

THE METHODIST CHURCH.

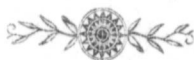
→ JOURNAL ←

OF THE

NIAGARA CONFERENCE



→ 1884. ←



WILLIAM BRIGGS, 78 & 80 KING STREET EAST, TORONTO.

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S. F. HUESTIS, HALIFAX, N.S.

1884.

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# MINUTES

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST SESSION

OF THE

## NIAGARA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF

### The Methodist Church,

HELD IN THE CITY OF HAMILTON, ONTARIO, FROM JUNE 12TH  
TO JUNE 17TH, 1884.



TORONTO:

WILLIAM BRIGGS, 78 & 80 KING STREET EAST.

C. W. COATES, MONTREAL

1884.

S. F. HUESTIS, HALIFAX.

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1884

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1884.

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ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

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*SECRETARY:*

THE REV. ALEXANDER LANGFORD,

HAMILTON, ONT.

THE  
NIAGARA CONFERENCE  
OF  
THE METHODIST CHURCH

WAS ORGANIZED IN THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, HAMILTON, ONTARIO,  
ON THURSDAY, JUNE 12TH, 1884.

SESSION OF CONFERENCE.

YEAR.	PLACE.	PRESIDENT.	SECRETARY.
1884	Hamilton .....	John A. Williams, D.D.	Alexander Langford.

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# ALPHABETICAL LIST

OF THE

## MINISTERS AND PREACHERS,

1884.

The figures at the beginning of the lines show the year in which each Minister commenced his ministry; and those at the end of the lines denote his first, second, or third annual appointment to his present Circuit or Station.

1868 Adams, Ezra	Tintern	1
1842 Ames, William	Otterville	1
1862 Antliff, J. Cooper, M.A., B.D.	Brantford, Brant Avenue	1
1869 Archer, Joseph	Dereham (Dereham Centre P. O.)	2
1877 Atkins, Thomas J.	Fenwick	1
1870 Athoe, Thomas	Sweaborg	1
1878 Balmer, William J.	Student, Victoria College	4
1831 Baxter, John, Sup'd	Ridgeway	29
1842 Baxter, Michael, Sup'd	Fenwick	15
1865 Bell, James P.	Zimmerman	2
1883 Bennett, Clifford, B.A.	Townsend (Simcoe P.O.)	1
1879 Bloodsworth, Jacob A.	Student, Albert College	1
1883 Bowlby, Charles S.	Student, Montreal Theological Col.	1
1870 Boyd, Thomas	Millgrove	1
1860 Brethour, David L., Dist. Supt.	Milton	3
1858 Bristol, Burness, Sup'd	Jerseyville	1
1839 Bristol, Emerson, Sup'd	Ancaster	4
1858 Brock, Thomas, Dist. Supt.	Paris	1
1879 Brown, Thomas J.	Welland West	1
1860 Brownell, Daniel E.	Oakville	1
1860 Burns, Alex., D.D., LL.D.	Ladies' College, Hamilton	7
1871 Burns, Robert	Ridgeway	3
1869 Calvert, George W.	Niagara Falls	3
1867 Carson, W.*Wellington	Hamilton, Centenary	3
1880 Cassidy, Francis A., B.A.	Brantford, Oxford Street	1
1860 Chambers, David, Fin. Sec.	Jarvis	2
1876 Cleaver, Solomon, B.A.	Niagara	3
1878 Clarke, Edward J.	Plattsville	1
1866 Clark, George, Fin. Sec.	Welland East	2
1875 Clarke, Thomas R.	Plattsville	2
1873 Clement, Ephraim L.	Rockford	1
1871 Cohoe, Benjamin L.	Brant (Jerseyville P.O.)	1
1840 Coleman, Francis, Sup'd	Hamilton, Zion Tabernacle	8
1851 Collamore, Owen G., Fin. Sec.	Palermo	1

1862 Colling, Thomas, B.A. ....	Beamsville .....	2	1842
1868 Collins, James H. ....	Hamilton, Emerald Street .....	3	1867
1877 Cook, Henry A. ....	Wellandport .....	1	1883
1849 Cook, Romulus B., Sup'd .....	Straffordville .....	1	1872
1865 Cookman, Christopher .....	Trafalgar (Omagh P. O.) .....	2	1881
1874 Cooley, John W. ....	Jerseyville .....	2	1880
1877 Cosens, Charles W. ....	Jarvis .....	2	
1880 Cosford, Henry M., Student. ....	Montreal Theological College. ....	2	1882
1877 Crews, Albert C. ....	Hamilton, Hannah Street .....	2	1862
1856 Cross, William .....	Grand River (Brantford, P. O.) .....	3	1870
1868 Cutler, J. B., Sup'd. ....	Ker (Fulton) .....	4	1857
			1837
1859 Davis, John T. ....	Springford .....	1	1842
1876 Deacon, Charles .....	Port Rowan and St. Williams (Port Rowan, P. O.) .....	1	1844
			1871
1877 Dean, George W. ....	Delhi .....	2	1884
1870 Duff, Robert .....	Tapleystown (Woodburn P.O.) .....	1	1881
1854 Dyer, James E. ....	Ancaster .....	1	1853
1870 Ecker, Daniel .....	Port Robinson .....	1	1863
1852 Edwards, Andrew .....	Caledonia .....	2	1861
1862 Elliott, John .....	Richwood (Ayr P. O.) .....	3	1857
1870 Elliott, Robert J. ....	Glanford .....	3	1875
1878 Emory, Vernon H. ....	St. Catharines, Welland Ave. ....	2	1854
1847 Evans, John S., Sup'd .....	Hamilton, Centenary .....	7	1871
			1850
1863 Fairchild, J. F. ....	Eastwood (Princeton P. O.) .....	3	1865
1863 Ferguson, George .....	Bartonville .....	1	1871
1876 Foote, James G. ....	Louth and Grantham (St. Catharines P. O.) .....	3	1881
			1880
1853 Forman, Richard J. ....	Hagersville .....	2	1872
1841 Gardiner, James, D.C.L. ....	Princeton .....	1	1851
1881 Garnham, William H., Student. ....	Victoria College .....	2	
1874 Gee, Abram L. ....	Brantford, Emmanuel Church .....	2	1870
1853 German, Peter, Sup'd. ....	Cainsville .....	3	1874
1838 Gilbert, C. W. M., Sup'd .....	Delhi .....	25	
1856 Goodwin, James .....	Waterford .....	1	1852
1835 Griffin, David, Sup'd .....	Straffordville .....	20	1883
			1826
			1851
1877 Hall, Harvey M. ....	Caistorville .....	3	
1858 Harris, Henry .....	St. Catharines, Niagara Street .....	1	
1843 Haynes, Frederick, Sup'y .....	Beamsville .....	10	1865
1877 Hazelwood, James H. ....	Humberstone (Port Colborne P. O.) .....	3	1867
1844 Histon, John, Sup'd .....	Burlington .....	3	1870
1872 Hobbs, Richard .....	Mount Pleasant (Mohawk P. O.) .....	2	1837
1879 Hockey, John E. ....	Oxford Centre .....	1	1854
1878 Holden, Samuel .....	Falkland (Burford P. O.) .....	3	1875
1855 Howard, Thomas S. ....	Fairfield (Burford P. O.) .....	1	
1854 Hunt, David .....	Lowville .....	1	1866
1856 Hunter, William J., D.D. ....	Hamilton, Wesley Church .....	1	1880
			1880
1867 Jackson, Thomas W. ....	West Flamboro' .....	2	1846
1879 Jamieson, Walter S. ....	Stamford and St. Davids .....	2	1883
1847 Jefferis, Thomas M., Sup'd .....	Oakville .....	7	1872
1871 Jolley, W. C., Sup'd .....	Norwich .....	2	1875
			1880
1862 Kay, John, <i>Fin. Sec.</i> .....	Thorold .....	3	1876
1862 Kappeler, Stephen .....	Cayuga .....	2	1843
1879 Kearns, David .....	Bertie .....	1	1875
1868 Keefer, Benjamin B., Sup'y .....	Hamilton First .....	2	1850
1871 Kelly, D. Ward .....	Rainham (Rainham Centre P. O.) .....	2	1855
1873 Kennedy, Albert .....	Bookton (Norwich P. O.) .....	3	1855

2	1842 Kennedy, George, Sup'd	Ingersoll, King Street	14
3	1867 Kennedy, James H.	Troy	2
1	1883 Kerruish, Thomas L.	Kelvin	1
1	1872 Kettlewell, William	Ingersoll, King Street	1
2	1881 Kirby, Geo. W.	Student, Victoria College	2
2	1880 Koyle, Eardly H.	Student, Victoria College	4
2	1882 Laing, Byron	Student, Albert College	1
2	1862 Laird, James	Straffordville	2
3	1870 Lanceley, John E.	Burlington	3
4	1857 Langford, Alex., <i>Sec. of Con.</i>	Hamilton First	3
1	1837 Lanton, Henry, Sup'd	Hamilton, Centenary	19
1	1842 Lavell, Charles, M.A., Sup'd	Niagara Falls South	3
1	1844 Lawrence, George, Sup'd	Ingersoll, Charles Street	10
2	1871 Laycock, John	Ingersoll, Charles Street	1
1	1884 Livingston, Henry G.	Glanford	1
1	1881 Lucy, John	College	1
1	1853 Lund, William, Sup'd	Woodstock	3
1	1863 McCartney, James H.	St. George	3
2	1861 McKenzie, Daniel M., Sup'd	Milton	1
3	1857 McLean, Hugh	Salford	1
3	1875 Maitland, Robert R.	Grimsby	1
2	1854 Masson, James, <i>Dist. Supt.</i>	Dunville	2
7	1871 Maxwell, William J., <i>Fin. Sec.</i>	Brantford, Wellington Street	3
3	1850 Miller, Aaron D.	Kinglake	2
1	1865 Mitchell, George A., B.A.	Niagara Falls South	2
1	1871 Mooney, James	Stoney Creek	3
3	1881 Moore, Charles A.	Lynden	2
2	1880 Moore, Thomas A.	Drumbo	1
1	1872 Morrow, Charles R., <i>Fin. Sec.</i>	Strathallan	1
1	1851 Newton, William	York	2
2	1870 Odery, Joseph	Hamilton, Simcoe Street	3
2	1874 Orme, Thomas H., M.A.	Kelvin	3
3	1852 Pearson, Thomas D, Sup'd	Brantford, Wellington Street	2
25	1883 Pescott, Walter E.	Burlington Plains	1
1	1826 Phelps, Richard, Sup'd	Hamilton First	1
20	1851 Preston, James, Sup'd	Mount Pleasant (Mohawk P.O.)	2
3	1865 Robinson, John H.	Trafalgar (Oakville P. O.)	1
1	1867 Ross, James S., M.A., <i>Fin. Sec.</i>	Tilsonburg	2
10	1870 Rowe, Richard B.	Cathcart	1
3	1837 Rump, Thomas, Sup'd	St. Catharines, St. Paul Street	7
2	1854 Russ, Amos E., M.A., <i>Dist. Supt.</i>	Simcoe	3
1	1875 Russ, James E.	Townsend (Tyrell P. O.)	1
1	1866 Saunders, John, M.A.	Smithville	2
1	1880 Scanlan, Richard W.	Walsh	1
2	1880 Sifton, John W., B.A.	Victoria (International Bridge P. O.)	2
2	1846 Slater, James C., Sup'd	Hagersville	2
7	1883 Smith, Appleton	Chippawa	2
2	1872 Smith, John T.	Washington	2
3	1875 Smith, Wray R.	Teeterville	1
1	1880 Snider, David W.	Hamilton, Zion Tabernacle	1
2	1876 Stewart, John	Mountsburg	1
1	1843 Stewart, Schuyler, Sup'd	Jerseyville	16
2	1875 Stevenson, Ephraim B., B.A.	Oakland	3
1	1850 Stobbs, Thomas	Carlisle	1
2	1855 Stringfellow, Charles	Cainsville	3
3	1855 Sweet, Edmund E., Sup'd	Brantford, Brant Avenue	11

1880 Taylor, David H.	Courtland	1
1877 Teeple, William M.	Canboro'	1
1844 Terwilligar, Simon, Sup'd.	Ingersoll, Charles Street	3
1869 Thompson, Daniel W.	Lyndoch	2
1839 Towler, John, Sup'd	Brantford, Wellington Street	14
1881 Trimble, Thomas B.	Cainsville	1
1882 Truax, Albert	Hagarsville	1
1868 Van Wyck, James, B.A.	Hamilton, Gore Street	3
1877 Voaden, Thomas	Sheffield	1
1877 Vollick, W. N.	Walsingham Centre	1
1852 Wakefield, John, Sup'd	Brantford, Brant Avenue	1
1879 Walker, William	Selkirk	1
1870 Walsh, William	Fonthill	2
1857 Washington, George, Sup'y	Oakville	25
1860 Watson, William C., M.A.	Waterdown	3
1843 Weaver, Francis G.	New Credit (Hagarsville P. O.)	3
1875 Webb, James	Barton (Hannon P. O.)	2
1876 White, James H.	Merritton	2
1863 Whitworth, Edward	Ker (Woodburn P. O.)	1
1862 Wilkinson, Thomas L.	Without Station at his own request (Brantford, Wellington Street).	1
1856 Wilson, John V., Sup'd.	Dunville	9
1854 Wilson, Samuel	Port Dover	2
1864 Williams, David, Sup'd	Delhi	9
1844 Williams, Elias, Sup'd	Brantford, Brant Avenue	10
1846 Williams, John A., D.D., Pres. Con	St. Catharines, St. Paul Street	3
1854 Williams, William, Dist. Supt.	Woodstock	3
1865 Williamson, J. S., Dist. Supt.	Norwich	1
1836 Willoughby, William, Sup'd	Ingersoll, King Street	4
1883 Winslow, Joseph W.	Springford	1
1867 Woodsworth, Richard W., Fin. Sec.	Dundas	2
1875 Wright, Robert W.	Oxford Centre	1

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D. S. Parks.  
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G. R. Davidson.  
John Foster.  
Thaddeus Ghent.  
W. Powell.  
W. S. Burkholder.  
R. Lecy.  
Peter Depew.



## NIAGARA DISTRICT.

B. C. Fairfield.  
Noah Phelps.  
Aaron Cole.  
Walter McGibbon.  
B. Lewis.  
S. Howard.  
Abishai Morse.  
A. Spears.  
Peter Learn.  
J. F. Collins.  
W. McClary.  
G. Hoist.  
W. Farr.

R. Marwood.  
R. G. Howell.  
W. E. Henderson.  
J. Hodges.  
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R. Tucker.  
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D. Collard.  
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James Moon.  
Edward Misner.

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R. Graham.  
D. H. Crow.  
J. H. Howland.  
C. P. Carpenter.  
W. Vanalstone.  
John Perry.  
Charles Curry.  
R. Dawdy.  
H. C. Hubbard.  
Owen Fathers.  
A. Strenges.

## BRANTFORD DISTRICT.

John McGeary.  
W. Wilkinson, M.A.  
Judge Jones.  
M. S. Smith.  
David Plewes.  
Joseph Elliott.  
T. S. Linscott.  
Charles Phelps.  
George Meadows.

Samuel Nelles.  
Russel Smith.  
A. L. Horning.  
Firman Howell.  
A. McRoberts.  
W. E. Adams.  
John Bennett.  
Isaac R. Howell.

Thomas Shaw.  
Joshua Vanderlip.  
David Peregrine.  
W. Mulholland.  
J. Cornell.  
M. Foster.  
J. Westbrooke.  
T. E. Epps.

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R. W. Knight.  
James Scarff.  
James Lund.  
Thomas Boles.  
Franklin Cody.

Jana Kilburn.  
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John Rusk.  
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Thomas Mills.  
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John Senn.  
John Chrysler.  
Peter Quance.

Perez Dean.  
John Hatch.  
Henry Wheeler.  
Hiel Wood.  
William Bell.  
Stephen Pettit.  
John Van Every.  
E. T. Hewson.  
Adam Laing.

## AN ALPHABETICAL LIST OF CIRCUITS.

*The figures in the List denote the order in which the Circuits are arranged in the Stations.*

Ancaster .....	12	Hamilton—continued.	
Barton .....	13	Gore Street Church .....	4
Bartonville .....	14	Zion Tabernacle .....	5
Beamsville .....	21	Simcoe Street Church .....	6
Bertie .....	103	Hannah Street Church .....	7
Bookton .....	109	Emerald Street Church .....	8
Brant .....	43	Hagersville .....	70
Brantford—		Humberstone .....	94
Wellington Street .....	32	Ingersoll—	
Brant Avenue .....	33	King Street .....	48
Emmanuel .....	34	Charles Street .....	49
Oxford Street .....	35	Jarvis .....	69
Burlington .....	80	Jerseyville .....	42
Burlington Plains .....	81	Kelvin .....	110
Cainsville .....	44	Ker .....	17
Caistorville .....	96	Kinglake .....	116
Caledonia .....	10	Louth and Grantham .....	21
Canboro' .....	91	Lowville .....	86
Carlisle .....	87	Lynden .....	40
Cathcart .....	54	Lyndock .....	76
Cayuga .....	74	Merritton .....	22
Chippawa .....	102	Millgrove .....	83
Courtland .....	115	Milton .....	78
Delhi .....	71	Mount Pleasant .....	45
Dereham .....	117	Mountsbury .....	88
Drumbo .....	61	New Credit .....	73
Dundas .....	9	Niagara .....	27
Dunnville .....	95	Niagara Falls .....	25
Eastwood .....	53	Niagara Falls, South .....	24
Fairfield .....	111	Norwich .....	105
Falkland .....	56	Oakland .....	112
Fenwick .....	98	Oakville .....	79
Fonthill .....	92	Otterville .....	108
Glanford .....	11	Oxford Centre .....	52
Grand River .....	46	Palermo .....	84
Grimsby .....	29	Paris .....	36
Hamilton—		Plattsville .....	59
Centenary Church .....	1	Port Dover .....	64
Wesley Church .....	2	Port Robinson .....	93
First Methodist Church .....	3		

Port Rowan and St. Williams.....	67	Tapleystown .....	16
Princeton .....	55	Teeterville .....	113
Rainham .....	104	Thorold .....	23
Richwood .....	58	Tintern .....	31
Ridgeway .....	100	Tilsonburg .....	106
Rockford .....	66	Townsend .....	65
Salford .....	50	Trafalgar .....	85
Selkirk .....	72	Troy .....	41
Sheffield .....	38	Victoria .....	101
Simcoe .....	62	Walsh .....	68
Smithville .....	30	Walsingham Centre .....	77
Springford .....	107	Washington .....	60
Stamford and St. Davids .....	26	Waterdown .....	82
Straffordville .....	115	Waterford .....	63
Strathallan .....	57	Welland East .....	90
St. Catharines—		Welland West .....	91
St. Paul's Street .....	18	Wellandport .....	99
Welland Avenue .....	19	West Flamboro' .....	39
Niagara Street .....	20	Woodstock .....	47
St. George .....	37	York .....	75
Stoney Creek .....	15	Zimmerman .....	89
Sweaborg .....	51		

## CONFERENCE COMMITTEES.

**Names of those appointed on the various Conference Committees.**

### 1. STATIONING COMMITTEE.

<i>Chairmen.</i>	<i>Representatives.</i>
A. Langford.	D. L. Brethour.
J. A. Williams, D.D.	John Kay.
John Wakefield.	W. J. Maxwell.
W. Williams.	C. R. Morrow.
A. E. Russ, M.A.	J. S. Ross, M.A.
J. Gardiner, D.C.L.	
E. Whitworth.	
J. S. Williamson.	
William Newton.	

### 2. NOMINATING COMMITTEE.

<i>Ministers.</i>	<i>Laymen.</i>
J. Gardiner, D.C.L.	M. S. Smith.
Wm. Williams.	A. J. Donly.
J. Wakefield.	Joseph Lister.
J. Van Wyck, B.A.	

### 3. STATISTICAL COMMITTEE.

T. Athoe	R. W. Woodsworth.
J. Kay.	E. Whitworth.
J. Webb.	J. S. Ross, M.A.

### 4. MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.

J. E. Dyer.	Judge Jones.
J. H. Kennedy.	E. S. Whipple.
J. Goodwin.	M. S. Smith.
J. H. Collins.	

### 5. COMMITTEE ON CONTINGENT FUND CONSTITUTION.

W. J. Hunter, D.D.	R. Quance.
J. S. Williamson.	A. Harley, M.P.
J. S. Ross, M.A.	A. J. Donly.

### 6. COMMITTEE ON CONTINGENT FUND.

Thos. Athoe.	Dennis Moore.
A. E. Russ, M.A.	A. Willmott.
R. W. Woodsworth.	B. C. Fairfield.
Thos. Stobbs.	W. Merril.
B. B. Rowe.	A. McRoberts.
A. L. Gee.	R. J. Howard.
Wm. Ames.	Noah Phelps.

### 7. COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN'S FUND CONSTITUTION.

D. L. Brethour.	J. Rippon.
J. Laycock.	Dr. Buck.
Thomas Brock.	W. W. Robinson.
E. Whitworth.	Franklin Cody.



## 8. COMMITTEE ON GENERAL CONFERENCE FUND.

<i>Ministers.</i>	<i>Laymen.</i>
Dr. Gardiner.	W. McGibbon.
John Kay.	J. Turner.
Thomas Colling, B.A.	W. E. Adams.
J. H. McCartney.	
George Clark.	

## 9. EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE.

J. A. Williams, D.D., President of Conference.	<i>Chairman.</i>
W. Kettlewell	<i>Secretary.</i>
W. E. Sanford, Esq.	<i>Treasurer.</i>
J. Wakefield.	Wm. Wilkinson, M.A.
A. Burns, D.D., LL.D.	Dr. Roseburgh.
George A. Mitchell, B.A.	Joseph Lister, Esq.
J. Van Wyck, B.A.	John McGeary, Esq.

## 10. COMMITTEE ON CHURCH AND PARSONAGE FUND CONSTITUTION.

T. W. Jackson.	J. C. Shannon.
R. Duff.	Peter Quance.
J. Masson.	W. F. Orr.
D. Hunt.	Russel N. Smith.
W. C. Watson, M.A.	W. Wass.

## 11. COMMITTEE ON CENTENARY OF AMERICAN METHODISM.

J. A. Williams, D.D.	Judge Jones.
J. Gardiner, D.C.L.	E. S. Whipple.
J. F. Fairchild.	Jos. Lister.
A. Langford.	D. Moore.
J. C. Antliff, M.A., B.D.	A. Willmott.
O. G. Collamore.	J. A. Williams, M.D.
Wm. Williams.	D. Collard.

## 12. COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION OF CONFERENCE MISSIONARY BOARD.

J. Wakefield.	A. J. Donly.
W. J. Hunter, D.D.	R. L. Whyte.
O. G. Collamore.	Thomas C. Watkins.

## 13. COMMITTEE ON SALE OF CHURCH AND PARSONAGE PROPERTY.

J. A. Williams, D.D.	Peter Learn.
J. Gardiner, D.C.L.	Abishai Morse.
Thos. Brock.	

## 14. COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

D. L. Brethour.	George McGill.
C. R. Morrow.	A. W. Smith.
J. L. Davis.	D. Plewes.
John Kay.	Henry Ivey.
J. H. Collins.	J. McNevin.
Joseph Odery.	Aaron Cole.

## 15. COMMITTEE ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

D. E. Brownell.	Justus Vanderlip.
J. Saunders, M.A.	Thomas Shaw.
D. Ecker.	F. E. Howell.
C. Cookman.	D. Housser.
T. J. Atkins.	Abishai Morse.
D. L. Brethour.	

## 16. COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE RELATIONS.

*Ministers.*

W. Williams.  
J. Goodwin.  
J. H. Collins.

J. S. Davis.  
George Clark.  
John Kay.

O. G. Collamore.

## 17. COMMITTEE TO CONFER WITH COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY OTHER CHURCHES IN REFERENCE TO SABBATH OBSERVANCE AND LEGISLATION PERTAINING THERETO.

W. J. Hunter, D.D.  
J. Gardiner, D.C.L.  
D. L. Brethour.

A. Harley, M.P.  
Wm. McCraney, M.P.

## 18. COMMITTEE ON PASTORAL ADDRESS.

Rev. Wm. Williams.

Rev. J. Van Wyck, B.A.

Rev. W. Newton.

## Names of those who compose the Standing Committees for the year 1884-5.

## 1. MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

The President of Conference.

Rev. W. J. Maxwell, Clerical Treasurer.

A. J. Donly, Esq., Lay Treasurer.

*Districts.**Superintendents.**Laymen.*

Hamilton .....	A. Langford .....	R. Quance.
St. Catharines .....	President .....	W. McGibbon.
Brantford .....	T. Brock .....	David Plewes.
Woodstock .....	W. Williams .....	Joseph Rippon.
Simcoe .....	A. E. Russ, M.A. ....	A. J. Donly.
Milton .....	D. L. Brethour .....	*
Welland .....	J. Masson .....	*
Norwich .....	J. S. Williamson .....	*

\* These vacancies to be filled by the Financial District Meeting.

## 2. CONFERENCE SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

President of Conference.  
Secretary of Conference.  
Superintendents of Districts.  
Rev. J. Gardiner, D.C.L.

Rev. James E. Dyer.  
" W. Willoughby.  
" William Newton.  
" J. H. Collins.

## 3. TRANSFER COMMITTEE.

President of Conference.

Rev. A. Langford.

## 4. CENTRAL BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Rev. J. A. Williams, D.D., President.

A. J. Donly, Esq., Simcoe.

## 5. COMMITTEE TO CONFER WITH OTHER COMMITTEES ON CENTENARY OF AMERICAN METHODISM.

Rev. J. A. Williams, D.D.

Rev. J. Gardiner, D.C.L.

## Names of Probationers for the Ministry, and of those received into full connexion and ordained.

THOMAS J. BROWN.

On motion it was Resolved, "That Thomas J. Brown, having been received into full connexion with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and having completed his four years' probation and course of study, he be now ordained."—Carried.

## PROBATIONERS AND SUPERANNUATED MINISTERS.

### Names of Probationers for the Ministry who remain on trial.

#### 1. PROBATIONERS OF THREE YEARS.

William H. Garnham.	H. M. Cosford.
T. B. Trimble.	John Lucy.
C. A. Moore.	D. Kearns.
W. J. Balmer.	

#### 2. PROBATIONERS OF TWO YEARS.

Eardly H. Koyle.	Albert Truax.
George W. Kirby.	Byron Laing.

#### 3. PROBATIONERS OF ONE YEAR.

Walter E. Pesscott.	Thomas L. Kerruish.
Henry G. Livingstone.	A. Smith.
Charles L. Bowlby.	Joseph W. Winslow.
Clifford Bennett, B.A.	

### Names of those who are permitted to attend College.

#### *Victoria College.*

William H. Garnham.	Eardly H. Koyle.
William J. Balmer.	George W. Kirby.

#### *Wesleyan Theological College, Montreal.*

Henry M. Cosford.	Charles S. Bowlby.
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#### *Albert College.*

J. A. Bloodsworth.	Byron Laing.
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### Names of Superannuated Ministers.

Baxter, John.	Lawrence, George.
Baxter, Michael.	Lund, William.
Bristol, Emerson.	McKenzie, D. M.
Bristol, B.	Pearson, Thomas D.
Coleman, Francis.	Phelps, Richard.
Cook, Romulus B.	Preston, James.
Cutler, J. B.	Rump, Thomas.
Evans, John S.	Slater, James C.
German, Peter.	Stewart, S.
Gilbert, C. W. M.	Sweet, Edmund E.
Griffin, David.	Terwilliger, S.
Histon, John.	Towler, John.
Jefferis, Thomas.	Wakefield, John.
Jolley, W. C.	Williams, Elias.
Kennedy, George.	Williams, David.
Lanton, Henry.	Willoughby, William.
Lavell, Charles, M.A.	Wilson, John V.

### Names of Supernumerary Ministers.

Haines, Frederick.	Keefer, B. B.
Washington, George.	

THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS AND THEIR SUBJECTS  
FOR 1885.

Rev. John A. Williams, D.D., *Chairman*.

" James S. Ross, M.A., *Secretary*.

Rev. William Williams.

" W. J. Hunter, D.D.

" Amos E. Russ, M.A.

" Thomas Athoe.

" A. Langford.

Rev. George A. Mitchell, B.A.

" A. Burns, D.D., LL.D.

" W. W. Carson.

" J. C. Antliffe, M.A., B.D.

" Solomon Cleaver, B.A.

Rev. James Van Wyck, B.A.

English Grammar and Composition ; Arithmetic and Geography—Thos. Athoe.  
History, Ancient (Schmitz) ; Modern (Green's Short History of the English  
People) ; Angus' Hand Book—W. J. Hunter, D.D.

Biblical History, Smith's Old and New Testament—W. W. Carson.

Westcott's and Hort's Introduction ; Exegesis, Romans ; Westcott on the Canon ;  
Murray's Hamilton—A. Burns, D.D., LL.D.

Greek Grammar ; Fletcher's Checks—J. S. Ross, M.A.

Wright's Logic of Christian Evidences ; Dinan's Theistic Argument—J. A.  
Williams, D.D.

Rhetoric, Blackburn's History of the Christian Church—G. A. Mitchell, B.A.

Wesley's Sermons ; Catechism ; Christian Perfection—A. E. Russ, M.A.

Pope's Theology—W. Williams.

Shedd's History of Doctrine ; Kurtz's History of the Church—J. C. Antliffe, B.D.

Exegesis, Matthew ; Fisher's History of the Reformation—S. Cleaver, B.A.

Exegesis, John ; Milne's Elementary Notions of Logic ; Day's Praxis—J. Van  
Wyck, B.A.

Stevens' History of Methodism ; Discipline—A. Langford.

**Examiners for Colleges.**

*Montreal Wesleyan Theological College.*

Rev. John A. Williams, D.D. .... *President*.

*Victoria College.*

Rev. James Van Wyck, B.A.

**Time for Annual Examinations.**

The Committee recommend that the next Annual Examinations be held in  
the Town of Dundas, commencing on the third Wednesday in April, and that  
the President of the Conference arrange for the speakers at the public services.



## SUBJECTS

Mitchell, B.A.  
D.D., LL.D.  
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ffe, M.A., B.D.  
leaver, B.A.

hy—Thos. Athoe.  
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arson.  
cott on the Canon;

Argument—J. A.

Mitchell, B.A.  
Russ, M.A.

. C. Antliffe, B.D.  
Cleaver, B.A.  
s Praxis—J. Van

nt.

ions be held in  
April, and that  
public services.

*Treasurers.*

Conference Missionary Fund	.....	Rev. W. J. Maxwell, Brantford.
"	"	.....(Lay Treas.) A. J. Donly, Esq., Simcoe.
Sunday School	"	.....
Contingent	"	.....
Educational	"	.....Rev. R. W. Woodsworth, Dundas.
General Conference	"	.....W. E. Sanford, Esq., Hamilton.
Children's	"	.....
Superannuation	"	.....Rev. Thomas Brock, Paris.
Church & Parsonage Aid	"	.....Rev. James Gray, Clinton.
		.....E. S. Whipple, Esq., Hamilton.

*Time for Connexional Collections.*

1. General Conference Fund, in the month of July.
- 2 Contingent Fund, in the month of September.
3. Superannuated Minister's Fund, in the months of November and December.
4. Missionary and Educational Funds, as arranged by the Financial District Meetings.
5. Sunday School Fund, at any time during the year.

QUESTION.—How are the Ministers and Preachers stationed for the ensuing year?

ANSWER.

JOHN A. WILLIAMS, D.D., PRESIDENT OF CONFERENCE.  
ALEX. LANGFORD, SECRETARY OF CONFERENCE.

*The word in parenthesis is the Post Office address of the Minister whose name immediately precedes it.*

#### I. THE HAMILTON DISTRICT.

1. HAMILTON (Centenary Church)—W. Wellington Carson, 107 James Street S. ; Henry Lanton, John S. Evans, Superannuated.
2. HAMILTON (Wesley Church)—William J. Hunter, D.D., 56 Hughson Street N.
3. HAMILTON (First Methodist Church)—Alexander Langford, Secretary of Conference, 104 Main Street E. ; Richard Phelps, Superannuated ; B. B. Keefer, Supernumerary.
4. HAMILTON (Gore Street)—James Van Wyck, B.A., 33 Gore Street.
5. HAMILTON (Zion Tabernacle)—David W. Snider ; Francis Coleman, Sup'd.
6. HAMILTON (Simcoe Street)—Joseph Odery, 131 John Street N.
7. HAMILTON (Hannah Street)—Albert C. Crews.
8. HAMILTON (Emerald Street)—James H. Collins, 45 Emerald Street N.

#### Wesleyan Ladies' College.

Alexander Burns, D.D., LL.D., *Principal*.

9. DUNDAS—Richard W. Woodsworth.
10. CALEDONIA—Andrew Edwards.
11. GLANFORD—Robert J. Elliott, Henry G. Livingstone (Binbrook).
12. ANCASTER—James E. Dyer ; Emerson Bristol, Superannuated (Ancaster).
13. BARTON—James Webb (Hannon).
14. BARTONVILLE—George Fergusson.
15. STONEY CREEK—James Mooney.
16. TAPLEYTOWN—Robert Duff.
17. KER—Edward Whitworth (Woodburn) ; J. B. Cutler, Superannuated (Fulton).

Alex. Burns, D.D., LL.D., is a member of the Centenary Quarterly Official Meeting.

William H. Granham, Victoria College.

ALEX. LANGFORD, *Supt. of District*.  
RICHARD W. WOODSWORTH, *Fin. Sec.*

1884]

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## II. THE ST. CATHARINES DISTRICT.

18. ST. CATHARINES (St. Paul Street)—John A. Williams, D.D., President of Conference ; Thomas Rump, Superannuated.
  19. ST. CATHARINES (Welland Avenue)—Vernon H. Emory.
  20. ST. CATHARINES (Niagara Street)—Henry Harris.
  21. LOUTH AND GRANTHAM—James G. Foote (St. Catharines).
  22. MERRITTON—James H. White.
  23. THOROLD—John Kay.
  24. NIAGARA FALLS SOUTH—George A. Mitchell, B.A. ; Charles Lavell, M.A., Superannuated.
  25. NIAGARA FALLS—George W. Calvert.
  26. STAMFORD AND ST. DAVIDS—Walter S. Jamieson.
  27. NIAGARA—Solomon Cleaver, B.A.
  28. BEAMSVILLE—Thomas Colling, B.A., Frederick Haines, Supernumerary.
  29. GRIMSBY—Robert R. Maitland.
  30. SMITHVILLE—John Saunders, M.A.
  31. TINTURN—Ezra Adams.
- Henry M. Cosford, Wesleyan Theological College, Montreal.

JOHN A. WILLIAMS, D.D., *Supt. of District.*  
JOHN KAY, *Fin. Secretary.*

## III. THE BRANTFORD DISTRICT.

32. BRANTFORD (Wellington Street)—William J. Maxwell ; Thos. D. Pearson, J. Towler, Superannuated ; Thomas L. Wilkinson, left without a Station one year at his own request.
33. BRANTFORD (Brant Avenue)—J. C. Antliffe, M.A., B.D. ; John Wakefield, Edmund E. Sweet, Elias Williams, Superannuated.
34. BRANTFORD (Emmanuel)—Abram L. Gee.
35. BRANTFORD (Oxford Street)—Francis A. Cassidy, B.A.
36. PARIS—Thomas Brock.
37. ST. GEORGE—James H. McCartney.
38. SHEFFIELD—Thomas Voaden (Rockton).
39. WEST FLAMBORO'—Thomas W. Jackson.
40. LYNDEN—Charles A. Moore
41. TROY—James H. Kennedy.
42. JERSEYVILLE—John W. Cooley ; Schuyler Stewart, B. Bristol, Sup'd.
43. BRANT—Benjamin L. Cohoe (Jerseyville).
44. CAINSVILLE—Charles Stringfellow, Thomas B. Trimble ; Peter German, Superannuated.
45. MOUNT PLEASANT—Richard Hobbs (Mohawk) ; James Preston, Superannuated (Mohawk).
46. GRAND RIVER—William Cross (Brantford).  
Eardly H. Koyle, Victoria College.

THOMAS BROCK, *Supt. of District.*  
WM. J. MAXWELL, *Fin. Secretary.*

## IV. THE WOODSTOCK DISTRICT.

47. WOODSTOCK—William Williams ; William Lund, Superannuated.
  48. INGERSOLL (King Street)—William Kettlewell ; Wm. Willoughby, George Kennedy, Superannuated.
  49. INGERSOLL (Charles Street)—John Laycock ; George Lawrence, Simon Terwilligar, Superannuated.
  50. SALFORD—Hugh McLean.
  51. SWEABORG—Thomas Athoe.
  52. OXFORD CENTRE—R. Walter Wright, John E. Hockey.
  53. EASTWOOD—J. F. Fairchild (Princeton).
  54. CATHCART—Richard B. Rowe.
  55. PRINCETON—James Gardiner, D.C.L.
  56. FALKLAND—Samuel Holden (Burford).
  57. STRATHALLAN—Charles R. Morrow.
  58. RICHWOOD—John Elliott (Ayr P. O.)
  59. PLATTSVILLE—Thomas R. Clarke, Edward J. Clarke.
  60. WASHINGTON—John T. Smith.
  61. DRUMBO—Thomas A. Moore.
- Charles S. Bowlby, Wesleyan Theological College, Montreal.  
William J. Balmer, Victoria College.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, *Supt. of District.*  
C. R. MORROW, *Fin. Secretary.*

## V. THE SIMCOE DISTRICT.

62. SIMCOE—Amos E. Russ, M.A.
  63. WATERFORD—James Goodwin.
  64. PORT DOVER—Samuel Wilson.
  65. TOWNSEND—James E. Russ (Tyrrell P.O.), Clifford Bennett, B.A. (Simcoe).
  66. ROCKFORD—Ephraim L. Clemment.
  67. PORT ROWAN AND ST. WILLIAMS—Charles Deacon.
  68. WALSH—Richard W. Scanlan.
  69. JARVIS—David Chalmers, Charles W. Cosens.
  70. HAGARVILLE—Richard J. Forman, Albert Truax ; Jas. C. Slater, Sup'd.
  71. DELHI—George W. Dean ; C. W. M. Gilbert and David Williams, Sup'd.
  72. SELKIRK—William Walker.
  73. NEW CREDIT—Francis G. Weaver (Hagarsville).
  74. CAYUGA—Stephen Kapelle.
  75. YORK—William Newton.
  76. LYNDOCH—Daniel W. Thompson.
  77. WALSINGHAM CENTRE—W. N. Vollick.
- George W. Kirby, Victoria College.  
J. A. Bloodsworth, Albert College.  
Byron Laing, Albert College  
John H. Howard, to be transferred to Manitoba Conference.

AMOS E. RUSS, M.A., *Supt. of District.*  
DAVID CHALMERS, *Fin. Secretary.*

## VI. THE MILTON DISTRICT.

78. MILTON—David L. Brethour; Daniel M. McKenzie, Superannuated.  
 79. OAKVILLE—Daniel E. Brownell; Thomas M. Jefferis, Superannuated; Geo. Washington, Supernumerary.  
 80. BURLINGTON—John E. Lanceley; John Histon, Superannuated.  
 81. BURLINGTON PLAINS—Walter E. Pescott (Aldershot).  
 82. WATERDOWN—William C. Watson, M.A.  
 83. MILLGROVE—Thomas Boyd.  
 84. PALERMO—Owen G. Collamore.  
 85. TRAFALGAR—Christopher Cookman (Omagh P. O.); John H. Robinson (Oakville).  
 86. LOWVILLE—David Hunt.  
 87. CARLISLE—Thomas Stobbs.  
 88. MOUNTSBURG—John Stewart.  
 89. ZIMMERMAN—James P. Bell.

DAVID L. BRETHOUR, *Supt. of District.*  
 OWEN G. COLLAMORE, *Fin. Secretary.*

## VII. THE WELLAND DISTRICT.

90. WELLAND EAST—George Clark.  
 91. WELLAND WEST—Thomas J. Brown.  
 92. FONTHILL—William Walsh.  
 93. PORT ROBINSON—Daniel Ecker.  
 94. HUMBERSTONE—James H. Hazlewood (Port Colborne, P. O.)  
 95. DUNNVILLE—James Masson; John V. Wilson, Superannuated.  
 96. CAISTORVILLE—Harvey M. Hall.  
 97. CANBORO'—William M. Teeple.  
 98. FENWICK—Thomas J. Atkins; Michael Baxter, Superannuated.  
 99. WELLANDPORT—Henry A. Cook. (One wanted.)  
 100. RIDGEWAY—Robert Burns; John Bax. er, Superannuated  
 101. VICTORIA—John W. Sifton, B.A. (International Bridge).  
 102. CHIPPAWA—Appleton Smith.  
 103. BERTIE—David Kearns.  
 104. RAINHAM—D. Ward Kelly.  
 John Lucy, College.

JAMES MASSON, *Supt. of District.*  
 GEORGE CLARK, *Fin. Secretary.*



## VIII. THE NORWICH DISTRICT.

105. NORWICH—J. Sprague Williamson ; W. C. Jolley, Superannuated.
106. TILSONBURG—James S. Ross, M.A.
107. SPRINGFORD—John T. Davis, Joseph W. Winslow.
108. OTTERVILLE—William Ames.
109. BOOKTON—Albert Kennedy (Norwich P. O.)
110. KELVIN—Thomas H. Orme, M.A., Thomas L. Kerruish.
111. FAIRFIELD—Thomas S. Howard (Burford P. O.)
112. OAKLAND—Ephraim B. Stevenson, B.A.
113. TEETERVILLE—Wray R. Smith.
114. COURTLAND—David H. Taylor.
115. STRAFFORDVILLE—Jas. Laird ; David Griffin and Romulus B. Cook, Sup'd.
116. KINGLAKE—Aaron D. Miller.
117. DEREHAM—Joseph Archer (Dereham Centre);

J. SPRAGUE WILLIAMSON, *Supt. of District.*  
JAMES S. ROSS, M.A., *Fin. Secretary.*

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## JOURNAL

OF THE

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST NIAGARA CONFERENCE

OF

## THE METHODIST CHURCH,

*Held in the City of Hamilton, First Methodist Church, from June 12th to June 17th, 1884.*

The first Session of the Niagara Conference was opened in the First Methodist Church, in the City of Hamilton, on Thursday, June 12th, 1884, at 10 o'clock a.m.—the Rev. A. CARMAN, D.D., General Superintendent, in the chair.

The 109th hymn was sung, and the Revs. W. WILLIAMS and O. G. COLLAMORE led in prayer. The 130th hymn was then sung; the 134th and 135th Psalms, and 13th chapter of 1st Corinthians were read by the General Superintendent, after which the Revs. J. H. COLLINS and E. WHITWORTH led in prayer.

The General Superintendent addressed the Conference.

The Rev. A. LANGFORD was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

On motion it was *Resolved*—"That the names of Ministers contained in the Report of the Stationing Committee, as published, be accepted as the Ministerial List of Delegates comprising this Conference."

The roll was then called, and 106 Ministers responded to their names.

The Secretaries of the Provisional District Meetings reported the names of the Laymen elected members of this Conference.

The Laymen's roll was called, and 61 answered to their names.

**Hours of Meeting and Adjournment.**

On motion it was *Resolved*—"That the hours of Conference Sessions be from 9 to 12 a.m., and from 2 to 5.30 p.m."

**First Draft.**

The Secretary of the Stationing Committee placed the first draft of Stations on the table of the Conference.

It was moved by Rev. A. LANGFORD, seconded by Rev. Dr. WILLIAMS—"That the Report be received as read."—Carried.

Conference closed with the doxology and benediction.

**First Day—June 12th.****AFTERNOON SESSION.**

Conference opened with singing the 514th hymn—Rev. Dr. Carman in the chair. The General Superintendent led in prayer. Minutes of Morning Session were read and approved.

**Election of President.**

The Conference then proceeded to ballot for President, when the Rev. John A. Williams, D.D., was elected.

The President addressed the Conference.

**Election of Secretary.**

The Rev. Alexander Langford was elected Secretary of Conference.

**Nominations by Secretary.**

The following nominations were made by the Secretary and accepted by the Conference:

Rev. J. S. Williamson, *Assistant Secretary*.  
A. J. Donly, Esq., " "  
Rev. W. J. Maxwell, *Journal Secretary*.

**Nominating Committee.**

Moved by the Rev. J. S. Ross, M.A., seconded by M. S. Smith, Esq.—"That we elect by ballot, without debate, a Nominating Committee, the five members receiving the highest votes to constitute such committee; whose duty it shall be to nominate the members of all standing and special committees except those previously elected by the District Meetings, or which may be referred by Conference to the nomination of the presiding officer."

It was moved in amendment by the Rev. A. Langford, seconded by Rev. W. J. Maxwell—"That the Conference now proceed to elect four ministers and three laymen by ballot, without debate, who shall be associated with the President in nominating all standing and other important committees not otherwise provided for. The four ministers and three laymen who stand highest on the ballot paper to be considered elected."—The amendment was adopted.

The members of the Nominating Committee were then balloted for, and the following were elected :

Rev. J. Gardiner, D.C.L	D. Plewes, Esq.
" W. Williams.	M. S. Smith, Esq.
" John Wakefield.	A. J. Donly, Esq.
" James Van Wyck, B.A.	

D. Plewes, Esq., being compelled to leave the Conference on urgent business, resigned his seat on the Nominating Committee.

On motion it was *Resolved*—That Joseph Lister, Esq., fill the vacancy, he being next highest on the ballot.

#### Statistical Committee.

The Secretary nominated a Statistical Committee, and the Conference accepted the nomination. (See Committees, page 12.)

#### Greetings to London Conference.

The Secretary was instructed to send cordial greetings to the London Conference, now in Session in London, signed by the President and Secretary.

#### Invitation from Y. M. C. A.

A communication was received from the Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. inviting the members of the Conference to the free use of their Reading Room.

#### Report of Alma College, St. Thomas.

Report from the Principal of Alma College was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Education. (See Appendix No. I., page 38.)

#### Communication from W. C. T. U.

An address from the "Woman's Christian Temperance Union" was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Temperance.

#### Report of Wesleyan Ladies' College, Hamilton.

Rev. Dr. Burns read the Report of the "Wesleyan Ladies' College," and, on motion, it was referred to the Committee on Education. (See Appendix No. II., page 40.)

#### Committee on Constitution of Contingent Fund.

Moved by the Rev. John Wakefield, seconded by W. E. Adams—  
"That a Committee of six, three ministers and three laymen, be nominated by the Nominating Committee to draft a Constitution for the Contingent Fund."—Carried.

On motion, the following Committees were ordered :

- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Children's Fund.          | 4. Church and Parsonage Fund. |
| 2. Local Missionary Society. | 5. Centenary of Methodism.    |
| 3. General Conference Fund.  | 6. Sabbath Observance.        |
| 7. Conference Relations.     |                               |

**Reports of Members of Missionary and Sabbath School Committees.**

The Chair called for the Reports of the Provisional District Meetings concerning the election of members on the Missionary Committee and the Sabbath School Committee.

The District Secretaries reported.

**MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.**

	<i>Laymen.</i>	<i>Address</i>
Hamilton District.....	R. Quance .....	Elfrida.
Niagara " .....	W. McGibbon .....	St. Catharines.
Brantford " .....	D. Plewes .....	Brantford.
Woodstock " .....	J. Rippon .....	Woodstock.
Simcoe " .....	A. J. Donly .....	Simcoe.

**SABBATH SCHOOL COMMITTEE.**

Hamilton District.....	Rev. B. L. Cohoe.
Niagara " .....	" G. W. Calvert.
Brantford " .....	" O. G. Collamore.
Woodstock " .....	" T. R. Clarke.
Simcoe " .....	" Thomas Athoe.

**Sale of Property.**

On motion it was *Resolved*—"That the whole matter in connection with the sale of property be referred to the Committee on Nominations, to recommend a line of action in this case."

*Resolved*—"That the order of the day, to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock, be the "Inauguration of the Educational Society."

**Introduction.**

The Rev. W. S. Griffin was introduced.

Conference adjourned at 5.30 p.m. Benediction by the President.

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**Second Day—June 13th.**

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**MORNING SESSION.**

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The Conference opened at 9 a.m.—the Rev. J. A. Williams, D.D., President, in the chair. The 420th hymn was sung; the Secretary read the 121st Psalm, and the Rev. Thomas Brock led in prayer.

The Minutes of previous Session were read and approved.

**Anniversary Meetings.**

On motion it was ordered that the Secretary be instructed to insert in the Journal a reference to the Conference Missionary Meeting and all other Anniversary Meetings.



**Greetings.**

The following telegrams were received :—

BRANDON, MANITOBA, June 13th, 1884.

To the President of the Niagara Methodist Conference :

"Manitoba Conference to Niagara Conference, greeting. John 17, verse 24."

E. STAFFORD.

LONDON, June 12th, 1884.

To the Secretary of the Niagara Conference :

"The members of the London Conference fraternally greet the brethren of the Niagara Conference. See 1 Thess. iii. 12-13."

W. S. PASCOE, *Secretary*.

**Nominating Committee's Report.**

The Nominating Committee presented report No. I. (See Committees, page 12.)

**Names of Probationers.**

The names of Probationers for the Ministry were called for, and the following were reported :—(See page 15.)

**Names of young men permitted to attend College.**

The names of Probationers permitted to attend College were reported and accepted by the Conference. (See page 15.)

**Names of Superannuated and Supernumerary Ministers.**

Names of Superannuated and Supernumerary Ministers were reported. (See page 15.)

**Introduction of Rev. Dr. Meacham.**

The Rev. Dr. Meacham, from Japan, was introduced, and briefly addressed the Conference.

**Rev. Dr. Rice, Senior General Superintendent.**

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Burns, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Gardiner, and

*Resolved*—"That the members of the Niagara Conference, in seeing that our venerable Senior General Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Rice, has been so far restored to health as to be able to preside in the London Conference, we therefore return thanks to our Heavenly Father for His goodness to him, and pray that he may be spared for many years to go in and out among us."

**Alphabetical List of Ministers.**

Moved by the Rev. J. S. Ross, M.A., seconded by M. S. Smith, Esq., "That the year in which each Minister entered the Ministry, and also his first, second, or third annual appointment to his present charge, be inserted in an alphabetical list in the Journals of Conference."—Adopted.

**Memorial from Official Boards, Hamilton.**

A memorial from Official Boards, Hamilton, concerning the billeting of Conference was read by the Secretary, and a motion was referred to the Committee on Memorials.

**Introductions.**

Rev. I. B. Stewart, B.D., Baptist, Hamilton.  
 Rev. W. I. Shaw, M.A., LL.B., Montreal Conference.  
 Rev. Dr. Burwash, Cobourg.

On motion Conference adjourned at 11 o'clock to give committees an opportunity to meet.

Benediction by the President.

**Second Day—June 13th.****AFTERNOON SESSION.**

Conference opened at 2 p.m.—the President in the chair. The 427th hymn was sung, and the Rev. William Newton led in prayer.

Minutes of previous Session read and approved.

**Record of Membership.**

Moved by the Rev. T. Jackson, seconded by Rev. G. W. Calvert,—

That the Secretary and Assistant-Secretary of each Provisional District Meeting be a Committee to arrange the membership of each Circuit in detail by appointments, giving those under sixteen years of age, those on trial, those in full membership, and those rateable.—Carried.

**Alma College Financial Report.**

The Financial Statement of Alma College was read by the Secretary of Conference, and on motion was referred to the Educational Committee.

**Report of Committee on Nominations.**

Report No. 2 of Committee on Nominations was presented and adopted by the Conference. (See Committees, p. 12.)

**Report of Committee on Constitution of Contingent Fund.**

The Rev. J. S. Ross presented the Report of the Committee on the Constitution of Contingent Fund.

The above report was discussed for some time and then adopted. (See Appendix No. III., page 42.)

**Resignation of Rev. Robert H. Balmer.**

The following was read by the Secretary of Conference :

CONFERENCE ROOMS, June 13th, 1884.

To the President and Members of the Niagara Conference :

I hereby tender my resignation, and ask that a letter of standing be granted me, and that the disciplinary allowance from the Superannuated Ministers' Fund, on what I have paid, be allowed me.

ROBERT H. BALMER.

On motion it was resolved that the Rev. R. H. Balmer's request be and is hereby granted.

**Inauguration of Conference Educational Society.**

Pursuant to resolution of Thursday afternoon, the order of the day was taken up—the Inauguration Meeting of the Conference Educational Society.

The President announced the 927th hymn, which was sung, after which the Rev. W. I. Shaw, M.A., LL.B., of the Wesleyan Theological College, Montreal; William Wilkinson, M.A., of Brantford; and the Rev. N. Burwash, S.T.D., of Victoria College, were introduced and addressed the Conference in the interests of the Educational Society.

Conference adjourned. Benediction by Dr. Burwash.

**Third Day—June 14th.****MORNING SESSION.**

Conference opened at 9 a.m.—Rev. Dr. Carman, General Superintendent, in the chair. The 747th hymn was sung, and the Rev. A. E. Russ, M.A., led in prayer.

Minutes of previous Session read and approved.

**Communication—Church Records.**

A communication from the Montreal Conference concerning Church Records was read by the Secretary, and on motion was referred to the Memorial Committee.

**Report of Committee on General Conference Fund.**

The Rev. T. Colling, B.A., presented the Report of the Committee on General Conference Fund, which was adopted. (See Appendix No. IV., page 43.)

**Introductions.**

Rev. Dr. Stone, Associate Editor.  
 " Dr. Sutherland, Missionary Secretary.  
 " T. Goldsmith, Presbyterian, Hamilton.  
 " S. Lyle, " "  
 " R. J. Laidlaw, " "

**Formation of Districts.**

Moved by Rev. A. Langford, seconded by Wm. Merrill, Esq.—“That this Conference be composed of eight Districts, the names and order as follows:—1. Hamilton; 2. St. Catharines; 3. Brantford; 4. Woodstock; 5. Simcoe; 6. Milton; 7. Welland; 8. Norwich.—Adopted.

**Resolution as to the Place of Next Conference.**

Moved by Wm. Wilkinson, M.A., seconded by M. S. Smith, Esq.—“That our next Conference be held in the City of Brantford, Wellington Street Church, on the first Wednesday in June, 1885, and commence its sessions at 9 a.m.”—Carried.

**Committee to Arrange Conference Programme.**

Moved and seconded—“That the President of the Conference, the Superintendent of the District, and pastors of the place where the Confer-

ence may be held, shall be a Committee to prepare a programme of Conference services, and publish it in our connexional organs."—Carried

**Resignation of Rev. A. T. Ferguson.**

The Rev. A. T. Ferguson made application for a letter of standing and credentials.

On motion by Rev. J. S. Williamson, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Gardiner, the said application was granted and a letter of standing given.

**Resolution on Ordination of Thomas J. Brown.**

On motion it was *Resolved*—"That Thomas J. Brown, having been received into full connexion with the late M. E. Church, and having completed his four years' probation and the full course of study, he be now ordained."—Adopted.

**Pastors' Responsibility.**

Moved by Rev. J. Wakefield, seconded by Rev. A. E. Russ, M.A.—"That each minister and preacher of this Conference be held responsible for the supply of his pulpit on his old charge during the month of June, and when appointed to a new charge enter upon his work on the first Sabbath in July."—Carried.

**Close of Financial Year.**

Moved by Rev. A. E. Russ, M.A., seconded by Rev. W. J. Maxwell—"That all Circuit accounts affecting ministerial support and connexional funds be closed on the 31st day of May in each year."—Carried.

**Conference Students under the Direction of President.**

Moved by Rev. John Wakefield, seconded by Rev. Thomas Stobbs—"That all young men appointed to attend College are under the direction of the President of the Conference until the opening of the College."—Carried.

**Book Room Report.**

The Rev. Dr. Williams presented and read the Annual Report of the Rev. W. Briggs, Book Steward.

**Report of Educational Committee.**

The Rev. W. Kettlewell presented Report No. 1 of the Educational Committee, which was adopted by the Conference. (See Appendix No. V., page 44.)

**Vacancy Filled by Rev. O. G. Collamore.**

On motion it was ordered that the Rev. O. G. Collamore be appointed on the Committee to draft a Constitution for the Missionary Society, in place of Rev. A. T. Ferguson, who has resigned.

**General Superintendent Takes Leave of Conference.**

The General Superintendent addressed a few parting words to the Conference, as duties elsewhere compelled him to leave.

On motion it was decided that when Conference adjourns it shall stand adjourned until Monday morning at 9 a.m.

Closed with doxology and benediction.

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**Fourth Day—June 16th.****MORNING SESSION.**

Conference opened at 9 a.m.—President in the chair. The 806th hymn was sung and Scriptures read. Prayer by Rev. R. W. Woodsworth. Minutes of previous Session read and confirmed.

**Report of Committee on Constitution of Local Missionary Board.**

A. J. Donly, Esq., presented the Report of the Committee appointed to draft a Constitution for the Local Missionary Board of the Conference.—Received and adopted. (See Appendix No. VI., page 45.)

**Report of Committee on Church and Parsonage Aid Fund.**

The Rev. T. W. Jackson presented the Report of the Committee on Church and Parsonage Aid Fund.—Received and adopted. (See Appendix No. VII., page 46.)

**Report of Memorial Committee.**

The Memorial Committee presented a Report, which provoked much discussion, on the subject of billeting the next Conference. Several amendments were put and lost. The following prevailed:

Moved by Rev. J. Wakefield, seconded by Rev. Thomas Brock—"That all members of Conference, lay and ministerial, pay their own expenses."—Carried.

The Report of the Memorial Committee was recommitted

**Report of Educational Committee.**

Report No. 2, Educational Committee, was received and adopted. (See Appendix No. V., page 44.)

**Introduction of Rev. Dr. Sutherland.**

The Rev. Dr. Sutherland, General Secretary of the Missionary Society, addressed the Conference in the interests of the Society.

Moved by Rev. Dr. Burns, seconded by J. Edmonds, Esq.—"That having listened to the Rev. Dr. Sutherland, we heartily endorse the line of action suggested by him, and promise to use our energies to bring our contributions to an average of one cent a day per member."

**Introductions.**

Rev. Hugh Johnston, B.D., Toronto Conference.  
" John Philp, M.A. " "

**Report of Committee on the Constitution of Children's Fund.**

The Rev. Thomas Brock presented and read the Report of the Committee on the Constitution of the Children's Fund, which was adopted by the Conference. (See Appendix No. VIII., page 47.)

Conference closed with singing and the benediction.



**Fourth Day—June 16th.****AFTERNOON SESSION.**

Conference opened at 2 p.m.—President in the chair; 432nd hymn was sung, and the Rev. J. H. Collins led in prayer.  
Minutes of previous Session read and approved.

**Report of Committee on Temperance.**

The Rev. J. Odery read the Report of the Committee on Temperance, which was adopted. (See Appendix No. IX., page 48.)

**Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools.**

The Rev. G. W. Calvert read the Report of the Sabbath School Committee, which was accepted. (See Appendix No. X., page 49.)

**Pastoral Address.**

The Rev. W. Williams read the Pastoral Address.  
Moved by Rev. J. Wakefield, seconded by Rev. Dr. Gardiner,—  
“That the address be received, adopted, and published as the Pastoral Address of the Conference.”—Carried.

**Report of Educational Committee.**

The Rev. W. Kettlewell presented the final Report of the Educational Committee.—Adopted. (See Appendix No. V., page 44.)

**Ministers' Children Claimants on Children's Fund.**

Moved by Rev. T. Brock, seconded by Rev. Thomas Athoe—  
“That every Minister having children who are claimants on the Children's Fund shall furnish his Financial Secretary with their names and date of birth before the next Financial District Meeting. The 15th of May in each year to be the date of registration.”—Carried.  
Conference closed with singing and the benediction.

**Fifth Day—June 17th.****MORNING SESSION.**

Conference opened at 9 a.m.—President in the chair. The 592nd hymn was sung. The Secretary read the 9th chapter of Luke, and the Rev. T. J. Atkins led in prayer.  
Minutes of previous Session read and confirmed.

**Report of Committee on Conference Relations.**

The Committee on Conference Relations reported as follows:—  
“The case of the Rev. R. B. Cook having been presented for our consideration, we report that, having inquired carefully as to the past labors

and present state of health of Bro. Cook, we believe him to be worn out in the work of the itinerancy, and therefore recommend him to the Conference to be placed on the Superannuated Ministers' List."—Report was adopted.

#### Final Draft of Stations.

The final draft of Stations was then read, and the Conference proceeded to ballot for District Superintendents, when the following were elected:—

#### District Superintendents Elected.

Hamilton District	A. Langford.
St. Catharines "	President.
Brantford "	Thomas Brock.
Woodstock "	W. Williams.
Simcoe "	A. E. Russ, M. A.
Milton "	D. L. Brethour.
Welland "	James Masson.
Norwich "	J. S. Williamson.

#### Financial Secretaries.

On nomination by District Superintendents the Financial Secretaries were appointed, the Conference accepting the nominations in each case.

Hamilton District	R. W. Woodsworth.
St. Catharines "	John Kay.
Brantford "	W. J. Maxwell.
Woodstock "	C. R. Morrow.
Simcoe "	D. Chalmers.
Milton "	O. G. Collamore.
Welland "	George Clark.
Norwich "	J. S. Ross, M. A.

#### Missions in the Niagara Conference.

On motion the following Missions were constituted by the vote of the Conference:—

Hamilton District	Emerald Street.
St. Catharines "	Niagara Street.
" "	Stamford and St. Davids.
Woodstock "	Eastwood.
" "	Cathcart.
Simcoe "	Falkland.
" "	Walsh.
" "	Selkirk.
" "	York.
Welland "	Cayuga.
" "	Welland West.
" "	Port Robinson.
" "	Wellandport.
" "	Chippawa.
" "	Bertie.
Norwich "	Rainham.
" "	Courtland.
" "	Kinglake.

#### Report of Committee on Contingent Fund.

The Rev. A. E. Russ, M. A., presented the Report of the Committee on the Contingent Fund, which was received and adopted by the Conference. (See Appendix XI., page 50.)

**Statistics of Membership and Connexional Funds.**

Moved by Rev. R. W. Woodsworth, seconded by Rev. A. E. Russ, M. A.,  
 "That whereas the Statistical Committee cannot furnish a correct report of the membership and connexional funds for the Niagara Conference, owing to the incomplete returns made to them, therefore, be it *Resolved*—That the Superintendents of all Circuits within the bounds of the Conference shall make a report of Membership, Ministerial Support, and Connexional Funds to the Financial Secretary of their Districts, and through them to the Secretary of Conference, not later than the 20th of July; such reports to correspond with the returns made to the late Conference before the union. The Statistical Committee shall furnish schedules for such purpose."—Carried.

Conference closed with singing and the benediction.

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**Fifth Day—June 17th.**


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**AFTERNOON SESSION.**

Conference assembled at 2 p.m.—the President in the chair. The 449th hymn was sung, and the Rev. Thomas Boyd led in prayer.

Minutes of previous Session read and approved.

**Report of Committee on Sabbath Observance.**

Rev. D. L. Brethour read the Report of the Committee on Sabbath Observance, which was adopted. (See Appendix No. XII., page 51.)

**Board of Examiners.**

Rev. J. S. Ross, M. A., presented the Report of the Board of Examiners—Adopted. (See page 16.)

**Report of Committee on Centenary of American Methodism.**

Rev. Dr. Gardiner presented the Report of the Committee on the Centenary of American Methodism.—Received and adopted. (See Appendix No. XIII., page 52.)

**Ordination of Thomas J. Brown.**

The President, at 3 p.m., assisted by several ministers, in harmony with a previous vote of the Conference, proceeded to ordain Thomas J. Brown.

At the close of the ordination service, the Conference resumed the regular order of business.

**Amended Report of Committee on Memorials.**

The Rev. J. H. Collins presented the amended Report of the Committee on Memorials.—Adopted. (See Appendix No. XIV., page 52.)

**Member of Transfer Committee.**

The ballot for a member of the Transfer Committee was then proceeded with, and the Rev. A. Langford was elected.

**Member of General Missionary Board.**

The President of the Conference, Rev. Dr. Williams, was then elected by ballot a member of the General Missionary Board.

**Joint Secretaries of Conference Missionary Society.**

The Rev. W. J. Maxwell and A. J. Donly, Esq., were appointed joint Secretaries and Treasurers of the Conference Missionary Society.

**Treasurer of Church and Parsonage Aid Fund.**

E. S. Whipple, Esq., was appointed Treasurer of the Church and Parsonage Aid Fund.

**Titles of Church Property.**

Moved by Rev. R. B. Rowe,—

“That whereas under the new order of things the properties of different Churches have by legislation become the property of one Church; and, in order that we may proceed safely in this department of our work, we deem it important that the Superintendent of each District, with the assistance of the Pastors of Circuits, shall be expected at the earliest opportunity to examine the titles of the several properties within the bounds of his District, for the purpose of securing uniformity of title and due and proper registration.”—Carried.

**Reports of Committee on Sale of Church and Parsonage Property.**

The Rev. Dr. Gardiner presented the Report of the Committee on Sale of Church and Parsonage Property, which was received and adopted. (See Appendix No. XV., page 53.)

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**VOTES OF THANKS.**


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**Rev. Dr. Carman, General Superintendent.**

Moved by Rev. J. Wakefield, seconded by Rev. W. Williams,—

“That we cannot allow this Conference to close without expressing the great pleasure we have felt in the presence and services of the Rev. Dr. Carman, one of our General Superintendents. His kindness of spirit, and thorough business ability, have won all hearts, and we pray for him many years of usefulness and happiness in our Church.”

**Unity and Harmony.**

Moved by Rev. J. Wakefield, seconded by Rev. Dr. Gardiner,—

“That we return thanks to Almighty God for His manifested presence with us in the first united Conference; for the thorough unity and brotherliness of spirit and love which have been exhibited by both ministers and laity from all branches of the uniting Churches. We look forward with confidence and hope for years of very great prosperity.”

**Rev. Dr. Williams, President of Conference.**

Moved by Rev. Dr. Burns, seconded by Rev. W. Williams, and  
*Resolved*—“That the thanks of the Conference be tendered to our ven-



erable President, the Rev. Dr. Williams, for the exceedingly able manner in which he has conducted the business of the Conference; for his prompt yet cheerful and courteous decisions, and his wise and timely suggestions. And we pray that the great Head of the Church may long spare him to his brethren to enjoy their confidence."

**Thanks to the Citizens of Hamilton.**

"That the best thanks of this Conference be presented to the Ministers and friends of this city for the cordial manner in which they have entertained in their homes the members of this Conference; and that the Pastors of the different Churches present this resolution to their congregations next Lord's day."

**Thanks to Railroad Companies.**

*Resolved*—"That the thanks of this Conference be presented to the several Railway Companies that granted reduced rates to the members of Conference.

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**SPECIAL COMMITTEES.**

**Conference Special Committee.**

The President nominated the following additional members of the Conference Special Committee:

Rev. J. Gardiner, D.C.L.	Rev. W. Willoughby.
" James E. Dyer.	" William Newton.
Rev. J. H. Collins.	(See p. 14.)

**Committee to Confer with other Committees on Sabbath Observance.**

A Committee was nominated for the special purpose of conferring with any Committees appointed by other Churches to secure better legislation in reference to Sabbath observance. (See Committees, p. 14.)

The Minutes of the closing Session were read and approved.

The President addressed a few words of parting counsel to the Conference.

The 418th hymn was sung, and the Rev. F. Coleman led in prayer. The benediction was pronounced by the President, and the Conference closed its Sessions on Tuesday, June 17th, at 4.30 p.m.

J. A. WILLIAMS, D.D., *President.*

ALEXANDER LANGFORD, *Secretary.*

W. J. MAXWELL, *Journal Secretary.*



## PUBLIC SERVICES.

**Temperance Meeting**

The Conference Temperance Meeting was held in the First Methodist Church on Wednesday, June 11th—Rev. J. A. Williams, D.D., chairman. Addresses were delivered by Revs. E. Whitworth, C. R. Morrow, D. L. Brethour, and David Plewes, Esq.

**Missionary Meeting.**

The Missionary Meeting was held in the Centenary Church on Thursday, 8 p.m.—Rev. Dr. Williams in the chair. The Conference and friends of Methodism were delighted to hear the Rev. Dr. Meacham, from Japan, and the Rev. Dr. Burns, of Hamilton.

**Educational Meeting.**

The Educational Meeting was held in the First Methodist Church on Friday afternoon, at 3 o'clock—the President of the Conference in the chair. The Rev. W. I. Shaw, M.A., LL.B., William Wilkinson, M.A., and Rev. N. Burwash, S.T.D., were introduced and addressed the meeting.

**Sabbath School Meeting.**

This service was held in the Gore Street Church on Saturday, June 14th, at 8 p.m. The Rev. J. G. Foote occupied the chair, and appropriate addresses were delivered by J. Edmunds, Esq., and Rev. T. W. Jackson.

**Conference Love-feast.**

The Rev. William Lund had charge of this service. It was a soul-refreshing season, and all usages of the past blended harmoniously in joyous testimonies and experiences.

## APPENDIX No. I.

REPORT OF ALMA COLLEGE TO THE NIAGARA  
CONFERENCE.

*To the President and Brethren of the Niagara Conference of the  
Methodist Church:*

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—

In view of the new and peculiar relation Alma College occupies to the Methodist Church, I have thought it advisable to place before you a brief report of its history and present condition as an "Institution for the higher education of women."

Under charter of the Provincial Legislature in 1877, Alma College enjoys extensive rights and educational status. After a prolonged and heroic struggle upon the part of the Methodist Episcopal ministry and laity, and a number of liberal-minded gentlemen of various Churches in St. Thomas, the necessary funds and subscriptions were raised, and Alma College was formally opened in October, 1881, by Bishop Carman, who preached the dedicatory sermon and installed its faculty.

In the profound conviction that the thorough education of the daughters of the Church under religious auspices was one of the demands of the age, and a legitimate and necessary branch of Church work the enterprise was, from the beginning looked upon as a religious one, the entire property was vested in the Church, and is so held by the united body to-day. I desire here to make grateful recognition of the goodness and mercy of our Heavenly Father so abundantly manifested toward the school since its inception. The first enrolment of forty scholars was increased to one hundred and fifty before the close of the school year, since which time the average attendance has been over one hundred pupils. During the past year the number of resident pupils boarding in the building has reached one hundred and twenty, the number of non-residents thirty-seven, or a total enrolment of one hundred and fifty-seven. The income for the present school year will be in excess of \$18,000, which will more than cover the current expenditure after making provision for a sinking fund. A statement of the finances of the Corporation, prepared by an officer of the Board, will be laid before you.

The staff of instructors is now full and efficient, numbering six in the Literary work, six in Music, and three in Fine Art. The full list of teachers is as follows:

Rev. B. F. Austin, M.A., B.D., Principal, and Professor of Classics and Metaphysics.

Rev. R. I. Warner (Gold Medalist in Modern Languages), Professor of Modern Languages.

St. John Hyttenraugh, Professor of Music.

F. M. Bell-Smith, A.R.C.A., Professor of Painting, Drawing, and Elocution.

L. R. Denham, Teacher of Phonography, Book-keeping and Penmanship.

Miss Carrie E. Greenham (First-class Provincial Certificate), Teacher of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

Miss A. E. Brotherhood (Second-class Provincial Certificate and Undergraduate of Toronto University), Teacher of English.

Miss Margaret Capsey, Governess and Assistant in Preparatory Department.

Miss Minnie Parkhurst (Pupil of Professor Bellari), Teacher of Vocal Music.

Miss S. E. Sisk, Teacher in Instrumental Music.

Miss A. E. English, " "

Miss Mary Capsey, " "

Miss Christina Hughes, " "

Miss Marilla Adams, Assistant in Fine Art.

Miss Ada Marsh, " "

Miss Nellie Saleno, " "

The Literary work of the school embraces three departments: the Preparatory, Academic and the Collegiate, which includes the Junior and Senior Matriculation of the Toronto University, with additional subjects. The three departments are now fully organized, and the half-yearly examinations indicate thorough work on the part of the teachers and corresponding progress on the part of the pupils.

The Music School is in a very flourishing condition, having had an average of nearly seventy-five pupils taking instruction upon the piano for the past two years. The course of instruction is classical, and embraces all the essential branches of a musical education.

The Fine Art Department of the College is now in affiliation with the Ontario School of Art, the course embracing all the subjects taught in the latter school, and the examinations being conducted upon the same papers. During the past year the students of Alma College have been awarded thirty-one certificates in the examinations conducted by the Ontario School of Art.

The Commercial School is fully organized, and will graduate its first class at the June commencement. In addition to a thorough business course, this department gives instruction in Phonography and Telegraphy.

Through the blessing and grace of our Heavenly Father a deep religious influence has pervaded the college life since the beginning, and quite a large number of our pupils have been led to Him in whom are hid all the treasures of knowledge and of wisdom. Religious instruction is regularly given to the whole school every Sunday.

We believe the College is now fulfilling, at least in part, the prayers and expectations of its founders, and with the continued sympathy and active support of its ever-widening circle of friends, is destined to view grander triumphs in the near future. With buildings and furnishings of a very superior character, with extensive and beautiful grounds, with a full staff of earnest, cultured, and successful teachers, with increasing sympathy and patronage from all the denominations, and, above all, with the continued blessing of heaven, let us hope that the success of its opening years will be eclipsed by the history of future triumphs.

The framers of the Union Basis in Toronto sounded, we trust, the keynote to the future policy of Canadian Methodism in educational matters when they affirmed their adherence to the "traditional policy of Methodism." The very atmosphere of to-day is filled with doubt, scepticism and open infidelity, and this, surely, is no time to relax our interest in higher education under religious auspices. The Church of God is under increased obligation, from the peculiar dangers of the hour, to exercise most vigilant inspection over the education of her sons and daughters.

Allow me to ask on behalf of the Faculty and School the generous and prayerful sympathy and hearty co-operation of the ministry of the united Church in our work. Alma College has no endowment, yet the active sympathy and support of the ministry and laity of a powerful Church is better than a large endowment.

Let us pray that the new era of Methodist history upon which we are now entering may be characterized more and more by the genuine revival spirit of early Methodism, and by increasing activity and enlarged success in the work of religious education.

Alma College Office, June 3, 1884.

B. F. AUSTIN,  
*Principal.*

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## APPENDIX No. II.

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### REPORT OF THE WESLEYAN LADIES' COLLEGE TO THE NIAGARA CONFERENCE.

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*To the President and Members of the Niagara Conference:*

MR. PRESIDENT AND BRETHREN,—

It is with unfeigned pleasure that we offer the Report of the Wesleyan Ladies' College to the Niagara Conference at this its first session. This, the 23rd Annual Report, and like many that have preceded it, is one of progress and encouragement. The year now closing has been one of earnest effort, of thorough work, and of great harmony between faculty and students. It has been a successful year. For several years the average attendance has been increasing, and I think that our income this year will be in advance of the last. We are also much gratified with the class of pupils in attendance. Self-government on the part of the young ladies has relieved the faculty of most of the drudgery found in colleges.

The course of study is well worth the perusal of the Conference. In English literature it is fully equal to that of the universities. In history, both ancient and modern, it is very extensive, special attention being given to Biblical history. In mathematics the course extends through algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. In natural science the course embraces natural philosophy, chemistry, astronomy, botany, physiology, and geology, and modern standard text-books are used in each of these subjects. The modern languages are taught by natives of the countries represented,



and conversation conducted in these languages. The Principal's classes embrace mental and moral science, logic, evidences of Christianity, and Biblical literature. The course of study is as much as can be mastered by an average student in the college years. Thorough work is given and expected. In music and art the College is specially successful. We require from twenty to twenty-five pianos for daily work. We employ no visiting teachers. We require the whole time of our head-master, one of the most successful piano teachers in the country; and he has four assistants. The art department, under Prof. Martin, is a great success. In both departments there are many advanced pupils preparing to teach.

The social life of the College has been of the most pleasant and cheerful character. It would be hard to conceive of a household of more than 100 with less of friction or more of harmony. Prayer-meetings, held regularly by the students, have been of great service in toning the atmosphere of the College. A large number of the students are professing Christians, and have taken a deep interest in the spiritual welfare of their class-mates.

The class now graduating is one of the best that has ever gone out from our halls. Added to those of former years, they will make 180 ladies who have completed the course of study prescribed for graduation. About 2000 young ladies have been enrolled as pupils in this institution.

In presenting this Report to the Niagara Conference we make little reference to our building and appliances, as we trust that every member of the Conference will visit the College. You will see halls, parlors, recitation rooms, dormitories, and dining-hall on a larger scale than is found in any other college in the country. This implies fresh air and health; but it also means heavier expenditure. Still our patrons need not and do not object, as our charges are very moderate, owing to the fact that we are entirely free from debt. It is not out of place to refer to the fact that the Wesleyan Ladies' College has never asked the Church for a cent of assistance, or even the privilege of taking up a collection. It has not even asked for a free advertisement in our Church paper. Its stockholders and directors have, by the voluntary investment of their capital for over twenty years, saved the Church the trouble and expense of providing higher education for the daughters of our people. It is also their determination to maintain the high reputation of the institution by securing and retaining teachers competent and experienced.

We extend to the Conference, both lay and clerical, a cordial invitation to visit the institution; and we trust we may have the pleasure of meeting the daughters of many of you as pupils in the historic halls of the Old Wesleyan.

DENNIS MOORE, *President of the Board.*  
A. BURNS, *Secretary.*



## APPENDIX No. III.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION OF  
THE CONTINGENT FUND, AS ADOPTED  
BY THE CONFERENCE.

## I. NAME.

This Fund shall be called the Contingent Fund of the Niagara Conference of the Methodist Church.

## II. OBJECT.

The objects of this Fund shall be : 1st. To relieve cases of special affliction, and defray extraordinary expenses incurred in the service of the Church. 2nd. The surplus, if any, to aid those Circuits which have not been able to pay the salaries of their Ministers or Probationers.

## III. SOURCES OF INCOME.

The sources of income shall be : 1st. A collection to be taken up in all the Circuits in the month of September in each year. 2nd. The public collections taken up at each Annual Conference.

## IV. COMMITTEE.

The Conference shall elect seven Ministers and seven Laymen, who shall be the Contingent Fund Committee of this Conference.

(1) It shall be the duty of the Committee to consider all claims properly presented to it, and recommend appropriations to their proper objects, and report all their proceedings to the Conference.

(2) This Committee shall meet at the seat of Conference and appoint a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer from among themselves, and also two auditors, subject to the approval of the Conference.

(3) It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a book in which he shall record the proceedings of all meetings of the Committee, and sign all orders upon the Treasurer, which have been authorized by the Committee.

(4) It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all moneys raised for this Fund from the Financial Secretaries of the Districts, and make such disbursements as have been authorized by the Contingent Fund Committee of the Conference and signed by the Secretary, and to render to said Committee an annual detailed account of the same.

(5) It shall be the duty of the Auditors to examine the accounts of the Treasurer annually, and present their report to the Committee.

## V. REGULATIONS.

1. The Superintendents of Circuits shall remit to the Financial Secretaries only all the collections taken up in behalf of this Fund.

2. The Financial Secretaries shall pay over the moneys of this Fund to the Conference Treasurer on the day before Conference.

3. All applications for grants from this Fund shall be presented to the Committee by the Superintendent of the District from which the claim is made, or by such other person as he may appoint to represent his District.

4. No application for special claims shall be entertained by this Committee, unless they have passed the Fourth Quarterly Official Meeting, and have been signed by the Recording Steward and recommended by the District Meeting; but no such special application shall be entertained where the Circuit has paid the Minister a salary of \$800 and upwards.

5. All applications for expenses incurred in the general work, or for claims not otherwise specified, shall be submitted to the Committee in detail for their investigation and approval.

6. In cases of ministerial supply on account of affliction, where the Circuits are competent, the expenses of such supply shall be paid by such Circuit, and in no case shall the Committee consider any claim for more than the salary of a single Minister.

7. At the Financial District Meeting the amounts granted to that District by the Committee shall be apportioned to the different Circuits as fairly and impartially as possible.

8. Any Circuit which, in the preceding year, has received assistance from the Contingent Fund, may or may not obtain aid for the current year, as the Financial District Meeting may see fit, even though the said Circuit may or may not have been considered in the appropriation made to the District by this Committee.

W. J. HUNTER, *Chairman.*

J. S. ROSS, *Secretary.*

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#### APPENDIX No. IV.

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#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL CONFERENCE FUND.

That as the General Conference has directed that an annual collection for the General Conference Fund be made throughout the whole Church, and has left to the Annual Conferences to fix the time for taking such collection, we recommend that such collection be taken up at every appointment in the month of July.

J. GARDINER, *Chairman.*

T. COLLING, *Secretary.*

## APPENDIX No. V.

## EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE.

1. Your Educational Committee, to which was referred the Report of the Wesleyan Ladies' College, beg to recommend the following resolution:

*Resolved*—That we have heard with pleasure the Report of the Wesleyan Ladies' College, Hamilton, presented by the Rev. A. Burns, D.D., LL.D., to this Conference, are are thankful for the prosperous condition of that institution.

From our knowledge of the character, experience, and ability of the Principal and his large staff of assistants, we have no hesitation in heartily recommending the College to all who desire for their daughters an education which combines a thorough intellectual training with the highest moral and social culture.

2. Your Committee has also had under consideration the Report of the Alma Ladies' College, and offers the following:—

*Resolved*—That having listened to the Report of the Alma Ladies' College, St. Thomas, presented to this Conference by the Principal, Rev. B. F. Austin, M.A., B.D., we express our great gratification to know that the College is doing such successful work. We feel that we cannot sufficiently commend the liberality and public spirit displayed by those who have placed it in its present position of usefulness, and have pleasure in recommending the Church to give that institution a hearty support.

3. Your Committee would further recommend the following:—

*Resolved*—That this Conference hails with satisfaction the fact that our united Methodism makes such a large provision through her Ladies' Colleges for the higher education of the daughters of our people. We feel that each College is entitled to our loyal support, and such support is hereby pledged by this Conference. We believe it to be exceedingly desirable that the principles on which these Colleges are founded and governed should, if possible, be homogeneous, thereby not even remotely interfering with the educational work of our Universities and Theological Schools. As the Alma Ladies' College is not at present supported on the same basis as other Ladies' Colleges of our Church, *we therefore* (recognizing the great value of that property and its vast possibilities of usefulness) respectfully request the Board of Alma College to consider the advisability of securing such changes in its charter and management as shall bring it into line with the otherwise perfectly harmonious relations of these institutions to each other and to the general educational work of our Church.

4. Be it further *Resolved*—That as the charter of Alma College provides that each Annual Conference may send a representative to the Board of that institution, we recommend the appointment of the Rev. J. A. Williams, D.D., as the representative of the Niagara Conference.

5. *Resolved*—That as the Rev. James Gardiner, D.C.L., asks to be relieved of his position on the Board of Examiners, we recommend the appointment of the Rev. T. Athoe in the place of Dr. Gardiner.

6. Your Committee further recommends the addition of the Rev. A. Burns, D.D., LL.D., and the Rev. A. E. Russ, M.A., to those already elected to the Board of Examiners.

J. A. WILLIAMS, D.D., *Chairman.*

W. KETTLEWELL, *Secretary.*

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### APPENDIX No. VI.

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#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO DRAFT A CONSTITUTION FOR THE LOCAL MISSIONARY BOARD OF THE NIAGARA CONFERENCE.

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1. This Board shall be called the Niagara Conference Auxiliary Missionary Society.

2. The management of the Board shall be vested in a Committee to be designated the Niagara Conference Missionary Committee, and shall consist of the President of the Conference, a Minister and Layman appointed by the Conference who shall be joint Secretaries and Treasurers of the Missionary Funds of the Conference, the Superintendents of Districts, and one Layman to be elected by ballot by the Laymen of each Annual District Meeting.

3. In case of the death or removal of the District Representative to the Conference Missionary Committee, or when by the formation of a new District, or when from any other cause there is no District Representative, then the Laymen present at the Financial District Meeting shall elect by ballot one of their number to fill the office of District Representative.

4. The Anniversary of the Conference Auxiliary shall be held each year as soon as practicable after the close of the Annual Meeting of the General Missionary Board, but not later than the first Wednesday in the month of November, and at such place as may be determined by the President of Conference.

5. The Conference Missionary Committee shall meet in connection with the Anniversary of the Conference Auxiliary to distribute the amounts placed at its disposal by the General Board for the Missionary work of the Conference.

6. The Conference Missionary Committee may appoint a Sub-committee of Consultation and Finance, to consist of not more than six members—three Ministers and three Laymen—to whom shall be committed such questions as may arise during the intervals of the Sessions of the Conference Missionary Committee.

7. The Conference Treasurers shall remit monthly to the General Treasurers of the Missionary Society all sums paid to them by the



District Treasurers; and the final balance shall be paid over to the General Treasurers the day prior to the meeting of the Conference.

8. The Lay Representative from the Conference to the General Missionary Board shall be elected by ballot by the lay members of the Conference Missionary Committee.

JOHN WAKEFIELD, *Chairman.*

A. J. DONLY, *Secretary.*

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## APPENDIX No. VII.

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### CONSTITUTION OF THE CHURCH AND PARSONAGE AID FUND.

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#### I. NAME.

This Fund shall be known as the Church and Parsonage Aid Fund of the Niagara Conference of the Methodist Church.

#### II. OBJECT.

The object of this Fund shall be to relieve any cases of embarrassed churches or parsonages within the bounds of the Niagara Conference, subject to the following limitations and restrictions:

#### III. LIMITATIONS.

All applications for aid must come through the Fourth Quarterly Meeting of the Circuit in which such property is situated, and be recommended by the District Meeting when the laymen are present. Nevertheless, no application will be entertained unless the property is properly insured.

#### IV. SOURCES OF INCOME.

1st. Balance arising from the sale of churches and parsonages, as provided by Basis of Union. 2nd. Voluntary contributions. 3rd. Such other Funds as may be appropriated to this object.

#### V. MANAGEMENT.

This Fund shall have a Treasurer appointed by the Conference, and be managed by a Committee consisting of five Ministers and five Laymen.

#### VI. PAYMENTS.

All payments to be made by the Treasurer, on the order of the Secretary of Committee, after being confirmed by the Conference.

JAMES MASSON, *Chairman.*

T. W. JACKSON, *Secretary.*



## APPENDIX No. VIII.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN'S FUND.

This Conference shall have a Children's Fund under its own control and management, to be called the Children's Fund of the Niagara Conference, subject to the following regulations and restrictions :

1. The revenue of this Fund shall be raised by assessment on the members of the Church and those on probation ; but, in computing the membership in relation to the Children's Fund, those under sixteen years of age and Indian members on our missions shall not be included.
2. The amount payable to each child shall be not more than \$25 per year up to eighteen years of age ; and if in any case the Fund shall not be sufficient to pay the full amount, it shall be divided *pro rata* according to the amount on hand—provided always the total amount of such assessment does not exceed what may be equal to thirty cents per member.
3. The claims of the children of the Ministers connected with the Book and Printing Establishments, Colleges, and other connexional institutions, shall be paid by these respectively.
4. The claims of children whose fathers are employed on the French, German, or Indian Missions, or in Japan, shall be paid by the Missionary Society.
5. The claimants on this Fund shall be only such children of Ministers engaged in the active work as were born after their fathers had been received into full connexion with their respective Conferences, these Ministers having first attained a four years' standing in the said ministry. This rule shall apply to the children of all such Ministers in the united Church.
6. The children of superannuated and deceased Ministers who were born while their fathers were in the active work, or within one year after their superannuation or death.
7. Nevertheless, this Fund shall not be responsible for the claims of children of superannuated Ministers who may be transferred into this Conference.

The Committee further recommend the appointment of Rev. T. Brock, Treasurer.

D. L. BRETHOUR, *Chairman.*

T. BROCK, *Secretary.*

## APPENDIX No. IX.

## TEMPERANCE REPORT.

Your Committee would take this opportunity to reaffirm the increased attachment and unswerving fidelity of this Conference to the great principles of prohibition.

We believe the liquor traffic to be the cause of a large proportion of the crime in our land, and fraught with untold misery to the bodies and souls of multitudes of our people; that it possesses almost unlimited power to destroy every interest of the home, the Church and school, and the State; that it is one of the greatest hindrances to the accomplishment of the divine mission of the Church in the world. It is therefore the duty of the State to prohibit this traffic, and not protect it. We would affirm our conviction that prohibition does not interfere with the true liberty of the citizen.

And whereas the last Session of the Dominion Parliament accepted the principle of prohibition, and expressed its willingness to give prohibitory laws when the country was prepared to adopt and enforce them, we believe the country is now ready for prohibition; and, seeing that most of the provisional District Meetings, composed of an equal number of ministers and laymen, have passed resolutions in favor of prohibition, the Committee would urge this Conference to arrange for concerted action with other Churches and organizations in circulating petitions to be presented to the Senate and House of Commons of Canada at such time as may be thought most favorable, praying for such prohibitory law.

Your Committee would further recommend—

1. That an annual sermon on total abstinence and prohibition be preached in all the churches of our Conference. That the principles of temperance be taught and enforced in all our Sabbath schools.

2. That in those counties where the Scott Act may be submitted, the members of our Church should be urged to do their utmost for its success, not alone by personal effort and sympathy, but by the exercise of their franchise. We believe that it is the duty of every qualified man to vote, and to vote as he prays.

3. In respect to the communication received from the W. C. T. U., this Conference would express its gratification in hearing of the great success which has crowned the efforts of these noble and self-sacrificing women. We would assure them of the deepest sympathy, the heartiest co-operation, and the fervent prayers of this Conference in the great work they have undertaken.

D. L. BRETHOUR, *Chairman.*

J. ODERY, *Secretary.*

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## APPENDIX No. X.

## REPORT OF THE SABBATH-SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Your Sabbath-school Committee beg leave to make the following Report of the Sabbath-school work within the bounds of the Niagara Conference of the united Methodist Churches, now The Methodist Church. In compiling statistics relating to the schools of the uniting Churches, we have not been able to obtain a complete record, and consequently cannot present a correct Report. So far as we have been able to gain information regarding statistics, our Report is as follows:—Number of schools, 254; number of officers and teachers, 2,737; number of scholars, 21,380; amount raised for school purposes, \$10,392.97; amount raised for General Sabbath-school Fund, \$158.57. Such is the approximate strength of our schools.

Your Committee desire also to give expression to a few thoughts touching the Sabbath-school work, while we strongly recommend to your favorable consideration the different items of interest that came before us. What may be said of other departments of our Church work is equally true regarding our Sabbath-school work. We are in a transition state, and great care should be taken and earnest efforts put forth, not only to happily consummate the union, but also to carry forward the work of God among the children.

Recognizing as we do that no department of our work as a Christian Church is of more importance, nor has been more successful, nor yet has given greater satisfaction in the past, and none that gives greater promise for the future, we may bespeak for it a large share of your sympathy, attention, and support. While it is true that our missionary work is every year growing in importance and extent, and demands our united sympathy and support; and while the temperance cause is more than ever forcing itself upon us, and claiming our attention and a share in our support, and all the influence we can throw around it; and while the regular work of the pastorate will at this particular juncture in our history require more than ordinary attention, nevertheless we deem it one of the first duties of the Church to look well to the work of the Sabbath school. It is here that we may sow our best seed, with the brightest prospect of a rich harvest. Labor expended here is an investment that will yield the largest and quickest returns. And in proportion as the Church concentrates her efforts and bends her energies in this direction, will she grow in numbers, influence, and power. The Sabbath-school is the hope of the future Church, and the character and usefulness of the Church will be largely moulded and influenced by the work done in the Sabbath school of to-day.

We would recommend, now that we are beginning a new page in our history, that we be loyal to our own publications, and see to it that all our schools are supplied with our own papers and books. We would also very strongly recommend that our Catechism be carefully and regularly

taught in every school. We deem this to be all the more important, since other Churches are more than ever giving attention to teaching their children their religious beliefs, and since, also, in the world a strong tendency to scepticism prevails that would decry all creeds and sneer at all Christian faith and doctrines. We would also recommend that greater care be taken to inculcate temperance principles upon the minds of the children, and an effort made to induce them all to sign the pledge, and then help them to keep it by forming "Bands of Hope" wherever practicable. We also notice that there has been a falling off in missionary contributions in our schools. This we greatly deplore, and would recommend that the children be encouraged to give to the cause of missions, and thereby enlist their sympathies with this great work.

Finally, finding that there are several places within the bounds of the Conference where no school exists, we would urge that a school be organized at every appointment on every circuit, according to discipline; and also in places where there is no preaching appointment a school be formed with a view to the establishment of a church in the near future, and thereby make the Sabbath school a means of aggressive work.

Praying that the new era in our history may be characterized by a great revival of earnest and successful work among the children of our homes and congregations, we strongly recommend to you the interests of the Sabbath schools.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE W. CALVERT, *Secretary of Committee.*

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## APPENDIX No. XI.

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### REPORT OF CONTINGENT FUND COMMITTEE.

Your Committee beg leave to report as follows:—

1. That your Committee have no funds at their disposal, and no appropriations to make.

2. That in view of the fact that the new Discipline provides for but one collection to be taken in each circuit each year for this Fund, and in the judgment of your Committee the entire proceeds will be required to relieve cases of special affliction, and defray extraordinary expenses incurred in the services of the Church, we therefore recommend that clause second in the constitution, which provides that dependent circuits may receive aid from this Fund, be struck out, and that the Conference reconsider the constitution and amend it accordingly.

And your Committee further recommend that Rev. R. W. Woodsworth be appointed Treasurer of said Fund, and Rev. W. J. Maxwell and Judge Jones, of Brantford, be the auditors.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. E. RUSS, *Chairman.*

A. L. GEE, *Secretary.*

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## APPENDIX No. XII.

## SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

Your Committee would respectfully report as follows :

That whilst we believe the safety and prosperity of the Church and nation are dependent upon the observance of the Divine precepts, we invite special attention to the precept which commands the sanctification of the Sabbath-day. We do this the more urgently because of the deplorable tendency, in the present age, to infringe upon the quiet and sanctity of the Day of Rest.

On our Statute-books are wholesome laws in general for Sabbath observance, but they are in many respects weak and inefficient, and in some cases there is a conflict between Provincial and Dominion legislation regarding the Sabbath, thereby making it exceedingly difficult, if not impossible in some cases, to enforce such laws. We would therefore strongly urge upon the respective Governments of this country the necessity of harmonizing those laws and making them more explicit; also, to enact, where necessary, such other Statutes as shall better secure to the people of Canada all the rights and privileges of our holy Sabbath. On the other hand, we give our persistent and unwavering protest against the carrying on of public works, as railroad construction, etc., excursions by land or water, the keeping open of livery-stables, the reading of secular news, or visiting, holding of picnics or pleasure parties on the Sabbath-day. We declare ourselves to be in harmony with the Presbyterian, Baptist, and other Churches in this country in their efforts to obtain such legislation as shall better secure more thorough scriptural observance of the Lord's day, and would recommend the Conference to appoint a small Committee, who shall confer with similar Committees appointed by other Churches, for the attainment of this most desirable end.

We recommend the preaching of sermons on this subject at all our appointments, in harmony with the instructions of the Discipline, par. 220.

We commend this subject for prayerful consideration to Sunday-school Superintendents and Teachers, and also to Christian parents and guardians, that they may duly impress these principles upon the minds of the children and youth whom they instruct.

We heartily approve of the arrangements which, as we understand, are being made by the Directors of the Ontario Methodist Camp-ground, near Grimsby, for the closing of the gates of that institution from Saturday evening until Monday morning, in order to prevent the perpetual driving to and fro in all the surrounding country, which seriously interferes with the scriptural observance of the Lord's day, and at the same time brings a reproach upon Methodism.

D. E. BROWNELL, *Chairman.*  
J. SAUNDERS, *Secretary.*



## APPENDIX No. XIII.

## THE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Whereas the Centennial Celebration is a denominational or churchly matter in which the whole Methodist Church has a common interest, and the General Conference has entrusted to a Committee the carrying out of arrangements—

1. Be it resolved that all pertaining to that event be left with said Committee, named in paragraph 4, page 182, of the General Conference Journal.

2. That we recommend the appointment of a deputation to confer with the aforesaid Committee, and prepare for that important event, in harmony with the other Methodist Churches to be engaged in that celebration.

3. That the deputation consist of Revs. J. A. Williams, D.D., and James Gardiner, D.C.L.

4. Your Committee regrets that we are not in possession of the action of the Committee mentioned above, but from all we do know, consider a future call needful in order to complete the arrangements.

J. GARDINER, *Secretary*.

COMMITTEE ROOM, June 17, 1884.

## APPENDIX No. XIV.

## REPORT OF MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.

That in harmony with the resolution of this Conference, we would recommend that the Pastors resident in the city or locality where the Conference shall be held, shall be required to furnish a list of names of persons who will furnish suitable accommodation at reasonable rates, and forward them to the Superintendents of Districts in time for the Annual District Meetings.

JAMES E. DYER, *Chairman*.

J. H. COLLINS, *Secretary*.

## APPENDIX No. XV.

## REPORT.

The Committee on the Sale of Church and Parsonage Property that may not be required for use report as follows :

1. That the Districts where the Committees have been appointed, as ordered on page 91, No. 6, (2) of the Discipline, we recommend be regarded competent to administer the law.
2. That in the Districts that have failed to make the appointments, no action can be taken opposed to the regulations in the Discipline.
3. Nevertheless we also recommend that in all cases in any District where the Trustees may agree—each Board concurring—they may determine these matters in all the particulars according to the Discipline.
4. All sales and moneys so applied shall be held to be valid.
5. That full records of all proceedings shall be kept and subscribed by each Trustee taking part therein.
6. That this Annual Conference gives its sanction to the action of the late London Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada, as well as to the action of any other of the Conferences of the uniting Churches, in relation to the sale of any property lying within the bounds of this the Niagara Conference, as is or may be required by Statute.
7. That all these cases must be duly reported to the District Meeting.

J. GARDINER, *Secretary.*

# MEMBERSHIP, MINISTERIAL SUPPORT, AND CONNEXIONAL FUNDS.

## 1. HAMILTON DISTRICT.

CIRCUITS.	Total Number of Members, in- cluding those on trial.	Members under 16 years.	Rateable Mem- bers.	Am't raised for Minist'r'l Sup- port, including Salary, Board, and Fuel.	Am't raised for Connexional Funds.
Hamilton—Centenary .....	355	20	335	\$2000 00	\$2595 39
Hamilton—Wesley .....	300	10	290	1600 00	990 15
Hamilton—First Methodist .....	285	85	200	1150 00	609 17
Hamilton—Gore Street .....	220	20	200	800 00	230 00
Hamilton—Zion Tabernacle .....	129	23	106	370 00	243 78
Hamilton—Simcoe Street .....	116	16	100	625 00	149 18
Hamilton—Hannah Street .....	75	15	60	490 00	97 44
Hamilton—Emerald Street .....	62	4	58	236 25	167 50
Dundas .....	245	58	187	1000 00	1176 73
Caledonia .....	156	..	156	641 40	274 82
Glanford .....	310	11	299	886 00	436 54
Ancaster .....	170	20	150	700 00	285 00
Barton .....	150	6	144	547 00	243 50
Bartonville .....	167	25	142	585 00	184 00
Stoney Creek .....	220	..	220	656 27	344 50
Taplestown .....	170	..	170	610 00	250 00
Ker .....	181	3	178	514 00	237 05
Total .....	3311	316	2995	\$13410 92	\$8564 75

## 2. ST. CATHARINES DISTRICT.

St. Catharines—St. Paul Street .....	316	43	273	\$1200 00	\$573 83
St. Catharines—Welland Avenue .....	165	25	140	600 00	253 40
St. Catharines—Niagara Street .....	82	5	77	407 00	56 66
Lowth and Grantham .....	200	36	164	429 28	121 65
Merritton .....	144	28	116	525 00	115 68
Thorold .....	160	20	140	1000 00	757 24
Niagara Falls South .....	166	18	148	800 00	687 00
Niagara Falls .....	91	15	76	585 00	183 75
Stamford and St. David's .....	85	4	81	521 47	134 39
Niagara .....	105	13	92	700 00	257 19
Beamsville .....	224	9	215	540 00	184 74
Grimsby .....	75	5	70	273 18	192 16
Smithville .....	282	19	263	661 00	188 00
Tinturn .....	281	15	266	556 00	165 50
Total .....	2376	255	2121	\$8797 93	\$3871 19

## 3. BRANTFORD DISTRICT.

Brantford—Wellington Street .....	343	40	303	\$1200 00	\$599 60
Brantford—Brant Avenue .....	325	63	262	1200 00	745 91
Brantford—Emmanuel .....	102	..	102	300 00	105 00
Brantford—Oxford Street .....	82	12	70	372 75	59 64
Paris .....	283	20	263	1000 00	363 44
St. George .....	224	12	212	918 00	333 00
Sheffield .....	80	2	78	330 00	87 13
West Flamboro' .....	255	34	221	640 00	320 00
Lynden .....	180	2	178	412 00	185 00
Troy .....	100	12	88	345 00	142 84
Jerseyville .....	180	5	175	720 00	390 62
Brant .....	178	7	171	410 00	150 15
Cainsville .....	188	12	176	810 00	275 00
Mount Pleasant .....	300	33	267	596 55	248 34
Grand River .....	81	9	76	.....	43 00
Total .....	2901	259	2642	\$9244 30	\$4048 67

## 4. WOODSTOCK DISTRICT.

CIRCUITS.	Total Number of Members, including those on trial.	Members under 16 years.	Rateable Members.	Am't raised for Minister's Support, including Salary, Board, and Fuel.	Am't raised for Connexional Funds.
Woodstock .....	340	15	325	\$1000 00	\$664 50
Ingersoll—King Street .....	187	14	173	1127 43	335 85
Ingersoll—Charles Street .....	150	10	140	700 00	125 00
Salford .....	160	10	150	600 00	249 50
Sweaborg .....	112	10	102	410 00	70 00
Oxford Centre .....	200	..	200	870 00	401 11
Eastwood .....	103	12	91	335 00	106 00
Cathcart .....	119	4	115	510 00	88 75
Princeton .....	127	10	117	665 00	139 92
Falkland .....	80	2	78	430 00	90 00
Strathallan .....	114	..	114	623 83	225 91
Richwood .....	109	..	109	552 70	212 20
Plattsville .....	234	26	208	637 00	228 41
Washington .....	101	1	100	600 00	173 13
Drumbo .....	70	..	70	360 00	64 65
Total .....	2206	114	2092	\$9420 96	\$3167 93

## 5. SIMCOE DISTRICT.

Simcoe .....	251	28	223	\$1000 00	\$461 46
Waterford .....	194	3	191	800 00	220 70
Port Dover .....	190	21	169	746 55	230 00
Townsend .....	314	33	281	965 00	222 00
Rockford .....	169	17	152	500 00	100 00
Port Rowan and St. Williams .....	137	..	137	570 00	110 00
Walsh .....	126	35	91	214 00	67 48
Jarvis .....	370	27	343	1100 00	835 96
Hagersville .....	320	16	304	1009 00	435 00
Delhi .....	156	..	156	610 00	150 00
Selkirk .....	61	..	61	300 00	6 00
New Credit .....	126	14	112	..	87 54
Cayuga .....	168	8	160	379 89	80 95
York .....	108	..	108	460 25	10 33
Lyndoch .....	242	44	198	500 00	146 00
Walsingham Centre .....	127	..	127	425 00	80 00
Total .....	3059	246	2813	\$9579 69	\$3246 42

## 6. MILTON DISTRICT.

Milton .....	195	..	195	\$900 00	\$486 13
Oakville .....	180	10	170	800 00	378 27
Burlington .....	230	15	215	675 00	481 65
Burlington Plains .....	98	10	88	344 00	231 95
Waterdown .....	230	5	225	650 00	285 00
Millgrove .....	224	5	219	612 00	155 81
Palermo .....	170	3	167	550 00	237 71
Trafalgar .....	278	7	271	1042 00	488 04
Lowville .....	157	16	141	600 00	242 90
Carlisle .....	280	54	226	663 00	268 27
Mountsberg .....	124	12	112	430 50	137 50
Zimmerman .....	183	13	170	555 00	42 55
Total .....	2349	150	2199	\$7821 50	\$3435 78



## 7. WELLAND DISTRICT.

CIRCUITS.	Total Number of Members, including those on trial.	Members under 16 years.	Rateable Members.	Am't raised for Minister's Support, including Salary, Board, and Fuel.	Am't raised for Connexional Funds.
Welland East .....	158	24	134	\$815 00	\$176 60
Welland West .....	50	..	50	300 00	66 50
Fonthill .....	153	..	153	540 00	147 60
Port Robinson .....	97	..	97	330 00	82 14
Humberstone .....	135	5	130	550 00	132 50
Dunnville .....	156	5	151	820 00	167 39
Caistorville .....	205	11	194	565 00	170 00
Canboro' .....	152	..	152	306 36	47 00
Fenwick .....	196	25	171	475 00	69 16
Wellandport .....	204	26	178	374 00	60 00
Ridgeway .....	137	7	130	750 00	106 50
Victoria .....	47	..	47	500 00	77 50
Chippawa .....	72	2	70	260 00	91 00
Bertie .....	36	..	36	150 00	9 00
Rainham .....	93	1	92	343 14	128 98
Total .....	1891	106	1785	\$7018 50	\$1531 87

## 8. NORWICH DISTRICT.

Norwich .....	190	10	180	\$900 00	\$250 00
Tilsenburg .....	220	30	190	1000 00	357 14
Springford .....	220	3	217	885 00	211 00
Oterville .....	156	2	154	464 00	131 96
Bookton .....	123	1	122	460 00	120 14
Kelvin .....	267	36	231	570 00	90 99
Fairfield .....	173	10	163	660 00	197 00
Oakland .....	214	10	204	600 00	266 82
Teeterville .....	182	6	176	550 00	200 00
Courtland .....	171	..	171	318 00	70 75
Straffordville .....	189	8	181	400 00	135 00
Kinglake .....	122	..	122	370 00	107 00
Dereham .....	186	10	176	727 00	213 57
Total .....	2413	126	2287	\$7854 00	\$2341 37

## RECAPITULATION.

DISTRICTS.	Total Number of Members, including those on trial.	Members under 16 years.	Rateable Members.	Am't raised for Minister's Support, including Salary, Board, and Fuel.	Am't raised for Connexional Funds.
HAMILTON .....	3311	316	2995	\$13410 92	\$8564 75
St. CATHARINES .....	2376	255	2121	8797 93	3871 19
BRANTFORD .....	2901	259	2642	9244 30	4048 67
WOODSTOCK .....	2206	114	2092	9420 96	3167 93
SIMCOE .....	3059	246	2813	9579 69	3246 42
MILTON .....	2349	150	2199	7821 50	3435 78
WELLAND .....	1891	106	1785	7018 50	1531 87
NORWICH .....	2413	126	2287	7854 00	2341 37
Total .....	20506	1572	18934	\$73147 80	\$3027 98



## THE ANNUAL ADDRESS

OF THE

## NIAGARA CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

TO THE

## CHURCHES UNDER ITS CARE.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,—

"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Through the care and guidance of the great Head of the Church we have been led to meet for the first time under the name of the "Niagara Conference of the Methodist Church." You need scarcely be reminded that the formation of this Conference, together with that of the nine sister Conferences which complete our number, is the result of negotiations in the direction of organic union which were continued for a length of time, and which issued in the acceptance of the "Basis of Union" agreed upon in November 1882. In accordance with the terms of this basis, the Methodist Church of Canada, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, the Primitive Methodist Church in Canada, and the Bible Christian Church of Canada, became organically and legally one body, on the first of June 1884. Our Annual Conference, as well as the others referred to, now consists of an equal number of ministers and laymen, the principle of co-operation formerly recognized in the management of financial matters in Committees finding a slightly wider field in the arrangement of similar affairs on the floor of the Annual Conference. It is not necessary at this juncture to expatiate upon the advantages arising from such changes; let it suffice to say that the success of our institutions, as at present constituted, depends, as formerly, upon the fidelity and wisdom with which they are operated. As true and loyal members of this great community, it becomes us to accept the situation, and to unite with all heartiness and earnestness in promoting the work of God in connection with our new organization.

We have reason to be grateful that, notwithstanding the important changes through which we have been called to pass, the spiritual resources and evangelistic methods of our beloved Methodism remain unimpaired. We could derive but little satisfaction from an increase of numbers, the opening of a wider field, the

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removal of rival forces, and the co-operation of a larger number of agents, if, at the same time, we feel conscious of a decline of spiritual power. We are still able to say with our great founder, "The best of all is, God is with us." Thousands have been added to our membership during the past year. Glorious victories were won while yet the various detachments of the consecrated host were on their march toward the common centre. Revivals are reported from numerous points. This is as it should be at all times and in all places. We cease to be Methodistic when we cease to be evangelistic and aggressive. Our economy furnishes us with every element necessary to success. There is not an article of our creed which we cannot publish to the world without limitation or qualification. There is not a truth we hold that does not sustain and strengthen every other truth. We have no contradictions to reconcile, no tenets that it would be prudent to conceal or to reveal only to the initiated. The plain, unbiassed common sense of society is with us. What heart does not confirm the doctrine of human depravity as we preach it; what conscience does not respond to the offer of a free salvation; where is the manhood that does not feel itself honored by an appeal to its intelligence and freedom, and where is the saved one who does not exult in the consciousness of salvation and the hope of perfect love. Our class-meetings satisfy the yearnings of true devotion; our love-feasts render the communion of saints more sweet and precious, and our simple, earnest, prayer-meetings bring us to the foot of the throne. Let us exhort you to the more careful study of our doctrines, to the use of these means of grace, and to the full appreciation of your peculiar privileges and opportunities. Allow neither yourselves nor your children to be drawn away from the regular services of the sanctuary by exercises in which fanaticism takes the place of intelligent zeal, and the promptings of enthusiasm are used to relieve you from the careful study of the truth as it is in Jesus.

We have reason to be thankful to God for the harmony which has characterized the Sessions of this Conference. Though many and in some cases conflicting interests have required consideration; though methods of procedure new to some of us were necessarily inaugurated; though brethren of diverse habits of thought and feeling in relation to Church work have been associated for the first time, the utmost cordiality has prevailed throughout our discussions. "The unity of the spirit" has been kept "in the bond of peace." We have proved that the interests of one class are those of all, and the ministry and laity have wrought together as with one heart and soul. A large amount of spirituality has pervaded the public services in connection with the Conference, and there can be no doubt that saving and quickening results will be found in the churches in which they were conducted.

In carrying out the work of readjustment on your several

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circuits you will need much wisdom and grace. The utmost forbearance and love will be required where local interests are involved, and divergencies of long standing remain to be settled. In the disposal of churches and parsonages no longer required, in the amalgamation of adjoining congregations, and the rearrangement of Societies and Sabbath-schools, you will, we are sure, rise above all personal considerations, and think only of the good cause and the promotion of the work of God. The union of the Churches concerned may be recommended by Committees, resolved by Conferences, and voted upon by Official Boards, but it will never be completed until in every locality where uniting congregations exist, they come together in the spirit of love, sacrificing individual convenience and preferences, when necessary, for the benefit of our common Methodism.

It will be well for us to signalize this epoch in our history by increased efforts for the promotion of the great benevolent enterprises of the Church. If God has rendered us more united and strong; if He has lifted us by a series of remarkable providences to a more advantageous position; if He has opened to us a wider field of labor, shall we not be recreant to our trust if we come not up to the demands of the hour? With every accession of privilege there is an increase of responsibility. No more fitting occasion can arise for manifestation of our grateful love to those aged ministers who long bore the burden and heat of the day, who were the means of leading many of you to Christ, who guided you in the paths of righteousness, and who now, with worn and weary feet, stand waiting for the summons home. No more worthy object of your benevolence presents itself than the Superannuation Fund, by which these noble men are aided and in some cases sustained. Great indeed must be the ingratitude of those who fail to recognize the claims of this institution.

The maintenance of our educational institutions is a work of immense importance. The Common School system of this country is in many respects an admirable one, and while your children remain under the parental roof, they may with safety and success avail themselves of its advantages. But when higher education must be obtained, and your children in order to reach it must spend months or even years away from home, it becomes you to consider whether you will place them under influences which are wholly secular, or surround them with associations which are moral and religious as well as intellectual. In the educational institutions of our own Church the highest moral culture is provided for in connection with an unsectarian, but truly Christian training. Many of our young people are led to consecrate themselves to God during their attendance upon our colleges, and multitudes of men and women now occupying high and useful positions in religious society are indebted to them for the care taken of their souls by their teachers and fellow-students in early life. The secularism



that surrounds so many of the youth of our land to-day will, we fear, produce the most disastrous results, and it becomes you to see that your children are not among the sceptics of the future. The Divine precept and promise are associated. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." When the precept is obeyed, the promise will be fulfilled, and these inspired words should instruct you in selecting the schools in which your sons and daughters are to be prepared for the duties of later life. It should not be forgotten that the Educational Society has for one of its principal objects the preparation of young men for the ministry, and as many of them require aid, it becomes our members to promote this object in the most hearty and self-sacrificing manner.

Closely associated with this enterprize is our Sabbath-school work. The statistical returns will show you that this department is conducted with vigor and success. The officers and teachers are selected with a view to their piety and efficiency, and as a rule are in thorough sympathy with the objects sought. A system of management worthy of the body which inaugurated it is now almost universally applied, and that with the best results. Our Book Rooms provide an admirable series of publications specially prepared for teachers and scholars, which we heartily commend to your favorable notice. A large number of the children are led to Christ through this instrumentality, and many of them meet regularly in class. There are few, if any, more inviting fields of labor than this; none which bring larger returns to the Church. No talent is too great to be employed in it, no resources too large to be drawn upon for it. The future strength of our community mainly depends upon the efficiency with which this work is wrought.

No enterprize of the Church is more deserving of your support and confidence than that in which our Missionary Society is engaged. The immense size of the field of operations, the number of noble and self-sacrificing men and women employed upon it, the multitude and variety of people among whom they labor, the large amount of money contributed and used for this purpose, the grand results already reached, and the sure promise of more magnificent returns in time to come, indicate its importance. But what has been done is small compared with what may be accomplished. There never was a time when the claims of this work were more pressing. The importance of immediate, earnest and universal effort among our people to increase the resources of this society cannot be overrated.

The celebration of the Centenary of American Methodism may come before you during the year, and we have no doubt that efforts to supplement by additional contributions the resources of our several Societies will meet with your hearty sympathy and practical co-operation.

The prominent position at present held by the Methodist Church

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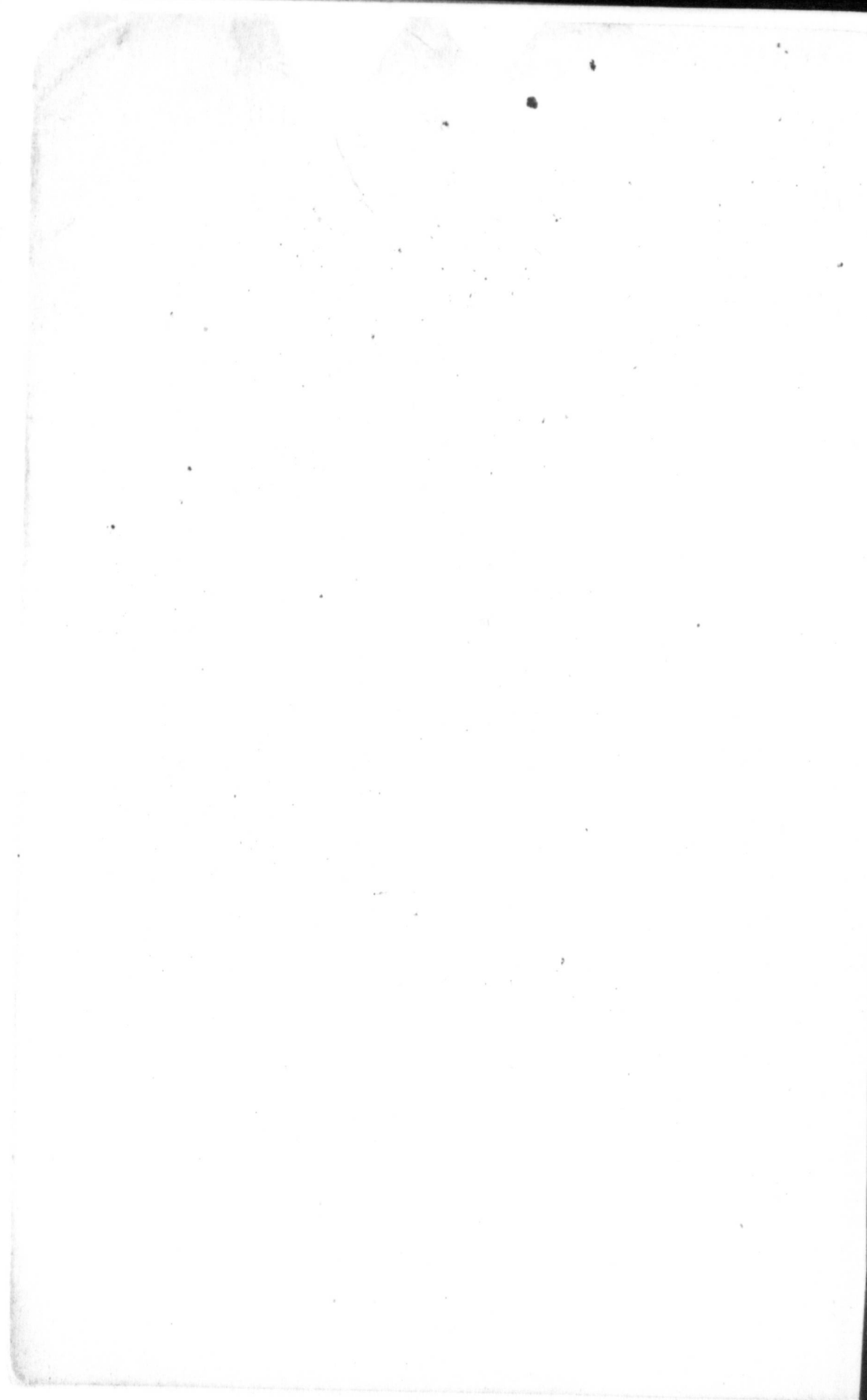
enables us to express our conclusions in relation to the great moral questions of the day with practical effect. The time has passed, so far as this country is concerned, in which the right of the people to secure legislation for the prohibition of the liquor traffic, can be questioned. That that right can be exercised by the Christian voters of this land, and that that purpose will be accomplished, at least throughout this province, at an early period, is highly probable. We have no need to remind you of your duty at this hour in relation to this great question. The Methodist Church has been from the beginning, in principle, a total abstinence society. For more than one hundred and fifty years the rule prohibiting "drunkenness, buying or selling spirituous liquors, or drinking them" has been on the statute-book of Methodism. That regulation, penned by the hand of our venerable founder, the traditions of the great body to which we are grateful to belong, the teachings of the Scriptures which we revere and believe, the interests of our noble country, and the love which we should ever cherish for the brotherhood of humanity, demand of every true Methodist the practice of total abstinence from the use of spirituous liquors as a beverage, and his pledged adherence to the policy of legal prohibition.

It is a question with many whether the strict observance of the Lord's day can be brought into harmony with the requirements of modern civilization. It is argued that so many public enterprises and appliances which were not contemplated when the Decalogue, or even the New Testament was written, have now come to be parts of our daily life, that we should not apply to them regulations which were prepared to meet a totally different condition of society. But as followers of that Saviour who is "the same yesterday, to-day and forever," we have but one reply to make, and it is this: "Remember the Sabbath-day, to keep it holy." Never were the obligations of this day more binding; and the opposition of those who loosely interpret the Divine command should lead us to its most careful observance in our personal, social and public life.

Allow us most earnestly to impress upon you the importance of the frequent study and strict fulfilment of our General Rules. In so far as we wander from them we stray from the original principles of our Society. In so far as we observe them we shall return to the spirit and practice of "the people called Methodists." By the grace of God we may keep them; it is difficult to mend them. Make the Word of God the subject of prayerful and reverent thought. Search the Scriptures, live in the light they shed upon your path, so shall you reach the reward they describe. "Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen."

JOHN A. WILLIAMS, *President.*

ALEXANDER LANGFORD, *Secretary.*



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