

Athens, March 5.th 1823.57.th Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment; when the Rev. Dr. Waddel, was called to the chair; the Moderator of the last session not being present. Constituted with prayer.

Ministers	present	Elders
Rev. & Moses Waddel, D. D.		James Espey,
Edward Pharr, &		Joseph Ratchford, Robert Hughey
Thomas Goulding		& Joseph Espey.
Absent, Rev. John Brown, D. D. Francis Cummins, D. D. & Orson Douglas.		

The Rev. Jesse Stratton of the Association of the Western district of New Haven county, Connecticut, being present, expressed his desire to be united with this presbytery, as one of its members; and having produced satisfactory testimonials of his ordination and regular connexion with that body, he was received and invited to take a seat as a member of this presbytery; which he did accordingly.

Mr. Douglas' application for a dissolution of his pastoral connexion with the churches of Thyatira and Mendham was taken into consideration. Mr. Ratchford appeared as a representative from Thyatira and Mr. Hughey, from Mendham.

Mr. Hughey declared the consent of the church of Mendham to the petition of Mr. Douglas.

Mr. Patchford presented a statement of considerable length from the members of Thyatira, expressive of their regret that Mr. Douglas had requested a separation from them, without having officially communicated to their session, the causes of such a petition on his part.

Whereupon it was Resolved, That the pastoral relation of Mr. Douglas to the church of Mendham be and is hereby dissolved; and that the congregation of Mendham be declared a vacancy. Also Resolved, That Dr. Waddel be directed to write to Mr. Douglas & enjoin upon him to state his reasons officially, as soon as possible, to the session of Thyatira, why he desires to be released from the pastoral charge of that people; and that presbytery will meet at Thyatira on the 23.^d day of May next, to hear and decide on the case.

No other business being presented, presbytery concluded with prayer, and then adjourned to meet at Thyatira on the 23.^d day of May next, as above mentioned.

Moses Waddel, Modr.

Thomas Goulding, Clk. pro. tem.

Reasons of dissolution of
pastoral relation demanded by
Presbytery

Thyatira Church, May 23.^d 1823.

58.th Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment, and was opened by the Moderator with a sermon from John 8. 34. "Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin."

Ministers,

present

Elders.

Rev. Moses Waddel, D. D.

James Nesbit

Edward Tharr,

Joseph Ratchford &

Thomas Goulding, &

James Mayne.

Jesse Stratton. Absent Rev. D.^r Cummins, & D.^r Brown.

Constituted with prayer.

The minutes of our last sessions not being present, could not be read.

The Rev. Remembrance Chamberlain, of the Georgia presbytery, being present, was invited and took a seat as a corresponding member.

Concluded with prayer. And then presbytery adjourned to meet at this place, tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Thyatira, May 24.th 1823.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as above. Constituted with prayer.

The Rev.^d John S. Wilson, a member of the South Carolina

presbytery, being present, was invited and took a seat as a corresponding member.

The Rev. Orson Douglas's application for a dissolution of his pastoral relation to the church of Thyatira, and a dismissal from this presbytery, to join the presbytery of New Castle, was taken into consideration by presbytery. After some deliberation on the subject, the Elder representing the church of Thyatira informed the presbytery that for reasons mentioned in Mr. Douglas's letter to the session, the church consented to release him from his pastoral relation to them in future. It was then Resolved, That Mr. Douglas be and he is hereby released from his pastoral connexion with Thyatira; and that church is declared a vacant congregation under our care. It was also,

Resolved, That Mr. Douglas be dismissed from this presbytery to join the presbytery of New Castle, and that the stated clerk furnish him with a copy of his dismissal & a recommendation.

In consideration of the destitute situation of many churches within our bounds and the present languishing state of religion, it was Resolved, That it be strongly recommended to every ordained minister connected with this presbytery to devote fourteen days in each succeeding year to labouring in destitute churches and places without

the circle of their usual ministerial labors.

Resolved, That the stated clerk be directed to write to some member of the session in each vacant church within the bounds of this presbytery, requesting that reports of the number of their members & the state of their several churches be forwarded to him at or before our next stated sessions.

Resolved, That the licentiates of this presbytery be required in future personally to attend the sessions of this presbytery or to report themselves by letter.

In consideration of the great and pressing exigencies of the church of Christ in this state, and the uncertainty and insufficiency of ministerial supply for our churches, from any means now in operation, Resolved, That this presbytery cordially approve of and strongly recommend to its members, its churches, and the pious at large, an immediate and united attempt to establish a Georgia Education Society, for aiding indigent young men of piety and talents in acquiring a suitable education for the Gospel ministry; and that the Rev. Moses Waddel, Thomas Goulding, Remembrance Chamberlain, and Dr. James Nisbet be a committee to prepare the plan of a constitution, and take suitable other steps as may to them appear necessary or useful for accomplishing the purpose

Organization of Education Society A.D. 1823

without delay; and report the nature and success of the same at our next stated sessions.

Presbytery then concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at New Hope in Madison county on the third Friday in October next.

Moses Waddel, Modr

Thomas Goulding, Clk. pro tem.

New Hope, Madison county, October 17.th 1823. 59.th Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment, and was opened by the Moderator with a sermon from Proverbs 11. 30. "He that winneth souls is wise." Constituted with prayer.

Ministers	present	Elders
Rev. John Brown, D. D.		William Hodge,
Moses Waddel, D. D.		John Mayes,
Edward Pharr &		Joseph Espey &
Thomas Goulding.		David Garretson.

Absent Rev. Francis Cummins, & Jesse Stratton.

The Rev. Dr. Waddel was chosen Moderator, & Mr. Goulding, clerk, p. t.

The minutes of our last stated sessions were read and confirmed.

The Rev. Dr. Brown rendered reasons for his absence from our last

sessions; which were sustained.

Mr. John Harrison, a licentiate of this presbytery, reported himself by letter.

Mr. Alonso Church, a licentiate of this presbytery, reported himself by letter, and solicited for ordination, sine titulo. The consideration of which, was deferred until tomorrow.

Mr. Alexander H. Webster, a licentiate of this presbytery reported himself verbally through Dr. Waddel, and solicited for ordination, sine titulo. The consideration of which, was deferred until our next stated sessions.

The committee, appointed by this presbytery, at its last stated sessions to propose the plan of a Georgia Education Society, reported verbally in part, which was approved; with an order that the Rev. Thomas Goulding prepare a full report of the same for insertion on our minutes at or before our next stated sessions.

Presbytery concluded with prayer; and then adjourned to meet at this place tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

New Hope, October 18.th 1823.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present, as above. Constituted with prayer.

Mr. George Foot, a graduate of Franklin College, and a member of

The Presbyterian Church in Athens, applied for admission as a candidate for the gospel ministry. After giving satisfactory testimonials of his classical education and regular standing in the Presbyterian Church, he was examined as to his experimental acquaintance with religion, his reasons and motives for seeking admission to the gospel ministry, and his approbation of the Presbyterian discipline and Confession of Faith; all of which were approved. He was accordingly received as a candidate for the ministry under our care. Presbytery appointed as parts of trial to Mt. Foot 2 Cor: 5.17, as the subject of a sermon; James 2. 14-20, as the subject of a lecture; and the following theme for an Exegesis, viz: "Num sit homo omnino corruptus?" to be delivered at our next stated sessions.

Presbytery proceeded to consider the application of Mr. Alonzo Church for ordination; and Ordered that the prayer of his petition be granted. Presbytery appointed as parts of trial for his ordination John 3. 27, as the subject of a sermon, and Malachi 3. 1-3, as the subject of a lecture; to be delivered at our next stated sessions.

Ordered, That the Rev. John Brown, D. D. preach the ordination sermon, and Thomas Goulding be his substitute; and that the Rev.^d Francis Cummings, preside and give the charge, and the Rev.^d

Moses Waddel be his substitute.

The Rev. Dr. Waddel asked and obtained leave of presbytery to resign the office of stated clerk; and Thomas Goulding was appointed in his stead.

The Moderator asked and obtained leave of absence during the remainder of our sessions.

Report of the committee appointed by the presbytery of Hopewell at its sessions, Thyatira church, May 24.th 1823 to organize a Georgia Education Society. This committee consisting of the Rev. Moses Waddel, D.D. R. Chamberlain, and James Nesbet Esq. met according to appointment in Athens on Monday 26.th May 1823, and continued its sessions until Wednesday the 28.th The plan of a constitution with an address to the churches and benevolent individuals in our state, was agreed upon by the committee and published in the Missionary at Mount Zion; and appointing the 7.th of August next ensuing for meeting in Athens to organize the society upon the proposed plan; when the society was organized and the proceedings took place according to the accompanying printed Circular, and plan of a constitution as then agreed on.

"Georgia Education Society. Circular.

Sir— The plans of benevolence which constitutes the glory of

The day in which we live, are so numerous, that to obtrude another on your consideration, with an expectation of patronage, would be presumption, were we not persuaded of its importance and practical utility. It is, Sir, a duty which we owe to you and to the public, to give a concise statement of facts which have led to the formation of a society, the constitution of which is herewith transmitted. We need not inform you that the number of able and faithful ministers of the gospel among us by no means increases with the increasing population of the state - that many of our churches already organized, are comparatively destitute of the ordinances of the gospel, and that many more might be established, if they could be supplied with the word of life. We have looked anxiously for this supply from those institutions in the more favoured sections of our country, whose laudable object it is to aid young men of piety and talents in acquiring an education suitable for the gospel ministry; but our expectations have not been realized. In aid of these institutions the citizens of Georgia have heretofore contributed with their accustomed liberality; but a general impression at present prevails, that our benevolence should be less diffusive, and that our exertions should be principally concentrated in building up our own Zion, and repairing her waste places. In the different denominations of Christians

in our own state we are personally acquainted with young men of piety and talents, who would gladly labour in the vineyard of Christ, but who are unable to incur the expense of an education preparatory to the work. Unless, therefore, some benevolent individuals or some society shall take them under their patronage, their usefulness will be limited to the obscure walks of private life. You will doubtless concur in the sentiment, that with the progress of literary improvement in any country, the prosperity of religion requires a similar improvement in the ministry. Whilst we rejoice in the good which many pious and zealous defenders of the faith have been enabled by the blessing of God to effect, whose opportunities in early life were limited, we cannot avoid asking how much more good they might have done, if to the same piety and zeal had been united the learning of a Gill, a Wesley or a Dwight. Our object in short is the supply of our own churches with pious and able ministers of the gospel; to bring to light talents that are concealed under the mask of poverty, and to encourage young men of piety and talents to engage in that glorious cause, the fruits of which will forever remain.

As our interests are identified with the interests of this state; as its political and literary institutions are dear to us; and as the religion of the gospel ably and faithfully preached is calculated to secure

a continuance of the blessings which we now enjoy, shall we not use our exertions to raise up those among us who shall "point to heaven & lead the way"? And may we not, Sir, expect your hearty concurrence and liberal patronage?

Benj: Gildersleeve, } Comm^{ee} of
 Tho: Goulding. } the G. E. S."

"The committee appointed by the Hopewell Presbytery to form an Education Society for the state of Georgia met at Athens, on the 7.th of August 1823, according to adjournment, and after some deliberation resolved to meet the next day in the college chapel.

August 8, 1823. The committee met according to adjournment, together with a number of the citizens of Athens, and gentlemen from different parts of the state. The Rev. Dr. Waddell in the chair, and the Rev. Thomas Goulding, Secretary. On motion of the Rev. B. Gildersleeve, seconded by the Rev. Thomas Goulding, the following constitution was proposed as a substitute for the one already submitted to the public by the committee, and after due deliberation was unanimously adopted.

"Constitution of the Georgia Education Society.

Article 1. This society shall be called the Georgia Education Society.

Art. 2. The object of this society shall be to aid young men of hopeful piety and talents in acquiring an education suitable for the gospel ministry.

Art. 3. The officers of this society shall consist of a president, seven vice presidents, a corresponding and a recording secretary, a treasurer and fourteen directors, chosen annually.

Art. 4. Of the board of directors, the president, vice presidents and corresponding secretary shall be ex officio members; any seven of whom shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

Art. 5. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to keep an accurate account of the receipts and expenditures of the society, holding the funds of the society subject to the order of the same through the directors, and giving bond and security for the faithful performance of his duty. And for his services, he shall receive such compensation as the directors may judge reasonable.

Art. 6. Any person may be a member, by paying annually into the treasury of the society the sum of five dollars; a member for life, by paying at any one time the sum of thirty dollars; an honorary vice president for life, by paying the sum of fifty dollars, and a director for life, by paying the sum of one hundred dollars.

Art. 7. Every society auxiliary to the Georgia education society, shall be entitled to a representation by the three first named officers or their proxies, at all meetings of the same.

Art. 8. No person shall be a beneficiary of this society unless he be in communion with some church, and signify his desire of entering upon the work of the ministry, and also exhibit testimonials both of his talents and real indigence.

Art. 9. The beneficiaries shall be at liberty to prosecute their studies preparatory to the ministry, either in the college at Athens, in any respectable academy, or under the tuition of any private instructor within the state, as shall be deemed by the directors most expedient.

Art. 10. Every beneficiary shall give an obligation to the society for the monies which he shall from time to time receive, which obligation shall be null and void, provided he prosecute his studies preparatory to the ministry with diligence, or enter upon the duties of that office within any time which the directors may consider reasonable; otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

Art. 11. No beneficiary shall be entitled to a continuance of the patronage of the society, unless once a year or oftener if required,

he furnish a certificate from his instructor, of his proficiency, together with his moral and christian deportment, which shall be satisfactory to the directors.

Art. 12. The directors shall meet on their own adjournments, giving twenty days previous public notice, receive applicants, audit the treasurer's accounts, and transact all the business of the society, subject however to the revision of the same at their annual meeting, at which time they shall make a report.

Art. 13. The directors shall annually appoint standing committees to examine into the qualifications of applicants, and receive them under the care of the society during the intervals of their meetings. They shall also fill all vacancies occasioned by death, resignation or otherwise.

Art. 14. No society shall be received as auxiliary to the Georgia education society, unless its constitution embraces the same general principles contained in this.

Art. 15. Any person wishing to withdraw from this society, can do the same by paying the amount due for the current year and taking the treasurer's receipt for the same; which receipt shall specify the fact of his discontinuing to be a member.

Art. 16. The time and place of the annual meetings of the soci-

ety shall be fixed upon at each previous meeting.

Art. 17. No alteration shall be made in this constitution except by a majority of two thirds of the members present at an annual meeting of the society.

After adopting the above constitution the following officers were chosen for the present year:

President, Majr Abraham Walker.

1st Vice president, Rev. Moses Waddel, D. D.

2^d ditto - - Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D.

3^d ditto - - Rev. John Brown, D. D.

4th ditto - - Rev. William M^cWhirr,

5th ditto - - Rev. William J. Brantley,

6th ditto - - Rev. Peter Gautier,

7th ditto - - Rev. Abel Carter.

Corresponding Secretary, Rev. Thomas Goulding, of Bethlehem, (Ogle.)

Recording Secretary, Moses W. Dobbins.

Treasurer, Dr James Nisbet, of Athens.

Directors, James Nisbet, Esq^r of M^cEntash, Col Joseph Law,

Liberty, Joseph Cumming, Esq^r Savannah, Samuel Dowse, Esq^r

Durke, Thomas Cumming, Esq^r Augusta, Andrew Semmes, Esq^r

Wilkes, Joseph Bryan, Esq. and Rev. Benjamin Gildersleeve.

Hancock, John Nisbet, Esq. Eatonton, Stephen Upson, Esq.

Oglethorpe, Rev. Monzo Church, John R. Golding, Esq. & Rev.

Thomas W. Stanley, Athens, Hugh Montgomery, Esq. Jackson.

The president then took the chair, and the following resolutions were proposed and adopted:

On motion, Resolved, That Maj^r Abraham Walker, Rev. Moses Waddel, D. D. and John R. Golding, Esq. be a committee to draft a petition to the next legislature of the state praying for an act of incorporation.

On motion, Resolved, That the Rev. B. Gildersleeve, and the Rev. Thomas Goulding, be a committee to prepare a circular letter to be sent to different individuals and societies in the state, who it is supposed will favour the object of this society, and to have the same, together with the proceedings of this day published in the Missionary, & also 500 copies printed for the use of the society.

The Society then adjourned to meet at Athens on the 1st Tuesday in August 1824, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Board of Directors according to the 13th article of the constitution, appointed the following Committees to examine into the qualifications of applicants, and receive such as may be deemed worthy

of the benefits of the society.

For Athens and its vicinity, the Rev. Dr. Waddel, Prof. Monro Church,
Rev. Thomas W. Stanley, Maj^r Abraham Walker & J. R. Golding, Esq^r.

For Mount Zion and its vicinity, Rev. Dr. Brown, Rev. D. Gildersteeve,
and Joseph Bryan, Esq^r.

For Augusta and its vicinity, Rev. William J. Brantley, Thomas
Cumming, Esq^r and Samuel Donoe, Esq^r.

For Medway and its vicinity, Rev. William M^cWhir, Col. Joseph
Law, and James Nephew, Esq^r.

On motion, Resolved, That the chairman of each committee be au-
thorized to call a meeting of the same on any emergency, or at the re-
quest of any member of the committee, and a majority of the committee,
whenever regularly assembled shall form a quorum.

Adjourned to meet on the 20th November next, in Athens.

August 1823.

John R. Golding, Secretary.

Which said report of the committee and proceedings of the Georgia
Education Society upon being read was approved of by presbytery.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and then adjourned to meet at
Delhamy in Greene county on the first day of April next.

John Brown, Mod^r
Thomas Goulding, Stated Clk.

Bethany, Greene county, April 2^d 1824. 60.th Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment and was opened with a sermon by Professor Alonzo Church from John 3.

27. "John answered and said a man can receive nothing except it be given him from heaven."

Ministers present Elders

Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D.

James Nisbet, Thomas

Moses Waddel, D. D.

Johnston, Samuel Woods,

Edward Pharr, &

John Davidson, and

Thomas Goulding

George Campbell.

Licentiates present, Alonzo Church & Alexander H. Webster.

Members absent, Rev. John Brown, D. D. Benjamin Gilder-
Sleeve & Jesse Stratton. Constituted with prayer.

Mr. Pharr was chosen Moderator, & Mr. Goulding, Clerk

Rev. John S. Wilson, lately a member of the presbytery of South Carolina, presented a regular dismissal from that presbytery to connect himself with the presbytery of Hopewell, who was received and invited to take a seat.

Rev. Remembrance Chamberlain, lately a member of the presbytery of Georgia, presented a certificate of his regular dis-

mission from that presbytery to connect himself with the presbytery of Hopewell, who was received and invited to take a seat with us.

The minutes of our last sessions were read and confirmed.

Mr. John Harrison, a licentiate of this presbytery, reported himself by letter, and his report was received.

Upon the enquiry for calls and supplications, a call was presented from the presbyterian church in the town of Washington in Wilkes county, for the licentiate Mr. Webster to become their pastor: which call being presented to Mr. Webster, was accepted by him.

The licentiate Mr. Church was called on to read a lecture from Malachi 3. 1 & 3; which together with the sermon delivered at the opening of presbytery was considered and sustained as parts of trial previous to his ordination.

Mr. Woods, an elder, asked and obtained leave of absence during the remainder of our sessions.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at this place tomorrow morning at half past eight o'clock.

Bethany, April 3.^d 1824.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as above. Constituted with prayer.

Presbytery proceeded to the examination of Mr Church, on the Latin and Greek languages, philosophy natural and moral, ecclesiastical history, theology and church government; all of which was sustained.

Rev. John Brown, D. D. appeared in presbytery & took a seat.

Mr John Cunningham, an elder from the church in Greensboro' appeared in presbytery and took a seat.

Presbytery proceeded to the ordination of Mr Church. The Rev. Thomas Goulding preached the sermon from Ezekiel 3. 17. "Son of man I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth and give them warning from me". Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D. presided and gave the charge. And Mr Church having satisfactorily answered the questions required by our discipline to be proposed upon such occasions, was solemnly set apart to the office of the Gospel ministry by prayer and imposition of the hands of the presbytery. The Rev. Mr Church was then invited to take a seat with us as a regular member of this presbytery.

The case of Mr Carlile P. Beman was presented to presbytery. It appears that Mr Beman has been a candidate for the Gospel ministry under the care of this presbytery and has never been regularly disengaged:

That his former place of residence, which was at Mount Zion, and by a partition line of the Synod was placed within the bounds of the presbytery of Georgia: That his present place of residence is Eatonton, which is within the bounds of this presbytery: And that Mr. Beman petitions to be again recognized as a candidate under our care. It was the will of presbytery to grant the request. And Mr. Beman, being then present, was requested to read a sermon from 1. Timothy 4. 11. and was examined on the first twelve chapters of the Confession of faith. His sermon and examination was considered and sustained.

Presbytery proceeded to appoint as parts of trial for Mr. Webster previous to his ordination, Genesis 2. 1 & 3, as the subject of a lecture; and Luke 11. 13, as the subject of a sermon. Ordered, That Dr. Cummins preside at the ordination and give the charge; and Dr. Waddel preach the sermon; and that Friday the 23^d instant be the time of attending the ordination, in the town of Washington, Wilkes county.

Presbytery elected the Rev. Remembrance Chamberlain as their delegate to the next General Assembly. Ordered, That the clerk make out his commission; and also that he prepare a presbyterial report and forward it to the General assembly.

Presbytery inquired of its members how far they had complied

with its recommendation to preach fourteen days annually, out of their usual places of ministrings, and renewed the recommendation.

Ordered, That the stated clerk prepare a list of all the churches within the bounds of this presbytery, and report it at our next stated sessions.

D^r Brown & D^r Waddel asked and obtained leave of absence during the remainder of our sessions.

Presbytery adjourned to meet at the residence of D^r Cummins, this evening at 7 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

D^r Cummins 7 o'clock P. M.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as above. Constituted with prayer.

The examination of M^r Beman for licensure was resumed, concluded and sustained. Ordered, That M^r Carlile P. Beman be licensed to preach the Gospel; and that the clerk be directed to furnish him with a certificate of the same.

Presbytery concluded with prayer; and then adjourned to meet at Washington on Friday the 23^d instant; and after that at Madison Morgan county, on the Saturday before the second sabbath in Au-

just next.

Edward Pharr, Mod^r.

Thomas Goulding, Stated Clk.

It appears that there are at this time, viz: April 5th 1824 the following ministers and churches in connexion with the presbytery of Hopewell, viz:

Rev.^d Francis Cummins, D. D.

Siloam & Bethany, Greene Co

John Brown, D. D.

Athens, Clarke County.

Moses Waddel, D. D.

Lexington, formerly Bethesda,

Edward Pharr,

Center & Union, Oglethorpe.

Thomas Goulding,

Sandy Creek, Thyatira &

Jesse Stratton,

Mendham, Jackson.

Remembrance Chamberlain,

New-Hope, Pergamos, and

John S. Wilson,

Pisgah, Madison.

Alonso Church.

Hebron & Concord, Franklin.

M^r John Harrison,

Bethel, in Lincoln.

Alexander H. Webster,

Licentiates Bethel, in Jasper.

Carlile P. Beman,

Bethesda, Elbert.

1st Pres. Church, Swinnett.

Washington, Wilkes county, April 23. 1824. 61.st Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met agreeably to adjournment and was opened with a lecture, by M^r Alexander H. Webster, on Genesis 2. 143. a subject assigned him as part of trials previous to ordination.

Ministers	present	Elders
Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D.		Thomas Terrell, &
Alonso Church, &		Andrew G. Semmes.

Remembrance Chamberlain.

Constituted with prayer.

D^r Cummins, agreeably to appointment, presided on this occasion.

M^r Chamberlain was chosen clerk.

Presbytery proceeded to examine M^r Webster on science in general, and Theology; which examination, together with the lecture delivered as above, were sustained.

D^r Waddel, who was appointed to preach the ordination sermon of M^r Webster, stated to presbytery by letter, that indisposition prevents his attendance.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, & adjourned to meet at this place in the afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Afternoon 3 o'clock.

Presbytery met agreeably to adjournment. Members present as above.

Constituted with prayer.

Mr Webster delivered a sermon on Luke 11. 13, a subject assigned him as part of trials previous to ordination; which, being considered, was sustained.

Ordered, That the ordination of Mr Webster take place tomorrow.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at this place tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock.

Washington, April 24th 1824.

Presbytery met agreeably to adjournment. Members present as above.

Constituted with prayer.

Ordi-
nation
of
Mr
Webster

Presbytery proceeded to the ordination of Mr Alexander H. Webster, when the Rev. Alonzo Church delivered an ordination sermon from Jeremiah 3. 15. "And I will give you pastors according to my heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding." After which, the Rev. Dr. Cummins, the presiding member, proposed the usual questions to Mr Webster, who having answered them in the affirmative, and publicly adopted the Confession of faith and the government and discipline of our church, was solemnly set apart to the

sacred office of the gospel ministry by prayer and the imposition of the hands of the presbytery. The right hand of fellowship having been given, and a suitable charge delivered, by the presiding member, to Mr. Webster and the congregation, the newly ordained minister was invited to take a seat with us in presbytery.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and then adjourned to meet at Madison, Morgan county, on the Saturday before the second sabbath in August next.

Francis Cummins, Modr.

Remembrance Chamberlain, Clk.

Madison, Morgan county, August 7th 1824. 62^d Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment, and was opened, by request, with a sermon from Titus 2. 11. 12, by Mr. John M. Kinney, a licentiate of the presbytery of Philadelphia.

Ministers present Elders.

Rev. John Brown, D. D.

William Aikins, from Bethel

Moses Waddel, D. D.

in Morgan, John Davison, from

Remembrance Chamberlain,

Bethel in Jasper, & William

Jesse Stratton, &

Hodge, of New Hope.

John S. Wilson.

Absent Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D. Edward Pharr, Thomas Sou-
ding, Alonso Church and Alexander H. Webster. Constituted with
prayer.

Rev. John Brown, D. D. was chosen Moderator, and John S. Wilson,
Clerk, pro. tem.

The minutes of the last sessions were read and confirmed.

The Rev. Jesse Stratton, rendered reasons for absence from our last
stated sessions, and our sessions at Washington, which were considered
and sustained.

The Rev. John S. Wilson, gave reasons for absence from our sessions
at Washington, which were also sustained.

A letter was presented from the Rev. Dr. Cummins, directed to the
Moderator, giving reasons for absence from the present sessions, which
being read, his reasons were sustained.

Mr. George Foot, a candidate for the gospel ministry under our care,
rendered reasons for absence from our sessions at Bethany & Washing-
ton, which were considered and sustained.

Presbytery then proceeded to hear Mr. Foot deliver a lecture and
Exegesis, on the subjects assigned him at our last stated sessions in
October last, as parts of trial prior to ordination. Or licensure?

A communication from the Rev. Colin M^cIver, stated clerk of the presbytery of Fayetteville, and also a letter from Mr. Archibald Buie with accompanying documents, containing the opinion of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church and sundry resolutions of the presbytery of Fayetteville relating to the case of the said Archibald Buie, a licentiate who was suspended from the privilege of preaching the gospel by our body in the year 1816, were laid before presbytery. After reading these documents, the clerk was directed to enter them on the minutes of the presbytery. They are as follows, viz:

Document N^o. 1.

Copy of a letter from Colin M^cIver dated, Fayetteville, N. C. February 10th 1823. To the Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D.

"Rev. & Dear Sir, — I take the liberty of troubling you with the enclosed documents. Be so kind as to lay them before the presbytery of Hopewell, and whenever the presbytery shall have disposed of them, you will confer a favour by transmitting a copy of their proceedings thereon to me for the consideration of the presbytery of Fayetteville. My residence is in this place. Excuse the trouble, and believe me to be with much esteem, Rev. & Dear Sir, your affectionate brother in the gospel.

Colin M^cIver."

Documents N^o 2.

“Extracts from the minutes of the presbytery of Fayetteville.

“1st Eighteenth Session, Fayetteville, Monday April 8th 1823.

“It was suggested to presbytery that the licentiate who had been sus-
 “pended by the presbytery of Hopewell in the year 1817, and who had
 “ever since been residing within the bounds of this presbytery, had for
 “a considerable time past laboured under great distress of mind on ac-
 “count of his situation, and that it would be very desirable to ascer-
 “tain whether there is a possibility of procuring his restoration at least
 “to the sealing ordinances of the church. Whereupon Resolved, That
 “the commissioner appointed to represent this presbytery in the next Gen-
 “eral assembly be and he is hereby instructed to prepare a written state-
 “ment of all the circumstances attending the suspension of the said
 “licentiate and of the facts which have occurred respecting him since
 “his suspension; to lay the said statement accompanied by an authen-
 “ticated copy of this minute before the next General assembly and to
 “solicit the advice of that Rev^d body in the case. Vol: 1. Page 266.”

“In consequence of the above resolution, a state-
 “ment of the case therein referred to, was laid before the last General
 “Assembly of the presbyterian church which resulted in the following

"minute taken from the 11.th page of the printed extracts.

"The committee to which was referred the statement of the commis-
 "sioner from the presbytery of Fayetteville respecting a licentiate of the
 "presbytery of Hopewell who had been suspended both from the privilege
 "of preaching the gospel and from the enjoyment of the sealing ordinances
 "of God's house, reported the following resolution which was read and
 "adopted, viz:

"Resolved, That the only correct mode to be pursued in order to obtain
 "restoration to his former standing is to make direct application to the
 "presbytery of Hopewell; and that the presbytery of Fayetteville may with
 "propriety collect and transmit to the presbytery of Hopewell any testimony
 "touching the moral character of said licentiate while being within the
 "bounds of the presbytery of Fayetteville whenever requested by either the
 "licentiate or the presbytery of Hopewell."

"2.^d Nineteenth Session, Centre Church, Saturday September 28.th 1822.

"Resolved, That on the subject referred to in the above resolution of
 "the General assembly, this presbytery will give all due attention to the
 "collection and transmission of the necessary testimony whenever the presby-
 "tery of Hopewell or the individual most immediately concerned shall make
 "application or request to that effect. Vol: 1. p. 272. 273."

3^d Nineteenth Sessions continued in Philadelphias Church, Tuesday
November 5th 1822.

Mr. Archibald Buie appeared in presbytery and availing himself of the opinion of the last General Assembly in his case and of a subsequent resolution of this presbytery on the same subject, requested that presbytery would collect the testimony of such of his neighbors as they might please to call for touching his conduct since he has resided within the limits of this presbytery & transmit the same to the presbytery of Hopewell. With this request presbytery agreed to comply; and accordingly four gentlemen residing in Mr. Buie's immediate neighborhood and well known to presbytery as worthy of confidence being present, viz: Messrs. Archibald Murphy, William Brown, Malcom Smith & Duncan M. Alpin were called on to testify in the case, and being sworn agreeably to the requisition of our book of discipline, they delivered their testimony, which was ordered to be recorded, & is as follows, viz:

Mr. Archibald Murphy one of the ruling elders of Centre Church being duly sworn, deposed and saith, that he has had frequent opportunities of seeing Mr. Archibald Buie since his residence within the limits of this presbytery and that he is acquainted

"with him; that his life during that period, so far as this deponent's
 "knowledge has extended has been a temperate life, that he has dur-
 "ing the period referred to seen nothing in Mr. Buie's walk and
 "conversation inconsistent with the walk and conversation of a chris-
 "tian; that this deponent is acquainted with the cause of Mr. Buie's
 "suspension by the presbytery of Hopewell; that he has never heard
 "Mr. Buie express any dissatisfaction with the sentence of suspension
 "by the said presbytery; that he has never noticed any thing in Mr.
 "Buie's conduct expressive of a want of a due submission to the sen-
 "tence of the presbytery; that Mr. Buie's conduct so far as this deponent
 "has been able to observe it, has appeared to this deponent not only
 "temperate and generally circumspect, but moreover expressive of peni-
 "tence for the offence for which he was suspended; and that this depo-
 "nent is inclined to entertain the hope that Mr. Buie's restoration to
 "good and regular standing in the church would be for edification.
 "And further this deponent saith not.

"Mr. William Brown, a ruling elder of Philadelphias church &
 "Mess^{rs}. Malcom Smith and Duncan M^r. Alpin, both members of Phi-
 "ladelphias congregation, being severally sworn and interrogated, seve-
 "rally confirmed the above testimony.

"Ordered, That the above testimony duly authenticated by the stated
"clerk be transmitted to the presbytery of Hopewell. Vol. 1. p. 277. 278. 279.

"Truly extracted from the minutes of presbytery, Colin McIver, Stated clk.

Document N^o 3.

"Copy of a letter from M^r. Archibald Buie, dated Robison county,
"N. Carolina, November 5. 1822.

"To the Rev. the Moderator of the presbytery of Hopewell.

"Rev. & Dear Sir; — Not having received any reply to a letter which
"I sent about four years ago to the presbytery of Hopewell, I was indu-
"ced last spring to apply for advice to the presbytery of Fayetteville.
"Believing them incompetent to act in the business without either a
"request from the presbytery of Hopewell or the advice of some higher pow-
"er, they caused a statement of my case to be laid before the last Gene-
"ral Assembly, and applied for the opinion of that Rev.^d body in the
"case. The result of this application you will learn from the accom-
"panying documents. To the judgment of the presbytery of Hopewell I
"now submit my case. That in deciding thereon they may be directed
"by that wisdom which cometh from above, is the fervent prayer of, Rev.
"and Dear Sir, Yours sincerely,
"Arch.^d Buie."

The presbytery took up the preceding documents, and after mature

consideration and deliberation, it was

Resolved, That the suspension of M^r. Archibald Buie be and is hereby removed; and that he is hereby dismissed from this presbytery to be taken under the care of the presbytery of Fayetteville. Ordered, That the stated clerk forward an authenticated copy of this resolution to the stated clerk of the presbytery of Fayetteville, and also a copy of the same to M^r. Archibald Buie.

M^r. George Foot proceeded, by the direction of presbytery, on the subjects assigned him at our stated sessions in October last as parts of trial prior to licensure. The sermon, with the previous parts of trial were sustained.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet this evening at half past seven o'clock.

Madison, August 7.th 1824. In the evening.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as above. Constituted with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read.

Presbytery proceeded to examine M^r. Foot on Theology natural and revealed, on ecclesiastical history and church government, preparatory to licensure; which examination was sustained. M^r. Foot having

satisfactorily answered the questions appointed to be put to candidates for the gospel ministry, presbytery did license him as a probationer for the holy ministry within the bounds of this presbytery or wherever he may be orderly called.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at Lexington Oglethorpe county on the Friday before the first sabbath in April next.

John Brown, Modr.

John S. Wilson, Clk. pro tem.

Lexington, Friday, April 1st 1825.

63^d Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment, and was opened by request of the Moderator, with a sermon by the Rev. S. S. David, of the presbytery of Georgia from 1st Cor. 1. & middle clause of the 24th verse, "Christ the power of God."

Ministers present, Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D. John Brown, D. D. Edward Tharr, Thomas Goulding, Benjamin Gilderleeve, John S. Wilson, Alonzo Church, Remembrance Chamberlain, William Moderwel, and the licentiate Mr. George Foot, together with Elders Messrs Joseph Espey, Thomas Beattie and Joseph Mayne. Absent The Rev. Moses Waddel, D. D. Jesse Stratton, & Alexander N. Webster, and the

licentiated Mess^{rs} John Harrison, Carlile P. Deman & Vakum Nixon.

Constituted with prayer.

The Rev. Dr. Cummins was chosen Moderator, & M^r Moderwel, Clerk.

The minutes of the last sessions were read.

The Rev. J. S. David, of the presbytery of Georgia, Rev. Nicholas Patterson, of the presbytery of Baltimore, and Rev. Henry Safford, of the Royalton association, being present, were invited to sit with us as corresponding members, and they took their seats accordingly.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at 4 o'clock.

Friday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as above.

Constituted with prayer.

The Rev. Dr. Waddel appeared, and after rendering a satisfactory excuse for his tardiness took a seat.

A call was presented from the congregation of Fairview Swinnett county to the Rev. John S. Wilson to become their pastor, and through the presbytery it was handed to M^r Wilson and accepted by him.

The Rev. Joseph P. Alexander presented a dismission from the presbytery of South Carolina to unite with this presbytery; and on

motion, it was ordered that he be received as a member of this body, and he took a seat accordingly.

Mr. Joseph C. Stiles and Mr. William H. Williams requested to be taken under the care of presbytery; and having produced satisfactory testimonials of their good moral character, and of their regular church membership, presbytery proceeded to examine them on their experimental acquaintance with religion, and the motives which induced them to desire the sacred office; which examination being satisfactory, they were received as candidates under the care of presbytery, and the following subjects were assigned them as parts of trial, viz: To Mr. Williams, an Exegesis on "An fadus Abrahami sit fadus gratiae?" and a critical exercise on Romans 5. 12. And to Mr. Stiles a popular discourse on 1. Thes. 5. 19 to be read tomorrow morning, and a lecture on Rom: 8. 1—5 inclusive, to be delivered in the evening at early candle light; and his general examination on Science and Theology, was made the order of the day for tomorrow morning.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at half past seven o'clock.

Saturday morning, April 2. 1825.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as above.

Constituted by prayer.

Mr. Ephraim Hopping and Mr. James C. Patterson, requested to be taken under the care of presbytery; and having produced satisfactory testimonials of their good moral character and of their regular church membership, presbytery proceeded to examine them on their experimental acquaintance with religion and the motives which influenced them to desire the sacred office; which examination being satisfactory, they were received as candidates for the holy ministry. And to Mr. Hopping, was assigned Proverbs 3. 35; and to Mr. Patterson, Proverbs 10. 24, as subjects on which to prepare discourses. Presbytery then examined them, together with Mr. Stiles and Mr. Williams on the languages, and their examinations were sustained as parts of trial.

The order of the day was then called for, viz: the examination of Mr. Stiles on Science and Theology, and to hear his discourse on 1. Thes. 5-19; both the discourse and examination were sustained as parts of trial.

On motion, it was Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the expediency of establishing a domestic missionary society, and to report before the rise of the present sessions; and Drs. Brown and Waddell & Mr. Modderwel were appointed that committee.

Mr. Hopping read a discourse from Prov. 3. 35; and Mr. Patterson,

from Prov: 10. 24. which were sustained; and the following subjects were assigned them as further parts of trial: To Mr. Hopping, an Exegesis on "Quomodo originale peccatum propagatum?" and a critical exercise on John 17. 5; and to Mr. Patterson, an Exegesis on "Anne baptisma Johannis Christianum facit?" and a critical exercise on Rom: 9. 3.

The committee appointed to enquire into the expediency of establishing a Domestic missionary society, submitted the following, which was accepted, viz: That in their opinion the establishment of such a society is both expedient and practicable, and take the liberty to suggest the propriety of appointing a committee to draft a constitution, and make the necessary arrangements for the organization of such a society.

On motion, it was Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draft a constitution and make the necessary arrangements for the organization of a Domestic missionary society. Whereupon Drs Brown, & Waddel, & Mess^{rs} Modderwel, Church & Gilderoleve were appointed that committee, and were directed to report before the rise of presbytery.

Whereas the members of the church within the bounds of this presbytery are few and scattered over a comparatively large surface of country; and whereas great advantage has arisen to Christians from

meeting together and holding christian communion with each other in the enjoyment of gospel ordinances, it was therefore Resolved, That this presbytery recommend it to the brethren and to the churches under their care to meet together in as large numbers as may be convenient, at least once a year, on sacramental occasions, and that our ancient custom of fasting, humiliation and prayer, on such occasions, may be revived as far as may be expedient.

On motion, Resolved, That each member of presbytery furnish the stated clerk with a written statement of the number and names of the churches under their care, the number of communicants, baptisms and members admitted since our last April sessions, before they leave this place, or transmit a written statement of the same to him at Athens, post paid, previous to the 20.th of the present month; and that the sessions of each church within the bounds of this presbytery, be required to send to presbytery, at its annual spring sessions, a written congregational report, together with its book of records.

Mr. Stiles delivered a discourse on the subject which had been previously assigned him; which being sustained, presbytery proceeded to license him according to the form prescribed in the book of discipline.

Verbal petitions were presented by Dr. Brown & Mr. Alexander

from the people of South Liberty congregation on Williams' creek, and also from the people of Bibb and Pike counties, praying this presbytery to grant them supplies.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet on Monday morning at 8 o'clock.

Lexington, Monday morning, April 4th 1825.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as above, with the exception of Dr. Cummins. Constituted by prayer.

Mr. Webster was directed to supply South Liberty congregation, at least one sabbath, and Dr. Brown and Mr. Silderleeve two sabbaths each before the next stated sessions of presbytery.

Dr. Cummins appeared and took his seat.

Mr. Chamberlain was appointed to preach the installation sermon of Mr. Wilson at Fairview Gwinnett county in August next, & Mr. Church his alternate. Dr. Waddel to deliver the charge to pastor and people, and Dr. Brown his alternate.

The committee appointed to draft a constitution and make the necessary arrangements for the organization of a Domestic Missionary Society submitted the following, which, after being read and considered, was adopted, viz:

"Constitution of the Domestic missionary Society.

Article 1.st This society shall be denominated the Domestic missionary society of the state of Georgia.

Art. 2.^d The object of this society shall be to send ministers wherever they think it expedient within the state, and to assist in building up feeble churches.

Art. 3. The business of this society shall be conducted by a president, vice president, a corresponding and a recording secretary, a treasurer and thirteen directors, five of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Art. 4. The president, vice president, corresponding & recording secretaries shall be directors ex officio.

Art. 5. The corresponding secretary shall be the organ of the board of directors, and shall file and preserve all papers and documents belonging to that board subject to the inspection of any member of the same.

Art. 6. The treasurer shall take charge of all monies or specialties, for which he shall give bond to such amount as the board may think proper, and shall preserve the same subject to the draft of the society, according to the following article.

Art. 7. All drafts upon the treasurer shall be signed by the chairman of the board and corresponding secretary, and such drafts shall be the treasurer's vouchers for the payment of the sums for which they were drawn.

Art. 8. Every missionary employed by this society shall be furnished with a commission signed by the president and corresponding secretary, specifying the bounds wherein he is to labour and the time for which his commission is to continue.

Art. 9. During the recess of the board, the president and corresponding secretary with the advice of three directors may commission any licensed or ordained minister until the regular meetings of the board.

Art. 10. Any person may become a member of the society by paying annually to the treasurer the sum of five dollars; a member for life, by paying the sum of thirty dollars; an honorary vice president for life, by paying fifty dollars; and a director for life, by paying the sum of one hundred dollars.

Art. 11. The compensation of missionaries shall be fixed by the board of directors subject to the control of the society at its annual meeting.

Art. 12. The society shall meet once a year at the Spring sessions of the presbytery of Hopewell; on the second day of which, the directors shall report their proceedings; the treasurer, the state of the funds; and the election of officers for the ensuing year, shall take place, at which time, a sermon shall be preached by a person appointed at the preceding annual meeting; and a collection taken up in aid of the funds of the society.

Art. 13. Any society shall be entitled to a representation in this society, for every ten dollars which they shall pay to the same.

Art. 14. The directors shall be allowed to fill all vacancies in their board.

Art. 15. No alteration shall be made in this constitution except by a majority consisting of two thirds of the members present at the annual meeting."

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at Fairview, Swinnett county, on the first Saturday in August next.

Francis Cummins, Modr.

Wm. Modderwel, Clk. pro tem.

Fairview, Guinnett county, August 6. th 1825. Ch. th Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment. The moderator being absent, it was opened with a sermon by the Rev. J. T. Alexander from Mark 8. 36. "For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul." Constituted by prayer, by the Rev. D. Brown.

Ministers present, Rev. John Brown, D. D. Moses Waddel, D. D. Edward Pharr, Thomas Goulding, Alonzo Church, Remembrance Chamberlain, Joseph E. Alexander, John S. Wilson, & William Modderwel, and the licentiates John Harrison, & George Foot, together with the Elders Mess. D. M. Laughlin, S. Reid, James Mayne, William Hodge & John Davison. Absent, Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D. Benjamin Gildersleeve, Jesse Stratton, & Alexander H. Webster, and also the licentiates, Nahum Nixon, Carlile P. Beman and Joseph C. Stiles.

D. Waddel was chosen Moderator & Mr. Modderwel, clk.

The minutes of the last sessions were read and confirmed; after which, it was ordered that the installation of Mr. Wilson be made the order of the day for Monday morning at ten o'clock.

On inquiry, if the members had observed the recommendation adopted at our last sessions, of meeting in as large numbers as might be

convenient on sacramental occasions, some interesting facts were communicated, which prove the importance and utility of such meetings.

Mr. Ephraim S. Hopping read a critical exercise from John 17. 5, which had been previously assigned him, and which was sustained as part of trial.

From the statement of Dr. Brown, it appears that the appointments made at the last sessions, to supply vacant congregations, were all probably fulfilled.

A petition was presented from sundry people in Henry county, stating their destitute condition, and praying this presbytery for supplies.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at Lawrenceville, 7 o'clock this evening.

Lawrenceville, 7 o'clock.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as above. Constituted with prayer.

Mr. James C. Patterson read a critical exercise from Rom. 9. 3 which was sustained as part of trial; and the 47.th Psalm was assigned him; and the 67.th Psalm to Mr. E. S. Hopping, as subjects for lectures to be presented at our next sessions.

Mr. John S. Wilson was directed to supply destitute congre-

gations in the frontier counties for two weeks.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at Fairview at 8 o'clock on Monday morning.

Fairview, August 8.th 1825.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as above. Constituted by prayer.

The Rev. Henry Safford, a member of the Royalton association of Vermont, having produced satisfactory testimonials of his having pursued a regular course of study in the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and of his ordination by the said association was, on motion, received as a member of this body, and took a seat accordingly.

Mr. George Foot having spent several months past in some of the frontier counties of this state, and also making it appear to the satisfaction of presbytery that his usefulness would be greatly increased by his receiving ordination as an Evangelist. On motion, Resolved, That the following subjects be assigned him as trials for ordination, viz: a lecture on Isaiah 4. - 4. 5. 6. and a sermon from Romans 3. 31; and should the way be clear for his ordination, Dr. Brown is appointed to preside and give the charge, and Dr. Cummins his alternate; and Mr. Gilderleeve was appointed to preach the sermon, and Mr. Chamberlain

his alternate.

The Rev. Mr. Bennett, of the Baptist connexion being present, was invited and took a seat with us a corresponding member.

Presbytery then proceeded to the installation of the Rev. John S. Wilson, as pastor of the church at Fairview, agreeably to the call presented at our last sessions. Whereupon an installation sermon was preached from 1st Kings 3. 9, by the Rev. Alonso Church; and the questions prescribed by our book of discipline, being proposed by the Moderator to Mr. Wilson and the congregation, and satisfactorily answered by them, a charge was delivered by the Moderator to both parties, and the solemnity was concluded by prayer and singing a Psalm.

On motion, it was Resolved, That G. Waddel, Mr. Goulding, and Mr. Church be a committee to report at our spring sessions, on the subject of an article contained in the June number of the Christian Advocate respecting the propriety of singing a psalm whilst communicants are assembling around the table of our Lord.

Dr. Brown was nominated and appointed as a commissioner to the next General assembly; and Mr. Modderuel, his alternate.

On motion, Resolved, That a committee be appointed, consisting of Dr. Brown, Mess^{rs} Goulding and Church to inquire into the propri-

ety of having a regular and uniform mode of making a public profession of religion on entering into full membership of the church, and to draft a formula for that purpose, and to report at our spring sessions.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at Monticello on the first day of September next.

M. Waddel, Modr

Wm Modderwel, clk. pro tem.

Monticello, September 1.st 1825. 65.th Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment, and a sermon was delivered by the Rev. R. Chamberlain from Ezekiel 18. 31. "Why will ye die," but there not being a quorum, the members present adjourned to meet the following day at ten o'clock, A. M.

Monticello, September, 2.^d 1825.

The presbytery of Hopewell met, and was constituted with prayer, by the Rev. Dr. Brown. Ministers present, Rev. John Brown, D. D. Benjamin Gilderleeve, & Remembrance Chamberlain, and the licentiates Mess.^{rs} George Foot and Joseph C. Stiles, together with the Elders Mess.^{rs} Davison, Goddard & M. Amy. Absent Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D. Moses Waddel, D. D., Edward Pharr, Thomas Goulding, Wm

254. Modderwel.

Monro Church, Alexander H. Webster, Henry Safford, John S. Wilson, Joseph T. Alexander, and also the licentiates Nahum Nixon, and Carlile P. Deman.

Rev. Dr. Brown was chosen Moderator, and Mr. Gilderleeve, clerk pro tem.

The minutes of the last meeting were read.

The Rev. R. Holmes, of the Methodist connexion, on being invited, took a seat as a corresponding member.

Mr. George Foot delivered a sermon from Rom: 3. 31, one of the subjects assigned him at the last meeting of presbytery, as a part of trial for ordination; which was sustained.

Mr. Hyde, one of the elders of the church at Clinton, appeared and took a seat.

Mr. George Foot read a lecture from Isaiah, 4- 4. 5. 6, and was examined, as the book of discipline requires, preparatory to ordination: both the lecture and examination were sustained; which closed his trials for the ministry. A sermon was then preached by the Rev. Mr. Gilderleeve, from Coll: 14. 17. "And say to Archippus, take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord that thou fulfil it." The Rev. Dr. Brown presided and gave the charge; and

the Rev. George Foot was solemnly set apart to the office of the gospel ministry by prayer and the imposition of the hands of the presbytery. The newly ordained brother, on being invited, took his seat in the presbytery, as being one with us.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at Mount Zion on the Friday before the second sabbath in April next.

John Brown, Modr

B. Gildersleeve, Clk. pro tem.

Washington, Wilkes county, December 15th 1825. 66th Session.

A pro re nata meeting of Hopewell presbytery constitutionally called by the moderator was held. Constituted by prayer.

Ministers,

present

Elders,

Rev. John Brown, D. D.

John Wingfield,

Moses Waddel, D. D.

Thomas Terrell,

Benjamin Gildersleeve,

Angus Martin &

Alexander H. Webster,

William Baldwin.

William Modderwel

Joseph Y. Alexander

Henry Safford, & Thomas Goulding

Absent Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D., Edward Pharr, Monro Church, Remembrance Chamberlain, Jesse Stratton, John S. Wilson & George Foot.

The moderator stated the object of the meeting to be to investigate certain charges made, by common fame, against the moral character of the Rev. William Modderwel, especially a charge of intoxication and other improprieties of conduct.

On motion, Resolved, That Alexander H. Webster conduct the prosecution on the part of the presbytery.

Mr. Webster, on the part of the prosecution stated that he intended to include the accusations under two counts, viz: 1st Intoxication on Sabbath afternoon, the 30th of July 1825, between the city of Augusta and Mr. Pace's public house in the county of Columbia, and at Mr. Pace's, to be supported by the testimony of Mess^{rs} Jenkins, Blount, Sarjeant, Hanson and Tankersley; and 2^d Intoxication and other improprieties of conduct on Monday the 1st of August 1825, at Mr. Holliday's public house in Lincoln county, to be supported by the testimony of Mr. Holliday, Mr. Simmons Cranford & Mr. John B. Moore.

To these charges Mr. Modderwel plead not guilty. By consent of parties, presbytery proceeded to consider these charges, and several papers and documents were read. But inasmuch as no testimony was brought

before this body in the form prescribed by our book of discipline.

On motion, it was resolved to postpone the further consideration of the subject until testimony can be obtained in due and legal form.

But for the satisfaction of Mr. Modderwel and the members of his church, and all others concerned, presbytery feels a freedom in stating, that ^{no} information has been received, on which a conscientious belief could be found, of his guilt.

The prosecutor then gave notice to Mr. Modderwel that he should proceed, and take the testimony of the above named witnesses in due and legal form; which was consented to by Mr. Modderwel. And to aid Mr. Webster the prosecutor in so doing, presbytery appointed the Rev. Mess^{rs} Alexander, Safford and Goulding, with the Elders Mess^{rs} Martin & Baldwin, as associates, any two of whom, to be authorized to take testimony in the case to be laid before this body at its next meeting.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at Lexington on the 29.th instant.

John Brown, Mod^r

Thomas Goulding, stated Clk.

Lexington, December 29.th 1825. 67.th Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment, and was constituted by prayer.

Ministers, present,

Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D.

William Modderwel,

Moses Waddel, D. D.

Alexander H. Webster,

John Brown, D. D.

Henry Safford &

Thomas Goulding,

Alonso Church.

Benjamin Gilderleeve, with the Elder William Baldwin.

Absent Edward Tharr, John S. Wilson, Joseph T. Alexander,

Remembrance Chamberlain, & George Foot.

The minutes of the last meeting were read.

Presbytery proceeded to the trial of the Rev. William Modderwel, on the charges alleged against him, by common fame; the result of which was, a full and honourable acquittal from each and all of them, and a recommendation to the continued favour and confidence of his church, and of all others with whom he may have ministerial connexion. This opinion was unanimous.

Ordered, That the testimony and documents relating to the case of Mr. Modderwel be preserved on file.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at Mount
Lion, as previously appointed, on the Friday before the second sabbath
in April next.

John Brown, Moderator,

B. Gilderleeve, clk. pro tem.

Mount Lion, April 7th 1826.

68th Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment, and was
opened, at the request of the Moderator, with a sermon by the Rev. &
Alexander Kirkpatrick, of the presbytery of South Carolina, from Ephes.
5. 14. "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ
shall give thee light." and was constituted by prayer.

Ministers,

present

Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D.

William Modderwel,

John Brown, D. D.

Remembrance Chamberlain,

Thomas Goulding

John S. Wilson

Edward Pharr,

Joseph T. Alexander, &

Benjamin Gilderleeve,

Alexander H. Webster.

Alonso Church,

With the Elders, Mess^{rs} David M^cLaughlin, George Campbell,
Joseph Bryan, and Thomas W. Alexander.

Absent, Rev. Moses Waddel, D. D. Henry Safford, Jesse Stratton, & George Foot; and also the licentiated, Mess^{rs} Nahum Nixon, John Harrison, Carlile P. Beman, and Joseph C. Stiles.

The Rev. William Modderuel was chosen moderator. The Rev. Thomas Goulding resigned his office as stated clerk, and his resignation was accepted. Whereupon the Rev. B. Gildersleeve was chosen stated clerk.

The Rev. J. D. Waterbury of the first presbytery of New York, on being invited, took his seat in this body as a corresponding member.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Mount Zion, 4 o'clock P. M.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as above.

Constituted by prayer.

The minutes of the last sessions at Fairview, Monticello, Washington, and Lexington were read.

The Rev. Dr. Cummins, and Mess^{rs} Webster & Gildersleeve rendered their several excuses for absence at the meeting at Fairview & Swinnett: all of which were sustained.

A letter was received from the Rev. Henry Safford, containing reasons for his absence, and requesting a dismissal from this presbytery, to

join any other presbytery or association within whose bounds Providence may cast his lot, as he contemplated removing to a remote section of the country. Whereupon Resolved, that Mr. Safford's reasons for absence be sustained; and that the stated clerk inform him that this presbytery cannot constitutionally grant the kind of dismissal he requests. But is directed to furnish him with testimonials of his good and regular standing in this body.

The Rev. Alexander Kirkpatrick presented a didmission from the presbytery of South Carolina, to join this presbytery, who was accordingly received, and took his seat as a member.

The committee appointed to inquire into the expediency of having a uniform method of receiving members into fellowship with the church, and also to draft a formula for that purpose was called upon to report; but not being ready; on request, further time was given to prepare it.

The following committees were appointed, viz: Mess^{rs} Goulding & Church, to examine the session book of the church in Augusta; Mess^{rs} Chamberlain & Webster, to examine the session book of the church at Mount Zion; Mess^{rs} J. E. Alexander, Pharr & M. Laughlin, to examine the session book of Fairview church; and Mess^{rs} Kirkpatrick & J. W. Alexander, to examine the session book of Alcovia church. From other churches, no

books were brought up.

The Rev. Dr. Cummins requested leave of absence for the evening, which was granted.

The Rev. Mr. Wilson reported that he had fulfilled the appointment of presbytery by preaching in the frontier counties of the state; that he had preached fourteen times, baptized two adults and four children; and organized three churches, one of which was called Westminster, at Decatur DeKalt county, another, Harmony in the same county, and the third Philadelphia in Henry county.

Ordered, That his report be preserved on file, (marked C. 1825.)

A letter was received from the Rev. J. Gamble, a member of the South Carolina presbytery, enclosing a document shewing that he had obtained leave of that body to labour out of their bounds, and containing also a request that he might be permitted to labour within the bounds of this presbytery.

Ordered, That his request be granted, of which the clerk is directed to give him notice.

The moderator announced the readiness of presbytery to receive any further communications, calls or supplications which any persons present might wish to submit. Mr. Kirkpatrick presented a

649 Philadelphia Westminster Harmony

communication from Westminster church, Le Hall, and also from Harmony church in the same county, in which they severally requested to be considered as churches under the care of this body, and also praying for temporary supplies. Whereupon it was requested that M^r Kirkpatrick furnish them with such supplies as may consist with his other obligations.

On motion, Resolved that the stated clerk purchase a book, and procure some suitable person to transcribe all the records of this presbytery, and present his account for payment when the work shall be completed and approved.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.

Mount Zion, April 8th 1826.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as on yesterday. Constituted by prayer.

M^r John Davidson, an Elder from Bethel church, Jasper, appeared and took a seat.

The several committees appointed to examine the books of record of the church sessions, reported that they were kept neat and in presbyterial form, and recommended that they be approved.

Mr. John Cunningham, an Elder from the church at Greensboro' appeared and took a seat.

The Rev. Dr. Waddel and Jesse Stratton appeared, and having offered satisfactory reasons for absence during the past sessions, and for their tardiness at the present session, took their seats.

The committee appointed to inquire into the propriety of adopting a uniform mode of receiving persons into fellowship with the church and to draft a formula for that purpose, offered the following report, which was adopted, and the subject matter recommended to the churches, to wit:

"Your committee after serious deliberation on this subject are of the opinion, in all those things which are to be considered as mere matters of decency and order, in the government and discipline of the church, and concerning which, no particular and express rules or examples are given in the scriptures, that a difference in modes and forms ought not to be a bar to communion, or infringe on the maintenance of the ^{unity of the} christian spirit in bonds of love and peace. Your committee therefore conceive that these external forms may be different as the circumstances of the church may differ, or as different errors or vices prevail: On that account, it may be expedient for the church of Christ to lift up her testimony, and guard against them, in that way which may

be deemed most effectual.

Your committee therefore are fully of opinion, that those who have been received into the membership of the church, by satisfying the church officers of their soundness in the faith, their own experience of a saving work of grace in the heart, and an orderly life and conversation before the church and the world, are justly entitled to all the privileges and benefits of church membership, whether they have or have not made a public profession in the midst of a congregation, at the time of their initiation.

Your committee, however, are of opinion that uniformity, even in these things which are merely circumstantial is very desirable. They also believe that making a public and open profession of the faith of the gospel in a congregation of christian worshipers is that of which no one need or ought to be ashamed who is duly qualified by grace for the enjoyment of gospel ordinances. They also believe, and think it proved by experience that a public and open profession of faith before the congregation, may be attended with good effects and consequences, both to the initiate and to those who were before members of the church, and also to the congregation at large. They would therefore recommend to the brethren in the ministry, and to the churches under our care,

that a public declaration of faith in Christ and obedience to him, of some kind, be practised wherever it may be done without injury to the cause, or the feelings of those concerned. And where this practice may be found expedient, your committee recommend the following formula, to wit:

Candidates for admission, having been previously examined as to their soundness in the faith, an experimental acquaintance with religion, and the motives which influenced them to desire membership in the church, and the Elders having been satisfied, as to their orderly deportment, and fair moral character, shall be requested, before or after sermon, to present themselves in the presence of the congregation, and the minister shall address them in the following or like form.

You have now presented yourselves before God and this congregation to dedicate yourselves to the service of the Almighty, and to become incorporated with his visible church: In doing this, you profess to love God supremely; that you repent of your sins; that you rely on the ability, and willingness of the Lord Jesus Christ to save such as come unto him; and that you rely on Divine aid to assist you in walking in the commandments and ordinances of the gospel of Christ. The transaction is solemn in its nature, and will be followed by eter-

nal consequences. We trust you have seriously considered the nature of the professions and engagements you are about to make, together with the character proper to be sustained, and the duties to be performed by you as members of the church of Christ. And you may come to God, with holy boldness, in the name of Christ, who is rich in mercy to all those who call upon him. And indeed, you may freely venture to commit yourselves to his care, and trust in his faithfulness for strength to fulfil your engagements.

The minister shall then propose to the candidates the following questions.

1. Do you believe the scriptures of the old and new testament to be the word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
2. Do you seriously adopt the confession of faith of this church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the holy scriptures?
3. Do you approve of the government and discipline of the presbyterian church in these United States?
4. Do you promise to study the peace, unity, and purity of the church?
5. Do you promise love to the christian brotherhood and due subjection to the exercise of lawful authority in the church, for consci-

ence sake?

These questions having been answered in the affirmative, the minister shall address himself to the candidates in the following or like form.

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by the authority which he hath given to the church, for its edification, We do receive you as members of his visible church, and declare you entitled to all its privileges, and welcome you to fellowship with us in all the blessings of the gospel: And for this purpose, may the blessing of God rest upon you, and the spirit of Christ fill your heart. Amen!

And now brethren, we commend you to God and to the word of his grace. Let it be impressed on your minds that you have entered into solemn engagements, from which you can never be released. — Wherever you may be, the obligations to Christ and his church to which you have now given your pledge will rest upon you, — they will follow you through life, — to the bar of God, — and throughout eternity. Henceforward, as you conduct yourselves in life, religion will be honoured or disgraced. If you live according to the gospel, you will be a credit and a comfort to us, and to all the churches of God. May Jehovah bless you, and keep you. May he lift up the

light of his countenance on you, and be merciful to you! May he strengthen you in your passage through this transitory life, and when this warfare is accomplished, may we all be brought together into that happy church, where our communion shall be perfect, and our joy everlasting. Amen!

The minister and elders present may then take the initiated by the hand and say, We give you the right hand of Christian fellowship, and welcome you to communion with us. And may your communion be not only with us, but also, with the Father, and with the Son, and with the Holy ^{Sp}irit. Amen!

All which is respectfully submitted by your committee."

The congregational reports were then called for, and the stated clerk is directed to frame a presbyterial report and to forward it to the General assembly.

X Mr. Goulding reported a church formed at the Cherokee corner consisting of twenty members.

On motion, Resolved, That presbytery recommend to the churches under their care, to make out a regular call for the ministers of their choice, whenever practicable, and take the proper measures to have them installed.

Resolved, That Mess.^{rs} Church, Wilson, & J. W. Alexander be a committee to inquire into the situation of the destitute churches within the bounds of this presbytery, and report on the subject of furnishing them supplies, before the close of the present sessions.

Mr. James C. Patterson read a lecture on the 43.^d Psalm, the subject assigned him at a previous meeting of presbytery. And Mr. Ephraim Hopping read a Latin exegesis on "Quomodo originale peccatum propagatum?" and a lecture on the 67.th Psalm; all which exercises were sustained as parts of trial.

The committee appointed to report on the subject of an article in the June N^o of the Christian Advocate for 1825, respecting the propriety of singing a psalm, whilst communicants are assembling around the table of our Lord, Reported that they cannot discover any justifiable reason why a practice should be either prohibited or discontinued which has been so long and so often attended with pleasure and profit to the children of God, during the past ages of our church. Which report was agreed to.

To Mr. Patterson was assigned a popular discourse on Rom. 1. 16. and to Mr. Hopping a popular discourse on John 3. 16, to be delivered at the next stated sessions of the presbytery; and they were also

directed to be prepared for examination on the remaining subjects, which the book of discipline requires, previous to licensure.

On motion, Resolved, That each minister belonging to this presbytery pay the sum of one dollar annually for the services of the stated clerk.

The committee appointed to enquire into the situation of the destitute churches within the bounds of this presbytery, &c. reported the following resolutions, which were adopted, and notice was directed to be given to each of the members, of his appointment.

Resolved, That it be the duty of each member of presbytery, to visit the vacant congregations in his vicinity at least once a year, and that during the present year Mess.^{rs} Webster & Alexander visit the church in the county of Lincoln, and administer the communion; giving the said church sufficient notice of their intention of visiting them, and requesting some influential member to be prepared to assist them in making out a congregational report to be laid before the presbytery at the next spring sessions.

Resolved, That D.^r Brown, Mess.^{rs} Gilderleeve & Webster, visit for the same purposes, as above mentioned, South Liberty; that D.^r Waddel, & Mess.^{rs} Pharr and Church, visit the churches in Jackson county;

That Mess.^{rs} Wilson, Pharr and Church visit Hall county; that Mess.^{rs} Chamberlain & Foot, visit Newton and the Indian Springs; that Mr. Kirkpatrick visit Henry and Fayette; and that Dr. Brown & Mr. Gilderleeve visit the counties of Monroe, Bibb, & Crawford.

The Rev. Dr. Cummins was called to the chair, when the Rev. Williams Modderwell was appointed a commissioner to represent this presbytery in the next General assembly; and the clerk is directed to make out his commission, to be signed by the Moderator pro tem.

The sum of one hundred and twenty-six dollars was raised by presbytery, and paid by the members to the stated clerk as follows, to wit:

Mr. Chamberlain,	10. 00
Mr. Goulding,	10. 00.
Mr. Modderwell,	30. 00.
Dr. Brown,	10. 00.
Dr. Waddel,	15. 00.
Mr. Church,	10. 00.
Mr. Wilson,	6. 00.
Mr. Gilderleeve,	5. 00.
Mr. Webster,	10. 00.

Mr Stratton, 10. 00.

Dr Cummins, subscribed, 10. 00.
\$ 126. 00

Paid to the Rev. Mr Modderwel to bear his expenses as commissioner to the General Assm.

by direction of presbytery 100. 00

Paid to ditto to purchase a presbyterial book 5. 00 105. 00

Balance remaining, April 10.th 1826 \$ 21. 00

After reading the minutes, presbytery concluded with prayer and the Apostolic benediction, and then adjourned to meet at Athens, on Friday the 4.th of August next.

W^m Modderwel, Modr
D. Gilderleeve, Clk.

The following is the presbyterial report which the clerk was directed to frame and forward to the General assembly.

The presbytery of Hopewell reports to the General assembly of the presbyterian church in the United States of America, that it consists of 15 members, and have under their care 29 congregations, 4 Licentiated, and 3 Candidates, to wit:

Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D. Pastor, Greensboro.

Rev. John Brown, D. D. Pastor Mount Zion,

Moses Waddel, D. D. Pastor, president of the University of Georgia, Athens,

Edward Pharr, without a charge, Jefferson, Jackson,

Thomas Goulding, Pastor, Lexington, Oglethorpe,

Benjamin Gilderleeve, without a charge, Mount Zion,

Alexander Kirkpatrick, Decatur, De Kalb,

William Moddervel, Pastor, Augusta,

Remembrance Chamberlain, Pastor, Madison, Morgan,

Jesse Stratton, without a charge, Hillsboro, Jasper,

John S. Wilson, Pastor, Lawrenceville, Swinnett,

Alonzo Church, Pastor, Professor Mathematics, Franklin college Athens,

Alexander H. Webster, Pastor, Washington, Wilkes,

Henry Safford, without a charge,

George Foot, Pastor, Monticello.

John Harrison, Nahum Nixon, Carlile P. Beman, and Joseph C. Stiles, Licentiated.

Churches.	Total in Communion.	Baptisms.		275.
		Adults.	Infants.	Total.
Siloam, in Greensboro'	14.			
Bethany,	22.	1.	7.	8.
Mount Zion,	75.	4.	3.	7.
Athens,	32.	2.	10.	12.
Eatonton,				
Lexington,	31.			
Cherokee corner,	20.			
Madison,				
Bethel, in Morgan,				
Bethel, in Jasper,				
Fairview, Swinnett,	64.	2.	8.	10.
Alcovia,	35.	5.	6.	11.
Augusta,				
Lincolnton, Vacant	10.			
Hebron, Vacant	35.			
New Hope, Vacant,	26.	6.	10.	16.
Danielsville, Vacant	27.	3.		3.
Thyatira, Vacant,	20.			
Mendham, Vacant,	13.			

Churches.	Total in Communion.	Baptisms.		
		Adults.	Infants.	Total.
Sandy Creek, Vacant,	20.			
Louisville, Vacant,	12.			
Hillsborough,	25.	4.	6.	10.
Washington,	20.	1.	2.	3.
Salem,	8.	2.	1.	3.
Westminster,	14.			
Harmony,	13.	2.	4.	6.
Philadelphia,	14.			
Hall court house,				
Clinton	12.			

The presbytery moreover reports, that there are three Education societies in the state, which now support four beneficiaries at Athens - that they have a Missionary society, and have made arrangements for employing four Missionaries, and that they support their own commissioner.

By order of presbytery, April 8.th 1826.

Benjamin Gilderleeve, Stated Clk.

Athens, August 4.th 1826.

69.th Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment, and was opened by the Moderator with a sermon from 1 Cor: 1. 24. "Christ the power of God." Constituted by prayer.

Ministers, present

Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D.

Jesse Stratton,

Moses Waddel, D. D.

Joseph G. Alexander,

Thomas Goulding,

Alonso Church,

Benjamin Gilderleeve,

John S. Wilson, &

Remembrance Chamberlain,

George Foot, & the licentiate,

William Moddervel,

Joseph C. Stiles.

Also, the Elders, John Cunningham, Hugh Moore, David M.^c Laughlin, Andrew M.^c Guffia, James Espey, Samuel T. Pharr, G. M. Gresham, William Hodge, Samuel Groves, and Samuel Mackie.

Absent, Rev. John Brown, D. D. Edward Pharr, Henry Safford, Alexander Kirkpatrick, & Alexander N. Webster; and John Harrison, Nahum Nixon, & Carlile P. Beman, licentiated.

Mr. Goulding was chosen Moderator, & Mr. Gilderleeve, Clerk.

Mr. J. Gamble, of the presbytery of South Carolina, and Mr. Thomas Stanley, of the methodist episcopal church, being present, were

to seats as corresponding members, which they accordingly accepted.

The minutes of the last meeting of presbytery were read.

Mr Foot, rendered his excuse for absence at the last meeting of presbytery, which was sustained.

A letter was received from Dr Brown containing his reasons for absence from the present meeting of presbytery, which were considered satisfactory.

Mr Pharr appeared, and after having rendered a satisfactory excuse for tardiness, took a seat.

Mr Joseph Patchford, an elder, appeared and took a seat.

The following resolution, was offered for the consideration of presbytery, and was adopted.

Resolved, That a standing committee of two be appointed, whose duty it shall be to examine the minutes of the General Assembly, and report at each spring session, what is contained in those minutes having a reference to presbyteries. Whereupon Dr Waddel and Mr Modderwel were appointed that committee.

Presbytery considering it expedient to ordain Mr Stiles, a candidate for the ministry under their care, appointed for that purpose the Saturday before the third sabbath of this month, and assigned

him the following preparatory trial, viz: a sermon from John 14. 27.

D^r Cummins is appointed to preside and give the charge.

and D^r Brown his alternate; M^r Goulding to preach the sermon, and M^r Church his alternate.

M^r Chamberlain reported a presbyterian church constituted at Jackson, Butte county, consisting of twenty three members. M^r Gilderleeve reported a presbyterian church constituted at Milledgeville consisting of seven members, and another at Macon, consisting of twenty five members, all named after their respective places.

An appeal from the decision of the session of Hebron church, Franklin, was brought up to presbytery, appellant Daniel Bryson. On motion, the case was referred to a committee consisting of D^r Cummins and M^r Mackie, with directions, to report tomorrow.

M^r James C. Patterson delivered a popular discourse from Rom: 1. 16. the subject previously assigned him, which was referred to a committee consisting of Mess^{rs} Modderuel & Gilderleeve, with directions to report on its merits. M^r Patterson was then examined on didactick and polemick theology, church history & government, and his examination was sustained as part of trials previous to licensure.

The committee to whom was referred Mr. Patterson's discourse, reported favourably, and recommended that it be accepted. Whereupon it was sustained.

On motion, Resolved, That the trials of Mr. Patterson be now closed, and that he be licensed on tomorrow.

Mr. Edmund Atkinson, Mr. Hamden C. Carter, and Mr. Samuel J. Cassels, severally requested to be taken under the care of presbytery, and were examined on experimental religion, and the motives which influenced them to desire the holy office of the ministry. Presbytery sustained their examination and assigned them the following subjects as parts of trial, viz: To Mr. Atkinson an Exegesis, in Latin, on, Num Jesus Christus sit Deus? and a critical exercise on Col. 1. 15. To Mr. Carter an Exegesis, on, Num Spiritus sanctus sit Deus? and a critical exercise on Heb. 11. 39. 40. And to Mr. Cassels an Exegesis, on, Num Literae Sacrae sint verbum Dei? and a critical exercise on Heb. 9. 22.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock.

Athens, Saturday, August 5. 1826.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as

on yesterday. Constituted by prayer.

Dr. Cummins, from the committee on the case of an appeal from the decision of Hebron church, submitted the following report, which was adopted.

1. Daniel Bryson complains against James Fleming for insulting language, & attacks, &c. Session took up this complaint, & sustained the charge.

2. James Fleming accuses Daniel Bryson & wife, and others, of being privy to the birth, death, and concealing of the death of a child of Betsey Bryson. Session sustained this charge, and suspended the accused parties.

3. Now Daniel Bryson appeals in behalf of himself, no others, to presbytery from the judgment of session.

It appears, by information of Mr. Mackie, that the session of Hebron are willing to grant to the appellant a new trial. Whereupon presbytery agreed to refer the whole matter back to the session, for a new trial; and that should it ever again come before this body, it is wished and recommended to the session that it be brought up in a more lucid and intelligible form. It was ordered by presbytery that Dr. Waddel preside at the trial, and that the Elders William Hodge, Samuel Groves, Joseph Ratchford and John King, be associated

with him, in forming the session.

A petition of the Rev. Mr. Modderwel praying for a dissolution of the pastoral connexion between himself and the presbyterian church of the city of Augusta, and also communications from the session of the church and congregation requesting that the petition of Mr. Modderwel be granted, were laid before presbytery.

Whereupon, Resolved, That the pastoral connexion between the Rev. William Modderwel, and the presbyterian church of Augusta, be and is hereby dissolved.

The Rev. Monas Church was nominated and appointed commissioner to the next General Assembly, and Mr. Goulding his alternate.

The following overture was sent up to presbytery from the session of Mount Zion church, viz:

"When members of a church remove out of its bounds, without being regularly dismissed, in what relation are they to be held to that body; and when public rumour reports unfavourably of their character, can their names be stricken from the records of the church without a formal citation and trial." Which was referred to a committee consisting of Dr. Waddel.

Dr. Waddel reported instantler, "That when a member of any

church removing, without a regular dismissal, into the bounds of another presbytery or church, should become subject to any church censured where he resides, the session of the church from which he had removed, may authorize the session of the church where he resides to try and issue his case, and transmit it to them for their confirmation; or to confirm it themselves, should they think proper." Which report was agreed to, and the stated clerk was directed to furnish the session of the church with a copy of this report.

Mr Chamberlain, who was the clerk of the presbytery convened at Washington for the ordination of Mr Webster, was directed to furnish the stated clerk with a copy of the minutes of that session, as early as practicable.

Mr Hopping, a candidate for the ministry, offered his excuse for being unprepared on the trials assigned him at the last meeting of the presbytery, and his excuse was sustained.

Dr Waddel was requested to undertake the transcribing of the minutes of this presbytery, from its commencement; which he consented to.

The stated clerk was directed to write to Mr Williams, a candidate for the ministry under the care of this presbytery, informing him

of his duty to be present at its stated meetings, or render a satisfactory excuse for absence.

Presbytery proceeded to license M^r. James C Patterson as a probationer for the gospel ministry, within the bounds of this presbytery, or wherever else he shall be orderly called.

M^r. Stratton was appointed to preach four sabbaths at the Indian Springs, at discretion, before next spring sessions of presbytery.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and then adjourned to meet at Milledgeville, on the Saturday preceding the third sabbath of this month at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Thomas Goulding, Mod^r.

B. Gilderleeve, Clk.

Milledgeville, August 19th 1826. 70th Session.

The presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment, and was constituted by prayer.

Ministers	present	Elders
Rev. Francis Cummins, D. D.		D ^r . William Baldwin &
John Brown, D. D. Thomas		George Campbell.
Goulding & Alonzo Church.		

D.^r Cummins, agreeably to appointment, presided on this occasion. Mr Church was chosen clerk.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr Joseph C. Stiles delivered a discourse from John 14. 27. the subject assigned him by presbytery as a part of trials for ordination, which was sustained.

Mr Stratton appeared, and having rendered satisfactory reasons for his tardiness, took a seat.

Presbytery proceeded to examine Mr Stiles upon Theology, Church History, Chronology and Church government; on all which subjects, the examination was sustained as part of trials for ordination; and owing to peculiar circumstances, his ordination was ordered to take place tomorrow afternoon.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet ^{in the} afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Milledgeville, August 20.th 1826.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as above. Constituted with prayer.

Presbytery proceeded to the ordination of Mr Joseph C. Stiles, as an Evangelist, when the Rev. Thomas Goulding delivered an ordination.

sermon from 2^d Timothy, 4. 2. "Preach the word; be instant in season, and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long suffering and doctrine." After which, the Rev. Dr. Cummins, the presiding member, proposed the usual questions to Mr. Stiles, who having answered them in the affirmative, and publicly adopted the confession of faith and the government and discipline of our church, was solemnly set apart to the sacred office of the gospel ministry by prayer and the imposition of the hands of the presbytery. The right hand of fellowship having been given, and a suitable charge delivered, by the presiding member, to Mr. Stiles, the newly ordained minister was invited to take a seat with us in presbytery.

Concluded with prayer, and adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 6 o'clock.

Milledgeville, August 21st 1826.

Presbytery met according to adjournment. Members present as above, except Mr. Goulding, absent with leave. Constituted by prayer.

Presbytery concluded with prayer, and then adjourned to meet in Macon the first Thursday in April next.

Francis Cummins, Mod^r

Alonso Church, Clk.

Macon 5th April, 1827.

74. Session.

287.

The Presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment, and was opened with a sermon from Jeremiah 17:9. by Mr William H. Williams a licentiate of the First Presbytery of New York, providentially present. Constituted with prayer.

Ministers	present	Elders.
Rev. Mr. Waddel D.D.		Moses W. Dobbins
Thomas Goulding.		William Baldwin
Remembrance Chamberlain.		Andrew Cuffin +
Joseph V. Alexander.		Thomas W. Alexander.
John S. Wilson +	James C. Patterson	licentiate.
Joseph C. Stiles		

Absent Rev. Francis Cummins D.D. John Brown D.D. Edward Pharr, Alexander Kirkpatrick, Benjamin Cuddeheave, William Moderuel, Alexander H. Webster, Henry Safford, Alonzo Church, and George Foot ministers, John Harrison, Carlisle P. Beman, and Nahum Niscon, licentiates.

Rev. Mr. Waddel D.D. was chosen moderator, + John S. Wilson clerk.

The minutes of the last sessions were read, and confirmed.

A communication was received from the Rev Alonzo Church

giving satisfactory reasons for absence from the present sessions of presbytery. A communication was also received from Nahum Nixion, a licentiate of this presbytery, requesting a dismissal to join the presbytery of Londonderry. His request was acceded to, and the clerk directed to forward his dismissal. Mr William H. Williams a candidate for the gospel ministry under our care requested by letter a dismissal; whereupon the ^{Rev} R. Chamberlain John S. Wilson, & Dr Alexander were appointed a committee to write to Mr Williams on the subject of the request contained in his letter.

A communication was received from Francis Cummins D. D. rendering satisfactory reasons for absence from the present sessions of presbytery. The Rev. George Foot by letter requested a dismissal from this body to join the Brookfield Association. His request was granted, and the clerk was directed to forward Mr Foot his dismissal. The Rev. Mr. Buckhannon of the Baptist church being present, was by the Moderator invited to take a seat as a corresponding member.

Presbytery adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Macon 6th April 1827.

Presbytery met according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer. Members present as on yesterday.

The Rev. John Brown D.D. appeared in presbytery, and having rendered satisfactory reasons for tardiness, took his seat. Carlisle P. Beman, the licentiate absent on yesterday, appeared to-day.

A letter from Samuel J. Cassels a candidate for the gospel ministry, under our care, rendering satisfactory reasons for absence was received, accompanied with an Exegesis on the subject assigned him at our last sessions as parts of trial previous to licensure.

The Exegesis was refered to a committee consisting of Messrs Goulding J. M. Alexander, & Dobbins to examine and report on its merits before the rising of presbytery.

The Rev. Mr. Labor of the Methodist Episcopal church was by the Moderator invited to a seat as corresponding member.

The Rev. M. Waddel D.D. who was appointed to preside in the session of Hebron Church, at our last stated sessions, on the case brought up by appeal from said session, Reported, that the session met according to appointment, and after duly considering the matter, recommended that the decision of the session be affirmed. Presbytery affirmed it.

Mr Chamberlain, reported, that he had complied with the duty assigned him, by furnishing the stated clerk with the minutes of the sessions of presbytery at Washington.

Dr Waddel, reported, that he had accomplished the task assigned him at our last stated sessions, and that the minutes of Hopewell Presbytery are complete to the present time.

The clerk was directed to address a letter to the Presbytery of Londonderry, informing it of the dismissal of Nahum Nixon, and another to the Presbytery of Fayetteville notifying it of the dismissal of Mr Buie.

The Rev. B. Gildersleeve communicated to Presbytery, his desire to be dismissed from this body to join the Charleston Union Presbytery. His request was granted.

Mr Stratton, who was appointed at our last stated sessions to preach four times at the Indian Springs in Butts County rendered satisfactory reasons for not complying with the duty assigned him.

Messrs J. V. Alexander, Stratton, & Baldwin were appointed a committee to examine the session Books of Fairview & Alcovias.

Congregational reports were called for, and submitted to a committee.

consisting of J. M. Alexander, Dobbins, Baldwin, and the clerk to examine and report before the rising of presbytery.

The Rev. William Maderock appeared in presbytery and having rendered reasons for tardiness took his seat.

Mr Ephraim S. Hopping read to presbytery a sermon from Heb. 4:12, as part of trials prior to licensure, which was sustained.

The Rev. Mr. Gardner of the Methodist Episcopal Church being present, was by the moderator invited to take a seat as a corresponding member.

Mr. William B. Richards appeared before presbytery, and expressed a wish to be taken under its care as a candidate for the sacred office of the gospel ministry. He was examined on experimental religion and the motives which had influenced him to desire the office of the ministry, all which examination was sustained. And presbytery assigned Mr. Richards John vii. 44. as the subject of a popular discourse, and Rom. xii. 20-26. inclusive the subject of a lecture, and an Exegesis in Latin on "Annebaptisma Johannis Christianum baptismum fuit?" and a presbyterial exercise on John i. 16. to be presented as soon as conveniently practicable.

Joseph Bryan a ruling elder from Mount Zion appeared in Presby

tery and took his seat.

Presbytery proceeded to examine Mr. E. S. Hopping on Didactic and Polemic Theology, Church Government, and History, and having made some progress, adjourned till tomorrow morning 8 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

Macon 7th April 1827.

Presbytery met according to adjournment and was constituted with prayer. Members present as on yesterday. The minutes of the last session were read.

The standing committee appointed at the last sessions to examine the minutes of the General Assembly reported, that in their opinion the alterations proposed in those minutes in the Constitution of our Church are not at present desirable, and the clerk was directed to signify this opinion to the next General Assembly, through our delegate.

The committee to whom was refered the Latin Exegesis of Mr. Cassels reported favorably and recommended that it be sustained, which report was agreed to.

The committee appointed to examine the books of Fair-

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view and Alcoria, reported, and recommended that they be approved.

The examination of Mr Hopping was resumed and completed. Presbytery resolved that all the parts of Mr Hoppings trials be sustained, and that ~~he~~ be licensed this afternoon.

Mr Chamberlain reported a church organized in Covington, number of members not precisely known. Mr Wilson reported a church organized in Newton county, called Smymna, consisting of fifteen members.

Do Waddel reported a church in Hall county, organized, and called the "First Presbyterian Church in Hall," consisting of twenty one members.

A letter was received from Alexander F. Webster assigning satisfactory reasons for absence from the present sessions.

The committee to whom was referred ^{the letter} of Mr William H. Williams desiring to be dismissed from this presbytery, produced a communication, written in reply to Mr Williams request, which being read and appended, was approved.

The committee to whom was referred the congregational reports reported, and on motion it was received, and adopted.

In compliance with the order of Synod at the sessions in November last, inquisition being made, the members who were absent from the Synod at that time, were discovered to be John S. Wilson, Alexander Kirkpatrick, Jesse Stratton, Edward Pharr, & Henry Safford. The disapprobation of such delinquency was expressed and the members enjoined and urged to a more punctual attendance on Synodical meetings in future, and they were directed to transmit to the clerk of Synod, as early as practicable their arrearages for clerk fees.

The Presbytery proceeded to license Mr E. S. Hopping as a probationer for the gospel ministry, within the bounds of this Presbytery or wherever else he shall be regularly called.

The Rev. Mr Douglas of the Episcopal Church being present was invited to a seat as a corresponding member.

The nomination of the Rev. Alonso Church to be our Commissioner in the next General Assembly made at our last stated sessions was confirmed.

Rev. John S. Wilson was chosen stated clerk in the place of
 Rev. Benjamin Gildersleeve removed without our bounds.
 Concluded with prayer, & the Apostolic benediction, and Pres-
 bytery then adjourned to meet in the Town of Decatur, De-
 Kalb county, on the first Saturday in August at 12 o'clock. M.

Mr. Waddel Modr.

John S. Wilson stated clerk.

Decatur DeKalb co. 4th August 1827. - 72 Sessions.

The Presbytery of Hopewell met according to adjournment
 and ^{was opened} with a sermon by Mr. Waddel D.D. the moderator of
 the last sessions from Jer. vi. 16. Constituted with prayer.

Members present Mr. Waddel D.D. Alexander Kirkpatrick,
 William Maderwel, Jesse Stratton, Monro Church, Joseph
 C. Stiles, & John S. Wilson, and the licentiate James C. Pat-
 terson, with Elders John McCloy, Moses Liddel, and
 George Harkness. Absent Francis Cummins D.D. John
 Brown D.D. Edward Pharr, Thomas Goulding, Joseph G.
 Alexander, Alexander H. Webster, R. Chamberlain, & Henry
 Safford, & the licentiates John Harrison, Carlisle P. Beman

and Ephraim S. Hopping.

The Rev. Monroe Church, was chosen moderator, and John S. Wilson clerk. The minutes of the last sessions were read.

No reply has as yet been received from William H. Williams a candidate for the gospel ministry under our care whose application to be dismissed at our last sessions, was refused.

The Rev. James Gamble, a member of the Presbytery of South Carolina, being present, presented a dismission from that body to connect himself with this Presbytery, and was received accordingly.

Mr. Waddel D. D. produced the minutes of this presbytery as transcribed, since its organization in 1796. It appeared that in doing this work, he had found it necessary to engage the assistance of Elder George Watkins. The execution of the work was highly approved. The compensation required by Major Watkins for transcribing 260 quarto pages was sixty five dollars, of which he acknowledges the

receipt of Sixteen dollars; Whereupon, Resolved, that the sum still due Major Watkins for transcribing the minutes be paid by an equal contribution of the members of Presbytery.

Mr Kirkpatrick rendered satisfactory reasons for absence from our last stated sessions.

Mr Gamble reported a church organized in Henry co. and called the Presbyterian church of McDonough, consisting of twenty five members.

In consideration of the necessary engagements of the Rev. Joseph C Stiles in behalf of the Domestic Missionary Society, the Presbytery recommended it the Rev Dr Brown, and Messrs Gamble and Chamberlain, to supply the churches of Milledeville and Macon during the months of August, September, and October: and the clerk is directed to notify the above named brethren of the will of Presbytery.

Dr Waddel and the clerk, were appointed a committee to prepare and docket all business to which the attention of Presbytery will be called during the present

sessions. Concluded with prayer and Presbytery then adjourned to meet at this place on Monday morning at 7 o'clock.

Decatur, Monday, August 6th 1827.

Presbytery met according to adjournment, and was constituted with prayer. Members present as on Saturday. The minutes of the last session were read.

Joseph Hollingsworth, a ruling Elder from the Church of Smyrna, being present, took a seat.

Samuel J. Cassels, read a critical exercise from Hebrews 9:23. the subject assigned him as part of trial, at our last stated sessions, preparatory to licensure, which being considered was sustained.

Galatians II. 15. is assigned Mr Cassels as the subject of a sermon, and the ~~XV~~ Psalm throughout as the subject of a lecture.

Messrs Kirkpatrick and Wilson were directed to supply the church at Smyrna, each, four sabbaths in the ensuing year.

The Rev. Alonzo Church our commissioner to the last General Assembly, reported that he had fulfilled the duty assigned him. Resolved, that Dr Waddel and Mr Church be a committee to report on the subject of education at our spring sessions as required by the General Assembly.

Resolved, That each member of this presbytery, shall present at our spring sessions, or (in case of absence) send a written report on the state of religion within the bounds of his preaching, and the stated clerk is directed to inform the absent members of this resolution, and that the presbytery will be particular in calling for these reports.

Resolved, That Dr Waddel and Mr Moderwel be a committee to devise some measure, by which a more punctual attendance of members on Presbyterial meetings may be secured.

The Rev. James Gamble, was directed to supply at Fayetteville as often as practible between this and our next spring sessions.

Dr Waddel having stated the desire of the session of the Presbyterian Church in Augusta, that next sessions

of this Presbytery should be held in that city. On motion, resolved, that Dr Waddel be directed to inform that session, that there will not probably be any business to employ the attention of Presbytery at so early a period as December next.

On motion, Resolved, that the stated clerk present to this body at our next meeting, the names of all the members, and the number of times they have each been absent since the act defining the bounds between this Presbytery, and the Presbytery of Georgia.

Drs. Cummins, Waddel, and Brown were appointed a committee to prepare for publication a history of the Presbyterian Church in the southern states and particularly in this state.

The Rev. Joseph C. Stiles, was nominated our commissioner to the next General Assembly, and Mr. Modenwel his alternate. Concluded with prayer and the apostolic benediction, and then adjourned to meet in the city of Augusta on the first Thursday in April 1828.

A. Church Mod.
John S. Wilson, S. C.