

MINUTES
OF THE
ANNUAL CONFERENCES

OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

FOR THE YEARS

1773-1828.

VOLUME I.

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1840.

Quest. 7. *Who are under a location through weakness of body or family concerns?*

John Page, Stephen Timmons, Ezekiel Burdine, Coleman Carlisle, Llewellyn Evans, John Garvin, Joseph Dunn, James Hunt, James Patterson, Samuel S. Steward, James Denton, Christopher Spry, Nathan Swain, Barzillai Willy, Gamaliel Bailey, William Davis, Daniel Crouch, William Johnson, Jeremiah Browning, Isaac Robbins, John Cullison, Joseph Rowen, John Philips, George Armstrong, Jesse Justice, Jonathan Newman, Thomas Jackson, Matthias Swain, Geo. Moore, Smith Weeks, Archibald Foster, Timothy Dewy, Caleb Kendall, Elijah Ward, Elijah Batchelor, Augustus Jocelyn, Elijah R. Sabin, Joseph Mitchell, Reuben Jones, Jn. Nichols, Thomas Lyell, Joseph Shane—42.

Quest. 8. *Who are the supernumerary, superannuated, and worn out preachers?*

Tobias Gibson, Joseph Pinnell, Wilson Lee, Thomas Lucas, Henry Willis, Solomon Langdon, Ebenezer Stevens, Roger Searle, Richard Swain, Aaron Humphrey—10.

Quest. 9. *What preachers have withdrawn themselves from our connection this year?*

None.

Quest. 10. *Who have died this year?*

1. William Ormond,—a native of North Carolina, born in Green county, near Kingston, of a respectable family, and his circumstances in life sufficient, with care and improvement, to have afforded him ample support. His constitution had been failing for some time by his constant, fervent, zealous exertions for souls in the late revivals, in which his labours had a considerable share. He was quick in body and mind, but affectionate, fervent, and faithful: he was gracious and gifted; and upon the whole, was a good man, and a good preacher. He had a high sense of the rights of men, of Christians, and of Christian ministers, but was open to information when candidly and mildly addressed. He laboured and travelled extensively from Maryland, in various circuits in Virginia, North and South Carolina, and even to Georgia. He became a travelling preacher in the year 1791, and ended his life and labours together, in Brunswick county, Virginia, on the 30th October, 1803, including about twelve years public labour.

It was judged he had taken the malignant fever while upon his station at Norfolk, but his having been absent from thence about thirty days makes it somewhat doubtful. He died happy in God, declaring with his latest breath, his soul enjoyed peace, peace, victory, complete victory. To a friend he wrote, June 30th, 1803, "I expect to continue upon my station, for it appears I cannot well leave it at this time. I may as well die with the fever as with any other affliction, and there is as direct a passage from Norfolk to heaven, as from any other part of the globe, I have no widow to weep over my lifeless body; no babes to mourn for a father; and I find this world is a dangerous and troublesome place." He was called from his station to attend a committee in the country, on some special business, and was returning, when obliged to take his bed, from which he never more arose. He has left a legacy to the Conference, another to build a house for God in the neighbourhood of his nativity; the balance to his relations, with particular instructions that a part of it be applied to the education of their children.

So lived and so died William Ormond.

The following account was handed us by one of his brothers: He was born on Friday the 22d day of December, 1769, in Dobbs county, near Green, and was convicted of sin the 10th of December, 1787, and was converted 11th of December, 1787, and was sanctified 20th of March, 1790.

2. Nathah Jarrett,—a native of North Carolina. He was admitted into the travelling connection in 1799, and departed triumphant in the faith of the gospel the 28th of October, 1803, by a short illness, with an inflammatory bilious fever, in New Kent county, state of Virginia. He was a man of great zeal, and a pleasing voice, affable in his manners, and greatly beloved by all who had any acquaintance with him. He travelled extensively for the time he was in the connection, in North Carolina, in Swanino, Goshen, Newbern, Wilmington, and Bertie circuits; in Virginia, in Bedford, Williamsburg, and Hanover circuits. In him the Virginia Conference has lost a worthy member, and the church a faithful servant. He was between twenty-five and thirty years of age. The loss of this servant of God was justly lamented, both by the Conference and all his acquaintance; but the will of the Lord is done, which demands our submit-

sion, believing he is taken from the church militant to the church triumphant.

The night before he departed, after lying in an apparent state of insensibility for some time, he broke out in a rapture of joy, and sang the following lines:

Arise and shine, O Zion fair,
Behold thy light is come:
The glorious conquering King is nigh,
To take his exiles home.

And then in a few moments sweetly slept in Jesus.

3. Rezin Cash,—a native of the Western Shore of Maryland, Montgomery county. He was admitted into the travelling connection in 1794, and desisted and died in 1803. He was a man of great solemnity of mind and goodness of heart; blameless in life, and attentive and steadfast in the duties of his ministerial and Christian calling. He lingered and languished away his life, but died in peace, between thirty and forty years of age.

4. David Brown,—born in February, 1760, in the county of Down, Ireland: came from thence, recommended as a local preacher, entered the itinerant connection in 1794, and finished his course on the fifth of September, 1803. There have been few, even among the best of men, who have lived so generally beloved, and died so regretted as this holy man. His unaffected piety commanded esteem. His cheerfulness, seasoned with all the gentleness of humble love, won upon the affections: and his meek wisdom and even stability sealed to him the friendship, as well as love of all who had the happiness of his acquaintance. He had a peculiar excellence in reproof. The edge of it was so keen and so tempered, as to give at the time rather pleasure than pain; yet so directed as to produce with unerring certainty its effect; and generally, after his departure, his supposed pleasantness was first perceived to have had a serious meaning—but he lost no love by his reproofs. Thus graced and qualified of his God, he could not go where his endeavours were not blessed. Discord fled before him, for the God of peace was with him, and a uniting harmony brooded over the face of the circuit. He travelled nine years in Dutchess, Columbia, Croton, New-Rochelle, Long Island, Redding, Litchfield, and Cambridge circuits; and it is trusted, that from them all witnesses will arise in the great day, that his preaching was not with enticing words

of men's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power. But New-Rochelle and Croton circuits, as they shared most of his labours, were apparently the most benefited by them. There, under his administration, the blessing descended as the dew, with a general overspreading influence that reached to every part of the circuits, and neither the preacher who was then fostered by him, nor the people, will forget his work of faith and labour of love, in the years 1797 and 1798. He lived a man and a preacher of peace, and in peace he died. The terrible pains he had to endure under the dysentery, which, in fourteen days brought him to his end, were so tempered with grace as to produce, even in the sharpest conflicts, a peace uninterrupted by any complainings. Yet would grace so prevail, as occasionally to raise the river of peace in his soul into a flood-tide of joy; and thus triumphantly entered the servant into the joy of his Lord. The words mentioned to us as the last he spoke were—"The Lord's will be done: my anchor is cast within the veil." He died at Ashgrove, on Cambridge circuit, in the 44th year of his age.

Quest. 11. *Who have been expelled this year?*

William Kenyon, Edward Whittle—2.

Quest. 12. *Were all the preachers' characters examined before the Conference?*

This was strictly attended to by calling over their names, one by one, before their respective Conferences.

Quest. 13. *What numbers are in Society?*

WESTERN CONFERENCE.

Holston District.		Kentucky District.	
Whites.	Col.	Whites.	Col.
Holston	780	Limestone	940
Nollichuckie	636	Hinkstone	500
French-Broad	648	Lexington	415
New-River	299	Danville	627
Clinch	500	Salt River	284
Powell's Valley	70	Shelby	545
	2933		3311
	205		174
Cumberland District.		Ohio District.	
Nashville	637	Guyandott	25
Red River	289	Muskingum	
Barren	224	and Little	
Wayne	292	Kanawha	163
Livingston	101	Hockhocking	100
Natchez	100	Scioto	406
		Miami	501
	1643		1195
	119		20