

2017

# 1826 Journal of Kentucky Annual Conference

Methodist Episcopal Church

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JOURNAL OF  
KENTUCKY ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
Louisville Oct. 12th  
1826

AT an ANNUAL CONFERENCE HELD in LOUISVILLE KY. OCT. 12<sup>th</sup> 1826. BISHOP  
SCULE in the CHAIR

After Divine Service the Conference proceeded to business and Bro. William Adams was appointed Secretary.

The Conference determines to have one session in a day to commence at half after 8 O'Clock A.M. & adjourn at 1 O'Clock P.M.

Bros. George McNelly, John Tevis & Richard Corwine were appointed Stewards of this Conference.

Bros. Acres, Stamper & Holeman were appointed a committee to prepare the memoirs of the dead: - Bros. Lindsey & Light were appointed a committee to appoint preaching & superintend the congregation.

Bros. Tevis, Light and Corwine, Acres & McNelly were appointed a committee to examine the Candidates for admission into the Travelling Connection.

Moved and seconded that a committee of 3 be appointed to revise our Rules of Decorum and to report such revision on tomorrow morning, carried & Bros. McNelly, Crouch, & Stamper were appointed for that purpose.

Conference adopts the rules of 1827 for this day.

Resolved 1st that this conference do agree to observe the ensuing Friday Oct. 13th as a day of Fasting or abstinence and solemn prayer to God; and recommend the same to the friends of our Zion, assembled at, and residing in this place, Resolved 2nd that the above resolution be made known to the Congregations assembling for Worship today & to night.

Moved and seconded that our Local Brethren and the Candidates for the travelling Connection be permitted to take their seats in the lobby as spectators. Carried.

Conference proceeded to the Consideration of our Second question, Who are continued on trial and Bro. Evan Stevenson was examined, approved and at his own request was discontinued on account of affliction.

Bro. John Fisk, Michael Taylor

Were examined

Wm Brown, Benjamin Tevis

Fletcher Tevis, Joseph S Tomblinson

approved &

James M Greenup, Henry S. Duke

James C. Crow, Nathaniel M Talbott

Continued

Alexander H Stemmons, Nehemiah A Cravens

David Tunnel, Charles M Holliday &

John G Denton

The Conference proceeded to the examination of the characters of the Deacons, and

Bros. Nelson Dills } Were examined & approved  
& Clement Clifton }

Newton G Berryman was examined, approved & at his own request received a location.

Bros. Thompson I Holliman was examined, approved and at his request obtained a superannuated relation. Bros. Abram Long } Were examined, &  
Daniel Black, Hubbard H. Kavanaugh, John S Barger, } Approved  
David Wright, and George Richardson }

The Conference entered into the examination of the characters of those Deacons who are eligible to Elders Orders, and Bros. George W Robbins, Thomas Joiner and Henry W Hunt, were examined, approved and Elected.

Bro. Major Stanfield was examined, approved, elected to Elders Orders and at his own request obtained a location, and Conference entered into the examination of the characters of the Elders, and

Bros. William Adams  
Edward Stevenson  
Benj<sup>a</sup>. T. Crouch  
Isaac Colliard  
Lewis Parker  
Jonathan Stamper

Were examined and approved.

Bro. Absalom Hunt having reported to this conference that he had purchased certain slaves Bros. Corwine, Tidings & Stamper were appointed a committee to examine his case and report to this conference & after Divine Service Conference adjourned.

Friday morning half after 8 O'Clock Oct. 13th 1826 Conference met according to adjournment and after divine service proceeded to business. Bishop Soule in the Chair.

The Committee appointed to revise our rules of decorum reported-- and it was moved and seconded that we read and consider said report item by item. Carried. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th rule<sup>s</sup> of said report were adopted.

Moved and seconded that the 5th rule be amended by striking out the words the previous question carried, the rule so amended was then adopted. The 6th, 7th, & 8th rules were also adopted.

Moved and seconded that the rules of Decorum be recorded in our Journal. Carried.

#### BY LAWS OF THE KENTUCKY ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

1. Each session of the Conference shall be opened and closed with divine service.
2. Immediately after the opening of Conference, the Secretary shall call the names of the members, and mark the absentees.
3. No member shall absent himself from the service of the Conference during its sessions without leave.
4. It shall be the duty of the president to see that decorum be preserved in the conference; to decide questions of Order (Subject however, to an appeal to the conference, which shall be decided without debate) to call to order any member, who in speaking shall wander from the subject under consideration which if he fail to do, may be done by any member of the conference; and to report to the conference, as far as practicable, from time to time, the business of the succeeding session.
5. No business introduced by a member shall be considered as before the conference until it shall have been moved and seconded, and announced from the chair: and while any matter, thus introduced, is under consideration, no other motion shall be admitted, except for amendment, postponement or adjournment.
6. Each speaker shall rise, and address the president. One only shall speak at a time; and no member shall speak more than twice on any one question (except by way of explanation) nor more than 20 minutes at once, unless by leave of the conference; nor shall any speaker be suffered to cast personal reflections.
7. No Motion for reconsideration shall be admitted, unless made by one of the majority.
8. No charge shall be admitted in conference against a brother unless a written copy thereof shall have been previously given him, nor shall any complaint be admitted unless the person against whom it is brought, shall have been previously notified thereof....-

The Conference entered into the examination of the character of those who are to be received into full connection. And Bro. William McCommas, was examined, approved and at his own request discontinued.

Bro. John Sinclair was examined, approved, and continued.

Bro. Joseph Carter was examined, approved, and at his request discontinued.

Bros. William Atherton & Fountain Pitts } Were examined, admitted

& elected to Deacons Orders

Bro. Benjamin Ogden was examined, admitted, Elected to Deacons Orders.

Bro. John M.C. Smith was examined, admitted, Elected to Deacons Orders and at his own request located.

Bros. William Craine } Were examined, admitted,

& William H. Askins } & Elected to Deacons Orders.

Moved and seconded that we reconsider the vote by which we gave Bro. John M.C. Smith a location. Carried. And the Conference was informed that Bro. Smith withdraws his request of location.

Bro. Nathaniel Parker was examined, approved and he, by motion, discontinued

Moved and seconded that the vote by which Bro. Nathaniel Parker was discontinued be reconsidered. Lost.

The Conference resumed the examination of the characters of the Elders- and The Committee appointed to consider the case of Bro. Absalom Hunt reported. Moved and seconded that said report be adopted, carried and Bro. Hunt's character was approved.

Bro. Obadiah Harber was examined and approved.

Bro. Abel Robinson was examined, approved & at his request received a superannuate relation.

Bros. Joseph D. Farrow

Wm. McReynolds

Francis Landrum

Wm. C. Stribling

Stephen Harber

& Milton Jamison

Were examined &

Approved

Bro. Marcus Lindsey's character was taken into examination and the Conference adjourned.

Saturday morning half after 8 O'Clock Oct. 14th 1826. Conference met & according to adjournment. Bishop Roberts in the Chair, and after divine service proceeded to business.

The consideration of the character of Bro. Marcus Lindsey was resumed.

Moved and seconded that Bro. Lindsey's character pass, withdrawn by the mover.

Moved and seconded that the further examination of the character of Bro. Lindsey be postponed until a point of law be decided, Carried. Conference proceeded to the election of local preachers to Deacons Orders - and Bros. William Tucker of Ky, District

Martin Gillespie of Ky. District

Spencer Cooper of Ky. District

Bajil Hunt of Augusta District

Anthony Bryant of Augst. District

Abram Davis of Salt River Dt.

& Samuel Julian of Green River Dt.

being duly recommended

were elected

Deacons

Bro. Robert McCorcle of Green River Dt. being duly recommended, and he having been a member & preacher of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and having been lately received into our church. It was moved and seconded that his case be laid over. Carried. Moved and seconded that we request an Episcopal decision relative to his eligibility to said office. Carried.

Bros. William Sublitt of Cumberland Dt.

Thomas Hargis of Cumberland Dt.

Hiram Crabtree of Cumberland Dt.

Being duly recommended

Were elected Deacons



The Conference entered into the election of Local Deacons to Elders Orders and Bro. Christopher Clark of Kentucky District being duly recommended, it was moved and seconded that his case be laid over. Carried.

Bros. Paris Teter

John Brown of Ky. Dt.

George Strother of Salt River Dt.

& John Lemaster of Green River Dt.

Being duly recommended

were elected Elders

Moved and seconded that the Bishop be requested to give the conference a decision on the following question (to Illit.) Whether it be legal or illegal for a quarterly meeting conference to take up, and act upon a Complaint offered thereunto, in behalf of a person, who has been expelled from the church, at any time after the Q. Meeting immediately succeeding the time of his expulsion. (Conference in debate) Moved and seconded that we adjourn until 3 O'Clock this afternoon. Carried. And after Divine Worship Conference adjourned.

Saturday evening 3 O'Clock, Conference met according to adjournment, and after divine service proceeded to business. Bishop Roberts in the Chair.

Conference resumed the election of Local preachers to Deacon's Orders. And - Bro. James Weaver of Salt River District being duly recommended, Moved and seconded that the further consideration of Bro. Weaver's case be laid over. Carried.

The Stewards of the conference proceeded to take an account of the moneys collected in the Districts, circuits & stations during the past year (as Pro. Stewards Act) Bishop Roberts informed the conference that they are permitted to draw on the Book concern for 150 Dollars. And on the chartered fund for 90 Dollars, which drafts were accordingly made. -----Conference resumed the case of Bro. James Weaver and he was elected to Deacon's Orders. And Conference adjourned.

Monday morning half after 8 O'Clock Oct. 16th 1826. Conference met according to adjournment and after divine service, proceeded to business, Bishop Coule in the chair. and Bro. Patrick Martin a local preacher of Green River District being recommended was elected to Deacon's Orders.

Conference resumed the consideration of the Motion of Saturday morning requesting an Episcopal Decision, which motion was withdrawn by the mover, and the following offered in its stead.

Moved and seconded that the Conference respectfully enquire of the Bishop 1st If an expelled member, who has permitted the time to elapse in which he might have regularly appealed, afterwards apply to a Quarterly meeting Conference complaining of Injustice; has such conference a right to attend to his complaints? If so, 2nd, has such conference a right to direct a new trial in his case? Carried.

Moved and seconded that we reconsider the Vote of Friday by which Bro. Lindsey's case was laid over. Carried. And the Conference resumed the examination of his character which was approved.

Bros. William Gunn

Josiah Whitaker

John Tevis &

Richard D. Neale

were examined & approved

Bro. George C Light's character taken into consideration, was approved.

Bros. Thomas Atteberry } Were examined & approved

& Elisha Simmons

Bro. Esau Simmons was examined, approved & at his request placed in a superannuated relation to this conference.

Bro. Thomas A. Morris

Were examined and approved

& George McNelly

Bro. Luke P. Allen was examined, approved & at his own request placed in a superannuated relation.

Bros. William Peter

Richard Corwine

George W. Taylor

George Browder

Were examined & Approved

Bro. John Johnston's character was taken into examination and a letter written by him to the conference— read. — Moved and seconded that the further consideration of Bro. Johnston's character be postponed. Carried.

Bro. John James was examined and approved.

Bro. Simon Peter requested a location requested a location — and it was moved & seconded that Bro. Peter be placed in a Superannuated relation to this conference; Withdrawn by the mover, and the conference granted Bro. S. Peter a Location.

Bros. Peter Akers

Richard Tidings

Green Malone

& John Denham

} Were examined & approved.

Bro. John Ray was examined, approved and he placed in an effective relation to this conference.

Bro. Benjamin Lakin was examined, approved and he continued in a Superannuated relation.

Bro. Barnabas McHenry was examined, approved and he continued in a superannuated relation.

Bro. William Holman informed the conference that he had bought two slaves and wished a committee appointed to examine the case. It was moved and seconded that the committee in Bro. Hunt's case be a committee to examine Bro. Holman's case, and report to this conference. Carried, & Conference adjourned.

Tuesday morning half after 8 O'Clock, Conference met according to adjournment, and after divine service, entered into business, Bishop Roberts in the Chair.

Moved and seconded that the Vote of yesterday by which Bro. Simon Peter was located be reconsidered, carried. And Bro. Peter was at his request placed in a Superannuated relation.

Bro. Henry McDaniel reported to the Conference an Account of the Money's collected by him during the past year for the Augusta College. Which report was accepted.

Moved and seconded that we transfer the notes mentioned in the above report, to the Treasurer of the Augusta College for the benefit of that Institution, withdrawn by the mover.

Moved and seconded that the conference appoint an agent into whose hands the notes for the Augusta College be placed for collection, also to superintend the management of making collections for that institution. Carried. And Bro. Peter Akers was appointed for that purpose & that he report to the next Conference.

Bro. Barnabas McHenry also reported a statement of money subscribed (a small part of which is collected) for Augusta College— Which report was accepted.

Bro. Jonathan Stamper also made a report of settlement relative to Augusta College— Which report was accepted.

Moved and seconded that an agent for Augusta College be instructed to pay in silver \$18.12½ and in Commonwealth paper \$18.00 to the Treasurer of that institution. Carried.

Moved and seconded that the Agents heretofore acting in behalf of this Conference for the benefit of the Augusta College be requested to procure and present to this or the next Kentucky Annual Conference receipts for all moneys and property deposited with the treasurer of the Augusta College. Carried.

Bro. Henry McDaniel was examined, approved and continued in a superannuated relation to this conference.

The Stewards of Conference proceeded to make their report. Which report was accepted. Adjourned to

Moved and seconded that the Conference now adjourn to meet again at 3 O'Clock, Carried.

Tuesday evening 3 O'Clock conference assembled according to adjournment and after divine service entered into business, Bishop Soule in the chair.

Bros. Edward Ashley } Were examined, approved, and  
& Leroy Cole } continued in a superannuated relation.

The Committee to which was committed the consideration of Bro. Holman's case reported. - Which report was not adopted.

Moved and seconded that Bro. Holman be at liberty to exercise his own discretion with respect to the liberation of an Old Woman which he holds as a slave. And that he be required to give assurances that he will emancipate a Girl which he holds at the age of thirty, and in case of issue of said girl that they shall be emancipated at the age of 21. A division of the question being called for, the first part relative to the old woman was lost - and the latter carried. Bro. Holman proposes that he will emancipate the old woman at the end of 5 years, if he can do so without giving security for her maintenance.

Bro. William Holman was examined, approved and at his request placed in an effective relation to this conference.

Bro. Tadeck B. Thackston was examined, approved and he continued in a superannuated relation.

Bro. Blachley C. Wood was examined, approved and he continued in a superannuated relation.

Bro. Laban Hughey's character was taken up and it was moved and seconded that Bro. Hughey's be located. ~~in~~ Withdrawn by the mover.

Bro. Hughey's character was then passed and he continued in a superannuated relation to this conference.

Bro. David E. Dyche was examined, approved & continued in a superannuated relation.

Moved and seconded that the surplus money remaining in the hands of the Stewards unappropriated be given to Bro. Craine. Carried.

Moved and seconded that a committee of 5 be appointed by this conference to confer with a committee of Local preachers on the subject of Family Visitation and catechising; Carried. And Bros. Akers, Tevis, Light, Holman & Crouch were appointed for that purpose.

And conference adjourned.

Wednesday morning half after 3 O'Clock, conference met according to adjournment, and after divine service, proceeded to business. Bishop Soule in the Chair.

The Bishops presented to the conference their opinion on a point of law referred to them on Monday morning, and by preliminary remarks informed the conference that they wished it to be distinctly understood, that the opinion which follows has been received by them as an abstract question of law, and should not have any retrospective bearing, on the difficulties of Louisville or any past transaction whatever.

Moved and seconded that the opinion of the Bishops be recorded on our Journals; Carried. (The opinion) "The Form of Discipline prescribes the powers of every department in the Methodist Episcopal Church; & the union and prosperity of the whole body greatly depends on a clear understanding of the prerogatives of each department, and a careful attention to what appertains to it, without transcending its legitimate Jurisdiction.

The questions proposed by the conference for our consideration, and on which our opinion is requested, refer to the powers of a quarterly meeting conference in a specified case.

The discipline has made it one of the duties of a Presiding Elder to call together, at each quarterly meeting, the official members of the circuit or station, which body, thus convened, is denominated a quarterly meeting conference and is invested with authority "To hear complaints and receive & try appeals "See Sect. 5 page 28



That the Discipline, in this provision, distinguished between complaints and appeals is sufficiently obvious; and as neither the one, nor the other is defined or limited in this general provision, it becomes necessary to refer to other rules to ascertain the limitations and restrictions in either case, with regard to appeals, two things only need be stated; 1st that they can only be admitted in cases where the forms of trial, as directed by the discipline, have been observed; and 2nd that they must be made to the quarterly conference next ensuing such form of trial.

Cases of complaint, as recognized by the form of Discipline are widely different, and may be embraced in two general classes, the first comprises all complaints which may be made against the members of the quarterly meeting & conference, on the examination of character, as provided. See p. 43; the second embraces the complaints of individuals in certain cases Viz. 1st In case of arbitration on disputed accounts, either of the parties being dissatisfied with the judgement of the arbitrators may carry his complaint to the quarterly meeting conference praying for a second arbitration, See p. 41. 2nd In case of non-payment of debts, when accounts are adjusted, and a committee determines what further time shall be allowed the debtor to make payment, and if any, what security shall be given in the premises; if the creditors complain that Justice has not been done him, he may lay his grievance before the quarterly meeting conference. Sect. 9 p. 42.

We find no provision in the form of Discipline investing the quarterly conferences with the right of jurisdiction in any other cases of complaint. It is, therefore, our opinion that a quarterly meeting conference has no jurisdiction in cases of expulsion of members, expelled, in which case the discipline limits the time of Appeal, for the safety of all parties to the quarterly meeting conference next ensuing the expulsion, and consequently, that such conference has no legal "right" to direct a new trial in case of an expelled member, on a complaint preferred by such member, after the time has elapsed in which he might have appealed.

Conference then took up the question "Who are admitted on trial?" And Bros. Abram Norfleet of Ky. Dt.

Peter Shelton - Ky. Dt.

Samuel Veach - Augusta Dt.

Hiram Baker - Augusta Dt.

& Daniel Tevis - Augusta Dt.

Being duly recommended

were admitted

Henry Robertson of Augusta Dt. being recommended was not admitted.

Bros. Silas Lee of Salt River Dt.

Lewis M Woodson of Green River Dt.

John Redman of D<sup>o</sup> Dt.

William Cundiff of D<sup>o</sup> Dt.

Thomas G. Reese of D<sup>o</sup> Dt.

Littleton Fowler of D<sup>o</sup> Dt.

Nathan Johnston of Cumberland Dt.

Jefferson C. Parish of Cumberland Dt.

& William Belt of D<sup>o</sup> Dt.

Being duly

Recommended

Were admitted

Moved and seconded that we reconsider the Vote by which Bro. John Sinclair was continued on trial. Carried, and Bro. Sinclair after examination was admitted into full connection and Elected Deacon.

Conference proceeded to take the numbers in Society as follows Viz.

Lexington white & col 195. 123

Lexington Cir 702.240

Mt. Sterling 716. 68

Maddison 355. 16

Cumberland 452. 16

Somerset 536. 31

Danville 384.154

W. C.		W. C.	
Augusta Dt.		Kentucky District	
Paris	38. 26	Breckenridge	484. 75
Johns Creek	162. 18	Bacon Creek	402. 12
Little Sandy	309. 22	Lebanon	322. 41
Flemming	894. 56	Green River Dt.	
Hinkston	794. 93	Hartford	595. 118
Licking	318. 18	Greenville	397. 73
Newport	573. 30	Henderson	366. 33
Limestone	473. 88	Livingston	442. 31
Maysville	120. 15	Christian	642. 159
Liberty	301. 15	Hopkinsville	148. 39
Salt River Dt.		Clarks River	298. 6
Franklin	324. 8	Red River	566. 140
Shelby	582. 57	Cumberland Dt.	
Shelbyville & B Chapel	170. 85	Logan	429. 702
Jefferson	693. 173	Fountain Head	641. 90
Louisville	180. 140	Goose Creek	474. 19
Salt River	481. 74	Wayne	405. 8
	<u>9752.1551</u>	Green River	472. 101
		Barren	391. 17
		Bowling Green	370. 42
		Russelville	100. 24
			<u>7928.1180</u>
			<u>9752.1551</u>
		Total Total	<u>17680.2731</u>

The Committee appointed to confer with a committee of Local preachers reported. Moved and seconded that the report be adopted and that each presiding Elder be furnished with a copy of it and that he furnish each preacher in charge in his District with a copy thereof. Carried.

And Conference adjourned to meet at 3 O'Clock.

Wednesday evening 3 O'Clock, conference met according to adjournment, and after divine service, proceeded to business; Bishop Roberts in the Chair.

Moved and seconded that a committee of 3 be appointed to draft a petition to the Legislature of this state to enlarge the charter of the Augusta College and that they report to this conference- Carried. And Peter Akers, George C. Light and John Tevis were appointed for that purpose.

Moved and seconded that we patronise the publication of the News paper (The Augusta Herald) for the benefit of Augusta college. Carried.

Moved and seconded that we patronise the news paper published by our Book Agents at New York entitled the Christian Advocate. Carried.

Bro. Akers presented to the conference his plan for making collections for Augusta College, which plan was approved.

Conference resumed the examination of the character of the Elders, and it was moved and seconded, that Bro. John Johnson at his own request sustain a superannuated relation to this conference, withdrawn by the mover.

Moved and seconded that the Communication of Bro. Johnson addressed to this conference be sealed up and sent back to him with an expression of our sorrow that he should have written a letter containing such exceptionable expressions, and that this information be given him by his Presiding Elder- Carried; And on motion a superannuated relation was given to him according to his request.-

Moved and seconded that the vote by which Bro. William McCormus was discontinued, be reconsidered, carried. And on motion Bro. McCormus was continued on trial.

Conference appointed Versailles as the place of our next session; and adjourned until morning.

Thursday morning Oct. 19th 1826 Conference met according to adjournment and after divine service proceeded to business; Bishop Roberts in the Chair.

The Bishop informed the Conference that our next session will commence on the eleventh day of October 1827.

An address from the quarterly meeting conferences of Ky. District was read. Moved and seconded that we postpone the consideration of said address indefinitely. - Lost.

Moved and seconded that consider the plan of making up a support for our preachers, suggested in said address, Item by Item. Carried. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th clause of the 4th Item were adopted, the remaining clause of the 4th Item was not adopted.

The 1st clause of the 5th Item was adopted. The 6 & 7th Items were adopted.

Moved and seconded that 500 Copies of the above plan as approved by the conference be printed. Carried.

Moved and seconded that Bros. Light and Kavanaugh superintend the printing of the above plan, carried.

Moved and seconded that each preacher in charge who shall fail to use his influence to carry the above plan into operation shall be reproved by the conference and have no share in such supplies. Lost.

The Committee appointed to make out the memoirs of the Dead reported, which report was accepted.

The Committee appointed to address the legislature & etc., reported, which report was adopted.

Moved and seconded that the following resolution be adopted Viz. Louisville Oct. 18th, 1826. The Kentucky Annual Conference having had under consideration the resolution of the Mississippi Annual Conference in reference to the ratio of representation. On Motion.

Resolved that this conference concur with the Mississippi Annual Conference in recommending to the General Conference at its next session to alter the ratio of representation in our form of Discipline Chap. 1st, Sect. 3 Quest. 2 answer 5 & figure 2 by striking out 5 & inserting 7; and by striking out 7 and inserting 21 so that said article may read 2nd They shall not allow of more than one representative for every 7 members of the Annual Conference nor allow of less than one for every 21 - Unanimously Carried.

Conference resume the election of Local preachers to Deacons Orders- and Bro. Robert McCorole of Green River District, being recommended was not elected. The case of Christopher Clark was resumed & he Elected to Elders Orders.

Moved and seconded that we request our superintendants respectfully to place the Clarks river Circuit west of Tennessee river, to the Tennessee Conference, provided our brethren of the Tennessee Conference consent to that arrangement. Carried. A unanimous Vote of thanks was then given to the Citizens of Louisville for their attention. And after Divine Service, and an appropriate address from the Bishop Soule, the conference adjourned until Oct. 11th 1827.-

*William Adams Secy*

*W. Roberts*

*J. Soule*