

Centre College Board of Trustees Minutes (Vol. 2 - 1832)

[Note: the "Asylum" or "Institution" for the Deaf and Dumb would later become the Kentucky School for the Deaf. Centre's Trustees administered the school until 1870. In 1826 the federal government granted the Trustees one township of land in Florida. It then became the Trustees responsibility to survey and sell the land to provide funds to help support the institution.]

[Note: the Refectory was built in 1824 to provide boarding for Centre students. In 1831 it became the home of the college's president.]

[Page 66]

**Danville January 28, 1832**

Trustees met. Present Messrs. Burch, Green, Barbour, McDowell, Cowan, Henderson.

Resolved that owners of Refectory stock

[Page 67]

be authorized to receive the same in tuition fees.

Resolved that the Rev. John D. Paxton be requested to deliver a course of lectures and experiments on chemistry and natural philosophy to the students of the senior and junior classes in College. Resolved further that John Green be a committee to communicate this resolution.

[penciled in]

Minutes of a meeting not recorded, appointing Rev. John C. Young agent for the College in the Eastern states.

**March 19, 1832**

Board met. Opened with prayer. Present Messrs. Barnes, Chairman, Burch, Green, McDowell, Henderson, Youce, Rice, Cowan.

A communication from Messrs. Bullock, Mason, Price, and Stonestreet, students of College, praying that Thomas Nichols, principal of the Preparatory Department, might be removed from office, also a communication from Mr. Nichols on the same subject, were received and read.

Mr. Green submitted a preamble and resolution for the adoption of the Board upon the subject of said communications. Upon a motion to strike out that part of it which declares that the presentation of the memorial by said students was a breach of College discipline, and subversive of good order and subordination, the yeas and nays were as follows: yeas: Barnes, Youce, Burch, Cowan; nays: Green, McDowell, Henderson. The question was then taken up on the adoption of said preamble as amended and passed as follows: yeas: Barnes, Burch, Youce, Cowan; nays: Green, McDowell and Henderson.

The said preamble as amended reads as follows: The Communication of the aforesaid

students specifies no charge, exhibits no grievance under which it is pretended to labor. They are, none of them, under the instruction of Mr. Nichols, and their necessary intercourse with him is confined to the simple observance of that respectful deportment which should always be exhibited by each towards the other. While then it is admitted that occasions might arise when it would be proper for the students to memorialize the Board for the redress of grievances, it is manifest in the memorial before us, none is shown to exist. The Board sees nothing in the memorial to call for their action against the principal department. In regard to the communication from Mr. Nichols, however much the Board may respect the feelings which prompted it, they can see nothing in the occasion which renders an enquiry with his conduct necessary.

**April 18, 1832**

Board met. Present Messrs. McDowell, Green, Barbour, Youce, Rice, Henderson, Cowan. McDowell, Chairman, Cowan, Secretary

Board proceeded to the settlement of a claim presented by Dr. Blackburn. Whereupon, resolved that the item of \$2 for expenses about Hunley's will, also \$32 for same, also \$50 for expenses to Alabama. Then moved to reject the other items, and determined by nays and yeas: [yeas] - McDowell, Green, Barbour, Youce, Cowan and Rice; nays - none. Ordered charge Dr. Blackburn \$15.

Received on Lyman Whitney's subscription. Robert J. Breckinridge's resignation accepted. James Harlan's resignation as secretary accepted.

Ordered that David G. Cowan perform the duties of Secretary till otherwise indicated.

[In pencil]

The minutes of a meeting here omitted and lost, at which John C. Young handed a report of his agency, which was affirmed and filed away in secretary's papers.

**August 11, 1832**

Present Burch, Green, Barbour, Youce, Henderson, Rice, Cowan, Secretary.

Burch Chairman. Rev. Joseph Haber appointed agent and solicitor. Mr. Burch a committee.

Resolved that in pursuance of [blank line] Resolved that Lewis W. Green be appointed Professor of Belles Lettres and Political Economy.

Adjourned till Monday.

**August 13, 1832**

Board met. Present Burch, Green, Barbour, Youce, Cowan, Henderson, Rice. Prayer

Ordered Green and Burch be a committee on salaries of Asylum officers with power to fix them, subject to ratification by the Board.

Resolved that there be two teachers in the Preparatory Department at a salary of \$300 each per annum under the superintendence of a rector, to be appointed by the Faculty to be appointed from their own members from and after the commencement of next session.

Taylor's claim rejected.

Resolved that from and after the commencement of next session, the order of this Board of the 28th September 1831 increasing the salary of Mr. Nichols be rescinded and held for nought.

Adjourned

see this amended next page

[Page 70]

**August 25, 1832**

Board met. Present Burch, Henderson, Youce, Rice, Cowan, Barbour.

Resolved Mr. Huber's salary \$750. Luke Munsell appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy and Chemistry, salary per annum \$750.

The resolutions of last meeting amended by fixing salaries of Preparatory Department at \$250 each, and that the Secretary communicate the same to Mr. Nichols, and request him to inform the Board whether he wishes to continue in the Preparatory Department as teacher under the new arrangements.

Adjourned

**September 14, 1832**

Board met. Present Messrs. Green, Barbour, Youce, Henderson, Cowan. Prayer by Young.

Faculty recommended for degree A.B. - William T. Allen, Henry G. Comingo, David D. McKee, Joseph J. Bullock, David J. Caldwell - adopted.

Burch, Cowan, Henderson, committee to visit and inspect Asylum, etc.

The Faculty recommended the degree of A.M. to be conferred on George G. McAfee; adopted.

Mr. Nichols' resignation received.

William T. Allen and Henry G. Comingo appointed tutors in the Preparatory Department.

Doctor Munsell accepts, and requests granted.

Ordered Secretary to pay Mrs. Finley's hire at \$60.

Salary \$750 per annum and travelling expenses.

Adjourned.

[Page 71]

**October 20, 1832**

Opened with prayer College meeting. Present John D. Paxton, Green, John C. Young, Luke Munsell, William L. Breckinridge.

William L. Breckinridge and James Burch were appointed a committee to converse with Mr. Barnet in relation to his continuance as superintendent of the farm, and report to the executive committee at the next monthly meeting.

Whereas the Education Society at its late annual meeting at Louisville did so alter the constitution of the Society as to prevent other students besides beneficiary to come upon the farm at the discretion of the executive committee master, therefore John C. Young, William L. Breckinridge, Luke Munsell, and John Green are appointed a sub-committee upon this subject.

Adjourned.

*William L. Breckinridge, Chairman pro tem*