

Minutes of the Chenango Association

Met at Smithville Flats, according to adjournment, on Wednesday morning, June 11, and organized by choosing Br. C.S. Brown, Moderator, and Br. [John] G. Bartholomew, Clerk. United in prayer with Br. J.W. McMaster.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved. Credentials were then received from the following delegates:- John Shattuck, J. Robinson, *Oxford*, Benjamin Hodges, Verranus Weld, *Upper Lisle*, A. Fenner, H. Gitman, *Columbus*.

Committee of Fellowship and Ordination reported an application from Br. S.L. Roripaugh for the fellowship of this Association, and Br. J.G. Bartholomew for ordination. Reports accepted and Committee discharged.

The application of Br. Roripaugh for fellowship was laid over for one year, in accordance with the Constitution of the Association.

Voted, that Ordination be conferred on Br. Bartholomew to-morrow (Thursday) morning.

Committee of Discipline reported "no cause of complaint." Accepted.

Adjourned to meet Thursday morning at 7½ o'clock.

Thursday morning:- Moderator in the chair.- United in prayer with Br. J. Forrester.

Committee on Nominations reported as follows, which was adopted:-

Committee on Fellowship and Ordination--Brs. J.G. Bartholomew, D. Brown, *Oxford*, and N. Wood, *North Norwich*.

Committee on Discipline--John Shattuck, *Oxford*, Gideon Baker, *Upper Lisle*, and Isaac Plumb, *Sherburne*.

Delegates to State Convention..--Brs. R. Queal and Wm. M. DeLong, *clerical*; Calvin Cole and E.S. Lyman, M.D., *lay*, with power to appoint substitutes. Place of adjournment, *Sherburne*.

Br. R.L. Lamb presented his resignation as Standing Clerk of this Association.

Voted, That we accept the resignation of Br. Lamb, and tender him our thanks for past service.

Voted, That Br. J.G. Bartholomew of *Oxford*, be appointed Standing Clerk, in place of Br. Lamb, resigned.

Having received a request from the friends of Universalism in Delaware Co. N.Y. that measures might be taken by this body to send a missionary to visit the aforesaid county, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted.-

Whereas, it is understood that there is an expression of a desire for the preaching of the Gospel of impartial grace [i.e. Universalism] in the county of Delaware, in this State, therefore,

Resolved, That this Council request and authorize Rev. W.M. DeLong to travel and preach in that county, as a Missionary of this Association, at such times during the year as he may deem advisable.

Resolved, That the friends of Universalism in that county, are hereby requested to take such measures as may be necessary to co-operate with Br. DeLong in carrying out this measure.

Resolved, That the different Societies of this Association be requested to take up a collection for the purpose of purchasing Universalist tracts to be distributed within the bounds of the Association, at as early [a] time as may be convenient.

Voted, That the Clerk prepare the minutes for publication.

Adjourned to meet at *Sherburne*, N.Y. on the second Wednesday and Thursday in June, 1857.

Clergymen present.-[John] M. Austin [of Auburn, Editor of the newspaper in which this notice appeared, [Nelson] Doolittle, C.S. Brown, W.M. DeLong, R. Queal, J.W. McMaster, J. Forrester, H.E. Whitney, O.A. Warren, [John] T. Goodrich, C.E. Hewes, J.B. Gilman, [Asa] Countryman, S.L. Roripaugh, J.G. Bartholomew.

C.S. Brown, Moderator

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The public services were as follows:-

Wednesday morning.- Prayer by Br. C.S. Brown, Sermon by Br. H.E. Whitney-Psalms xc:14.

Afternoon.-Prayer by S.L. Roripaugh.- First sermon by Br. J. Forrester-Psalms xix:2. Second sermon by Br. J.B. Gilman-Rom.iii:3.

Evening.-Prayer by Br. A. Countryman. Sermon by Br. N. Doolittle-Titus ii:1.

Thursday morning - Ordaining Services.-Reading of the Scriptures, Br. J. Forrester; Introductory Prayer, Br. C.S. Brown; Sermon, Br. J.W. McMaster-Matt. v:14; Ordaining Prayer, Br. J.M. Austin; Delivery of the Scriptures and Charge, Br. A. Countryman; Right Hand of Fellowship, Br. J.T, Goodrich; Benediction by the Candidate.

Afternoon.-Prayer by Br. O.A. Warren, Sermon by Br. J.M. Austin - Luke xv:7.

REMARKS. The weather was fine and the attendance very large, filling the Church to overflowing. The sermons were of a high order, and were listened to with devout attention. Our friends in Smithville did all in their power to render our stay among them comfortable and pleasant, for which they will receive our warmest thanks. On the whole, we had an interesting meeting, and much good, we confidently believe, will be the result.

J.G.B.

Christian Ambassador, Auburn, NY, 28 Jun 1856
(a Universalist newspaper)

Transcribed on 6 Nov 2009 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY

Transcriber's note: Universalist ministers during this time were ordained and permitted to preach by the various Associations in the state. Ministers generally could not preach as Universalists within the bounds of a given Association without a Letter of Fellowship either from that Association or from the one where he lived. The Smithville Flats society belonged to the Chenango Association of Universalists.