

THE
Wesleyan Repository,

AND
LITERARY RECORD.

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SCRAPS OF METHODIST HISTORY.

The Genesee Conference was composed of the Susquehanna District from the Philadelphia Conference, and the Cayuga and Upper Canada Districts of the New York Conference. It had 38 members, 21 of whom were elders, who with 19 probationers had about 10,000 church members under their pastoral care. Its first session was held July 20th, 1810, at Lyons, State of New York, in an old storehouse formerly used as a corn barn. At this Conference Bishops Asbury and McKendree presided; one of the noticable of its acts was an attempt to enforce an old rule of Discipline which prohibited preachers from publishing books, without first obtaining the consent of Conference. To carry out the rule they appointed a Committee of nine members, five from the United States and four from Canada, "to examine all compositions prepared by any of its members for publication, and that those compositions, shall or shall not be published according to the resolution of the committee," and to make the Rule more stringent, on a subsequent day it was resolved, that the committee shall not, without the concurrence of four-fifths of its members in the States, and three-fourths, in Canada, permit any publication to be made. The enforcement of this law in our day would affect us but little, as we question, if any equal number of Methodist Ministers in the world, write or publish so few books; but its provisions if carried out among our neighbors, modified by circumstances, would we are inclined to think, have