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EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES

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SIXTH

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

MINISTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE PEOPLE DESIGNATED

BIBLE CHRISTIANS.

HELD AT

THE BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHAPEL, COLUMBUS, O.,

*Commenced June the 14<sup>th</sup>, and closed June the 18<sup>th</sup>.*

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONFERENCE

PRICE FIVE CENTS

PRINCE ALBERT

PRINTED BY E. ORVER, AT THE "ONTARIO REVIEW" OFFICE.

1860.

EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES  
OF THE  
SIXTH  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE  
MINISTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THE PEOPLE DENOMINATED  
BIBLE CHRISTIANS,

HELD IN  
THE BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHAPEL, COLUMBUS, C.W.,

*Commenced June the 7th, and closed June the 12th.*

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PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONFERENCE.

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1860.

EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTH

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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OF THE

MINISTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE DENOMINATION

52730

BIBLE CHRISTIANS

THE

THE BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, COLUMBUS, C.W.

(Copyright, 1903, by The Bible Christian Church, Columbus, C.W.)

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONFERENCE

PRICE FIVE CENTS

PRINTED AT THE

PRINTING OFFICE, AT THE "STANDARD" OFFICE

1903



# EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SIXTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

QUESTION 1.—Who compose this Conference ?

ANSWER.—Thomas Green President of the Conference of 1859.

Paul Robins, Secretary, do.

John H. Eynon, Superintendent of the Cobourg District.

*Preachers sent by the District Meeting.*

Abraham Morris, authorised by the Bowmanville District,

John Brown Tapp, do Cobourg District,

John Edwards, do Huron District,

Robert Hurley, do do

John Chapple, do Bowmanville District,

John Williams, do Cobourg District,

William Hooper, do Bowmanville District,

Arthur Doble, do do

Henry Stephens, do Cobourg District,

William R. Roach, do do

John Hooper, do Bowmanville District,

Thomas R. Hall, do Cobourg District.

*Representatives sent by the District Meetings.*

John Vanstone, authorised by the Cobourg District,

Israel Payne, do do

James King, do do

Charles Tambljn, do Bowmanville District,

John Kinsey, do do

Thomas Bowden, do do

Thomas Horsly, do do

John Clark, do do

George Pound, do do

William Robins, do Huron District,

Peter Drown, do do

**WILLIAM HOOPER was elected PRESIDENT.**

**PAUL ROBINS was elected SECRETARY.**

*Resolved*—That the thanks of the Conference be given to Brother Green, *President*, and Brother Robins, *Secretary*, for the satisfactory manner in which each has filled his office during the last year.

Q. 2.—Who remain on the list of approved Preachers?

A.—Paul Robins,	John Chapple,	Henry Stevens,
J. Langdon, superannated	John Williams,	William R. Roach,
John H. Eynon,	William Hooper,	Robert Miller,
Abraham Morris,	Henry Ebbott,	George Parsons,
John B. Tapp,	Joseph Hoidge,	John Hooper,
Thomas Green,	G. Hayerost, sup <sup>d</sup> ated	David Cantlon,
John Edwards,	Arthur Doble,	Thomas R. Hull,
Robert Hurley,	Joseph Dix,	

Q. 3.—Who are admitted into full connexion?

A.—G. T. Colwell,	Isaac Ashley,	George Bodle,
Andrew Gordon,		

Q. 4.—Who remain on trial?

A.—Edward Roberts,	William Jossife,
Thomas C. Pickard,	William Newcombe,

These have travelled two years.

Henry J. Colwell,	Henry Nott,
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These have travelled one year.

Q. 5.—Who are admitted on trial?

Adam Curry,	John Coon,	Archibald Clark,
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Q. 6.—What Preachers have died this year?

A.—None.

Q. 7.—What is the state of our christian experience?

A.—The Brethren spoke clearly and decidedly of their acceptance with God; attachment to each other; the cause of Christ; of a desire to glorify God, and a determination to help to build up the Kingdom of our Redeemer in this world. The meeting was numerously attended by the friends in the circuit and surrounding ones, and the feeling that prevailed was most delightful. Looking at this and the unity which existed between the Ministers, Representatives and Members, we doubt not but the meeting and the Conference will be long remembered.

Q. 8.—What is the spiritual state of the Connexion?

A.—There is ground to hope that many of our friends see more clearly their duty in supporting the cause of God, and it is expected with improvement of times we shall be in fewer difficulties. Greater attention is being given to our Sunday Schools, and we hope our friends will still, in greater numbers, take hold of this department of the work. Eight stations report an increase in the membership of two hundred and sixty-two. Thirteen report a decrease of two hundred and eighteen, which leaves but a small net increase. This is rather a gloomy aspect at first sight, and forces the enquiry, What is the cause of this state of things? Worldly circumstances have required the removal of several of our members to situations beyond the bounds of the Bible Christian connexion; this and the deaths partly account for the losses sustained; but we fear instability and coldness meet

Account for many more. To remedy this state of things we urge the necessity of seeking a deeper work of grace, and more regular visiting by both Preachers and Leaders. Let all unite to labour for the conversion of souls, and also strive to keep them when they join with us. If we do these things, trust in God, and live by faith, we shall doubtless see better days.

Q. 9.—What is the financial state of the Connexion?

A.—We are thankful that on most of the stations the regular quarterly receipts have increased, as have also the Missionary Receipts, consequently, though we are able to diminish the debt on the Missionary Society but very little, we are thankful that it is not increased, and hope by the united efforts of our friends, we shall be able ultimately to discharge it.

Q. 10.—What are the statistics of the Connexion?

	Itinerant Preachers	Local Preachers	Chapels	Other Places	Deaths	On 'Tial	Members	Total	S. Schools	Teachers	Scholars
Cobourg .....	2	20	13	1	1	75	385	460	8	90	500
Bowmanville.....	2	16	9	2	3	10	324	334	6	97	418
Hampton .....	2	20	9	3	3	50	390	410	6	74	335
Peterboro' .....	2	2	3	5	2	7	165	172	3	18	128
Dummer .....	1	4	1	5	2	18	52	70	1	8	48
Huntingdon .....	1	7	2	6	2	14	163	177	2	12	100
Seymour .....	1	2	3	7	2	...	92	92	2	12	55
Hungerford .....	1	5	1	10	2	5	104	109	...	...	...
Prince Albert.....	1	6	2	5	...	14	64	78	3	20	130
Mariposa .....	2	23	8	4	1	3	300	313	5	40	278
Pickering .....	1	2	1	6	1	...	63	63	2	10	30
Scott .....	1	3	2	7	...	...	32	32	...	...	...
Mitchell .....	2	8	3	7	4	18	233	241	4	32	262
Exeter.....	2	17	8	7	4	33	371	404	4	36	213
Clinton .....	2	6	4	5	1	5	101	106	3	10	75
London.....	1	7	2	5	...	2	75	77	2	17	130
Dereham .....	1	3	2	2	...	...	51	51	1	5	30
Gray .....	1	6	...	8	...	3	41	44	2	9	85
Orange .....	2	12	4	4	5	3	177	180	5	66	290
Palmyra .....	2	20	2	15	3	16	202	218	2	70	265
Liabon .....	1	...	...	4	...	28	130	158	2	22	133
Fort Atkinson .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	...	...	...
Totals.....	31	189	79	118	36	274	3520	3794	63	648	3520
	61	214	143	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Q. 11.—How are the Preachers stationed this year?

A.—I. COBOURG DISTRICT.

Cobourg, J. Chapple, H. Stevens. Bro. Stevens' address is Cobourg.  
Bro. Chapple's address is Port Hope.

Peterboro', J. Edwards, J. Ashley, Peterboro P.O.  
Dummer, J. B. Tapp, Warsaw P.O.  
Huntingdon, G. T. Colwell, Ivanhoe, P.O.  
Hungerford, J. Williams, Tweed P.O.  
Seymour, T. R. Hull, Campbellford P.O.  
Perrytown, A. Doble, Perrytown P.O.

JOHN CHAFFLE, Superintendent of the District.

### II. BOWMANVILLE DISTRICT.

Bowmanville, R. Hurley, Bowmanville P.O., E. Roberts, Orono.  
Hampton, W. Hooper, A. Curry, Hampton P.O.  
Prince Albert, G. Bodle, Reach P.O.  
Scott, A. Morris, Uxbridge P.O.  
Mariposa, D. Canton, A. Clark, Little Britain P.O.  
Pickering, T. Green, Uxham P.O.  
Oshawa, J. Finch, Oshawa P.O.

WILLIAM HOOPER, Superintendent of the District.

\* Bro. Morris and Green to change occasionally.

### III. EXETER DISTRICT.

Exeter, J. Hooper, H. Colwell, Exeter P.O.  
Mitchell, P. Robins, T. C. Pickard, Mitchell P.O.  
London, J. Hoidge, London P.O.  
St. Thomas, J. Coon, St. Thomas P. O. / Bro. Coon to work under the  
direction of Bro. Hoidge.  
Gray, A. Gordon, Ainsleyville P.O.  
Dereham, R. Miller, Tilenbury P.O.  
Orange, W. R. Roach, Cleveland P.O., U.S.

P. ROBINS, Superintendent of the District.

### IV. WISCONSIN DISTRICT.

Palmyra, H. Ebbott, Palmyra, Jefferson County.  
Little Prairie, W. Jolliffe, Palmyra, Jefferson County.  
Lisbon, George Parsons, Plainville, Wakeshaw County.  
Fort Atkinson, one wanted.

H. EBBOTT Superintendent of the District.

Resolved I. That greatly as we would deprecate unwarrantable intrusion on established customs, nevertheless, we would suggest that such changes be made, with the concurrence of the circuit officials in the appointments on week days of the travelling preachers, as will admit of their having greater opportunities for study, visiting members, meeting bible classes, attending elders' meetings, and such other public meetings as may be deemed expedient.

Resolved II. That as the mode of receiving the Lord's Supper has come under the consideration of this Conference, we agree to abide by the usual mode, as recommended in the Digest, believing a sitting posture to be most in conformity with Scripture.

Resolved III. That as there is frequently a difficulty in raising the necessary funds for the support of our circuits, and as many of our liberal friends have been almost discouraged by the indifference of others, in reference to this matter, we resolve

First, That circuits shall settle their accounts for the year, at the Midsummer Quarterly Meeting, so as not to carry a debt into the succeeding year.

Second, That we advise each Circuit and Mission to form a central committee, composed of the pastors, circuit and society stewards, whose duty it shall be to ascertain and apportion to each society in the circuit its proper portion of the circuit expenses, and also that in each society a local committee, consisting of the stewards, leaders, and such others as the society may see fit, shall be formed to apportion their parts to the several members, taking care to do it kindly, and with due regard to the circumstances of the members.

RESOLVED IV. That we adopt the course of study for young men reported by the committee appointed at last Conference.

RESOLVED V. That Bros. Robins and Hodge prepare a resolution to lay before the next Conference to regulate the travelling expenses of preachers in removing to their stations.

RESOLVED VI. That the pay to preachers for their children shall commence at the conference after their birth, and each preacher shall make a return to the District Meeting of the name and time of birth, to be forwarded to the Secretary of Conference by the Superintendents of Districts.

RESOLVED VII. That the amount to be charged for preachers' children be \$25 per quarter with single, and \$10 with married preachers.

#### GRANTS TO STATIONS.

RESOLVED IX. That the following grants be made to Mission Stations for the ensuing year.

*Peterboro*—\$20, and all they can raise.

*Dummer*—All they can raise.

*Seymour*—\$100, and all they can raise.

*Huntingdon*—\$40 do do

*Hungerford*—\$50 do do and \$30 for furniture.

*Mariposa*—One half of their Missionary money.

*Pickering*—\$50, and all they can raise.

*Scott*—\$100, do

*Prince Albert*—\$50 do

*Mitchell*—To pay their deficiency from their missionary receipts.

*Clinton*—\$200, and all they can raise.

*London*—\$120.

*Dereham*—\$80, do and \$40 for furniture.

*Grey*—\$180, do

RESOLVED X. That the following constitute the Connexional Committee for the ensuing year: The *President*, *Secretary*, T. Green, J. Chapple, and R. Hurley.

RESOLVED XI. That Bro. J. Chapple be the Corresponding Secretary with the Home Conference and Missionary Committee.

RESOLVED XII. That Bro. Stevens be Secretary, and Bro. T. Green Treasurer of the Missionary Society for the coming year.

RESOLVED XIII. That the District Meetings be held on the third Wednesday in May, 1861, to commence at 8 o'clock, a.m. That for the Cobourg District at Port Hope; for the Bowmanville District at Oromo; and for the Huron District at Exeter.

RESOLVED XIV. That the next Conference be held at Bowmanville, to commence at 6 o'clock, a.m. Preparatory committee consisting of the President



Secretary, the Superintendents of the Districts, one Representative from each District, and Bros. Green and Hurley, to meet on the preceding Tuesday at 8 a.m.

Resolved XV. That the thanks of the Conference be tendered to the friends in Columbus and neighbourhood for their christian hospitality to the members of the body during its sittings.

Signed on behalf and by order of the Conference,

**WILLIAM HOOPER, President**

**PAUL ROBINS, Secretary.**



## COURSE OF STUDY FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY.

### FIRST YEAR.

*The Bible Doctrines.*—The Essence of God; the attributes of God; the Trinity in Unity; the Union of Deity and Humanity; Personality and Deity of the Holy Ghost; Depravity; Atonement; Repentance; Justification by Faith; Adoption; Regeneration; the witness of the Spirit; Growth in Grace; Christian Perfection; Possibility of final Apostacy; Immortality of the Soul; Resurrection of the Body; General Judgment; Rewards and Punishments.

The examination on the above to be strictly biblical, requiring the candidate to give statement of the Scripture proof.

*Systematic Divinity.*—Watson's Institutes, first part. Wesley's Christian Perfection.

*Common English.*—English Grammar; Modern Geography.

*Composition.*—An essay or sermon.

*Read* Wesley's Sermons and Notes, Whitehead's Life of Wesley; Watson's apology for the Bible, and Clarke's Letters to a young Preacher.

### SECOND YEAR.

*The Bible Sacraments.*—The Sacrament of Baptism—Its nature, design obligation, subject and mode. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper—Its nature, design, and obligation. Read Dwight's Theology. [Mode of examination same as first year.]

*Systematic Divinity.*—Watson's Institutes, second part; Peck's Christian Perfection; Fletcher's Appeal to matter of Fact; Earnest Address to seekers of salvation; Angel James' Earnest Ministry; Wesley on Original Sin; Wesley's Doctrinal Tracts.

*Church Government.*—Powell or Barnes on Apostolic succession.

*Composition.*—Essay or sermon.

*Natural Philosophy.*—Johnson's Natural Philosophy.

### THIRD YEAR.

*The Bible.*—History and Chronology. [Candidate to be prepared on the leading events in the Old and New Testaments.] Reference book, Horne's Introduction, and Hubbard's Palestine.

*Systematic Divinity.*—Watson's Institutes, third part; Butler's Analogy; Peck's Rule of Faith; Thorn on Baptism, large edition.

*History.*—Butler's Church History, Macaulay's History of England, Rollin's Ancient History, Newman's Rhetoric, Whateley's Logic.

*Biography.*—Life of W. Bramwell, Life of W. Jay.

**Composition.**—Essay or sermon.

Read Elliott on Romanism, Fletcher's Works, Smith's Patriarchal Age, Hallam's Middle Age, Russell's Modern Europe.

FOURTH YEAR.

## REVIEW OF THE WHOLE COURSE.

*Systematic Theology.*—Watson's Institutes, fourth part.

*On Preaching.*—Edmondson on the Christian Ministry.

*Biblical Criticism.*—Horne's Introduction abridged, Townley's Illustration of Biblical Literature.

*Composition.*—Essay or Sermon.

*Read Smith's Hebrew People, Paxton's Manners and Customs, Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History, O'Donoghue's History of the Church and Court of Rome, Benson's, Clarke's, or Watson's Sermons, Matthew Henry on Prayer, Life of Robert Newton, and History of Canada.*



## CONSTITUTION OF SABBATH SCHOOLS,

Adopted by the Conference.

### ARTICLE I. NAME, &c.

Section 1. This School shall be called the \_\_\_\_\_ Bible Christian Sabbath School.

Section 2. Any child may become a pupil in this school by making a request either in person or through his or her parents to the Superintendent.

### ARTICLE II.—OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTY.

Section 1. The officers of this school shall be a Superintendent, who may have an assistant, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, and one or more Teachers for each class.

Section 2. No Teacher shall in future be admitted to this school unless he or she is a member of Society, except in cases where none such can be obtained, and all such exceptional cases shall be laid before the Elders' Meeting for ratification.

Section 3. The Superintendent and his Assistant, if any, the Secretary, Treasurer, and Librarian, shall be elected at the January Teachers' Meeting, and shall hold office for one year.

N.B. It is suggested that Teachers shall make a rule of visiting absent scholars at their residence.

Section 4. The Teachers shall be elected at any regular Teachers' Meeting, by a two-thirds vote of the Teachers present. New Teachers shall be placed in charge of any class the Teachers' Meeting may see fit.

Section 5. The duties of the Superintendent shall be to preside at the Teachers' Meetings, keep order and see that the Constitution is properly observed, take charge of the Sabbath School, open and close the same with singing and prayer; see that all the teachers and officers discharge their duty aright; and in all cases act as may seem best for the good of the cause. He must be an approved member of the Church, and shall, by virtue of his office be a member of the Elders' Meeting. He shall be a member, of all committees, *ex officio*, and shall sign all orders on the Treasurer, as voted by the Teachers' Meeting.

Section 6. The Secretary's duty shall be to keep a faithful record of the proceedings of the Teachers' Meeting, and keep the Roll Books for the purpose of entering the attendance of the teachers and pupils. He shall also yearly prepare a report of the progress and standing of the school to be read at the annual meeting. He shall also fill up a blank schedule, (see Appendix A.) and forward the same to the Secretary of the Teachers'

Conference, and the Pastor of the Circuit, not later than the 12th of December in each year.

*Section 7.* The duties of the Librarian shall be to take charge of the Library, and deliver and receive the books.

*Section 8.* The duties of the Treasurer shall be to receive all moneys which may come into the funds of the School, and pay out the same on the order of the Superintendent.

*Section 9.* The duties of the Teachers shall be to attend regularly and punctually to their classes, either weekly or fortnightly, as the Teachers' Meeting may agree—it being always preferable to attend weekly—maintain decorum in his or her class; avoid conversation with any other Teacher during school hours, to attend regularly the Teachers' Meetings, and perform any other duty that body may wish; and in every way endeavour to act with circumspection.

#### ARTICLE III.—TEACHERS' MEETINGS.

*Section 1.* In order properly to carry on the business of the School a Teachers' Meeting shall be held monthly if possible, at any rate one a quarter, of which Meeting the Superintendent shall be the presiding officer.

*Section 2.* The following order of business shall be observed:—

1. Opening with singing and prayer, except when the meeting is subsequent to another meeting.
2. Reading Minutes of last meeting.
3. Examining the Teachers' Roll Book.
4. Examining Childrens' Roll Book, and changing pupils from one class to another.
5. General Business.
6. Closing.

*Section 3.* The Teachers' Meeting shall decide on all business matters of the school; on the reception and expulsion of Teachers; on the expenditure of moneys, &c., and in no case shall the Superintendent grant an order for any funds without the vote of this Meeting.

*Section 4.* The Superintendent shall regularly lay before the Elders Meeting the Minutes of the Teachers Meeting, and that body may, by vote, advise the altering or erasing of any portion, in which case the Superintendent shall lay said regulation before the next Teachers Meeting, when it shall be adopted.

*Section 5.* The Travelling Preachers on the circuit are *ex officio* members of the Teachers Meeting, and should attend whenever practicable.

#### ARTICLE IV.—MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS.

*Section 1.* The Hymn Book to be used in this School shall be that published for Sabbath Schools by the Bible Christian connexion.

*Section 2.* Whenever a suitable person can be obtained to officiate, an address shall be delivered quarterly to the children instead of their regular lessons.



**Section 3.** It is recommended that no recitations shall take place in connection with the Anniversaries, when such are held on the Sabbath Day, and whenever practicable, examinations on portions of Scripture shall take the place of recitations on week days.

**Section 4.** When practicable a Bible Class for the senior pupils shall be formed in connection with this School.

**Section 5.** It is recommended in Schools where there are no Bible Classes that after the lesson has been read, all the Bible and Testament Classes be thrown together and examined by the Superintendent or some other suitable person.

#### APPENDIX A.

##### FORM OF SCHEDULE.

Schedule of return for the \_\_\_\_\_ Sabbath School in the \_\_\_\_\_ station or circuit.

1. What is the number of children in the School?
2. What is the number of Teachers in the School?
3. How many of the Teachers and children are members of Society?
4. How many have been converted in the past year?
5. How much money did you raise?
6. How did you expend it?
7. How many vols. in the Teachers' Library?
8. How many vols. in the Childrens' Library?
9. How many added this year?
10. How do you reward your Children?
11. If so, What is the number and character of Books \*?
12. Did you have recitations at your Anniversary?

\* Here state how many Bibles, Testaments, Hymn Books and other Books.

**WILLIAM HOOPER, President.**  
**PAUL ROBINS, Secretary.**

## ADDRESS TO THE SOCIETIES.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,—

Through the mercies of the Most High, we have been preserved through another ecclesiastical year, while many have been taken from our ranks to their reward, to prove the realities of the spirit world. Let it be our chief concern to answer the end for which our lives are prolonged, that we might be fully given up to God through Jesus Christ our Lord, and be more fully the partakers of the Holy Spirit. He will guide us into the way of all truth, and support us under all our trials while passing through this world of bustle and care. We are under great obligations to the God of all our mercies, and therefore should use our influence for the advancement of the cause of the blessed Redeemer, who hath shed his blood freely and fully for us, yea for all the fallen sons and daughters of Adam.

Let us seek after a full conformity to the divine will in all things. Let our adorning not be the outward adorning, in living after the fashions of this world—which is so prevalent, and we may truly say, so blighting to the work of grace; but be clothed with humility as with a garment, and filled with the spirit of the blessed God, which is given to the faithful, not by measure but according to their faith; then shall we be prepared for the discharge of every duty enjoined on us in the Church, as well as in the world. We should be regular at our social and public means of grace; not forgetting our family duties, in reading the Holy Scriptures daily, and bring our charge at the family altar; that we may ask Heaven's blessing on ourselves and all committed to our care. This will be readily and cheerfully done while we keep up a close union and communion with the Father and with the Son, through the Holy Spirit. There is no burden in love.

The promotion of God's cause should lie near our hearts; our talents should not lie dormant. We may expect success when the Church wakes up to duty;—the prayer leaders being faithful to their charge; and those whom the Lord has called to publish the word of truth regular at their posts, wholly depending on the Lord for success; while the Church at large should be liberal in its contributions toward the support and spread of the religion of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. What work is so great as that of saving souls? The question is asked in the sacred volume—"What shall it profit a man if he should gain the whole world and lose his own soul." Sin reigns rampant; God is dishonoured, and souls exposed to His wrath. And shall we be indifferent respecting these things while we have it in our power to better the world? Oh! let us lay these things at heart and be more fully consecrated to the Lord, and given to the work of saving Souls. Thirty-five have been taken from our societies by death during the past year, and we believe have departed in the triumph of redeeming love. Many have been brought to a saving knowledge of the truth

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on several stations, but we are sorry to state that through death, the removals beyond our field of labour of many others, and the unfaithfulness of not a few, our increase is but small. These things call for great humiliation on the part of the Church, and more devout and faithful prayer. The last year has been crowned with many earthly blessings, for which we are brought under renewed obligations to our great benefactor; and while things look promising this year also, let us have grace, that a right application may be made of all committed to our care, as stewards of the manifold favours of God. Let us stir up the gift within us, and prove by blessed experience, that "Godliness is profitable to all things;" and be enabled to say at last, with the great Apostle, "I have fought the fight, I have kept the faith, and henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of life;" and may we all ultimately go home to possess it forever, Amen.

## ADDRESS TO THE ENGLISH CONFERENCE.

DEAR BRETHREN,—

It again becomes our pleasing duty to address you from our Annual Conference, and hereby cultivate those affectionate regards which arise from fraternal relationship and intercourse. The accounts which from time to time reach us of the prosperity of our beloved connexion in England, Australia, and Prince Edward Island are refreshing to our spirits, and induce the pleasing consciousness that the Great Head of the Church is using the Bible Christian denomination to aid in the God-like effort to renovate the world; and is also an indication of increasing efficiency in the Society's agents, and of the growing strength and stability of our Zion. In your prosperity we have a double joy, the joy of knowing that, in connection with our dearest christian relationships, Christ's Kingdom is being promoted, and the joy of being invigorated ourselves by your increased energy and usefulness. We hope none of us will ever forget, That "in the Lord is our righteousness and strength," and that to Him alone belongs all the glory.

The preparation you are making to render the approaching Jubilee of the connexion a time of special religious interest, as well as of christian liberality, is to us highly satisfactory, and we hope there will be a hearty response and earnest co-operation in Canada as well as in all other parts of the connexion.

During the year closed we have not been without manifestations of God's saving power among ourselves. On some stations many have been the crown of our rejoicing in the Lord, but on the whole we feel there is great cause for humiliation before God, as on many stations there has been, from different causes a falling away, so that our nett increase is but forty-four.

Financially there has been some improvement, for, though several of the brethren have had to sacrifice a considerable portion of their salary, the connexional debts have not increased.

The present conference has been a season of more than ordinary union among its members, and very delightful manifestations of the presence of God have been realized in our midst. The second day of our meeting from the hour of public prayer at three o'clock p. m., was spent in the relation of our christian experience and devotional exercises, and a most delightful influence was realized. As many of the friends as the new chapel would comfortably hold were with us, and wet eyes, shouts of joy and songs of praise showed how full were many hearts, and reminded some of us of similar seasons enjoyed with you in England. Such delightful realizations so much resemble what we expect in Heaven, that we felt ourselves already in its suburbs, partaking of its joys.

We experience here, as in England, that the presence of our lay brethren is an element of strength. No manifestations of warring interests exist between us, but the kind and tender sympathy of the different members of the body for each other, so that we should deeply regret a church polity which would deprive us of the benefit arising from this combination.

An arrangement has been made at this conference, to direct and assist the young brethren by furnishing them with a course of study for their future guidance, which will, we hope, contribute towards making them efficient ministers of Christ.

And now, dear fathers and brethren, though some of us have never seen you in the flesh, and never may have the pleasure of doing so, we feel our spirits drawing to yours in kind christian affection, and hope we shall be still drawn closer and closer together in the Lord, till we join the vast assembly of the Saints in our Father's house. Amen.



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