

MINUTES
of
SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS
between
THE MINISTERS
of the
Wesleyan-Methodist Church
IN CANADA,
at their
TWELFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE,
BEGUN IN THE CITY OF TORONTO,
ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 1837.

TORONTO:
PUBLISHED AND SOLD AT THE CONFERENCE OFFICE.
1837.

PRINTED

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J. H. LAWRENCE, Printer.

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MINUTES.

QUESTION I.

WHAT Preachers are this year ADMITTED INTO FULL CON-
NEXION WITH THE CONFERENCE AND ORDAINED?

ANSWER.

Peter Kerr,	John Law,
Thomas McMullen,	John K. Williston,
Thomas Fawcett,	Samuel Rose.
William McFadden,	

Ques. II. What Preachers REMAIN ON TRIAL?

George F. Playter,	John G. Manly,
Adam Townley,	Jonathan Scott,
William Steer,	John Douse,
Stephen Brownell,	Vincent B. Howard,
Benjamin Slight,	Jonathan Gladwin.

These have travelled THREE YEARS.

John Flanagan,	Thomas Hurlburt,
John McIntyre,	William Deverell,
Hannibal Mulkins,	Solomon Snyder,
Daniel Berney,	Charles B. Goodrich.

These have travelled TWO YEARS.

David C. Will,	George Goodson,
John Lever,	Wm. Willoughby,
William Young,	Stephen Miles,
William Haw,	Hugh Montgomery,
William Scott,	Sylvester Hurlburt.

These have travelled ONE YEAR.

Ques. III. What Preachers are NOW RECEIVED ON
TRIAL?

William Coleman,	Wellington Jeffers.
David Hardie,	

Ques. IV. What Preachers have DIED since the last Conference?

Ans. None.

Ques. V. Are there any OBJECTIONS to any of our Preachers?

Ans. They were examined one by one.

Ques. VI. What Preachers have DESISTED FROM TRAVELLING?

Ans. William Griffis, at his own request.

Ques. VII. Who are the SUPERANNUATED PREACHERS?

Ans. Thomas Whitehead,	William Brown,
Franklin Metcalf,	A. Prindel,
D. Youmans,	Daniel McMullen,
Wyatt Chamberlain,	C. Wood,
Ezra Adams,	Andrew Taylor.
James Wilson,	

* These have no claim on our funds.

Ques. VIII. What Preachers have WITHDRAWN FROM THE CHURCH this year?

Ans. None.

Ques. IX. How are the Preachers STATIONED this year?

Ans. As follows: viz.

I.—NIAGARA DISTRICT.

1. *Hamilton*,—Richard Jones, Alexander McNab, Wellington Jeffers.
2. *Stamford*,—Thomas Bevitt, Samuel Rose,
3. *St. Catharines*,—Joseph Messmore, James Musgrove.
4. *Grimsey*,—Samuel Belton, John Law.
5. *Simcoe*,—Richard Phelps, another to be sent.
6. *Brantford*,—Edmund Shepherd, Peter Kerr; Thomas Whitehead, Andrew Prindel, Superannuated.
RICHARD JONES, *Chairman*.

II.—LONDON DISTRICT.

7. *London*,—Edmund Stoney, Hugh Montgomery.
8. *St. Thomas*,—Thomas Fawcett, Charles B. Goodrich.
9. *Gosfield and Amherstburgh*,—Conrad Vandusen, David Hardie.

10. *Howard*,—John K. Williston.
 11. *Oxford*,—James Norris.
 12. *Thames*,—Stephen Miles, one to be sent.

DAVID WRIGHT, *Chairman*.

III.—TORONTO DISTRICT.

13. *Toronto City*,—William Ryerson; Jos. Stinson, Gen'l. Superintendent of Missions; Ephraim Evans, who is our Editor; John Ryerson, who is our Book Steward.
 14. *Yonge Street*,—Hamilton Biggar, Adam Townley.
 15. *Newmarket*,—Simon Huntington, John Lever.
 16. *Toronto*,—Rowley Heyland, John Flanagan.
 17. *Nelson*,—Edwy Ryerson, William Coleman; Ezra Adams, Superannuated.
 18. *Dumfries*,—Robert Corson, David C. Will.
 19. *Whitby*,—Horace Dean, Hannibal Mulkins; James Wilson, David Youmans, Superannuated.
 20. *Brock*,—To be supplied.

JOHN RYERSON, *Chairman*.

IV.—BAY OF QUINTE DISTRICT.

21. *Kingston*,—William M. Harvard, (President of the Conference,) Egerton Ryerson.
 22. *Bay of Quinte*,—John Black, William Young, William Deverell.
 23. *Waterloo & Gananoque*,—Jno. Baxter, Lewis Warner.
 24. *Hallowell*,—John C. Davidson, William Haw.
 25. *Belleville*,—Matthew Lang.
 26. *Cobourg*,—John Carroll, John Douse; Matthew Rich-ey, A. M., who is Principal of U. C. Academy; John Beatty, who is Agent for U. C. Academy; Andrew Taylor, Supernumerary, who resides at Port Hope.
 27. *Peterborough*,—George Poole, John G. Manly.
 28. *Sidney*,—William H. Williams, Solomon Snider.
 29. *Murray*,—Cyrus R. Allison, William Steer; Daniel McMullen, Superannuated.

ANSON GREEN, *Chairman*.

V.—AUGUSTA DISTRICT.

30. *Brockville & Elizabethtown*,—Ezra Healy, William Scott; Wyatt Chamberlain, Superannuated.
31. *Prescott & Augusta*,—George Ferguson, Henry Shaller; Philander Smith, by his own request recommended to the Black River Conference of the M. E. C. in the U. S.; Chas. Wood, Superannuated.
32. *Matilda*,—Asahel Hurlburt, George Goodson.
33. *Rideau*,—William McFadden; William Brown, Superannuated.
34. *Perth*,—George F. Playter, William Willoughby.
35. *Mississippi*,—Stephen Brownell.
36. *Richmond*,—Daniel Berney.
37. *Ottawa*,—Alva Adams, John McIntyre; Franklin Metcalf, Superannuated.
38. *Bytown*,—James Brock.
39. *Hull*,—Thomas Harmon.
40. *Crosby*,—James Currie.
41. *Pembroke*,—To be supplied.
42. *Clarendon*,—Vincent B. Howard.

HENRY WILKINSON, *Chairman*.

VI.—MISSIONARY DISTRICT.

43. *Aldersville*,—William Case,—who is to pay particular attention to the arrangement and settlement of the new village on the south shore of Rice Lake, John Sunday.
44. *St. Clair & Walpole Island*,—James Evans, Thomas Hurlburt.
45. *Rice Lake*,—Sylvester Hurlburt.
46. *Lake Simcoe & Barrie*,—Jonathan Scott, Thomas McMullen.
47. *Cold Water & French River*,—Gilbert Müller.
48. *Muncey Town*,—Solomon Waldron.
49. *Saugeen*,—John Simpson.
50. *Grand River*,—Matthew Whiting.
51. *Credit*,—Benjamin Slight.
52. *Lake of Tanti*,—Jonathan Gladwin.

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53. *Manetoolin Island*,—One to be sent.
 54. *Guelph*,—One to be sent.
 55. *Goderich*,—To be supplied.
 56. *Warwick & Adelaide*,—To be supplied.

Peter Jones, having the permission of the Conference to visit England in the autumn, shall spend the summer in visiting Manetoolin and other Missions, under the direction of the General Superintendent of Missions.

JOSEPH STINSON, *General Superintendent.*

Ques. X. What is the NUMBER OF MEMBERS in our Societies?

Ans. As follows: *viz.*

CIRCUITS.		CIRCUITS.	
Stamford,	367	Gananoque,	43
St. Catharines,	315	Bay of Quinte,	640
Grimsby,	253	Waterloo,	365
Simcoe,	373	Hallowell,	581
Hamilton,	514	Belleville,	170
Brantford,	386	Cobourg,	296
London,	323	Peterborough,	395
St. Thomas,	414	Sidney,	310
Gosfield,	184	Murray,	482
Howard,	108	Brockville,	62
Oxford,	127	Prescott and Augusta, . . .	597
Thames,	240	Matilda,	595
Toronto City,	252	Rideau,	277
Yonge Street,	688	Perth,	155
Newmarket,	454	Elizabethtown,	257
Toronto,	602	Mississippi,	193
Nelson,	462	Richmond,	310
Dumfries,	335	Ottawa,	597
Whitby,	587	Bytown,	177
Brock,	116	Hull,	92
Kingston,	128	Crosby,	100

* These have been divided.

MISSIONS.		Indians.
St. Clair,	4	149
Amherstburgh,	6	30
Credit,	64	66
Saugeeng,	3	70
Coldwater and French River,	2	79
Lake Simcoe,	140	119
Rice Lake and Mud Lake,	2	68
Grape Island,	6	85
Muncey Town,	3	137
Isle of Tanti,	40	
Grand River,	20	120
Huron,	35	
Marmora,	43	
Lanark,	32	
Clarendon,	96	
Pembroke,	25	
Warwick,	30	
Guelph,	32	
Goderich,	25	

Total number of members in Upper Canada this year, 15,453
 Last year, 16,044

Decrease, 591

Travelling Preachers, 90
 Superannuated do. 11

N. B. By the Schedules of the various Circuits, it appears that there have withdrawn to the party who have assumed the name of Episcopal Methodists, 283; the Irvingites, 15; the Mormons, 52; Expelled and Dropped, 830; Removed, 876; Died, 131;—Total, 2,187. Conversions, 1140; Received into Society, 1,709.

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STATEMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE METHODIST CHURCH THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

Number of Members now in Great Britain,	293,132	
Do. in Ireland,	26,434	
Do. in the Foreign Stations,	61,803	

Total under the care of the British and Irish Conferences,	381,369	
Under the care of the American Conferences,	652,528	
Under the care of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Upper Canada,	15,428	

Total number of Members in the Wesleyan Methodist Societies throughout the world, exclusive of regular Travelling Preachers, who are stately employed in the work of the ministry, 1,049,373

N. B. The number of regular Travelling Preachers, and of Supernumerary and Superannuated Preachers, is as follows: *viz.*,—

In Great Britain;

Regular Preachers,	868	
Supernumerary and Superannuated,	130	
		998

In Ireland;

Regular Preachers stationed in the C'ts.,	94	
Missionaries,	24	
Super'y and Superannuated Preachers,	40	
		158

In the Foreign Stations,

Regular Preachers and Assistant Missionaries now actually on the List (besides the twenty-four Missionaries employed in Ireland, and a considerable number who are to be appointed to the vacant Foreign Stations as soon as possible),	281	
Super'y and Superannuated Preachers,	4	
		285

<i>In the American Connexion in 1835,</i>		
Regular Preachers in Circuits, and Mis-		
sionaries to the Indians,	2,608	
Super'y and Superannuated Preachers,..	150	
		2,758
<i>In the Upper Canada Connexion,</i>		
Regular Preachers in Circuits, and Mis-		
sionaries,	90	
Super'y and Superannuated Preachers,..	11	
		101
Total throughout the world,		4,300

Ques. XI. What has been COLLECTED for the relief and support of the Superannuated Preachers, and the widows and children of those who have died in the work?

	£	s.	d.			
Ans. Hamilton,	6	4	3	Waterloo,	1	12 0
Stamford,	3	10	0	Hallowell,	4	15 5½
St. Catharines,..	4	0	0	Belleville,	3	10 0
Grimsby,	4	1	3	Cobourg,	2	4 6
Simcoe,	7	6	3	Peterborough, ..	7	18 5½
Brantford,	4	3	5½	Sidney,	0	13 8
London,	1	7	1	Murray,	2	6 4
St. Thomas,	2	8	3	Brockville,	0	12 6
Gosfield,	1	10	0	Prescott and Au-		
Howard,	Nothing.			gusta,	8	0 0
Oxford,	2	11	3	Matilda,	2	0 0
Thames,	2	18	2	Rideau,	1	15 11
Toronto City, ...	6	10	0	Perth,	0	15 0
Yonge Street, ...	6	8	0½	Elizabethtown,..	1	1 2
Newmarket,	1	7	6	Mississippi,	2	9 4
Toronto,	6	10	9	Richmond,	1	0 0
Nelson,	5	5	6	Ottawa,	3	15 0
Dumfries,	1	5	0	Bytown,	2	6 7½
Whitby,	1	15	0	Hull,	2	10 0
Brock,	Nothing.			Crosby,	1	12 0
Kingston,	3	0	0	Lake Simcoe, ...	5	0 7½
Gananoque,	1	0	0	Muncey Town,..	1	3 8
Bay of Quinte,..	4	5	0	Coldwater and		
				French River, 1	7	4½

PRE

W. M. H.
W. Rye
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T. Whit
J. Musgr
S. Rose,
R. Jones
A. McN
T. Bevit
J. Douce
R. Phelp
W. Stee
J. Mess
P. Kerr,
E. Shep
J. Law,
A. Prin
S. Belto
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D. McM
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J. C. D
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G. Pool
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PREACHERS' ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

£ s. d.			£ s. d.				
W. M. Harvard, . . .	1	0	0	E. Evans,	1	0	0
W. Ryerson,	1	0	0	H. Biggar,	1	0	0
M. Richey,	1	0	0	E. Stoney,	1	0	0
T. Whitehead, . . .	1	0	0	T. Fawcett,	1	0	0
J. Musgrove,	1	0	0	H. Dean,	1	0	0
S. Rose,	1	0	0	J. Lever,	1	0	0
R. Jones,	1	0	0	Edwy Ryerson, . . .	1	0	0
A. McNabb,	1	0	0	H. Mulkins,	1	0	0
T. Bevitt,	1	0	0	R. Heyland,	1	0	0
R. Douse,	1	0	0	R. Corson,	1	0	0
J. Phelps,	1	0	0	D. C. Will,	1	0	0
W. Steer,	1	0	0	J. Wilson,	1	0	0
J. Messmore,	1	0	0	D. Youmans,	1	0	0
P. Kerr,	1	0	0	C. Flummerfelt, . . .	1	0	0
E. Shepherd,	1	0	0	W. Haw,	1	0	0
J. Law,	1	0	0	J. Black,	1	0	0
A. Prindel,	1	0	0	W. Young,	1	0	0
S. Belton,	1	0	0	J. Baxter,	1	0	0
A. Green,	1	0	0	S. Snider,	1	0	0
Egerton Ryerson, . .	1	0	0	J. Armstrong,	1	0	0
D. McMullen,	1	0	0	H. Montgomery, . . .	1	0	0
J. G. Manly,	1	0	0	E. Healey,	1	0	0
J. C. Davidson, . . .	1	0	0	J. Carrol,	1	0	0
H. Wilkinson,	1	0	0	J. Currie,	1	0	0
G. Poolé,	1	0	0	E. Adams,	1	0	0
A. Townley,	1	0	0	L. Warner,	1	0	0
S. Huntington, . . .	1	0	0	H. Shaler,	1	0	0
J. Beatty,	1	0	0	W. McFadden,	1	0	0
D. Wright,	1	0	0	G. Ferguson,	1	0	0
J. Flanagan,	1	0	0	T. McMullen,	1	0	0
C. Vandusen,	1	0	0	T. Harmon,	1	0	0
J. K. Williston, . . .	1	0	0	J. Black,	1	0	0
J. Norris,	1	0	0	J. Stinson,	1	0	0
W. Griffis,	1	0	0	J. Evans,	1	0	0
J. Ryerson,	1	5	0	J. Gladwin,	1	0	0
C. B. Goodrich, . . .	1	0	0	P. Jones,	1	0	0
M. Lang,	1	0	0	B. Slight,	1	0	0

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£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
T. Hurlburt,	1	0	0	S. Hurlburt,	1	0	0
G. Miller,	1	0	0	W. H. Williams, ..	1	0	0
J. Scott,	1	0	0	M. Whiting,	1	0	0
W. Case,	1	0	0	C. R. Allison,	1	0	0
J. Sunday,	1	0	0	G. F. Playter,	0	10	0
S. Waldron,	1	0	0				

Collection among the Preachers

at Conference,	£0	18	9
Public collection at do.,	13	0	10
Collected from Circuits,	135	15	4½
Subscriptions of Preachers,	84	15	0
Total,	234	10	11½

Ques. XII. How has this money been EXPENDED?

Ans. Stationery for the Conference,	£3	4	6
Rev. J. Wilson,	41	7	7
“ T. Whitehead,	20	13	9½
“ D. Youmans,	20	13	9½
“ A. Prindel,	41	7	7
“ S. Belton,	20	13	9½
“ F. Metcalf,	41	7	7
Widow Madden,	22	11	2
“ Slater,	22	11	2
Total,	£234	10	11½

Ques. XIII. What has been collected to make up the DEFICIENCIES of poor Circuits?

Ans.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Hamilton Ct.,	13	11	2	Oxford,	2	3	1
Stamford,	8	8	0	Thames,	Nothing.		
St. Catharines, ..	6	10	1	Toronto City,	12	3	2½
Grimsby,	2	16	1	Yonge Street,	10	0	0
Simcoe,	3	5	0	Newmarket,	1	18	3½
Brantford,	5	19	2	Toronto,	5	0	0
London,	1	5	0	Nelson,	6	0	5½
St. Thomas, ...	4	0	0	Dumfries,	3	0	0
Gosfield,	1	0	0	Whitby,	5	7	1

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0 0	Brock, Nothing.	Brockville, 1 8 6½
0 0	Kingston, 8 0 0	Matilda, Nothing.
0 0	Gananoque, 1 5 0½	Rideau, Nothing.
0 0	Bay of Quinte, 6 15 0	Perth, 0 7 6½
10 0	Waterloo, 3 8 9	Elizabethtown, Nothing.
	Hallowell, 4 15 8½	Mississippi, Nothing.
	Belleville, 2 6 3	Richmond, Nothing.
	Cobourg, 6 2 6	Ottawa, Nothing.
	Sidney, 0 10 7	Bytown, 1 1 10
	Peterborough, 1 5 0	Hull, Nothing.
	Murray, 7 15 0	Crosby, Nothing.
	Prescott and Au-	
	gusta, 5 17 2½	Total, . . . £143 5 7½

Ques. XIV. How has this money been EXPENDED?

Ans. To make up deficiencies of

s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
4 6		Waterloo, £12 11 0
7 7	Brockville C ^t l., 31 0 0	Bay of Quinte, 6 5 6
3 9½	Simcoe, 11 6 0	Cobourg, 6 2 6
3 9½	Grimsby, 7 10 6	To D. McMul-
7 7	Oxford, 12 10 0	len, Super'y, 41 18 7½
3 9½	Thames, 6 5 0	
7 7	Newmarket, 8 0 0	Total, . . . £162 5 7½
1 2	Nelson, 9 8 3	Balance due the
1 2	Dumfries, 9 8 3	Treasurer, 19 0 0

BOOK AND PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.

Ques. XV. What regulations are necessary in regard to the Book and Printing Establishment?

Ans. For the safe and efficient management of the Book and Printing affairs, it is necessary to have a Book Committee, an Editor and a Book Steward.

I. CONCERNING THE COMMITTEE.

1. The Committee shall consist of Preachers resident in Toronto and its vicinity; who shall be annually appointed by the Conference.

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2. The Committee shall meet ordinarily for the transaction of business, once in every month, and on other extraordinary occasions as they may find necessary, either at the Book Room, or at some other place which they may appoint. Each member shall be fined half-a-dollar for every instance of absence from regularly appointed Meetings; unless in case of sickness, unavoidable absence from home, or actual engagement at the time in ministerial work. These meetings to take place on the first Wednesday of every month, at 2 P. M.

3. At each of their quarterly meetings, the Committee shall examine all the vouchers, and see that all the entries and the accmpts are correct. At such time the Book Steward shall lay before the Committee on a separate sheet of paper, a list of all the debts owing by the Book Room; together with an account of all the sums paid and received, so as to render them acquainted, from time to time, with the business done at the Book Room during the quarter.

4. The Book Steward shall not take any money on interest, from any quarter whatever, without previously stating the necessity of such loan to the Committee, and obtaining their consent.

5. Both the Book Steward and the Committee shall be careful not to make large purchases of articles which are not speedily saleable.

6. No work shall be re-printed without special consultation of the Committee; who shall examine whether such re-print may not occasion an inexpedient and unproductive increase of Stock. When such re-print is called for, the Edition shall not be larger than is necessary for the purpose of a reasonable sale. The provisions of this rule shall apply equally to the case of any new work which may be proposed for publication.

7. Every member of the Committee shall have free access to all the offices, warehouses, and other apartments, where the property of the Conference is lodged, and to all books of accmpts concerning the same, in order that he may be informed respecting the real condition of the Book Concern, in its several departments. And should it appear to

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any member of the Committee that either the Editor or the Book Steward is unfaithful to the trust reposed in him, or is incompetent to the duties of his office, he shall give information in writing to the individual concerned respecting the charge or charges which he intends to bring against him, and shall then lay the subject before the other members of the Committee at one of their meetings; and the Committee, after hearing the whole case, shall, if they judge it necessary, suspend the person accused, till the ensuing Conference; to which he shall have the right of appeal, in common with any other Itinerant Preacher who may be under suspension. It is to be understood, however, that such a procedure shall not be had without previous and timely communication with the President of the Conference, if in this country, nor without his presence if convenient for him to attend, or in his absence, that of the Chairman of the Toronto District:— provided also that no such suspension shall take place without calling in the several Superintendents of Circuits in the Toronto District, and the Chairmen of Niagara and Bay of Quinte Districts.

II. CONCERNING THE EDITOR.

1. He shall see that whatever Works proceed from our Press be correctly printed.

2. The Christian Guardian is especially confided to him, and he is required to make it his constant and unwearied endeavour to render that periodical as instructive and interesting as possible.

3. That in the General Management of the Guardian, the Editor shall act in concurrence with the judgment of the Committee.

4. The Editor shall have a right to call a meeting of the Committee at any time for their counsel and advice, in any questions or matters of difficulty and importance on which he may feel the need of their assistance.

5. The Committee, in connexion with the Editor, shall be responsible to the Conference for the general management of the Guardian, and all other publications issued from the Book Room.

6. It is recommended that—as the Guardian is the publication of the Conference—the name of the Editor be omitted; simply stating that it is published under the direction of the Conference.

III. CONCERNING THE BOOK STEWARD.

1. On his entrance upon his office, an estimate shall be formed of the property, including the utensils in the Printing office, which is committed to his trust; and inventories shall be taken of the whole.

2. He shall execute a proper Bond for the payment of the profits of the Book Concern; which Bond shall be deposited in the hands of the Secretary of the Conference for the time being.

3. He shall take all proper care of the property committed to his trust, that it suffer no damage.

4. He shall, with the advice and help of the Editor, purchase the paper wanted for the business at our office.

5. He shall carefully examine, or cause to be examined, all Books &c., which may be published on behalf of the Conference, and employ those stitchers, binders, and artists, who shall do their work best, and upon the most reasonable terms; and in all these things he shall act in accordance with the advice of the Committee.

6. He shall take a particular and exact account of the Stock of Books every year, and lay it before the Conference, if required; and keep a regular Stock-Book, which shall be duly balanced when the Stock is taken. The entry of the Stock, upon all saleable articles, shall be made at the cost price, and in no instance whatever at a higher price; and those articles which cannot be properly considered as saleable, shall be entered at a lower rate. The price of each article shall be regulated by a fixed principle; and such an entry shall be made on the first page of every annual Stock-Book, of the principle upon which the Stock is valued, as shall be a guide in every future valuation.

7. He shall annually present to the Conference a circumstantial account of all the debts which shall then be

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owing to and from the Book Concern, and of the Cash in hand, that it may clearly appear what is the exact balance in its favour, and what is the Stock in trade.

8. He shall also annually present to the Conference an account, showing what sums of money have been received and expended, and for what purposes, during the preceding year; and by what means the balance has been acquired.

9. He shall see that the Rules and Regulations of the Book-Room, so far as they respect the Superintendents of Circuits, shall be printed on a fly-leaf, and sent *annually* to every Superintendent immediately after the Conference.

10. He shall send to each of the Brethren in the Lower Province, every year, a copy of the Minutes of Conference.

11. It shall be the duty of the Book Steward to obtain, on application, whatever Books are required in the course of study, for our young men.

IV. CONCERNING SALARIES.

The Editor and Book Steward, being always Preachers in connexion with the Conference, shall receive their allowances in proportion as the Preachers stationed in the Toronto City Circuit, for the time being.

V. CONCERNING PUBLICATIONS.

1. If it shall appear to the Editor, or to the Book-Steward, that any work now in print at the Book Room is not worth reprinting, they shall state their opinion to the Committee; and if they agree with either of them in judgment, the work shall be suspended till the mind of the Conference be known; but if the Committee differ from the Editor or Book-Steward, the work in question shall be reprinted without delay.

2. If any person send a Manuscript or Printed Work to the Committee to become the property of the Conference, they shall carefully and impartially examine it without delay; and if they approve of it, they shall be at liberty to purchase the copyright on behalf of the Conference, or to purchase one or more editions of it, as they may deem ex-

pedient. All communications on this subject are to be made to the Committee, through the medium of the Book Steward.

VI. CONCERNING THE SALE OF BOOKS.

1. No Preacher shall sell, or publish for sale, any Books, but such as are sent regularly from the Book-Room by the Steward.

2. Every Superintendent is peremptorily required finally to settle his book account for the preceding year, at each Conference; and also regularly to transmit the money in his hands, without any reserve or deduction whatever, to the Book-Steward, whenever it shall amount to the sum of two pounds ten shillings.

VII. CONCERNING THE *Privileges* OF THE PREACHERS.

1. Every Preacher who is received on trial shall be furnished by the Book-Steward, on his application for the same, with a copy of Mr. Wesley's Sermons, and of his Notes on the New Testament, on paying for the same; the amount to be returned to him in Books on his being admitted as a Member of the Conference.

2. Every Travelling and Superannuated Preacher shall have one copy of the annual Minutes of the Conference, gratis.

3. The Book-Steward shall allow the Itinerant Preachers to purchase our own Books for their own personal use, at a discount of one-sixth from the selling price, and others at prime cost.

4. The Preachers who sell Books in the several Circuits, as some compensation for their trouble and responsibility, shall be allowed a commission of 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent on all purchases.

VIII. CONCERNING THE APPROPRIATION OF PROFITS.

1. Immediately before the sitting of the Conference every year, the Book Committee shall meet to inspect and examine the accounts of the Book Concern, and to ascertain

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as nearly as may be, what will be the disposeable profits of the year, when all the Preacher's accounts shall have been settled at the Conference.

2. When the disposeable profits of the year shall be certified to the Conference, they shall first allow out of them the payment of such sums as may appear necessary from year to year, on account of any expenditure in behalf of the connexion which cannot be brought into the accounts of the Contingent Fund, the remainder shall then be paid into the hands of the Treasurer of that Fund, to make up the deficiencies of those poor Circuits which have not been able to pay their Preacher's disciplinary allowances, and to defray extraordinary expences, as in cases of sickness, &c.

N. B. For the CONTINGENT FUND, see last year's Minutes.

N. B. There shall be a regular exchange of Minutes, Guardian, and Missionary Reports, and of all new original works published by the European and American Methodists from their respective Book Rooms.

THE BOOK COMMITTEE.

The Book Committee for the present year shall consist of the President and the Secretary of the Conference, the Superintendent of Missions, the Chairman of the Toronto District, the Preachers resident in Toronto City, and the Superintendents of the Yonge Street and Toronto Circuits.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Ques. XVI. Can any thing (in addition to what is recommended in the Minutes of 1835, page 16,) be done for the promotion of Sabbath Schools?

Ans. 1. Every Superintendent, or his colleague, shall deliver, at least, one sermon at each appointment on his Circuit during the year, on the importance and advantages of Sabbath Schools.

2. Each Preacher shall consider it a part of his duty to encourage and assist, as far as practicable, every Sabbath School within his charge in procuring suitable Libraries.

3. Each Chairman is directed to make particular inquiry, at every Quarterly Meeting, into the state of the Sabbath Schools on the several Circuits in his District.

MANUAL LABOUR SCHOOL

For Indian Youth.

Ques. XVII. What can be done more effectually to promote the religious education and general improvement of the Aboriginal Indian Youth of this Province?

Ans. A minute was read from the Journals of the Missionary District Meeting, recommending the erection of a Central Manual Labour School for the benefit of the Aboriginal Indian Youth; when, after a careful and anxious consideration of the whole subject, it was resolved:—

1. That the Conference feels the great importance of the proposed Establishment, more especially since the Indians themselves so strongly desire it; and that it be commenced as soon as possible.

2. That the Board of the Upper Canada Academy be requested to direct their immediate attention to this deeply interesting and highly important undertaking, and devise such measures as they may judge expedient to carry it into effect.

BIBLE SOCIETY.

Ques. XVIII. What are the views and purposes of the Members of the Conference in regard to the British and Foreign Bible Society?

Ans. The invaluable labours of the British and Foreign Bible Society justly entitle that noble Institution to the con-



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tinued and cordial support of the Christian Church; and we will individually be ready, at all times, to concur in its endeavours to promote the universal circulation of the Holy Scriptures.

On going from Circuit to Circuit, to collect Subscriptions and Donations for Chapels.

Ques. XIX. What can be done to prevent the inconveniences which frequently arise from Persons going from one Circuit to another to solicit Subscriptions and Donations for Chapels?

Ans. No Preacher shall be allowed, or other person encouraged, to solicit Subscriptions and Donations for the assistance or building of Chapels, on any other Circuit than the one immediately concerned, without the permission of the Chairman of the District and Superintendent of the Circuit on which it is proposed to collect Subscriptions or Donations; or without the consent of the Chapel Committee, when it is practicable to consult that Committee.

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES.

Ques. XX. Who are the Committee to guard the Rights, and Privileges, and Property of the Connexion, the ensuing year?

Ans. The President and Secretary of the Conference; the Rev. William Case; the Chairmen of Districts; the Superintendent of Missions; the Preachers resident in the City of Toronto; and the following Gentlemen, viz. :—

J. R. Armstrong, M. P. P.	} <i>City of Toronto.</i>
S. E. Taylor,	
John Beatty,	
A. Hamilton,	
Jonathan Dunn,	
R. Woodsworth,	
G. H. Detlor, M. P. P., <i>Napanee.</i>	

James Dougall, J. P. *Hallowell.*
 John Counter, J. P. *Kingston.*
 J. M. Rorison, do.
 Luther Houghton, *Brockville.*
 G. Brouse, J. P., *Matilda.*
 W. Brown, J. P., *Wolford.*
 B. Flint, Junr., *Belleville.*
 J. McCarty, *Cobourg.*
 J. W. Williams, *Oakville.*
 Edward Jackson, *Hamilton.*
 H. Willson, J. P., *Saltfleet.*
 B. Corwin, *Stamford.*
 A. Davidon, P. M., *Niagara.*
 A. Sharp, *Brantford.*
 John Scatchard, *London.*
 Willard Wheeler, *St. Thomas.*

The Editor of the *Christian Guardian* to be Secretary, with authority to call meetings of the Committee; five of whom shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

COMMITTEE OF THE CONTINGENT FUND.

Ques. XXI. Who are the Committee of the Contingent Fund for the ensuing year?

Ans. The President of the Conference; the Secretary of the Conference; Chairmen of Districts; Superintendents of the Bay of Quinte and Waterloo Circuits; and the following Laymen, viz.:—

John Counter, Esq., *Kingston.*
 J. M. Rorison, do.
 J. R. Armstrong, M. P. P., *City of Toronto.*
 G. H. Detlor, M. P. P., *Napanee.*
 L. Houghton, *Brockville.*
 William Beamish, *Waterloo.*
 B. Flint, Junr., *Belleville.*

This Committee shall meet in Kingston the day before the Session of next Conference, at 9 o'clock, A. M.; to

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which Meeting all the monies collected for this fund shall be brought; and the Committee shall examine the claims of each Circuit, and determine the amount to be appropriated.

MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

Ques. XXII. Who are the Missionary Committee for the ensuing Conference?

Ans. The President of the Conference; the Chairmen of Districts; W. Case, M. Richey, W. Ryerson, M. Lang, E. Ryerson, J. C. Davidson, and E. Evans. To meet in Kingston at 3 o'clock, P. M., the Tuesday before the Session of the next Conference.

2. The Standing Board of Missions for the ensuing year consists of the following Preachers and Laymen, viz. :—

The Chairman of the Toronto District; the Superintendent of Missions; the Superintendent of the Toronto City Circuit; the Editor of the Guardian; the Preachers on the Yonge Street Circuit;

Mr. S. E. Taylor, *Treasurer*,

“ J. Beatty, *Secretary*,

Messrs. J. Dunn, A. Hamilton, T. Storm, R. Woodsworth, G. Walker, and G. B. Spencer.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS—CLERGY RESERVES.

Quest. XXIII. What are the views which the Members of this Conference feel themselves called upon, in the present peculiar and eventful crisis of the ecclesiastical and civil affairs of this Province, formally to embody, and unitedly to avow, in regard to the great questions which relate to the religious instruction of the Country, and our own rights and privileges as a Christian Community?

Ans. After a very lengthened, and minute, and compre-

hensive investigation of the whole subject, the following Resolutions were *unanimously* adopted:—

It having been represented that there are some dissatisfactions in different parts of the Province on account of certain grants made by His Majesty's Government to the Wesleyan Missionary Committee in London for the religious instruction of the Indian Tribes and destitute settlers,—also on account of the unsettled state of the Clergy Reserve Question; and whereas vigorous and widely-extended efforts have been and are being made, under these prettexts, to excite prejudices against our Connexion, this Conference deems an expression of its views on these subjects due to its own character, and the feelings and interests of the Church of which it is the pastoral head: it is therefore Resolved,—

1. That at its last two annual meetings this Conference has expressly stated that no public or Government grants have ever been made to this body, and that it desired no other support for its members than the voluntary contributions of christian liberality.

2. That the sum of £900 sterling was granted to the Wesleyan Missionary Committee in London in 1833, and also a further sum of £550 in 1834, by order of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department; which sums were granted (as appears by official documents) without any solicitation on the part of the Committee in London,—similar grants having also been made by the Imperial Government to the Committees of the Church, London, (Congregational) and Baptist Missionary Societies, to promote the instruction and improvement of the destitute in other Colonies: That the sums which were granted by His Majesty's Government to the Wesleyan Missionary Committee have been expended (as may be seen by the printed Reports of the Auxiliary Methodist Missionary Society in this Province,) solely and entirely in the improvement of the long-neglected aboriginal Indian Tribes and destitute settlers, and in no instance whatever either to increase or make up the disciplinary allowances of the Circuit Preachers; and there is every reason to believe, that,

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had no grants ever been made by the Imperial Government to the Wesleyan Missionary Committee, either through their Treasurer in London, or their Agent in this Province, the personal interests of no Preacher or Missionary would have been in the slightest degree affected.

3. That the correctness of this statement of the case is put beyond all possible doubt by the fact, that no grant has been received from the Government by the Wesleyan Missionary Society during the years 1835, 1836, and 1837, and yet not a farthing of loss has been sustained by any member of this Connexion; although the field of Missionary labour may have been thereby circumscribed.

4. That the Members of this Conference, either collectively or individually, have no interest to promote in the religious and civil improvement of the Aboriginal Indian Tribes and destitute settlers, different from that of every friend of the cause of Missions throughout the Province.

5. That this Conference, without any desire to interfere in the engagements between His Majesty's Government and the Wesleyan Missionary Committee in London, cannot forbear to express its deep regret that, in consequence of the divided state of public sentiment, and of various misrepresentations which have been circulated, the several Government Grants, commonly called "Religious Grants," which have been made for specific religious purposes, (however benevolent the intentions and the feelings which may have dictated them, and however noble and christian the objects for which they were intended,) have proved seriously prejudicial to the peace and tranquillity of the Province; and especially as the continuance of them in their present form seems to have been made use of to embarrass the settlement of the important question relating to the Clergy Reserves.

6. That as the continuance of the aforesaid grant to the Wesleyan Missionary Committee, in aid of the religious instruction and improvement of the Indian Tribes, as a charge upon the Casual and Territorial Revenue, is one of the conditions upon which His Majesty's Government has proposed to cede the control of the said Revenue to the Provincial Legislature,—and as in a Message from His Excellency

the Lieutenant-Governor to the House of Assembly, bearing date the 18th of January, 1837, it is stated that a claim is urged upon the said Revenue by the Wesleyan Methodist Society in this Province,—and as the alleged existence of such a claim has been represented as impeding the settlement of the general question relating to the Casual and Territorial Revenue, pending between this Province and the Imperial Government,—this Conference, with a view of correcting an impression so erroneous and injurious, disclaims any demand upon the Casual and Territorial Revenue, and leaves it entirely to the unbiassed judgment of the authorities concerned, to decide whether any public aid can be properly and advantageously given towards the improvement of the injured aboriginal inhabitants and owners of the Colony, and if any, to what amount, and through what agency.

7. That it is the strong conviction and deliberate judgment of this Conference, that the interests of religion, the stability of the Government, and the welfare of the Province, require the earliest possible settlement of the long agitated Clergy Reserve Question, in accordance with the wishes and circumstances of the inhabitants; and that those interests have been very seriously sacrificed by the delays which have attended the proposed adjustment of that question—so frequently urged upon the attention of the Provincial Legislature by the Imperial Government.

8. That while, as a body of Christian and Methodist Ministers, and especially in view of the affectionate reverence we feel for the honoured memory of our venerable Founder, Mr. Wesley, we would conscientiously abstain from all needless intermeddling with secular politics, yet, at the same time, this Conference has, heretofore, as well by its Addresses to His Majesty, as through its official organ, the Christian Guardian, expressed its decided conviction of the inexpediency of the establishment of one or more Churches in this Province, with exclusive rights and privileges,—however well suited such an establishment may be to the condition of the Mother Country, where it is distinctly recognized by the constitution of the government, is sanctioned by various legislative enactments, and includes

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a majority, and is desired by the great body, of the nation ; —that, in this expression of opinion, other religious bodies, and the majority of the inhabitants of the Province, through their Representatives in the Provincial Legislature, have concurred, by repeated addresses and petitions to the Imperial Government and Parliament ;—and that the continued efforts of certain members of the Church of England to maintain, and the recent attempts of the Convention of Delegates of the Kirk of Scotland to secure, an ascendancy over their Christian brethren of other denominations, who ought to stand on a perfect equality with them, will, if successful, be in direct violation of those principles of civil and religious liberty for the maintenance of which this Conference still, as formerly, contends, as being essential to the peace, welfare, and good government of His Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects in this Province.

9. That this Conference cannot, without a dereliction of the duty which it owes to the members of the numerous congregations under its pastoral care and instruction, and without a wide departure from its often avowed sentiments, sanction, even by its silence at the present crisis, the efforts which are employed to deprive them of those rights, and of that equal and impartial protection, to which their numbers, labours, and long-tryed attachment to His Majesty's Government give them an indisputable claim.

10. That should any adjustment of the Clergy Reserve Question be proposed and determined on, which would not contravene the principles laid down in the foregoing resolutions, and by which individual and collective effort can be combined for the religious and educational improvement of the country, the members of this Conference avow their determination not to receive or apply any legislative aid for their own pecuniary support ; or for any other purposes than the religious and educational improvement of the Province, in such way as may be in accordance with the views of a majority of two-thirds of the several Quarterly Meetings throughout the Province ; before which the Chairmen of the several Districts are directed to lay the subject, as soon as the Clergy Reserve Question shall have been settled by the Legislature.

11. That this Conference, on the present occasion, reiterates its expression of affection and loyalty to our most Gracious Sovereign; feels humbly grateful for the condescending and liberal expression of Royal favour to the efforts of the Wesleyan Methodist Church and other friends of Christian education in this Province; and resolves to continue its prayers and efforts for the maintenance of the Constitution as established by law, and the existing connexion between this Colony and the Parent State.

MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTIONS.

1. Each District Meeting shall carefully examine into every claim upon the Contingent Fund, and make a faithful report to the Committee of that Fund, as to their judgment of the *proportion* of assistance deserved and required in the several cases which they may recommend for such aid as the limited resources of that Fund can afford.

2. The Superintendent of each Circuit shall pay over all Missionary monies, which may come into his hands, to the Chairman of the District, and shall bring to the District Meeting a detailed account of all monies for Missions which have been collected on his Circuit during the year.

3. That on the return to this country of our esteemed brother, the Rev. Egerton Ryerson,—who has with so much laborious zeal, and untiring perseverance, and satisfactory success, accomplished the highly important objects of the Mission on which he proceeded to England according to our appointment,—we cannot but request him to accept of the very cordial and affectionate thanks of this Conference; and, at the same time, to record upon our Journals our unanimous conviction, that he has thereby not only amply earned such a tribute of our brotherly gratitude, but has also justly entitled himself to the grateful regards of every genuine friend of Upper Canada.

* For the Laws and Regulations of the Missionary Society, see the Minutes of 1833.

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4. On the Report of the *Book & Printing Committee* being read, which gave a highly satisfactory account of the prosperous state of the *Christian Guardian* department of the Book Establishment, it was resolved,—“That the thanks of the Conference be presented to the Editor, the Rev. Ephraim Evans, for his laborious, and valuable, and successful services in the discharge of the important duties of his office during the past year.

5. That the cordial thanks of the Conference be presented to the Book Steward, the Rev. Matthew Lang, for his valuable and successful exertions in the Book Room during the past year.

6. That the first Wednesday in September next be recommended to be observed by all our Societies and congregations as a day of **FASTING AND PRAYER** for the special effusion of the Holy Spirit and the revival of the work of God throughout the Province; that the Preachers be directed to call the particular and prayerful attention of their congregations, on the previous Sabbath, to this all-important subject; and that the public services on the day appointed be held throughout the Connexion, as far as practicable, at Eleven o'clock, A. M.

Ques. XXIV. Where and when shall our next Conference be held?

Ans. At KINGSTON, to commence the second Wednesday in June, 1838, at 6 o'clock, A. M.

WM. M. HARVARD, President.

EGERTON RYERSON, Secretary.

City of Toronto, June 24th, 1837.

THE ANNUAL ADDRESS

of the

CONFERENCE

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE

WESLEYAN-METHODIST CHURCH
IN CANADA.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN :

Through the abundant mercy of Almighty God, we have been safely brought together again in Conference at the end of another ecclesiastical year. Before we separate we would embrace the opportunity of addressing you upon a few topics, which we deem intimately connected with the promotion of religion in general, and of Wesleyan Methodism in particular. And though the duties now devolving upon us are various and responsible, we regard as one of the most interesting and important that of communicating in this manner with the numerous and widely spread members of our Societies, for whose spiritual interests we especially labour, and for whose present and future happiness we desire to devote the remnant of our days. We claim to adopt with great sincerity the language of the great Apostle to the Gentiles, "Now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord."

With the deepest sense of our obligations to Him "in whose hands our breath is, and all our ways," we congratulate you on the peculiar favour of God towards us as a Church, in being permitted again to record that none of your Ministers have died during the past year.

On a review of the past we are glad to be able to express with confidence that the hand of God has been upon us for good in the midst of those 'fiery trials' with which an inscrutable providence (no doubt for the wisest of purposes) permits the Church, in some parts especially,

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still to be tried; and from which, we confidently expect, she will, ere long, come forth as gold purified seven times.

The returns from the various Circuits shew that during the year a goodly number of souls have been converted to God, but that notwithstanding this there is a decrease in the number of members returned. The most careful investigations were entered into by the Conference in order to ascertain the cause or causes of this diminution: the result is, we are happy to say, that it can be satisfactorily accounted for without exciting a doubt in our minds of the favour and blessing of God being still our inestimable portion. Among the causes may be mentioned the unholy efforts of schismatics and seperatists to divide the Church; the obtainment, to some extent, on several Circuits, of certain delusions well known as Irvingism and Mormonism; and an unusual number of removals. But whatever may be the cause or causes of the decrease, it is obviously our duty to be deeply humbled before God on account of it; and, while we unite in humble confessions of our numerous faults as a Church, and most devoutly supplicate God to forgive us, to bless us, to cause His face to shine upon us, and to go forth with our armies, and lead us to certain conquest,—it will become us diligently to apply the means within our power for the increase of vital piety among ourselves, the enlargement of our borders, and the conversion of souls.

By the Schedules of the various Circuits, it appears that there have withdrawn to the party who have assumed the name of Episcopal Methodists, 283; the Irvingites, 15; the Mormons, 52; Expelled and dropped, 830; Removed, 876; Died, 131;—Total, 2,187; Conversions, 1140; Received into Society, 1709; Decrease 591.

We regret that the litigation relative to our chapels, which has already occasioned the Church considerable trouble and expence, has not yet terminated; though we are glad to assure you there is a prospect of a speedy and favourable adjustment of that question taking place, and we anticipate the period as not far distant when we shall be happily saved from all vexatious proceedings on that subject.

It is perhaps hardly necessary for us to remind you of the vast importance of the Upper Canada Academy, both as it respects the Church and the general interests of the community. The prosperity of this Institution especially involves the character of our Church, is closely allied with our permanent advancement, and is essential to our exerting that influence over the public mind which interest and duty alike impel us to obtain and to cherish. This Institution, we are happy to say, is rapidly and justly rising in the public estimation; and while you consider the subject of Education in general to be one of great importance, you, no doubt, feel with us a peculiar interest in promoting it through this medium. From the interest you have both felt and manifested already, we doubt not that you will be pleased to learn that, in addition to the donations of a liberal public which have of late been made in a season of especial need in favour of the Institution,—through the interposition of a kind Providence His Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant to the Trustees the sum of £4,100, being the amount proposed to be placed at their disposal in the Bill which was lost in the Legislative Council during the last session of the Provincial Parliament. The Institution will hereby be relieved from its more immediate embarrassments—be enabled to enter into more successful operations—and, as we hope, will prove a blessing to present and future generations. We confidently rely on the cordial co-operation of the friends of religion and science, in our efforts to render it a permanent nursery of learning that will exert a salutary influence throughout our country and the Church of God.

It affords us satisfaction that we can speak favourably of the present state of the Book Concern and the Printing Establishment. It is highly gratifying to us to learn that these institutions, the profits of which are devoted to purposes so strictly in accordance with the feelings of Christian benevolence, are in a state of unprecedented prosperity.—Arrangements are made to increase the stock of books, so that our friends may be able at any time to obtain from the Establishment any quantity of such works as are

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sued to administer to the profit and edification of all among whom they may circulate. In connection with the supply soon expected, is a quantity of books suited to Sabbath Schools; and while we affectionately urge it upon the brethren and friends to bestow increasing attention to the formation and encouragement of these interesting nurseries for juvenile improvement, we would recommend the furnishing of each school with a suitable library, which we hope the Steward will be able to furnish at all times to order.

In taking a review of the great work committed to our pastoral care, we are led to remark, that each succeeding year we are more and more convinced of the truth of the doctrines we have embraced, and of the healthful influence of that moral discipline by which we have always been distinguished. It is our most ardent desire that the same precious truths, and the same moral government in all its essential features, should be transmitted to posterity unimpaired; that the generations following may thereby be led into the ways of peace and holiness on earth, and finally be conducted to the felicities of heaven. Let us in these respects ever be found walking in "the old paths," and as we "have received the Lord Jesus, so walk in him," even unto the end.

Dear Brethren: suffer us to remark to you that the present period of our history is one of peculiar agitation and conflict; and we would therefore most seriously guard you against the danger of attaching too great an importance to the merely political questions which divide and agitate the public mind, and against, what is almost the necessary consequence of the first, being carried away on the muddy tide of party feeling, which cannot but result in great injury to your improvement in personal piety, and, perhaps, in the ruin of precious souls. The various and agitating questions of the day have their importance; but permit us to press it upon you, not to allow yourselves to be drawn aside from paramount duties to an injurious mixing with the angry strife of political contests, which uniformly tend, as you are well aware, to disturb the peace of society, to alienate the affections of brethren from each other, and to seriously

interrupt that concord which is essential to spiritual prosperity. Forget not the words of inspiration, nor the important sentiments these words contain, "Ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God;" "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth;" "Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." Labour to feel deeply the important truths, that the interests of the Church are a thousand-fold more dear to the hearts of Christians than any or all of the interests of earth, and that the preëminent concern of Christians is to bring about as speedily as possible the supreme spiritual reign of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. With reference to another topic proper to be adverted to, we select the following very appropriate paragraph from the last Pastoral Address of the British Conference, in which they say,—

"We would also most affectionately caution you to be upon your guard, lest any of you be involved, by too easy a compliance with the spirit of the times, in schemes and speculations which, if they do not outrun the extent of your probable resources, may yet have the injurious effect of overcharging you with 'cares of this life,' and may divert to enterprises of a merely secular and comparatively selfish character, much of that energy and of those resources which God our Saviour requires to be devoted to the service of his Church, and to the extension of his kingdom. Let it be manifest to all that, in your case, the pursuit of worldly objects is marked by a spirit of moderation and sobriety, such as may forbid the indulgence of any just suspicion on the profession which you make, of having your treasure and your heart in heaven. Your earthly gain, if purchased at the expense of that spiritual-mindedness in which alone are 'life and peace,' is purchased at too dear a rate, and with the fearful risk of repeated and aggravated loss of the same character. 'Be sober,' therefore, and 'be vigilant,' as those who act under the remembrance that 'the end of all things is at hand,' and that they only are truly rich who are 'rich in faith' and 'in good works,' and who inherit the 'durable riches and righteousness' which are found in the kingdom of God."

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Dear Brethren:—We hope you will feel very deeply the necessity and importance of cultivating habits of genuine and fervent personal piety; of maintaining, by suitable efforts, the constant enjoyment of the love of Christ in the heart; of possessing a conscience void of offence toward God, His family and the world; and of living continually in the exercise of that living and fruitful faith

.....Which whosoever receives
The witness in himself he hath, and consciously believes.

As *Christians*, be especially persons of prayer. "Pray without ceasing." Pray always, with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit. Pray every where, in the closet, and the family, and in the assemblies of the Saints; and "continue in prayer with thanksgiving" until the most enlarged and inspired desires of your hearts are granted you here, and your heavenly Father shall take you home to rest. We do most earnestly urge you to a consistent and conscientious observance of the whole of the Lord's day as holy time. We call upon you to be in earnest in preserving the sanctity of the Sabbath inviolate. We sometimes fear, God reckons us verily guilty in a degree in this respect. Let us amend from this hour. We entreat you as Christians to cultivate sincere affection for the ordinances and sacraments which God has ordained in his Church, and in the faithful use of which we shall never fail to secure His especial blessing; and let those long-tried and soul-profitting prudential means of grace which are rather peculiar to us as Methodists, such as Love-feasts and class-meetings, be observed with increasing care and attention. In a word, be *Wesleyan Methodist Christians*; and by your spirit, tempers, conversation and conduct, with respect to the Church, your households, and the world, be such as shall demonstrate that you do indeed devote yourselves, your all, to the Lord, and to the promotion of the Redeemer's interests among mankind.

Soon your Ministers will be in their respective fields of appointed labour, to mingle with you in their efforts to

promote to the utmost of their ability the salvation of ransomed sinners, and the interests of the preserved and called in Christ Jesus.

The Great Head of the Church has favoured us in a good degree with the rich effusions of His Grace during the sittings and services of our Conference.

The Session has been characterized as one of harmony and brotherly affection, and we feel that we are afresh stimulated to devote ourselves to our high vocation with renewed zeal and perseverance.

Deeply impressed with a consciousness of our entire and continual dependance upon Divine aid, we desire in faith to ask for the constant assistance of the Holy Spirit. Unite with us in earnest prayers for the blessing, as well as in active exertions in the great work of evangelizing and saving the world of sinful men. "Brethren you are in our hearts to live and to die with you." "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

WM. M. HARVARD, *President.*

EGERTON RYERSON, *Secretary.*

Conference Room, Toronto,
June 24th, 1837.

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THE ANSWER
of
THE BRITISH CONFERENCE

TO THE
ADDRESS OF THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE
of 1836.

VERY DEAR BRETHREN,

We have received your affectionate Address with much satisfaction; and rejoice that it so distinctly recognises the great principles which we have so long deemed to be sound and scriptural in themselves, and important to the interests of our Connexion.

Had we ever been inclined to look upon your troubles and difficulties with indifference, the peculiar circumstances in which we have ourselves been placed during the last two years, would have compelled us to regard them with interest, and anxiously to observe their results.

He who can make the wrath of man to praise him, has caused our recent agitations to terminate in a calm and settled peace, and in the acquisition of other considerable advantages to our Connexion;—our discipline is better understood, and more ardently loved both by Preachers, and people; greater uniformity of administration is secured; and we are freed from the influence of a few unquiet spirits, whose love of pre-eminence had made them the constant troublers of our Israel.

Although these unhappy men have succeeded in drawing away from us a considerable number of members in some of the disturbed districts, yet it has pleased God so to bless our labours, that, even in Great Britain, we have a gratify-

ing increase of upwards of two thousand, which, together with an increase of three hundred and ninety-seven in Ireland, and of seven thousand five hundred and seventy-seven in the Foreign Missions, makes a total increase of ten thousand one hundred and eighteen.

We have no doubt that the faithfulness which you have manifested in the maintenance of rule and order will be similarly rewarded; and that the longer and more conscientiously you enforce, the less you will be inclined to change that admirable form of Discipline, by which you are governed.

We rejoice in the laudable zeal which you have manifested to preserve the great doctrines of Methodism in their uncorrupted purity and power. God has made them the means of reviving religion in these lands; and similar effects will be produced wherever they are faithfully preached. Permit us, however, to remind you of the vast importance of forming Classes, wherever practicable, that your hearers may be brought under the direct influence of your pastoral care.

Your kind solicitude for the spiritual welfare of our fellow countrymen has endeared you to our hearts. It is an interesting part of your great work to follow these sheep into the wilderness, and bring them into the fold of Christ. Our deep solicitude for your success in this labour of love will, perhaps, excuse our specially directing your attention to the necessity of enforcing the sanctity of the Christian Sabbath, which your remote and agricultural population are probably in great danger of forgetting. It is of vast importance that the whole of this should be devoted to religious purposes. Catechetical instruction also, and the various duties of domestic piety, are important under any circumstances; but it is imperatively necessary that they should be sedulously regarded, where public means of grace are distant and irregular.

We are not ignorant of your peculiar situation, or of the strong political excitements to which you are frequently exposed. While, however, we admire your anxiety to promote the civil improvement of your new and interesting

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country, may we venture affectionately to guard you against the evils of violent partisanship; and urge you, in imitation of the example of our great Founder, to recommend, both by precept and example, loyalty to the King, and scriptural obedience to his Government. The strongest argument we can use on this subject is, that the very same authority by which we hold the ministerial office, has instituted the civil power, and entrusted it with the administration of the laws. The same spirit of insubordination which would abolish the wholesome restraints of the Magistrate, would banish from the world the institutions of Christianity itself.

The extensive circulation of our own standard works would imbue the minds of your people with correct principles, both civil and religious, and greatly assist you in the formation of character, and the accomplishment of the various and important objects of your ministry.

Your anxiety to promote the religious education of your youth, and the noble efforts you have made for the accomplishment of your wishes, are highly honourable to you, and gratifying to us. We cannot, however, too strongly express our opinion of the absolute necessity of maintaining the strictly *religious* and Wesleyan character of all your literary Institutions. You are doubtless, with us, convinced that the real and permanent advantages of education depend in a great degree upon its association with sound moral and decidedly Christian principles; and we trust that you will recognise this very necessary connexion in all your academical arrangements.

The presence of your respected Representative, the Rev. Egerton Ryerson, has renewed and strengthened among us the very favourable impression produced by his former visit, and more closely attached us to him; and to you, we trust, he will in due time return in safety, long to bless you by his example and labours.

We are happy to learn that the labours of our beloved brother, the Rev. William Lord, have been satisfactory and beneficial to you. God has kindly restored him to us, in answer to your prayers, in health and vigour; and we have received him with the affection and thankfulness which his

previous character and recent faithful services have so justly merited.

We have appointed as his successor the Rev. W. M. Harvard, whose established piety, general knowledge, and acquaintance with Missionary work, eminently qualify him for the office. We have, according to your wish, requested him to proceed with all possible dispatch, and trust that he will come among you in the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of peace.

We now most affectionately commend you to Him who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.

Signed in behalf, and by order of the Conference,

JABEZ BUNTING, President,

ROBERT NEWTON, Secretary.

Birmingham, August 12th, 1836.

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THE ANNUAL ADDRESS
OF THE
CANADIAN CONFERENCE
to the
BRITISH CONFERENCE.

REVEREND FATHERS AND DEAR BRETHREN :

We thank you for your parental Address, and rejoice to learn that recent agitations among you have been overruled for the purification of your Societies, and that you have been favoured with a large accession of members both at home and abroad. May your success continue, and abound yet more and more.

With us the last has been a year of general and painful agitation, arising from the general elections,—the unsettled state of our Chapel property,—an excited spirit of insubordination to constituted authorities,—and the divided state of public sentiment, and various misrepresentations, respecting certain Government grants to several religious bodies, which have been employed as a pretext to the serious injury of the financial interests of many of the Circuits, and the pecuniary embarrassment of several of the Preachers. But we have been enabled, by the blessing of God, to maintain the integrity of our system, to check the spirit of partizanship, to inculcate the fear of God in connexion with honour to the King, and to keep our Societies generally in the love and practice of the truth as taught by Wesleyan Methodism. In passing through the trying ordeal, we have sustained a numerical loss of five hundred and ninety-one members; but, in the perfect unity by which we are bound together, in the

hope of an early and favourable decision of the Courts in respect to our Chapels, in the comparative exemption of our Societies from the party strife of the day, cheered by the promises and presence of Him who hath hitherto helped us, we are animated to renew our covenant engagements, and to consecrate ourselves afresh to the great work of saving souls.

Several of our *Missions* have sustained serious injury on account of the unsettledness of the minds of the Indians, arising from a policy which proposes to remove them from those lands on which they have made considerable improvements, and where the Missionary Society has incurred heavy expenses in establishing and carrying on its operations. In consequence of this course of proceeding in regard to some of the Indian possessions and settlements, several members of our Societies and congregations have retired into the interior, which has occasioned a small decrease in the numbers of Indian converts. But notwithstanding these untoward circumstances, our Indian brethren in general continue steadfast in the faith, are advancing in civilization and religious knowledge, and in the comforts of domestic life. Several have been converted from Paganism to Christianity, and openings for new Missions to unconverted tribes are presenting themselves on every side. The excellent and indefatigable Representative of your Missionary Committee, Mr. Stinson, continues his frequent and extensive travels in visiting the various Missions under his charge, and in otherwise promoting the Missionary cause in this Province; and we rejoice that he is permitted to continue with us in his work of faith and labour of love.

The appointment of the Rev. William M. Harvard as our President has afforded us much satisfaction. By great exertions he has been already enabled to visit the principal Circuits in this Province, and his intercourse and labours have been a source of elevated pleasure and edification to preachers and people; and we but express the sentiments and feelings of all who have been favoured with his acquaintance, when we cordially and unanimously request the

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appointment of Mr. Harvard as our President for the ensuing year.

By a grant from the Crown, and the contributions of several friends in England, together with the reiterated efforts which have been made in this Province, our Collegiate School has been saved from inevitable failure, and placed in circumstances in which it promises extensive usefulness to this Province. Within a few months after the Institution was opened, it contained one hundred and twenty students; and we have every reason to hope that that number will, in the course of a few months, be greatly increased. It is, however, on the strictly *religious* character of the Institution that we place the highest estimate. With you, we are convinced that the real and permanent advantages of education depend upon its association with sound, moral, and decidedly Christian principles; and we fully recognise this necessary connexion in all our academical arrangements.

We are truly thankful for your concurrence in the appointment of the Rev. Matthew Richey, A. M., as the Principal of our Academy. His piety, qualifications and talents, have made the most favourable impressions upon the public mind, and afford a strong guarantee for the religious and literary character of the Institution. We beg, at the same time, to express our grateful acknowledgments for your handsome donation of one hundred pounds' worth of Books, and for the assistance given to our Representative whilst in England, in aiding the funds of the Upper Canada Academy.

To the new settlements, as well as the aboriginal Indian tribes, our attention and exertions are specially directed; and for that purpose the sum of £1,219 has been collected on the various Circuits during the past year,—being an increase of £70 over the collections of the preceding year.

We entreat the continuance of your sympathies and prayers in our behalf, that in the religious and moral cultivation of this wide and extended field, we may be “steadfast and unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the

Lord," and receive abundant increase from the blessing of Him, whose we are, and whom we are bound and unitedly resolved to serve.

By order and on behalf of the Conference of the Wesleyan-Methodist Church in Canada,

EGERTON RYERSON, *Secretary.*

City of Toronto, U. C., June 24th, 1837.

[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely a letter or report.]

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ADDRESS
of the
CANADIAN CONFERENCE
In 1836,
TO THE KING.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN:

We, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Ministers of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada, being assembled in our Annual Conference, humbly beg leave to approach the Throne, and renew our assurances of loyal and devoted attachment to your Majesty's Royal Person and Government, and to the excellent Constitution under which we live, and which secures to us, in common with all classes of your Majesty's subjects in this Province, the many inestimable blessings, both civil and religious, which we enjoy.

The Ministers of our Church, amounting to ninety, and exercising pastoral care and authority over a religious community of upwards of sixteen thousand members, extend their visits and labours into every settlement, and embrace within their congregations more than one hundred thousand of the population of this Province. While we feel it to be our first duty and calling to inculcate principles of morality and piety, we are not unmindful to enforce upon those over whom our influence extends, the scriptural obligations of loyalty to our beloved Sovereign, and attachment to the institutions of our country, and the necessity of maintaining, as essential to its future prosperity and greatness, the permanent connexion of this Colony with the Empire of Great Britain.

From an intimate acquaintance with those among whom we minister, we have great pleasure in being able confidently to assure Your Majesty, that these principles are firmly fixed in their minds; and that while they are most jealous of their inalienable right, as British subjects, to the enjoyment of equal civil and religious privileges, they are unwavering in their allegiance and attachment to Your Majesty's person and Government; and they feel sincere gratitude for the renewed gracious expression of your Royal will, contained in the Instructions to His Excellency Sir Francis Bond Head, that those blessings shall be secured to them and their posterity.

We also beg leave most humbly to represent to Your Majesty, that we, together with the great majority of Your loyal and devoted Canadian subjects, are conscientiously and firmly opposed to the recognition of any Church establishment within the Province. It is, therefore, with extreme regret we have learned, that during the past year fifty-seven Rectories have been established, and endowed out of the lands set apart for the support of a Protestant Clergy; notwithstanding the wishes of Your Majesty, most graciously made known through the Earl of Ripon, that the disputes which had arisen respecting the disposition of those lands, should be settled according to the wishes of its inhabitants, so often constitutionally expressed by petition, and through their representatives in the House of Assembly. We should not discharge the duty we owe to Your Majesty in the present posture of the affairs of this Province, did we not most humbly and respectfully convey to Your Majesty our full conviction, that nothing could tend more directly to weaken the attachment of the people of this country to the Parent State, than the continuance of this system of exclusive patronage of any one Church; nor could any measure more happily conduce to allay existing agitation and dissension, and to produce a more affectionate and enthusiastic devotion to Your Majesty's Government, than an assurance that this system will be no longer pursued.

We devoutly pray the Great Disposer of events to guide

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in all the affairs of Your Majesty's Councils, to throw over Your Majesty at all times the shield of His divine protection, and to render Your Majesty's reign long, felicitous, and prosperous, and productive of the happiest results throughout every part of your widely extended dominions.

Signed, by order and on behalf of the Conference,

WM. LORD, *President,*

WM. CASE, *Secretary.*

Belleville, Upper Canada,)
June 13th, 1836.)

REPLY TO THE ADDRESS.

Downing Street, 14th Sept. 1836.

SIR,—I have received, and have had the honour to lay at the foot of the Throne, an Address to His Majesty from the Ministers of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada, dated the 13th June last, and delivered to me by the Rev. Egerton Ryerson.

I have to request that you will inform the Ministers of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, through their President, the Rev. William Lord, that His Majesty was pleased to receive this Address very graciously, and to command me to express His satisfaction at the sentiments of attachment to His Person and Government contained in it.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GLENELG.

Lieut.-Gov'r. Sir F. B. HEAD, K. C. H.

&c. &c. &c.