

Johnell Krebs
the gift of E. Platt Esq
RECORDS

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

EMBRACING THE

MINUTES OF THE PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA, FROM A. D. 1706 TO 1716:
MINUTES OF THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA, FROM A. D. 1717 TO 1758:
MINUTES OF THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK, FROM A. D. 1745 TO 1758:
MINUTES OF THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA AND NEW YORK, FROM A. D.
1758 TO 1788.

PHILADELPHIA:

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

JAMES RUSSELL, PUBLISHING AGENT.

1841.

28th day, nine o'clock. The Synod met according to adjournment.

Post preces sederunt qui supra,

(Except Mr. Schank, who went home without asking liberty.)

Ordered, To read the minutes of last *sederunt*.

Mr. Elmer informs the Synod he is still unable to determine with any certainty whether he can undertake the southern mission, but engages to go if he can make it convenient, and he is accordingly appointed if that should be the case.

Messrs. McDowell, Matthew Wilson, and Latta, brought in the reasons of their dissent from the judgment, with respect to the third Presbyterian Church in this city, which are as follows:

“We enter our dissent from the two votes of the Synod reversing the judgment of the second Presbytery of Philadelphia, and giving a liberty to the people, who call themselves the congregation of Pine-street, to prosecute a call in the Presbytery of Donegall, for these reasons following among others:

“1. Because we apprehend that a vote forwarding a call to any minister of the gospel, without any concurrence of the eldership, and much more in opposition to their solemn caution, a call that was voted when not half the people of Pine-street were present, the session, and others, in the mean time objecting against it, is indeed among us a new mode of proceeding, that might introduce a dangerous precedent, and cause anarchy and confusion, and occasion endless appeals from turbulent and factious parties and persons.

“2. Because the votes referred to, though in appearance against the judgment of Presbytery only, yet take in and decide the cause of the commissioners of Market-street congregation, without giving them a fair hearing, contrary to assurance from the Synod.

“3. Because these votes do, as far as the Synod could, destroy a solemn and express stipulation, entered in the united congregation of Market and Pine street, first proposed by their own committee, as appears by their records before us, then prepared with deliberation, and publicly read in, and approved by, the congregation convened for that purpose, on notice from the pulpit, which stipulation, whatever was pretended to the contrary, must either have been the first, and authentic, or superseded whatever was before it. This authentic contract, we apprehend, it is not in the power of the Synod either to dispense with, or violate. This strange judgment seemed to be chiefly founded on the erroneous supposition that the stipulations gave one society domination over the other, whereas it appears to be agreed that the ministers of both houses should preach in rotation, and be equally chosen by a majority of both.

“4. Because these votes are directly the reverse of what the Synod judged in a similar case of New Castle and Christina congregations, where the difficulties were not so great as in the present case, which we think appears evidently partial.

“5. Because the votes referred to were hurried on precipitately, and in a way not usual here, occasioning some confusion, and plainly calculated to stop further reasoning, when the greater part of the members were not heard on the subject.

“6. Finally, because these votes which we dissent from, carried in such a manner, evidently tend to injure the civil property of the people of Market-street; to take away their house, which they evidently begun and carried on at a vast expense, without any reparation, or otherwise force them into lawsuits, kindle the flames of discord, and unnecessarily destroy the peace of the Presbyterian churches in this city.

ALEXANDER McDOWELL,

MATTHEW WILSON,

JAMES LATTA.”