

Session XI. — 1825.

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New York, Aug. 2, 1825.

The Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church met, agreeably to adjournment, and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. James R. Willson from Mark 1:4, “John did baptize in the wilderness and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.”

Synod then adjourned till tomorrow at 9 o’clock A.M.

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Aug. 3, 1825, 9 o’clock A.M.

The Court met agreeable to adjournment, and was called to order by the Moderator. The Court proceeded to ascertain the members of the present Synod, when it appeared that there were present from the —

————— Northern Presbytery. —————		
Ministers.	Elders.	Congregations.
Alexander McLeod	Andrew Gifford	New York.
“	Thomas Cummings	“
James R. Willson	Samuel Wright	Coldenham.
William L. Roberts	— — — —	Paterson.
Gilbert McMaster	— — — —	Duanesburgh.
Samuel M. Willson	— — — —	Galway & Broad Albin.
Melancthon B. Williams	Robert Spence	Kortright.
James Christie	— — — —	Albany.
James Milligan	— — — —	Ryegate.
————— Philadelphia Presbytery. —————		
Samuel B. Wylie	Robert Orr	Philadelphia.
John Gibson	David Graham	Baltimore.
Samuel W. Crawford.	John Thomson	Conococheague.
————— Pittsburgh Presbytery. —————		
John Black	— — — —	Pittsburgh.
William Gibson	— — — —	Cannonsburgh.
John Cannon	— — — —	Greensburgh.
Gavin McMillan	— — — —	Beech Woods.

Western Presbytery.		
Robert Lusk Samuel Wylie	- - - - - - - -	Walnut Ridge. Bethel.
Southern Presbytery.		
Hugh McMillan	- - - -	Rocky Creek.

1. Rev. James Milligan was chosen Moderator.

Rev. John Black was continued Clerk.

Rev. Samuel W. Crawford was appointed Assistant Clerk.

2. Rev. William L. Roberts was introduced to the Synod by Rev. Gilbert McMaster, as an ordained minister and member of the Northern Presbytery, having been settled over the congregation of Paterson, N. J. Mr. Roberts was invited to a seat in Synod. He took his seat accordingly.

3. The Synod proceeded to the appointment of the following Committees:

(1) Unfinished Business — Revs. John Black and S. W. Crawford.

(2) Presbyterial Reports — Revs. James R. Willson and James Christie.

(3) Signs of the Times — Revs. James Christie and S. B. Wylie.

(4) Discipline — Revs. John Cannon, S. M. Willson, John Gibson and Gilbert McMaster.

(5) Foreign Correspondence — Revs. Alex. McLeod and Gilbert McMaster.

(6) Miscellaneous Business — Revs. M. B. Williams, W. L. Roberts, and Samuel Wylie.

4. Synod agree that the Committee on the Theological Seminary be abolished, as the business of that Committee has fallen into the hands of the Superintendents.

5. On motion, Resolved, That there be a recess of Synod for half an hour in order that the Committee on Unfinished Business have time to make a report.

6. The first article of Unfinished Business respected inquiries at the session of Conococheague congregation, and likewise at Philadelphia Presbytery, if they had complied with the order of Synod to purge their minutes. Referred.

7. Inquiry was made at the Clerk of Synod if he had written to the Bethel congregation as directed. Answered in the affirmative.

8. Inquiry was proposed respecting the Directory for

Comment [NJP1]: One line in the original, but not enough room here

Comment [NJP2]: One line in the original, but not enough room here

Worship and Book of Discipline. Referred.

9. In consideration of the inquiry respecting those denominations whose baptism shall be esteemed valid, was taken up, and postponed indefinitely.

10. The receiving and hearing of Presbyterial Reports was made the order of the day for tomorrow forenoon.

The Court adjourned till 9 o'clock A.M. tomorrow.

The Moderator concluded by prayer.

Eodem loco. Thursday, Aug. 4, 1825.

The Court met pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order by the Moderator. Same members ut antea.

James Milligan, Moderator.

John Black, Clerk.

1. The minutes of the last sederunt were read and business called up.

2. Resolved, That a third Clerk be appointed whose business it shall be to prepare the Minutes of Synod each day for the press, in order that they may be printed before the members leave this place. Rev. J. R. Willson was appointed.

3. The order of the day was the receiving and hearing of Presbyterial Reports. The Northern Presbytery was called on to report. They were not in a state of readiness. The Philadelphia Presbytery presented a report which was read and referred to the Committee on Presbyterial Reports. The Pittsburgh Presbytery presented a report, which was read and referred to the Committee on Presbyterial Reports. The Western Presbytery presented a report, with accompanying documents, which was read and referred to the Committee on Presbyterial Reports.

4. It was moved that so much of the report of the Southern Presbytery as refers to the business of the Jurors be referred to a select Committee. Negatived.

5. The Committee on the Form of Church Government was called upon to report. It was not in readiness. The Committee on the publication of the Testimony reported that the Tract Society, by which it was expected that the Testimony would be published, did not act in the case, in consequence of

Comment [NJP3]: Marginal note:
"The printed extracts read, p. 145, "The Western and Southern Presbyteries presented their reports with accompanying documents, all of which were referred to the committee on Presbyterial reports"

Comment [NJP4]: Marginal note:
"See top of page"

which the Committee had not met on the subject until now. The report was accepted.

6. The Fund for the Theological Seminary was called up. Dr. McLeod reported that no collection had been made in New York congregation. Gilbert McMaster reported that he did not know whether anything had been done in his congregation or not. James Christie said the matter had not been attended to in his congregation. M. B. Williams stated that from the poverty of his congregation they had not been able at this time to do anything for the Theological Seminary. James Milligan claimed he has something from his congregation. J. R. Willson reported that the societies of Coldenham had organized themselves into a cent society, and had sent a small sum forward. S. B. Wylie reported that the congregation of Philadelphia had sent forward \$60.00. John Gibson reported that the Baltimore congregation had sent forward \$20.00. S. W. Crawford reported nothing as yet from his congregation, but they will in the course of the year do their full share. William Gibson said that nothing had been done in his congregation. John Black reported that the congregation of Pittsburgh had sent on \$35.98. Matthew Williams' congregation had sent \$5.37½. John Cannon reported \$40.00 sent to the Treasurer from Greensburgh congregation. Robert Lusk had nothing to say in relation to the fund for the Theological Seminary. Samuel Wylie had nothing to present as his people were not able. Hugh McMillan reported that the people of the Southern Presbytery had contributed between \$50.00 and \$60.00. S. M. Willson reported that something will be done in his congregation. Gavin McMillan said that something had been collected in his congregation but not sent on.

Fund for Travelling Expenses:

Alexander McLeod, _ _ \$100.00	S. B. Wylie _ _ _ _ 30.00
Gilbert McMaster _ _ 15.00	John Gibson _ _ _ _ 20.00
J. R. Willson _ _ _ 8.00	S. W. Crawford _ _ _ _ 18.63
James Christie _ _ _ 8.00	William Gibson _ _ _ _ _
M. B. Williams _ _ _ 2.50	John Black _ _ _ _ 30.00
S. M. Willson _ _ _ 10.00	John Cannon _ _ _ _ 20.00

Gavin McMillan, _ _ \$10.50	W. L. Roberts _ _ _ _ _
Robert Lusk _ _ 14.18¾	Samuel Wright, Newburgh, _ _
Samuel Wylie _ _ 7.00	Xenia congregation 2.75
Hugh McMillan 25.00	New York (further) 6.00
James Milligan 10.00	Total, _ _ \$337.56¾

John Thomson, Robert Orr and Andrew Gifford were appointed a Committee to receive the money collected for travelling expenses, and to apportion it to the members according to the act in the case made and provided.

7. The Contingent Fund. For this fund no provision had been made. It was moved and seconded that before the money is distributed to the Committee on Travelling Expenses that the Committee pay to the Clerk of Synod the money voted for his services, and likewise the money which he expended in the publication of the Minutes of Synod. Motion lost.

8. Resolved, That a Committee of Finance be appointed, and that the ruling elders John Thomson, Robert Orr and Andrew Gifford be that Committee, and that to them be referred the devising of means for liquidating the debts of Synod, and that they report on the same with all convenient speed. Alexander McLeod was added to the Committee.

Resolve, That Synod take a recess of one half-hour.

Inquiry was made of the members severally whether the fast and thanksgiving days had been attended to. The answers were satisfactory.

9. A communication was received from the Rev. Stephen N. Rowan, D.D. addressed to the Moderator of this Synod, covering an extract from the Minutes of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, as follows: —

“At a meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, on the 31st. day of May last, the following Resolution was presented through the Committee of Overtures, and adopted, viz: Resolved, That a Committee be appointed by this General Assembly to confer with a similar Committee to be appointed by the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, should they deem it expedient to appoint

such a Committee, and to prepare a plan of correspondence between the two bodies. The Rev. Stephen N. Rowan, D.D., the Rev. Elisha W. Baldwin, and the Rev. Robert McCartee were appointed a Committee agreeably to the above resolution.

A true extract from the Minutes.

Attest : Ezra Stiles Ely,
Stated Clerk of General Assembly.

Philadelphia, July 25, 1825."

After considering the communication the Synod agreed to the following resolution: —

Whereas, A communication was made to this Synod from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church informing "that a Committee had been appointed to confer with a similar Committee to be appointed by the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, should they deem it expedient to appoint such a Committee, and to prepare a plan of correspondence between the two bodies." And,

Whereas, The Rev. Stephen N. Rowan, D. D., the Rev. Elisha W. Baldwin, and the Rev. Robert McCartee were appointed that Committee agreeably to the above resolution, therefore,

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to meet and confer with the Committee appointed by the General Assembly, and that the Revs. Alexander McLeod, D.D., the Rev. John Gibson, and the Rev. Samuel M. Willson be that Committee, and that this Committee report to Synod as soon as possible.

Resolved, That the chairman of the above Committee communicate to the chairman of the Committee of the General Assembly the resolution of this Synod.

Resolved, That the Clerk of this Synod be ordered to have in readiness at the opening of each Synod a report of the unfinished business lying on the Minutes.

Synod adjourned till tomorrow at 9 o'clock A.M.

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Eodem loco. Friday, Aug. 5, 1825.

Pursuant to adjournment Synod met and was constituted. Same members ut antea.

1. The minutes of the former sederunt were called for.

2. Unfinished Business was called up. The Treasurer of the fund of the Theological Seminary, Mr. Robert Orr, presented his report, in part, which was read ; but as it was not yet completed time was allowed him to finish it. And in the meantime an Auditing Committee was appointed consisting of Rev. Samuel Wylie and elder Thomas Cummings to audit this report as soon as it shall be in readiness.

3. The Committee on Presbyterial Reports reported in part in relation to the reports of the Philadelphia and Western Presbyteries, in which reports certain members of this court had been implicated. On motion, a Committee consisting of Revs. Alex. McLeod, J. R. Willson and Hugh McMillan was appointed on this part of the report of the Committee, with the authority to call for persons and papers, and report thereon to this Synod with all convenient speed.

5. Rev. Robert Lusk presented a remonstrance from the congregation of Walnut Ridge assigning reasons for the non-attendance of a ruling elder from that quarter. The reasons were sustained.

Comment [NJP5]: Nothing is said about a 4.

6. A paper entitled a private petition from the congregation of Princeton, Ind.; and a paper entitled a petition from Walnut Ridge, were received and referred to the Committee on Discipline.

7. The Committee on the Signs of the Times reported on causes of fasting and humiliation. They read a draft of causes calling upon us to essay this duty. This draft, with a slight amendment, was adopted.

8. The Board of Superintendents of the Theological Seminary reported. That they had met April 2, 1825, and organized a Board ; that they found in the Seminary three students of theology belonging to the Reformed Presbyterian Church, viz: James R. Johnston, Gordon T. Ewing, Thomas C. Guthrie; and one, viz: Samuel F. Smith, a member of the Associate Reformed Church. Mr. Johnston had completed his course in the Seminary, and was dis-

missed duly certified. The Board proceeded to the examination of the remaining students. They delivered a variety of theological discourses, were examined at large on the Greek and Hebrew languages, natural and moral philosophy in their various ramifications, etc. They had attended one year in the Seminary. From an examination conducted during the whole week it was evident that the young men had prosecuted their studies with great diligence and considerable success. The Board respectfully recommended to Synod to cherish the school of the prophets with great tenderness, urging the advantages of a learned ministry to the church. As to the state of the funds the Board refer to the report of the Treasurer of the Seminary. The report was approved by Synod.

9. Mr. James Faris was announced to Synod by the Professor of Theology as a licentiate from the Southern Presbytery received into the Theological Seminary in June last. He had been licensed January 21, 1824.

10. The Treasurer of the Theological Seminary presented his report completed. It was received and referred to the Auditing Committee.

11. Rev. Hugh McMillan was added to the Auditing Committee.

12. Rev. John Black presented sundry papers from certain persons in Ohio. The Synod, after hearing them read and not thinking them of sufficient importance to occupy the attention of this Court, order them to lie on the table with liberty to withdraw them.

Court adjourned till 4 o'clock P.M.

4 o'clock, eodem die et loco.

The Court met agreeably to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator. Same members ut supra.

1. The Chairman of the Auditing Committee reported. That upon examination of the report of the Synod's Treasurer for the Theological Seminary, it appears that he has received from the various sections of the Church to the

amount of \$256.00 in cash and \$10.00 by promise. Also a donation of books by the Rev. James Milligan, the proceeds of the sale of which are to be appropriated to the use of the Seminary. These books your Committee recommend immediately to be sold and the proceeds to be appropriated accordingly. There is, therefore, in the Treasurer's hands, at the disposal of Synod, the sum of \$256.00. This report was approved by the Synod.

2. The remainder of this sederunt was employed in discussing matters of discipline without making any determination.

Adjourned to meet tomorrow at 9 o'clock A.M.

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Eodem loco, Saturday, Aug. 6, 1825.

The Court met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator.

1. The former Minutes were called for and read.

2. The Committee on the Draft of a Form of Covenant reported. That upon inquiry of members of the Committee, this being their first meeting, it appeared that no member had anything prepared to lay before it; and it was further ascertained that the draft of a Covenant read at the last session of Synod had not been printed; and as there is no probability from the pressure of other business that the subject be **attended** to at the present session, that the following resolution is recommended, viz: —

Resolved, That the Committee on the Draft of a Covenant be dismissed from further consideration of the subject referred to it.

The Committee further reported in relation to the Argumentative Part of the Testimony that on inquiry it appeared no member of the Committee had received any, except one, of those communications which Synod had ordered to be laid upon it, we, therefore, recommend the following resolution, viz: —

Resolved, That the Committee on the Argumentative Part of the Testimony be dismissed from the further consideration of the subject. This report was approved by Synod.

Comment [NJP6]: [sic]

3. Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to take into consideration, and present to Synod a plan, for the speedy completion of the Testimony. And that Revs. S. B. Wylie and Hugh McMillan be that Committee. On motion Revs. Gilbert McMaster, John Black and J. R. Willson were added to that Committee.

4. The Committee on the Signs of the Times reported a draft of causes of thanksgiving, which were read and approved. The Synod appointed the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving; and the last Thursday of January, 1826, as a day of fasting and humiliation.

5. Resolved, That this Synod have an interlocutory meeting in this place after the adjournment.

Adjourned till Monday at 9 o'clock A.M.

Eodem loco. Monday, Aug. 8, 1825.

The Court met and was called to order by the Moderator. Same members ut antea.

1. The former Minutes were called for and read.

2. The Standing Committees were called upon to report. None being ready to report, Synod proceeded to the order of the day which was to finish the discussion on discipline.

3. Some misunderstanding having occurred relative to the meaning of the Act passed at our last sessions respecting serving on Juries, the Synod passed the following resolution, viz: —

Resolved, That this Synod never understood any Act of theirs, relative to their members sitting on Juries, as contravening the old Common Law of our Church on that subject.

Resolved, That the Clerk of this Synod be ordered to transmit to the Southern Presbytery a copy of this Resolution as an answer to their request in their report respecting the meaning of the Act passed at the last session in relation to serving on Juries.

4. Rev. S. M. Willson having declined serving as a member of the Committee appointed to meet and confer with a similar Committee appointed by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, therefore,

Resolved, That Rev. James Christie be substituted

in his stead, and that the Clerk of this Synod certify this to the above Committee.

5. The Northern Presbytery presented an extract from their Minutes craving a division of their Presbytery into three distinct Presbyteries, and authority to constitute themselves into a subordinate Synod. The extract is as follows: —

“New York, Aug. 4, 1825.

Resolved, That the Presbytery petition the representative Synod, at its present sessions, to divide the Northern Presbytery into three Presbyteries.

Resolved, That Presbytery also petition the representative Synod to authorize the Presbyteries so divided to constitute themselves into a Synod subordinate to the representative Synod.

August 5th: — The Clerk was directed to lay before the representative Synod now in session a copy of the Minutes containing the resolution of yesterday, passed respecting the division of the Presbytery and the constitution of a Subordinate Synod.”

6. On motion, the subject was referred to a Committee consisting of one member from each of our Presbyteries, who are to report with all convenient speed. The members of the Committee to be the Revs. William Gibson, Samuel Wylie, Hugh McMillan, John Gibson and Gilbert McMaster.

7. All Committees are ordered to come prepared to report tomorrow.

Adjourned till tomorrow at 9 o'clock A.M. The Moderator concluded by prayer.

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Eodem loco. Tuesday, Aug. 9, 1825.

The Court met agreeably to adjournment. Same members ut antea.

1. The Minutes of the former sederunt were read.

2. The Committee appointed upon the application of the Northern Presbytery report: That the Synod grant liberty to the Northern Presbytery, or any other of our Presbyteries, to form so many Presbyteries as may suit their own convenience preparatory to the formation of a Subordinate Synods. Your Committee,

however, are not of the opinion that the immediate formation of a Subordinate Synod would be expedient, inasmuch as the other Presbyteries of our Church are not prepared to form other Subordinate Synods. They would, therefore, recommend to Synod that all the Presbyteries of our Church be directed to take the subject into consideration until the next meeting of Synod, and be prepared to decide upon the subject. Your Committee think it inexpedient in the measure of so much importance as the formation of Subordinate Synods that the whole Church should cooperate in the measure.

Comment [NJP7]: “in” is circled in pencil in this word, with a pencilled marginal note of “expedient”; the letters underlined in this word are underlined by the pencil of the interpolator

3. The special Committee on the Presbyterian charges against Rev. Robert Lusk and Mr. John Thomson were called on to report. Mr. Lusk observed in the meantime that as there was no business before the Court he had some communications to make, and presented two papers to the Moderator, intimating verbally his purpose of withdrawing from our connection, and, bidding the Moderator farewell, he left the house. The special Committee on the Presbyterian charges against Rev. Robert Lusk and Mr. John Thomson then presented a report. The first article of this report, as amended, is the following: —

(1) Resolved, That this Synod decidedly disapprove of the conduct of the Western Presbytery in admitting into their Minutes and incorporating with their report such foreign and libellous matter in relation to John Thomson.

(2) Resolved, That the Rev. Robert Lusk be disannexed from the Western Presbytery and that he be attached to the Pittsburgh Presbytery. While this resolution was under consideration, it was moved and carried that the papers left by Mr. Lusk be examined, at least so far as to find out their general import, and the remainder of the report of the special Committee was referred until this examination be made. On examining Mr. Lusk’s papers, which were almost illegibly written, it was found that they contain a protest and declinature, and declared the authority of this Court a nullity, and that Mr. Lusk disregarded its charges. Enquiry was then made, what order shall be taken in the case of Mr. Lusk? The Court —

Resolved, That Mr. Lusk be summoned forthwith to appear before Synod, that he might answer such questions as might be proposed to him, and read his own papers. The citation was delivered to him, before witnesses, at his lodgings. He returned no answer and he did not attend. It was agreed that he again be summoned, and that the Rev. James Milligan accompany the citation and learn, if possible, Mr. Lusk's intention in relation to answering the summons. Mr. Milligan understood him to say that he would not appear before Synod. Mr. Lusk was a third time summoned to attend Synod at nine o'clock, A.M. tomorrow, but he could not be found.

4. The Northern Presbytery reported in part, which was accepted. Robert McKee, a student of theology who had formerly delivered trials before the Northern Presbytery, was referred to that Presbytery to be at their disposal.

5. The Synod agree that the provision in the 6th. Article of Section 4th. of the Constitution of the Theological Seminary be suspended.

6. Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to take into consideration the financial system proposed for raising a fund for the Theological Seminary, and report amendments if any such be necessary; and that Rev. J. R. Willson, and elders Andrew Gifford and Robert Orr be that Committee.

7. Resolved, That this Committee have power to report on the disposal of the moneys collected for the Theological Seminary.

8. Rev. Hugh McMillan, in the name of the Southern Presbytery, requested supplies to be sent to that Presbytery.

9. Resolved, That the thanks of this Synod be returned to the Rev. J. R. Willson for his sermon delivered at the opening of the Synod, and that a copy be requested for publication. The thanks of the Synod were returned by the Moderator, and Mr. Willson agreed to furnish a copy for publication.

10. Resolved, That when this Synod adjourn, it do adjourn to meet in Philadelphia on the third Wednesday of May, 1827.

11. The Committee on the Argumentative Part of the Testimony reported : That the various topics embraced in that article

be recommended to the individual attention of the different ministers of our connection, and that in the meantime no particular appointment relative thereto be made by this Synod. This report was accepted by Synod.

Adjourned till tomorrow at 9 o'clock, A.M.

Eodem loco. Wednesday, Aug. 10, 1825.

The Court met pursuant to adjournment. Same members ut antea. The Moderator, Rev. James Milligan, not being present, on motion the Rev. James Christie was called to the chair pro tem. The roll was called, and the Minutes of the former sederunt read.

1. The Committee on Presbyterial Reports reported: That from the reports of all the Presbyteries belonging to this Synod there is ground of thankfulness and encouragement. Peace, harmony and love to the cause of Reformation, and to one another, prevail in all our bounds. The congregations in the Northern Presbytery are increasing. There are within their bounds three organized congregations are vacant which have made calls upon candidates for the ministry. Their other vacancies are numerous. Since the last meeting of Synod there have been two churches erected, one in the city of Schenectady and the other in White Lake. There are at present three licentiates under their care, one of whom has accepted a call.

The congregations in the Philadelphia Presbytery are represented as in a prosperous state. They have one vacancy only.

In the Pittsburgh Presbytery it appears that there are several vacancies ripe for settlement and others increasing in strength, while the settled congregations are all growing in members. Three licentiates are under their care.

The Western Presbytery reported that they had many vacancies which are in a promising state; that the people are eager to hear the gospel and many are embracing Reformation principles. In the extensive regions over which their congregations and societies are scattered, they represent the condition of a great part of the people as destitute of the means of grace.

In the Southern Presbytery there has been no diminution

of the number of their members notwithstanding the difficulties under which they labor from the operation of the laws respecting slavery. Their vacancies are numerous and anxious for supplies far beyond what the ministers of that Presbytery are able to afford them. They have one licentiate under their care.

Within the bounds of all the Presbyteries errors, heresies, and immoralities abound among those who are without. Your Committee recommend the following resolution: Resolved, That Pittsburgh Presbytery be recommended to transfer Mr. James Blackwood to the Southern Presbytery. The Synod approved this report.

2. The special Committee on the funds of the Theological Seminary reported the following resolutions which were adopted by Synod, viz: —

(1) That congregations, societies, or individual be recommended to transmit the monies which they shall raise for the support of the Theological Seminary directly to Robert Orr, the Synodical Treasurer, who shall receipt for the same.

(2) That the monies now in the fund for the Theological Seminary shall be and hereby are appropriated to the Professor as a small acknowledgement for his labors, and that the President of the Board of Superintendents sign an order on the Treasurer in behalf of the Professor for the amount on hand. These resolutions were adopted by the Synod.

3. The Committee on Travelling Expenses reported that the several members presented monies for that purpose as follows:

Members.	Amount.	Miles.	Received.
Alexander McLeod	\$ 106.00	— — —	\$ — — —
Gilbert McMaster	15.00	180	8.94
J. R. Willson	8.00	70	3.47 ³ / ₄
James Christie	8.00	160	7.94
M. B. Williams	2.12 ¹ / ₂	180	8.94
S. M. Willson	10.00	180	8.94
S. B. Wylie	30.00	96	4.76 ³ / ₄
John Gibson	20.00	200	9.93
S. W. Crawford	18.63	240	4.88

William Gibson	— — —	400	19.86
John Black	30.00	400	19.86
John Cannon	20.00	360	17.88
Gavin McMillan	10.50	700	34.76
Robert Lusk	14.18 ³ / ₄	850	42.21 ¹ / ₂
Samuel Wylie	7.00	1100	54.63 ¹ / ₄
Hugh McMillan	25.00	700	34.76
James Milligan	10.00	370	18.57 ¹ / ₂
(Xenia Congregation)	2.75	— — —	— — —
Total,			\$307.35 ¹ / ₄

4. Enquiry was made what shall be done with Mr. Lusk's share of the money collected for travelling expenses? Mr. Lusk had not paid the money announced by him as having been sent by his congregation. The Synod agreed that this money be deducted from the sum allowed him for mileage, and that the balance be forthwith sent him to his lodgings. This was accordingly done, but Mr. Lusk could not be found. The money, therefore, lies in the hand of the Treasurer of the Committee.

5. The Northern Presbytery reported that they had taken under trials Mr. Robert McKee, formerly delivered to their care by this Synod, and that said Presbytery had licensed Mr. McKee, August 9, 1825. Mr. McKee is, therefore, a licentiate under the care of the Northern Presbytery.

6. The Committee appointed to superintend the printing of the causes of fasting and thanksgiving reported that they were printed, and that the charge of printing was \$7.00.

Resolved, That the members, by voluntary contributions, discharge this bill. The Collection was \$13.37¹/₂, and the surplus was ordered to be placed in the Contingent Fund.

7. The order of the day was now called up. This was the examination of Mr. Lusk's papers and taking order thereon. The papers tabled by Mr. Lusk were read and considered, and the Court adopted the following resolutions, viz: —

Whereas: It is notorious that the Rev. Robert Lusk has for some time pursued a disorderly course in violation of the obligations by which he was bound to promote the edification

and unity of this Church, which has issued in his renouncing the authority of this Court, in contradiction to his ordination vows,

Resolved, 1st, That for these things already mentioned, and many more that might be added, this Court, by virtue of the authority lodged in it by the Lord Jesus Christ, the great Head and King of his Church; of jurisdiction, original and appellate, do, and they hereby suspend the Rev. Robert Lusk from the exercise of the office of the holy ministry and from church fellowship, aye, and until he return from the evil of his ways and give evidence of true repentance of his sins in the premises.

Resolved, 2nd. That the ministerial connection between the Rev. Robert Lusk and the congregation of Walnut Ridge be, and the same is, hereby dissolved.

Resolved, 3rd. That the Rev. Samuel Wylie on his return home, if in his power, shall preach a sermon in the bounds of said congregation and publicly announce said dissolution. If not in his power, that the Rev. Gavin McMillan, as soon as convenient, shall carry into effect the above resolution.

Resolved, 4th. That the Clerk of this Synod shall be ordered to transmit to the people of Walnut Ridge congregation an official account of these resolutions.

Adjourned to meet this evening at 6 o'clock. The Moderator concluded by prayer.

Eodem die et loco. 6 o'clock, P.M.

Synod met agreeably to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator. Same members ut supra.

The Minutes of the former sederunt were read.

1. The Committee on Finance reported on the debt of the Synod in relation to the Contingent Fund as follows:

<u>The Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Dr.</u>	
To Balance of Account for printing Synod's <u>Minuets</u> as account rendered,	\$17.21
“ to Clerk's Salary for Synod in Pittsburgh,	_ _ 50.00
“ “ present session	_ _ 50.00
Total,	_ _ \$117.21

The Committee recommended that there be a collection taken up in every congregation immediately after the return home of our min-

Comment [NJP8]: Triple underline in the original

Comment [NJP9]: [sic]

isters for the purpose of liquidating the above debt, and the surplus, if any, to be kept in the fund for future contingencies.

Resolved, That Robert Orr of Philadelphia, Treasurer of the fund of the Theological Seminary, be also the Treasurer of the Contingent Fund. Adopted by Synod.

2. Synod agree that the Treasurer receive such sum as the ministers may at present see proper severally to contribute in behalf of their congregations.

3. On motion, Resolved, That the papers introduced by Mr. Lusk to this Synod contain statements which are considered false and libellous, and that the characters attacked in these papers are considered unimpeached.

4. Resolved, That the Moderator of this Synod, the Rev. James Milligan, open the next meeting of Synod with a sermon on "The Evidence of Grace in the Believer," and in case of his failure, that the Rev. Robert Gibson be his substitute.

Synod adjourned to meet in Philadelphia on the third Wednesday of May, 1827, at 7 o'clock, P.M.

The Moderator concluded by prayer, and the singing of the 133d. Psalm.

(Signed).

James Milligan, Moderator.

John Black, Synod Clerk.