

# MINUTES

—OF THE—

## General Council of the Brethren in Christ!

MET IN THE BROTHERS' MEETING HOUSE, RINGGOLD, WASHINGTON CO., MD.,  
MAY 18TH, 1881, AND ORGANIZED BY ELECTING MODERATORS AND  
SECRETARIES.

- ARTICLE 1ST. Will the Brethren allow members to attend boarding or high schools?  
ANSWER. By permission of the Church in District.
- ARTICLE 2nd. Missionary report given and approved.
- ARTICLE 3rd. What is the Standing Committee's authority or duty when called upon?  
ANSWER. Referred to Article 6th, Minutes of 1878.
- ARTICLE 4th. On what points of the Gospel shall the Ministering Brethren be examined before the laying on of hands?  
ANSWER. Referred to Article 13th, Minutes of 1878.
- ARTICLE 5th. Resolution of 1880 concerning a Periodical discussed.  
ANSWER. Deferred to some future Council.
- ARTICLE 6th. How does the Church stand in regard to the publication of a Periodical?  
ANSWER. Fourteen Districts against, Nine in favor, Michigan, Southern Illinois and State of Kansas not reported.
- ARTICLE 7th. How does the Church view the partaking of Intoxicating or Fermented Liquors as a beverage?  
ANSWER. That it is the sentiment of this Conference Meeting that the use of intoxicating or spirituous Liquors is a dangerous evil, sustained apparently by large monied interests, and we urge our people to abstain in every way from its use as a beverage, and earnestly urge our Brethren to use their influence against its use in every way consistent with the Word of God.
- ARTICLE 8th. Is it not the duty of the Brethren and Sisters in the several districts to encourage and bear the expenses of holding protracted meetings?  
ANSWER. It is their duty.
- ARTICLE 9th. Is it consistent with the Word of God to ask a Brother to make a public confession?  
ANSWER. The Brethren have always considered it so, and do yet.
- ARTICLE 10th. Have the Brethren a right to engage in the board of trade?  
ANSWER. They have not.
- ARTICLE 11th. *Resolved*—That the General Council consider whether it would not be expedient and for the general good of the Church, that the Council select and appoint Brethren to make a general visit throughout the Brotherhood, for the purpose of unity and oneness in the Church?  
ANSWER. General Council has appointed the following Brethren: Bro. Samuel Zook and Bro. Jesse Engle for the State of Kansas; Bro. Henry Davidson, Bro. Levi Lukenbach and Bro. Joseph HERSHEY, for the Western and Middle States; Bro. Samuel Bucks, Henry Engle, and Jacob Hostetter, Sr. for the Eastern, Northern and Southern States; Bro. Peter Rodes, Bro. Abraham Wenger, and Samuel Snyder for Ontario, Canada.
- ARTICLE 12th. Bro. Jacob M. Engle was re-elected member of the Standing Committee for five years.
- ARTICLE 13th. *Resolved*—That the Delegates from the several districts shall not leave until affairs are finally concluded.
- ARTICLE 14th. Shall the three Brethren elected at the Council of 1880 to attend to the excursion arrangements with R. R. Co's. be continued?  
ANSWER. Decided by rising vote they shall.
- ARTICLE 15th. *Resolved*—That the decisions of the different Councils since 1871 be revised and printed, and Bro. Henry Davidson be appointed to carry out above resolution.
- ARTICLE 16th. *Resolved*—That the next Annual Council will be held at Brubaker's Meeting House, Lancaster Co., Pa., commencing on the 3rd Wednesday of May, 1882. Nearest R. R. Stations—Mt. Joy on Penna. R. R. and Manheim on the Reading and Columbia R. R.

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