

CHARLESTON OBSERVER

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PRESBYTERY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

—Thursday, March 19, 1840.

The Presbytery of South Carolina met according to adjournment, and was opened with a Sermon by Rev. Edward T. Buist, Moderator of the last Session, from Collos. iv. 17. "Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfill it."

Constituted with prayer.

Ministers present — David Humphreys, William Carlile, John L. Kennedy, Edward T. Buist, Samuel H. Lewes, William H. Harris, James F. Gibert.

With the Elders—Hugh Maclin; from Good Hope Church; David Simpson, Roberts; William Mulliken, Carmel; Adam Stennis, Fairview; James Dorroh, Friendship; Samuel R. Todd, Laurens Court House; William Green, Liberty Spring; James Caldwell, New Harmony; Robert Cosby, Providence; John McKelvey, Hope-well; John Donald, Greenville; Jacob Belot, Sandy Spring; A.O. Norris, Varrenes.

Ministers absent — Moses Waddel, D.D., John B. Kennedy, Hugh Dickson, William Ross, Benjamin D. Du Pre; Isaac W. Waddell, Charles W. Martin, Edwin Cater and William H. Davis.

Rev. William H. Harris was chosen Moderator, and Samuel H. Lewes, Temporary Clerk.

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Saturday, March 21

Narrative of the State of Religion

The Presbytery of South Carolina, in presenting their Narrative of the State of Religion in our bounds, to the General Assembly, have taken a careful survey, and find that the condition of our Zion has not materially changed since our last report. We have had some changes, however, and these of a cheering character.

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The committee appointed with reference to the Boards of the General Assembly, re-

ported the following resolutions which were adopted, as follows, (viz.)

“We feel ourselves called upon as a Presbytery, to express our gratitude to the great Head of the church for the happy deliverance granted to our beloved Zion, in her recent trials. We hope that now we shall be free from the discordant notes of contention and strife ; and that we shall be enabled, in peace and harmony, to accomplish the great work committed to our hands, as a branch of the Christian church. The formation of the Boards of Education ; of Foreign and Domestic Missions ; and the appointment of a Publishing committee by our Assembly, have been sources of great gratification to us ;—believing that they will be rich blessings to our church, to our country, and to the World. Still we are aware that they cannot effect any great good, unless the Presbyteries cordially and generously support the General Assembly, in these noble, and laudable efforts. Therefore,

“*Resolved 1st.* That we as a Presbytery acknowledge the right of the Assembly to form these Boards ; and that we cordially approve their formation ; believing that the principle upon which they are founded, is clearly accordant with the Scriptures of eternal truth.

“*Resolved 2nd.* That being fully convinced of the insufficiency of individual Churches or Presbyteries separately to carry forward these great enterprizes of Christian benevolence, we pledge our influence and support to the Assembly, in sustaining these Boards.

“*Resolved 3rd.* That we cordially recommend these Boards to the prayers and charities of our churches ; and affectionately urge them to afford substantial aid to the Assembly, in its efforts to advance the Redeemer's kingdom ; and to send the glad tidings of salvation to the ends of the earth ; thus aiding to accomplish God's designs of mercy towards fallen man.”

[transcription restricted to the issue of the Boards]