MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS of the New York State Convention of Universalists—Session of 1841

Convened in Watertown, May 26th, 1841, and chose Br. PITT MORSE, Moderator, and Brs. T. J. [Thomas Jefferson] WHITCOMB and Z. N. ELLIS, Clerks. United in prayer with Br. [Thomas Jefferson] Sawyer. Credentials of delegates were then received, roll made out, and the minutes of the last session read and adopted.

The Committee of Correspondence reported "no cause of complaint," which was accepted.

Appointed Brs. Whitcomb, Whelpley and Sawyer, to select a place for our meeting next year; who reported Fort Plain. Appointed Brs. Whitcomb, Sawyer and [Job] Potter to nominate delegates to the next United States Convention; who reported—Brs. S. R. [Stephen Rensselaer] Smith, T. J. Whitcomb, P. Morse, J. M. [James Munroe] Cook, Clerical delegates; and Brs. B. Ellis, New-York, R. McKinstry, Hudson; M. J. Bovee, Amsterdam; N. M. Woodruff, Watertown; H. Balcom, Oxford; and Oliver Drake, Auburn, Lay delegates, with power to appoint substitutes and fill vacancies. All of which reports were accepted, and nominations confirmed.

Appointed Brs. T. J. Sawyer, M. B. Smith, and J. Potter, Committee of Correspondence for the ensuing year—and Brs. T. J. Sawyer, N. [Nelson] Brown, and J. Potter, Committee on Ordination.

Voted, That Br. T. J. Sawyer be requested to furnish a copy of the excellent occasional sermon delivered at this session, for publication in our periodicals—and that Br. Whitcomb prepare the minutes for publication in our papers.

Adjourned at the close of the public services, on the 27th, to meet in Fort Plain on the last Wednesday in May, 1842.

PITT MORSE, Moderator

T. J. WHITCOMB,

} Clerks.

Z. N. ELLIS,

MINISTERS PRESENT, NOT DELEGATES.—[Oliver] Wilcox, Copenhagen; H. [Henry] L. Hayward, Champion; W. [William] Sias, Sandy Creek; D. K. [Day Kellogg] Lee, Auburn; H. [Harvey] Boughton, Scipio; C. G. Persons [Cornelius Gray Person], Ellisburg; L. L. Spaulding, Fairport; J. [John] French, Champion; J. S. Kibbe, Mexico.—Total, including delegates, 20.

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DELEGATION PRESENT

Associations.	Ministers.	Laymen.
Allegany	I. B. Sharp	None
Black River	P. Morse	J. L. Martin
	J. H. Whelpley	
Cayuga	T. J. Whitcomb	None
, -	N. Brown	
Central	D. Ackley	None
Chautauque	None	None
Chenango	J. R. Mack	None
Hudson River	J. A. Aspinwall	None
Mohawk	None	J. Graves
		B. S. Keeler
New-York	T. J. Sawyer	None
Niagara	None	Robert Wooden
Ontario	None	None
Otsego	J. Potter	None
St. Lawrence	W. H. Waggoner	C. Betts
		Z. N. Ellis
Steuben	None	None
Total 11 Ministorial 6 Lay delegates		

Total 11 Ministerial, 6 Lay delegates.

REMARKS

It will be seen, by referring to the Minutes, that our delegation was small—and although there were some circumstances to justify some of the delegates for non-attendance, yet they ought not to be. There should be a collection taken up in the societies belonging to the respective associations, to defray the expenses of their delegates, (the tax would be light,) and then, each person selected should attend, or be particular to appoint a substitute in *season*, that will. In this way, this feeble representation, this growing evil, will be remedied, and we shall have, as we ought to have, a full delegation in attendance. Brethren, let this matter be attended to another season, and let us not only pass resolutions, but put them into execution; let us not only write and preach on this subject, but practice our professions. Let us meet together in love, and consecrate ourselves anew to the service of God, and deliberate on the best means to promote the upbuilding of our Zion, and enjoy, from year to year, an antepast, of that great and grand Convention above, where we shall meet to part no more forever.

Our session, the present year, was a pleasant one—congregations large—performances by the choir, excellent—sermons by Brs. Sawyer, Potter,

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Brown, Lee, Ackley, Boughton, Whitcomb, and concluding sermon and addresses, by Br. Sawyer, caused the tear of gratitude to fill many an eye, and the incense of praise to ascend from the heart, to the "Give of every good and perfect gift," for the happy spiritual interview which we enjoyed together. A sermon was also preached on Thursday evening, by Br. Mack, Brs. Persons [Person], Sharp, Aspinwall, Whelpley, Waggoner and Morse, assisted in the interesting services of the joyful occasion. Our Watertown friends rendered our stay agreeable, by their untiring kindness and hospitality, and were prepared, and would have been happy, to entertain more.

Brethren, sisters and friends, one and all, we commend you to God, to his guidance and protection, praying that you may be builded up in every good word and work—saved from sin—made holy and happy in his temple above, and be permitted to join the departed spirits of those who have gone before you, and a redeemed universe of intelligences, in praising and adoring the wonders of redeeming grace and love, throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity. Amen.

Per Order, T. J. WHITCOMB

Evangelical Magazine & Gospel Advocate, Utica NY, Fri. 11 Jun 1841

Transcribed with notes added on 31 Oct 2012 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY