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NEW BRUNSWICK AND P. E. ISLAND CONFERENCE.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30 .- FOURTH SESSION.

Conference opened with the reading of the Scriptures, singing of the 356th hymn, and offering of prayer by Rev. Geo. Payson. Before passing to the order of the day, several items of interest were disposed of.

On motion it was resolved that a telegram be sent to Sir Hugh Allan, asking for a free passage for the brother who is to visit England in the interests of the churches that have suffered by the late fire in St. John.

Dr. Pickard was then heard at length on the matter of the amalgamation "upon an equitable basis" of the Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund of the late Conference in E. B. A., with the Superannuated Ministers' Fund as constituted by the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada.

No resolution on this matter was reached, it being deemed better to defer its distributing the funds thus raised be in further consideration until a future day of the Conference sessions.

Rev. Mr. Withrow was then called upon for an address. He did not expect this. for he thought he had said, last night, all that was necessary for him to say-all that he had in his heart to say. He would repeat his expressions of sympathy with the Conference in its heavy loss by the fire. He was pleased with the evidences of the prosperity and thrift of the Province and of the Conference. He was thankful for the loan-which, by the way we need not hope returned-of some loved brethren who still linger in memory among us. He referred to Drs. Wood. Rice, and Evans. As he came over the Intercolonial Rail Road there was a grand idea suggested to his mind. It was not a commercial idea; for, as a commercial enterprise, he thought it to be a failure; but as a connecting link, binding together the different parts of the Dominion and bringing the different sections of our church nearer to each other, nothing of the kind could be better.

He told us of large increase in the membership of the London and Toronto Conferences, and of general prosperity throughout the Western section of our

Rev. A. W. Nicolson, editor of the WESLEYAN, was then introduced to the Conference. He said that the sessions of the Nova Scotia Conference had been very harmonious. The reported increase in the membership of that Conference was 1100; and the increase in contributions to misssions \$400.00. He then referred to the sympathy of the Nova Scotia Conference with this Conference in the loss sustained by fire.

This sympathy found expression in the form of a subscription among the ministers of that Conference for the aid of those ministers in the Conference who lost by the fire. As the result of this subscription, he had in his pocket, for the object contemplated, the sum of \$252.00. He said this must not be understood to be the limit of the aid they were prepared to extend. They would do more when called upon by the canvassing committee. The N. S. Conference had appointed a committee upon the matter of amalgamation, referred to before. He asked this Conference to consider the propriety of holding its next sessions in some place' near Amherst, where the N. S. Conference was to assemble, so that old friendships. still dear, might be renewed. He wished to be understood as possessing feelings of truest attachments to this Annual Conference. He then referred to the interests of the Wesleyan and Book Room. The duty to give the charge to the newly circulation of the paper was as good as it ordained ministers; and was requested to

\$18.000. As Book Steward and Editor, N.S. he had endeavored to work for the good of the brethren in the ministry and the the intelligence that a resolution had been passed by the Nova Scotia Conference, sympathizing with Dr Pickard in his re-

Rev I Sutcliffe was then called upon for a few remarks. He was very glad to meet this Conference as a whole Conference. Its ranks had not been thinned as had his, by death. Fathers and young men had been, within the bounds of his Conference, called to the church triumphant, leaving blessed testimonies behind. He had, for many years, watched the progress of Methodism, and rejoiced in its condition to-day. What a family! What a number on earth! What a number in heaven! They sing the song of victory. O, that we may bear some humble part in that immortal song!

It was moved by Dr Pickard, seconded and spoken to by Bro Lathern, and supported by Bro Daniel, and passed by the Conference :- " That we have heard with pleasure and profit the voices and expressions of sympathy and of congratulati on of our visiting brethren."

It was then, on motion of Dr Pickard resolved to hold the next sessions of this Conference in Sackville, N B, opening on the fourth Thursday in June, 1878.

It was then resolved that before Conference should close, a subscription be circulated among its members for the relief of their brethren who suffered loss by the late fire: and that the responsibility of the hands of the same committee as has been appointed to disburse the moneys collected for the Building Fund. Conference then adjourned to meet on Monday

SUNDAY SERVICES. These began at 6 30 o'clock, a m, when Rev Mr Turner, candidate for ordination. preached from Rom 5, 18.

At 11 o'clock the President preached from 1 Chron 16, 29, a very excellent and impressive sermon.

In the afternoon a Love Feast, led by Rev Mr Smallwood, was held, and proved to be a season of grace to all present. In the evening Rev W H Withrow preached from the words: "The Gospel-

the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." Rom 1.5. Mr W's sermon was beautiful and impressive. At the close of the evening service the

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered. The pulpits of the evangelical churches of Fredericton and the region round about were occupied by members of the Conference.

Though the weather was unfavorable being rainy, the congregations were good. MONDAY, JULY 2 -FIFTH SESSION.

Conference opened at the appoined hour. Scripture was read by the Rev Mr Paisley; the 346th hymn was sung, and prayer offered by the Rev J S Allen. It was then resolved that this Conference request the superintendents of all the lines of travel in the Provinces of the Dominion, and the Superintendent of the Grand Trunk Rail Road, to grant free passes to the ministers appointed to canvass for the re-building of our Connexional property in St John.

Hearty votes of thanks were then passed to the brethren who had served the Conference during the past year in official capacity; to Rev Mr McKeown, for the satisfactory arrangements made for the entertainmeni of the members of the Conference during its present sessions; and to the managers of lines of travel, for the reduction of fares to the members of

The candidates for ordination were then called for, and examined by the President in the presence of the Conference. A number of questions were asked by the senior ministers as the examination proceeded. The results of the examination being deemed satisfactory, it was resolved that all the brethren examined receive

Arrangements were then made for the ordination service, submitted to the Conference, was adopted. The ex-President was reminded of his

was a year ago. The sales in the Book embody in it the expression of the opinion Room during the year amounted to over of the Conference, relative to the use of the manuscript in the pulpit. Just then a lengthened and spirited discussion was had on the subject of Preaching versus cause of Christ. He also conveyed to us Reading, in which the following persons took prominent parts :- Revs Smallwood, McKeewn, Berrie, Narraway, Lathern, Daniel, and Dr Pickard. Though a diversity of opinions on this subject was developed in this discussion, yet it appeared that upon the principle involved all were of one mind; all would say that, while we must have preaching, not reading, exceptions must be made for exceptional times, persons and things. Conference then adjourned to meet at 2.30 p m.

> MONDAY AFTERNOON. - SIXTH SESSION. Conference opened by singing the hymn -, after which the Secretary offered prayer. The resolutions on the retirement of Dr Pickard, which the Conference had previously directed to be drawn up, were then read by the Secretary, and were adopted by a rising vote, to which the Dr beefly replied.

> The Rev H Pickard, D D, having asked for permission to retire from the active work of the ministry, and to take a supernumerary relation, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Conference :-

> 1. That the Conference, having heard with deep regret the application of the Rev. H. Pickard, D. D., for permission to take a Supernumerary relation, desires to place on record its appreciation of the long, faithful, and eminently useful services, rendered by him to the various interests of our church, in the Provinces of E. B. America.

2. That as financial agent of the Conference; as the originator and, for many years, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Supernumer ary Fund; as the Book Steward and Editor the PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN, taking the charge of their interests at a time when they had become greatly embarrassed, and by successful management putting them in a better condition than they had ever been in before, Dr. Pickard has placed our church in the Maritime Provinces under great and lasting

3. That as Principal of the Educational Inyears, from the opening of the Male Academy in 1843, his devotion to the cause of education, his untiring energy and wise administration were instrumental in raising those Institutions to a very prosperous and influennot only in the grateful memory of the church, but in the public history of our land.

4. That, in granting his request, the Conference assures Dr. Pickard that it does so with sincere regret that the necessity for it exists, and with the hope and prayer that he may long be spared to give to the councils and enterprises of our church the benefit of his long experience and administrative ability, and that the remaining years of his life may, by the blessing of Heaven, be years of con-

Reports were then received, in order, from the Contingent Fund Committee, the Committee on Memorials, and the S S Committee, all of which were adopted. After some informal conversation upon various important matters, the Conference passed to the consideration of the spiritual state of the church within its bounds. A part of the 433rd hymn was sung, after which Rev Mr Barratt led the Conference in prayer. In the exercises which followed, many of the brethren took part; and in the hallowing influences shed forth, all

Conference then adjourned to meet on Tuesday morning.

ORDINATION SERVICES.

The exercises were begun at 7.30 o'clock on Monday evening by singing the 744th hymn, after which Rev Mr Smallwood offered prayer. The candidates for ordination-Edward Bell, Benjamin Chappell, Wm Penna and Edwin Turnerwere then called to the platform, and presented by the Secretary to the President to be ordained.

These brethren were then called upon, in order, to relate the account of their conversion to God and call to the minis-

EDWARD BELL SAID:

Mr. President, Fathers, and Brethren:—At this time I am caused to reflect upon the past, and while so doing it recalls home with all its attractions and influences. I have always been under religious influence, more or less, by example and precept. But like most youths on leaving home I wandered from the right way, neglected the Sabbath School and the sanctuary; but, through the invitation of pious friends, I returned to the house of God, and in the class meeting I obtained the

No sooner had God spoken peace to my troubled heart, than I was impressed with the duty to tell others what the Lord had done for my soul. I did others what the Lord had done for my soul. I did so by His help. While working in this way I was convinced that I was called to preach his word. I opened my mind to my class leader and to the minister of the circuit, and was placed on trial as a local preacher. While preaching Jesus Christ followed by the remaining solemn and

and Him crucified, I had a deep conviction, which self entirely to the work of the ministry. After a long time spent in prayer and meditation, I decided to offer. My way was clearly opened; and under the advice of one with whom many here were acquainted,—Rev. G. Butcher,—I decided to leave my native land, and on my arrival here found the Church in need of laborers. And during the four years of my probation I may say, they have been the happiest of my life, and I have met with much encouragement. Although, looking upon the past I see many imperfections and failings, yet I am determined by the help of God, to give myself entirely to him. May I be able to say:—

" Happy, if with my latest breath I may but gasp his name; Preach him to all and cry in death, Behold, behold the Lamb!

Mr. President, Fathers, Brethren and Christian Friends:—There are moments in the life of every one which are more than usually thoughtful and evening My feelings are very mingled, and I find it difficult to express my thoughts in words. I am thankful to God for the honour I now have in being on this platform under these circumstances; and at the same time I feel humbled because I am not more worthy of the nonor of being or dained a minister of the word of life, and though am not so devoted to God and so Christ-like as desire to be, yet I am thankful that "by the grace of God I am what I am;" that I hold a position in the Church of Christ, and have a conscience of his love and favour. I was brought to the enjoyment of God's love when young; and, though years have passed away since, yet I have a distinct remembrance still of my thoughts and feelings or the occasian of my conversion to God, which took place when I was twelve years of age. A sense of my duties and obligations to God is associated with my earliest remembrances; but on that occasion l felt more deeply my condition before God,—I felt unhappy because I had sinned against a Saviour who loved me with the tenderest affection. I prayed for forgiveness and a sense of pardon; and as I prayed, my faith centered on this promise, "Whosever cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out," I believed its truthfulness, and the Spirit bore witness with my spirit that I was a child of

In reference to my call to the ministry I have no misgivings. I feel confident I am just where God would have me be. Since my conversion I have felt a desire to promote the interests of Christs Kingdom and the glory of His name, My prondest ambition is to be successful in the work o which God has called me. The call of the church and the success which has attended my feeble endeavors convince me that I am in the

EDWIN TURNER SAID :

Mr. President, Fathers, and Christian Friends: I feel thankful to my Heavenly Father that in His infinite mercy he has spared me until this most important period of my life. My heart is lifted up in gratitude to the great Head of the Church, "For that he counted me taithful, putting me into the ministry." But that which gives me the greatest happiness to-night, is that through divine grace I have been truly converted to God. I have known have been truly converted to God. I have known the pangs of penitential sorrow, have felt the stinging smart of a guilty conscience, and realized that I merited the righteous displeasure of a Holy God. But with one of old I can say: "He inclined unto me and heard my cry. He brought me also out of an horrible pit, and out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock and established my goings. And he hath put a new song into my mouth even praise unto our God." In my sixteenth year, through the influence of the Holy Spirit, and under the earnest faithful labors of Bro. A. S. Tuttle, while on the Baie Verte Circuit, I was led Tuttle, while on the Baie Verte Circuit, I was led to flee to Christ as the sinners' only refuge. In connexion with my conversion I did not feel that sudden and overwhelmning power of which I have heard so many speak, but a deep sense of my guilt and then a calm reliance on Christs' atonement and then a caim reliance on Christs' atonement made for me. After my conversion I had many of the trials, temptations and hardships peculiar to the youthful Christian warrior. Many times I had well nigh given up the struggle, but for the watch-ful care of my faithful pastor, and the timely ad-vice of Christian brethren. During the time that elapsed between my conversion and my entering into the active work of the Christian ministry. endeavored to do what I could for the advance of the Redeemer's Kingdom. All this time there others the wonde, ful efficacy of that Gospel which brought deliverance to my sin-burdened soul. In fact, I cannot remember a time when I had not desire to preach the Gospel. There seemed to me to be something sublime in the grand old truths of the Bible. After my conversion this desire in-creased, I longed more and more to tell others the story of the cross. But although this was my desire, my pathway to the ministry seemed to be hedged up. I was surrounded by many obstacles that seemed almost impossible to surmount. I hardly knew whether it was my duty to leave all the associations of home, and all the worldly pros-pects before, and devote my life entirely to the pects before, and devote my fife entirely to the proclamation of the gospel or not. In the midst of those opposing influences I was enabled to say, "Thy will, O Lord, be done," and to rely upon the promise of God that if, "In all our ways we acknowledge Him, He will direct our paths." One circumstance after another, without any of my ow seeking, opened up the way before me. My duty was to follow and leave the result with God.

In my work I have been greatly encouraged, because God has owned me as the instrument in his hand of leading precious souls to Him. Of my call to the ministry I never have had any doubt, but I know also that it is only valid so long as I remain faithful to the important trust committed to my keeping. I think, too, that I have a due sense of my responsibility as a dying man, stand-ing as an ambassador before dying men that I may—
"With cries, entrcaties, tears to save,

In this high and holy calling I feel encourage

to go forth, for I know that if I am faithful my abour shall not be in vain in the Lord. This confidence is increased by the fact that in every human breast there is a response—a chord in every human soul, however much that soul may be dimmed and darkened and cursed by sin—that echoes back the call of the Gospel With this feeling of the responsibility of my position I feel like exclaiming, "Who is sufficient for these things?" I tremble as I look at myself, but with confidence I reach out the hand of faith and lean upon my helper, God. With a feeling of love and sympathy for the great moving corrupted mass of humanity, lying in the arms of the wicked one, and with the knowledge that the Son of God poured out his soul unto death to redeem them, and hath gone up on high to prepare an house for his people. I go forth to my life's great work-

"Happy if with my latest breath
I may but gasp His name;
Preach him to all and cry in death
"Behold, behold the Lamb!"

The usual portions of Scripture were

impressive ceremonies of our ordination service. After music by the choir, the charge to the newly ordained men was delivered by the ex-President, Rev R

After music by the choir, Rev Dr Pope pronounced the benediction.

TUESDAY MORNING .- SEVENTH SESSION Conference opened at 9 o'clock. After the singing of the 342nd hymn, prayer was offered by Rev Mr Comben. Reports were then received from the following committees : the Missionary Committee, the Educational Committee, and Children's Fund Committee, all of which were passed. On motion Conference proceeded to the order of the day-the final decision of the Conference relative to the Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund.

Dr Pickard, in a lengthy and lucid address, presented the matter to the Conference. It was afterwards long and ably discussed, and finally took the following shape:-That this Conference appoint a committee to confer with a similar committee already appointed by the Nova Spotia Conference relative to the matter in question.

It was then reported that the sum of \$220 00 had been collected in this Conference for the relief of the ministerial sufferers by the late fire.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.—EIGHTH SESSION. After the usual devotional exercises, the Pastoral Address was submitted by Rev Mr Chapman, and, after some discussion, resulting in the addition of a clause or two, accepted by the Conference. The Report of the Committee appointed at last Conference to draft a constitution for the proposed "Supernumerary Mutual Annuitant Society" was then submitted. It being a lengthy document, and the members of the Conference having not been previously made acquainted therewith, and the time at the disposal of Conference being too short to take up the resolved that it lie over for consideration at next Conference. The Report of the Children's Fund Committee was then submitted and accepted.

The following representatives on the General Conference Committees were

Central Educational Board, Rev H Pickard, D.D.: Central Missionary Board. Rev Joseph Hart, Transfer Committe, Rev H Daniel.

Rev D D Currie was re-elected Financial Secretary of the Conference. The last draft of the Stations was then read (For Station Sheet, see Eighth Page.)

The Conference then proceeded to elect the District Chairmen. No election was needed for the St John District, as the President resides there. The ballet being cast for Fredericton District, Rev C H Paisley, A M, was declared elected; but he forthwith resigned, and Rev Robt Duncan was elected. The ballot for the Miramichi District was cast, and Rev I N Parker was declared elected; but he resigned forthwith, and Rev H McKeown was elected. The ballot for the Sackville District resulted in the election of Rev D Chapman, who attempted to imitate the example furnished in the previous cases. but yielded to the request of his brethren not to do so. Rev E Evans was elected for St Stephen District, and Rev John Lathern for PE I.

The Chairmen then chose their Financial Secretaries, the Conference approving. Order of business for the Conference of 1878 was submitted by the Secretary and

A letter introducing Rev H Sprague. A M, to the British Conference, and explaining the object of his mission, was read by Rev J R Narraway, A M, and being approved by the Conference, was signed by the President.

Conference then adjourned to meet after the S S Meeting in the evening.

At 8 o'clock p m, the services of the S S Meeting were introduced by singing a hymn, after which Rev Mr Barratt offered prayer. Rev S R Ackman presided; and after making a short and effective speech. called for the Annual Report, which was read by the Secretary, Rev Robt Wilson The following topic was then discussed by Rev Mr Berrie: "The Sabbath School -the nursery of the Church,' Rev

(Continued on Fighth Page.)