MINUTES

of the

South Carolina Annual Conference

of the

Methodist Episcopal Church

1845

Sandor Teszler Library
Wofford College
Spartanburg, South Carolina
MINUTES

OF THE
Sixteenth Session
SOUTH-CAROLINA CONFERENCE

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER

1845.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED, THE

REPORT OF THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY, &c.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONFERENCE.

CHARLESTON:
OFFICE OF THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, 100 HAYNE-STREET.
E. JENKINS, PRINTER.
1846.
Sheet Periodical. Price, 12c.
1. Who have been admitted on trial?

2. Who remain on trial?

3. Who have been admitted into full connection?
   John W. Kelly, Miles Puckett, Robert P. Franks, and Stephen H. Miller.

4. Who are the Deacons?
   William G. Connor, Henry A. Bass, and Jos. Parker, who were ordained last year; and John W. Kelly, Miles Puckett, and Robert P. Franks, who were ordained this year.

5. Who have been elected and ordained Elders?

6. Who have located this year?

7. Who are the Supernumerary Preachers? William M. Kerr, Alfred H. Richardson.

8. Who are the Superannuated Preachers?
   Samuel Dunwoody, John Tarrant, Hartwell Spain, James Jenkins,* James Daniel, James L. Belin, David Hilliard, Joel W. Townsend, B. Hamilton,* Reddick Pierce, Joseph Moore, and Campbell Smith.

Note.—Those marked thus (*) have relinquished their claim on the Conference.
9. Who have been expelled this year? None.

10. Who have withdrawn this year? None.

11. Were all the Preachers' Characters examined?

This was strictly attended to, by calling over their names before the Conference.

12. Who have died this year?

NEWTON GOODEL. He was born in Union District, S. C., March 24, 1815. The deceased was a child of many prayers, the lessons of piety taught him in early life by his pious mother, took deep root in his young heart. The prayers of his godly mother joined with his own, drew down upon his soul, and upon the good seed sown there, the dews of divine grace, and these invincibly degrees of grace, accompanied by kind and efficient pastoral aid, gradually reached maturity; and in the month of October, 1830, he obtained witness of his acceptance with God.

13. What numbers are in Society?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circuits and Stations</th>
<th>Local Elders</th>
<th>Local Deacons</th>
<th>Foreigners</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>Cherry Grove</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cloverly</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper River</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuthbert</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>Orangeburg</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>Providence</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Newbury</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charleston</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>Wilmington</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>24</td>
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</table>

14. What amount is necessary to make up the allowances of the Superannuated Preachers, and the Widows and Orphans.

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Increase this year: 0 0 16 1,087

Total this year: 812 233 335 877 416,724

Total last year: 75 107 332 305 395,205
of Preachers; and to supply the deficiencies of those Preachers whose claims have not been met in their circuits.

The amount necessary to meet those claims is $3,747.45.

15. What amount has been collected on the foregoing accounts, and how has it been applied?

The amount received is $1,708.19; and has been appropriated as follows,—being only 49 per cent of the claims:

To Rev. Wm. Capers, $15 50, To Widow Bunch and chil'dn. 72 52
A. W. Walker, 77 01, Kennedy and children, 84 28
H. J. Glenn, 2 50, McPherson and children 72 52
M. E. Michou, 22 84, Postell and children, 64 46
R. S. Ledbetter, 31 00, Davies, 49 00
H. Spain, 129 36, Child of Rev. J. Freeman, 11 76
Z. V. Barnes, 113 68, do. of J. J. Richardson, 11 76
J. Moore, 49 00, Wid. & child R. T. Thomas, 32 31
J. Dannelly, 148 96, Widow Hoyle and child, 56 81
J. L. Betlin, 98 00, Bishop Soule, 8 33
D. W. Hilliard, 95 00, Bishop Hedding, 8 33
C. Smith, 131 00, Bishop Andrew, 9 37
To Widow Asbury,
Gamewell, 49 00, Bishop Waugh, 8 33
Hill, 49 00, Bishop Gamewell, 8 33
Morgan, 49 00, Bishop Jones, 9 76
Turpin and children, 72 52, Widow of Bishop Roberts, 2 56

16. What Report have we from our Sunday Schools?

CIRCUITS AND STATIONS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circuit</th>
<th>Amount raised for Missions</th>
<th>Amount raised for S. Schools</th>
<th>No. Schools</th>
<th>No. Superintendents</th>
<th>No. Teachers</th>
<th>Children in Library</th>
<th>Volumes in Library</th>
<th>Testaments</th>
<th>Amount raised for Bible Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Charleston District</strong></td>
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<td>Cumberland</td>
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<td>13 08</td>
<td>2 3 21</td>
<td>11 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trinity</td>
<td>504 71</td>
<td>20 00</td>
<td>3 22 275</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>4 24</td>
<td>21 33</td>
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<tr>
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<td>677 00</td>
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<td>4 20 9</td>
<td>91 381</td>
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<td>St. James</td>
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<td>52 43</td>
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<td>91 381</td>
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<td>Black Swamp</td>
<td>557 49</td>
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<td>Walterboro</td>
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<td>17 62 20 58 359 836 10 12 13 00</td>
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<td>Savannah Rev. Mission</td>
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CIRCUITS AND STATIONS.

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<th>District</th>
<th>Average Miles</th>
<th>Average Hours</th>
<th>Church Books</th>
<th>School Books</th>
<th>No. Students</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
<th>Adults in Library</th>
<th>Bibl. Distrib.</th>
<th>Testaments</th>
<th>Adults for Cause</th>
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</table>

TRACTS DISTRIBUTED.—Charleston District, 12,730 pages, Cokesbury District, 2,142; Columbia District, 20,000; Wilmington District, 3,000; Lincolnon District, 4,500.

17. Where are the preachers stationed? 187, 176.


17. The Secretaries whose names are printed in Itaics are Elders.

18. Where shall our next Conference be held?
In Charleston, S. C. The time to be fixed by the Bishops in May next.

CONFERENCE INSTITUTIONS.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE S. C. CONFERENCE,
Auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the M. E. Church, South.

Officers and Managers.—W. Capers, President; S. Dunwody, 1st Vice President; N. Talley, 2d Vice President; S. W. Capers, Secretary; W. M. Wightman, Treasurer; Henry Bass, Charles Betts, Robert J. Boyd, James Stacy, W. A. Gaucewell, A. M. Forster, Bond English, David Derrick, Wm. Crook.

CONSTITUTION.

Art. 1. This Society shall be denominated "The Missionary Society of South Carolina Conference, auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South."

Art. 2. The object of this society shall be to assist the parent society to extend its missionary labours in the United States and elsewhere.

Art. 3. The business of this Society shall be conducted by a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and nine Managers, who shall be annually elected by the Society; all of whom shall be members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Art. 4. At all meetings of the Board of Managers, it shall require five members to form a quorum.

Art. 5. The Board shall have authority to make by-laws for regulating its own proceedings; and shall annually submit a report of its transactions and funds to the Society; and shall inform the Conference of the state of its funds.

Art. 6. The Treasurer who shall reside in Charleston, shall hold the funds of the society, subject to the drafts of the Bishops; in accordance with the 2d article of this constitution.

Art. 7. Each subscriber paying one dollar annually shall be a member of this Society; and the payment of ten dollars, shall constitute a member for life.

Art. 8. The annual meeting of this Society, shall be held some time during the session of the Conference, at the discretion of the Board of Managers.

Art. 9. The President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer, shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Managers.

Art. 10. At all the meetings of the Society, the President, or in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents, or in the absence of both Vice-Presidents, such member as shall be appointed by the meeting shall preside.

Art. 11. The minutes of each meeting of the Society shall be signed by the President and the Recording Secretary.

Art. 12. The Constitution shall not be altered, but by a vote of two-thirds of the Annual Conference at the recommendation of the Board of Managers.

BY-LAWS.

1. The Managers shall meet annually, at such places as may be appointed for the Annual Conference, on the day previous to its sitting.

2. At all the meetings of the Board, the President, or in his absence the Vice-President, or President pro tem. shall take the chair at the hour appointed; shall preserve order and appoint committees, and shall also have authority to appoint extra meetings of the Board.

3. The Secretary shall keep a correct journal of the minutes and proceedings of the Board, and attend all its sittings when practicable, and in case of absence, transmit the records of the Board to the place of meeting.

4. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep a correct account of receipts and expenditures, which shall be submitted with the necessary vouchers, to an auditing committee, to be appointed by the Board, at each annual meeting.

5. The Board shall hold a meeting on a day, not later than the seventh of the Conference sessions, at which the Treasurer shall be required to furnish a statement of the funds. And the Board shall thereupon notify the presiding Bishop of the amount, for which drafts may be made for the ensuing year.
REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE
SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE, MISSIONARY
SOCIETY.

The Board of Managers of the Missionary Society of the South Carolina Conference, in presenting their Annual Report, congratulate the Society upon the success which has crowned their past efforts, and the cheering prospects which open before them for the future. In reviewing the history of our missionary operations from their commencement to the present time, we behold inscribed on every page manifest tokens of the divine approbation. "The Lord of Hosts hath been with us; the God of Jacob hath been our refuge." He has most graciously sustained the Missionaries in their arduous toils; and although several of them have suffered severely the past year from the attacks of disease, yet their valuable lives have been spared; and not one who has been engaged in this glorious work has fallen. Like faithful sentinels placed at the most hazardous points—fearless of surrounding dangers and of opposing foes, they have maintained their posts, countering not their lives dear unto them so that they might win souls to Christ, and advance the interests of his cause. This is the noble work of noble and generous hearts! Nor have they laboured in vain. They have solved for the world the spiritual enigma, so inexplicable to infidel minds, that the grace of God, through the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, is not only the most efficient but the surest and only effectual remedy to improve the moral and natural condition of man. That it is, here and here only we may expect to behold all men "free and equal." That God is not the God of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles; that he is not the God of the white man only, but also of the black man. Let others in the biased enthusiasm of a false and misguided philanthropic endeavour to break up the foundations of civil society, let them sow discord all over the land the seeds of discord and discontent. Let them impugn our motives—defame our characters—and stigmatize us with the reiterated epithets of "disorganizers," "schismatics," and, "lovers of evil." "Our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not by fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world." Our work is too high, too holy, too sacred and urgent for us to waste our time in bandying words with our accusers. The gospel, that bringeth glad tidings to all, is the blessed legacy of Christ to the world! and especially to the poor in the earth. To them it emphatically belongs in all its saving energies, and in all its gracious influences. And they must have it. They have had it. Blessed be God, they have it still. And, by the help of the Lord, they shall continue to have it unto the end. We have pledged ourselves to this, and we intend by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ aiding us, to keep this sacred engagement inviolate, as long as the poor are to be found in the land. We step not to enquire about difficulties, privations, sacrifices, dangers or death! These lost sheep of the house of Israel must be searched for by the good shepherds, and brought into the fold, wherever they may be found.

The accounts received from the various mission-fields within our conference district are such as should swell our hearts with the liveliest emotions of gratitude to God for his continual approbation of, and his abounding grace manifested towards, this department of our work. And we invite your special attention to the particular state and condition of each mission, as reported to us by the missionaries.

1. Savannah River Mission, served by Revs. Daniel D. Cox, and Joseph Warnock, includes 20 plantations in its bounds, and numbers 540 church members, and 259 children under catechetical instruction. This mission continues to be in a prosperous state.

2. Edisto, Jocassee and Fernwick Islands Mission has been committed to the pastoral care of Rev. Charles Wilson, who reports it to be in a very flourishing condition. And your Board strongly recommend the appointment of an additional missionary to this inviting field of labour. There are eleven plantations served with regular preaching, 370 church members, and about 150 children catechised.

3. Beaufort Mission. Rev. W. C. Kirkland has served this mission the past year. It embraces 15 plantations, 221 coloured members, and 212 catechumens, and is considered as still worthy of our confidence and support.

4. Pon Pon Mission. Rev. Paul A. M. Williams, Missionary, includes 8 plantations visited weekly, 180 children under religious training, 580 in full connection, and 73 on trial, making the aggregate of church members to be 653, showing an increase of 103 over the preceding returns.

5. Posahebo Mission. Rev. Andrew J. Green reports 311 church members, 157 children catechised, and six plantations served. We deem it advisable, and do therefore
recommend that this and the Beaufort Mission be united.

6. *Cobham and Ashepoo Mission* has had the services of the Revs. John R. Coburn, and Robert P. Franks, and is said to be in a healthful state. It numbers 545 in full connection, 294 on probation, making 839 church members, 340 catechumens, and 10 appointments which have been regularly filled once in every two weeks.

7. *Cooper River Mission*. Rev. Abraham Netles has occupied this field; who reports 8 plantations served, 35 white, 121 coloured members, and 121 children catechised. There is also a Sunday school attached to this mission, having 3 teachers and 35 scholars. And although it has had some embarrassing circumstances to contend with, we are still encouraged to continue our efforts in its behalf, and confidently to expect brighter prospects for the future.

8. *Congaree Mission*, Revs. Samuel Townsend, and J. C. McDaniels, Missionaries. There are on this mission 8 appointments, 15 white, 388 coloured members, and 320 under catechetical instruction. Its patrons have expressed their continued confidence in the missionaries, and their earnest desire for its continuance. We recommend that one preacher be sent to this work the ensuing year.

9. *Wateree Mission* has been under the pastoral oversight of the Revs. J. W. Wellborn, and Williamson Smith. Here we have 3 churches, and the prospect of two more to be built this year, 30 plantations served, 35 white, 847 coloured members, and 499 children catechised. The missionaries in their report say, "although we have had no special revival of religion during the year, yet we have had peace, and we believe there is a gracious religious influence operating in all this region of country; and that the planters feel a deep interest in the moral instruction of their people."

10. *Pee Dee Mission*. Rev. G. Bailey, a local preacher, has supplied this mission, who reports its prospects as good, and its state sound and healthful. It numbers 250 church members, 200 children taught, and includes 6 plantations in its limits.

11. *Manchester Mission* has been under the charge of Rev. Sherrod Owens, a local Preacher, it numbers 43 white members and 439 coloured, with 207 children catechised. We recommend that this mission be added to the Santee Circuit.

12. *Santee Mission*, Revs. Cornelius McLeod and Wm. H. Fleming have labored on this mission. It embraces 12 plantations, 507 church members, 257 children under catechetical instruction, and is considered to be in a healthy state.

13. *Sumter Mission*, served by Rev. S. P. Taylor, has 240 church members, and 295 catechumens; its state is reported as being sound and encouraging.

14. *Black River and Pee Dee Mission*, served by Rev. Charles S. Walker, embraces 17 plantations, and numbers 74 white and 1050 coloured church members, with 350 children under religious training. Such are the encouraging prospects and prosperous condition of this mission, that we deem it highly necessary that an additional missionary be sent to labour there.

15. *Waccamaw Neck Mission*. Rev. John A. Minick and Wm. Carson have been employed on this mission. There are 8 white - 545 coloured members, and 500 children catechised. It continues to be in a sound and healthful state.

16. *Cape Fear Mission*. Rev. Morgan C. Turnbul has laboured in this field. It is regarded as being in a very promising state. The congregations are large, serious, and attending, affording evident signs of spiritual improvement. And the calls for enlarging are so strong and urgent, that we strongly recommend the employment of an additional labourer on this interesting mission—which includes 25 plantations—and numbers 23 white and 371 coloured members, with 311 catechumens.

This account exhibits an aggregate of 16 missions, 219 plantations served, by 22 missionaries, 158 white and 8733 coloured members. 4126 children under catechetical instruction. There is, in the bounds of these Missions, a coloured population of about 50,000 souls.

The Board have unanimously agreed to recommend to the Society the establishment of the four following new Missions:


2. *Flat Woods Mission*, embracing what is called the flat woods of Abbeville district, S. C.


4. *Charleston German Mission* to the German population of the city of Charleston.

They have have also recommended, and the Conference unanimously adopted, the following alterations in the constitution of the Society, in order more fully to accommodate it to the organization of the M. E. Church, South, viz.
1. Add the word "South" to the title of the Society, in the 1st article.
2. In the 2d article, strike out all after the word "assist," and insert instead, "the parent Society, to extend its missionary labours in the United States and elsewhere."
3. Add the word "South," at the close of the 3d article.
4. Art. 6. Strike out all after the words "drafts of the," and insert instead "Bishops, in accordance with the 2d article of this constitution."

In conclusion, it will be perceived that if the recommendations of your Board be carried out we shall have the increased expense of supporting 4 new missions and 6 more missionaries than hitherto. A great and effectual door is now opened before us, through which a ready access may be had, without let or hindrance, to the vast multitudes of coloured people living in the bounds of our own Conference. Shall we enter it? Shall we draw back? Can we hesitate? The God of salvation bids us "Go! enter it." The Redeemer of sinners commands us, "Go!" The Holy Ghost anointing us for the work whispers, "Go!" The love of Christ constraining us, echoes the word, "Go!" The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, repeats the command, "Go!" And as ministers of the gospel, filled with the glowing benevolence of Bible Christianity, we must cheerfully respond, We will go! "In the name of the Lord of Hosts we will set up our banners," and we wish no higher honour—no greater endowment—no finer epitaph, than to have it inscribed upon our tombs after the last battle of life is fought and the victory won: Here lies a missionary to the blacks, "who died at his post." Respectfully submitted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WORK OF EVANGELIZING THE PEOPLE OF COLOUR.

The Committee to whom it was referred to consider of and report a plan for the more general prosecution of the work of evangelizing the people of colour within our bounds, offer the following:

REPORT.

1. That deeply impressed with the importance of the subject referred to them, and the greatness of the interests which your committee have not deemed it expedient to adventure on any scheme which might suggest itself as a plausible experiment, but recommend the adoption of such items only, as have been indicated by experience, and which admit of no doubt as to their suitableness for the promotion of the great object we have so much at heart. The sum of what we propose for your present action, is, to pass a resolution defining what should constitute any field missionary ground, as distinguished from the circuits. To point out the service which ought to be performed by the circuit preachers, and the local preachers and exhorters, generally. To engage the care of the quarterly conferences; and to arrange for the prevention of any possible difficulties concerning members or preachers-places, or respecting the employment of some particular preacher at some one place, when it may be thought to subtract unduly from the work in general.

2. You thus perceive that your committee have no plan to propose for the internal regulation of the missions apart from the circuits; but what they have to propose, is, a plan for the general enlistment of our whole ministry, (including local preachers and exhorters,) in the work before us. With regard to the missions as a distinct department, we deem it sufficient, for the present time, to repeat an expression of your sense of the importance of catechetical instruction, both for adults and children; and to fix a minimum for the proportion of time which a missionary ought to employ in active labours among his people.

3. But your committee consider that the duty of our ministry towards the coloured people cannot be discharged by the detachment of any number of ministers as missionaries in particular districts, whilst there exists among the same class in other parts of the work, a crying deficiency of ministerial service. No diligence of the missionaries can supply this deficiency, nor alone for the least remissness on the part of those who minister in the circuits and stations. The duty to be done is binding on all, according to their ability; and it is binding on all, as they are severally able, with the same force of indispensable obligation.

4. Enough has been done to demonstrate the utility of our labours, and to prove that being instructed in the principles of Christianity, and believing with all his heart that the holy Scriptures form the only rule of faith and practice, the product will be the same in all men, whether bond or free, black or white. And if it has been complained that the religion of the black man is apt to be a passion, wanting of principle and consistent fruits, the complaint, as far as it has had any foundation in truth, might have been retorted on the complainers, who have
looked for fruit without needful cultivation, and required the religion of the Bible of those who were not furnished with a knowledge of its doctrines. This knowledge, so indispensable to all, we are bound to communicate as extensively as we can. To do so, is the very burden of our calling. It is preaching the gospel to the poor with emphasis. And if we may suppose a difference to exist at all between man and man, as regards the stress of our obligation to minister to all men, we must suppose it is in favour of him who is without the Bible.

With these views, your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions. To wit—

I. Resolved, That, as a general rule, for our circuits and stations, we deem it best to include the coloured people in the same pastoral charge with the whites, and to preach to both classes in one congregation, as our practice has been. The gospel is the same for all men, and to enjoy its privileges in common, promotes good will. Nor is it a valid objection that coloured people are illiterate. Preaching ought to be plain, and may be “in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.” Instead of all might we make allowance for that vile abuse of preaching which affects “excellency of speech” with a jargon of bombarding nonsense.

II. Resolved, That, at all our preaching-places, where galleries, or other suitable situations, have not been provided for the coloured people, or where the galleries, or other situations provided for them, are insufficient, we consider it the duty of our brethren and friends to provide the necessary accommodation, that none may make such neglect a plea for absenting themselves from public worship. And we desire the preachers to use their influence to induce our brethren and friends to fulfil their duty herein; and also, to exhort the coloured people, at every place, to attend public worship at the meeting-houses, with the whites.

IV. Resolved, That while it is due to public decency to seat the coloured people by themselves, apart from the whites, it is nevertheless our duty to hold forth, on all occasions, the one only Saviour, and the one only way of life, with equal directness to all alike, and to afford, as far as in us lies, equal facilities of Christian edification to both classes of our hearers. And we therefore advise, that, at our camp meetings, such accommodations be furnished at the back of the stand, or pulpit, as shall be convenient for prayer meetings with the coloured people, after preaching, as is usual with the whites in front of the stand. And that one, or more, of the preachers be appointed, from time to time, by the presiding minister, to conduct such prayer meetings, with the assistance of the coloured leaders.

V. Resolved, That in view of the present position and circumstances of the church and the country, requiring more to be done than the itinerant ministers can possibly do for the evangelization of the coloured people, we deem it of the greatest importance to enlist the zealous co-operation of our brethren the local preachers and exhorters, in some plan which shall engage, more generally and efficiently than heretofore, the efforts of our entire ministry in this great work. And that our efforts may be the more successful, and to prevent any derangement or want of harmony in the prosecution of the work, we propose to be governed by the following regulations. To wit—

Item 1. That those parts of the country, only, shall be occupied by missionaries, to be supported by the missionary funds, which are not within reach of our stations and circuit appointments. And that if in the progress of the work, the preaching places of any mission and circuit or station shall approximate so near together as that the people might be served by either, such place, or places, shall be yielded to the circuit or station unless the quarterly conference judge otherwise.

2. At all our Sunday appointments in the circuits, where there are many slaves, or where any considerable number can be induced to attend, and whether the preacher for the day be itinerant or local, we advise that a meeting be held chiefly for
the purpose of catechetical instruction, both for adults and children. And that those who have been admitted on trial in the church, be especially required to attend, that they may learn to answer understandingly the questions to be propounded to them at baptism, and come to some competent knowledge of Christian doctrine before they shall be taken into full connection.

3. At the first quarterly meeting in each of the circuits, if not sooner, and from year to year, the preacher in charge shall arrange with the local preachers and exhorters of the circuit a plan of Sabbath appointments for the year, and report it to the quarterly conference, so as to secure as many Sunday appointments as possible at those places where the coloured population is numerous, and the travelling preachers have their appointments on week days.

4. At those preaching places where local preachers attend on Sabbath days and the circuit preachers in the week, the preachers in charge of the circuit shall engage some one of them to act in his stead in the admission and trial of coloured members of the church. And such local preacher shall inform the preacher in charge, from time to time, of all that is done, that it may be reported to the quarterly conference, as the discipline directs. And we advise, moreover, that wherever a suitable person, who is zealous for God, can be obtained, a white leader be appointed to superintend the coloured classes, with the assistance of the coloured leaders, at every place.

5. In neighbourhoods where the blacks are very numerous, if individual proprietors, owning slaves, are not satisfied that enough can be done for them at the circuit appointments, and choose to employ some local preacher to serve them at their plantations, it may be done with the consent of the quarterly conference. But in all cases, we advise that any special service thus rendered at plantations, in the neighbourhood of our circuit preaching places, be not suffered to interfere in any way with the regular public service, but that it be performed before public service, or after the people have returned home.

And your committee further recommend that so much of the above report as you shall judge proper to adopt, be forwarded by your Secretary to the ensuing General Conference, with a request, as from you, for that body to consider the whole subject, in order to such action as shall be deemed proper in view of the wants of the work in all parts of the connection.

And that the same be also published with the minutes of this conference, and in the Southern Christian Advocate.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. Capers,
W. M. Wightman,
A. M. Forster,
Henry Bass,
Samuel Dunwoody.

REPORT ON THE BIBLE CAUSE.

The Committee of the S. C. Conference on the Bible cause beg leave to report in part:

That they are deeply impressed with the great importance of this scheme of Christian benevolence. The object of the American Bible Society has long since received the cordial concurrence and warm commendation of this conference, and of the whole Methodist Church. Regarding, as all Protestant Christians do, the general circulation of the Bible among the people, as of indispensable importance, your committee fear that it has not occupied so prominent a place as a part of our great system of religious operations, as it justly deserves.

We attach a high consideration to the christian ministry, and to our missionary labours as part of that ministry; and yet how essential is it to the large and permanent success of that ministry, that the Word of God be in the hands of all our reading community? The word which is preached may be forgotten; the principles which have been inculcated may be lost sight of or corrupted; the impressions which have been made may be dissipated or resisted; but where the Bible is at hand to be consulted by the awakened sinner and the penitent enquirer, how much greater is the probability that those awakenings and convictions will be increased and strengthened?

The instability of religious character so often noticed and deplored, and the delinquencies and defections of young converts, are doubtless, in great part, to be attributed to a neglect of the Bible. The cause of apostacy in the Christian church might be well bewailed in the prophet's words, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." If the Bible contains, as we are persuaded it does, directions, plain and sufficient, for every season of trial and every occasion of temptation—if its promises are a sure support in the hour of
human weakness and misfortune—if the divine assurance has been given, that God's word shall not return unto him void—if, in a word, the Bible be God's own word, given to be a light unto the world, how imperious is the obligation of the church to circulate it everywhere and by all means.

Your Committee would not be understood as depreciating any other system of Christian benevolence, nor as depending alone upon the distribution of the Bible for the conversion of the world. They would not relax one nerve that is strung for noble exertion in the wide field of Christian enterprise, but they would direct every mind to the Bible as God's own appointed means for the illumination of the human mind, for the correction of all its errors, and as the great and only standard of moral truth. It is worthy of observation that the progress of spiritual Christianity in its holiest influences and noblest developments, has in some sort been commensurate with the extent of the Bible distribution. Within the last forty years, the era of Bible Societies and Bible distribution, the progress of religion in the world has been almost unparalleled. The minister, the missionary, the catechist, all look to the Bible as their source of knowledge, and their instrument for conveying the truth, and sealing their instructions, their counsels and their admonitions. For, when the voice of eloquent persuasion is hushed in the silence of the grave, when the consecrated house of worship has fallen into decay and ruin, and all its glorious associations are forgotten, when the pealing notes of Zion's songs have died away upon the distant winds, the word of God is still there, with all the richness of its early promise, with all the strength of its heavenly truth, with all the paths of its divine inspiration, with all the baptism of its own Holy Spirit. “For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away, but the word of the Lord endureth forever.”

In order therefore, to give to this subject the prominence which it merits, your committee recommend to the conference the adoption of the following resolutions, viz.:

1. Resolved, That this conference continue to entertain a high consideration of the zealous labours and noble design of the American Bible Society.

2. Resolved, That we cordially welcome the Financial Secretary of the American Bible Society, on the occasion of his visit among us.

3. Resolved, That an annual Bible anniversary be held at each session of this conference, and that the committee on the Bible cause of the preceding conference be charged with all the arrangements necessary therefor.

4. Resolved, That we will continue to take up a collection on all our circuits and stations, in behalf of the American Bible Society, during the present year and report the same at the ensuing conference.

5. Resolved, That we will co-operate with the various Bible Societies within our bounds, which are in connection with the American Bible Society, in supplying the destitution which may exist among us.

All which is respectfully submitted,

WHITEFOORD SMITH.
WILLIAM MARTIN.
CORNELIUS MCLEOD.

Fayetteville, N. C., Dec. 12, 1845.

RESOLUTIONS ON DIVISION.

On the subject of the division of the Church, and the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted, viz.:

Whereas the South Carolina Conference did, at its last session, elect delegates to the Louisville Convention, under a solemn conviction of the necessity for a separate organization of the Southern Conferences, growing out of the doings of the General Conference of 1844; and

Whereas the Convention aforesaid did, after full examination, proceed to organize a new connection of the Southern Conferences in entire accordance with the provisions of the plan of separation adopted by the last General Conference:

And

Whereas the provisions of the plan aforesaid make it necessary that the travelling preachers should adhere North or South, according to their own free election; therefore

Resolved, 1. That we heartily approve and fully sanction the proceedings of the Convention at Louisville in forming a separate organization under a Southern General Conference jurisdiction, and known as the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Resolved, 2. That we do adhere to the M. E. Church,
Resolved, 3. That hereafter all the proceedings, journals, and records of the So. Ca. Conference be in the name and under the style of the South Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Resolved, 4. That we take great pleasure in giving a public and official approval of the acts of Bishops Soule and Andrew, both at the General Conference of 1844 and ever since, and while we sympathize with them in the trials and afflictions to which they have been subjected we shall always hold their persons and character in veneration, assured that their firmness and adherence to disciplinary law has gone far towards the preservation of the integrity of Southern Methodism, and the safety and furtherance of the gospel in the Southern Conferences.

Resolved, further, that until our General Conference shall have found it necessary to establish a Book Concern for the S. Ca. Church, South, separate from the Book Concern as now known, and provided the regular dividends are paid to the Southern Conferences and to Bishops Soule and Andrew by the Agents, until the General Conference of 1848—we will continue and not remit our labours to sustain that Concern, in hope that under the good Providence of God it may yet prove a bond of peace and fellowship between the Northern and Southern divisions of the American Methodist family, notwithstanding the necessity of their being placed under separate jurisdictions.

RESOLUTION ON DEFICIENCIES.

Resolved, That we earnestly and kindly call the attention of the quarterly conferences and the Stewards of circuits to the fact that the allowances of the preachers are lamentably deficient, so that all our conference resources have a final loss of more than half of what the Discipline allows as quarterage, while in many cases, still less is contributed for table expenses. This is ruinous and cries loudly for amendment. We therefore advise that at the first quarterly conference, if not sooner, the stewards of each circuit appointment apportion among themselves the preaching places of the circuit, and when the demands on the circuit shall have been ascertained, and it has been concluded what part each congregation ought to make up, that the stewards lose no time in the congregations severally assigned them to get the necessary sums subscribed, and afterward collected.

FAST DAYS.

Resolved, That the last Friday in April and in October be set apart for fasting and prayer in all our Churches: and that on those days there be public worship by preaching or prayer, meetings at every place: and that on the day in April, prayers be especially made for the pouring out of the Spirit on the Churches, and an increase of labourers for the gospel harvest.

A COURSE OF STUDY.

For the Itinerant Probationers and Deacons of the Methodist Episcopal Church to be uniformly observed in all the Annual Conferences, as provided for by the late General Conference:

FIRST YEAR.—The Bible as to Doctrines, with reference to Wesley’s Notes, the Bible Dictionaries, and Commentaries of our own publication; Concordance; and Gaston’s Collections of Sacred Scriptures. Wesley’s Sermons; Fletcher’s Appeal and Christian Perfection. English Grammar and Composition.

SECOND YEAR.—The Bible as to Ordinances or Sacraments. Reference books the same as the first year. Watson’s Life of Wesley; Bishop Watson’s Apology; Fletcher’s Christian Perfection. Methodist Discipline. Geography. Composition.

THIRD YEAR.—The Bible as to History and Chronology. Reference books as before. The first and second parts of Watson’s Institutes; Gregory’s Church History. Rhetoric. Written Essay or Sermon.

FOURTH YEAR.—The Bible generally. Reference books the same. The third and fourth parts of Watson’s Institutes; Powell on Apostolical Succession; Old Christianity contrasted with the novelties of Popery, by Gideon Ousley. Logic. Written Essay or Sermon.

The foregoing Course is considered obligatory upon the several classes of candidates. The following is for such as have ability, time, and inclination to accomplish more, on which, or any part of it, such only as desire it should be examined.

MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT.—The Bible continued.—Fletcher’s Checks; Life of Dr. Episcopus; Mosheim’s Church History; Dr. Elliott on Romanism; D’Aubigné’s History of the Reformation; Butler’s Analogy; Natural Philosophy; Moral Philosophy; Civil History. And if any desire to proceed still...
further, they can include in their course other sciences and the dead languages, aided by the best authors, and such private instruction as may be within their reach.  

Joshua Soule.

COMMITTEES OF EXAMINATION.


James O. Andrew.

THE TRUST FOR THE RELIEF OF THE SUPER-ANNUATED OR WORN-OUT PREACHERS, AND THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF PREACHERS.

Board of Trustees—W. M. Wightman, Chairman; R. J. Boyd, Secretary; Thomas E. Leadbetter, Treasurer; D. Derrick, H. A. C. Walker and J. W. Townsend, Managers.

The Treasurer holds in Bonds, Notes, &c., $5,363.75. The interest of the past year is $324. Appropriations to seven necessities cases $125.

FUND OF SPECIAL RELIEF.

Trustees—W. Capers, Chairman; B. English, Treasurer; N. Talley, Secretary; S. Dunwody, H. Bass, D. Derrick, and W. Crook.

$300 appropriated to the relief of eighteen cases.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER
OF THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE S. C. CONF.

W. M. Wightman, Treasurer, in account with the Missionary Society of the S. C. Conference.

1875

Dr.

From Missions.


Edisto Island, by Rev. C. Adkins.—His Excellency Governor Allaben (for last year) $150, Major Morris $100, J. J. Meek $100. Mrs. P. Milledge $25. Edward Whaley $100. J. B. Seaboard $25.—$500.


Summit by Rev. S. H. Taylor.—Dr. Francis Wilkes, Esq. $300.


Wateree, by Rev. J. W. Wellborn.—Major J. M. DeSausure $50, Col. J. DEANN.
Manchester: By Rev. S. Owen. Contributed by various persons, names not
published, 165 12.

Carp Pool, By Rev. M. C. Turrell.—Donations $218.75.

Charleston: Bethel Church, By Rev. C. H. Pritchard.—Donations $218.75.


St. James' Church, By Rev. D. Derrick.—$80.


Fayetteville, By Rev. H. H. Durand.—$113.65.

Greenville, By Rev. W. C. Brook.—$42. Miss. society coloured people 43. —$46.59.

Greenville, By Rev. J. W. Wright.—$54.06.


Aiken, By Rev. D. J. Simmons.—$20. —

FROM CIRCUIT.

Colesburg circuit, By Rev. N. Talley.—Circuit Miss. Soc. 555. Cents-a-week collections 184.64. Ladies miss. soc. by Mrs. Turpin 54.—$793.64.

Wadesboro circuit, By Rev. S. Leard.—Donations at Union church. 28.25. Collections at McFall's camp meeting, part of which were to make Rev. H. D. Duncan, Rev. D. Derrick, Rev. C. A. Crowell, and J. V. Martin and lady life members 115.30. Miss M. A. Ayer, avails of industry 5. Union friendly miss. soc. 6. From May River 10.25. Petersburg 4.75. From a little girl 6.91, a little boy 5.61. Children's collection 10.64. Miss L. Ayer 2. Extra collections 110.80. May collections 44. —$73.43.


Cypress circuit, By Rev. T. E. Leadbetter.—Miss. soc. by Col. W. Mollard
Treasurer 332.56, collected from ladies by Mrs A Leadbeater 14.05, donation of a patch-work quilt by do, valued at 10, Mrs Robinson's donations for a mission to Shims 4.50. —$362.11.


$290.36.

Becumnell Circuit, by Rev J M Christoff, —$97.50.

Racuningham Circuit, by Rev M Robinson, —$212.20.


Wardham Circuit, by Rev P G Bowmar, —$105.25. Proceeds of a Missionary post by Rev Joseph Holmes 10.—$175.25.

Sapulpa Circuit, by Rev. J. P. English, —Rev B Wofford 20, J T Kirby 20, S Baha 10, Major J H. Henry 10, Col. J C. Leiter 10, D W Moore 10, J McManus 10, J Tucker 2, Mrs. I. Wright 2, Mrs. B Wofford 2, Mrs. B English 2, Mrs. J T Kirby 2, Mrs. J E Henry 2, Mrs. Luckwood 2, Mrs. Mulliner 2, Mrs. S Baha 2, Mrs. J Keast 2.50, Mrs. J. Baha 1, Mrs. J McManus 2, Mrs. Archer 2, Mrs. Scov 2, D W Moore 2, Mrs. Z Cooper 2, J Wilcox 2, W Luckwood 2, Miss M. Leiter 2, Mrs. D Baha 2. Several persons to make Miss I. Wright Life member 14, Hat collection 46.00, from other parts of the circuit 34.25, —$109.43.

Pleasant Grove Ct. by Rev F. E. King, —Of the collections $32 are to educate an Indian girl to be named Frances Story. —164.15.


Columbia Circuit, by Rev B S Rogers, —$140.37.


Marion Circuit, by Rev. C. Moore, —$105.35.


Lancaster Ct. by Rev W L Pines, $70.00, Newberry Ct. by Rev S Lovejoy, $74.40.

Bladen, by Rev S D Laney, $70.00.

Lewist Ck. by Rev S Jones, of which $20 are to make Rev S Jones life member of Parent Society, $80.68.

Conwayboro by Rev H E Ogbar, —$53.00.

Centre Ct. by Rev J A McManus, —$57.15.


Black River, by Rev J H Chandler, $49.25.

Concord, by Rev J H Zimmerman, $47.45.

Lincoln, by Lee S Davis, $40.00.


D. R. River, by Rev M M Michau, for Indian Miss. 23, Domestic 11 30.—$24.30.

Charlotte Ct. by Rev L. Stewart, $31.00.


Fendall Ct. by Rev G B Moore, —$29.00.


Catawba, by Rev J Pickett, —$19.36.

Paris Mountain by Rev L A Little, —$20.00.


Cambridge Ct. by Rev J Porter, —$13.82.

Shelby, by Rev W W Kerr, —$7.00.

Pickets, by Rev M Curry, —$8.00.

CONTRIBUTED AT THE ANNIVERSARY.


From the following to make Wm. Capers life member to be named Susan Leard, Rev W Barringer 5, Rev W D Carson 4, Rev M M Michau 5, Rev W L Pogues, Susan Smith 5, Rev S Leard 5, Susan 5.


Two dollars each from the following to make C Bets life member:
Rev S W. Green, H M Mood, J S Hamilton, G Webster, J G Cook, total 10.

To make Rev S Dunwoody life member, Rev's. M Russell 1, J W Kelley 1, P G Bowman 1, J C McDaniel 1, Cash 6.


ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

From the following, Rev Jos. Moore 1, Rev W S Haltom 1, Mrs. A W Haltom 1, Miss L A Haltom 1.

RECAPITULATION.

| From the Missions:                        | 4418 46 |
| ---                                       | 9299 86 |
| " Circuits and Stations,                  | 640 26  |
| " Anniversary,                            | 4 00    |
| " Annual Subscribers,                     |        |
|                                           |        |
|                                           |        |
|                                           | $14,362 58 |

1845.

Dec. 20. By error in amount transmitted to Tr. last year by Rev G R Talley, 10 00

Paid Drafts of Bishop Andrew in favour of Missions in Charleston, Wilmington, Columbia, Cokesbury and Chowaw Districts, 3073 75

Exchange on uncurrent bills, 3 62

Cash in Treasurer's hands, 11, 275 21

$14,362 58
Bishop William Coker presided over the South Carolina Conference for the first time at its 61st Session, held at Charleston, S.C., January 13-15, 1847.

The picture of the Bishop, here inserted, was taken during the latter years of his life.
No Conference was held in 1846.