

Two Introductory Tables

These two tables provide context/background for the following two articles.

General Conferences of the Methodist Protestant Church

#	General Conference		Pennsylvania Conference members	
	year	location	clergy delegate	lay delegate
1	1834	Georgetown DC	John Smith	Jeremiah Stull
2	1838	Pittsburgh PA	Abraham Woolston	WS Stockton
3	1842	Baltimore MD	John Smith	James VanCamp
4	1846	Cincinnati OH	Robert Baird	B Marvin
5	1850	Baltimore MD	Ambrose Abbott	James VanCamp
6	1854	Steubenville OH	Renaldo E Gorman	J Moss
7	1858	Lynchburg VA	Joseph K Helmbold	William Dale
8	1862	Georgetown DC	(did not meet due to war)	
9	1866	Georgetown DC	(southern conferences)	
9	1866	Allegheny City PA	(none)	(none)
		(northern and western conferences)		
	1867	Montgomery AL	(none)	(none)
		(reorganizing conf.)		
10	1870	Baltimore MD	Joseph Watrous	James VanCamp
11	1874	Lynchburg VA	Joseph K Helmbold	John Kitson
12	1877	Baltimore MD	Joseph K Helmbold	John Fern
		(uniting conf.)		
13	1880	Pittsburgh PA	(none)	George P Miller
14	1884	Baltimore MD	Arthur G Bloomfield	Joseph Anderson
15	1888	Adrian MI	John R Botts	George P Miller
16	1892	Westminster MD	Samuel McClain	ET Molyneaux
17	1896	Kansas City KS	John R Botts	James R Hay
18	1900	Atlantic City NJ	George P Miller	James R Hay
19	1904	Washington DC	Samuel McClain	Stewart Beers
20	1908	Pittsburgh PA	Eugene VR Hughes	Martin Elian
21	1912 ^a	Baltimore MD	Samuel McClain	Jacob Smith
22	1916	Zanesville OH	[merged into Eastern Conference]	
23	1920	Greensboro NC		
24	1924	Tiffin OH		
25	1928	Baltimore MD		
26	1932	Columbus OH		
27	1936	High Point NC		
28	1939	Kansas City MO		
		(uniting conf.)		

^a Even though the Pennsylvania and New York conferences merged in 1911 to form the Eastern Conference, each body sent representatives to the 1912 General Conference.

“General Conferences” of the Northern and Western Conferences
of the Methodist Protestant Church

a.k.a

General Conferences of the Methodist Church

#	General Conference		Pennsylvania Conference members	
	year	location	clergy delegate	lay delegate
	1858	Springfield OH	Renaldo E Gorman	William Bartly
	1860	Pittsburgh PA	Joseph K Helmbold	S Whitaker
	1862	Cincinnati OH	Samuel Homan	C. Blackman
	1866	Cincinnati OH	Joseph Watrous	William Lancaster
1	1867	Cleveland OH (organizing conf.)	Joseph J Smith	Thomas Brown
2	1871	Pittsburgh PA	Joseph J Smith John Hiram Robinson	Lewis Johnson Calvin Tompkins
3	1875	Princeton IL	Joseph J Smith Samuel Homan John Hiram Robinson	Calvin Tompkins J Savage Arthur H Holgate ¹
	1877	Baltimore (uniting conf.)	Joseph J Smith Mark Staples	Calvin Tompkins Benjamin F Swingle ²

While the Pennsylvania Conference was sympathetic to and supported the early gatherings of the group that became the Methodist Church, they apparently were not represented at the 1867 organizing conference and from that point on the former Pennsylvania Conference churches not part of the mother MP denomination were placed in the New York Conference – and the delegates listed represented the NY Conference, which including some persons (marked by footnotes) from the former PA Conference.

The second article gives the previously unpublished story behind the 1868 Pennsylvania Conference vote that was considered its legal decision to join the Methodist Church and the refusal of the members who wanted to remain in the Methodist Protestant Church to accept that decision. The end result was considerable confusion and animosity that lingered for decades – even after the 1877 re-union of the two denominations.³

¹ A.H. Holgate of Daleville was one of the owners of the Holgate Brothers Company (wooden handles, wooden toys) of Daleville Pa, then Kane PA, then Duluth MN.

² While denominational records list B.F. Swingle (1841-1920), some local records declare this to be Simon Swingle (1815-1896), both men being from South Canaan PA.

³ See, for example, the 1910 article “A Resume and Decision on the Claim for Preachers Aid Funds” by Tagg and Brown, presented in the 2011 issue of *The Chronicle*, pages 20-23.