

THE
HISTORY
OF THE
CHILLICOTHE PRESBYTERY,
FROM ITS ORGANIZATION IN 1799 TO 1889.

PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE ORDER OF PRESBYTERY,

BY THE
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1889.

Ohio, and was dated April 21, 1836. The Presbytery of Columbus answered thus:

"COLUMBUS, April 18, 1836.

The Presbytery of Columbus to the Presbytery of Chillicothe:

DEAR BRETHREN—We have received your letter, containing your views of slaveholding, and of the measures that should be adopted to deliver the church from the guilt of cherishing this evil in her bosom, and have given it a serious and respectful consideration. In the conviction that the holding of slaves and the entire system of policy, connected with this practice, is indeed a great evil, and may justly be regarded as a curse to our country and to the church, in the United States, we accord with you in the opinion that all proper means of removing it should be sought out and used without hesitation. We must be permitted to doubt, however, whether it is the imminent and exclusive cause of the religious declension, and other tokens of divine displeasure which we suffer; whether the measures which you propose are legitimate and wise and whether it is practicable for us, as a church, to apply this, or any other remedy, in the existing state of things, both safely and efficaciously. On the whole, the best consideration which we are able to give this embarrassing and portentous subject leads to the conclusion, expressed in the following resolution, which we have unanimously adopted: Resolved, That Presbytery are not by any means prepared to approve the views, or adopt the resolutions communicated by the Presbytery of Chillicothe, respecting the exercise of discipline, in the case of slaveholders; and they deem it improper for them to act on this subject, at present, because it is referred to the next General Assembly, for their determination. With sincere respect and brotherly kindness, and with prayers for your prosperity as a judicatory of the church, We are yours in our common Lord.

By order of Presbytery.

JAMES HOGG, Stated Clerk."

The Presbytery of Winchester, Virginia, sent this as their action: "Resolved, That this Presbytery cannot entertain any such document as that sent to us by the Presbytery of Chillicothe, and that the Stated Clerk be directed to send it back to the Stated Clerk of that Presbytery, with this minute appended.

True copy.

Attest: HENRY FOOTE, S. C."

Henry, however, added of his own head: "P. S. By way of query: Has the black man a home in Ohio, by law? Has he not been driven off, though free? Look at these things, my brethren If Ohio