitable house for a lecture room and Sunday school room, has been made to the Church by a female member of

the same. The value is estimated at three thousand dollars. The sum of six hundred dollars has already been raised for the purpose of its enlargement. The Rector of this congregation has reason to hope that a better evidence than any above mentioned, of the prevalence of a good spirit of piety in the members of the Church, is to be found in their punctual attendances at the house of God; their correct conduct; their love and harmony; their disposition to every good work; especially their zeal in behalf of the poor, and the children of the poor. For all this he desires to praise God and give all the glory to him.

Christ Church, Richmond—George Woodbridge, Rector.—Communicants, added 29; removed 7; died 1—total 10. Baptisms, adult 1; children 9—total 10. Confirmed 10. Marriages 3. Died 1. Funerals 24. There have been collected for various objects of benevolence about \$500. A Sunday School room has been erected; the cost of which has been about \$1,300. Much praise is due to the ladies for the zeal and industry they have manifested in their Sewing Societies. Their aid has been very efficient. "They have done what they could." The Sunday School numbers about 80 or 90 scholars, and 20 teachers. Two Bible classes have been held during the year; one in Richmond and one in Manchester. The Weekly Offerings have been regularly collected, and an income of about \$300 may be expected from this source of revenue.

Stoburn's Parish, Leesburg—Geo. Adie, Rector.—Communicants 67; added 4; removed 4; died 2. Baptisms, white, adult 1; infants 11; colored, infants 4—total 16. Confirmations, white 10; colored 2—total 14. Funerals 10. There is an interesting Sunday School connected with the congregation of about 120 white scholars, and 40 colored. The latter are taught orally to commit to memory hymns and portions of scripture; and have explained to them the doctrines and precepts of our holy religion. There are several benevolent societies, having for their object the lessening of human suffering and the salvation of immortal souls. The Rector preaches on Sunday afternoons to large and attentive congregations of colored persons. Measures are being taken to commence immediately the erection of a more spacious and convenient edifice, for the worship of God, which we hope will be completed at no distant period.

Abbe and Middleburg—Geo. Adie, Rector.—Communicants 12; added 3; died 1; removed 2. Baptized 1. Married 1. State of the congregation much as last reported.

Upperville—Geo. Adie, Minister.—Communicants 9; removed 3; suspended 1. Funeral 1. Baptisms 2. Marriages 2. A handsome new Church edifice is nearly completed; and we hope the services of the Church will soon be more regularly observed.

Raleigh and Dale Parishes, Amelia and Chesterfield Counties—P. F. Berkeley, Rector.—Communicants—added 11; removed 3; died 1—total 31. Baptisms—adults 4; viz: whites 3, colored 1; infants 8; viz: white 6, colored 2—total 14. Confirmations 19. Marriages 2. Number of families 30, adults 96, children 70. Amount collected for the different institutions connected with the Church \$560.

The labors of the Rector and the condition of his charge continue much as when last reported. The number of his hearers, however, increases somewhat. A more systematic plan of contributing to the cause of Missions has been adopted with much advantage; and funds have been, or soon will be subscribed for the purpose of altering and repairing the roughly Grub-hill Church, Amelia county.

St. Thomas' Church, Orange Courthouse—Wm. G. H. Jones, Rector.—Communicants—added 1—total 31. Baptisms—adult 1; infants 7—total 8. Marriages 7. Funerals 5. Families 30. Amount contributed by sixteen ladies for "Jones Scholarship in the Theological Seminary of Virginia," \$75. Amount for Missions for the 1st quarter \$21.

The services of the Church are well attended. Our Sunday School attracts more attention than formerly; and upon the whole, the Rector is encouraged, though he has nothing of peculiar interest to report.

Walker's Church, Albemarle—Communicants—died 1—total 18. Baptisms—infants 2. Families 11.

Christ Church, Smithfield, Isle of Wight County—Thomas Smith, Minister.—Communicants—added 2—total 16. Baptisms 6; colored 1. Marriages 2. Funerals 5. Amount of money raised for charitable purposes \$60.

The Minister took charge of this Parish early in August, 1835, but was unable to give his undivided attention to it until December. Though the Church here has had to contend with some difficulties, the prospects are now encouraging. A Young Ladies' Bible Class, and a Class of Catechumens, have been established, which give promise of much usefulness. There is also a Union Sunday School, which has been in existence for a number of years.

Efforts have been made, with some success, to form a Sunday School library, also a Parish library. The Minister and Vestry are endeavoring to carry into effect the resolution of the last General Convention, respecting the cause of Missions. The ladies have formed a Dorcas Society, consisting at present, of thirty-one members, which promises much aid to the other benevolent efforts made in the Parish.

The Minister has also officiated occasionally at Cabin Point, Surry county. This is an unoccupied field of labor, and its destitute condition calls loudly upon the Church to supply its spiritual wants.

Fredericksville Parish, Charlottesville—Richard K. Meade, Minister.—The minister of this church entered upon his charge in Charlottesville early in last month, and not having been able to arrive at the exact condition of the congregation, has but little to report. Since then I have baptized 2 infants and buried 1 adult. The number of communicants is about 40. The zealous services of the Rev. Mr. Cobbs, whilst Chaplain to the University, did much to awaken the zeal of the members in behalf of religion and our Church; and in the result of his labors there are signs which furnish encouragement that the Church in Charlottesville is not in so depressed a condition as has been sometimes supposed.

Kanawha Parish—John Martin, Rector.—There is nothing of special interest to report from this Parish. A church is being built in Charleston, and will probably be ready for us in a few months. Very liberal subscriptions have been obtained towards this object. The congregation is increasing; and a few, at least, it is hoped, are inquiring what they shall do to be saved. Number of communicants 15. I have preached regularly to large congregations in the Salines—number of communicants 2; removed 1.

St. Mark's Parish, Kanawha County—John Martin, Rector.—My time has been equally divided between this Parish and Kanawha. Here is an interesting congregation, which is rapidly increasing. The services of another minister are greatly needed in order to effect any permanent good. Number of communicants 14. Baptisms—infants 2. Marriages 3. Contributions to the amount of several hundred dollars have been made by the members of this Parish towards the erection of a parsonage and the church in Charleston. Collected for other objects near fifty dollars.

Christ Church, Lancaster County—Ephraim Adams, Rector.—Communicants—added 1; died 1; removed 1; withdrawn 1—present number 36. Baptisms—infants 11—principally colored. Marriages 3. Funerals 7; viz: white 5, colored 2.

Besides the money contributed towards some of the institutions of the Church, amounting to \$110 84, a subscription has recently been commenced, to raise a fund for repairing the church. Nearly six hundred dollars have been subscribed. A Protestant Episcopal Prayer Book and Tract Society—and a Protestant Episcopal Female Society for the spread of the Gospel, are connected with the Church.

St. George's Church, Fredericksburg—E. C. McGuire, Rector.—Communicants—removed 9; died 1—total 150. Baptisms 33. Marriages 6. Funerals 13. Number of families 100. Amount collected for the different institutions connected with the church, about \$400.

But little remains to be added to these statements. The attendance upon the services of the sanctuary has been constant, devout, and encouraging. Of the efficacy of the word and ordinances we have had satisfactory assurance. Those who have heretofore united themselves to the Lord, in a covenant never to be forgotten, have given good evidence of growth in grace and perseverance in good works. The power of the Spirit is as conspicuous in preserving, as in giving life to the soul.

There are in operation three Sunday Schools, male, female, and infant. In the conduct of these there is a commendable degree of zeal, and the promise of good fruit in reward of the faith and patience of those who labor in this important field.

The Missionary feeling with us is strong, and the contributions made in behalf of that great cause are regular and liberal.

Our Prayer Book and Tract Society continues its noiseless but effectual efforts in advancement of its useful ends.

The Temperance cause, impeded for a season by the ultraism of some of its friends in other sections of our land, has not been so influential as formerly. The course of the Society in this place having been moderate and judicious, it continues to exercise a salutary influence, and we trust will improve more and more.

Our labors in behalf of the colored people have been sadly interrupted through the past year. This has been effected by causes, so well known and understood, and so generally deplored by the real friends of the African race, that we need not recount them here. We do not, however, lose sight of their spiritual interests, and intend to do all in our power for their real good.

St. George's Parish, Accomack County—W. D. Bayne, Lay Delegate.—Communicants 29; removed 1. Baptisms 5. Marriages 1. Funerals 3.

The Rev. William H. Mitchell of this Parish, died on the 8th April last; since which time there have been no services in the churches. The Vestry are now in correspondence with a gentleman, whose services, it is hoped, they will be able to obtain.

St. Ann's and South Farnham Parishes, Essex County—John P. McGuire, Rector.

St. Ann's.—Communicants—added 2; removed 3—present total 34. Baptisms—adult 1; infants—white 8—total 9. Marriages 3, (one colored.) Funerals 3.

South Farnham.—Communicants—died 1—present total 30. Baptisms—infants—white 2, colored 10—total 12. Marriages 2. Funerals 6.

A small portion of the children in these Parishes have the benefit of Sunday School and Bible Class instruction.

The interest in behalf of the colored population is gradually increasing, and it is hoped, we shall soon be able to aid effectually in advancing their spiritual welfare.

In an extreme part of South Farnham Parish, the Rector has preached several times, and expects that very speedily a new church will be established there. A considerable part of the money necessary has been already subscribed; and the work will, if God please, be shortly commenced.

The amount contributed and subscribed for various benevolent and religious objects is not exactly known, but exceeds five hundred dollars.

Lexington Parish, Amherst County, and Nelson Parish, Nelson County—Charles H. Page, Rector.—Communicants—added 3; died 3—total 80. Baptisms—infants—white 4, colored 6—total 10. Marriages 3. Funerals 10. Number of families 58, adults 180, in Amherst. Families 26, adults 73, in Nelson.

The amount given to institutions connected with the Church, eighty-one dollars. More would have been given, but in one congregation more than one hundred dollars were subscribed to complete a church; in a second congregation efforts have been making to build a church; in a third a new church has just been paid for.

It is a subject of deep regret, that the cause of Christ is not flourishing. By some members of the Church there is exhibited increasing zeal; among others, too great conformity to the world, and neglect of divine institutions is visible.

Instruction in the Bible, in the Catechism, in the Sunday School, is given as opportunity presents.

There are some, of whom the hope is entertained, that they are inquiring the way to Zion, and will ere long, declare themselves the disciples of the blessed Saviour.

The Rector reports, that in the course of the year he has visited two distant neighborhoods in the county of Amherst, which are ill supplied with the preaching of the Word. He has also spent two weeks in the county of Augusta in Missionary labors.

St. Paul's Church, Alexandria—J. T. Johnson, Rector.—Communicants—added 6; removed 12; died 4—total 127. Baptisms—adults—white 1; infants 20; viz: white 15, colored 5—total 21. Confirmations—in the congregation 7; from the Seminary 1—total 8. Marriages 9. Funerals 13. Number of families not known. Amount collected for the different institutions connected with the Church \$415.

The condition of this church is much the same as when last reported. A few new members have been added to the communion, but the removal of many from the city, and the deaths of others, have considerably reduced the whole number. The congregation is large, and still continues to increase. The various societies attached to the Church are all in a flourishing state. The following is the report of the superintendents of the Sunday Schools: Two Sunday Schools—male school, 1 superintendent, 6 teachers, 63 scholars—female school, 1 superintendent, 15 teachers, 139 scholars—total 204.

Russel Parish, Bedford County—N. H. Cobbs, Rector.—Communicants—added 12; removed 13; incorporated in a new Parish 24; died 3; withdrawn 1; ordained to the ministry 1—total 66. Baptisms—adults 7; infants—white 15, colored 10—total 25. Confirmations 26. Marriages 4—white 3, colored 1. Funeral 1. Number of families 52, adults 200, infants 110.

Since the last Convention the Parish of Russel has been divided, with the consent of all persons interested, and a new Parish organized, under the name of West Russel, Bedford county. In this newly formed Parish, the Rev. Mr. Sale officiates with very encouraging prospects. Of his own Parish the Rector has nothing flattering to report. He is, however, induced to believe, that the claims and excellences of our Church are beginning to be more generally appreciated and acknowledged.

The Rector continues his labors among the colored persons; of whom about two hundred attend upon his ministrations. From the attention given to his exhortations, and from the

increasing interest manifested in the devotions of the liturgy, he would hope his efforts among them are not in vain. During the last year the Parish was favored with a visit from the Rt. Rev. Bishop Otey of Tennessee, who at the request of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Moore very obligingly administered confirmation in the several congregations of the Parish, and admitted twenty persons to that primitive rite.

The Rector could not well express the satisfaction and interest manifested by the parishioners in that visit of Bishop Otey. Multitudes flocked to hear him—and of those who listened with admiration to his faithful and able discourses, it is believed there are some who have not yet forgotten the impressions that were made upon their hearts.

St. John's Church, Richmond—William H. Hart, Rector.—The Rector having entered upon the duties of this Parish so recently as the 8th inst. has not yet been able to ascertain the state and condition of the congregation with sufficient accuracy to enable him to report.

St. Ann's Parish, Albemarle County, and Moore Parish, Nelson County—J. P. B. Wilmer, Minister.—Communicants—added 6; removed 2—total 56. Baptisms—adult—white 1—infants—white 3. Marriage 1. Funeral 1. Sunday Schools 2.

Depending upon the above head, to represent the internal condition of this Parish, the Minister will briefly add, that within the past year, two new churches have been erected, and a third which was before unfinished, has been completed. Adjacent to this charge a new Parish has been organized, which has since been supplied with the services of an efficient incumbent.

Bloomfield Parish, Madison County—J. Doughan, Minister.—Communicants 22. Baptisms 2—adult 1; infant 1.

But six months have elapsed since my connexion with this Parish. There is nothing of particular interest to report. Two Sundays of the month have been appropriated, one at Madison Courthouse, and one at Trinity Church, Rapid Ann, about six miles distant from the former place. Two Sundays of the month have been given at Culpeper Courthouse. The attendance on the ordinances of the Church, has usually been respectable, and the Church has some firm friends. But the members and supporters of the Church at these several places, have been so much diminished by emigration, as to leave but little encouragement to hope, that the ordinances of the gospel, as connected with our Church, can be permanently sustained without the liberal co-operation of the Missionary Society.

Westover Parish, Charles City County—Alexander Norris, Rector.—Communicants—added 1; removed 1—total 18. Baptisms—infants—white 14; colored 3—total 17. Marriages 2. Funerals 9. Number of families about 20; adults about 40; infants about 50. Amount collected for the various institutions connected with the Church \$37 16.

I have continued to officiate as heretofore in this Parish, preaching alternately, when the weather and roads would permit, at the churches on Sunday morning, and frequently once and twice a day, on Sundays, to the servants at their respective homes. I have continued also to preach to a free colored congregation. I have also re-supplied the county with Bibles. And in my visits among the people, I have made it an object to inquire into the condition of the poor children, in order, if possible, to promote, in some degree, the laudable design of our poor laws, in providing for them the means of education. I have also lately made arrangements to afford to the people the means of religious reading and intelligence, by distributing among them Prayer-books, the evangelical volumes of the American Tract Society, and also all Tracts and various small publications, which are calculated to be useful in subserving the interests of true religion.

Mount Laurel Church, Halifax County—John T. Clark, Minister.—The Minister of this church reports, that during the last year his labors have been very much divided. Generally he has preached on the third and fourth Sundays of the month at the church in his own neighborhood to small congregations. On the evening of both these days he has had appointments a part of the year; one at a private dwelling, and intended principally for the colored people, and the other at a Baptist Church. A monthly Missionary meeting is held on the first Monday in each month. On the second Sunday in the month he has preached at St. John's, Campbell county. He has also occasionally preached at a small village called Brookneal, to respectable assemblages. On the first Sunday in the month he has generally preached at a place called Rock Spring, in a distant and very destitute neighborhood, where he was once very sanguine of building up the Church, but has now almost given up in despair. He has baptized at Mount Laurel Church 3 adults and 2 infants. At St. John's one adult. Number of communicants at Mount Laurel Church 13. Number of families professedly Episcopal 6. Number of communicants at St. John's 9. Number of Episcopal families 7. Collected for the church during the year from the congregation at Mount Laurel Church \$114 50. Collected from the children of St. John's congregation \$3 56.

St. Mark's Parish, Culpeper County—John W. Woodville, Minister.—Communicants—added 3; removed 6—total 23. Baptisms—infants 3. Marriages 4. Funerals 5. Number of families 18.

There are in this Parish three churches at which Divine service is regularly performed. The congregations at two of them are large and respectable, and a deep interest on the all-important subject of religion seems to pervade the minds of the people.

Balk Parish, Dinwiddie County, and St. Andrew's Parish, Brunswick County—John Grammer, Rector.—Communicants—added 4; removed 3; died 3—present number 49. Baptisms—infants—white 7; colored 5. Confirmed—white 6; colored 1—total 7. Funerals—white 7; colored 7—total 14. Marriages 5.

A new church has been erected in St. Andrew's Parish within the last year, which can, in a few weeks, be ready for use; but an inscrutable Providence has lately removed from us three of our little flock, all female heads of families, and for the convenience of two of whom, the new church was specially intended.

The spiritual condition of these Parishes is far from being encouraging. The influence of political excitement and of that spirit of covetousness which is carrying such crowds to the west, or involving them in pecuniary speculations, is very perceptibly felt, and greatly to be deplored in the Church.

West Russel Parish, Bedford County—Nelson Sale, Minister.—Communicants 24. Funerals 1. Marriages 5.

This Parish has been very recently organized—being formed out of the western part of Bedford county. In this part of the county the claims of the Church were comparatively unknown; prejudices prevailed to a considerable extent; but notwithstanding these difficulties my labors have been more kindly received than I had anticipated. Our congregations are generally good, and are steadily increasing. If the prospects for a considerable accession to the number of communicants be not flattering, still much is gained in such a situation when our ministrations are heard. The communion has not been administered since my connexion with the Parish, though there are several persons waiting to avail themselves of the first opportunity to go forward to the supper of the Lord. A subscription has been circulated in the Parish for the erection of a new church, and it is confidently believed that the desired object will be accomplished. From a general survey of his field of labor the Minister is emboldened to express the hope that his labors have not been altogether without the Divine blessing.

In addition to my labors in West Russel, Bedford, I have devoted one-fourth of my time to a congregation in Amherst. In this congregation the prospects for usefulness are somewhat encouraging—efforts are making for the erection of a new church, and it is hoped there are some whose minds are beginning to be brought under the saving influence of the truth.

In this congregation there have been 4 baptisms and 1 burial. Number of communicants unknown.

St. Peter's Church, Port Royal, and Grace Church, St. Mary's Parish, Caroline—Wm. Friend, Rector.—Communicants—added 4—total 34. Confirmations 2. Baptisms—white 5; colored 12—total 17. Burials—white 3; colored 12—total 15.

The Rector reports that since the last Convention, the field of his labor has been partially changed. He has resigned the charge of the church in St. Margaret's Parish, and assumed that of the church in Port Royal. In this place, during the past year, a commodious brick church has been erected, which was consecrated by our venerable Bishop on the 15th of this month. A considerable portion of the funds for the erection of this edifice have been raised through the exertions of a pious and active layman, among the friends of the Church in Virginia and New York City. The ladies also of the village and vicinity have engaged in the work with their accustomed zeal, and rendered valuable and efficient aid.

Three Bible Classes have been formed in the Parish, which it is trusted, will be instrumental in promoting the study and knowledge of the sacred Scriptures. Amid many obstacles and discouragements there is ground of hope that God will yet visit us in mercy. Indications appear of an awakened interest in the concerns of religion, and some are seeking Zion with their faces thitherward.

St. Andrew's Parish, Jefferson County—Alexander Jones, Rector.—Communicants 115; added 4; died 2. Baptisms—white 12; colored 8. Funerals 13.

The Rector has very little that is pleasing to report respecting his charge. Religion is respected, and the ordinances of grace generally well attended. The accountable, dying creatures of God are, however, still walking in the error of their ways, and the means of grace have no visible effect. This he much ascribes to his own unfaithfulness, and the want of practical, serious, zealous faith among the people of God.

Wickliffe Parish, Clarke County—William M. Jackson, Rector.—Communicants—added 4; removed 7; died 1—total 46. Baptisms—white 11; colored 18—total 29. Confirmations 2. Marriages 11. Funerals 2. Number of families about 45. There are two Sunday Schools which contain 70 children. The libraries contain 200 volumes. Amount of collections for benevolent objects \$390.

Though the Rector of this Parish sees much to discourage him, there is, nevertheless, abundant cause for anticipating happy results from the preaching of the gospel. The churches are well attended by the colored as well as the white congregations. The Sunday Schools are prospering, and the hearts of those who profess religion appear to be enlisted in the cause of the Redeemer. The interest in the cause of Missions is also increasing; a fact, which the Rector cannot but think a strong evidence of an increase of vital piety.

Christ Church, Alexandria, D. C., Fairfax Parish—Charles B. Dana, Rector.—Communicants—added 16, eight of whom are from other cures; removed 10; died 4—total 122, twelve of whom are colored. Baptisms—adult—white 1; children—white 20; colored 6—total 27. Confirmations 12. Marriages 6. Funerals 9. Number of families about 75. Amount collected for institutions connected with the Church about \$500.

A flourishing Sunday School, a Bible Class, and several benevolent institutions are connected with this church. The congregation has been increased during the past year by the addition of several families; and its peace and harmony have continued undisturbed. The prescribed services of the Church have been regularly performed, and such other means for the promotion of piety, as were deemed expedient and practicable, have been used. The Rector has some reason to hope that he has not labored entirely in vain.

St. John's Church, Berkeley Parish—William Norvell Ward, Rector.—Communicants—added 7—total 14. Baptisms—adults 2; infants 3. Funeral 1.

In this congregation there appears to be an increasing attachment to the Church services; and the value of the gospel in its power to save the soul is sensibly felt by many.

St. Margaret's Parish—William Norvell Ward, Rector.—Communicants—added 1; died 2—total 22. Baptisms—infants 2. Funerals 5—white 3; colored 2. Marriage 1. This congregation is small, and there is but little to encourage the hope either of a very rapid or large increase.

Trinity Church, Bowling Green—William Norvell Ward, Rector.—Communicants 7. Baptisms—infants—white 2; colored 2—total 6. Funerals 2.

There are but four families here which can be called Episcopal; the congregations, however, are usually good. Though the church is used for public worship, it is in an unfinished state, besides having a debt hanging over it, the responsibility of which rests upon two individuals.

Christ Church, Winchester—J. E. Jackson, Rector.—Communicants—added 8; (two of whom were from another Parish;) removed 14; died 4—total 96. Baptisms—white—infants 17. Marriages 8. Funerals 6. Number of families about 60. Amount collected for benevolent purposes not known, but believed to be about \$200.

It is with deep regret that the Rector has nothing of a very interesting character to report; his congregation seems to partake largely in the general declension of religious feeling, which it is feared, pervades our whole country; and the spirit of emigration has made large and distressing inroads upon us. The Sunday Schools are as flourishing as for some years past, and there is a very interesting Bible Class, from which, it is hoped, much benefit will be derived. The Missionary Society and the Female Education Society are far from receiving that patronage which their importance demands. The American Bible Society, Tract Society, and Temperance cause, receive some support from the congregation.

The church at Mill Creek continues to be deeply interesting; the attendance is very good; and it is hoped and believed, that a good work is gradually and effectively progressing in that part of his charge. Communicants—added 2; died 2—total 42. Marriages 2. Baptisms 3. Funerals 2.

St. Paul's Parish, King George County—Zachariah H. Goldsmith, Rector.—Communicants 29. Baptisms 1. Marriages 3. Funeral 1.

The attendance upon the stated ministrations of the gospel is generally good during the summer months; but few, however, appear to improve the privileges which they enjoy, and live with a becoming reference to the supreme concerns of another life.

Brunswick Parish, King George County—Zachariah H. Goldsmith, Rector.—Communicants 10. Baptisms 6. Funeral 1.

No material change has occurred in this Parish since the last report.

St. Peter's Church, Tillotson Parish, Buckingham County—Jas. M. Cofer, Minister.—Communicants—added 1—total 33. Baptisms—infant 1. Marriage 1. Funeral 1.

An Education Society, and likewise a Working Society in aid of the support of the Minister have been formed by the ladies of this church. Contributions to several benevolent institutions have been made, the precise amount of which is not known.

The Minister took charge of this church immediately after the Convention of last year. Previously to that period it had been for some time without a minister. It is now, in some respects, in a flourishing condition. The congregation continues to increase, and is uniformly attentive, respectful, and orderly.

Services have been held once a month at Salem Church, Buckingham, and at Cartersville, Cumberland county; at each of which places the congregations have been generally small, but attentive. There have been services for the colored people of the Parish for some time past on three Sabbaths in the month, in the afternoon. Their attendance has been good—and it is hoped and believed that they have derived benefit from the services.

Report of the Rev. John Cooke, Hanover.—My labors during the past year have been exclusively of an itinerant character. They have been principally made in the counties of Spottsylvania, Louisa, Powhatan, and Goochland: in all of which, I am happy to say, there are some encouraging prospects.

At Spottsylvania Courthouse there is an interesting nucleus, around which, I think, in the course of time, a respectable congregation may be gathered. I have had here on all occasions a large and attentive audience.

In the lower part of Louisa a small building has been erected, and the people there appear desirous of having the regular services of the Church.

In Powhatan the prospect is still more favorable. At Peterville Church I have had large and attentive congregations, many of whom seemed much pleased with the thought of being permitted again to worship God after the custom of their fathers.

At Monican Town—a place rendered somewhat interesting to Churchmen by the sufferings, piety, and devotedness of its early settlers—I have also officiated once a month, and the prospects are encouraging. The church here is to be rebuilt on a more eligible site, and on an improved plan, and money has been raised for the purpose.

In Goochland the prospects are not so gratifying—but owing, probably, to my having so long known the church there under more favorable circumstances. There are, however, several families who are anxious to obtain the services of a minister, and would doubtless, do all in their power to raise him an ample and comfortable support.

I have no means of ascertaining exactly the number of communicants to be found among these congregations, but I suppose about thirty in all; probably about one-third of them, however, will be returned by other ministers with whom they occasionally commune. Two have been admitted during the past year. I have administered baptism in one instance—attended three funerals—and celebrated the rite of matrimony twice.

St. Paul's Church, Lynchburg—F. G. Smith, Rector.—Communicants—removed 9; withdrawn 1; added 11—present number 65. Baptisms—adults 3; infants 15—total 18. Marriages 4. Funerals 5.

St. Mark's Church, Antrim Parish, Halifax County—Charles Dresser, Rector.—Communicants—present number 36—increase 3. Baptisms—infants 9. Confirmed 6. Marriages 7. Funerals about 25. Offerings of the Church \$127. Collected for the Library of the Seminary \$86.

Of the spiritual condition of this congregation little that is interesting can be said. Almost the only event of interest connected with this part of the Parish, is the erection of a church in the village of Meadesville, which has been once opened for Divine service.

Camden Parish, Pittsylvania County—Charles Dresser, Minister.—Communicants—removed 1; died 1—in all 14. Confirmed 1. Baptisms—infants 4.

Since the last Convention the church in this Parish has lost by death and removal two of its most efficient members. Still our prospects there are cheering—two communicants will be added the first opportunity. There are now three stations where a resident minister might stately preach with encouraging prospect of usefulness—and where our services would be very acceptable.

St. John's Church, Elizabeth City Parish—M. L. Chevers, Rector.—Communicants—added 2; removed 1; died 1—total 10. Baptisms—adult 1; infants 4; viz: white 3; colored 1—total 5. Marriages 10. Funerals 4. Amount collected for the Foreign and Domestic Missionary Society \$8 50.

Centurian Church, Old Point, Va.—M. L. Chevers, Rector.—Communicants—added 7;

removed 6—total 15. Baptisms—infants 19; (one colored.) Marriages 15. Funerals 3. Number of families about 25, adult 60, (exclusive of private soldiers and non-commissioned officers,) infants 70. A Catechetical Class of 23 children. Scholars in the Sunday School about 40; teachers 6. Amount of collections for the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society \$41 50.

Abingdon and Ware Parishes, Gloucester County—John Cole, Rector.—Communicants—added 3; died 3—total 39. Baptisms—infants 16—white 9; colored 7. Marriages 5—white 4; colored 1. Funerals 16. Number of families 32.

The state of these Parishes is not materially changed since the Rector's last report. But little has been done in the way of accessions to the communion, though he trusts the word has not been wholly preached in vain.

Since his last report the Rector has had an afternoon service at the Courthouse, which he hopes will not prove altogether unprofitable to those who attend. He has also had a Bible Class composed of young ladies in a neighboring boarding school. A Sunday School is held in one of the Parishes; but he is compelled to express his regret, that a sufficient number of punctual and active teachers cannot be procured to make it as efficient, as from the known influence of this powerful institution, he could most devoutly wish.

Since the last report measures have been taken to secure for the Rector of these Parishes a permanent residence. Funds have been raised which are thought to be nearly sufficient to secure the object; and it is hoped, that before the close of the current year, a measure so intimately connected with the prosperity of the Church in this quarter, will be satisfactorily completed. On the whole, though there has been no great increase in our numbers, it is hoped there has been of our real strength. The Church is better known than formerly, and consequently better loved; and things, it is hoped, are on a more permanent basis.

Trinity Church, Portsmouth Parish, Norfolk County—J. H. Wingfield, Rector.—Communicants—added 5; removed 1; died 1—total 40. Baptisms—infants 18. Marriages (6 out of this Parish) 18. Funerals (10 out of this Parish) 24. Number of families about 60, adults about 140, infants about 120. Amount collected for different institutions connected with the Church, viz: for Diocesan Missions \$24; General Domestic Missions \$24; General Foreign Missions \$24.—Total \$72. One-half of the above collected in three months on the plan of Weekly Offerings. Parish Library \$14; Parish Sunday School and Library \$16; General Sunday School Union \$90.—Total \$207.

We have a Sunday School with 10 teachers and 40 scholars, but not in a flourishing condition.

The plan of systematic charity by weekly offerings has been introduced into this Parish, and promises to be effectual in raising larger contributions for benevolent purposes than have ever been realized in this congregation before.

In temporal things this congregation is as prosperous as could be expected; but in its spiritual condition, the Rector can perceive nothing very encouraging.

Sunday School Scholars contributed six dollars of the sum collected for Missions.

Cumberland Parish, Lunenburg—C. C. Taliaferro, Rector.—Members added to the communion 8, (two colored;) died 2; removed 1—total 20. Confirmed 24. Baptisms—infants 2. Contributions to the Missionary Society \$38. The annual subscriptions to the Education Society and the Theological Seminary have generally been paid. The second year's payment to the Taliaferro scholarship has been received. And \$400 have been given by a benevolent gentleman to enlarge the library in the Theological Seminary of the Diocese.

The Rector in looking back at the result of his last year's labors, whilst he sees much to distress him, can discover something also to encourage him. The attendance upon his public ministrations is better than it has ever been before. When the present incumbent took charge of the Parish he found but eleven members in the church—four or five of these were superannuated, and more than this number have died and removed from the county. We have enclosed and painted the church, and built another much stronger and more commodious, which has been consecrated.

St. Martin's Parish, Hanover and Louisa Counties—W. V. Bowers, Rector.—Communicants—added 3; removed 2; died 5—total 53. Baptisms—adult 1; infants 3—total 4. Marriage 1. Funerals 9. Number of families 40. Amount collected for benevolent purposes upwards of \$250.

The Sunday Schools contain 20 teachers and about 100 scholars. During the last year we succeeded in furnishing each school with a library.

The colored people are instructed on Sunday afternoons; and the Concert of Prayer is held every month when the weather permits.

An effort is now being made to repair the Fork Church during the summer, at an expense of more than \$500, which have been subscribed.

Hamilton and Leed's Parishes, Fauquier County.—George Lemmon, Rector.—The Rector reports that though there have been some additions to the number of his communicants, yet the incursions of death have kept the number about the same as reported last year, viz. 70. He has baptized 24 children, 5 of which were colored, 6 whites were of a neighboring Parish in Prince William county. Marriages 18. Funerals 5. Families about 40.

A number of his communicants, principally of Leed's Parish, continue to contribute liberally to Missionary and other charitable objects. The plan of systematic charity by weekly and weekly contributions has been adopted and acted upon in Hamilton Parish, in support of our Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, which it is hoped, will prove a permanent source of good, under God, both to the Parish and the Society.

The Female Education Society of Warrenton still exists, and though not flourishing, continues to aid, in some measure, its important object.

The Temperance Society of Warrenton, in Hamilton Parish, has received a considerable accession of numbers within the last year, at an early period of which, it adopted the pledge of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors, as common drinks. The Temperance Society in Leed's Parish is still maintained, in which both the old and new pledges are used, and it is hoped that both Societies have been, and will be, productive of innumerable good.

St. Paul and St. John's Churches, Frederickville Parish, Albemarle County.—Edmund Christian, Minister.—The Minister took charge of these churches in July last. Several communicants have been added, and his prospects of usefulness are very encouraging.

Lanesburg and North Farnham Parishes, Richmond County, and Cople Parish, Westmoreland County.—G. W. Nelson, Rector.—Communicants—added 6, died 1—total 43. Baptisms 5. Funerals 2. Marriages 2.

The condition of these Parishes is nearly the same as when the Rector made his last report.

Trinity Church and Trinity Chapel, Augusta Parish.—S. H. Lewis and Edward Valentine, Lay Delegates.—Communicants—added 4, removed 3, died 1—total 81. Baptisms—infants 14. Marriages 4. Funerals 3. About 120 scholars attend the Sunday School, who have contributed \$15 dollars to the Greek Mission.

Bristol Parish Church, Petersburg.—Andrew Syme, Rector.—Communicants—added 7, died 3—total 78. Baptisms 17. Confirmations 14. Marriages 6. Funerals 8. Amount collected for different institutions of the Church about \$375. The Sunday School is flourishing under the management of a gentleman who discharges the office of Superintendent, with a zeal and ability worthy of commendation.

Boston Parish, Williamsburg.—Adam Empie, Rector.—Communicants—added 7, died 2, removed 1—total 62, of whom 2 are colored persons. Baptisms 3, (white children). Marriages 6, of which 2 were of persons of color. Funerals 6, two of which belonged not to the Parish. Number of families about 52, adults 144, children 73. Catechumens 26. Sunday scholars 40; teachers 6.

The Parish is in other respects as when last reported, and it contributes the same as last year to the contingent fund, and Bishops' expenses, and the Missionary Society of the Diocese.

Frederick Parish, Clarke County.—Horace Stringfellow, Minister.—Communicants—added 3. Funerals 2. Number of families 40.

The Minister officiating in this Parish, entered upon his duties on the first of November, 1835, since which time he has preached to very attentive congregations. In addition to the regular services of the church, he devotes every Sunday afternoon to the colored people, lectures every Sunday and Wednesday evenings, attends a Bible Class of twenty-four members every Tuesday, and delivers a monthly Missionary lecture, when a collection is taken up in behalf of the cause of Missions. The Sunday School is increasing—number of scholars about 30, teachers 5. His heart is greatly encouraged with the hope, that the spiritual condition of the Parish is improving.

Hotelourt Parish, Hotelourt County.—D. M. Wharton, Minister.—Communicants—added 2, (one of whom is from another Parish), died 1—total 20. Baptisms—infants—white 3. Marriages—white 2, colored 1. Funerals 1. The amount of money collected for various religious and charitable objects is about \$100.

The officiating Minister, since his removal to this Parish, in August last, has preached regularly at two stated places—one at Fincastle, where he is indebted to the kindness of his Presbyterian and Methodist brethren for the use of their houses of worship—the other at a free church, in the south part of the county. At the latter place, there is a Bible Class under his

charge. An afternoon service is held here for the blacks during several months of the year. There are only twelve or thirteen families of which he may be considered as having exclusively pastoral charge. He wishes to state that there exists but little religious sensibility in the community at this time, there are, however, some indications which warrant the belief in the cause of the Church remaining ground. Among the most gratifying of which, he would mention the success that has attended a recent effort to obtain a subscription for the member of an Episcopal Church in Fincastle. Two hundred dollars have been already subscribed, and he hopes that it will be increased to three hundred. The liberality of this aid surpasses in every respect his most sanguine expectations. Arrangements have been made for the building of the church put under contract, and it is expected that it will be completed some time next fall.

Report of the General Agent of the Virginia Colonization Society.—I have to report, in obedience to my resignation of the office of Assistant Minister in Frederick Parish, I had been solicited by the Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society to engage in this office. After considerable deliberation I consented to undertake this work, and received my appointment in the month of August. In January last I accepted the General Agent of the Virginia State Colonization Society.

In prosecuting this object, the Foreign Missionary aspect of this institution has chiefly attracted my attention, and has been especially presented to the attention of the churches, and I am truly happy in being able to report to the Convention that such an interest has been manifested in this cause by such a number of the most judicious and pious ministers and laymen in the State as to warrant the belief that there never has been a time when the work could be prosecuted with as much efficiency as at present. A Missionary feeling in behalf of Africa may be enlisted in this, and perhaps most of the Southern States, by considerations which cannot be pleaded with them for any other portion of the heathen world. And it is hoped by the friends of humanity and of the gospel, that God is about to employ this institution as the instrument for carrying the knowledge of his salvation to that benighted land. During the part of the year in which I have been engaged there has been paid or subscribed for the Society about \$3,500.

I have in addition to these labors, preached between sixty and seventy times—performed two marriages and six baptisms.

C. W. ANDREWS,

General Agent of the Virginia Colonization Society.

The minutes of the Standing Committee for the last year were read and approved.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Standing Committee for the ensuing year—The Rev. Reuel Keith, D. D., Rev. Edward R. Eppitt, Rev. Charles Mann, John Hooff, Edmund T. Lee, and John Gray, Esqs.

Thomas N. Burwell, Esq. was elected a Lay Delegate to the General Convention.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to ascertain how many trustees of the General Theological Seminary this Diocese is entitled to, and select the proper number from the delegates to the General Convention, and certify their appointment to the Board of Trustees of the General Theological Seminary.

The Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary of Virginia, made the following report:

The Board of Trustees report that owing to the change which has been made at this Convention in the Constitution of the Seminary, and the new organization of the Board of Trustees, and the late period at which this change was made it is not in the power of the Board to make a full report of the condition of the Seminary. The account of the Treasurer has been examined, and is herewith presented.

* The following are the Trustees of the General Theological Seminary appointed on the part of the Diocese of Virginia:—Rev. Nicholas H. Cobbs, Rev. Thomas Jackson, Rev. William F. Lee, Rev. Edward C. McGuire, and John Nelson, Esq.

John Gray, Treasurer of the Theological Seminary of Virginia,

		Dr.
1835.		
May	16—To balance due by me per last account,	\$23 17
	18—To cash received from the Rev. Mr. Norris, amount of his bond to the institution,	56 80
June	10—To cash received from sundries, per acknowledgment in the Churchman,	507 00
July	10—To cash six month's interest on the vested fund,	528 00
"	20—To cash sundries, per acknowledgment in the Churchman,	1,233 02
Nov.	8—To do. do. do.	189 00
1836.		
Jan.	30—To cash, interest on the vested fund,	688 00
April	30—To cash, per acknowledgment in the Churchman,	1,156 00
May	10—To cash sundry subscribers in Fredericksburg which will be acknowledged in the Churchman,	117 50
		<u>\$4,498 49</u>

May 10—To balance now in my hands, \$460 92

		Cr.
1835.		
June	10—By cash paid W. Yeaton's draft to Hill towards the centre building,	\$100 00
July	8—By cash paid Professor Keith's quarter's salary,	250 00
	17—By cash paid bills in full of the centre building, per account and receipts,	1,668 07
"	" By cash paid Mr. Boon, the Librarian,	25 00
"	" 29—Paid expenses attending a meeting of the Trustees,	23 50
Aug.	1—Paid premium of insurance on buildings,	88 50
Sept.	9—Paid Secretary for a blank book,	2 50
Oct.	1—Paid Professor Keith's quarter's salary,	250 00
"	" 29—Paid expenses attending another meeting Trustees at the Seminary,	10 25
"	" Paid Rev. Charles Mann, per account,	189 87
1836.		
Jan.	5—Paid digging a well, pump, dairy, meat house, and other jobs, per acc't,	479 11
"	13—Paid Professor Keith's quarter's salary,	250 00
April	7—Paid do. do.	250 00
"	" 29—Paid Clement Woodward's bill for stores to the new building,	180 25
"	" Paid Rev. Charles Mann, per account,	265 00
May	10—Postages since last May,	5 72
	By balance, per contra,	460 72
		<u>\$4,498 49</u>

Vested fund,

E. E.

JOHN GRAY.

\$20,676 15

On motion,

Resolved, That the Rev. George Woodbridge, Col. G. M. Carrington, and Mr. Hilary Baker be a committee to raise by assessment among the different Parishes, having reference to the number of communicants reported to the Convention, the sum of three hundred dollars, to be paid to Bishop Moore at the next Convention for his Episcopal services, and that said committee inform the Clergyman of each Parish of the proportion required from his Parish. And

Resolved, That the Clergy be required to raise the sum so assessed and pay it in at the next Convention.*

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Executive Committee of the Missionary Society:—Mr. Hilary Baker, Secretary, Mr. Geo. M. Carrington, Treasurer, Rev. Edward C. McGuire, Rev. Nicholas H. Cobbs, Rev. John Grammer, Rev. George Woodbridge, Rev. William H. Hart, Rev. Wm. F. Lee, Rev. Wm. G. H. Jones, Mr. Joseph Gill, Mr. Orrin Williams.

* The quota required to be raised by this resolution will call for fourteen cents for each communicant.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due, and they are hereby tendered to the citizens of Fredericksburg for their kindness and hospitality to the members of this Convention.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered, through the Rev. E. C. McGuire, to the several religious denominations for the use of their houses of worship, which they kindly tendered.

Resolved, That the Treasurer be directed to pay the Secretary's expenses in attending this Convention.

Resolved, That the Treasurer pay the Door Keeper of this Convention ten dollars.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to have published and distributed among the Parishes of this Diocese 1,800 copies of the journal of this Convention.

And then after singing the 133d Psalm, the Convention adjourned.

RICHARD CHANNING MOORE,
Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia.

HILARY BAKER, *Secretary.*

ERRATUM.

On the 26th page of the Journal the following correction should be made:—The words "on the second day thereof," should be added to the end of the 12th Rule.

APPENDIX.

REVISED CONSTITUTION

Of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia, as finally adopted by the Convention which met in Fredericksburg in May, 1836.

ARTICLE I.

There shall be a Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State, on the third Wednesday in May, every year; but the Convention which meets in the year previous to the meeting of the General Convention, may have power to appoint the time and place of meeting for the next annual Session; and in the event of the existence of an epidemic disease, or any other good cause, rendering it necessary or expedient to alter the place fixed on for any meeting of the Convention, the Bishop may change the place, or the time, or both, at his discretion.

ARTICLE II.

The Convention shall be composed of the officiating Ministers, who have been regularly and canonically elected in Parishes and Churches, within this State, and within that part of the territory of Columbia, formerly part of this State; Professors of the Theological Seminary of Virginia; Missionaries acting under the authority of the Bishop, and within the Diocese; and of those whom age or infirmity prevents from exercising their clerical functions, who shall be considered members *ex-officio*. No person under ecclesiastical censure or process, shall be entitled to a seat in the Convention. The Convention shall also be composed of lay members, consisting of one delegate from each Parish chosen by the vestry thereof. Every Parish, having more than one officiating minister, who hath been regularly and canonically elected, shall be entitled to send as many lay delegates as it has ministers, and in every case the delegate or delegates shall be communicants in the Church.

ARTICLE III.

Twelve members of the clerical, and twelve of the lay order shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; but a smaller number may adjourn.

ARTICLE IV.

In all matters that shall come before the Convention, the Clergy and Laity shall deliberate in one body; and the concurrence of a majority shall give validity to any measure; but when three members require it, there shall be a vote by orders.

ARTICLE V.

The election of a Bishop of this Church shall be made in Convention in the following manner:—The order of the Clergy shall nominate and appoint by ballot, some fit and qualified Clergyman for that office; and the votes of a majority of that order shall be requisite to constitute a choice; and thereupon, such appointment shall be presented to the order of the Lay Delegates, and be considered by them; and if, on a ballot, it shall appear that the person so nominated is approved of by a majority of the Lay order, he shall be then declared to be duly elected.

ARTICLE VI.

The Bishop shall be President of the Convention; in which character it shall be his duty to give to the Convention, annually, a general view of the state of the Church; to call spe-

cial Conventions, at whatever time and place he shall think necessary, or when required by the Standing Committee; to preserve order during the time of session; to put the question, collect the votes, and declare the decision; and he may deliver his sentiments on any subject after it has been discussed, before a vote thereon.

ARTICLE VII.

In case of a vacancy in the Episcopal Office, the Convention immediately upon their assembling, shall choose, by joint ballot, a President from among the order of Priests, who shall remain in office until the next annual Convention, or until the next election of a President. He shall perform all duties, and possess all the privileges above specified; but he shall not call special meetings of the Convention, unless applied to for that purpose, by a majority of the Standing Committee; and if, while there is a Bishop in this Church, he shall not be present at any meeting of the Convention, they shall elect, in the manner aforesaid, a President *pro tempore*.

ARTICLE VIII.

A Secretary shall be appointed by the Convention, who shall continue in office during good behaviour. His duty shall be to make minutes of their proceedings, to preserve their journals and records, to attest the public acts of the body, and faithfully to deliver into the hands of his successor, all books and papers relative to the concerns of the Convention, which may be in his possession. It shall be his duty to notify, through the channel of the public papers, as he may think proper, the time and place for the meeting of the succeeding Convention. The Secretary shall annex to the Journals of every succeeding Convention, a list of the Clergy with all alterations therein produced in the preceding year by ordinations, deaths, removals, suspensions, and degradations.

ARTICLE IX.

A Treasurer shall be appointed by the Convention, who shall continue in office during good behaviour, and who shall discharge the duties usually appertaining to that office.

ARTICLE X.

Before the adjournment of each annual Convention, a Standing Committee, consisting of six members, three Clerical and three of the Lay order, who shall be communicants of the Church in the Diocese, shall be chosen by a ballot of the Clergy and Laity.

ARTICLE XI.

Every Parish within this Diocese shall be entitled to the entire benefit of this Convention, as soon as it shall have signified its ratification thereof, either in writing or by sending a Lay Delegate to the Convention; and such Parish shall thereafter be benefitted and bound, equally with the other Parishes in this Diocese, by every rule and canon which shall be framed, by any Convention acting under this Constitution, for the government of this Church in ecclesiastical concerns.

ARTICLE XII.

This Constitution shall be unalterable, except in the following manner:—A proposition for any change shall be introduced in writing and considered in Convention; and, if approved of, the same shall be transmitted to the several Vestries of the Parishes which shall ratify this Constitution; and, if again approved of in the next ensuing Convention, by a majority, the change shall then take place; and the Constitution, so altered, shall be and obligatory.

CANONS ADOPTED BY THE CONVENTION OF 1836.

CANON 1st.

Ministers to keep Register.

The minister of each Parish shall make out and continue an exact register of all the adult members, communicants, baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and funerals, within the congregation; which register shall be left, upon his death or removal, for the use of his successor.

CANON 2d.

Ministers to converse with those who apply for Communion.

It shall be the duty of the ministers of our Church, to be careful in observing all the directions of the rubric, and of the General Convention, which relate to communicants, to maintain the most affectionate intercourse with all their members on religious subjects, and especially to converse with those who offer themselves for the first time for the communion, on those qualifications which are proper for the worthy receiving of that sacrament, unless they be otherwise satisfied that they are properly qualified.

CANON 3d.

Communicants to have Family Worship.

It shall be the duty of every communicant of this Church, who is the head of a family, to live in the habitual exercise of family worship.

CANON 4th.

The Members of this Church to instruct their Families in the Principles of Religion.

The members of this Church shall instruct their families, as far as they are able, in the principles of the Christian religion; and as soon as they are sufficiently informed and impressed with the importance and sacredness of their baptismal vows, and have come to the proper age to ratify the same in their own persons, they shall present them to the Bishop for confirmation, when conveniently in their power.

CANON 5th.

The Members of this Church to be Regular in their Attendance on Public Worship.

The members of this Church shall attend the public worship of God as regularly and as constantly, as from their age, infirmities, and circumstances in life, may be reasonably expected; and shall neglect the performance of this important duty for no cause whatever, but such as they might plead at the bar of God in the day of judgment.

CANON 6th.

Offenders to be Admonished or Suspended.

Whereas, the present state of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Virginia has experienced many and great inconveniencies, from the want of such regulations and provisions as the good and wholesome government of the said Church required, and from the non-performance of existing canons: now, in order that such inconveniencies may be removed so far as lieth in the Convention, and that the rules and canons of the said Church, and also those of the General Convention, may be strictly observed and enforced in all time to come, that all the members of the said Church, whether clergymen or laymen, may be excited to the most zealous and commendable exertions, to further by all justifiable means the future prosperity of the Church:

Be it Ordained, That any member of the Church, being a communicant thereof, is doing him or herself in a manner unworthy of a Christian, may and ought to be admonished or suspended by the minister of the parish or congregation, according to the rubric—and in cases where it may be deemed expedient by the minister, or may be requested by the accused person, the Church Wardens, or either of them, if communicants, shall be summoned to assist the minister in ascertaining the facts of the case: provided, that if such Warden or Wardens shall fail or refuse to act within ten days, the minister shall proceed to act under the rubrics of this Church.

CANON.

Delegates to the Convention from the several Parishes shall present a certificate to this effect, signed by the Secretary of the Vestry, or by the Rector, or by one of the Wardens. This is to certify that at a meeting of the Vestry of the Church, on the day of A. B. who is a communicant of good standing in the Church, was appointed a Lay Delegate to represent the same in the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia, to be holden on the day of the year of our Lord

Signed

RESOLUTIONS

Adopted by the Convention at the periods stated below, and renewed in May, 1836.

1. *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Convention be requested to transmit, annually, the proceedings of the Conventions of this Diocese, to the Secretaries of the Conventions of the several States, and to request of them to send in return, annually, the journals of their several Conventions. (Adopted May 26, 1815.)

2. Whereas, an erroneous impression prevails among the members of the Protestant Episcopal Church of this Diocese, that the Convention, at its last session, in May, 1816, by repealing the 6th Canon, then in force, intended thereby to withdraw from ministers of the Church the power of reproving, censuring, or repelling from the communion, any member who may be guilty of the offences in the said 6th Canon described: This Convention, for the purpose of removing such impression, feel themselves bound to declare, as they do now unanimously declare, that such cannot be fairly considered as the effect of the repeal of the 6th Canon; and further, that the Convention expects each minister will conscientiously execute the duty imposed on him by the rubric of the Church, as it relates to communicants.

3. *Resolved, unanimously,* That the Convention do seriously, and in the most affectionate manner, call on the members of this Church, and particularly heads of families, to comply with the requisitions of the 3d and 5th Canons of the Church in this Diocese. (Passed May 1817.)

4. *Resolved,* That it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee, at every meeting of the Convention, to submit, in addition to the report of their proceedings, the documents also, which have been laid before them during the year. (Passed May, 1817.)

5. Whereas, differences of opinion prevail as to certain fashionable amusements, and it appears desirable to many that the sense of the Convention should be expressed concerning them: the Convention does hereby declare its opinion, that gaming, attending on theatres, public balls, and horse-racing, should be relinquished by all communicants of the Church, as having the bad effects of staining the purity of the Christian character; of giving offence to their pious brethren, and of endangering their own salvation, by their rushing voluntarily into those temptations, against which they implore the protection of their Heavenly Father; and this Convention cherishes the hope that this expression of its opinion will be sufficient to produce conformity of conduct, and unanimity of opinion among all the members of our communion. (Passed May, 1818.)

6. *Resolved,* That the annual contributions from Christ Church, in Alexandria, of \$100, for raising a fund for the support of the Bishop, which have now been paid, or which may hereafter be received, together with all other sums which may be any where subscribed and collected for the same object, be vested in bank stock, under the direction of the Standing Committee of this Diocese, in the names of the Church Wardens of Christ Church, Fairfax Parish, Alexandria, and their successors, for the purpose aforesaid.

7. *Resolved,* That, in aid of the Episcopal Fund, the several ministers of the Church, in their respective congregations, at some fit season in each year, deliver an appropriate discourse, recommending the pious object of the fund, and thereafter make a collection, the amount of which they shall specially mention in their respective parochial reports.

8. *Resolved,* That no part of the Episcopal Fund shall be withdrawn for any purpose, unless its annual interest shall suffice for the attainment of its object, and that in the interim, it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee to see that its enlargement is hastened by the prompt conversion of its revenue into principal. (Adopted May 21, 1818.)

9. *Resolved,* That it be earnestly recommended to the different clergymen and Vestries of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this Diocese, to have collections made in their respective churches in the Sabbath preceding or succeeding the 4th of July, in aid of the funds of the Virginia Colonization Society. (Adopted May 20, 1825.)

10. *Resolved,* That this Convention do most fully approve of the holy enterprize of the Virginia Bible Society, and earnestly recommend it to the patronage of the various parishes and churches in this Diocese. (Adopted May 16, 1828.)

11. *Resolved,* That the General Protestant Episcopal Sunday School Union be recommended to the patronage and support of the members of our Church in this Diocese. (Adopted May 19, 1827.)

12. *Resolved*, That this Convention, regarding the intemperate use of ardent spirits as one of the most deploring and alarming vices of our country, as presenting one of the most formidable of all barriers to the spread of the gospel of our Lord and Saviour, feels itself called upon to express its decided approbation of the efforts that are making in many sections of our land to arrest the progress of this acknowledged evil, and to pray that abundant success may crown the labors of the christian, the patriot, and the philanthropist, in their laudable associations for this important purpose. (Adopted May 22, 1829.)

13. *Resolved*, That the restriction annexed to the election of the Assistant Bishop of Virginia, be hereby removed, and that the Rt. Rev. William Meade is hereby declared successor to our present venerable Diocesan, in case he should survive him. (Adopted May 22, 1830.)

14. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the clergy and laity of this Diocese, to make the week previous to the annual meeting of this Convention a special season of thanksgiving and praise to God, for his mercies in times past on such occasions, and of prayer and supplication for the continuance, increase, and efficacious outpouring of his Holy Spirit, to the conversion of sinners, edification of Christians, and building up of his holy Church. (Adopted May 19, 1832.)

15. *Resolved*, That the Treasurer be directed to pay, annually, to the Assistant Bishop, out of the contingent fund, the sum of three hundred dollars, besides paying the necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of his Episcopal duties. (Adopted May 23, 1834.)

16. *Resolved*, That the funds collected by the weekly contributions, on the plan suggested by Bishop Moore in his address in 1835, be paid into the hands of the Treasurer of the Missionary Society of this Diocese, to be appropriated by the Society as they shall deem expedient. (Adopted May 23, 1835.)

CONSTITUTION

OF THE THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL OF VIRGINIA.

RULE I.

The Board of Trustees of the Theological School of the Diocese of Virginia, shall consist of the Bishops of the Diocese and thirteen members to be chosen by the Convention of the Church, who shall be elected every three years, and no Professor of the Institution shall be eligible as Trustee.

RULE II.

The Bishop of the Diocese shall be, *ex-officio*, President of the Board.

RULE III.

The Board shall appoint its own Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

RULE IV.

It shall be the duty of the Board to take proper steps to collect the money already subscribed and to obtain additional funds in aid of the Institution.

RULE V.

There shall be an annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, on the day previous to the meeting of the Convention, and at the place appointed for the same.

RULE VI.

Special meetings of the Board shall be called by the Bishop, on the application of any three of the Trustees, at such place as the Bishop shall appoint, due notice of which shall be given.

RULE VII.

At all meetings of the Board, whether general or special, eight members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum, provided, in cases where the object of the meeting is to appoint a Professor, regulate the salaries of officers, or prescribe the duties of the Professors, due notice shall be given to all the Trustees, (if it be not the regular annual meeting) declaring the particular business of such meeting.

RULE VIII.

A majority of the Trustees, present, shall be necessary to determine any measure, question, or business before them.

RULE IX.

Vacancies occurring in the Board shall be supplied by the remaining Trustees until the meeting of the next Convention, when they shall be filled by that body.

RULE X.

The funds of the Theological School shall be under the management of the Trustees, who shall report annually to the Convention a full statement of the same, and be subject, in the disposition of the same, to the control and direction of that body.

RULE XI.

The management of the Institution shall be vested in the Board of Trustees, who shall have power to choose a Professor, or Professors, and to prescribe a course of study agreeably to the Canons of the Church, and in general to make rules and regulations, for the government and good management of the Institution.

RULE XII.

The Board of Managers shall keep a regular record of their proceedings, and report the same regularly to the annual meetings of the Convention on the second day thereof.

RULE XIII.

This Constitution, or any article thereof, shall not be altered or amended, unless by a vote of two-thirds of the Convention.

