

New York State Convention

The New York State Convention of Universalists met in the Universalist church in Cortland, Aug. 22d, 1865. In the absence of the Moderator of the last session, the Convention was called to order by Br. C.W. [Charles Welden] Tomlinson, Standing Clerk. Br. G.[Gerhardus] L. Demarest of New York city was chosen Moderator pro tem, and Ely T. Marsh, Clerk.

A committee on credentials was ordered appointed. Brs. T.D. [Theodore Dwight] Cook, H. [Henry] Lyon and D. [Daniel] Kenyon were appointed said committee.

The committee reported the following named delegates in attendance from the following named Associations, viz:

Buffalo Association—Revs. W. [William] B. Cook and W.W. Clayton, cler.; C. Spencer, lay.

Black River Association—Revs. J.J. [John Henry] Stewart and I.M. [Isaac Morgan] Atwood, cler.; D. Montague, lay.

Central Association—Rev. W.B. Payne and A.H. Marshall, cler.; M.S. Laird and James Whitford, lay.

Cayuga Association—Revs. A. [Aaron] A. Thayer and J. [Jacob] H. Harter, cler.; H. Boyington and N.J. Jenks, lay.

Chenango Association—Revs. W.M. De Long, R. [Rufus] O. Williams, cler.; A. Hodges, lay.

Hudson [River] Association—N.H. Benson and H.H. Darling, lay.

Mohawk River Association—Revs. T.D. Cook and O. [Orello] Cone, cler.; J.J. Wheeler and Ely T. Marsh, lay.

New York Association—Revs. G.[Gerhardus] L. Demarest and H. Lyon, cler.; E.W. Crowell and N. [Norman] Van Nostrand, lay.

Niagara Association—Revs. D.C. [DeWitt Clinton] Tomlinson and J.J. Austin, cler.; R.M. Hand, lay.

Ontario Association—Revs. A. [Asa] Saxe, Chas. Fluhrer, cler.; D. [Daniel] Kenyon and J. [John] J. Van Zandt, lay.

Otsego Association—Rev. C.W. Tomlinson, cler.; Eri Demming, lay.

Steuben Association—Rev. A. [Asa] Countryman, cler.

St. Lawrence Association—Rev. Eben Fisher, cler.

A committee of one from each association, to be appointed by the delegates from each association, to report names of persons for permanent officers of the Convention, was ordered and appointed. The committee reported the names of the following:

Dr. Eben Fisher, Moderator, and Ely T. Marsh, Clerk.

A ballot was ordered, and Bros. T.D. Cook and E.W. Crowell were appointed tellers.

A ballot was taken and the foregoing named officers were duly elected. They were qualified to act as such officers by taking the constitutional oath. United in prayer with Br. A. Saxe.

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Voted, that no session of the council be held this evening.

Voted, that the order of services be left with the Pastor and trustees of this society.

A committee was ordered to arrange the order of business. Bros. D.C. Tomlinson, I.M. Atwood, and N.H. Benson were appointed said committee. The council adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock this afternoon at the same place.

Tuesday afternoon session, Aug. 22d, 1865.

The council was called to order by the moderator. Br. D.C. Tomlinson, chairman of committee to arrange order of business, reported order of business which was adopted.

The following committees were appointed by the moderator.

Committee on business—Bros. C.W. Tomlinson, M.S. Laird and O. Cone.

Committee on Nominations—Brs. A. Saxe, G.L. Demarest, and J.J. Wheeler.

Br. N.H. Benson was appointed assistant clerk. Reports of Standing Committees were called. None were ready to report except the Committee on Education. Voted that the report be read to the congregation on Wednesday at 2 o'clock P.M.

The report of the Trustees of the Harsen Fund was read and by order of the committee referred to a special committee. Bros. Wm. M. De Long, D. Kenyon and N. Van Nostrand were appointed said committee. See document marked A.

Br. G.W. [George Washington] Montgomery, chairman of Committee on publication of the AMBASSADOR reported, and his report was ordered to be referred to a special committee of three to report thereon. Bros. I.M. Atwood, J. [John] J. Van Zandt and G.L. Demarest were appointed said committee. See document marked B.

The convention voted that Br. T.D. Cook have leave to make a statement of the financial matters of the AMBASSADOR. Br. Cook read his statement, and it was referred to the same committee having in charge the report of Br. G.W. Montgomery.

Voted, that the Standing Committee[s] on the State of the Church, Sunday-schools, Missionary and Tract enterprise, on Reforms and on Education, hereafter consist of only one person on each committee.

The Standing Clerk of this convention was authorized and requested to collect together constitution, by-laws, and rules of order of this convention, and have them, with the charter, printed in pamphlet form at the expense of the AMBASSADOR establishment.

Voted, that the Sunday School meeting commence at 8 o'clock A.M. Thursday, and close at 1-2 past 10 o'clock, and that the committee read their report at that time.

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Voted, that members of the council be limited to speeches of five minutes, and to one speech only until all have spoken that [who] wish on the same question.

Voted, that this convention approve the constitution of the General Convention proposed by that body at Concord, N.H.

The report of the trustees of the Clinton Liberal Institute, called for by a resolution of last year's convention, was made and read by Br. D. Skinner. The report was accepted and ordered printed with the minutes of the session. The report is hereto annexed and marked document C.

Adjourned to meet at this place at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday morning session, Aug. 23d, 1865.

The council was called to order by the Moderator. United in prayer with Br. L.J. [Luther Jacobs] Fletcher. Minutes of yesterday's session were amended and approved.

Br. J.J. Austin offered resolutions in reference to the missionary enterprize which were referred to the committee on business.

Br. A. Saxe, chairman of committee on nominations, made the following report, signed by all the members of the committee.

Preacher of the Occasional Sermon—Rev. A.A. Thayer.

Committee on Sunday Schools—Rev. S. Crane.

Committee on Missionary and Tract Enterprize—Rev. T.D. Cook.

Committee on Education—Rev. J.S. [John Stebbins] Lee.

Committee on Reforms—Rev. R. [Richmond] Fisk, jr.

Committee on the State of the Church—Rev. G.W. Montgomery.

Committee on Complaints and Appeals—Rev. E.G. [Elbridge Gerry] Brooks, E.W. Crowell, Geo. Ricard.

Executive Committee—Revs. G.L. Demarest, A.A. Thayer, I.M. Atwood, J.J. Van Zandt, Esq., and Ely T. Marsh.

Delegates to the United States Convention—Revs. G.L. Demarest, N. [Nelson] Snell, J.M. [James Minton] Pullman, D.C. Tomlinson, and E. Fisher, clerical, and P.P. Demarest, G.W. Barnes, H.R. Cone, N. Van Nostrand, E.T. Marsh, M.S. Laird, H. [Horatio] Robinson, G.A. Moore, J.C. Collins and Luman Bishop, lay.

The report was taken up item by item and adopted. The Executive Committee was elected by ballot.

Br. D.C. Tomlinson invited the Convention to hold its next annual meeting at Ridgeway, Orleans Co., New York. The invitation was accepted, and the Convention voted that the next session be held at that place.

Br. W.M. De Long, chairman of the Committee to whom was referred the report of the Trustees of the Harsen Fund, made the following report, signed by all the Committee:

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From the best information we can obtain, we fully concur with the Trustees of the Harsen relief fund, in the sums granted to the several applicants for relief, regretting that the Trustees were not in possession of the evidence of Mrs. Jenkins' connection with the New York State Convention, so that if found needy, she might have received the aid contemplated by [obliterated].

Br. I.M. Atwood, chairman of the Committee to whom was referred the report of the Publication Committee, made a report. See document marked D. The report was adopted and ordered published.

Voted, that the report of the Publication Committee be adopted and published.

Br. C.W. Tomlinson, chairman Business Committee, reported the following preamble and resolutions.

Whereas, by various bequests and the accumulations of unexpended interests, the Harsen relief fund has increased to nearly \$30,000, and has for a series of years proven adequate to the approved demands upon it, therefore,

Resolved, that we respectfully suggest to those Universalists of this State who may desire to make bequests for specific uses of this Convention, that other interests should not receive the benefits of their gifts.

Resolved, that such persons, whatever the extent of their means, and no less than those who can spare of their abundance whilst living, should especially remember our schools and our pressing need of a fund for the support of a state denominational paper, and another for missionary purposes and the free distribution of denominational publications.

The resolutions were adopted.

The council took a recess to hear the Occasional Sermon which was delivered by Br. G.L. Demarest. The council was then adjourned to meet at this place at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday afternoon session, August 23d, 1865.

The council was called to order by the Moderator. The minutes of the morning session were read, corrected and approved.

Br. E. Fisher, chairman of the Committee on Education, read his report to the council and congregation.

After his report was read, it was proposed that the Convention raise the \$1500 needed to complete the fund of \$25,000 for the Canton Theological school. The sum of \$1515 was raised by pledges of brothers for their associations and congregations, \$215 of which was paid in, in cash.

The report of the Committee on Education was adopted and ordered printed. See document marked E.

The council adjourned to meet at the public hall procured for that purpose at 1-2 past seven o'clock.

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Evening session, August 23, 1865.

Council called to order by the Moderator. Minutes of the afternoon session read and approved.

Br. C.W. Tomlinson, chairman Business Committee, reported the following resolutions which were adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased the Ruler of nations to end the terrible war that has convulsed our land, by annihilating the rebellion born of slavery, thus inaugurating the blessings of peace in all our borders, and securing our union unbroken and giving larger force to the sacred liberty that descended to us from the patriots of the revolution, that it may gain new and bloodless triumphs of right under the dear and glorious flag that has won its way to victory—therefore

Resolved; That we, in Convention assembled, deem it our duty, as well as our privilege and joy, to express our thankfulness to Almighty God for the signal manner in which right has prevailed over wrong, and for so overruling the national calamities as to give greater strength to the nation, and to demonstrate that a government emanating from the people who foster education and the precious sway of religion, is invincible, as well as productive of the largest blessings to all its members.

Resolved; That we heartily express our gratitude to God, for raising up such noble men as Grant, Sherman, and their heroic associates, and Farragut, Porter and other brave commanders, to lead the armies and direct the fleets of the Republic, to victory and peace. And that we especially feel thankful to God, for the noble soldiers and sailors who freely exposed their lives in defence of our institutions.

Resolved; That while we deplore the death of the late President, the true, wise and honest magistrate and leader, whose memory will be associated in history with that of the father of his country, as the savior of the nation; yet we rejoice to believe in the spirit of our faith, that his blood is a new and sacred seal to the character of human rights, and that his pure spirit now looks rejoicingly upon a land in which the seeds of a wider prosperity, a larger liberty, and an indissoluble union, are springing into glorious flower and fruitage.

Resolved; That we heartily express our sympathy with the army of mourners, whose homes have been desolated by the death of their loved ones on battle-fields and in hospitals—and that we pray God to comfort them with the precious faith, that the departed now live where war can never come; where secession will never be known; where recognition will be perfect; and the union of loving souls will be sealed with immortality.

Resolved; That we heartily express our confidence in the Chief Magistrate of the nation, and we pray that the wisdom of God may aid him in firmly establishing universal liberty in the land, and securing to all persons equality

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before the law, so that the rights of citizenship may be extended, irrespective of color.

Resolved; That as the war is now over, and our anxieties and fears are allayed by the return of peace, it is the solemn duty of our denomination to give earnest attention to the advancement of our faith and the growth of our Societies and Sunday Schools, that our Cause may be strengthened in the land, and be more efficient in binding the nation in an indissoluble union by increasing faith in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

Br. A.A. Thayer moved that the Occasional Sermon be published in the *AMBASSADOR*, and that Br. G.L. Demarest be requested to furnish a copy for publication. The motion was carried.

The Convention ordered a thousand extra copies of the *AMBASSADOR* with the Occasional Sermon to be printed for gratuitous circulation, and that Br. Van Nostrand distribute the same in his discretion.

Br. C.W. Tomlinson, chairman Business Committee, reported the following resolutions [obliterated]

Whereas; the spirit of our faith demands of us an active interest in relieving the condition of the Freedmen, therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of three, consisting of Revs. D.C. Tomlinson, A.A. Thayer, and Br. J.M. Chrysler, be appointed to obtain funds, engage and compensate teachers and agents who shall cooperate, as far as may be, with the National Freedman's Relief Association, in the establishment of schools, preaching the Gospel and ministering to the needs of this destitute class, whose improvement the providence of God has imposed upon us as an imperative duty. Said Committee shall have full power to do whatever the exigencies of the time may in their judgment make expedient for the end proposed, and shall report in full, with a financial exhibit, to the next session of this Convention.

The Convention adopted the following preambles and resolutions:

Whereas, it is believed that it will be to the advantage of the Convention that a longer period than one year should be contemplated in the contract for publishing the *CHRISTIAN AMBASSADOR*, and

Whereas, it is also believed that parties could be found to contract for the paper for a series of years, thereby securing individual interest in its success, at the same time giving the Convention ample guarantees and a valuable compensation, therefore,

Resolved, that the Publication Committee be authorized to invite propositions, and if satisfactory, and in their opinion advantageous, enter into arrangements to that end.

The Convention passed the following resolutions:

1st, *Resolved,* That the Standing Committees for 1865-6, on Sunday Schools, on the State of the Church, on the Missionary and Tract enterprise,

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on Reforms and on Education, be requested their reports to the form of sermons, essays or addresses not to exceed thirty minutes in length, with a view to their delivery in public congregation, to be followed by brief speeches at the pleasure of the Convention.

2nd, *Resolved*, That the Standing Clerk forward a copy of the above resolution to each of the said Committees on or before the 1st of Nov. 1866.

By a unanimous vote the thanks of the Convention were tendered to the friends in Cortland for their generous and hospitable entertainment of the Convention.

Adjourned to meet in the church at 8 o'clock Thursday morning.

Thursday morning session, August 24th, 1865.

In the absence of the Moderator, the Council was called to order by the clerk, and Br. G.L. Demarest chosen Moderator pro tem. United in prayer with Br. H. Lyon.

Br. L.J. Fletcher, chairman of the Committee on Sunday Schools, reported: see document marked F. The report was adopted and ordered printed. Brief addresses on the same subject were made by several Brothers, and the time occupied until 1-2 past 10.

Br. I.M. Atwood offered the following amendment to the constitution, which was read and accepted, and laid on the table for the action of the next Convention.

Resolved, That the Constitution of this Convention be so amended as to provide for the admission to the Council of three delegates from the Western N.Y. Sabbath School Convention, three from the Central N.Y. Sabbath School Convention, and three from the Eastern N.Y. Sabbath School Convention, should such a Convention be formed.

The Clerk was authorized by a vote to prepare and publish the minutes of the Convention.

The Convention then adjourned sine die.

EBEN FISHER, *Moderator*

ELY T. MARSH, Clerk.

List of clergymen, not delegates, in attendance. H.E. Whitney, N. [Nelson] Doolittle, F.E. Healey, K.F. Bingham, A. [Albert] G. Clark, S. [Stephen] Crane, Mrs. L. [Lydia] A. Jenkins, A. Tibbetts, H.R. Walworth, J.D. Cargill, D. [Daniel] Ballou, G.W. Montgomery, T.J. [Thomas Jefferson] Whitcomb; C.E. Hewes, L.J. Fletcher, A.B. Harvey, D. [Dolphus] Skinner.

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(A)

THE 21ST REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSALIST RELIEF FUND

NEW-YORK, August 16, 1865

To the New-York State Convention of Universalists, to be convened at the Village of Cortland, the 22d inst.

The Trustees of the New-York Universalist Relief Fund, met in the office of the CHRISTIAN AMBASSADOR, on Wednesday, at the first above date.

Present, S. [Stephen] Van Schaak, Thomas Crane and William Tucker.

It was resolved that the duties of Secretary be performed by the President.

The following named persons applied for relief, and we recommend that the amount voted for each be paid.

Rev. Nathaniel Stacy, Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars. (\$250)

[Frances Maine Aspinwall] Widow of Rev. J.A. [Joseph Aikin] Aspinwall, Two Hundred Dollars. (\$200)

Rev. J.B. [Ichabod Blakesley] Sharp, Two Hundred Dollars. (\$200)

Rev. Thomas J. Whitcomb, Two Hundred Dollars. (\$200)

[Jerusha] Widow of Rev. Jacob Whitney, Two Hundred Dollars (\$200)

[Eliza Whitcomb Bailey] Widow of Rev. J. S. [James Whitcomb] Bailey, Two Hundred Dollars (\$200)

The above amounts are to be paid, half in October, and half in April next.

Mrs. L.A. Jenkins, who is a preacher, sent an application to Brother Thomas Crane our Treasurer, for Two Hundred Dollars. Since that time, I received a letter from her, in which she stated the financial circumstances of herself and husband.

As we did not know that she was in fellowship with our State Convention, we concluded not to make an appropriation.

According to the Treasurer's report, we have a balance on hand of \$723.07 and a permanent fund of \$28,700 [totaling] \$29,423.07.

Yours respectfully,

S. VAN SCHAAK, President

[The lengthy treasurer's report which follows is not included here.]

(B)

REPORT OF THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

The Publication Committee beg leave to submit the following exhibit, as their Annual Report:

The financial transactions and the condition of the AMBASSADOR, from January 1st, 1864 to January 1st, 1865, are presented in the report made to the Publication Committee by Br. Van Nostrand, the agent, from which we take the following statement of receipts and expenditures:

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Receipts from January 1, 1864 to January 1, 1865.

Cash on hand, January 1, 1864,	\$1,101.80
From subscriptions,	7,575.50
Advertisements,	1,066.84
	<u>\$9,926.84</u>

Disbursements

Paid Agent, as per Contract,	\$6,592.56
Editor's Salary,	1,250.00
Extra Premiums,	37.97
Carrying Papers,	264.23
Government Tax,	17.67
Express on Mail Books,	1.00
Return-money to subscribers,	7.63
New Mail Books,	9.21
Counterfeit Money,	10.00
Printing and Distributing Circulars,	8.00
Binding Ambassador for Office,	6.00
Expenses of Committee,	84.35
	<u>\$8,288.62</u>
Cash on Hand, January 1, 1865,	1,637.52
	<u>\$9,926.14</u>

Assets

Due from Subscribers,	10,416.85
Due for Advertising,	268.18
Office Furniture	100.00
Cash on Hand January 1, 1865	1,637.52
	<u>12,422.55</u>
Liabilities for Advance pay	736.83
Net Assets	<u>\$11,685.72</u>

By this statement of affairs, we learn that, at the close of the year 1864, the AMBASSADOR was not only free from debt, but had a surplus on hand of \$1,635.72. This surplus, however, has been materially lessened, by payments made to the Agent, over and above his contracts for the years 1863 and 1864. At the session of the Convention held in Syracuse, August 23, 1864, it was

"Resolved, That inasmuch as the Agent of the AMBASSADOR has received but a trifle for his services during the year 1863, and should received some further compensation, the sum of \$250 be allowed and paid to him."

"Resolved, That to meet losses arising from the increase in the price of paper during the present year, a sum not exceeding \$1,000 be assigned, from which the Publication Committee be authorized to make good such losses, to the extent of that sum."

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Resolved, That as the prospects indicate the Agent will receive no compensation for his services during the current year, a sum not exceeding \$250 be paid him by the committee for said services, if any means of payment shall exist in the resources of the office."

In accordance with these directives, your Committee paid \$250 to the Agent for the year 1863. This was nearly all he received for his services during that year, as his contract yielded him for his labor only \$65.16. By an examination of his books, it was ascertained that the expenses of the AMBASSADOR for the year 1864, cost him \$783.43 more than the entire amount of his contract. This excess was caused solely by the rapid increase in the price of paper. Your committee therefore allows this sum, because they deemed it no more than just that he should be made [obliterated]. And as a slight compensation for his [obliterated]. The aggregate amount of extra-pay is \$1,283.43, which reduces the surplus to \$354.09. This may appear a small result as profit in hand; yet your committee consider it a source of satisfaction, that justice has been done to our worthy and faithful Agent, and that the AMBASSADOR reached the year 1865 entirely free from debt.

The reason why this extra amount paid the Agent does not appear in the expenditures of the year 1864 is, that the settlement with the Agent was not completed until quite recently, and will therefore form a feature of the Report for the year 1865.

At the commencement of the year 1864, the number of subscribers was 4,900. At the close of that year, we had 4,500, showing a decrease of 400. The causes of this declension, were undoubtedly the same that have been operating for several years, and are such as readily occur to the observer of current events and changes. The main reason for it, however, grew out of the rebellion, and the sharp feelings of those who could not bear to have the AMBASSADOR speak for the unity of the country and for universal freedom.

To make arrangements for the year 1865, the Publication committee met in the city of New-York October 18, 1864. The result of the session was, that Dr. Sawyer was elected as the Editor, at a salary of \$1,250, and a contract was made with Br. Van Nostrand to publish the AMBASSADOR for \$4,650. By this contract, the committee were to furnish the paper, and he to procure all other materials and labor, as well as to keep up an office, pay the government-tax and allow \$75 for the expenses of the committee. All things considered, his proposition was deemed the best of the limited number called forth by our advertisement for proposals to publish the AMBASSADOR.

By the half-yearly report of the Agent, we learn the following facts in regard to the interests of the AMBASSADOR, for the six months ending July 1, 1865. The receipts from subscribers and for advertisements, together with

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cash on hand, January 1, 1865, amount to \$7,640.81. The disbursements reach the sum of \$4,750.28, leaving as cash in hand, \$2890.53. The assets were in debts due from subscribers, in furniture, and cash on hand, \$12,988.38. After deducting liabilities to advance-pay subscribers, \$2,334.09, there remains as nett-assets, July 1, 1865, the sum of \$10,654.29. The Agent says in his Report, "that were are now printing 4.400 papers, having lost 100 subscribers more than we gained since the commencement of the volume, principally in the first two months of the year. We are now getting more subscribers than we are losing; and the prospects look to me better than they have at any time during the last three years. And I feel pretty well assured, that if a proper person was sent out as agent to collect old debts and get new subscribers, he would be eminently successful, and enable the concern, not only to keep square with the world, but make money for the Convention."

A review of all these facts, satisfies your committee with the results of their labors. They expected nothing more than to bring the AMBASSADOR to the end of the war, with the breath of life in it. This has been accomplished, with no dead weight of debt hanging to it. This is all, perhaps, that ought to have been expected. The prospects of the AMBASSADOR, however, should now rapidly increase in promise. The war is over. The sacrifices of devoted loyalty have defeated and crushed the wicked rebellion that has agonized our beloved land with strife and blood. Peace is exerting its blessed sway. The national mind is no longer quivering with anxiety, and absorbed with news from battle-fields. More attention can and therefore will be given to religious affairs, to the prosperity of our societies, and to our journals as efficient missionaries in proclaiming our precious faith. A moderate exertion, even, on the part of our ministers and lay people will increase the circulation of the AMBASSADOR, and enable your committee to improve it in all desirable ways. Respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. MONTGOMERY,
Secretary for the Pub. Com.
H. ROBINSON
L.J. FLETCHER

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(C)

CLINTON LIBERAL INSTITUTE

To the Universalist Convention of the State of New York.

The Trustees of the Clinton Liberal Institute make the following report:

The Board of Trustees consists of thirteen members, viz: Rev. T.J. Sawyer, Peter Fake, C.G. Mitchell, E.B. Hinckley, E.J. Stebbins, and H.M. Burchard Esq., of Clinton; Rev. D. Skinner, D.P. Buckingham and E. [Ezra]S. Barnum of Utica; Hon. E. [Ezra] Graves, Herkimer; Edmund Terry, Waterville; Orrin Terry, Marshall, and P.B. Crandall, Babcock Hill; of whom Rev. D. Skinner is President, P. Fake Vice President, E.J. Stebbins, Treasurer and C.G. Mitchell, Secretary. The Executive Committee consists of five members: viz: E.B. Hinckley, C.G. Mitchell, Rev. D. Skinner, E.J. Stebbins and O. Terry.

When persons chosen or elected Trustees refuse or neglect to serve and act as such, the Board elects others to fill their places. They always prefer those nominated by the Convention, under whose patronage the Institution is, if their location or residence is such that they can generally attend the meetings of the Board. But one great inconvenience to which they have often been subjected has been the non-attendance of members residing at a distance, the difficulty often of forming a quorum (a majority), and the necessity of adjournment to a future time of the calling of another meeting.

The following abstract of the annual report to the Regents of the State University will show the present financial condition of the Institute.

Value of	Building lots	\$2,500.00
"	Buildings	2,500.00
"	Other Real Estate	800.00
"	Furniture	3,000.00
"	Library (1,551 vols.)	1983.66
"	Philosophical Apparatus	980.00
"	Bond and Mortgage	1,200.00
"	Bank Stock (23 shs. Bank of Utica)	1,380.00
"	United States Securities	<u>5,036.00</u>

Receipts for the year ending Sep. 1st, 1865

For Tuition	\$3,895.38
Interest	485.32
Regents of the University	249.25
Subscriptions for Purchase of Books	5.00
Books Sold	757.16
Board	14,681.49
Sundries	587.99
	<u>20,661.59</u>

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Salaries or [obliterated]	[obliterated]
Repairs	[obliterated]
Fuel and Incidentals	3,000.00
Purchase of Apparatus	5.00
Board of Teachers and Pupils	13,766.01
	<hr/>
	\$20,574.34

The salaries paid were, for the last year, besides Board &c., to Principal of male department, \$600 and to Principal of female department, \$500; to other and assistant Teachers from \$200 to \$400 each. Number of different students taught in the year, 223.

The Clinton Liberal Institute, since its collapsed condition of 1857, and its redemption in 1858 and 1859, has been generally in a prosperous condition, and has rendered good service to our denomination and to the cause of education generally, both in the State and Nation. It has received several legacies—those of the late Messrs. Hale, Ballou and Gardner—and has now a surplus fund of a few thousand dollars, the annual interest of which may be used by the Trustees. But this surplus Fund ought to be increased to at least \$10,000, and it were better still if it were \$50,000. Then it would yield an annual income placing the Institute above want and in the most prosperous condition.

There is another want seriously felt at Clinton that has a bearing and influence on the school, viz: the want of a new and good Universalist church, where the pupils of both sexes can have good and pleasant accommodations. The present church is old and somewhat dilapidated, and ought to be replaced by a better. The Society in Clinton, though small, will do something, (we hope liberally) but they need help to build such an edifice as is needed for the benefit of the School. And we hope and trust that the wealthy and liberal members of our denomination throughout the State will feel it in their hearts to help them in this laudable undertaking, volunteering liberal donations for the Church and Institute, and leaving legacies in their wills to increase the Permanent Fund till it shall amount to at least \$50,000, and unborn generations will bless them for the benefaction.

D. SKINNER, President

(D)

REPORT OF THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Publication Committee would submit the following:

That they find its statements of the financial transactions and condition of the AMBASSADOR establishment, so far as they are able to judge, correct.

They concur in the opinion that the condition of the establishment is, under the circumstances, satisfactory and its present prospects encouraging.

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But they ask the Convention to consider whether the following recommendations to the new Board of Publication are not calculated to improve both the finances and the influence of the AMBASSADOR, and if they ought not therefore to receive its sanction:

1st, That a suitable agent or agents be appointed to canvass for subscribers to the paper.

2d, That such measures be immediately taken to collect all dues, as the Committee may deem most advisable.

3d, That the quality of printing paper for the AMBASSADOR be raised to a standard equal to that of the *Universalist* and the *Gospel Banner*, and enlarged to the same size as fast as the decrease in price or the resources of the establishment will warrant.

4th, That a thorough enquiry be instituted as to the cause or causes of the frequent typographical errors and blemishes that disfigure the paper and tend to bring it under a disrespect fatal to its character and dignity as the organ of the denomination in New York; and that if the evil is incurable under the present management, the Publication Committee should consider whether it is likely to exist under any other they are able to set up.

Your Committee see no reason to question the good faith or discretion of the Publication Committee. While there may have been a difference of opinion as to the propriety of removing the establishment to New York, it seems to us there ought to be no difference of opinion about the impropriety of transporting it about the State from time to time obedient to some local whim. Let the paper remain where it is until experience demonstrates that its interests will be better served in some other locality. That the brethren in New York have not fulfilled their pledges to the paper, may be true. That the brethren everywhere in the State have failed in duty it seems equally true.

It seems to us that too much stress has been laid on the idea of realizing revenue from the establishment. It appears to your Committee that the zeal of the brethren should take the direction of making the AMBASSADOR a *first-class* religious and denominational paper whether it pays dividends or not; assuming that if a good paper fails to be profitable, a poor one certainly will.

Confidently believing that attention to the suggestions above made, will, under the greatly improved auspices of the present year, give us a larger revenue and a better paper, we earnestly solicit the Convention to consider and act upon them.

I.M. ATWOOD.
J.J. VANZANDT.
G.L. DEMAREST.

Christian Ambassador, New York NY, Sat. 23 Sep 1865
Transcribed with notes added in Jul 2013 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY