

# Minutes of the General Conference.

The General Council of the Brethren in Christ, met at the home of David Wolgemuth, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, on the 17th day of May, 1882. After organizing by appointing Moderators and Secretaries, the following questions were considered and acted upon :

ARTICLE 1. Committee appointed to examine brother Henry Davidson's work on the revision and publication of the decisions of the several Councils.

NAMES OF COMMITTEE :

JNO. CASSEL,      DAVID ENGLE,      A. M. ENGLE,  
WM. CLIPPER,      SAMUEL PAGE,      S. E. GRAYBILL.

*Decided.* After considering the above, it was decided unanimously that all the books printed with decisions of the several Councils, shall be called in, and left in the hands of the bishops or officers of the several districts, and such officers shall report to next General Council, the number called in.

ARTICLE 2. Cannot the General Council devise some plan or means to satisfy those brethren and sisters of Montgomery and Bucks counties district, that want the supper, bread and wine on the same table?

*Decided.* That the Council appoint three brethren to visit the Montgomery and Bucks county brotherhood, for their mutual benefit, and instruct them to adhere strictly to decision of 1878, Art. 1.

ARTICLE 3. Does the Council tolerate brethren to exercise in, or take part with an expelled brother, in public worship, greeting with kiss, etc?

*Decided.* Positively not allowed.

ARTICLE 4. Desired that Article 2nd, Council of 1874, concerning Intermarrying, be reconsidered.

*Decided.* To continue decision of 1874.

ARTICLE 5. The brethren of Morrison's Cove desire a committee to investigate matters in general among them and come to a final conclusion what shall be done by them.

*Decided.* That brothers Levi Lukenbach and Samuel Bucks be appointed.

ARTICLE 6. Brethren from Dayton district, Ohio, ask Council to reconsider Article 13, of 1873, and give a more definite decision.

*Decided.* Referred to above Article and advise the brethren in general to act in accordance therewith.

ARTICLE 7. Dayton brethren also ask Council to reconsider decision of 1880, Art. 12.

*Decided.* Article 12, of 1880, includes all political elections, except school elections, if not political.

ARTICLE 8. Is it consistent with the Word of God for ministers to invite seekers to come forward?

*Decided.* It is consistent, if in Christian order, but that no special bench shall be set out for the seekers.

ARTICLE 9. Shall church officers be chosen by a vote of the church, a plurality electing, or shall they be chosen by lot, after voting, including all in the lot who received any votes?

*Decided.* That the decision of 1874, Article 6, shall be continued.

ARTICLE 10. Desired by the brethren, that Article 3, Council of 1871, concerning the benediction, be reconsidered.

*Decided.* Decision of the above Article shall be continued.

ARTICLE 11. Pine Creek and Shannon districts, of Illinois, have voted unanimously to be two distinct districts, and pray Annual Council to confirm the same.

*Decided.* In reference to the dividing of the districts of Illinois, granted; if the members of Pine Creek, Shannon and Whiteside, unanimously agree upon the formation of separate districts.

ARTICLE 12. The Iowa members desire brethren to visit them.

*Decided.* That brothers Levi Lukenbach and Isaac Trump, shall make the above named visit.

ARTICLE 13. Is it allowed for ministers to take a gift for solemnizing marriages?

*Decided.* Allowed to take a gift, but not to demand pay.

ARTICLE 14. Is it considered wrong for brethren to take a text from the revised testament?

*Decided.* That the brethren shall continue the use of the old.

ARTICLE 15. Shall the subject (decision) of giving letters of recommendation to members, moving from one district to another, be continued?

*Decided.* Shall be continued.

ARTICLE 16. That brother Tobias Martin be appointed to help to attend to the arrangement of railroad excursions.

ARTICLE 17. Shall brother Henry Davidson put in all his spare time to labor in the missionary field, in the state of Michigan?

*Decided.* That brother Davidson stand on equality with others, subject to call.

ARTICLE 18. Request by the Canada brethren for General Council, in 1883.

*Decided.* That Council of 1883 shall be held in the Black Creek district, Weland Co., Ontario, commencing on the 3rd Wednesday in May. Station Stephensonville, on Canada Southern or Air Line R. R.

ARTICLE 19. Missionary report by brother Abram Stoner, handed in and approved.

ARTICLE 20. That brother Joseph Hershey, of Ohio, be appointed a member of the Standing Committee, in place of brother Henry Davidson, whose term expires at this time.

ARTICLE 21. Brethren subject to call.

Henry Landis, Ziglerville, Montgomery county, Pa.

Jacob Kreider, Annville, Lebanon county, Pa.

David Engle, Mount Joy, Lancaster county, Pa.

S. E. Graybill, Martinsville, Lancaster county, Pa.

John Lininger, Good Hope, Cumberland county, Pa.

Isaac Solenberger, Scotland, Franklin county, Pa.

Laban W. Wenger, Waynesboro, Franklin county, Pa.

T. A. Long, Howard, Centre county, Pa.

Jacob E. Mishler, Canton, Stark county, O.

Benjamin Brener, Madisonburg, Wayne county, O.

Daniel Kohler, Winsor, Richland county, O.

Samuel Herr, Lamton, Montgomery county, O.

Benjamin Stump, Wilmot, Noble county, Ind.

Henry Rhodes, Shannon, Carroll county, Ills.

Abram Myers, Freeport, Stephenson county, Ills.

Jesse Engle, Belle Springs, Dickinson county, Kan.

Asa Bearss, Sherkston, Ontario.

Peter Baker, Gormley, Ontario.

Wendel Holman, New Dundee, Ontario.

Wm. Clipper, Notaway, Ontario.