

188

# MINUTES.

The Congregational Association of Oregon met in the Congregational Church in Forest Grove, at 9 o'clock, A. M., Thursday, June 18, 1868.

The Association was called to order by Rev. D. A. Miles, Pastor of this Church.

The roll being called, the following named ministers and delegates of Churches were found present:

Chester N. Terry, Registrar.....	Salem.
Rev. D. B. Gray.....	Astoria.
Rev. Thos. Condon.....	Dalles.
Rev. D. A. Miles.....	Forest Grove.
Rev. E. Walker.....	Hillsboro.
Rev. Geo. H. Atkinson, D. D.....	Portland.
Rev. P. S. Knight.....	{ Salem. Oregon City.
Rev. H. Lyman.....	Forest Grove.
Rev. S. H. Marsh, D. D.....	Forest Grove.

The lay delegates present were—

Geo. H. Collier.....	Forest Grove.
T. G. Naylor.....	Forest Grove.
W. Adams.....	Hillsboro.
A. Hurgren.....	Portland.
L. M. Parrish.....	Portland.
J. G. Glenn.....	Portland.
C. M. Parmenter.....	Salem.
I. N. Gilbert.....	Salem.
R. T. Hawley.....	Salem.

The following named officers were duly elected:

Rev. P. S. Knight, Moderator.

Chester N. Terry, Clerk.

Introductory devotional exercises were conducted by the Moderator, by reading the 147th Psalm, and leading in prayer.

On motion of Bro. Naylor, Rev. J. H. D. Henderson was admitted as a corresponding member.

A Committee on Religious Exercises was appointed, as follows: Rev. D. A. Miles, Bros. A. Hurgren and P. H. Hatch.

The Moderator appointed as a committee to make nominations for standing and other committees, as follows: Rev. H. Lyman, Bros. T. G. Naylor and G. H. Collier.

The Committee of Arrangements, appointed last year, reported an order of business as follows:

## PROGRAMME.

Prayer meeting every morning, from 8 to 9 o'clock.

THURSDAY FORENOON.—Introductory exercises.—Election of Officers.—Appointment of Committees.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.—Reports of Churches.—Reports of delegates to Corresponding Bodies.

FRIDAY FORENOON.—Reports of Standing Committees.—Reports of Special or Visiting Committees.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.—Benevolent Societies.—Bible Society.—A. H. M. Society.—A. B. C. F. M.—A. M. Association.

SATURDAY.—Discuss the following questions:

1st.—How shall a more general observance of the Sabbath be secured?

2d.—How shall our Ministers and Churches oppose or counteract the influence of infidel publications?

3d.—How shall a better supply of Ministers be obtained for this State?

On motion of Bro. Marsh, that portion of the report relating to Friday was referred to the Committee on Religious Exercises.

On motion, the report as amended was then adopted.

On motion of Bro. Miles, the time of meeting and adjournment

ing was made as follows: Convene at 9 A. M., and adjourn at 11½ A. M.; convene at 2 P. M., and adjourn at 5 P. M.

On motion, the Association adjourned after prayer by Rev. J. H. D. Henderson.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 O'CLOCK.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Bro. A. Hurgren.

Rev. J. H. D. Henderson signed the Constitution, and became a member of this Association.

The reports of the committees to correspond with the various Congregational bodies in the United States, were called for, and the following were made:

Rev. G. H. Atkinson said he had written, but had received no reports from New Hampshire and Illinois.

Rev. S. H. Marsh, no reports from New Jersey and Ohio.

Rev. H. Lyman, no reports from Vermont and Kansas.

Rev. Thomas Condon, no reports from New York and Iowa.

C. Eells—not present—as a committee for Rhode Island and Nebraska.

Rev. O. Dickinson, no reports from Michigan and Wisconsin.

Rev. D. B. Gray, no reports from Connecticut and Indiana.

Rev. E. Walker, no reports from Maine and Pennsylvania.

Rev. P. S. Knight, an interesting letter read from Missouri, and a letter from the delegate of the Association of California to this body; unable to be present.

Rev. J. F. Damon—not present—as a committee to Massachusetts and Minnesota.

Rev. D. A. Miles read a letter from Colorado, of a cheering character; no report from Nebraska.

Rev. G. H. Atkinson, delegate to the M. E. Conference of Oregon last year, reported that he visited the Conference, and was received and admitted in a truly Christian spirit.

A letter was read from Rev. J. H. Wythe, who was one of the committee from the M. E. Conference of Oregon to this body, of a congratulatory character.

The Committee on Religious Exercises submitted the following order, which was adopted:

Prayer meeting every morning, from 5½ to 6 A. M., and from 8 to 9 A. M.  
Preaching Friday evening, at 7½ o'clock, by Rev. H. Lyman; also, prayer meeting at 7 P. M.

Preaching on Saturday evening, at 7½ o'clock, by Rev. J. H. D. Henderson.

Subject for to-morrow's prayer meeting: "How shall we secure a greater measure of the Holy Spirit in our Churches, and consequently a greater unanimity of feeling and action among our Church members."

The Associational Sermon will be preached this evening, at 7½ o'clock, by Rev. P. S. Knight.

SABBATH EVENING.—Sermon by Rev. Thomas Condon.

The statistical reports from the Churches were read, showing generally a healthy condition.

On motion of Bro. Atkinson, the Committees on Correspondence with Foreign bodies were continued same as last year, and the names of the committees be published.

Committees to correspond with the various Congregational bodies in the United States:

G. H. Atkinson, New Hampshire and Illinois.

S. H. Marsh, New Jersey and Ohio.

H. Lyman, Vermont and Kansas.

T. Condon, New York and Iowa.

C. Eells, Rhode Island and Nebraska.

O. Dickinson, Michigan and Wisconsin.

D. B. Gray, Connecticut and Indiana.

E. Walker, Maine and Pennsylvania.

P. S. Knight, Missouri and California.

J. F. Damon, Massachusetts and Minnesota.

D. A. Miles, Nebraska and Colorado.

120  
X  
On motion of Bro. Atkinson, Rev. P. S. Knight was appointed a delegate to present our salutations to the M. E. Conference at Salem.

On motion, the Moderator and Clerk was constituted a committee to appoint a delegate to the O. S. Presbytery.

The Committee on Home Missions submitted and read a report.

On motion of Bro. Atkinson, the remainder of the session of this day was spent in prayer and remarks on Home Missions, which was truly beneficial to all present.

The session was closed with prayer by Rev. S. H. Marsh.

---

THURSDAY EVENING, 7½ O'CLOCK.

The Associational sermon was preached by P. S. Knight, from Matthew, 13 chap., v. 52.

---

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 1868—8 A. M.

One hour spent in Religious exercises.

The Association was opened with prayer by Bro. L. M. Parrish.

The minutes of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

Bro. C. N. Terry offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the following committees be and are hereby made standing committees, and shall be appointed during the session, and continue as such committees until the end of the following session, to-wit:

Narrative of Churches.

Sabbath Schools.

Religious Condition of the Country.

Publication of the Minutes.

On Arrangements (or Order of Exercises) Temperance.

On Religious Publications.

Indian Affairs.

Visiting Committee to Pacific University.

The Committee on Religious Publications made the following report, which was adopted:

**Report of Committee on Religious Publications.**

Your committee do not deem it best to select from the numerous good publications of the East, to the seeming disparagement of others, any certain number, either great or small, to recommend to the patronage of our Churches.

There are numerous Quarterlies, Monthlies, and Weeklies, that deal with about equal ability with the living issues of the day, between which it is perhaps best that our people distribute their patronage as their own judgment may dictate.

But there is one subject we think every Pastor should lay plainly before his people.

None of these Eastern journals properly represent the interests of our Pacific Churches. It seems they partly *will not*, and partly *cannot* do so. Their managers do not know our wants and circumstances.

We do not think any of them fully appreciate what are, and what are to be the resources of the Pacific slope. Some of them that seem to have a faint idea of California, seemingly know but little of the vast and soon to be densely peopled regions of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. They are absorbed with the pressing wants of the Interior and Southern fields, and under the press of surveying and supplying these, they only find time to give an occasional and hurried glance at the great and growing West. One might often read these journals for weeks, and not know that there was anything of our country west of Kansas. The *Independent*, for instance, persistently blazes its Chicago letter before the world as "Western Correspondence," as though New York were the center of our great Union and Chicago were upon its Western border, while we all know that Chicago is an Eastern city, and so far East that some of us never expect to see it. The *Advance* is a little more awake to the true extent of our country, and contains an occasional item of news from the West. But we repeat that none of them properly represent before their Eastern readers the claims and wants of this Western field.

In view of these facts, your committee deem it proper that we urge upon our people the necessity of giving an earnest support to the *Pacific*, published at San Francisco. This paper is now enlarged and improved, so that

it compares favorably with any of the Eastern weeklies. We believe its managers really try to make it a proper representative of our Churches on the Pacific. The oldest religious journal in the West, the steady advocate of truth and justice, the subject of many prayers and sacrifices on the part of our California brethren—we deem the *Pacific* eminently worthy of our support and confidence.

(Signed.)

P. S. KNIGHT, }  
D. A. MILES, } Committee.

On motion of Bro. Marsh, the Rev. Mr. Mayfield, of the United Brethren Church, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

The Committee on Temperance submitted a report, which was read, and,

On motion of Bro. Condon, the report was referred back to the same committee.

On motion of Bro. Atkinson, Rev. J. H. D. Henderson was added to the Committee on Temperance.

The session was closed with prayer by Bro. I. N. Gilbert.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 O'CLOCK.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Bro. P. H. Hatch.

On motion of Bro. Walker, Bro. Henry was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

On motion of Bro. Marsh, Rev. Mr. Sewall, of the Baptist Church, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

The report of the Committee on Home Missions was taken up and adopted, to-wit:

#### Report of the Committee on Home Missions.

In view of the pressing wants of our H. M. field, it will be remembered that Rev. Thomas Condon was by the Association last year, chosen agent for at least three months, and until other arrangements could be made. Shortly after the meeting of the Association, Bro. Condon wrote the Chair-

man of the Committee that he could not supply his pulpit at the Dalles, and, for other reasons also, he could not engage in this service. No application was therefore made by the A. H. M. Society for his appointment. Acting upon the judgment, expressed by members of the Association, that an agent should be chosen who had been on the field, and who knew its condition and wants, the Chairman, with the advice of other members of the Committee, applied to Rev. O. Dickinson to accept this agency, but his other arrangements have precluded his engaging in this work. No other application has been made.

The A. H. M. Society have been repeatedly informed of our need of more laborers, but thus far they have not found the men to send to Oregon. They have been ready to aid any of our Churches to the full extent asked, when the proper application has been made to them. During the past year they aided five Churches in Oregon, in sums ranging from \$600 to \$1,000 per year.

In view of this fact, and their long continued benefactions to our Churches, we ought not only to feel grateful to that Society, but to cherish the utmost confidence in their purposes to promote our Lord and Savior's Kingdom in Oregon.

We have to regret that the Church at Oregon City is without the regular ministrations of the Word by any Minister of our Order. Yet we rejoice that the members faithfully sustain the prayer meetings per week, and keep up their Sabbath School so efficiently, that the brethren have been invited to establish other Sabbath Schools in neighboring settlements. The Church have given Rev. D. B. Gray an urgent invitation to be their Pastor, but his relations to the Church at Astoria have been of too great value to be disturbed. They also extended a call to Rev. Wm. A. Tenny, of San Francisco, to become their Pastor, but he had made arrangements to labor with another Church in California. Though the trials of the Oregon City Church have been severe, we rejoice to know that it has patiently borne them and maintained its Christian integrity. We are gratified that Rev. Dr. Chandler, of the Baptist Church, occupies their House of Worship once a month regularly, and with profit to a large congregation, and that the spirit of Christian unity prevails.

Your committee have incidentally learned that Rev. J. F. Damon, who was ordained in September last, at Albany, has been compelled by ill health to remit his labors in the Ministry. We hope this is only a temporary illness, and that he will soon be able to preach again, as he has done with great acceptance.

Our out-lying fields remain much as they have been for several years. We foresee great losses of harvests in the future for lack of seed-sowing.

and culture. Yet we see also fields ready for harvest from seed sown during twenty years of labor by ourselves in Oregon, and by other laborers here and elsewhere. We seem to be invited to enter those fields, and do the same work as it has been our lot to do in the places so long occupied. We doubt not that the rich experience of our Savior's blessings in the past, will be our portion, or that of others in future. The Gospel is always a growth wherever planted. It becomes us to estimate our just share in its increase, and give it that increased attention which its importance demands.

Though widely scattered, we have, as a committee, had our eyes upon the field and the work, and we do most deeply feel impressed with our Savior's injunction: "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."

After prayerful study of the subject, in which we know that the Association have heartily joined us, we have come to the conclusion that our Savior indicates his own method of finding and employing laborers for the harvest.

The sacred Evangelist records: "That after these things, the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. Therefore said he unto them, the harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."

It would seem that these seventy men were disciples, followers and believers, but not distinctively Apostles and Ministers of the Word, ordained to the service for life. It seems also that they were to precede our Savior in visiting cities and settlements, and in proclaiming the glad news of the Kingdom of God. There were not enough, though it seems that he sent forth all he had of true disciples at command. The principles on which acted plainly are, that in the cities of Israel there were many persons ready to be gathered in to the Gospel Kingdom the moment they should hear its precious tidings; that they had grown up under the teachings of the prophets and holy men of old, and were like Simeon, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and that any true disciple could carry these precious tidings and prepare those people for the Master's coming, to verify his own messages of grace. It is very probable that by this means the number of disciples soon increased from a few to at least five hundred. We are made aware that these events occurred during the last year of our Lord's ministry.

Applying the lesson to our times and to ourselves, we are reminded that there are harvest fields all around. The seed has been long and variously sown. Multitudes have grown up more or less under the light and power of the Holy Scriptures. They need to hear the *glad tidings of Salvation*. With much dimness of sight, and much trouble of heart, they wait for the

consolation of Israel. Even the coming of the Lord. It is a privilege to tell such thirsting, hungering souls that Jesus is near. It is a service which every believer may perform. It is a duty to which the Master himself calls every true disciple.

It plainly devolves upon his Church, acting in his name, to send forth its members, two and two, into every city and place whither he himself will come, to declare the good tidings of the Kingdom of God. It is plain that past efforts in this direction should be systematically increased, until all of his followers are employed in some such service for him, especially in visiting and proclaiming the truth in the out-lying fields. Having thus faithfully put to work all the laborers at command, we may confidently ask the Lord of the harvest to send forth more laborers into his harvest. We are rebuked for suffering so much talent, experience, knowledge and piety in things pertaining to our Lord's Kingdom to lie idle *from year to year*. It may be pleasant to be always followers and learners at the feet of Jesus but he himself bids us go also forth, from time to time, and be workers. Since we can here and there gather a Sabbath School, or Bible class, or a little company, he bids us no longer delay, but use the means and opportunities which we have, and then ask for more.

Your committee feel that every Church or assembly of believers, even the two or three, gathered in his name, and with whom he promises to meet, is such a center of light to be diffused. We believe that every such company, large or small, is called upon to employ and send forth its members, two and two, into every accessible place, so that no city or settlement shall be without its Sabbath School, Bible class, or meeting for prayer and praise, and exhortation. It was thus that the early disciples went forth everywhere preaching the Word, and believers were multiplied. We therefore earnestly recommend to every Church to look over its own out-lying field, and establish as many out-stations as possible, and send forth its members, two and two, to proclaim the Word of truth and prepare the way for the Lord's coming. In assisting to organize this work, and in going from point to point, we believe that every Pastor will find a large increase of his usefulness, and of his capacity to be useful, and that every Church will be greatly edified and strengthened thereby; and, above all, that our Lord and Savior will be more and more known and glorified among the people.

Respectfully submitted, G. H. ATKINSON, J. G. GLENN, D. B. GRAY, A. HURGHEN, O. DICKINSON, } Committee.

Rev. G. H. Atkinson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That in view of the field and the work indicated in the foregoing report, we would cordially and earnestly recommend to the A. H. M. Society to appoint and employ Rev. O. Dickinson their General Agent for Oregon and the adjoining Territories.

Rev. John Spencer, delegate from the M. E. Conference of Oregon to this body, was introduced and made an address, which was listened to with much attention and great pleasure.

The Committee on Nominations submitted the following report, which was laid on the table:

*Narrative of Churches.*—Rev. O. Dickinson.  
*Sabbath Schools.*—Rev. G. H. Atkinson, J. G. Glenn.  
*Education.*—Prof. G. H. Collier.  
*Religious Condition of the Country.*—Rev. D. B. Gray.  
*Publication of Minutes.*—C. N. Terry, Rev. P. S. Knight, I. N. Gilbert.  
*Committee on Order of Business.*—Rev. D. A. Miles.  
*Temperance.*—Rev. Thomas Condon, W. P. Abrams.  
*Religious Publications.*—Rev. S. H. Marsh, Rev. J. H. D. Henderson.  
*Indian Affairs.*—Rev. C. A. Huntington.  
*Visiting Committee to Pacific University.*—Rev. D. B. Gray, Thos. Condon, C. M. Parmenter.

Preachers for next year were—

*Associational Sermon.*—Rev. D. B. Gray.  
*Alternate.*—Rev. J. H. D. Henderson.  
*Communion Sermon.*—Rev. Thomas Condon.  
*Alternate.*—Rev. S. H. Marsh.

The Committee on Church Building Fund made the following report, which was adopted:

Your committee, in regard to the Church Building Fund, would report that the amount of Funds now on hand awaiting the wants of our needy Church is \$189 10, gold; or, \$266 33, currency. The original sum placed in our hands by the Churches was \$211 80. The accruing interest, therefore, is \$54 53, to which must be added from the Church of Salem \$23 24—making in all \$289 57, currency.

O. DICKINSON,  
C. N. TERRY,  
C. M. PARMENTER, } Committee.

On motion of Bro. Atkinson, the Church Building Com-

mittee was continued, to-wit: Rev. O. Dickinson, C. N. Terry, C. M. Parmenter.

The Committee on Temperance submitted the following report, which was adopted:

#### Report of the Committee on Temperance.

Congregational Churches, in common with nearly all the Churches of Christ, are Temperance Societies.

While we claim to be far more than this, and that our work embraces all the grand objects of moral reform in the individuals and in society, our Churches are none the less emphatically Temperance Societies.

We hold it a duty, and one of the conditions of Church fellowship, that members shall abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors, as a beverage.

Every professing Christian is a member of at least one Temperance Society, and should be a worker in the Temperance cause.

True, the Gospel aims at more than outward reform.

It seeks to renew and sanctify the heart, producing a radical change of character; and this is the key-note of all truly Christian effort. However much we may rejoice in the reformation of the inebriate and the abandonment of intemperate habits, we feel that the work is not finished until a man is made a new creature in Christ Jesus. But it often happens that Temperance leads the way to religious life. It was the work of John the Baptist to cry, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord and make his paths straight."

Seeking the coming of the Kingdom of Christ into every heart, we are compelled to a vast amount of preparatory labor.

We must often be engaged in "casting up a highway and gathering out the stones."

Prejudices must be removed; knowledge must be disseminated, and especially must intemperate habits be broken up often, before the power of the Gospel finds its way to the heart.

A great many have been reached for Christ after renouncing intemperate habits and associations, who could not before.

Dr. Lyman Beecher did a great work by preaching six consecutive sermons on Intemperance.

The Apostle Paul reasoned on Temperance so that men trembled.

Let us, as Ministers and Churches, awake to the importance of preaching and writing more upon this subject, and circulating a Temperance literature.

Let us also continue to recognize, as we have done the great

efficiency of other organizations that make Temperance reform a prime object. The Good Templars have reclaimed a vast number from the degrading bondage of intemperance, and carried joy into many households. We learn from the G. W. S. of our State, that there has been a gain of 40 Lodges and 2,612 members in Oregon and Washington Territory, from February, 1867, to February, 1868. He says also, "that the effects of the Order are visible in nearly every locality where a Lodge has been established, and many places have been entirely rid of whisky shops.

That although their success is not so apparent in the cities and large towns, on account of the great number of transient persons who assist materially in the support of these dens of vice, they feel greatly encouraged in the progress of their work."

They invoke the aid of the Ministry—their influence and their counsels, and many of our Ministers and best Christians are found working with them.

We find no fault with those who, amid multiplied labors and plans for good, have not time or inclination to enter the field in this particular direction.

The Christian must ever hold the Church of Christ dearer than all other organizations, and while he may often be profitably engaged in Societies of moral reform, his first duty is always to the Church; and all other labors should be regarded as secondary and auxiliary to the deep abiding work of promoting the fellowship of the saints and the bringing of men to the truth, as it is in Jesus Christ. But we hail with joy the wide-spreading influence of the Good Templars as an effective agency for Temperance in the field, and we recommend the hearty co-operation of our people with them.

We are glad to find in their published reports a recommendation to form juvenile Temperance Societies. Let our Churches take hold of the work in the Sabbath School, and by forming Temperance Societies for the children, training them up by precept and example, and a pledge of total abstinence to forever beware of intemperate habits and associations. We can in this way dry up the fountain, and the stream will cease to flow.

If the present generation can be pledged and saved to the Temperance cause, the coming generation will be saved from the withering, blasting influence of saloons and grog shops.

We believe that still further good might be reached by Union mass meetings of all the Churches, Sabbath School and Temperance element in each community, where those who have objections to the present methods might be enlisted.

We want agitation! We want discussion on this great subject. And as one brother has remarked, the agitation of any great reform must be productive of good.

Furthermore, we believe that it becomes us, as Christians voters in an enlightened Republic, to take a firm stand against the support for office of any individual who is known to be in the habit of using intoxicating liquors.

We believe the time has come when the influence of all Christian denominations should be brought to bear against the corrupting and debasing influence of the use of intoxicating liquors in our State and National councils. If political organizations desire the support of the Christian public, they must place in nomination for office such persons as we can recommend as examples to the youth of our country.

And we respectfully ask all Christian denominations, with whom we are in correspondence, to co-operate with us in these endeavors to promote the great cause of Temperance.

J. H. D. HENDERSON, } Committee.  
D. B. GRAY, }

The session was closed with prayer by Bro. J. G. Glenn.

FRIDAY EVENING, 8 O'CLOCK.

Sermon by Rev. H. Lyman, from Matthew 13, v. 44.

SAURDAY, JUNE 20, 1868—8 A. M.

One hour spent in religious exercises.

The Association was opened with prayer by Bro. W. Adams.

Minutes of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

On motion of Bro. Terry, the report of the Committee on Nominations was taken from the table.

On motion of Bro. Terry, the Committee to the Pacific University was stricken from the report.

On motion, the report was then adopted.

Rev. S. H. Marsh offered the following resolution, which was laid on the table:

Resolved, That the Visiting Committees to Pacific University be stricken from the list of standing committees.

X

Bro. C. N. Terry offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the next annual session of this Association be held at Salem.

On motion of Bro. Hatch, it was ordered that a notice of the annual session be published in the newspapers and from the pulpits of our Churches, three weeks previous to the session.

Bro. L. M. Parrish offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That in the estimation of this Association there ought to be more frequent interchanges of sympathy between our different Churches, and to this end we recommend all the Churches of our Order in this State to communicate with each other, by letter, quarterly. These letters to be read in the prayer meetings, and to contain such matters of information in regard to religious growth as would be of general interest to all who love the cause.

Bro. C. N. Terry offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That a standing committee be created, to be known as the Committee on the American Bible Society.

The Committee on the Religious Condition of the Country made the following report, which was adopted:

#### **Report on the Religious Condition of the Country.**

The population of Oregon is variously estimated from 70,000 to 100,000 people. They are scattered over an area of about three and a half degrees of latitude, and as many of longitude. While the large majority live in the Willamette Valley, in convenient neighborhoods, yet, judging from the votes, probably one-tenth of the people live east of the Cascade Mountains. From all the information at hand, we judge that there are from 8,000 to 10,000 members of Evangelical Churches in the State, or one to every ten of the people. They are distributed about as widely as the population in this valley, yet in less proportion east of the mountains. Ten or eleven of these denominations preach in substance the same Gospel, use the same Bible, and engage in the same worship with more or less regularity, in a large number of the towns and settlements, yet we know that some places are

left for long periods, and some entirely without any religious services, Sabbath School or Bible class. In the places which have regular worship the ratio of attendance is from one-fourth to one-tenth of the people.

While infidelity assumes its usually varied forms and asserts itself with more or less boldness and zeal, the conviction of the need and truth of the Gospel of Christ grows stronger and deeper in the hearts of men.

As intemperance slays its victims and vice poisons its votaries, men earnestly ask for a remedy, sure, complete and abiding. Having tried reforms and short processes, they are turning to the old principles and to the old paths marked out in the Word of God. Christians are more united in prayer and effort for such revivals as will reach not only the moral, but the immoral. They trust in the radical power of grace to search the foundations and remove the mountains of sin. They believe that Christ can and will draw all men unto him. They believe that there are harvests to be gathered in every "city and place" from past seed sowing, and that the calls to sow diligently and beside all waters were never more urgent. The revivals enjoyed during the last years, have brought in much good fruit, and to a great extent the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace prevails among God's people. Conscious of many imperfections, but of true aims, we may, as a part of the Christian army of the State, gird on our armor and go forth to the conflict anew, with the utmost confidence in our Great Leader, and with hope of greater triumphs through His grace.

Respectfully submitted,

G. H. ATKINSON, *Committee.*

Rev. G. H. Atkinson offered resolutions in relation to the American Bible Society.

On motion of Bro. Terry, the resolutions were referred to a committee of three.

The Moderator appointed as such committee: Bro. C. N. Terry, Rev. Thos. Condon and Rev. S. H. Marsh.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools made a report, which was adopted.

On motion, the resolution relating to the Visiting Committee to Pacific University were taken from the table and adopted.

The session closed with prayer by Rev. D. B. Gray.



The Association met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. E. Walker.

The Committee on Narrative of Churches made the following report, which was adopted:

#### Narrative of the Churches.

Twenty years have now passed since the Oregon Churches first became associated in an organized body as sister Churches. Imagination was no doubt busy in the case of those who gathered at that time, in respect to the future progress and condition of the then Territory, and of the infant Churches just beginning to put forth powers indicating life and motion, and progress. But it was difficult at that early day to form any very definite conception of what the future would reveal. Judging by the history of some of the then newer States, a progress not realized here in these twenty years, might have been conceived of by an enthusiastic mind, dwelling in thought upon the nascent capabilities of the then very new and wide territory. To some other minds the isolation of this whole great region, then called Oregon, with other difficulties and hindrances, would have put our present condition of progress and immediate prospective advance off to a century, or to some long indefinite time in the future. The actual result is between the two so conceived of. The isolation and difficulties closely allied to it, have prevented rapid progress, and yet twenty years have showed a great change, and bring us just to a position promising very quickly still greater and rapid development in everything. This change and development we look for in the Church, and in religious matters, as well as in other things.

We cannot overlook all this when reporting upon the condition of our Churches. With these, we have to say, that in general it has been a year of progress. The Churches, "walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost," have been edified, though not greatly multiplied. The reports of most of the Churches show that they have been gathering and compacting their strength and girding themselves for the work of the Lord, while they have also been both willing and efficient in active labor. Evangelizing lay efforts in connection with the Church at Portland, and great earnestness in Sabbath efforts in all the Churches, bear witness to this active labor. As a result of this activity on the part of both pastors and people, some of the congregations have much increased in number and apparent interest in the worship of God on the Sabbath; though in this connexion we cannot report special revival interest to any considerable extent, unless with

the Churches at Astoria and Dalles, where much more than common interest has been manifested, and several conversions have witnessed to the presence of the Holy Spirit.

At Astoria progress has also been made in the erection of a house of worship, beautiful and spacious, though it has not yet been completed. The outlay to this time has been upwards of \$4,000, of which about \$3,000 has been paid.

The Church at Albany is at present under a cloud, caused in part by the laying aside of the pastor by sickness.

The Church at Forest Grove has been struggling with a variety of difficulties unexpectedly arising, and is making earnest effort to "hold fast that which" they have "that no man take" their "crown."

The Church at Oregon City is still without a pastor, but is holding forth the Word of Life through the ministrations of those whom the Lord sends them from time to time, and is with great faithfulness using means of grace according to ability.

Our Churches are yet few in number, and the membership comparatively small, but we must not, as we trust our body as individuals and as Churches have not in the past, despise the day of small things, but heartily thank God for his blessings, precious and many, during these twenty years, and especially for those of the past year.

Better auspices for progress, both in State and in the Churches, cheer and encourage us; and let us, therefore, "forgetting those things which are behind, reach forth unto those which are before."

Respectfully submitted,

HORACE LYMAN, *Committee.*

The special committee to whom was referred the resolutions relating to the American Bible Society, submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted:

*Resolved*, That this body regard the new translation of the Bible offered to the public by the so-called American Bible Union, as unauthorized by the Churches, and as offering an unwarrantable decision upon questions still unsettled among our best Biblical scholars.

*Resolved*, That we fully sympathize with the American Bible Society in its work, and now, as in the past, recommend that Society to our Churches as the only Society in the United States engaged in the distinctive work of publishing and distributing the revealed Word of God in all languages and all lands, worthy of their sympathy and support.

On motion of Rev. D. A. Miles, we recommend to our Churches and Sabbath Schools the support of the American

Board Foreign Missions. Rev. H. Lyman offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That in the sense of this body the American Missionary Association is especially worthy of the support of our Churches in its work among the Freedmen of the South.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Nominations was taken from the table and adopted.

Bro. J. G. Glenn offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That we recommend the Sabbath Schools of our own and other denominations in this State, to call a State Sunday School Convention.

The Committee on Religious Exercises made the following report, which was adopted:

SUNDAY.—Prayer meeting at 5½ A. M., to be conducted by Bro. P. H. Hatch; also, at 8 A. M., prayer for the Divine blessing upon the children and youth, and upon the cause of Sabbath Schools, to be conducted by Rev. D. B. Gray.

Prayer and experience meeting at 7 o'clock, P. M., to be conducted by Bro. A. Hurgren.

Bro. C. N. Terry offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Association are hereby tendered to the people of Forest Grove for hospitalities during the session.

On motion of Bro. Marsh, it was ordered that a children's meeting be held at 3 o'clock, P. M., to-morrow.

Rev. S. H. Marsh offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the moral and religious influence of teachers upon the children in our common schools should be esteemed of very great importance by all Christians in our country, and that we urge upon all that they take care that Christian teachers, as far as possible, and those of good moral character, always be employed in our public schools, and that we see to it that the grand educational influence of the sacred Scriptures be not lost to such schools.

On motion of Bro. Terry, it was ordered that six hundred copies of the minutes of this session be printed.

The Association adjourned *sine die*, with prayer by Rev. S. H. Marsh.

P. S. KNIGHT, Moderator.

CHESTER N. TERRY, Clerk.

SATURDAY EVENING, 8 O'CLOCK.

Sermon by Rev. J. H. D. Henderson, from John, 3 chap. v. 17.

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 1868.

8 A. M.—Prayer meeting.

10½ A. M.—Communion sermon, by Rev. O. Dickinson, from Acts, 3 chap., v. 19.

3 P. M.—Children's meeting—addresses from several of the brethren.

8 P. M.—Sermon by Rev. Thomas Condon, from Revelations, 3 chap., v. 1 and 2.

STATISTICAL TABLE.—CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

Av. att. pub. wor'p.	75	100	75	80	200	480
Conversions.....	8	8	8	5	11	48
CONTRIBUTIONS.	Other objects.	88	50	80	00	131
	Pastor's Support.....	2516	78	293	790	4296
	Foreign Mis- sions.....	300	600	99	1800	3799
	Home Mis- sions.....	11	21	45	20	45
S. S.	Sabb. School Scholars..	60	120	60	80	492
B.P.M.	Infants.....	1	3	1	4	9
	Adult.....	1	1	4	5	11
REM'LS.	Excommu'td.	1	1	1	1	4
	Dismissions..	1	1	1	10	14
	Deaths.....	1	1	1	1	4
ADM'NS.	Total.....	3	9	4	13	40
	Letter.....	3	9	4	13	40
	Profession...	3	9	4	13	40
CHURCH MEMBERS.	Total.....	16	20	5	47	413
	Females.....	13	39	2	34	58
	Males.....	7	14	3	13	43
MINISTERS.	Commencement...	1865	1861	1866	1865	1867
	Albany.....	1853	1866	1845	1866	1851
	Astoria.....	1865	1866	1845	1866	1851
	Dalles.....	1861	1866	1845	1866	1851
	Forest Grove..	1866	1866	1845	1866	1851
	Hillsboro.....	1866	1866	1845	1866	1851
	Oregon City...	1865	1866	1845	1866	1851
Portland.....	1865	1866	1845	1866	1851	
Salem.....	1867	1867	1845	1866	1851	
CHURCHES.	Organization.....	1853	1866	1845	1866	1851
	Albany.....	1853	1866	1845	1866	1851
	Astoria.....	1865	1866	1845	1866	1851
	Dalles.....	1861	1866	1845	1866	1851
	Forest Grove..	1866	1866	1845	1866	1851
	Hillsboro.....	1866	1866	1845	1866	1851
	Oregon City...	1865	1866	1845	1866	1851
Portland.....	1865	1866	1845	1866	1851	
Salem.....	1867	1867	1845	1866	1851	

SALEM, June 17, 1868.

The undersigned, Clerk of the Congregational Association of Oregon, respectfully submits the following report of moneys received, as follows:

To cash of Church at Albany.....	\$ 4 00
" " " " Astoria.....	4 00
" " " " Dalles.....	10 80
" " " " Forest Grove.....	16 00
" " " " Oregon City.....	9 00
" " " " Portland.....	20 00
" " " " Salem.....	18 00
	<hr/>
	\$81 80

By amount paid out, as follows:

To A. L. Stinson, printing minutes and blanks.....	67 00
To Postage.....	4 00
	<hr/>
	71 00

Balance on hand.....

\$10 80

Respectfully submitted,

C. N. TERRY