

**Journal
of the Proceedings of the
Bishops, Clergy, and Laity
of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America
in a Convention
1808**



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JOURNAL
OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BISHOPS, CLERGY AND LAITY,
OF THE
PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
IN A
CONVENTION,

HELD IN

**The City of Baltimore, from Tuesday, May 17, to Thursday,
May 26, 1808.**

LIST OF THE MEMBERS
OF THE
HOUSE OF CLERICAL AND LAY DEPUTIES.

From the State of Rhode Island.

Rev. Theodore Dehon.

From the State of Connecticut.

Rev. Ashbel Baldwin,
Rev. Daniel Burhans,
Burrage Beach, Esq.
Mr. Joseph Nicoll.

From the State of New York.

Rev. Abraham Beach, D. D.
Rev. Richard C. Moore, D. D.
Rev. John Henry Hobart,
Dr. John Onderdonk,
John Moore, Esq.

From the State of New Jersey.

Joshua M. Wallace, Esq.

From the State of Pennsylvania.

Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D.
Rev. Joseph Clarkson,
Rev. Levi Bull,
John Lardner, Esq.
Dr. P. F. Glentworth,
Joseph Sims, Esq.

From the State of Delaware.

Rev. William Pryce,
Mr. Joseph Burn.

From the State of Maryland.

Rev. Joseph G. J. Bend,
Rev. James Kemp,
Rev. George Dashiell,
Rev. Simon Wilmer,
William H. Dorsey, Esq.
James Ringgold, Esq.
John C. Weems, Esq.
George Robertson, Esquire.

JOURNAL

OF THE

HOUSE OF CLERICAL AND LAY DEPUTIES.

Baltimore, May 17, 1808.

THIS being the day appointed for the meeting of the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, several Clerical and Lay Deputies attended at twelve o'clock, A. M. in St. Paul's church; but not being a quorum, adjourned to meet at five o'clock, P. M.

Five o'clock, P. M.

A quorum of the house appearing, the President of the house in the last Convention took the chair, and the Secretary of the house in the last Convention acted as Secretary pro tempore.

The House then proceeded to read the testimonials of the Clerical and Lay Delegates; which were severally approved, and the following gentlemen took their seats in the house.

From Rhode Island—the Rev. Theodore Dehon.

From Connecticut—The Rev. Ashbel Baldwin, the Rev. Daniel Burhans, Burrage Beach, Esq. and Mr. Joseph Nicoll.

From New York—the Rev. Abraham Beach, D. D. the Rev. Richard C. Moore, D. D. the Rev. John H. Hobart, D. D. Dr. John Onderdonk, and John Moore, Esq.

From Pennsylvania—the Rev. Joseph Clarkson, John Lardner, Esq. and Dr. P. F. Glentworth.

From Delaware—Rev. William Pryce, and Mr. Joseph Burns.

From Maryland—the Rev. Joseph G. J. Bend, D. D. the Rev. James Kemp, D. D. the Rev. George Dashiell, the Rev. Simon Wilmer, James Ringgold, Esq. and William H. Dorsey, Esq.

The house proceeded to the election of a President and Secretary, when it appeared that the Rev. Abraham Beach was unanimously chosen President, and the Rev. J. H. Hobart, Secretary.

A message was sent to the House of Bishops, informing them that this house was organized, and ready to proceed to business.

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

The house took into consideration the rules of order of preceding Houses of Clerical and Lay deputies, and adopted the same as follows, with some small alterations.

I. The business of every day shall be introduced with the morning service of the church.

II. When the President takes the chair, no member shall continue standing, or shall afterwards stand up, unless to address the chair.

III. No member shall absent himself from the service of the House, unless he have leave, or be unable to attend.

IV. When any member is about to speak in debate, or deliver any matter to the house, he shall rise from his seat, and, without advancing, shall, with due respect, address himself to the President, confining himself strictly to the point in debate.

V. No member shall speak more than twice in the same debate, without leave of the house.

VI. 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.

VII. While the President is putting any question, no one shall hold private discourse, stand up, walk into, out of, or across the house, or read any book.

VIII. Every member who shall be in the house when any question is put, shall, on a division, be counted, unless he be particularly interested in the decision.

IX. No motion shall be considered as before the house, unless it be seconded, and reduced to writing when required.

X. When any question is before the house, it shall be determined on before any thing new is introduced, except the question for adjournment.

XI. The question on a motion for adjournment shall be taken before any other, and without debate.

XII. When the house is to rise, every member shall keep his seat until the President leaves the chair.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church who may be in the city of Baltimore, and who are not members of this house, shall be admitted to the sittings of the same.

This house *Resolved*, That in consequence of the decease of the Right Rev. Bishop Parker, who had been appointed to open the meeting of this Convention with a sermon, the House of Bishops be requested to appoint one of their number to perform that duty; and the Rev. Dr. Bend was appointed to communicate this request to the House of Bishops.

The Rev. Dr. Bend returned with a message from the House of Bishops, that the Right Rev. Bishop White intends to open the Convention, with a discourse, to-morrow, at the hour which has been publicly notified for divine service.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the hour of meeting each day shall be at nine o'clock, A. M.

The Rev. Mr. Dashiell, the rector of St. Peter's, gave notice, that there would be divine service and sermon in that church every evening during the session. The Rev. Dr. Bend informed the house, that the church of St. Paul's and Christ church were not fitted for service by candle-light.

Wednesday, May 18, 1808, A. M.

The house attended divine service in St. Paul's church.

The **Rev. Dr. Beach** performed service, and the **Right Rev. Bishop White** preached a sermon adapted to the occasion of the meeting of the Convention.

After divine service the house met.

The **Rev. Levi Bull**, a Clerical Deputy from Pennsylvania, and **George Robertson, Esq.** a Lay Deputy from Maryland, appeared, and took their seats.

The testimonial of the appointment of deputies from New Jersey was read, and approved of, and **Joshua M. Wallace, Esq.** a Lay Deputy from New Jersey, appeared, and took his seat.

On motion, *Resolved unanimously*, That the thanks of the Convention be returned to the **Right Rev. Bishop White** for his sermon preached before the Convention this morning, and that he be requested to furnish a copy for publication.

The House of Bishops concurred in this resolution, and informed this house, that the **Right Rev. Bishop White** would furnish a copy of his sermon for the purpose aforesaid.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to revise the canons, and to report the same for the consideration of this house.

The following gentlemen were appointed the committee: The **Rev. Dr. Kemp**, **Rev. Mr. Baldwin**, **Rev. Dr. Hobart**, **Dr. John Onderdonk**, and **Joshua M. Wallace, Esq.**

The house took up the alteration proposed by the last General Convention in the constitution of the church, viz That in article III. the words, "unless adhered to by four-fifths of the other house," be struck out; and the farther consideration thereof was postponed until to-morrow.

A memorial to the General Convention was presented and read from the Convention of the Clergy and the Lay Delegates of the Protestant Episcopal Church in New Hampshire, praying the Convention to rescind a resolution of the General Convention of 1801, relative to the permission of an union between certain churches in New Hampshire and the church in Vermont. The memorial was referred to the **Rev. Mr. Baldwin**, **Rev. Mr. Burhans**, and **Burrage Beach, Esq.** to report thereon.

The house adjourned.

Thursday, May 19, 1808.

The house met, and morning service was performed by the Secretary, as Chaplain to the house.

The **Rev. Robert Blackwell, D. D.** a Clerical Deputy from Pennsylvania; **Joseph Sims, Esq.** a Lay Deputy from Pennsylvania; and **John C. Weems, Esq.** a Lay Deputy from Maryland, appeared, and took their seats.

The house resumed the consideration of the resolution proposed by the last General Convention, viz.

Resolved, That in article III. of the constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, the

words, "unless adhered to by four-fifths of the other house," be struck out.

The question being taken by states on the above resolution, it was agreed to as follows :

Rhode Island. Clergy, Aye.

Connecticut. Clergy, Aye.—Laity, Aye.

New York. Clergy, Aye.—Laity, Aye.

New Jersey. Laity, Aye.

Pennsylvania. Clergy, Aye.—Laity, No.*—Divided.

Delaware. Clergy, Aye.—Laity, Aye.

Maryland. Clergy, Aye.—Laity, Aye.

The Rev. Dr. Bend; and the Rev. Dr. Moore were requested to carry the above resolution to the House of Bishops, who returned it with their concurrence.

Agreeably to the 11th canon of 1804, the Journals of the State Conventions and other ecclesiastical documents were presented; and after the parochial reports and episcopal addresses contained on those Journals were read, the journals and documents were transmitted to the House of Bishops, with a request that they would draw up a view of the state of the church, adding such remarks or counsel as they might think proper, in the form of a pastoral letter from the House of Bishops, agreeably to the 11th canon of 1804.

The deputies from the church in Maryland informed the house, that they were instructed by the Convention of said church, to call the attention of the General Convention, to the expediency of adopting the English canon concerning marriages, and inserting the same in future editions of the book of common prayer; and to the expediency of setting forth a companion for the altar; and they stated, that they were also instructed to enforce the necessity of adopting an additional number of hymns.

In consequence of the above communication, the house adopted the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the communication from the convention of the church in Maryland, on the subject of the English canon concerning marriages, be referred to the House of Bishops, with a request that they will consider the same, if they deem it expedient, during the present or at some future Convention, and will make any communication to this house which they may deem proper.

Resolved, That it is not expedient to take any order on the subject of setting forth a companion for the altar. The above resolutions were sent to the House of Bishops for their concurrence.

Resolved, That it is expedient to add thirty hymns to the present number contained in the prayer book: Provided that a ru-

* Joseph Sims, Esq. and Dr. P. F. Glentworth, Lay Deputies from this state, were in favour of the resolution, but voted in the negative, because they supposed it necessary that they should have received instructions on the subject from the convention of the state, which instructions they had not received.

bric be annexed thereto, directing that a certain portion or portions of the Psalms of David, in metre, be sung at every celebration of divine service.

The following gentlemen, were appointed a committee to prepare and report hymns for the consideration of this house. **The Rev. Dr. Moore, Rev. Dr. Kemp, Rev. Mr. Dashiell, Rev. Mr. Burhans, and Joshua M. Wallace, Esq.**

The deputies from the church in Maryland also informed the Convention, that they were instructed to use their endeavours to have the 1st and 2d canons of the General Convention of 1804 reconsidered, so far as they relate to the induction of ministers into churches or parishes.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the subject of induction be referred to the committee on the canons.

The House adjourned.

Friday, May 20, 1808, nine o'clock, A. M.

The house met, and morning prayer was performed by the Secretary, as Chaplain to the house.

Leave of absence was granted to **Mr. Burns**, the Lay Deputy from the state of Delaware.

The committee on the canons made a report in part, which was read.

A message was received from the house of Bishops, with an extract from their minutes, and a letter from **William H. Winder, Esq.** enclosing a petition from **Ammi Rogers**. The Clerical and Lay Deputies from the state of Connecticut, at their own request, were permitted to withdraw.

Whereupon, *Resolved unanimously*, That it is the opinion of this house, that agreeably to the 6th article of the constitution, the General Convention have no cognizance of the case of **Ammi Rogers**, and that he therefore have leave to withdraw his petition.

Ordered, That the Secretary carry a copy of the above resolution to the House of Bishops, and furnish a copy of the same to **William H. Winder, Esq.** who transmitted the petition of **Ammi Rogers** to the house of Bishops.

The house adjourned.

Saturday, May 21, 1808, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The house met, and morning service was performed by the Secretary, as Chaplain to the house.

The committee on the canons made a further report, which was read.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the "prayer to be used at the meetings of Convention," adopted in General Convention, 1799, be inserted in all future editions of the book of common prayer, among the occasional prayers.

The above resolution was sent to the House of Bishops for their concurrence.

The committee on the memorial from the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the state of New Hampshire, made a report; whereupon,

Resolved, That a committee of two or more persons from the state of Connecticut, Rhode Island, or Massachusetts, be appointed, whose duty it shall be to give notice to the parties interested, to give them a hearing, if requested, and to make report to any two of the Bishops of this church, whose decision shall be final, till the meeting of the next General Convention.

Resolved, That the Rev. Ashbel Baldwin, the Rev. Philo Shelton, the Rev. Daniel Burhans, Burrage Beach, Esq. and Mr. Joseph Nicolls, be the committee.

Resolutions, proposing the appointment of a committee to address the church in certain dioceses, were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A message from the House of Bishops, on the subject of the English canon concerning marriages, was received and read.

The house adjourned.

Monday, May 23, 1808, nine o'clock, A. M.

The house met, and prayers were read by the Secretary, as Chaplain to the house.

The resolutions proposed and laid on the table on Saturday, proposing the appointment of a committee to address the church in certain districts, and for other purposes, were read and adopted, and sent to the House of Bishops for their concurrence.

The committee appointed to prepare an additional number of hymns made report.

The house took up the consideration of the canons as reported by the committee appointed to digest and revise the same, and made some progress therein.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, with a "pastoral address," prepared in pursuance of the 11th canon of 1804, which was read in part.

The house then adjourned to meet at 5 o'clock, P. M.

Monday, five o'clock, P. M.

The house met, and resumed and finished the reading of the "pastoral letter from the House of Bishops," transmitted to them by said house.

A message was received from the House of Bishops, with a substitute to the resolutions for the appointment of a committee to address the church in certain districts, and for other purposes.

The house then resumed the consideration of the canons as reported by the committee, and made further progress therein.

The Secretary was directed to communicate to the House of Bishops, the revised canons as far as they have been agreed to by this house, with the necessary information relative to them.

The house adjourned.

Tuesday, May 24, 1808, nine o'clock, A. M.

The house met, and morning service was performed by the Secretary, as Chaplain to the house.

A memorial to this Convention, signed by the Rev. Nat. Bowen, Rev. Andrew Fowler, and Robert I. Turnbull, and David Alexander, Clerical and Lay Deputies from the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in South Carolina, stating that they were unable to attend the meeting of the General Convention, and that it was the wish of the church in South Carolina that there should be a repeal, or modification of certain canons—was presented and read, and ordered to be sent to the House of Bishops.

The house resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the canons, and made further progress therein.

The house adjourned until 5 o'clock.

Tuesday, five o'clock, P. M.

The house met, and finished the consideration of the report of the committee on the canons.

The Secretary was desired to communicate the remainder of the revised canons to the House of Bishops, with the necessary information relative to them.

Leave of absence was granted to George Robertson, Esq. a Lay Deputy from the state of Maryland.

The house adjourned.

Wednesday, May 25, 1808, nine o'clock, A. M.

The house met, and prayers were read by the Secretary, as Chaplain to the house.

The house considered the substitute of the House of Bishops to the proposed resolutions of this house, for the appointment of a committee to address the church in certain districts, and for other purposes, and agreed to the same with amendments. These amendments were sent to the House of Bishops, and concurred in by them, and the resolutions finally adopted as follows:

1. *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed, consisting of three of the Bishops of this church, and two of the Clergy, and two of the lay members of the same, to make a solemn and affectionate address to the churches, represented in both orders in this Convention, urging upon them the propriety, necessity and duty of their sending regularly a deputation to the General Convention; and that the said address contain a respectful appeal to every Bishop of this church, on the subject of attendance on his part.

2. *Resolved*, That the same committee be authorized and desired to address the Protestant Episcopal Church in every state in which it is organized, but which has not acceded to the constitution of this church, inviting it to accede to the same.

3. *Resolved*, That the same committee address the clergy of the several states or territories of the United States, in which the church hath not been organized; also, some of the most respect-

able lay members of the church in such states or territories, and invite them to organize themselves, and accede to the constitution of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

4. *Resolved*, That the same committee be authorized and desired to consider of and determine on the proper mode of sending a Bishop into said states or territories; and, in case of a reasonable prospect of accomplishing this object, to elect a person to such episcopacy; and the certificate being given in the usual terms by the standing committees of this church as prescribed in the canon for the consecration of Bishops in the recess of the General Convention, any three Bishops of the same be authorized to consecrate to the episcopacy the person elected as above. Provided that the jurisdiction assigned him shall not interfere with the rights of any state or diocese which shall hereafter adopt the constitution of the church in the United States.

5. *Resolved*, That the Right Rev. Bishop White, Right Rev. Bishop Claggett, the Right Rev. Bishop Moore, the Rev. Dr. Beach, the Rev. Dr. Hobart, General Mathew Clarkson, and Dr. John Onderdonk, be the committee for the purposes aforesaid; any four of whom shall be a quorum, provided it include one Bishop, one Presbyterian, and one Layman.

6. *Resolved*, That the said committee render an account of their proceedings to the next General Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That it be made known to the several State Conventions of this church, that it is proposed to consider of, and determine on, at the next General Convention, the propriety of the following addition to the 8th article of the constitution of the church: "No alteration or addition shall be made in the book of common prayer or other offices of the church, unless the same shall be proposed in one General Convention, and by a resolve thereof made known to the Convention of every diocese or state, and adopted at the subsequent General Convention." This resolution was sent to the House of Bishops, and returned with their concurrence.

The report of the committee appointed to prepare an additional number of hymns, was read and adopted.

This report, with the resolutions relative to an additional number of hymns, were sent by the Rev. Dr. Moore and the Rev. Mr. Dashiell, to the House of Bishops for their concurrence.

The committee on the canons, to whom was referred the office of induction, reported certain resolutions, which were adopted by this house, sent to the House of Bishops, and returned with their concurrence as follows, viz :

1. *Resolved*, That the title of the office of induction be changed to "office of institution;" and that the corresponding alterations of expression be made in the office itself.

2. *Resolved*, That the following rubric be prefixed to the letter of institution in said office.

"In any state or diocese the concluding paragraph in the letter

of institution may be omitted, where it interferes with the usages, laws, or charters of the church in the same."

3. *Resolved*, That in the first rubric, the words "as prescribed by the 1st canon of 1804," be changed, and the word "shall" be changed to "may."

Certain proposed resolutions on the subject of duels and divorces, were read and adopted, and sent to the **House of Bishops** for their concurrence.

A message was received from the **House of Bishops** with proposed amendments to the revised canons, in which they requested the concurrence of this house.

The house then adjourned to 5 o'clock, **P. M.**

Five o'clock, P. M.

A further message from the **House of Bishops**, proposing amendments in the revised canons, was received.

The house took up the consideration of the amendments proposed by the **House of Bishops**, to the revised canons.

The **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies** concurred in these amendments, with the exception of one amendment; proposed further amendments; and ordered notice of the same to be sent by the **Secretary** to the **House of Bishops**.

The house adjourned until to-morrow 8 o'clock.

Thursday, May 26, 1808, eight o'clock, A. M.

The house met.

A message was received from the **House of Bishops**, informing this house that they had receded from the amendment to one of the canons in which this house had non-concurred; had concurred in the other amendments proposed by this house; had proposed a further amendment; and also, that they had postponed the resolution concerning the insertion of the prayer at the openings of **Convention** among the occasional prayers in the common prayer book. They also returned the resolutions concerning duels and divorces, with a proposed amendment, which was concurred in by this house, and the resolutions passed, as follows:

1. *Resolved*, That the ministers of this church ought not to perform the funeral service, in the case of any person who shall give or accept a challenge to a duel.

2. *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this church, that it is inconsistent with a law of **God**, and the ministers of this church therefore shall not unite in matrimony any person who is divorced, unless it be on account of the other party having been guilty of adultery.

This house also concurred in the further amendments from the **House of Bishops**, to one of the canons.

A further message was received from the **House of Bishops**, with the proposed hymns, and the resolution relative to the same, which they had passed, with a substitute for one of the hymns. In this proposed substitute the house concurred.

Certain petitions addressed to the General Convention, communicated by Ammi Rogers to the House of Bishops, which they had not opened, were sent by them to this house. Whereupon the delegates from the state of Connecticut were, at their request, permitted to withdraw, and, on motion, it was *Resolved*, That as this house have already decided that they have no cognizance of the case of Ammi Rogers, he have leave to withdraw these petitions.

The following proposed resolution was passed unanimously:—

Whereas associated rectorships are inconsistent with the usages of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and in many respects inconvenient, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the different state Conventions of this church not to authorise in future associated rectorships, and that when the existing associated rectorships shall expire, not to renew the same.

The above resolution was sent to the House of Bishops, and returned with their concurrence.

The following resolutions were also passed by this house, sent by the Secretary of this house to the House of Bishops, and returned with an amendment, in which this house concurred.

Resolved, That the hymns set forth by this Convention, together with those now authorized, be printed in a small volume, under the direction of the Right Rev. Bishop Moore, of New York, and the President and Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies; that the said committee be directed to annex tables to the hymns and psalms, suiting them to particular subjects and occasions; that these hymns and tables be inserted in all future editions of the book of common prayer, under the regulations of the canon prescribing the mode of publishing authorized editions of the book of common prayer; and that the edition of the hymns, thus set forth by the authority of this Convention, be the standard copy.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies prepare the journals and other acts of this Convention for publication; and that the said Secretary, with the President of the house, and the Right Rev. Bishop Moore, be a committee to publish the same, together with the sermon preached at the opening of this Convention, and the pastoral letter of the House of Bishops; and that the book of canons and the office of institution published by said committee, be authorised as standard copies.

Resolved, That the city of New Haven, in the state of Connecticut, be the place for the meeting of the next General Convention, which will be held, agreeably to the constitution, on the third Tuesday of May, A. D. 1811.

Resolved, That the Right Rev. Bishop Claggett be requested to preach a sermon at the opening of the next General Convention; and that, in case of his absence, the House of Bishops be requested to appoint one of their order to preach a sermon.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of this House be returned to the President and Secretary

This day being the festival of the Ascension, the House of Bishops, and the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, attended divine service in St. Paul's church—Service was celebrated by the Right Rev. Bishop White.

ABRAHAM BEACH, President.

Attested, JOHN HENRY HOBART, Secretary.

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS.

City of Baltimore, Tuesday, May 17, 1808, 9 o'clock, A. M.

AGREEABLY to a resolution of the last General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, appointing this city as the place of the next meeting; and this being the day of their said meeting, fixed by the constitution of the said church, there met in St. Paul's church, of the House of Bishops, the Right Rev. Bishop White, of Pennsylvania, and the Right Rev. Bishop Claggett, of Maryland; who adjourned to five o'clock of the afternoon of the same day.

Tuesday afternoon.

Present as in the forenoon.

The House of Bishops adjourned to the House of the Rev. Dr. Bend, in the vicinity of St. Paul's church.

Resolved, That agreeably to the offer of the Rev. Dr. Bend, his house be the place of meeting during the sitting of the Convention.

The Rev. Dr. James Whitehead, associate rector of St. Paul's parish in this city, was appointed Secretary of this house.

This house received by the Rev. Dr. Bend, a message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, informing that they were organized and ready to proceed to business. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Dr. Bend be desired to inform the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies that this house are also ready to proceed to business.

This house also received a message from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, stating, that the Right Rev. Bishop Parker, who had been appointed to open this Convention with a sermon, having departed this life, it is the wish of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, that the said service may be performed by a member of this house. Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the desire be complied with; and the Rev. Dr. Bend is authorised to inform the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, that Bishop White intends to open the Convention with a discourse to-morrow, at the hour which has been publicly notified for divine service.

The House adjourned.

Wednesday, May 18, nine o'clock, A. M.

The house met, and adjourned to attend divine service in St.

Paul's church. The **Rev. Dr. Beach** performed service, and a sermon adapted to the occasion of the meeting of the **Convention** was preached by the **Right Rev. Bishop White**. After service the **Bishops** returned to their place of meeting. Present as yesterday.

Resolved, That this house will attend divine service during the session, in the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, and the hours of business appointed by said house be observed by this house.

A message was received from the house of **Clerical and Lay Deputies**, by the **Rev. Dr. Hobart**, with a communication of the thanks of the said house to the **Right Rev. Bishop White**, for his sermon preached this morning, and with a request that he furnish a copy of the same for publication. With this request, the **Right Rev. Bishop White** complied.

The house adjourned.

Thursday, May 19th, nine o'clock, A. M.

The house met. Present as yesterday.

A message was received by the **Rev. Drs. Bend and Moore**, with the following communication from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**.

Resolved, That in article the third of the constitution, the words "unless adhered to by four-fifths of the other house," be struck out—to which resolution this house gave their concurrence.

A message was also received by the **Rev. Mr. Bull**, with the following communication from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, viz. the house resolved that the journals of the different state **Conventions**, **Episcopal addresses**, **parochial reports**, and other ecclesiastical documents presented, and some of them read in this house, be forwarded to the **House of Bishops**, in order that they may draw up a pastoral letter from the **House of Bishops**, to be read in this house, and published agreeably to the eleventh canon of 1804.

A message was received from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, by the **Rev. Dr. Kemp**, with a resolution against the expediency of setting forth a **Companion for the Altar**, in which resolution this house concurred. This house also received the following resolution :

Resolved, That the communication of the church in **Maryland**, requesting the attention of the **General Convention** to the **English canon** respecting marriages, and the expediency or in expediency of adopting the same, and ordering it to be inserted in the future editions of the book of common prayer, be referred to the **House of Bishops**, to take up the subject, if they deem it expedient, during the present or some future **Convention**; and to make any communication to this house which they may think proper.

The house adjourned.

Friday, May 20, nine o'clock, A. M.

The house met. Present as yesterday.

There was presented to this house a letter signed **William H. Winder**, enclosing two documents, signed **Ammi Rogers**. **Mr. Winder** informs this house, that he is counsel for the said **Ammi Rogers**; who, in the documents referred to, appeals to the **General Convention**, from a sentence of degradation said to have been passed on him without trial or hearing, by the **Right Rev. Bishop Jarvis**, of Connecticut.

This house having considered the contents of the aforesaid papers, are of opinion, that, agreeably to the constitution of this church, they have no authority to act on an appeal in regard to the matter stated; and that there is no existing mode, by which any **Bishop** or **Bishops** of this church can take cognizance of the conduct of any other **Bishop**, unless at the desire of the **Convention** of the diocese to which such a **Bishop** should belong, and conformably to rules of process by them established.

And whereas this house acted on the concerns of the said **Ammi Rogers**, in the session of 1804, as appears by the minutes; they now wish it to be known, that their proceedings at that time originated in his own petition, relative to the following points:

1st. Whether he belonged to the diocese of Connecticut, or to that of New York.

2dly The recalling which he proposed, of a circular letter written by **Bishop Jarvis**; forbidding the petitioner to perform divine service in the diocese, and the clergy and laity of the same to countenance him as a minister.

3dly. A candid and impartial inquiry into his conduct and character.

On the first of the said points, the house then assembled, being assured that both the parties were disposed to submit to their determination, declared it to be, that **Ammi Rogers** was a clergyman not of New York, but of Connecticut.

The second point being a matter of internal concern of the church in Connecticut, was not acted on judicially by this house; although as their opinion was expected on both sides, they expressed it as it was, approbatory of the measure.

On the third point, they were of opinion that **Ammi Rogers**, far from having been treated with injustice, had not received a sentence sufficiently severe.

To the opinions thus given, no addition or alteration is intended by this house; and they finally dismiss the subject from their consideration.

This house, wishing the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies** to be informed of their proceedings on the application now before them, direct, that the **Secretary** deliver to them a copy of the minute now made, with the papers on which it is grounded. They also direct the **Secretary** to deliver a copy of the minute to **William H. Winder, Esq.** and for the further information of that gentleman, to deliver with it a copy of the constitution of this church.

The above was accordingly communicated to the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, and a message was received from them, containing the following unanimous resolution: That it is the opinion of this house, that, agreeably to the 6th article of the constitution, the **General Convention** have no cognizance of the case of **Ammi Rogers**, and that he therefore have leave to withdraw his petition.

The house adjourned.

Saturday, May 21, nine o'clock, A. M.

The house met. Present as yesterday.

In consequence of the message received by this house from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, concerning the **English canon** about marriages, the following message was sent:

The **House of Bishops**, having taken into consideration the message sent to them by the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, relative to the subject of marriage, as connected with the table of degrees, with which, according to the canons of the church of **England**, marriage cannot be celebrated, observe as follows:

Agreeably to the sentiment entertained by them, in relation to the whole ecclesiastical system, they consider that table as now obligatory on this church, and as what will remain so; unless there should hereafter appear cause to alter it, without departing from the word of **God**, or endangering the peace and good order of this church. They are, however, aware, that reasons exist for making an express determination as to the light in which this subject is to be considered. They conceive so highly of the importance of it, and it is connected with so many questions, both sacred and civil, that they doubt of the propriety of entering on it, without maturer consideration than any expected length of the present session will permit: and this opinion derives additional weight, both from there being but few of their house present, and from there being several of the churches not represented in this Convention.

Accordingly, they content themselves with recommending the subject to be considered and acted on at a future **Convention**.

This house received a message from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, with certain resolutions, grounded on the memorial of the **Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church** in the state of **New Hampshire**, in which resolutions this house concurred.

This house also received from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, a resolution relative to the "prayer to be used at the meetings of the **Convention**."

The house adjourned.

Monday, May 23, 1808, nine o'clock.

The house met. Present as on Saturday.

This house, in consequence of the communication from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, of the Journals, parochial reports, and other ecclesiastical documents, and agreeably to the 11th canon of the General Convention of 1804, agreed on "a pastoral letter from the **House of Bishops**, of the Protestant Episcopal church to the members of the same," which was sent by the Secretary to the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies** in order to be read in said house.

A message was received from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, with certain resolutions on the subject of appointing a committee to address the church in certain districts, and for other purposes, which resolutions the house considered and sent to the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies** a substitute therefor.

Five o'clock, P. M.

The house received from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies** a draft of the canons, as revised by said house; and the **Rev. Dr. Hobart**, who delivered this message, was permitted, agreeably to a request of the said house, to give the necessary information relative to said canons. The house entered on the consideration of them, and adjourned without finishing the same.

Tuesday, May 24, A. M.

The house met. Present as yesterday.

The house proceeded in the consideration of the canons, as revised and amended by the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**.

Five o'clock, P. M.

This house received from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, the remainder of the canons, revised and amended, with certain information relative to them, by the Secretary of said house.

Wednesday, May 25, 1808.

The house met. Present as yesterday.

This house received from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, by the **Rev. Mr. Clarkson**, the proposed substitute from this house to the resolutions for appointing a committee to address the church in certain districts, and for other purposes, with proposed amendments, in which this house concurred: And also a resolution to make known to the state Conventions, a proposed addition to the constitution of the church, in which this house concurred.

This house received from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, by the **Rev. Dr. Moore** and the **Rev. Mr. Dashiell**, a resolution relative to hymns, with a proposed additional number of hymns.

A further message was received from the **House of Clerical and Lay Deputies**, by the **Rev. Dr. Hobart**, with certain resolutions

proposing alterations in the office of induction, in which this house concurred : and this house also received certain resolutions on the subject of duels and divorces.

This house proceeded in the consideration of the revised canons received from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, and having passed several of them, with amendments, sent them to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies for their concurrence.

Five o'clock, P. M.

This house finished the consideration of the revised canons, and returned them, with amendments, to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies.

This house sent to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, the following resolve, concerning persons who have already been received as candidates for orders. *Resolved*, That the canon regulating the preparatory exercises of candidates for orders, shall not affect those persons who have already been received as candidates ; but that their cases shall be governed by the canons on said subject, which were in existence at the commencement of the present Convention.*

The house adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, May 26, 1808, eight o'clock, A. M.

The house met. Present as yesterday.

This house received from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, by the Rev. Dr. Hobart, a message, that the said house had non-concurred in one of the amendments proposed by this house, to one of the revised canons, had concurred in the other amendments, and proposed further amendments. In these amendments this house concurred. They also receded from their proposed amendment returned by the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, and proposed a further amendment, in which they were afterwards informed the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies concurred.

This house adopted the resolutions sent from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, relative to duels and divorces, with an amendment, in which the said house concurred.

This house returned to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, the resolution concerning the prayer to be used at the opening of the Convention, wishing to delay the insertion of the same, among the occasional prayers in the book of common prayer, until some future occasion.

This house took up the consideration of the resolution from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, relative to an additional

* With the approbation of the presiding Bishop, the Secretary of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies states, that, through inadvertence, this resolution was not transmitted to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, but that from the sentiments expressed in said house, during the consideration of the canons, it appeared to be understood, that the canon concerning the preparatory exercises was not designed to affect those persons who had already been received as candidates for orders.

number of hymns, and adopted the same; they also adopted the proposed hymns, with the exception of one hymn, instead of which they proposed another.

This house also received a message, by the **Rev. Dr. Hobart**, from the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, stating that the said house had agreed to the substitute to one of the hymns; and requesting the concurrence of this house in a resolution disapproving of associated rectorships, and to sundry resolutions relative to the setting forth of the hymns, the publishing of the journals, the place of meeting of the next General Convention, and the preacher at the opening of the same. This house passed the aforesaid resolutions, with an amendment to the resolution concerning the setting forth of the hymns, in which amendment the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies concurred.

Certain petitions were received from **Ammi Rogers**, which, as this house had resolved to dismiss the subject of his case finally from their consideration, they did not open, but ordered them to be sent to the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, who informed this house that they had granted leave to the said **Ammi Rogers** to withdraw these petitions.

Resolved, That the thanks of this house be given to the **Rev. Dr. Bend**, for the accommodations which they have received in the use of his parlour, and in other attentions, during the session of the Convention.

The house rose, after attending, with the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, divine service at **St. Paul's church**; this day being the festival of the Ascension. Divine service was celebrated by the **Right Rev. Bishop White**.

Signed by order of the House of Bishops,

WILLIAM WHITE, Presiding Bishop.

Attested, **JAMES WHITEHEAD**, Secretary.

N. B. The canons passed at this Convention are published with the constitution of this church in a distinct pamphlet.

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List of the Clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States of America,

Delivered in and published agreeably to the canons.—1808.

New Hampshire.

St. John's church, Portsmouth, vacant.
 THE Rev. Robert H. Fowle, Rector of
 — church, Holdernessse.
 — Daniel Barber, Rector of —
 church, Clermont.
 — Mr. Catlin, officiates at Plainfield.
 — Samuel Mead.

Massachusetts.

The Rev. William Willard Wheeler, Rector of St. Michael's church, Scituate, and St. Peter's, Marshfield.

The Rev. Nathaniel Fisher, Rector of St. Peter's church, Salem.
 — John Sylvester I. Gardiner, Rector of Trinity church, Boston.
 — Mr. Eaton, Rector of Christ church, Boston.
 — Samuel Haskill, Rector of St. Ann's church, Gardiner.
 — William Montague, Rector of St. Paul's church, Dedham.
 — James Bowers, Rector of St. Michael's church, Marblehead.
 — Timothy Hilliard, Minister of the church at Portland.

- The Rev. James Morss, Minister of St. Paul's, Newburyport.**
 — Amos Pardy, Rector of St. Luke's church, Lanesborough.
 — Griswold, Rector of St. James church, Great Barrington, and the church at Lenox.
- Rhode Island.*
The Rev. Theodore Dehon, Rector of Trinity church, Newport.
 — Alexander V. Griswold, Rector of St. Michael's church, Bristol.
 — Mr. Ward, Assistant Minister of Trinity church, Newport.
 — Nathan B. Crocker, Rector of — church, Providence.
- Connecticut.*
The Right Rev. Abraham Jarvis, D. D. Bishop.
The Rev. Tillotson Bronson, principal of the Episcopal Academy, Cheshire.
 — Richard Mansfield, D. D. Rector of Christ church, Derby, and the churches of Oxford and Great Hill.
 — Bela Hubbard, D. D. Rector of Trinity church, New Haven, and Christ church, West Haven.
 — John Tyler, Rector of Christ church, Norwich.
 — Daniel Fogg, Rector of — church, Pomfret.
 — Philo Shelton, Rector of Trinity church, Fairfield, St. John's church, Stratfield, and — church, Weston.
 — Ashbel Baldwin, Rector of Christ church, Stratford, and Trinity church, Trumbull.
 — Chauncey Prindle, Rector of the churches of Oxford and Salem.
 — Reuben Ives, Rector of St. Peter's church, Cheshire, and the churches of Hamden and Southington.
 — Truman Marsh, Rector of the Associated churches, Litchfield.
 — Ambrose Todd, Rector of St. Paul's church, Huntingdon.
 — Daniel Burhans, Rector of Trinity church, Newtown, and St. Luke's church, Brookfield.
 — Solomon Blaklee, Rector of St. Stephen's church, East Haddam.
 — Charles Seabury, Rector of St. James's church, New London.
 — Smith Miles, Rector of the churches at Chatham and Middle Haddam.
 — Menzies Rayner, Rector of the church, Hartford.
 — Henry Whitlock, Rector of the churches at Norwalk and Wilton.
 — Calvin White, Assistant Minister of Christ church, Derby.
- The Rev. Nathan B. Burges, Rector of the church, Hebron.**
 — Roger Searl, Rector of St. Mark's church, Harrington, and the church in Northfield.
 — Horace Virgil Barber, Rector of St. John's church, Waterbury.
 — Russel Wheeler, Rector of Christ church, Watertown, and the church in Bethlehem.
 — Asa Cornwall, Rector of the churches in Simsbury and Granby.
 — Elijah G. Plumb, Deacon in the churches of Danbury, Reading, and Ridgfield.
 — Benjamin Benham, Deacon in St. Peter's church, New Milford, and the churches of Roxbury and New Preston.
 — David Baldwin, Deacon in the churches of Guilford and North Bristol.
- New York.*
The Right Rev. Benjamin Moore, D. D. Bishop, and Rector of Trinity church, New York.
The Rev. Amos G. Baldwin, Rector of Trinity church, Utica.
 — Theodosius Bartow, Rector of Trinity church, New Rochelle.
 — John F. Bartow, Deacon, St. Michael's church, Bloomingdale, New York.
 — Edmund D. Barry, Principal of the Episcopal Academy, New York, officiates at Grace church, Jamaica.
 — Abraham Beach, D. D. an Assistant Minister of Trinity church, New York.
 — Frederick Beasley, Rector of St. Peter's church, Albany.
 — John Bowden, D. D. Professor of Moral Philosophy, Logic, and Rhetoric, in Columbia college, New York.
 — David Butler, officiating at Troy and Lansingburgh.
 — Barzillai Buckley, Rector of Christ church, Poughkeepsie, and Trinity church, Fishkill.
 — James Chapman, Deacon, Trinity church, New York.
 — Abraham L. Clarke, Rector of St. James's church, Newtown, and St. George's church, Flushing.
 — Elias Cooper, Rector of St. John's church, Yonkers.
 — Joab G. Cooper, Deacon, Christ church, Hudson.
 — Henry I. Feltus, St. Ann's church, Brooklyn.
 — William Harris, Rector of St. Mark's church, Bowery, New York.

- The Rev. Seth Hart, Rector of St. George's church, Hempstead, with which is connected Christ church, North Hempstead.
- John Henry Hobart, D. D. an Assistant Minister of Trinity church, New York.
- Thomas Y. How, Deacon, Trinity church, New York.
- Cave Jones, an Assistant Minister of Trinity church, New York.
- Jonathan Judd, Rector of St. John's church, Johnstown, and — church, Fort Hunter.
- Thomas Lyell, Rector of Christ church, New York.
- Richard C. Moore, D. D. Rector of St. Andrew's church, Staten Island.
- David Moore, Deacon, Staten Island.
- Daniel Nash, Rector of St. John's church, Otsego, St. Luke's, Richfield, and Harmony church, Butter-nutts.
- Samuel Nesbitt, residing in New York.
- The Right Rev. Bishop Provoost, New York.
- The Rev. — Perry, Christ church, Ballstown.
- Davenport Phelps, Missionary in the Western part of the State.
- Joseph Prentiss, Deacon, Athens and Cocksackie.
- Joseph Reed, St. Luke's church, Catskill.
- Evan Rogers, Rector of Christ church, Bye.
- Cyrus Stebbins, Rector of St. George's church, Schenectady.
- George Strebeck, Rector of St. Stephen's church, New York.
- John Urquhart.
- Frederick Vanhorne.
- Joseph Warren, St. Peter's church, Peekskill, and St. Philip's church, Philipstown.
- Isaac Wilkins, Rector of St. Peter's church, West Chester; and St. Paul's church, East Chester.
- New Jersey.*
- The Rev. Charles H. Wharton, D. D. Rector of St. Mary's church, Burlington.
- Henry Waddell, Rector of St. Michael's church, Trenton.
- John Croca, Rector of Christ church, New Brunswick, and St. Peter's, Spotswood.
- Jasper D. Jones, Rector of St. Peter's church, Perth Amboy.
- Joseph Willard, D. D. Rector of Trinity church, Newark
- The Rev. John C. Rudd, Rector of St. John's church, Elizabethtown.
- Simon Wilmer, Trinity church, Swedesborough.
- Pennsylvania.*
- The Right Rev. William White, D. D. Bishop.
- The Rev. Samuel Magaw, D. D.
- John Andrews, D. D. Vice Provost in the University of Pennsylvania.
- Robert Blackwell, D. D. Assistant Minister of Christ church and St. Peters, in the city of Philadelphia.
- Joseph Hutchins, D. D.
- John Campbell, Rector of the churches of York and Huntingdon.
- Joseph Pilmore, D. D. Rector of St. Paul's church, Philadelphia.
- Slator Clay, Rector of St. David's, Radnor, St. Peter's in the Valley, and St. James's, Perkiomen.
- Joseph Clarkson, Rector of St. James's, Lancaster, St. John's church, Pequea, and Bangor church, Carnarvon.
- Robert Ayres, rector of Emanuel church, Washington county, and St. Peter's church, Fayette county.
- Francis Reno, Westmoreland county.
- Joseph Turner, rector of St. Paul's church, Chester, and St. Martin's church, Marcus Hook.
- Caleb Hopkins, rector of Christ church, Derry township, and Christ church, Turbut township, Northumberland county.
- Thomas Davis, Washington co.
- James Abercrombie, D. D. Assistant Minister of Christ church and St. Peter's, Philadelphia.
- Absalom Jones, (a black man,) Rector of the African church of St. Thomas, Philadelphia.
- John Taylor, Pittsburgh.
- Levi Bull, Rector of St. Gabriel's church, Berks county, and St. Mary's church, Chester county.
- Ayres.
- Delaware.*
- The Rev. Robert Clay, Emanuel church, New Castle.
- William Pryce, Trinity church, Wilmington.
- James Wiltbank, St. Peter's church, Lewes.
- Hamilton Bell, St. Paul's church, Georgetown.
- Maryland.*
- The Right Rev. Thomas J. Claggett, D. D. Bishop.

- The Rev. Francis Barclay, A. M. Rector of William & Mary parish, St. Mary's co.
- George Ralph, A. M. Rector of All Faith parish, St. Mary's county.
- * Benjamin Contee, Rector of William and Mary parish, Charles co.
- John Weems, Rector of Port Tobacco parish, Charles county.
- Nicholas W. Lane, residing in Calvert county.
- Edward Gantt, jun. residing in Calvert county.
- * Thomas Scott, Rector of Queen Anne's parish, Prince George's co.
- Walter D. Addison, Rector of St. John's parish, Prince George's co.
- Joseph Messenger, residing in St. John's parish, Prince George's co.
- William Swann, residing in St. Paul's, Prince George's county.
- Bethel Judd, A. M. Principal of St. John's College, and Rector of St. Anne's, Anne Arundel.
- John Wilson Compton, Rector of St. James's parish, Anne Arundel.
- Ralph Higginbotham, residing in Annapolis, Ann Arundel.
- * Joseph G. I. Bend, D. D. associate Rector of St. Paul's parish, Baltimore.
- * James Whitehead, D. D. associate Rector of St. Paul's parish, Baltimore.
- George Dashiell, A. M. Rector of St. Peter's church, Baltimore.
- John Armstrong, Rector of St. Thomas, Baltimore county.
- John Coleman, Rector of St. James's parish, Baltimore.
- Elijah D. Rattoone, D. D. residing in Baltimore.
- John Allen, A. M. Rector of St. George's parish, Harford county.
- George D. Handy, Rector of St. John's parish, Harford county.
- Thomas Read, Rector of Prince George's parish, Montgomery co.
- George Bower, A. M. Rector of All Saints, Washington county.
- Andrew T. McCormick, Rector of Washington parish, Columbia.
- John I. Sayres, A. M. Minister of St. John's church, Washington parish, Columbia.
- * John Kewley, M. D. Rector of Chester parish, Kent county.
- Archibald Walker, D. D. Kent co.
- William Briscoe, Deacon, Kent co.
- William Duke, A. M. residing in St. Mary Anne's parish, Cecil county.
- * Henry Lyon Davis, A. M. Rector of St. Stephen's parish, Cecil co.
- The Rev. John Hooker Reynolds, Rector of St. Paul's, Queen Anne's county.
- Joseph Jackson, Rector of St. Peter's parish, Talbot county.
- Samuel Keene, D. D. Talbot co.
- John Price, Talbot county.
- * James Kemp, D. D. Rector of Great Choptank parish, Dorchester county.
- William Murray Stone, Rector of Stepney parish, Somerset county.
- James Laird, A. M. Rector of Somerset parish, Somerset county.
- David Ball, Rector of All Hallows' parish, Worcester county.
- Virginia.*
- The Right Rev. James Madison, D. D. Bishop.
- ☞ No list of the Clergy was received from this State.
- South Carolina.*
- The Rev. Edward Jenkins, D. D. Rector of St. Philip's, Charleston.
- N. Bowen, Rector of St. Michael's, Charleston.
- William Percy, D. D. officiating at St. Philip's and St. Michael's, Charleston.
- J. D. Simons, Deacon, Charleston.
- Thomas Mills, Rector of St. Andrew's parish.
- Andrew Fowler, Rector of St. Bartholomew's.
- Galen Hicks, Rector of St. Helena's church in Beaufort.
- John T. Nankivel, Rector of St. Thomas and St. Dennis.
- Hugh Fraser, Rector of Prince Frederick's.
- Christopher E. Gadsden, Deacon, St. John's, Berkley.
- J. T. T'sheudy, Deacon, Clermont.
- Gates, D. D. residing in St. George's parish, Dorchester.
- Milward Pogson, residing in Charleston.
- Paul Trapier Gervais, Deacon, Charleston.
- Vacant Parishes in this State are,*
- Prince George Winyah, Georgetown.
- St. Stephen's, Santee.
- St. James's, Goose Creek.
- St. George's, Dorchester.
- St. John's, Colleton.
- St. Helena, on the Island of St. Helena.
- St. Luke's.
- St. Peter's.
- All Saints.
- St. Matthew's.
- Christ church.
- Most of them able and willing to support Ministers.

☞ Those Clergymen to whom this mark * is prefixed, were elected members of the Standing Committee at the last Convention in this diocese.