

JOURNAL
OF THE
SPECIAL COUNCIL
OF THE
Protestant Episcopal Church
IN
VIRGINIA,
HELD IN
ST. JAMES' CHURCH, RICHMOND, JUNE 30, 1897,
CALLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF
ELECTING A BISHOP COADJUTOR.

Diocese Reorganized in 1785.

RICHMOND
WM. ELLIS JONES, STEAM BOOK AND JOB PRINTER.
1897.

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ST. JAMES' CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA.,
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1897.

The Special Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia met this day in St. James' Church, Richmond, at 10 A. M., for Divine worship.

The Holy Communion was administered by the Bishop, the Rt. Rev. F. M. Whittle, D. D., LL.D., assisted by the Revs. John McGill, D. D., H. B. Lee, and William M. Clark, the rector of the church.

After Divine service the Council was called to order by the Bishop.

By direction of the Chairman, the Secretary then read the notice of the call of this Special Council, as follows:

A CALLED MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

RICHMOND, VA., June 3, 1897.

To the Ministers and Vestries of the Diocese of Virginia:

MY DEAR BRETHREN—God in His wise Providence having removed from us our beloved Bishop Newton, it is important that a successor to him be procured at as early a day as practicable, my bodily infirmities rendering

Clergy Present.

me incapable of performing the duties of my office. Therefore, by authority of the Constitution of our Church, I hereby call a special Council to meet in St. James' Church, Richmond, on Wednesday, June 30, 1897, at 10 o'clock, to consider and act on the question of electing a Bishop Coadjutor for the Diocese, and to transact any other business at the pleasure of the Council. It is hoped that every minister entitled to a seat will be present, and that all the vestries will elect lay delegates to represent them and their congregations.

Faithfully and affectionately yours,

F. M. WHITTLE,

Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia.

The roll of ministers and Lay Delegates was called, and the following answered to their names:

RT. REV. F. M. WHITTLE, D. D., LL.D.

Rev. Clarence E. Ball,	Rev. S. S. Hepburn,
“ E. B. Burwell,	“ Edwin S. Hinks,
“ Hartley Carmichael,	“ J. H. Hundley,
“ A. B. Chinn,	“ John W. Johnson,
“ W. P. Chrisman,	“ E. Valentine Jones,
“ William M. Clark,	“ Henry F. Kloman,
“ J. J. Clopton,	“ John D. LaMothe,
“ John C. Cornick,	“ William C. Latané,
“ Angus Crawford,	“ H. B. Lee,
“ Parnell LeB. Cross,	“ William B. Lee,
“ Nelson P. Dame,	“ Hugh M. Martin,
“ D. C. T. Davis,	“ Landon R. Mason,
“ J. S. Douglas,	“ Robert K. Massie,
“ John Y. Downman,	“ John McGill,
“ J. R. Ellis,	“ John McNabb,
“ J. H. Gibbons,	“ Everard Meade,
“ E. L. Goodwin,	“ George Otis Mead,
“ Robert A. Goodwin,	“ W. J. Morton,
“ James Grammer,	“ Preston Nash,
“ Carl E. Grammer,	“ George W. Nelson,
“ John J. Gravatt,	“ Frederick W. Neve,
“ Berryman Green,	“ J. J. Norwood,
“ John S. Hansbrough,	“ P. R. Nugent,
“ Charles S. Harrison,	“ Carter Page,

Laitly Present.

Rt. Rev. C. C. Penick,	Rev. George S. Somerville,
Rev. W. H. K. Pendleton,	“ F. S. Stickney,
“ P. P. Phillips,	“ E. A. Temple,
“ C. L. Price,	“ P. D. Thompson,
“ B. M. Randolph,	“ Edward Wall,
“ F. A. Ridout,	“ S. A. Wallis,
“ Thomas Semmes,	“ J. W. Ware.

LAY DELEGATES.

Mr. Albert Baker,	Mr. J. B. McCaw,
“ G. A. Barksdale,	“ Thomas McCormick,
“ W. S. Barton,	“ Edgar McCray,
“ John M. Benson,	“ David Meade,
“ Cyrus Bossieux,	“ D. G. Meade,
“ Travers Branch,	“ W. T. Meade,
“ Powhatan Breeden,	“ G. V. Moncure, Sr.,
“ Joseph Bryan,	“ T. D. Moncure,
“ C. E. Cary,	“ W. P. Moncure,
“ Thomas J. Chew,	“ P. P. Nalle,
“ W. W. Chamblin,	“ N. B. Noland,
“ H. H. Dodge,	“ C. J. Nourse,
“ R. H. Dulany,	“ R. M. Page,
“ A. C. Fisher,	“ R. P. Page,
“ J. W. Gordon,	“ William H. Palmer,
“ J. W. Green,	“ I. H. Payne,
“ Frederick Griffith,	“ J. D. Pendleton,
“ A. S. Groser,	“ J. V. Pereira,
“ John T. Harris, Jr.,	“ H. B. Ramey,
“ E. C. Harrison,	“ Eppa Rixie,
“ George P. Hodgson,	“ John Rutherford,
“ Mr. Gilbert F. Israel,	“ W. A. Smoot,
“ H. W. Jones,	“ Robert Stiles,
“ J. C. Lamb,	“ William Tayloe,
“ J. T. Lovell,	“ J. M. Taylor,
“ L. S. Macon,	“ T. O. Taylor,
“ C. T. Marston,	“ A. W. Wallace,
“ P. H. Mayo,	“ R. C. Wellford,

Report of Committee on Credentials.

Mr. J. F. Wheat,	Mr. Charles Woolnough,
“ John G. Williams,	“ T. R. B. Wright,
“ T. E. Williams,	“ J. W. Yates.
“ Joseph Wilmer,	

A quorum of both orders having answered to their names, the President declared the Council duly organized and ready for business.

He appointed the following Committee on Credentials: Rev. E. S. Hinks, Judge J. C. Lamb, and Mr. Joseph Wilmer.

The Rev. J. Y. Downman moved that the Rev. Dr. Sprigg be accorded the floor for a few minutes, which motion was carried. Dr. Sprigg claimed his seat in the Council on the ground of his age.

The Chair ordered his name to be put on the roll and then to be called, which was then done—Rev. D. F. Sprigg.

The Committee on Credentials of Lay Delegates reported that they found the roll, as called by the Secretary, correct, with the following names to be added:

Mr. J. H. C. Beverly,	Mr. Thomas Poindexter,
“ Robert B. Gordon,	“ S. G. Fairbank.

The following communication from the Secretary of the Diocese of Southern Virginia was then read:

The following minute was unanimously adopted by a rising vote at the closing session of the Fifth Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia.

Attest:

THOMAS SPENCER, *Secretary.*

FROM THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN VIRGINIA,

TO THE DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA, GREETING:

Whereas the Almighty and All-loving Father, Who gives and Who takes away, of His great love to the Diocese of Virginia, gave to it for the office and work of a Bishop a man after His own heart, in our beloved brother, JOHN BROCKENBROUGH NEWTON; and then, of His great love for that man, took him away from his earthly labors, and gave him a higher honor and a better place in the inheritance of the saints in light—

Sundry Resolutions.

We of the Diocese of Southern Virginia send greeting of brotherly sympathy to the Diocese of Virginia, which mourns the loss of a faithful chief pastor and friend. The time is not long past when we met together as one fellowship and one Diocese. The Dioceses are severed, but the fellowship is yet one. We rejoice when you rejoice, and weep when you weep. We were glad when you gave honor to our beloved brother, three years ago. We knew the worth of him and of his work when he labored within our borders. When we were together, we loved to give him honor, and held him in our affection as a faithful friend.

We therefore bid you count us as brothers in your sorrow, and pray that when you meet to fill the place made vacant among you by his translation, God's Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule your hearts, and give you a man like minded, who will naturally care for your state.

The following resolution was then offered by the Rev. E. L. Goodwin:

Resolved, That the Rules of Order of the last Council be adopted for this Council, so far as applicable to the business which may come before it.

Carried.

The Rev. G. W. Nelson offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Council adjourn at 2 P. M. for lunch, and meet again at 3 P. M.

The Rev. R. A. Goodwin offered the following:

Resolved, That the Chair appoint a committee of five clergymen and four laymen to prepare a minute on the death of the late Bishop Newton.

Carried.

The Chair appointed the following as such committee:

Rev. R. A. Goodwin,	Mr. Joseph Bryan,
“ William M. Clark,	“ John G. Williams,
“ C. E. Grammer,	“ P. P. Nalle,
“ H. B. Lee,	“ Albert Baker.
“ N. P. Dame,	

Judge J. C. Lamb offered the following:

Bishop's Consent to Election of Bishop Coadjutor.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Diocese be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to pay to Mrs. Roberta Newton, widow of the Rt. Rev. John B. Newton, deceased, late Bishop Coadjutor, the salary of the said Bishop, and the allowance for house rent voted by the last Council; such payments to be for the period from the death of the said Bishop until the Bishop Coadjutor to be chosen at this Council shall have been consecrated.

Rev. B. M. Randolph moved to amend by adding the following:

2. *Resolved*, That the Council endorse the action of the Bishop and the Standing Committee in authorizing the Treasurer of the Diocese to pay the funeral expenses of the late Bishop Coadjutor.

Judge Lamb accepted the amendment, and, on motion, they were adopted.

Mr. Joseph Bryan offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That this Council now desires to go into the election of a Bishop Coadjutor, and requests the Bishop to state before election the duties which he will assign to said Bishop Coadjutor when elected.

The Secretary then read the following paper, prepared by the Bishop:

CONSENT OF THE BISHOP TO ELECTION OF A BISHOP COADJUTOR.

RICHMOND, VA., June 30, 1897.

As required by Title I, Canon 19, Section 5, of the Digest of the Canons of the General Convention, I hereby signify my consent to the election of a Bishop Coadjutor for the Diocese of Virginia, I being physically unable to perform the duties of my office. And I hereby assign to the Bishop Coadjutor, when duly elected and consecrated, all the Episcopal work of the Diocese which I am unable to do myself.

F. M. WHITTLE,
Bishop of Diocese of Virginia.

Judge A. W. Wallace moved that the Council proceed at once to the election.

Carried.

The Rev. N. P. Dame offered the following, which was lost:

Minute on death of Bishop Newton.

WHEREAS, We all recognize the fact that our Lord Jesus Christ has chosen a man for the vacant office of Bishop Coadjutor in His Church in this Diocese, and that our part is to seek to know His will in this matter and to elect the man of His choice—

Resolved, That when the time for the election arrives we will spend a few minutes in silent prayer, asking earnestly that our Lord will guide us to the man of His choice, and then proceed at once to ballot without nomination or speeches, referring directly or indirectly to any person, depending upon the Divine guidance to lead us aright.

The Rev. B. M. Randolph moved that the nominating speeches be limited to five minutes.

Carried.

The Council took recess till 3 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, 3 P. M.

The Council reassembled, with the Bishop in the chair.

The Rev. J. J. Gravatt offered the following, which was lost:

Resolved, That any charge preferred against any nominee for the office of Bishop Coadjutor shall first be made in writing to a committee of five clergymen, to be elected by the Council, who shall review the same and decide whether or not the charges are worthy of consideration by the Council.

MINUTE.

The committee appointed to draft a minute on the death of Bishop Newton, presented, through its Chairman, Rev. R. A. Goodwin, the following:

When we met in Council six weeks ago at Fredericksburg, our beloved Bishop Coadjutor, John B. Newton, D. D., was with us; to-day we meet to elect his successor.

We know that the "great Bishop and Shepherd of our souls" has "the keys of death," and that He is infinite in wisdom and in love. We would remember His words: "What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter;" and bow in humble submission to the will of God. But

Nominations for Bishop Coadjutor.

we sadly miss our beloved brother and father in God, and sorrow that we will see his face no more in our homes, our churches and our councils.

We would place on record our gratitude to the Great Head of the Church for what Bishop Newton was and for what he did. The beautiful simplicity of his character; his fidelity to duty as a soldier, a physician, a pastor and a Bishop; his earnestness and power as a preacher of the gospel; his unflinching cheerfulness, kindness and manliness drew many hearts to him. Those who knew him best loved him most.

During his short term of office as Bishop, he left his impress upon the whole Diocese, as with zeal, energy and unfeigned humility he went from church to church, preaching the gospel of the grace of God. He preached Jesus Christ and Him crucified. We honored him; we loved him; we mourn his loss.

Resolved, That the Secretary send a copy of this minute to his family, and that it be published in the *Southern Churchman*.

R. A. GOODWIN,
for the Committee.

On motion of the Rev. G. W. Nelson, it was resolved that after silent prayer the Council go into the election at once.

This having been done, the Chair appointed the following tellers to attend to the clerical vote:

Rev. J. R. Ellis, Rev. J. J. Clopton.

NOMINATIONS FOR BISHOP COADJUTOR.

The following nominations for Bishop Coadjutor were then made:

The Rev. George W. Nelson nominated the Rev. William Meade Dame, D. D.

The Rev. L. R. Mason nominated the Rev. R. A. Gibson, D. D.

The Rev. J. J. Clopton nominated the Rev. A. S. Lloyd.

The Rev. B. M. Randolph nominated the Rev. R. H. McKim, D. D.

The Council then proceeded to ballot.

The Rev. H. B. Lee offered the following, which was adopted:

WHEREAS, Our brethren in the Diocese of Southern Virginia have sent

First and Second Ballots.

words of loving sympathy to us in our great sorrow, caused by the death of our beloved Bishop Newton; therefore—

Resolved, 1. That we accept in grateful love this kindly expression, and that the same be spread upon our minutes.

2. That our Secretary be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to the Secretary of the Council of Southern Virginia.

The tellers reported the first ballot as follows:

Whole number of votes cast, 60; necessary to a choice, 31.

Rev. William Meade Dame, D. D.....	13
Rev. R. A. Gibson, D. D.....	17
Rev. A. S. Lloyd.....	8
Rev. R. H. McKim, D. D.....	17
Rev. John K. Mason.....	3
Rev. J. J. Gravatt.....	1
Rev. B. D. Tucker.....	1
	60

The President announced that there was no election, and ordered another ballot to be taken.

On motion, Mr. Albert E. Neely, Secretary of the General Widows' and Orphans' Fund, was introduced, and made an address on the work and needs of that society.

The second ballot was then reported by the tellers.

Whole number of votes cast, 62; necessary to a choice, 32.

Rev. R. A. Gibson, D. D.....	21
Rev. R. H. McKim, D. D.....	15
Rev. William Meade Dame, D. D.....	14
Rev. A. S. Lloyd.....	6
Rev. John K. Mason.....	4
Rev. Everard Meade.....	1
Rev. R. A. Goodwin.....	1
	62

There being no election, the President ordered another ballot to be taken.

Substitute offered for Article V of the Constitution.

The following, offered by the Rev. Preston Nash, was adopted:

There being a vacancy on the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Female Institute, I nominate the Rev. H. B. Lee and Rev. J. R. Ellis from this Council, as the two from which the Board of Trustees shall elect to fill said vacancy:

The Rev. J. Y. Downman offered the following as a substitute for Article V of the Constitution:

The election of Bishop shall be made in Council in the following manner:

The Council shall nominate and appoint by ballot some clergyman qualified for that office, and the votes of a majority shall constitute a choice, unless a vote by orders be called for; when, pursuant to Article IV, a majority of each order shall be necessary to a choice.

The Rev. Dr. C. E. Grammer moved that it be referred to a special committee, to report to the next Council.

Carried.

The President appointed the following as the committee:

Rev. J. Y. Downman,	Judge J. C. Lamb,
“ L. R. Mason,	Mr. Joseph Bryan,
“ B. M. Randolph,	“ B. B. Munford.

The following resolutions, offered by Judge J. C. Lamb, were adopted:

1. Resolved, That the salary of the Bishop Coadjutor be, and the same is hereby, fixed at the sum of Three Thousand Dollars per annum, to begin at the time of his consecration.

2. Resolved, That the rent of a residence for the Bishop Coadjutor, not to exceed Six Hundred Dollars per annum, shall be paid out of the Contingent Fund, as heretofore; such rent to begin at the time that the Bishop Coadjutor is consecrated.

The Rev. E. L. Goodwin then placed in nomination the name of the Rev. John K. Mason, D. D., of St. Andrew's Church, Louisville, Ky.

Third and Fourth Ballots.

The tellers then reported the third ballot.

Whole number of votes cast, 61; necessary to a choice, 31.

Rev. J. J. Gravatt.....	1
Rev. A. S. Lloyd.....	3
Rev. William Meade Dame, D. D.....	8
Rev. John K. Mason, D. D.....	12
Rev. R. A. Gibson, D. D.....	24
Rev. R. H. McKim, D. D.....	13
	<hr/>
	61

There being no election, the President ordered another ballot to be taken.

The tellers reported the fourth ballot.

Whole number of votes cast, 59; necessary to a choice, 30.

Rev. John K. Mason, D. D.....	14
Rev. William Meade Dame, D. D.....	8
Rev. R. A. Gibson, D. D.....	28
Rev. R. H. McKim, D. D.....	8
Rev. A. S. Lloyd.....	1
	<hr/>
	59

There being no election, the President ordered another ballot.

On motion of the Rev. S. A. Wallis, it was—

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Council be directed to print the proceedings of this Council along with the proceedings of the last Council, held at Fredericksburg in May last.

The following vote of thanks, offered by the Rev. S. A. Wallis, was adopted:

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of this Council be unanimously tendered to the Rector and Vestry of St. James' Church, the committee of arrangements and the members of other Episcopal Churches in the city, for their careful attention and hospitality to the delegates; to the ladies for their bountiful luncheon so elegantly served in the lecture-room of St. James' Church, and

Fifth Ballot.

to the pages for their assistance; also to the railroad and steamboat companies for reduced rates to and from Council.

Mr. Joseph Bryan offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, The Treasurer of the Diocese is hereby authorized and directed to pay the following sums to the Secretary and Assistant-Secretary for their services incident to this Council: to the Secretary, \$20; to the Assistant-Secretary, \$10. The Treasurer is also authorized to pay the sexton of this church \$5.

The tellers then reported the fifth ballot.

Whole number of votes cast, 61; necessary to a choice, 31.

Rev. William Meade Dame, D. D.	1
Rev. A. S. Lloyd	2
Rev. John K. Mason, D. D.	16
Rev. R. H. McKim, D. D.	7
Rev. R. A. Gibson, D. D.	35
	61

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION OF BISHOP COADJUTOR.

The Rev. Robert Atkinson Gibson, D. D., was declared by the President to be the choice of the clergy.

A motion was made to adjourn till 8:30 o'clock, and to vote by orders, which resulted as follows:

Ayes, 57; noes, 64.

The motion was lost.

The Chair appointed Mr. John T. Harris, Jr., and Mr. Joseph Bryan as tellers for the lay vote.

The President then announced that the Rev. R. A. Gibson was before the laity for rejection or election.

The President ordered a ballot to be taken.

Ballot of the Laity and Election of Bishop Coadjutor.

The tellers reported the ballot of the lay vote to be as follows:

Whole number of votes cast, 66; necessary to a choice, 34.

For the Rev. R. A. Gibson; ayes, 61; noes, 5; total, 66.

On motion of the Rev. B. M. Randolph, the following telegram was sent:

RICHMOND, VA., June 30, 1897, 8 P. M.

To Rev. R. A. GIBSON, D. D., 514 E. Third St., Cincinnati, O.:

You are hereby officially notified of your election in Virginia Council as Bishop Coadjutor of this Diocese.

EVERARD MEADE, *Secretary*.

Adjourned till 8:30 P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 8:30 P. M.

The Council reassembled at 8:30 P. M., with Bishop Whittle in the chair.

The Bishop announced that the Rev. Robert Atkinson Gibson, having received a majority of the votes cast, is the choice of the Council for Bishop Coadjutor for the Diocese of Virginia.

The Rev. C. E. Grammer moved that a committee of two, one clergyman and one layman, be sent to Cincinnati to inform the Rev. R. A. Gibson, D. D., of his election.

The motion was carried, and the Bishop appointed the Rev. L. R. Mason and Mr. P. H. Mayo as such committee.

The testimony of the election of the Rev. Robert Atkinson Gibson, D. D., of Cincinnati, as Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Virginia, was then signed by a canonical majority of the clerical and lay delegates of the Council.

On motion, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with, and, after appropriate religious services, the Council adjourned *sine die*.

FRANCIS M. WHITTLE, *President*.

EVERARD MEADE, *Secretary*.