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MINUTES
OF THE
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
HELD AT
CUMMER'S CHAPEL,
YONGE STREET,
Commencing Wednesday, 2d September,
1840.

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Richardson
Memorial
Fund

CANADIANA
COLLECTION
QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
AT KINGSTON

LORNE
PIERCE



ONTARIO CANADA

OF THE

\$45.00

held at

Mar 1978

Que
trial.
William
Titus G
Miner S
• William
Elijah E
Note

John Mappin

Ques
Emerson
James M
Appelton
Robert I
B. Mark
Ques
Connex
Christop
Edwin S
Ques
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Rich/LP

MINUTES

OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST

EPISCOPAL CHURCH, IN CANADA;

held at Cummer's Chapel, Yonge Street, commencing

Wednesday; 2d Sept. 1840.

#45.00

Mar 1978.

Question 1st—What Preachers are admitted on trial.

William T. Cartwright,
Titus G. Simons,
Miner Sumner,
*William McKeeby,
Elijah Harris,

Joseph Dailey,
Alexander Wright,
Andrew Bursee,
Luman Hurlburt.

Note. Those Preachers on trial marked thus* are ordained Deacons.

Question 2d—What Preachers remain on trial?

Emerson Bristle,
James Mitchell,
Appelton Jones,
Robert Lyman,
B. Markle,

I. N. D. West,
Gideon Shepard,
Henry Lane,
Samuel D. Shorts.

Question 3d—Who have been admitted into full Connexion.

Christopher Thompson,
Edwin S. Furman,

Richard Beal,
Thomas Webster.

Question 4th—Who are the Deacons?

Christopher Thompson,

John Sills,

John Mappin

Rich/CP

William Bird,
Barnabas Brown,
*Thomas Webster,

James Mitchel,
*Edwin S. Furman,
*Richard Beal.

Note. Those marked thus * were ordained this year.

Question 5th—Who are the Elders?

David Culp,
Philander Smith,
James Richardson,
John Bailey,
John H. Huston,
Thadeus Lewis,
James McNally,
Jesse Owen,
Benson Smith,
Caleb Sweazy,
David Perry,

George Turner,
Henry H. Johnston,
Henry Gilmore,
John W. Byam,
David Griffin,
Charles Pettis,
*Francis Bird,
*Leonard D. Salisbury,
*Michael Davy,
*Joseph H. Leonard,
*William E. Norman,
*Leonard Haney.

Note. Those marked thus * were ordained this year.

Question 6th—Who is the general Superintendent?

JOHN REYNOLDS

Question 7th—Who have Located this year?

Nathan Parks,

Question 8th—Who are the Supernumeraries?

Caleb Sweazy,
David Perry,

George Turner,
James McNally,

Question 9th—Who are the superannuated preachers this year?

Philander Smith,

Charles Pettis.

Question 10th—Who have been expelled this year?—None.

Question 11th—Who have withdrawn this year?—None.

Question 12th—Were all the Preacher's characters examined?

This was strictly attended to.

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Hallow
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Question 13th—Who have died this year?—None.

Question 14th—What are the numbers in Society?

Camboro Circuit,	247	Hallowell Circuit,	264
Niagara,	165	Sidney,	463
Nelson,	174	Bay Quinte,	404
Toronto Circuit,	85	Waterloo,	469
Yonge Street and City,	150	Elizabethtown,	515
Whitby,	280	Augusta,	271
Dumfries,	244	Matilda,	94
Blenheim Circuit,	282	Rideau,	72
London,	450	Grand River Mission,	34
Thames,	130		
Malahide,	144	Total,	5325
Long Point,	41	last year,	4591
Brighton,	315		
Bellville,	22	Increase this year,	734

Question 15th—Where are the preachers stationed this year?

NIAGARA DISTRICT, DAVID CULP, P. E.

Camboro Circuit,	Edwin S. Furman, Emerson Bristle,
Niagara do	Francis Bird, Leonard Haney,
Toronto do	Titus G. Simons,
Yonge St. & Toronto City,	Jesse Owen, Barnabas Brown,
Whitby Circuit,	Richard Beal, Miner Sumner,
St. Johns, do	Leonard D. Salsbury,
Nelson do	Wm. McKeeby, one to be supplied.

LONDON DISTRICT, JOHN BAILEY, P. E.

Dumfries Circuit,	Henry Gilmore, Robert Lyman,
Blenheim do	William Bird, Barney Markle,
Oxford, do	James Mitchel,
London, do	Thomas Webster, Appleton Jones,
Thames, do	Wm. T. Cartwright, one to be supplied,
Malahide & Long Point,	David Griffin, one to be supplied,
Grand River Mission,	Elijah Harris,

BAY QUINTE DISTRICT, BENSON SMITH, P. E.

Brighton Circuit,	Joseph Daily, Alexander Wright,
Sidney, do	Gideon Shepard, one to be supplied,
Hallowell, do	Wm. E. Norman, Samuel D. Shorts,
Bay Quinte, do	Henry Johnston, Michael Davy,

Waterloo, do	John H. Huston, Christ. Thompson,
Elizabethtown,	John Sills, one to be supplied,
Augusta do	John W. Byam, Andrew Bursee,
Matilda, do	I. N. D. West, Luman Hurlburt,
Rideau, do	Henry Lane.

James Richardson, Agent for the British and Foreign Bible Society.

Thadeus Lewis and Joseph H. Leonard, left without an appointment, at their own request.

Question 16th—When and where shall our next Conference be held?

At Trafalgar, on the first Wednesday in Sept, 1841, at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M.

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*To the Members of the Methodist Episcopal Church
in Canada.*

DEARLY BELOVED :

It is with no ordinary degree of satisfaction and comfort, that we, your ministering servants for Jesus' sake, in Annual Conference Assembled, are enabled to address you in the accustomed Epistle of congratulation and advice.

The past year has been one of peculiarly abundant goodness and mercy from the good hand of our God toward our beloved country, our neighbours, and ourselves. The toil of the husbandman being rewarded in the abundant productions of the soil, safely and timely secured in the garner—no pestilence or sickness to any extent being permitted to visit our clime,—and the prevalence of peace within our borders, denote the gracious regard and kind dealings of Providence.

The hand of death has been restrained, and in no instance among us as a body of Ministers, are we called to the painful duty of recording a case of decease among our brethren in the Ministry or of defection from our ranks.

As a church we trust it may be truly said we have been kept in the unity of the spirit and bond of Peace, the comfort of which is enjoyed only by those who possess singleness of heart purity of intention, and oneness of design—Who “walk by the same rule and mind the same things”—But what fills us with increased comfort is the powerful manifestations of the Divine Presence in our religious

assemblies, and the seals to our Ministry with which it has pleased the great Head of the Church to crown our humble labours the past year. The effusions of the Holy Spirit have indeed been copious and refreshing, so that in many of our meetings scores of believers from blessed experience could sing together

“Tis God with us we feel him ours”
 “His fullness in our souls he pours.”

while others were constrained to yield to the claims of dying love, and come forward to enrol themselves under the banner of the cross.

The increase in the number of members in our societies during the year amounts to 734, making the whole number of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada at the present time 5325.

Several comfortable Chapels have been erected, or are in progress of erection through the exertion of our friends, and our finances though far from being what they ought to be, are considerably enlarged and improved.

We have the pleasure of saying that the proceedings of our present session of Conference have been characterized by harmony and love. Our multifarious confessional matters have been taken up, debated on, and disposed of, with calmness forbearance and expedition. Ten fellow labourers, mostly persons in the vigour of life, and of promising abilities, have been added to the itinerancy—called, we trust by the Lord of the Harvest to go forth into his Vineyard, within the rapidly extending field of our labours.

There are several particulars upon the observance of which, depends in our opinion in a great measure the efficiency of our Ministry, and the prosperity of the work of God among us—towards which we now affectionately call your attention. In the first place a punctual and steady attendance upon all the institutions of the Church, commonly called means of Grace—as the Ministry of the word, the administration of the sacraments, public, family and private prayer, class meetings and love-feasts—Secondly, a strict and conscientious observance of that excellent compendium of Christian duty comprised under the head of our “GENERAL RULES” with which every *Methodist* should furnish himself, and be familiar.—Thirdly, the maintainance of the doctrine and purity of the faith once delivered to the saints in the Holy Scriptures, which we hold to be the ONLY as it is the sufficient Rule of our faith and practice, shunning as spurious every thing else presented to us as a revelation from Heaven claiming our assent or obedience, thus will be avoided the delusion and fanaticism into which too many even in this enlightened age, have unhappily fallen.—Fourthly, a ready and hearty co-operation with your fellow Christians of other denominations in every benevolent and moral enterprise, having for its object the glory of God and good of our fellow men—such as Bible, Missionary and Temperance Societies, and Sabbath Schools—thus will we best evince the soundness of our profession, as being of that “peculiar people zealous of good works”—

Lastly, we cannot but remind you of the necessity of system and effort relative to the finances of

our Church. We, as is well known repudiate every means of revenue to the Church, other than the voluntary contributions of the people; upon this voluntary system alone we depend and cannot but believe that, to whatever privations it either has or may subject us, it most effectually tends to preserve the purity and efficiency of the Ministry of the Gospel. Having no other resources we are the more emboldened to call upon our beloved friends for their liberal contributions.—We call not for charity in this matter; our claim to your support is founded on that just, plain, and apostolic axiom that they who preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel, and those who sow to you spiritual things should reap of your carnal things” and again “the labourer is worthy of his hire.” Upon us who have relinquished our worldly avocations, and entered the Gospel field, devolves the work of serving you; upon you the duty of supporting us and ours with a competency of things necessary for this life. Thus will our respective duties and benefits be reciprocated, and all will work together for the edification of the body of Christ.

We would also remind you that much of the usefulness of our Ministry depends upon the intelligence of the preachers,—They “must study to show themselves approved workmen that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”—Therefore we entreat that you will afford them every facility in your power for the cultivation of their minds, and the attainment of useful knowledge.

“Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are

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just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think of these things."

The vineyard of the Lord lies before us, and we are greatly encouraged to proceed with our work, earnestly soliciting your prayers that the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified among us.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Conference assembled at Cummer's Chapel, Yonge Street, 8th Sept., 1840.

JOHN REYNOLDS, *President.*

THOMAS WEBSTER, *Secretary.*

Names, and standing of the Local preachers in connexion with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Canada.

Charles Read, Deacon,	Andrew Banghart,
Morris Kennedy, Deacon,	James Shaw,
James Bailey, Deacon,	William Rogers,
Lawrence Hager, Deacon,	John Coon,
George Fisher, Deacon,	John Boucher,
James Bradshaw, Deacon,	James Gordon,
George Jones, Deacon,	Daniel Unger,
John Elliott, Deacon,	John Corducks,
Elijah Mudge, Deacon,	— Atkinson,
Caleb Taylor, Deacon,	Joseph Mallery,
Jabez Ballis, Deacon,	Reuben Wilsea,
Elijah Tuttle,	John Upper,
Elijah Landon, Deacon,	Charles Roberts,
Jacob Patterson, Deacon,	Daniel Murphy.

Joshua Webster, Elder,	William Ranous,
George Sills, Elder,	William Williams,
Augustus Shorts, Elder.	William Sills,
John Ham. Elder,	Alfred Wood,
Nathan Parks, Elder,	Edward Squires,
Daniel Collard, Dea. elect,	Zebediah Mills,
Ira Bentley, Deacon elect,	Benjamin Loomis,
John Black, Deacon elect,	Zackariah David,
Matthias Hann,	Charles Keeler,
William Hill,	Benjamin Meeker,
John Campbell,	Gilbert Lane,
— Salter,	Amos Bradshaw,
Morris Hendershot,	Jeremiah Cutler.
Thomas Brown,	

AMOUNT OF FIFTH COLLECTION.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Niagara Circuit,	0	16	1½	Hallowell,	1	16	2½
Nelson,	0	5	0	Sidney Circuit,	1	18	0
Yonge Street,	1	2	7	Bay Quinte,	0	14	11½
London,	0	5	0	Waterloo,	0	10	0
Dumfries,	1	8	8	Augusta,	1	6	3
Elizabethtown,	2	1	6	Rideau,	0	4	4
Blenheim,	1	7	9	Col. at conference	2	2	7
Malahide,	0	16	6	Remaining since			
Brighton,	1	5	4	last year,	0	1	7
					£19 2 4½		
Amount Paid Jesse Owen,	£5	0	0				
“ John Sills,	5	0	0				
“ Widow Powley,	4	10	9				
“ Widow Se ver,	4	10	9				
Stationary,	0	0	10½	Total	£19	2	4½

APPENDIX.

Minutes of the Second Annual Report of the Parent Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, convened by appointment according to Article 11 of the Constitution, at Cummer's Chapel, Yonge Street, Sept. 7th 1840, at 7 o'clock P. M.

Meeting opened with singing and Prayer by the President Rev. John Reynolds, who also addressed the Meeting as to the object of this Society.

The following report was then read and adopted:—

REPORT.

Your Committee on presenting their Second Annual Report, beg leave to state for the information of the Society, that the field for missionary operation in this Province is so extensive, that it calls for vigorous activity on the part of our Church, Missionaries might be profitably employed by the Annual Conference, if the Society had sufficient funds for their support.

Men of piety and zeal are willing to engage in this glorious enterprise, being satisfied that it is the cause of God. The only reason therefore why they are not employed is the want of funds.

The Macedonian cry "Come over and help us" has been heard, and shall our brethren and friends who have it in their power to lend assistance, withhold the aid so necessary to establish and perpetuate this arduous and absolutely important undertaking; we are fully persuaded that the philanthropic heart replies, No, your treasury shall be replenished.

Your Committee feel justified in stating, that information among our friends on this momentous subject is absolutely necessary, in order to direct their attention to this department of the Church, and the obligations they are under to God and their fellow men.

We would therefore recommend Missionary Meetings to be held by all our Preachers, and branch Societies formed in every neighborhood where it is practicable, being fully persuaded that the members and friends of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, are anxious to help forward this great work.

Your Committee have learned with pleasure that several Branch Societies have been formed in different places; but regret to state that only two of these Societies have reported to your Committee; viz: the Trafalgar and Esquesing branch Societies, both on the Nelson Circuit. These Societies have collected and paid into the hands of the Treasurer of this Society £12 3 1½.—Your Committee have also received from the members of this Society, £4, making in all £16 3 1½.

A Mission has been established at the Grand River, where a Missionary has labored part of the

past year, for which he has received £12 10, out of what has been collected for this Society.

There remains in the Treasury a balance of £3 13 1½ unappropriated, to which will be added the dividend of the Centenary fund.

Your Committee in closing this report would recommend the Society to encourage the Annual Conference to establish Missions among the Aborigines of our country, and destitute settlements among the whites as soon as practicable.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH H. LEONARD, *Secretary.*

The following Resolutions were then adopted :

1st. Moved by Rev. D. Culp, seconded by Rev. B. Smith, that as the Ministry of the Gospel is the means ordained of God to spread the knowledge of His name, and effect the salvation of Mankind. The Gospel therefore demands the support of all interested therein.

2d. Moved by Rev. James Richardson, seconded Rev. Joseph H. Leonard, That as by Missionary labour Christianity was propagated at first among the Nations of the Earth, so it appears necessary for the further conquests of the Heathen, and dominion of Christ to encourage and employ as extensively as possible Missionaries of the Cross devoted exclusively to the work of the Ministry among the

Aborigines, and those destitute of the stated Ministry of the word.

3d. Moved by Rev. Thomas Webster, seconded by Rev. William Bird, That the following persons be appointed officers for the ensuing year viz :

JOHN REYNOLDS, *President.*

David Culp,
James Richardson, } *Vice Presidents.*
John Bailey, *Treasurer,*
Joseph H. Leonard, *Secretary.*

Benson Smith,
John Sills,
William E. Norman,
John W. Byam,
Gideon Shepard,
Leonard D. Salsbury, } *Managers.*
John H. Huston,
Wm. McKeeby,
Francis Bird,
Leonard Haney.

After the above Resolutions were adopted a collection was taken up for the benefit of the Society.

A number of Persons then come forward and enrolled themselves members of the Parent Society:

JOSEPH H. LEONARD, *Secretary.*

YHAB.

22.9.10