



MINUTES

OF THE

SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

NEWFOUNDLAND CONFERENCE

OF THE

Methodist Church of Canada,

HELD IN THE

GOWER STREET METHODIST CHURCH, ST. JOHN'S.

Begun on Thursday, June 10th, and Concluded on
Tuesday, June 22nd, 1875.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND:

COURIER PRINT, DUCKWORTH STREET, ST. JOHN'S, N. F.
1875.

THE FIRST GENERAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
Methodist Church of Canada,

WAS HELD IN THE
METROPOLITAN CHURCH, TORONTO, ONT.
Begun September 16 and Concluded October 2, 1874.

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- REV. EGERTON RYERSON, D.D., LL.D., *President of the Conference.*
REV. GEORGE DOUGLAS, LL.D., *Vice-President.*
REV. DUNCAN D. CURRIE, *Secretary.*
REV. WILLIAM SCOTT,
BENJAMIN HOPKINS, Esq., } *Assistant Secretaries.*
REV. JOHN BREDIN, *Journal Secretary.*

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1875

MINUTES

Of the Second Annual Session of the Newfoundland Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, taken at St. John's, from the 10th to the 22nd day of June, 1875.

I.

REV. THOMAS HARRIS, *President.*

REV. JAMES DOVE, *Secretary.*

II.

Are there any objections to any of our Ministers and Preachers?

ANSWER.

They were examined one by one.

III.

Who compose the several Conference Committees? and what Laymen are appointed for the several Committees on Connexional Funds?

ANSWER.

1. STATIONING COMMITTEE.

St. John's District—George S. Milligan, M.A., John Goodison.
Carbonear District—Thomas Harris, President, James Dove.

2. PASTORAL ADDRESS COMMITTEE.

Charles Ladner, Charles Pickels, Simeon Dunn.

3. MEMORIALS AND MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE.

Joseph Pascoe, George Forsey.

4. STATISTICAL RETURNS COMMITTEE.

The Secretary of Conference, Secretaries of Districts, the Secretaries of the several Connexional Funds, and the sub-Secretaries of the Conference.

5. SABBATH SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The President and Secretary of Conference, the ex-President,
Rev. John Goodison, Secretary.

Rev. George J. Bond, A.B., Assistant Secretary.

Rev. W. E. Shenstone,	Mr. H. J. B. Woods,
“ John S. Peach,	“ S. R. March,
“ Charles Ladner,	John Bemister, Esq.,
“ Joseph Pascoe,	Mr. J. Smith,
“ John Reay,	“ James Saint,
“ Solomon Matthews,	“ F. Bemister,
“ Thomas Fox,	“ Aubrey J. Crocker,
“ Simeon Dunn,	“ P. Samways,
“ Thomas H. James,	“ Josiah Manuel,
“ Jeremiah Embree,	“ John C. Moors,
“ William Swann,	“ George Tuff,
“ John G. Currie,	William Christian, Esq., J.P.,
“ Thomas W. Atkinson,	Mr. Isaac Snelgrove,
“ Charles Myers,	“ Aaron Tilley,
“ James Nurse,	“ Willis Parsons,
“ R. W. Freeman,	John Evans, Esq., J.P.,
Mr. G. W. Mews,	Mr. J. N. Haddon,
“ J. E. Peters,	“ George Burton.

6. CONTINGENT FUND COMMITTEE.

The President and Secretary of Conference, the ex-President, Chairmen of Districts and Financial Secretaries.

Rev. C. Ladner, Secretary.

Hon. E. White, Treasurer.

Rev. John S. Peach,	John Steer, Esq., M.H.A.,
“ Joseph Pascoe,	E. Duder, Esq., M.H.A.,
C. R. Ayre, Esq., M.H.A.,	John Bemister, Esq.,
	Israel L. McNeil, Esq.

7. EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY COMMITTEE.

The President of the Conference,

Rev. G. S. Milligan, M.A., } Members of the Central Board,
C. R. Ayre, Esq., M.H.A., }

Rev. G. J. Bond, A.B., Secretary,

Rev. J. Dove,	R. E. Holloway, Esq., B.A.,
“ C. Ladner,	J. Bemister, Esq.,
“ J. Pascoe,	Israel L. McNeil, Esq.,
	Mr. C. Macpherson.

8. MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

The President and Secretary of Conference, the ex-President, and Chairmen of Districts.

Rev. Simeon Dunn, Secretary.

C. R. Ayre, Esq., M.H.A., Treasurer.

Rev. W. E. Shenstone,	John Woods, Esq.,
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Rev. John S. Peach,	John Steer, Esq., M.H.A.,
" Thomas Fox,	John Rorke, Esq., M.H.A.,
" John Goodison,	John Bemister, Esq.
" Joseph Pascoe,	John Louis, Esq., J.P.,
" Charles Ladner,	Mr. W. Green, jr.,
" John Reay,	Owen Pine, Esq., J.P.,
" Solomon Matthews,	Mr. John Lake,
" Jeremiah Embree,	" P. Samways,
" John G. Currie,	J. C. Duder, Esq.,
" Thomas H. James,	Mr. James Saint,
" William Swann,	William Christian, Esq., J.P.,
Hon. James J. Rogerson,	John G. Lucas, Esq.,
" Edward White,	Mr. John Cross,
	Mr. George Allen.

9. SUPERNUMERARY FUND COMMITTEE.

Rev. J. Dove,
Israel L. McNeil, Esq., } Treasurers,

and members of the Central Missionary Board, viz. :—Rev. Thomas Harris, President; Rev. G. S. Milligan, M.A., Hon. J. J. Rogerson.

10. PARSONAGE AID SOCIETY COMMITTEE.

The President and Secretary of Conference, the ex-President.

Rev. J. S. Peach, Secretary.

J. Steer, Esq., M.H.A., Treasurer.

Rev. John Goodison,	Hon. J. J. Rogerson,
" C. Ladner,	C. R. Ayre, Esq., M.H.A.,
" J. Pascoe,	J. Rorke, Esq., M.H.A.,
" J. Reay,	Mr. G. Gear,
" J. C. Currie,	" G. W. Mews,
" J. Embree,	" F. W. Chown,
John Woods, Esq.,	" J. Maddock.

Mr. J. Hippisley.

11. COMMITTEE FOR EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES.

The President and Secretary of Conference, the ex-President.

Rev. J. S. Peach, Secretary,	Rev. Charles Ladner,
" J. Goodison,	" J. Pascoe.

12. SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE.

The President and Secretary of Conference, the ex-President,
Chairmen of Districts,

Rev. J. S. Peach,	Rev. C. Ladner,
" John Goodison,	" Joseph Pascoe,
	Rev. Simeon Dunn.

Members of General Conference Committees.

1. CENTRAL MISSIONARY BOARD.

Rev. Thomas Harris, President of Conference.
 Rev. G. S. Milligan, M.A.
 Hon. J. J. Rogerson.

2. EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY.

Rev. G. S. Milligan, M.A., Treasurer.
 C. R. Ayre, Esq., M.H.A.

3. BOOK COMMITTEE.

Rev. G. S. Milligan, M.A.
 J. Steer, Esq., M.H.A.

4. TRANSFER COMMITTEE.

Rev. Thomas Harris, President of Conference.
 Rev. James Dove.

5. CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF SABBATH SCHOOL BOARD.
 Rev. John Goodison.

IV.

What Preachers are this year admitted into full connexion with the Conference and to be ordained ?

ANSWER.

John G. Currie,	Jeremiah Embree,
Simeon Dunn,	Thomas H. James,
	William Swann.

V.

What Preachers remain on trial ?

ANSWER.

1. Thomas W. Atkinson, Charles Myers,
 James Nurse,
 Who have travelled three years.
2. George J. Bond, A.B., Jabez Hill,
 John P. Bowell, Alexander McGregor,
 George H. Bryant, Joseph Parkins,
 John Dixon, John Pratt,
 R. W. Freeman, Samuel Snowden,
 Who have travelled two years.
3. Anthony Hill, Joseph Lister,
 Henry Lewis, George Paine,
 Who have travelled one year.

VI.

What Preachers are on the list of reserve ?

ANSWER.

None.

VII.

What Preachers are now received on trial ?

ANSWER.

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Henry C. Hatcher, | William Jennings, |
| James B. Heal | James Pincock, |
| Jesse Heyfield, | William B. Seccombe, |
| Who have travelled one year. | |

2. James Alexander.

STUDENTS ALLOWED TO ATTEND THE INSTITUTION.

1. Francis G. Willey, who has travelled four years, and is allowed to remain at the Institution.
2. George Boyd, who has travelled three years.
3. Edgar Taylor, who has travelled one year.

VIII.

Who have died since last Conference ?

ANSWER.

None.

IX.

Who are the Superannuated Ministers ?

ANSWER.

None.

X.

Who are the Supernumerary Ministers ?

ANSWER.

W. E. Shenstone.

XI.

What persons who were in full connexion with the Conference now cease to be recognised as Ministers among us ?

ANSWER.

1. George Forsey, who has been transferred to the Montreal Conference.
2. Charles Pickels, who with the consent of the Conference, withdraws in the expectation of being employed under the direction of the Missionary Committee in London.

XII.

Who are now deposed from the office of the Ministry ?

ANSWER.

None.

XIII.

Who are now deposed from the office of the Ministry and expelled from the Church ?

ANSWER.

None.

XIV.

How are the Ministers and Preachers stationed for the ensuing year ?

ANSWER.

As follows, viz. :

I. SAINT JOHN'S DISTRICT.

1. St. John's—Thomas Harris, President of Conference, Simeon Dunn, George J. Bond, A.B., John Pratt. George S. Milligan, M.A., Supt. of Missions.
2. Bonavista—John Goodison.
3. Twillingate—John Reay.
4. Burin—Joseph Pascoe.
5. Grand Bank and Fortune—Solomon Matthews. One to be sent.
6. Petites—Joseph Parkins.
7. Channel—James Nurse.
8. Exploits—Charles Myers.
9. Greenspond—Jeremiah Embree.

HOME MISSIONS.

10. Musgrave Town—W. B. Seccombe.
11. Musgrave Harbor—Henry Lewis.
12. Fogo and Change Islands—William Swann.
13. Herring Neck—One to be sent.
14. Moreton's Harbor—William Jennings.
15. Little Bay Islands—James Pincock.
16. Tilt Cove—Samuel Snowden.
17. St. Anthony, (French Shore)—Alexander McGregor.
18. Flower Cove—John P. Bowell.
19. Bonne Bay and Bay of Islands—Jabez Hill. One to be sent.
20. St. Pierre—
21. Fortune Bay—One to be sent, during the summer months.

22. Flat Islands—One to be sent.
 23. Sound Island—Henry C. Hatcher.

THOMAS HARRIS, *Chairman.*

JOHN GOODISON, *Financial Sec'y.*

II. CARBONEAR DISTRICT.

24. Carbonear—James Dove, George Paine.
 25. Harbor Grace—Robert W. Freeman.
 26. Brigus—Charles Ladner, J. B. Heal, W. E. Shenstone, Sup'y.
 27. Bay Roberts—Joseph Lister.
 28. Black Head—John S. Peach, Anthony Hill.
 29. Island Cove—John Gibson Currie.
 30. Perlican—Thomas Fox.
 31. Hants Harbor—Thomas H. James. One to be sent.
 32. Catalina—James Alexander.

HOME MISSIONS.

33. Port-de-Grave—Jesse Heyfield.
 34. Trinity—John Dixon.
 35. Shoal Harbor—Thomas W. Atkinson. One to be sent.
 36. Green's Harbor—George H. Bryant.
 37. Labrador—George Paine, during the summer months.

JAMES DOVE, *Chairman.*

CHARLES LADNER, *Financial Sec'y.*

XV.

What is the number of Church Members, Places of Worship, Attendance on Worship on each Circuit or Mission? What is the number of Baptisms administered and of Marriages solemnized by each Minister?

ANSWER.

See Conference Schedule No. 1, Appendix A.

XVI.

What is the number of Ministers, Preachers and Laymen in the Quarterly Official Meetings? Of Sabbath Schools? and what Connexional Property?

ANSWER.

See Conference Schedule No. 2, Appendix A.

XVII.

What has been collected on each District for the various Connexional Funds?

ANSWER.

See Conference Schedule No. 3, Appendix A.

XVIII.

What are the Reports of the several Committees?

ANSWER.

The Reports of the several Committees were presented and adopted by the Conference. See Appendix B.

XIX.

What further measures can be adopted for the promotion of the work of God, within or beyond the bounds of the Conference; and what are the recommendations of District Meetings on this important subject?

ANSWER.

See Journal.

XX.

Where and when shall our next Conference be held?

ANSWER.

In Saint John's, commencing on Thursday, June 22nd, 1876, at 9.30 A.M.

ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR 1876.

1. First preparatory Day, Tuesday, June 20.
Stationing Committee at 7.30, P.M.
2. Second preparatory Day, Wednesday, June 21.
Committee for Examination of Candidates, 9.30, A.M.
Committee on Conference Statistics, 12.0, noon.
Contingent Fund Committee, 2.30, P.M.
Missionary Committee, 7.30, P.M.
3. Opening of Conference, Thursday, June 22nd, 9.30, A.M.
4. First Day, Conference Session, 9.30, A.M.; Educational Society Committee, 2.30, P.M.; Supernumerary Fund Committee, 4.0, P.M.
5. Second Day, Friday, June 23rd, Conference Session, 9.30,

A.M. ; Sabbath School Committee, 2.30, P.M. ; Stationing Committee, 4.0, P.M.

6. Third Day, Saturday, June 24th, Conference Session, 9.30, A.M. ; Parsonage Aid Society Committee, 2.30, P.M.
7. Fourth Day, Monday, June 25th, Conference Session, 9.30, A.M. ; Stationing Committee, 2.30, P.M.
8. Fifth Day, Tuesday, June 26th, Conference Session, 9.30, A.M.

Signed on behalf and by order of the Conference,

THOMAS HARRIS, *President.*

JAMES DOVE, *Secretary.*

TIME FOR COLLECTIONS IN AID OF THE CON- NEXIONAL FUNDS.

Contingent Fund—Public Collection	September.
Supernumerary Ministers' and Ministers' Widows' Fund :—	
(1) Collections in Classes	September.
(2) Public Collection	December.
Contingent Fund—Yearly Collections, Classes.....	March.
Public Collection for Educational Society	April.
The Conference Collection	May.

Appendix A.

CONFERENCE STATISTICS AND CONNEXIONAL FUNDS
SCHEDULE No. 1.

Circuits and Missions.	Membership.		Preach- ing Places.	Attend'e on Public Worship	Bapt'ns.	Marri- ages.
	Memb's.	On Trial.				
ST. JOHN'S DISTRICT.						
St. John's - - -	460	94	7	2926	114	48
Bonavista - - -	281	150	3	2260	97	20
Twillingate - - -	247	13	2	1500	80	22
Burin - - -	343	..	7	1320	50	16
Grand Bank, &c. - - -	177	134	2	1500	75	14
Petites - - -	25	45	8	509	22	9
Channel - - -	12	2	4	160	10	4
Exploits - - -	79	11	5	700	54	11
Greenspond - - -	300	67	15	1500	67	11
Musgrave Town- Musgrave Harbor	77	3	5	600	14	6
Fogo - - -	43	20	2	620	18	2
Change Islands - - -	76	20	4	433	33	10
Moreton's Harbor - - -	13	52	4	550	18	2
Little Bay Islands - - -	84	2	3	600	30	4
Tilt Cove - - -	143	32	9	632	35	5
Saint Anthony - - -	159	33	18	781	56	10
Flower Cove - - -	66	24	12	500	27	10
Bonne Bay- Bay of Islands - - -	20	80	4	160	27	6
St. Pierre - - -	40	4	2	300	10	6
Fortune Bay - - -	..	..	..	..	..	..
Flat Islands - - -	10	..	1	60	2	..
Sound Island - - -	170	..	..	442	4	..
	57	24	5	250	25	3
	27	2	2	6	1	
	2882	787	124	18303	874	220
CARBONEAR DISTRICT.						
Carbonear - - -	458	65	6	2260	93	24
Harbor Grace - - -	136	..	3	1000	38	5
Brigus - - -	118	39	5	1750	40	35
Bay Roberts - - -	46	8	4	400	11	2
Black Head - - -	592	30	5	2350	90	22

SCHEDULE No. 1--(Continued.)

Circuits and Missions.	Membership.		Preach- ing Places.	Attend'e on Public Worship	Bapt'ns.	Marri- ages.
	Memb's.	On Trial.				
Island Cove - - -	165	50	6	1000	43	10
Perlican - - -	230	8	4	1000	36	16
Hant's Harbor - - -	148	10	4	900	43	6
Catalina - - -	62	24	2	500	19	8
Port-de-Grave - - -	36	27	2	300	12	0
Trinity - - -	84	11	7	500	23	4
Shoal Harbor - - -	100	50	25	900	50	12
Green's Harbor - - -	29	47	9	500	29	6
	2204	369	82	13360	527	150
Total for Conference -	5086	1156	206	31663	1401	370

SCHEDULE No. 2.

Circuits and Missions.	Qt'ly. Meetings.				S. Schools.	Connex'l Property.			
	Min- isters.	Preach- ers.	Lay- men.	Total.		Church- es.	School Houses.	Parson- ages.	Ceme- tries.
ST. JOHN'S DISTRICT.									
Saint John's - - -	2	2	30	34	6	6	3	1	..
Bonavista - - -	1	..	20	21	3	3	1	1	..
Twillingate - - -	1	..	12	13	2	2	1	..	..
Burin - - -	1	..	25	26	1	1	5	1	..
Grand Bank, &c. - - -	1	1	11	13	2	2	2	1	..
Petites - - -	1	..	3	4	1	1	4	1	..
Channel - - -	..	1	3	4	1	1	..	..	..
Exploits - - -	..	1	7	8	2	2	1	..	2
Greenspond - - -	..	1	10	11	4	1	..	..	..
Musgrave Town- Musgrave Harbor	..	1	13	14	1	1	1	..	..
Fogo - - -	..	1	6	7	1	1	..	..	..
Change Islands - - -	..	1	7	8	3	2	..	1	..
Moreton's Harbor - - -	..	1	2	3	1	1	..	..	..
Little Bay Islands - - -	..	1	10	11	1	2	..	..	..
	..	1	9	10	1	1	1	..	..

SCHEDULE No. 2—(Continued.)

Circuits and Missions.	Qt'ly. Meetings.				S. Schools.	Connex'l Property.				
	Min- isters.	Preach- ers.	Lay- men.	Total.		Church- es.	School Houses.	Parson- ages.	Ceme- tries.	
Tilt Cove -	..	1	17	18	5	..	..	..	..
Saint Anthony -	..	1	3	4	4	..	..	..	..
Flower Cove -	..	1	2	3	2	..	..	..	..
Bonne Bay- Bay of Islands -	..	1	12	13	1	1	..	..	..
Saint Pierre -	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Fortune Bay -	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Flat Islands -	..	1	4	5	3	..	..	..	..
Sound Island -	..	1	5	6	1	1	1	..	..
	7	19	211	236	47	29	21	6	2	
CARBONEAR DISTRICT.										
Carbonear -	1	1	15	17	6	5	..	1	4	
Harbor Grace -	1	..	9	10	3	2	..	1	1	
Brigus -	2	1	4	7	3	3	4	1	2	
Bay Roberts -	..	1	..	1	..	3	..	..	1
Black Head -	1	1	10	12	4	3	..	..	1
Island Cove -	..	1	14	15	1	3	1	1	3	
Perlican -	1	..	9	10	3	2	..	1	2	
Hants Harbor -	..	1	9	10	3	2	1	1	2	
Catalina -	..	1	4	5	1	1	..	1	1	
Port-de-Grave -	..	1	1	2	1	1	..	..	1
Trinity -	..	1	7	8	2	2	..	..	1
Shoal Harbor -	..	1	14	15	8	5	..	..	2
Green's Harbor -	..	1	2	3	1	..	..	..	8
Labrador -	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1
	6	11	98	115	36	32	7	8	30	
Total for Conference-	13	30	309	351	83	61	28	14	32	

SCHEDULE No. 3.

Circuits and Missions.	Mis. F'd.	Con. F'd.	Sup.F'd	Ed F'd	S. S. F'd.
ST. JOHN'S DISTRICT.					
St. John's - - -	2182.09	80.00	140.00	80.00	Col'd. at annual Meeting 28.19
Bonavista - - -	205.00	14.00	19.10	14.00	
Twillingate - - -	91.55	6.40	8.10	4.70	....
Burin - - -	155.11	9.10	10.48	5.00	....
Grand Bank, &c. - -	324.16	8.50	12.14	5.79	....
Petites - - -	26.00	1.55	2.05	1.10	....
Channel - - -	80.15	4.10	6.20	6.05	....
Exploits - - -	40.00	5.00	8.00	3.00	....
Greenspond - - -	61.05	5.20	9.46	6.22	....
Musgrave Town - -	41.82	1.13	1.00	1.50	....
Musgrave Harbor - -	8.10	1.20	2.00	1.00	....
Fogo - - -	120.00	5.00	5.00	3.00	....
Change Islands - -	26.80	1.40	1.40	1.40	....
Moreton's Harbor - -	50.46	5.00	8.00	3.00	....
Little Bay Islands - -	10.63	2.80	6.00	2.40	....
Tilt Cove - - -	20.00	2.15	8.00	2.25	....
Saint Anthony - - -	55.40	1.20	2.00	1.00	....
Flower Cove - - -	10.40	1.40	2.00	1.20	....
Bonne Bay - - -	44.00	6.00	3.50	1.60	....
Bay of Islands - - -	....	....	....	....	....
Saint Pierre - - -	4.30	....	....	....	....
Fortune Bay - - -	....	....	....	....	....
Flat Islands - - -	9.62	1.00	1.60	1.20	....
Sound Islands - - -	10.67	1.74	4.12	1.26	....
	3577.31	163.87	260.15	146.67	28.19
Less expenses - - -	19.55	....	....	1.50	1.50
Ministers' subscript'ns	....	....	322.76	....	....
Col'd at Con. Ed. Mt'g. and Members' sub'ns.	....	....	....	50.50	....
	3557.76	163.87	582.91	195.67	26.69
CARBONEAR DISTRICT.					
Carbonear - - -	269.30	11.03	23.05	14.50	....
Harbor Grace - - -	337.96	14.40	20.00	14.50	....
Brigus - - -	172.62	5.40	13.38	6.00	....
Bay Roberts - - -	75.45	2.00	3.00	2.00	....
Black Head - - -	184.60	4.00	15.00	3.00	....

MINUTES OF NEWFOUNDLAND 1875]

SCHEDULE No. 3—(Continued.)

Circuits and Missions.	Mis. F'd.	Con. F'd.	Sup.F'd	Ed F'd	S. S. F'd.
Island Cove - - -	135.00	6.00	8.00	2.00	....
Perlican - - -	97.14	3.40	4.50	1.80	....
Hant's Harbor - - -	55.82	2.00	2.00	1.50	....
Catalina - - -	44.00	8.40	7.20	5.00	....
Port-de-Grave - - -	39.86	....	3.30	1.70	....
Trinity - - -	25.63	5.00	3.00	3.00	....
Shoal Harbor - - -	187.89	1.25	1.50	1.00	....
Green's Harbor - - -	21.50	3.50	1.25	1.20	....
Labrador - - -	....	....	....	....	....
Less expenses - - -	1646.77	66.38	105.18	57.20	....
Ministers' subscrip'ns	58.40	....	....	....	....
Special from Old Per-	....	....	187.56	....	....
lican - - -	....	40.00	....	....	....
	1588.37	106.38	292.74	57.20	....

RECAPITULATION.

Districts.	Mis. F'd.	Con. F'd.	Sup.F'd	Ed F'd	S. S. F'd.
St. John's - - -	3577.31	163.87	260.15	197.17	28.19
Carbonear - - -	1646.71	106.38	105.18	57.20	.....
Less expenses - - -	5224.08	270.25	365.33	254.37	28.19
Ministers' subscrip'ns.	77.95	....	....	1.50	1.50
	....	....	510.32	....	.....
	5146.13	270.25	875.65	252.87	26.69

Appendix B.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

1. Book Room.

The Conference has heard with great satisfaction the Report of the Halifax Book Room Committee, showing the financial state of this important agency of our Church, and desires to express its gratitude to God for the success attending the management of the concern during the past year.

BOOK STEWARD AND EDITOR.

The Conference most willingly expresses its sense of obligation to our able Book Steward and Editor, the Rev. A. W. Nicolson, for the efficient and judicious manner in which he has performed the duties of his office; and most earnestly prays that our valued brother may long be enabled to render similar services in connection with this truly useful and onerous department of our church work.

2. PASTORAL ADDRESS

OF THE

Newfoundland Conference of the Methodist Church
of Canada to the Members of the Churches
under its care.

DEAR BRETHREN,—

“Grace be unto you, and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.”

We salute you with sincere affection, seeing you “have obtained like precious faith with us;” so that we gladly recognise you as “fellow-heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel, whereof” we are made ministers “according to the gift of the grace of God, given unto” us “by the effectual working of his power.”

“We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,” “that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge, and in all judgment,” and that you may be “filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.”

In addressing you for the first time in our capacity as a Conference confederated with the Methodist Church of Canada, we avail ourselves of this fitting opportunity to offer our grateful acknowledgments to the great Head of the Church for His distinguished goodness in the auspicious inauguration of this new era of our Church history; and we trust, that, under His continued blessing, the career upon which we have so hopefully entered, will be more than ever, bright with promise and instinct with life.

You will be pleased to learn that the work of God, within the limits of this Conference, is progressing favourably. Every department is prosperous. Not an inconsiderable portion of our work is Home Missionary in its character. We are breaking up the fallow ground, preparing for a future harvest; yet our toil is not unremunerative in immediate results. Need is found for the seed-basket and the sickle. Souls are won to Christ, more or less, in every part of the Island, as well on the older Circuits, as on the stations more recently occupied. A succession of faithful men has been continued for the maintenance of the Ministry.

Five young men, having completed the usual term of probation, have been duly ordained and set apart for the exercise of our holy office; nineteen remain on trial; while eight have been accepted as probationers. Happily, our ranks have not been broken during the year, by death, which fact we attribute to a gracious Providence. Our Church membership amounts to five thousand and eighty six, with one thousand one hundred and fifty six on trial; being an increase upon the year of six hundred and ninety seven accredited members. It is impossible, as you will easily understand, to tabulate the results of our ministry; yet let these statistics be calmly considered, together with the numbers that have been translated from our communion to the Church triumphant, and it will be seen that we have abundant reason to "thank God and take courage." We are fully aware, however, that our success is merely partial, since there are thousands attending upon our ministry still strangers to "the power of godliness," though familiar with its "form." You will therefore, join with us in humiliation and prayer, while we consecrate ourselves anew, and to more vigorous effort for their salvation. Our Sabbath Schools are flourishing. We have eighty three Schools, six hundred and thirty eight Teachers and Officers, and five thousand and fifty Scholars. Some of these Schools are furnished with excellent Libraries, and we earnestly recommend the establishment of a Library in connection with every School. Impressed as we are, with the importance of an extensive and efficient Sabbath School system, in order to the stability and growth of our cause, and also to the good of the children themselves, we solicit the continued co-operation of both parents and teachers as essential to the prosperity of this department of our work. In closing this review, might we not exclaim: "What hath God wrought?" The echo soon responds: "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes." The exulting utterance of our dying Founder is ours to-day: "The best of all is, God is with us."

And now we nerve ourselves afresh for the work that lies before us. Pausing on the threshold of the future, we gather inspiration from the past. "The friends of all and the enemies of none," was the motto of our fathers, while their mission was, "To spread spiritual holiness throughout the land," and we, their children, are resolved "to walk by the same rule, to mind the same thing." And the weapons of our warfare are the same. Holding to the vital and energetic doctrines of the gospel, with no desire to formulate our own faith, or to refine upon the old fashioned method of proclaiming saving truth, "we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling-block, and unto the Greeks foolishness, but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom

of God." These are the weapons we are determined to wield. To do this effectually we have need to be baptized with the spirit of our fathers in this country—to catch their falling mantles, that we may emulate their zeal and consummate their work, until "all Israel shall be saved." Never was Methodism more needed than it is to-day. We have fallen upon perilous times. Insidious error entwines itself about the truth seeking to sap its vitality. Imperious pretensions are vaunted in our faces; so that if we are to maintain our ground and fulfil our mission as a Church, we must "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

But, as a rule, the truth is best defended, not by controversial disputation, but rather by a living illustration of its power.— Permit us, then, dear brethren, to remind you of your "holy calling." "For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness," "that we might be partakers of the Divine nature." Keep the incense of your piety ever burning. Let your love maintain an even flame and a growing fervency, undefiled by the baser fumes of earthly passions. Seek to excel in every virtue and grace, that your character may be a transcript of the Divine mind—a photograph of his image. Your standard is fixed for you: "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." The basal beatitude is poverty of spirit; let this be your foundation! carrying up the superstructure, until you reach the crowning beatitude, purity of heart. That you may attain this excellence, you will need a oneness of purpose, together with a united effort. "The rays must converge to a point, in order to glow intensely;" hence the wisdom of the Apostle's exclusive resolve: "This one thing I do." And in prosecuting this oneness of purpose, you will often have occasion to assert your individuality. "Every one of us shall give an account of himself to God." Carry this thought with you in discharging the duties that arise from your relationships, as well as in the experience of your solitude; for while our individuality should not be suffered to fuse into an affected irresponsibility, neither should we permit it to contract into a narrow exclusiveness. Reflect the light you have received.— Emit the influence with which you are surcharged. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Make your religion winsome by your smiles. "Praise is comely for the upright." Mercies, like dew drops, sprinkle our heritage, sparkling like gems, in the sun of the Divine goodness. Have faith in God. And when, under discipline, it is in danger of being darkened by the vapours of carnal reasoning, let its clear vision catch a glimpse of the crescent promise that spans the cloud. "Life is a dial, in which the shadow as well as the light

informs us;" or, as Scripture assures us: "All things work together for good to them that love God;" but our benefit will be in proportion to our patience, since, none but firm and solid bodies can be polished well. Commit yourselves to the care of your heavenly Father. Respond to his pleasure with a ready mind. The flowers open their petals to drink in the morning dew, and the solar ray; so ought we to open our hearts to receive the gracious influences from above, responding like the rose in the vernal beauty of a holy character, and the fragrance of a useful life. "Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." Worldly conformity, like another Delilah, will shear you of your strength.— Seek to maintain a conscience void of offence. It will keep the blush of shame from the cheek of virtue, and the heart from the tremor of fear. And thus, on the high road of duty, you shall be able to pluck the "speedwell" of happiness. "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding." "Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace."

Your success in the attainment of your privilege will depend upon your observance of the ordinances of religion. Walk with God in secret. Live in the spirit of prayer. Our closet experience is the measure of our piety. Let every home have its altar. Domestic religion is the best educator of youth. Attend upon the public ministry of the word. "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear." Improve the communion of saints. Christian fellowship is the sign and seal of union and the soul of strength. As often as opportunity serves approach the table of the Lord, in commemoration of his sacrificial death, and there plight your faith afresh, to "live for him who died for all."— But in all your vows, let your reliance be upon the strength of divine grace, or your best purpose will be "a thread of tow that has touched the fire."

"And now, brethren, we commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified."

Signed on behalf and by order of the Conference,

THOMAS HARRIS, *President.*

JAMES DOVE, *Secretary.*

3. MEMORIALS AND MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTIONS.

I. ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

The Conference is grieved to know that in many parts of this Island there is a great degree of Sabbath desecration. Believing the divine command to keep holy the Sabbath day, to be perpetually binding, it would not forget to remind our people of their duty in this important matter. It is therefore resolved that a sermon be preached in all our Circuits, the first Sabbath in February on Sabbath observance, and that all our congregations be admonished to observe the sanctity of the Lord's Day, and to appreciate its innumerable blessings and privileges.

The following Report of the Sabbath Observance Committee, is taken from the Journal of the General Conference, p.p. 191 :

That inasmuch as the security of the church and of the nation is dependent upon the observance of the whole of God's law, no part of which is more fundamental than that which commands the sanctification of the Sabbath Day, your Committee feel deeply impressed with the necessity of continued vigilance and unwavering fidelity in guarding this sacred trust.

It is matter of great congratulation that, in general, our Sabbaths in Her Majesty's possessions on this side of the Atlantic are so religiously kept. In some parts, however, by work performed on railways, canals, and in the post office, the holy day is shamefully and publicly violated, exposing us to the Divine threatening for polluted Sabbaths. "Then I said I will pour out my fury upon them." On our statute books are wholesome laws for Sabbath observance, and the hands of the Magistrate should be strengthened by manifested Christian sentiment for the faithful carrying out of these enactments.

Like the plague of leprosy, in houses also is the evil spreading, by late rising on Sabbath morning, unprofitable conversation, and the very reprehensible habit of visiting during its sacred hours, unmindful of the breath of the command in Leviticus,— "It is the Sabbath of the Lord in all your dwellings."

Proceeding from culpable ignorance, or as the outgrowth of a criminal carelessness, some content themselves with attendance at but one service; others fail in securing the presence of the children on public worship save at the Sabbath School, and a great many professing Christians do sadly deprive themselves and their families of the "spirit of the Lord's day" by allowing the reading of newspapers, and of literature only slightly tinged with Christianity, or even of an entirely secular character.

Under these circumstances, your Committee are of opinion that greater prominence should be given by all the Ministers of our Church to the proclamation and enforcement of the whole

counsel of God on this vital point; and would suggest that at least one sermon annually be devoted to this special subject, and that additional effect would be secured by such sermon being preached simultaneously in all our pulpits, say on the third Sabbath in the month of January.

By very consistent and very determined action on the part of the various Churches of Christ in our land shall this bulwark of man's freedom and God's supremacy be saved out of the hand of the enemy, and in pious lives, godly households, peaceable communities, and an abiding national life, shall be manifested that we are inheritors of the blessings promised of old to those who keep the Sabbaths of the Lord, and reverence His sanctuaries.

2. ON TEMPERANCE.

The Conference deeply impressed with the conviction that the vice of intemperance is the cause of very serious loss and injury to the various branches of the Christian Church, and encourages habits destructive to social happiness, would earnestly urge upon all our people the most careful and conscientious observance of the rule given by Rev. J. Wesley to the Societies under his care respecting the use of intoxicating drinks, in "neither buying nor selling spirituous liquors, nor drinking them except in cases of extreme necessity." The Conference welcomes as co-workers in the promotion of moral reform, all who individually, or by united and well directed effort are seeking with the Divine blessing to restrain and finally to overthrow this giant foe.

THANKS, &c.

1. The Conference desires gratefully to express its great obligation to Joseph Laurence, Esq., of East Keswick, Yorkshire, England, for the many practical proofs he has afforded of his interest in the spiritual prosperity of this Colony, and especially for his painstaking exertions in procuring and forwarding to this country so many candidates for our Ministry. The prayer of the Conference is, that every blessing from the Great Head of the Church may be richly vouchsafed to him, and that his life may long be spared, to advance the interests of Methodism in this Island, and the Maritime Provinces.

2. That the cordial thanks of Conference be presented to the ex-President, Rev. G. S. Milligan, M.A., for the kindness, fidelity, and impartiality which have marked the discharge of his duties as President during the past year.

3. That the thanks of the Conference are due and are hereby presented to the Rev. Thomas Harris, Secretary, and to the Rev. John Goodison, Journal Secretary, for the efficient discharge of their duties.

4. That the thanks of the Conference be presented to the Ministers of the St. John's Circuit, for their considerate regard for the comfort and accommodation of the Ministers attending this Conference.

5. That the Conference gratefully appreciates the kindness and hospitality of the friends in St. John's in entertaining the Ministers during the session, and that the same be appropriately expressed from the pulpits of our Churches in this city on next Sabbath.

4. SABBATH SCHOOLS.

It is with great pleasure that we present this, our first report of Sabbath School work within the bounds of the Newfoundland Conference. The sphere of the Sabbath School is a most important one, and its progress gives a very fair criterion of the progress of general Church work, and the moral and spiritual advancement of the congregations. It is indeed, an indication of the wisdom and foresight of the Christian Church, that an increasing interest is being manifested in this department.— Our own section of the Church has, from the first, shown itself eager to do its part in respect to it; and the fostering care of our own Conference, has resulted in an impetus to the work within its limits, the momentum of which is rapidly increasing.

There have been within the St. John's District some 47 Sabbath Schools, with 356 officers and teachers, and 2,975 scholars, in working order during the past year; and within the Carbonear District some 36 Sabbath Schools, with 282 officers and teachers, and 2,065 scholars.

The reports of the various Circuits within the Conference show generally a healthy state of things. In some Circuits new schools have been opened, and are now in full working order, and in all there seems to be considerable interest manifested among both teachers and scholars.

St. John's Circuit reports, "The Gower Street School continues in fine working order; and the George Street School has been most auspiciously organized, with a staff of zealous and competent officers and teachers, who are striving to make it in every respect compare favorably with the Gower Street or parent school. Both schools are pretty well equipped with such material aids as Catechisms, Libraries, Maps, Illuminated Cards, &c. and are regularly supplied with the International Bureau Leaves. Quarterly Sabbath School Missionary Meetings are held, which are rendered very attractive by Music, Recitations and Addresses. The sum of \$40.00 has been collected in school for our Missions and \$315.92 has been raised by Juvenile Cards and Missionary Boxes."

Bonavista reports, "We opened our new School-house at Bonavista on the 25th April; there were present 300 scholars and teachers on that occasion. It is nearly completed. It is 60 feet long and 26 feet wide; and will, when properly laid out, accommodate 400 children. A great number of young men and women have begun to attend the Schools since the revival, and nearly one hundred scholars have been converted to God."

In other quarters, however, the progress of the work has been checked or actually stopped for want of suitable accommodation for the scholars. Fogo, for instance, reports, "For want of suitable rooms, the Schools at Seldom-come-By and Indian Islands were closed during winter months."

It is noteworthy, however, that but few of the Schools, comparatively, are possessed of the advantages of a Library. It is unquestionable that much good would result, not merely to the scholars, but to the parents also, from the circulation in this way of sound Sabbath School literature.

In conclusion, while much remains to be done, to put the work on as efficient a basis as would be desired; yet considering the difficulties which have lain in the way, enough has been done to warrant all interested in the progress of Sabbath School work within the Newfoundland Conference, to "Thank God, and take courage."

SABBATH SCHOOL SCHEDULE.

Names of Districts.	Officers and Teachers.				Scholars.										Libraries and Money raised by Schools.					No. of Schools open	
	No. of Preaching Ap- pointments.	No. of Schools.	Members of Meth. Church.	Non-Members.	Total.	Average Attend- ance.	No. of conversions during year.	Meeting in Class.	Leaving (re- cipients).	Total Volumes in Libraries.	Copies of S. S. Ad- vocate.	Do. Banner.	Do. Other Papers.	For Missions.	For School Pur- poses.	For General S. S. Fund.	Total.	No. of Schools using uniform Lessons.	Do. having regular Teachers Meeting for Study of Lessons.	No. of Schools open Whole year.	
St. John's	47	47	356	.....	2975	.....	1721	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Carbonear.	82	36	152	74	282	190	507	1260	308	2075	1415	31	76	597	739	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
	.....	83	.....	.....	5050	.....	2460	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	400	60	71	.....	64	71	.....	.....

N.B.—The Returns of the St. John's District imperfect. Circuit Schedules Forms not received in time.

TABLE.

Libraries and
S. Papers.

Libraries.	none
Copies of S. Ad- vocate.	none
Do. Batten- berg.	none
Do. Other Papers.	none
For Missions.	400 60 71
For School Pur- poses.	64 71
For General S. S. Fund.	64 71
Total.	4

No. of Schools raising
uniform lessons.

Do. having regular
Teachers Meeting for
Study of Lessons.

No. of Schools open
whole year.

Tables Forms not received in time.

5. CONTINGENT FUND.

RESOLUTION OF CONFERENCE RESPECTING THE CONTINGENT FUND.

The Conference earnestly recommends this Fund to the continued and increased liberality of our congregations, and would remind our Ministers of the rules for its support, which are as follows :

SOURCES OF INCOME.

In the Eastern section of the General Conference,—

- 1st.—Collections to be taken up on all the Circuits in the months of September and March in each year.
2nd.—The public collections taken up at each Session of the Annual Conferences. See Discipline, p.p. 118.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

St. John's District	163.87	
Carbonear District	66.38	
Special from Old Perlican	40.00	
		<hr/>
		\$270.25

APPROPRIATIONS.

Funeral expenses of late Mrs. Fox ..	48.00	
Bro. Shenstone for family affliction..	40.00	
Conference Seal	16.00	
Presidents Expenses	30.00	
Sundries, Books, &c.	23.60	
Printing Minutes.. .. .	60.00	
		<hr/>
Exchange on Currency.. .. .		217.60
		52.65
		<hr/>
		\$270.25

6. CHILDREN'S FUND.

Rev. John S. Peach, Secretary.

The following is the basis adopted by the Conference of 1874, for the distribution of children's claims over Circuits and Home Missions :

1. Circuits with one Minister shall pay a proportionate and uniform rate.
2. Home Missions for first four years shall pay one-half of that rate.

3. Circuits or Home Missions having more than one Minister shall pay for every ordained man one rate as above, and for each probationer one-half rate, provided nevertheless, that each Circuit or Home Mission having a probationer or probationers four years after this Conference (1874), shall, at the expiration of that term, also become responsible for one rate for every such probationer.

RESOLUTION OF CONFERENCE RESPECTING CHILDREN'S FUND.

In accordance with the standing rule which makes provision towards the support of the children of our Ministers, it is resolved that the rate of last year be continued for the ensuing year.

7. EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be known as "The Educational Society of the Methodist Church of Canada."

ARTICLE II.

The objects of this Society shall be to assist in maintaining our Universities, Theological Schools, and Higher Mission Schools; to defray the expenses of the Examination of Candidates for the Ministry in our Church; and to aid such candidates in obtaining an education.

ARTICLE III.

All subscribers of five dollars per annum and upwards shall be members of the Society, and entitled to a copy of the Annual Report.

ARTICLE IV.

The management of the Society shall be vested in a Central Board, composed as follows:

The President of the General Conference; one layman from each Annual Conference, to be appointed by the General Conference, to hold office for four years; one Minister from each Annual Conference, to be elected annually by such Conference, and to be Treasurer of the Society for his Conference; and also the head of each University and of each Theological School.

ARTICLE V.

A branch of the Society shall be organized in each Annual Conference, under the management of a Committee of such Conference, composed as follows:

The President of the Annual Conference, the members of the

Central Board within the bounds of the Conference; and four Ministers and four laymen, appointed by the Annual Conference.

ARTICLE VI.

Sermons shall be preached on behalf of the Society, and collections taken up in aid of its funds, in all our Churches and preaching places, at some time in February or April in each year.

Meetings shall be held in each Circuit or Station, at which the claims of our Educational work shall be placed before our people, and contributions taken for the funds of the Society.

ARTICLE VII.

The Central Board shall meet annually in the month of July, for the transaction of the following business:

First, to make appropriations to defray the expenses of the Examining Boards of our Conferences and Colleges.

Secondly, to appropriate to each Conference a sum to aid students appointed by each Conference to attend College.

Thirdly, to make appropriations according to the claims and wants of each University, Theological School and Missionary Institute.

Fourthly, to determine the portion of students to be sent each year to each College from each Conference.

The Central Board shall appoint its own Secretary and Treasurer, and in the absence of the President of the General Conference, elect a Chairman *pro tem*.

They shall fill vacancies occurring in the lay portion of the Board, and shall appoint the time and place of their next meeting.

They shall publish annually a Report of the work of the Society.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Annual Conference Committees shall meet Annually at the time and place of the meeting of the Annual Conferences respectively, for the following purposes:

1. To consider the cases of all candidates recommended to attend College by the District Meetings, and report to the Conference as to the amount of aid to be given to each, and the College he shall attend, in harmony with the arrangement of the Central Board.

2. To appoint a deputation to each District to attend meetings on behalf of the Society.

3. To arrange for a public Anniversary Meeting of the Society, in connection with the Session of each Annual Conference.

RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE WITH REGARD TO THE
EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY.

The Conference desires to express its earnest conviction of the importance of this Society, whose object is to provide necessary facilities for training its rising Ministry; and to commend it to the liberal support and generous patronage of all our Societies, believing that none of our Church's efforts will be productive of greater good than this, which aims at securing an effective Ministry for all our pulpits.

The Financial Statement is as follows:

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS.

St. John's District	146.67	
Carbonear District	57.20	
		203.87
Collected at Conference Educational Meeting	30.50	
Less expenses	1.50	
		29.00

The following subscribers are Members of the Society.

ST. JOHN'S.

Rev G. S. Milligan, M.A.	5.00	
Hon. J. J. Rogerson	5.00	
Hon. Edward White	5.00	
Mr. J. Rooney	5.00	20.00
		<u>\$252.87</u>

N.B.—Besides the above a friend has given \$20.00

EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY DEPUTATIONS.

1. St. John's District—The ex-President, Rev. John Goodison, Rev. Joseph Pascoe.
2. Carbonear District—The President and the ex-President.

8. SUPERNUMERARY FUND.

2. The Conference gratefully acknowledges a considerable increase in the receipts of this important Fund, in both districts.

2. The Conference, deeply feeling the righteous claims of this Fund upon the sympathy and support of our Connexion, once more earnestly commends its interests to the vigilant attention of our Ministers, and to the considerate generosity of our members and congregations.

9. PARSONAGE AID SOCIETY.

Whereas in the judgment of this Conference it is highly desirable that every Circuit should be provided with a comfortable dwelling house for the Minister and his family and that every such dwelling house should, if possible, be free from debt. The Conference resolves that a Society be formed to aid in carrying out this object on the following constitution.

1. The Society shall be called "The Parsonage Aid Society of the Newfoundland Conference."

2. The management of the Society shall be vested in a Committee of Ministers and Laymen, with a Secretary and Treasurer, appointed annually.

3. The capital stock of the Society shall for the present consist of the grant of \$1000.00 given by the Conference of Eastern British America, together with all moneys which from time to time may be available, including subscriptions and donations, either annual or special.

4. Applications for grants must be accompanied by a written statement setting forth the amount in labour or subscriptions which may be relied on from the Circuit.

No application can be entertained unless recommended by the District meeting and no grants will be made in any case exceeding \$200.00.

5. When a loan is made to any Circuit, the same shall be repaid without interest within five years, by instalments or otherwise.

6. In order to secure uniformity, no grant will be made towards a new Parsonage unless built according to one of the approved plans of the Society and on land properly secured to the Connexion.

7. Subscriptions to the funds of the Society to be taken up in the Circuits from the 1st to the 10th day of October each year.

8. All moneys of the Society not required for any current year shall be placed in the Bank, or elsewhere, on good security, at interest.

Appendix C.**ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL
CONFERENCE**

TO THE

Members of the Methodist Church of Canada.

VERY DEAR BRETHREN,—

I have been requested by the recent General Conference "to prepare an Address to the members of our Church throughout the Dominion and elsewhere, on the state of our work, with a view to promote its efficiency."

This request is my reason and apology for the liberty I now take of addressing you, compressing what my heart prompts and duty requires me to say, in as few words as possible.

1. The first feeling that should warm and swell our bosoms, is that of gratitude to Almighty God, not only for the material prosperity with which He has blessed our country, but for the displays of His grace to us as a Church, in the large increase of members, places of worship, seminaries of learning, means to sustain and extend our Missionary operations at home and abroad, and in consolidating three branches of the Methodist family into one vast connexion, extending from Newfoundland to British Columbia, embracing an inter-oceanic territory larger than the United States of America, including upwards of one thousand Ministers, more than one hundred thousand communicants, and nearly half a million of adherents and hearers.

2. It is also a special ground for thankfulness to the Supreme Fountain of all wisdom and goodness, that in the first representative Conference held in our Church, ministers and laymen have been, elected by their wide spread constituencies, assembled in equal numbers, and with one mind and heart have avowed articles of faith, and a system of doctrines, and adopted a polity of Church government by which the people called Methodists have been distinguished from the days of John Wesley—doctrines preached by Apostles and witnessed by martyrs—and a polity of operations which, in a century, has unfurled the banner of the cross and preached its unsearchable riches over continents and islands to a greater extent than any other Protestant

Church in the world, adapting itself to all diversities of nations and conditions of society, and by the renewing power and gifts of the Holy Spirit has, as in ancient days, converted the idolater of every type, and reformed the vicious of every degree, and raised up multitudes who, as living epistles of piety, virtue and benevolence, are read and known of all men.

3. The conclusions of the lengthened deliberations of the recent General Conference are embodied in a Book of Doctrines and Discipline which should, next to the Bible and our Hymn Book, be in every Methodist family, and in which you will find the great principles and rules of government and practice received from our forefathers, specially adapted to the circumstances and wants of our country, and the Circuit and Missionary operations of our Church.

4. One leading object of these carefully matured disciplinary arrangements is to give the unity and strength of our whole Church to the work of its every department—that the Missionary, the Sabbath School, the Educational, and various other works of the Church should emanate from a common authority, should have the stamp of a common character, should be bound together by a common interest, should be animated by one spirit; while there should be ample local discretion in the application of common principles, and in advancing the divine purposes of our common brotherhood—the spread of Scriptural truth and holiness among men.

5. The practical working of this simple, but great machinery, which God has placed in our hands, rests chiefly with the Six Annual Conferences, and the Ministers and congregations under their charge. The effectiveness of any system depends more upon the manner in which it is administered and worked out, than upon even the excellence of the principles and regulations which it embodies. The beauty of the wonderfully and fearfully made human body is but a lifeless spectacle on which to gaze without the life and spirit and wisdom, and goodness which animate its faculties, and prompt and invigorate its activities. The might of the best ecclesiastical machinery lies not in the wisdom and completeness of its construction, but in the spirit and power of the living God sanctifying, teaching and empowering its every agent, and directing its every movement.

6. Under such conditions and circumstances, and with such responsibilities and divinely provided resources, what is the duty of every Minister, and of every member of the Church, but that each Minister should remember his divine vocation, and his personal ordination vows; that the divine call is as fresh and authoritative every day of life, until its last setting sun, as it was when it first uttered the response "Lord, here am I, send me;" and that the personal vow is binding at all times and in all circumstances, "in season and out of season," until the master

shall grant him his discharge, and say, "well done, thou good and faithful servant;" and that every member of the Church shall feel equally with the Minister, that he is enlightened to give light; that he is pardoned, adopted, renewed, sanctified, made complete in Christ that he may witness and labour for Christ. The obligation is commensurate with the blessing throughout the whole membership of the Church. "For none of us liveth to himself and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord; whether we live therefore or die, we are the Lord's." Did these convictions control, and this spirit actuate every Minister and member of our Church, what power would there be in all its ministrations and services, in all its meetings and counsels; what songs of salvation would be heard in all its habitations, what mighty victories would be achieved, and golden harvests gathered in all the fields of its conflicts and culture! The whole Church then would be "fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners."

7. The first step towards becoming the subject of such "workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works," the attainment of such Divine love and anointing power, the cultivation of such graces, and the prosecution of such labours, is doubtless the daily and devout study of God's word, as the rule of action, faith and practice and making it—especially the Gospels and epistles of the New Testament—the standard of one's every day feelings, experience and conduct, and rightly testing one's self by this scriptural standard, by which we must all be weighed and judged at the last day. This Bible Christianity,* by which every believer learns God's will and communes with Him from day to day in His own word, and worships Him without any interposing priest "through one mediator," and is himself a "royal priest unto God," offering up "spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ," "entering into the

*"We ascribe it to nothing but the revealed will of God, that those Kingdoms of the earth, which bow at the name of Jesus have vastly outstripped in civilization every other, whether ancient or modern. If you search for the full development of the principles of liberty, for the security of property, for even handed justice, for the rebuke of gross vices, for the cultivation of social virtues, and for the diffusion of the generous care of the suffering, you must turn to lands where the cross has been erected—as though Christianity were identified with all that is fine in policy, and lofty in morals, and permanent in greatness. Yea, as though the Bible were a mighty volume, containing whatever is requisite for correcting the disorders of States, and cementing the happiness of families, you find that the causing it to be received and read by the people, is tantamount to the producing a thorough revolution including equally the palace and the cottage—so that every rank in society, as though there had been waved over it the wand of the magician is mysteriously elevated, and furnished with new elements of dignity and comfort."—*Melville*.

holiest by the blood of Jesus," exhibits a majestic simplicity of Divine worship, and invests the service of the true worshipper with a dignity and grandeur, that renders insipid and contemptible the artistic gesticulations and tawdry ornaments of a sensuous ritualistic worship.

8. The inward power and experience of scriptural Christianity must ever be accompanied by its corresponding outward expressions and manifestations—attendance upon all the means of grace, as Providence may permit, and the practice of all Christian duties and charities, as ability may be given. The preaching of the Word, the Supper of the Lord, the meeting for united prayer and mutual fellowship, the devotions of the family and of the closet, as well as the reading of the Scriptures, are the divinely appointed means of scriptural nourishment, strength, growth and health to the soul, as various material food is the agency of bodily nourishment, strength, growth and health; and the neglect of the latter is no less fatal to the health and vigor of the body, than the neglect of the former is to the health and vigor of the soul. To starve the body is suicide, which no man will commit in his proper senses; to starve the soul is no less criminal and suicidal, which no Christian can do except at the peril of his happiness here and his salvation hereafter. The Methodists have the reputation of being a hearty singing and a warm praying people; may they be equally noted as a Bible-reading and a Bible-living people! Let those means of grace be most resolutely and most scrupulously used against which the carnal mind most revolts, such as the prayer and class meeting. If attendance at these precious means of grace be punctual and uniform, there will be no neglect of the lovefeast, the Lord's Supper and the ministrations of the sanctuary. The piety and strength of the Church is the aggregate of the piety and strength of its individual members, whether of the ministry or laity, whether young or old; and for each member to be "strong in the Love and in the power of His might," he must have "the joy of the Lord, which is his strength;" and that joy can only be possessed by a "life hid with Christ in God," by a heart filled with the love of God, renewed in His likeness, and having fellowship with the Father and the Son by the Holy Spirit, in all the sanctuary ordinances and means of grace, as well as in private meditation and secret prayer. "Praying without ceasing" is essential to "rejoicing evermore."

9. In addition to settling the polity of the Church, and considering the vital questions of personal piety and attendance upon the means of grace to maintain and promote it, the General Conference has devised and matured several organizations and plans of Church work, which claim the united prayers and liberal support of the whole body. To the more prominent of

these, it becomes my duty to draw your attention in few words, leaving detailed explanations, and counsels as the more appropriate work of pastors of congregations, and the pastorals of Annual Conferences.

(1.) The General Conference has organized the Missionary Society upon a basis of united and comprehensive action under an effective management, extending its branches to every Circuit and Mission throughout the Dominion, and summoning the whole Church to its divine vocation of "seeking and saving that which is lost" by "preaching the Gospel to every creature"—the mission of the Son of God from heaven, the end of His teachings, sufferings, death, resurrection and ascension, and gifts of the Holy Spirit. No man can be true to Christ, and untrue to Christian Missions—the Saviour's great commission to the Church—the world's only hope.

(2.) A complete system of Sabbath School organization for the whole Church, including the publication of Sabbath School papers and the supply of Sabbath School books has been matured and adopted by the General Conference. The experience of more than half a century, both in Europe and America has shown that the agency of the Sabbath School is the most potent, yet devised to supplement parental instruction and public preaching for training up children and youth in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. The Sabbath Schools are the nurseries of the Churches—its seed-plots for the indefinite multiplication of plants of righteousness—the right hand planting of the Church's strength,—to be worked as its richest mine of wealth, and nourished as its hearts blood. The youth of every family should be in the Sabbath School as teachers or pupils; and every member of the Church should, by prayer, by contribution, by advocacy, support the Sabbath School; while all parents should, by their example, prayers, instructions, prepare their children for Sabbath School instruction and usefulness. The work of the fire side may be supplemented but not superseded, by the work of the Sabbath School. The parent any more than the Minister, cannot perform his duty by proxy.—Every man must bear his own burden, do his own work and receive his own reward.

(3.) To all our Educational Institutions, whether male or female, including academies, colleges and universities, unity and identity of interest and supreme control, with local discretion of management, have been given by the deliberations and decisions of the General Conference; all these agencies of intellectual and moral culture are thus hand-maids of religion—imparting a thorough Christian and practical education to the sons and daughters of our people for important positions in social life, for the different professions, and providing also for the systematic theological training and higher intellectual education of those

whom God has called to the work of the Christian Ministry.—The continued success of all these educational institutions—one in interest and aim, and one in religious oversight and character, and established to meet the wants of the Church, and the demands of the age, as they have already so nobly done, depends upon the liberality and co-operation of the members of the Church throughout the bounds of the General Conference. If “wisdom and knowledge are to be the stability of the times” in the best ages of the Church and the world, it becomes the Church, as a duty of the highest patriotism as well as of the noblest Christian philanthropy, to see that the “wisdom and knowledge” taught in the academy and the college recognizes God in nature as in Revelation—the all and in all of the true progress in society, and of man’s highest development and happiness.

(4.) In the constitution of the Book Committee, with its sections and branches, under the management of which our periodicals are published and our various religious and general literature provided, the best provision has been made for keeping all the members of the Church informed in regard to every department of our various work at home and abroad, as also the operations of piety and benevolence in other Christian Churches, and for supplying our people, young and old, with a choice and varied selection of religious and general literature. I know of no other Church in the Dominion which has made so complete and comprehensive a provision for supplying the intellectual wants of its members and adherents, upon truly Christian principles, by its educational institutions, its periodicals, its religious, scientific and general literature; and I fervently hope and pray that all the members and friends of the Methodist Church will avail themselves to the utmost of their power of the advantages thus accessible to them.

(5.) The General Conference, both Ministers and laymen, as on other subjects, has expressed a very decided opinion on the subject of Temperance, and has strongly recommended legislation to suppress the manufacture and traffic of spirituous liquors, and thus lessen as far as may be done by statute law and its administration, the dreadful evils of intemperance, while it urges those religious and moral suasions—the primary and potent instruments of moral reform—upon all the members of the Church, and all the friends of humanity, to give their example and influence in favour of abstinence from intoxicating drinks. As law in a free country is but the embodiment of public opinion; so public opinion must be in advance of law.—It becomes therefore, the duty of every Christian and philanthropist to create and strengthen by his example and influence, both within and without the Church, a sound public opinion on the subject of temperance, and the evils of intemperance—the

source of nine-tenths of the crimes which destroy individuals, beggar families, afflict society and impair the energies and resources of private and public comfort and wealth.

(6.) Nor has the General Conference omitted to devise and suggest means and measures for advancing the important and already rapidly progressing work of Church accommodation, and providing for the more efficient support of the ministry.— In this latter scriptural and noble work the laymen of the General Conference took the most conspicuous part; and if the spirit which they evinced is imbibed and cultivated by the members of our Church and congregations at large, an essential means of promoting both the comfort and efficiency of your Ministers will be secured beyond all precedent.

10. I have devoted but brief paragraphs to subjects, on each of which my convictions and feelings would prompt me to write an essay, did the occasion permit. I earnestly commend these subjects to your serious, prayerful and generous consideration, aided by reading the new Book of Discipline itself, and by what may be uttered from the pulpit and the platform, and sent forth in the columns of our periodicals.

11. I feel how poorly I have fulfilled the task imposed upon me by the General Conference, in thus addressing you; but I cannot forbear repeating the thought already expressed,—namely, the necessity, apart from the privilege of the daily culture and practice of vital religion, the Samson-look of individual and Church strength, the perennial spring of the highest enjoyment, from which flow ever widening streams of pious benevolence and useful activity, and without which all the externals of Christianity, however imposing and magnificent, and however adorned and enriched by wealth, talents and gifts, are but “sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.”

12. Very dear Brethren,—Unexpectedly called to a position so much above my merits, and required thus to address you, I desire gratefully to confess that “by the Grace of God I am what I am”—a sinner saved by grace—saved in youth, saved in manhood, being saved in old age; and being in the fiftieth year of my Ministry, beyond my “three score years and ten,” sixty of which save one, I have been enabled to witness, imperfectly indeed, a pardoning God and Saviour, I here record the avowal of my present views and feelings, that had I, a thousand times from my early youth up, to live my life over again, I would with all my heart and strength, strive to serve my God and Saviour more humbly, more faithfully and more unreservedly than I have done. The indwelling of God in the heart is the most radiant joy of youth, the mightiest strength of manhood in both body and mind, the richest comfort of age; it prompts to labour, lightens toil, sweetens affliction, kisses the rod of disappointment and adversity, gives songs in the night of age and

infirmity, and brightens with a lively hope the day-spring of immortality. My earnest prayer is, that every Minister and member of the Church, with myself, may so learn and live and labour, that no child in the land, and no heathen abroad or at home, shall have cause to reproach us in the great day of final retribution.

Yours very affectionately,

E. RYERSON, *President.*

Toronto, October 14, 1874.

Appendix D.

AN ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF THE
MINISTERS AND PREACHERS ON TRIAL,
OF THE
NEWFOUNDLAND CONFERENCE
OF THE
METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA.

The figures at the beginning of the line show the year in which each Minister commenced his Ministry, and those at the end of the lines denote his first, second, etc., annual appointment to his present Circuit.

1875	Alexander, James	.. ..	Catalina	.. ..	1
1872	Atkinson, Thomas W.	.. ..	Shoal Harbor	.. ..	3
1873	Bond, George J., A.B.	.. ..	St. John's	.. ..	2
1873	Bowell, J. P.	.. ..	Flower Cove	.. ..	2
	Boyd, George, Student	.. ..	Sackville, N.B.	.. ..
1873	Bryant, George H.	.. ..	Green's Harbor	.. ..	2
1871	Currie, John G.	.. ..	Island Cove	.. ..	1
1873	Dixon, John	.. ..	Trinity	.. ..	2
1855	Dove, James	.. ..	Carbonear	.. ..	3
1871	Dunn, Simeon	.. ..	St. John's	.. ..	1
1871	Embree, Jeremiah	.. ..	Greenspond	.. ..	2
1856	Fox, Thomas	.. ..	Perlican	.. ..	4
1873	Freeman, Robert W.	.. ..	Harbor Grace	.. ..	1
1860	Goodison, John	.. ..	Bonavista	.. ..	4
1854	Harris, Thomas	.. ..	St. John's	.. ..	1
1874	Hatcher, Henry C.	.. ..	Sound Island	.. ..	1

1874	Heal, James B.	Brigus	1
1874	Heyfield, Jesse	Port-de-Grave	1
1874	Hill, Anthony	Black Head	1
1873	Hill, Jabez	Bonne Bay	2
1871	James, Thomas H.	Hants Harbor	1
1874	Jennings, William	Moreton's Harbor	1
1861	Ladner, Charles	Brigus	1
1874	Lewis, Henry	Musgrave Harbor	2
1874	Lister, Joseph	Bay Roberts	1
1870	Matthews Solomon	Grand Bank	1
1873	McGregor, Alexander	St. Anthony (French Shore)	2
1854	Milligan, George S., M.A.	St. John's, Supt. of Missions	1
1872	Myers, Charles	Exploits	1
1872	Nurse, James	Channel	2
1874	Paine, George	Carbonear	1
1873	Parkins, Joseph	Petites	1
1861	Pascoe, Joseph	Burin	1
1840	Peach, John S.	Black Head	4
1874	Pincock, James	Little Bay Islands	1
1873	Pratt, John	St. John's	1
1866	Reay, John	Twillingate	3
1874	Seccombe, William B.	Musgrave Town	1
1828	Shenstone, W. E., Sup'y	Brigus	8
1873	Snowden, Samuel	Tilt Cove	2
1871	Swann, William	Fogo	3
	Taylor, Edgar, Student	Sackville, N.B.	
	Willey, Francis G., Student	Sackville, N.B.	

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