

NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION OF UNIVERSALISTS
Session of 1847

Council met in Scipio, N.Y., May 26, 1847. Wednesday morning, half past eight. Called to order by Br. Pitt Morse. Joined in prayer with Br. G. W. [George Washington] Montgomery. Called the roll of delegates. (See list.¹)

1. Voted. That the Moderator and Clerk be appointed by ballot.
2. Proceeded to ballot for Moderator, when Br. P. Morse was elected.
3. Proceeded to ballot for Clerk, when Br. G. W. Montgomery was duly elected.
4. Minutes of the last session were read and approved.
5. The Moderator proceeded to appoint Brs. L. M. Hawes, G. [Gerhardus] L. Demarest, and J. J. Austin, as the committee to nominate Delegates to represent this body at the next session of the United States Convention of Universalists.
6. The Moderator proceeded to appoint Brs. O. [Otis] A. Skinner, H. Van Campen, and R. D. Murray, as the Committee on adjournment.
7. The Moderator proceeded to appoint Brs. T. J. [Thomas Jefferson] Sawyer, A. L. Vandusen, and J. B. Sax, as the committee to nominate a clergyman to preach the next occasional sermon before this body at its next session.
8. Moved and seconded, that Brs. D. Skinner, S. R. [Stephen Rensselaer] Smith and J. Potter be the Committee of Correspondence for the next year.
9. The reports from the Associations being called for, it appeared, from remarks made by various brethren, that the cause is generally prosperous throughout the State. No statistical information was received, except from the New York Association.
10. Moved to adjourn until after the afternoon service.
11. Met according to adjournment.
12. Received the reports of the Board of the Universalist Relief Fund, and of the Treasurer of the same body, which were accepted, and ordered to be printed in the minutes², and then placed on file.
13. It was voted, that the recommendation of the [Relief Fund] Committee in the case of Julius Savillion Eaton, be adopted. Also the recommendation in the case of Mrs. Mary Brown of Hastings, N.Y., the appropriation to be paid in two installments. Also, the recommendation in the case of Mrs. Polly Hayward of Burlington Flats, N.Y., the appropriation to be paid in two installments. In the last four cases, the second installments to be paid after an interval of six months.
14. Br. T. J. Sawyer presented the following Resolutions, which were adopted.

¹ Transcriber's note: This list was not included in his original Session report.]

² Transcriber's note: This report is not included here.

NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION OF UNIVERSALISTS
Session of 1847

Resolved, That this Convention has read with pleasure the minutes of the proceedings of the *Educational Convention*, lately held in the city of N.Y., for the purpose of considering the necessity, and devising means for the establishment of a well endowed College and Theological Seminary among Universalists.

Resolved, That we heartily approve of the resolutions there passed and the measures there proposed for the attainment of so desirable an object.

Resolved, That in our individual and associated capacity we cordially pledge ourselves to co-operate with our brethren in this great work.

Resolved, That we earnestly commend this subject to all ministers in fellowship with this body, and would respectfully suggest the propriety of their early and frequently laying it before their congregations and urging it upon their attention.

15. The Committee to nominate delegates to represent this Body in the next session of the United States Convention, reported the following names—Clerical, Brs. O. A. Skinner, New York; P. Morse, Henderson; J. M. [John Mather] Austin, Auburn; G. W. Montgomery, Rochester. Lay, J. D. Ford, Newark; R. D. Murray, Watertown; W. A. Conant, New York; L. Barker, Clinton; I [Ira] Curtis, Auburn; D. Brown, Oxford. The Report was adopted, and power given to the Delegation to appoint substitutes and fill vacancies.

16. Adjourned until Thursday morning at 8 o'clock.

17. Met according to adjournment, at 8 o'clock. Joined with Br. Van Campen in prayer.

18. The alteration of the Constitution, which was proposed at the session of 1846, was taken up and rejected. So the Convention will continue to hold its sessions on the last Wednesday in May, as usual.

19. The Committee on adjournment reported in favor of adjourning, when we do adjourn, to meet in Watertown, Jefferson county. The Report was adopted.

20. The Committee to nominate a preacher to deliver the Occasional Sermon at the next session of this Body, reported in favor of Br. P. Morse, with power to appoint a substitute. Report accepted and adopted.

21. It was voted, the Br. Everett prepare the Proceedings of the Council for publication, and that they be printed in the Evangelist, Magazine and Messenger.

22. *Resolved*, That the resolution of the last session, relative to the mode of procedure by applicants for aid from the Relief Fund, be renewed and remain in force till otherwise ordered by the Convention.

23. *Resolved*, That this Convention continues to feel a lively interest in the welfare of the Clinton Liberal Institute, and of the Theological School, under the charge of Br. Thomas J. Sawyer; and that it recommends those

NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION OF UNIVERSALISTS
Session of 1847

institutions to the continued and increased patronage and support of the denomination in this State.

REMARKS.—The Session of 1847 was one of peace, harmony and happiness. The business of the council was conducted with a spirit of brotherly kindness. The services of the sanctuary were able and full of the right power to strengthen the faith and improve the life. Sermons were preached by Brs. T. J. Skinner, O. A. Skinner, L. S. Everett, D. [Dolphus] Skinner, G. W. Montgomery, Pitt Morse; and addressed by Br. O. A. Skinner.

The congregations were large, and the singing excellent. All were pleased—for the meeting was one of joyful communion.

As usual, the failure of the Associations to forward statistical information, was general with one exception. This is to be regretted very much. But the Associations will do as they please, even if their pleasure involves neglect of known duty. So we must wait, until they make it their joy to do what is right.

We cannot conclude these brief remarks, without saying to the friends in Scipio, that the Council and others feel very grateful to them for their warm hospitality and unwearied kindness during the Session of the Convention. May the Lord bless them with all spiritual blessings.

G. W. MONTGOMERY

Evangelical Magazine & Gospel Advocate, Utica NY, Fri. 4 Jun 1847

Transcribed with notes added on 20 Oct 2012 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY