

**MEMORANDA CONCERNING SHELDON  
JACKSON AND THE MODERATORSHIP OF THE  
109TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. WINONA  
ASSEMBLY GROUNDS, EAGLE LAKE, INDIANA,  
MAY 20-28, 1897. FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION**

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*Sheldon Jackson*

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## FORECAST.

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[Chicago Times-Herald, May 9, 1897.]

**T**HE 109th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, which will meet on May 20 at Winona Park, on Eagle Lake, near Warsaw, Ind., will be in many respects the greatest ever held in the history of the Church. It is expected that there will be 5000 ministers and lay members of the Church present, a larger attendance than at any previous meeting. Six hundred official commissioners will be present from the various Presbyteries, the number being equally divided between ministers and laymen. Every section of the United States, as well as the Foreign Missions under the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church, will be represented. The Assembly will continue in session until May 31.

A friendly contest for the Moderatorship has already been begun. No lay member of the Church has ever occupied the chair of the presiding officer at the annual convocation, but at the coming meeting this precedent may be broken.

Many of the commissioners favor the election of a layman as Moderator. Four candidates have been prominently mentioned for the office. The two laymen suggested are ex-President Harrison and John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia. Dr. Henry C. Minton, of San Anselmo, Cal., and Dr. Sheldon Jackson, Commissioner of Education for Alaska, are the ministerial candidates. Dr. Jackson is a most interesting character. For forty years he has occupied the position of missionary for the Church in the territories west of the Mississippi and in Alaska. It was Dr. Jackson who introduced reindeer in Alaska from Lapland for the purpose of solving the food problem.

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[Herald and Presbyterian, May 5, 1897.]

**W**E have already noted the nomination of Dr. H. C. Minton, of California, and have quoted some of the reasons advanced in his behalf. He is a strong, efficient, reliable man, and would fill the office admirably.

We have also noted the nomination of ex-President Harrison, a man whom not only Presbyterians, but Americans generally, delight to honor. . . .

We have also noted the nomination of Dr. Sheldon Jackson, of Alaska. Dr. Jackson is known to as many ministers and elders as any man in the Church. Letters received by us in