

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-SEVENTH
GENERAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
FREE CHRISTIAN BAPTISTS
OF
NEW BRUNSWICK.

Held at Millstream, Studholm, King's Co.,

July 2d, 4th, 5th, and 6th, 1859.

OFFICERS OF GENERAL CONFERENCE.

REV. BENJAMIN MERRITT, CHAIRMAN,
" **E. McLEOD, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY,**
B. J. UNDERHILL, RECORDING SECRETARY,
E. M. TRUESDELL, ASSISTANT do.
WILLIAM PETERS, TREASURER.

SAINT JOHN, N. B.:

PRINTED BY GEORGE W. DAY, 4 MARKET STREET.
1859.

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MINUTES.

STUDHOLM, MILLSTREAM, KING'S CO.,
July 2nd, 1859.

The Twenty seventh Annual General Conference of Free Christian Baptists of New Brunswick assembled with the Church at Millstream, at 10 o'clock, A. M. After a Social Conference, of two and a half hours, the meeting adjourned until half-past 2 o'clock.

At the hour appointed met again for business. Elder B. Merritt was re-appointed Chairman of General Conference for the ensuing year.

The following members of Conference were present :

Rev. Benjamin Merritt,—Chairman.

MINISTERS :

Rev. Samuel Hartt,
" Charles McMullin,
" Charles E. Bell,
" William Downey,
" Jacob Gunter,
" Edward Wayman,
" John McKenzie,
" Thomas Connor,
" Robert French,
" Ezekiel McLeod,

Rev. George A. Hartley,
" William M. Knollin,
" Cyrel Doussett,
" Alexander Taylor,
" Joseph Noble,
" John Wallace,
" Robert Dobson,
" John Perry,
" William Kinghorne,
" Elijah Sisson.

LICENTIATES :

John Flewwelling,
Benjamin F. Rattray,
Stephen J. Rideout,

Stephen B. Curry,
Joshua N. Barnes,
Samuel Downey.

Delegate from Nova Scotia General Conference, Rev. Charles Knowles.
Visitor " " " " " Charles Uniacke.

DELEGATES :

1st District,—none.

2nd " Elisha Baker, John Hartt.

3rd " Benj. Goodspeed, John Cliff.

4th " None.

5th " Gilbert Perry, Gilbert Downey, Wm. Peters—Clerk.

6th " Robert McLeod, O. Dunphy, Geo. McCready—Clerk.

B. J. Underhill,—SECRETARY.

E. M. Trusdell, Ass't. DO.

The Corresponding Secretary submitted his Report which was adopted and ordered to be published.

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Free Baptist Churches of New Brunswick for the Year ending July 1st 1859.

Beloved Brethren.—With profound gratitude to Almighty God for the innumerable mercies which have crowned our lives during the year that has just closed, we proceed to record some things relative to the cause of God among us as a branch of the Christian Church since our last General Conference. Among the elders of this Conference, death has made no breach during the last year. From among the lay members of our churches some have gone—gone we trust from the church militant, to the church triumphant. Each passing year is carrying some away—some of us that are here to-day will in all probability be in eternity ere next Conference—our earthly mission will be closed, and we shall either be the inhabitants of the glorious world with the saints in light, or we shall be where no prayer nor praise, no love nor joy, no faith nor hope, will ever be enjoyed nor felt. If such be the uncertainty of our existence, and the eternal future to which we are hastening, be of such terrible import, how important that we should well improve the present time to some purpose, and be ready for a discharge from our labours, with the approval of God, and the assurance of immortality and eternal glory. To live well, we must live for God—he who lives for himself, or for a selfish end, like those who live for pleasure only, are dead while they live; and better would it be for such if they had never been born.

We are gathered to-day from various localities—our object we trust in coming together is not the promotion of merely human ends—many of us profess to be labourers with God; the upbuilding of his kingdom should be to us the first of all objects, and sinking every selfish and personal feeling into absolute nothingness, our business is to gird on the truth in doctrine, in practice and in spirit, and following the Captain of our salvation, do battle boldly and valiantly for the cause of our Redeemer. That this may be the case, let every heart pray, and that ere this Conference closes, the Holy Spirit may descend with power, that within these walls may be displays of God's sovereign grace—that a true revival of scriptural piety may be felt in us that are here, and extend to all our churches; and also that there may be added to us such as shall be eternally saved.

The past year has in some respects been one of some trial—financial embarrassment and other causes have contributed to render the year less fruitful in some fields than it probably otherwise would have been; but God has nevertheless owned us this year, and upon our banner we can reinscribe as before "Hitherto the Lord hath helped us." You are aware that at our last General Conference, our churches were divided into districts, and a preacher assigned to each. This arrangement has in some places proved beneficial, in others it has not; when the whole facts connected with this arrangement shall have come before you in the course of this meeting, you will be able to judge more perfectly relative to the judiciousness of continuing this mode of supplying our churches with ministerial care.

The extreme and painful illness of Elder Hartt, which commenced soon after the close of our last Conference, and which continued several months, deprived our churches in the upper districts of that labour and care from him which they had usually enjoyed, and which would doubtless have been continued. As soon, however, as his health permitted he commenced labouring again, and in company with Elder Sipril visited several places and churches. In the Palmer settlement (so called) a revival resulted, upwards of twenty were baptized, and a Church was organized, now numbering about 25 members. A new Church has also been organized in the Parish of Kent by Elder McMullin consisting of about twenty members. The Churches above this have been visited but little except those attended by Elder Sisson. From Elder Orser we have no report.

Elder Bell has laboured within the Presqu' Isle Victoria and other Churches. In connection with the first he has baptized 88 and received into fellowship about 55. Several have also been added to other Churches under his care, he has baptized in all during the year over 50. The Churches under his care are represented as in a prosperous condition.

The Church at Woodstock has been without any pastoral care during the year. An occasional visit from brethren has been all the labour they have had. This is an important place and growing town. The Church has already a large and well finished place of worship. They possess considerable ability to support a ministry, and the well-being of the cause generally in that county would probably be promoted by an efficient and prospering interest in Woodstock.

The Southampton and Queensbury Circuit has been under the care of Elder Downey, and has been greatly blessed. Immediately following the District Meeting in October last under the joint labours of brethren Downey and Bell a revival commenced, which extended to different places, and has continued with more or less power until the present time. In Southampton, where divisions and discord long existed, a powerful display of grace has been felt, large accessions to the Church have been made, and union happily restored among contending parties. Upper and Lower Queensbury and Bear Island Churches have all shared in revival. The labours of brother Samuel Downey during a visit to Lower Queensbury was owned of God. In this circuit there have been baptized by Elder Downey Ninety nine, by Elder Bell Eleven, Total 110. To God be all the praise.

A new Church has been organized in Prince William, by Elder McMullin, consisting of 17 members. They are without pastoral care.

In Douglas a serious trial existed at the beginning of the year; it has not yet been removed, although a good interest existed there during the winter. Elder Gunter laboured among them, and fifteen were baptized. In Nashwalk no special interest has existed during the year. In Fredericton Fifty-three have been baptized, and over Eighty have been received into the fellowship of the Church. Elder Kinghorn also baptized several in the neighbourhood opposite Fredericton. Kingsclear Church enjoyed several months

labour from brother French

which was well received by the community generally. After his engagement with them ceased, Brother Rattray, a licenciate from the Church in Carleton visited them, and some interest was awakened.—An occasional visit from him since has been principally all the labour they have enjoyed.

Elder Gunter has had the pastoral care of the Upper Gagetown Church during the last year. Several were baptized and added to it last autumn. Brother Rattray has expended some labour among them during the latter part of the winter and spring.

The Churches on the Branches of the Oromocto have been under the pastoral care of Elder Wayman. Upper Hampstead has been without ministerial labour the most of the year; aid is much wanted in this church. Elder Perry has laboured with the church at Johnston a part of his time; a revival has been enjoyed and 38 baptized. He has also laboured with the Churches at Little River, New Ireland and Jerusalem. In the latter place several have professed religion. The labours of Brother S. Downey have been blessed in a portion of the Jerusalem Church, and 12 have been baptized by Elder McKenzie, and 5 by Elder Perry. Elder Connor has laboured a portion of his time on a part of the Reach; Elder McKenzie's pastorate of the Belisle Church expired some two or three months since, and Elder Connor has succeeded him. The Wickham Church had some added to it last Winter by brother Doucet; the Henderson settlement Church and vicinity has had the labours of Brother Barns a licenciate from the St. John Church. Elders Hartley and Knollin have laboured in St. John, Portland and Carleton. In the latter place a large revival under the labours of brother Hartley took place, 51 were baptized by him, and the Baptist Churches had also a very large accession.

Elder Noble has occupied a large and extensive field, embracing Sussex, Studholm, and one Church in Springfield. He has been assisted a portion of the year by brother Flewelling, a licenciate. Interesting seasons have been enjoyed, particularly at Corn Ridge, Portage, Middleland and River, and in all these places between forty and fifty have professed faith in Christ and been baptized. In other places large and attentive congregations have been in attendance. Elder Wallace has laboured some on the upper part of Washademoak Lake, and upper Church Millstream; Elder Dobson also on the Lake, Dutch Valley, Upper Sussex occasionally, and at North River. Elder Pennington with the Coverdale, Dover, and Dorchester Churches. A new place of worship was opened last fall on Steeves' Mountain, Moncton, and some revival following, several embraced Christ and was baptized.

Elder Taylor's labour has been confined to the Islands of Campobello and Grandmanan. No special revival has taken place. Eight have been baptized on the profession of their faith at Grandmanan, and five at Campobello.

The foregoing is a brief outline of the Churches, and the labours of our brethren in the Ministry. The brief time which we have had to prepare our report as well as the limited information afforded, render our report necessarily short. These are the facts, however, as they have come to hand.

We would offer devout thanksgiving to God for the souls that have been given us during the year. But in several places where no special

revival interest has existed we believe good has been done by the labours of those who have gone in and out among them. The whole number which have been added during the year is over 440.

The care of our Churches is an important matter to engage the attention of this Conference—on it almost everything else depends. If a church runs down its interest and aid are lost to the denominations,—its influence for good in the community is gone, and it is not unlikely that evils may perish though the declension of piety in the Church.

Before closing we would observe that a special Conference in Hampstead was called in October last, the business of that session related exclusively to finances, and a report of its results will probably be presented at a proper time by the financial committee.

The Sabbath School interest among us is undiminished, and the cause of Temperance has the unwavering support of all our ministers, and we believe nearly all our members. Where this sympathy is withheld, but little piety is looked for.

In conclusion we submit to you this brief report with the same remark that much depends on our ministry—they are God's ambassadors and overseers of his flock, and they will be held responsible at the judgment of the great day for the teaching and example with which they stamp the character of the people. Happy will it be for him who gives himself to the work—preaches the word and makes full proof of his ministry. May the Grace, Mercy, and peace of God the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit rest upon us in this Conference and forevermore, Amen.

E. McLEOD, Corresponding Secretary.

Unanimously adopted.

Rev. Charles Knowles, Delegate from N. S. G. Conference, gave a very interesting verbal report of the state of religion in that Province.

Adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock, A. M., on Monday.

On Saturday evening public worship was held in the meeting-house at Millstream, and on Sabbath in the same place, as well as in the adjoining neighborhoods.

Monday morning, July 4th, 8 o'clock, met pursuant to appointment.

The Committee appointed at last G. Conference to visit Campobello and Grandmanan, gave satisfactory reasons for not attending to that duty.

The Committee appointed to visit the Church at Douglas, report that they visited the Church according to appointment, and investigated the matter of difficulty, but did not make decision.

The Committee appointed to visit the Church in Queensbury report that they attended to that duty, and succeeded in effecting harmony and union.

The Committee appointed to visit the Church in Jacksonowa, report that they attended to that duty, but without success.

The Committee appointed to visit the Church at Bookagumac report that duty attended to with success.

The following Committees were appointed :

- On Accounts.*—Gilbert Perry, B. Goodspeed, E. M. Truesdell, Geo. McOready.
- On the Sabbath.*—Elders E. McLeod, J. Perry, W. M. Knollin, and Bro. G. Downey.
- On Sabbath Schools.*—Bros. B. F. Ratteray, Wm. Peters, and Elders Wm. Kinghorne, R. French, and C. Doucett.
- On Temperance.*—Elder G. A. Hartley, John Wallace, and Bros. E. Baker, and John Hartt.
- On Missions.*—Elders Wm. Downey, A. Taylor, R. Dobson, J. Gunter, J. Noble, and Brother R. McLeod.
- On G. Conference and District Meetings.*—Elders B. Merritt, C. E. Bell, C. McMullin, and S. Hartt.
- On Circuits.*—The whole Conference.
- Adjourned.

Met again at 2 o'clock at the meeting house.

Heard report of Committee on Sabbath Schools, which was adopted.

REPORT.

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools feel particularly desirous to lay before this Conference a Correct report of the present condition of, and interest taken in, the cause of Sabbath Schools amongst us, as a Denomination,—but owing to the limited information which is before us, and the extent of country over which our schools are planted, we can only judge of the unvisited parts by the observation of places and schools visited, and such other information as has indirectly come to hand. We are pleased to say, however, that every year develops a growing interest in, and an increased attachment to this institution, and our convictions are that, under God we owe to our Sabbath Schools that high moral tone, which characterises the great mass of our children, from those who have never come under this influence, and we cannot, for a moment, think it advisable to dispense with Sabbath School instructions, though it may call, as it does, in reality, for pecuniary sacrifice—and without which a sufficient interest cannot be kept up in the minds of the children. Libraries must be replenished—and we would also recommend the importance of having proper hymns and music books, that the children, while young, may become acquainted with the sacred songs now in use. We would further say that we believe the interests of Christ's Kingdom to be indivisible—and whatever has a tendency to store the mind with Bible Truth, has an equal tendency to promote spirituality amongst us as a people. We are also inclined to think that no system of education is better calculated to establish the minds of the rising generation in the doctrines of the cross, than the instructions imparted by the faithful Sabbath School instructor; and we do believe that they occupy positions in the world of an enviable nature, in erecting barriers to stay the tide, and hinder the progress of the spirit of unbelief; and as a Denomination upon which a kind Providence is smiling, we ought to do all that in us lies, to increase the power of an institution which is so well calculated to turn the youthful mind in those channels, and in those streams which flow into that river that shall make glad the city of our God.

We would also beg leave to call the attention of the Superintendents

and Teachers throughout the Province to a very effectual means of increasing the numbers of children and creating a deeper interest in the work, viz: Sabbath School Concerts.— This, we believe, to be no longer an experiment, but an effectual agent in the promotion of our glorious enterprise.

Wherever these Concerts have been held they have not failed to elicit the interest and efforts of parents and older brothers and sisters, and in not a few instances, of those who had never before manifested any care for the spiritual welfare of young immortals; and we do hope soon to see our brethren and sisters' heart and soul committed to the Sabbath School interest. We would also recommend the propriety of holding a Sabbath School Convention as soon as practicable. And in conclusion, we would say that the prosperity of Sabbath Schools amongst us, calls aloud for devout thankfulness to Almighty God.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJ. F. RATTRAY.
R. FRENCH.
WILLIAM KINGHORNE.
CYRELL DOUCETT.
WM. PETERS.

[ADOPTED.]

Committee on Temperance submitted their report which was adopted.

TEMPERANCE.

We rejoice to know that in some parts of our Province, the good cause of Temperance is advancing, and good is being done, but we sincerely regret to report that facts constrain us to say, that in some other sections, especially along the line of Railways, the sale of liquor, and consequently drunkenness and its accompanying evils are fearfully on the increase. As far as our information enables us to conclude, we are glad to say that the temperance societies organised in connection with our churches, are many of them, in efficient working order, and that our people are becoming more and more established and interested in the principles and interest of the cause.

Notwithstanding the good already done, we believe that we, as a denomination, can do very much more than we ever yet have, and therefore urgently recommend that our preachers, especially, take an active part in laboring for the promotion of the total abstinence cause in their several fields of labor; in fact, we do not believe that any man can preach the whole Gospel of Christ without preaching temperance. We also recommend that those of our churches who have adopted our Church Covenant, be strict in enforcing that section referring to temperance, that all our churches be strict in enforcing total abstinence in all their members. We think much good can be done, both in cities and country, by the preaching of temperance sermons, such as the courses delivered by the clergymen of various denominations in the cities of St. John and Fredericton last winter and spring; and we recommend that our Ministers take part in such a measure, whenever opportunity affords.

In conclusion, we rejoice in every effort that is put forth for the ad-

vancement of temperance, but despair in realising our hope by seeing that current of iniquity entirely stayed, until we enjoy the blessings of a strong and thorough Prohibitory Law that will once and forever entirely prohibit the manufacture or sale of all intoxicating liquors in our Province.

G. A. HARTLEY.
JOHN WALLACE.
JOHN HARTT.
ELISHA BAKER.

The Committee appointed to report on the Sabbath submitted the following, which was adopted:

SABBATH.

The Sanctification of the Lord's Day is of Divine origin—it is “a sign between God and us;” the religion of nations, communities and individuals, may be known by the manner in which they keep the Sabbath. Its sanctification is one of the bulwarks of the Christian religion.—Secularise the Sabbath, and one of the foundations of true godliness is demolished, and a way opened for the complete subversion of the Christian faith. The Sabbath “kept holy” is conducive to our worldly interest, to an honorable reputation, to social elevation, and to that “godliness” which has “the promise of the life that now is, as well as that which is to come.” Your committee regret the laxness with which some christians keep the Lord's Day. In some instances church members seem to regard it more as a day for sloth, or visiting, or idle conversation, than for resting in the true sense, typical of that heavenly “rest which remains for the people of God. They would urge upon all parents, and heads of families the duty of “Keeping the Sabbath Day holy; they are not only bound to do so themselves, but they are responsible for their children, their “servants,” their “cattle,” and even “the stranger within their gates.” The violation of the Lord's Day by the children of many christian parents, is a sin of great magnitude, and of many parents it may be said as of Eli, “His Sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.” Your committee regret that the law now existing for the better observance of the Sabbath are not more rigidly enforced. But your committee feel that it would not be desirable to let this opportunity pass without grateful acknowledgment to the great Law-giver and Lord of the Sabbath, for the recent action of the Provincial Government, and mainly attributable to the hon. Charles Connell, Post Master General, in stopping Sunday labor, in that department of public service over which he presides, which action meets the full approbation of this Conference.

E. McLEOD.
J. PERRY.
W. M. KNOLLIN.
G. DOWNEY.

The following report of committee on Missions was submitted and adopted:

The Committee on Missions beg leave to submit the following:—Your Committee, in looking over the minutes of past Conferences, find:

that Missionary labor has conduced much to our prosperity. But, for the last two years nothing has been done. Not that we think that our people have become indifferent to it. But, by reason of our own financial embarrassments, and the general Commercial depression that has prevailed in our Province, as well as in other parts of the world. But as matters begin to look brighter in both respects, we hope that we shall be able soon to engage again in this department of Christian labor.

WM. DOWNEY.

J. NOBLE.

A. TAYLOR.

R. DOBSON.

R. MCLEOD.

J. GUNTER.

[ADOPTED.]

Report of Delegation to Nova Scotia General Conference presented by Elder G. A. Hartley, was read and adopted.

JULY 4th, 1859.

The Delegation appointed by this Conference to attend the General Conference of Free Christian Baptists in Nova Scotia, beg to submit the following report :

As Elder Perry did not go, Elder Hartley was your only delegate, and has much pleasure in stating that he met with that conference in Kempt, Yarmouth Co., and was cordially and warmly received by them. There was a good attendance of Delegates, and nearly all the churches were represented. About all the Ordained Elders, and a few licentiates were present. The manner of labor practiced by their preachers is similar to that pursued by ourselves, previously to the adoption of our circuit system last year. Some revivals were enjoyed in some of the churches, and a very encouraging addition was reported as having been made during the year. They are laboring and making some advance, but are not without their difficulties. Their business at the last yearly session was done by a two-third vote, and a committee appointed to revise their constitution, making such alterations as they may think will be for their prosperity.

They are quite active in the good work of Sabbath Schools, and also zealous in the Temperance cause. Your delegate is glad to be able to report that the health of Elder Knowles was considerably recovered, and he is again able to labor, although not so extensively as formerly.

The devotional meetings were interesting, and we hope good resulted.

We conclude by recommending that a Delegation be appointed from this Conference to attend their next yearly meeting, to be held at Barrington in September next.

G. A. HARTLEY.

Adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock, a.m., to-morrow.

Tuesday morning, 8 o'clock, met for business at the Meeting House.

The following Committee was appointed to wait on Samuel McCready to see on what conditions this Conference can arrange with him in relation to the accounts sold to him by General Con-

ference, viz :—Elders Samuel Hartt, Jacob Gunter, and Brothers Robert McLeod, Gilbert Perry, and E. M. Truesdell.

The above Committee made the following Report :

Mr. McCready makes the following proposition :

- 1st. That the Conference give him power to collect.
- 2nd. He has paid £20—will pay £15 more, and dispense with the power, and be relieved of £100.
- 3rd. Pay him back £20, and he will give up the bargain, as it now stands, keeping what he has collected,—being about £45.

We recommend that the third proposition be adopted.—Committee Room, 5th July, 1859.

J. HARTT.
J. GUNTER.
G. PERRY.
S. McLEOD.
E. M. TRUESDELL.

[ADOPTED.]

William Peters, Treasurer of Conference, submitted the following account, which was received, and the following resolution adopted :

Resolved—That the account submitted by W. Peters, Treasurer, is correct; and that the balance as therein shewn to have been used in the Liquidation Fund be now made a donation to that fund.

Free Christian Baptist Mission Fund in account with William Peters, Treasurer:

JULY, 1859.

By amount in Intelligencer Fund, July, 1857, £70 13 3½

July 4—By amount from 4th church, Brighton	£0 10 0
“ “ “ “ Lower do.	0 6 3
“ “ “ “ 3 churches in Third D.,	2 0 7
“ “ “ “ Church Victoria corner,	3 13 9
“ “ “ “ up the Beckaguimac	0 5 0
“ “ “ “ Mouth	0 12 4
“ “ “ “ Woodstock,	1 1 3
“ “ “ “ George Grass,	0 5 0
	£8 14 2
7½ per cent off	0 13 0

	8 1 2
Fitzherbert Church,	0 7 5
2nd Church Johnston,	0 5 0
Jerusalem, 7s 11d—Nashwaak, 14s 4d,	10 20 3½
2nd Church, Dorchester, 20s—Upper Sussex, 11s 3d, 1s 11 3	
Carried over,	£82 0 5

	Brought over,	£82 0 5
	2nd Church, Sussex, 1s 3d—Portage, 2s 6d,	0 3 9
	Dutch Valley, 2s 7d—3rd Church, Studholm, 5s,	0 7 7
	1st Church, Brunswick,	0 1 3
	Belleisle Creek,	0 2 6
	North River, 5s—Coverdale, 10s,	0 15 0
	Carpenter Settlement, at District Meeting, 2s 6d,	1 8 6
	Elder W. C. Weston, 1s 2d—Victoria corner, 2s 6d,	0 3 7 1/2
	1st Greenwich, 8s—Allen Hovey, 4s,	0 12 0
	George Knox—2s 3d—G. R. Boyer, 7d,	0 2 10
	Foster Morrell, 10s—Mrs. Jos. Wheaton, 2s 6d	0 12 6
	Leveritt Smith, 10s—Wm. McGee, 5s,	0 15 0
	Jonathan Shaw, 1s 3d—Catharine Rideout, 5s,	0 6 3
	Daniel McLean, 6s—Thos. Snow, 5s,	0 10 0
	Collected by Elder Wayman,	3 13 8 1/2
	John Wortman,	0 5 0
		£92 0 11
1857.	Cr.	
Aug. 18—	To paid G. W. Day for printing	
	Minutes,	£12 10 0
Sept. 30	“ “ Delegates to N. S.,	3 6 10
1858		
Feb. 9	“ “ Elder E. Wayman,	15 0 0
	“ “ Special Mission Fund in	
	1856, balance of E. W.	4 0 0
	F. Subscription,	
	“ “ Liquidation Fund for	3 16 3
	Church at Victoria corner	
Sept. 25	“ “ Expenses of Delegate to N. S.,	2 14 7
1859.		
July,	“ “ G. W. Day, for Minutes	10 0 0
		£40 13 1/2
	Balance in Intelligencer Fund,	

The Conference in Committee of the whole on Circuits submit the following Report :

We have considered the matter of Circuit appointments, and recommended its suspension for the present year; and that our ministers and churches be allowed to make such mutual arrangements with each other as they may deem necessary for their mutual benefit.

WM. DOWNEY, Secretary to Committee.

[ADOPTED.]

Resolved,—That the next General Conference be held with the Free Christian Baptist Church in Woodstock, commencing on the first Saturday in July.

Whereas,—This Conference is greatly embarrassed, and whereas funds for delegations, &c., are deficient, and whereas retrenchment for the present year is necessary, and whereas there are

Brethren who would be willing to go as Delegates to Nova Scotia at their own expense, therefore

Resolved,—That the Conference be not called on for funds for this object this year.

[PASSED.]

The following were appointed to nominate Delegates to Nova Scotia General Conference, viz :

Elders S. Hartt, C. Knowles, and C. McMullin,—and annexed is their report, which was adopted.

Your Committee appointed to nominate Delegates to Nova Scotia, General Conference beg leave to submit the following report, viz :—That Elders G. A. Hartley and William Downey be such Delegates, and in case of failure of Elder Hartley, that Brother Elder J. Noble, be his substitute, and also of failure of Elder William Downey, Elder A. Taylor be his substitute.

S. HARTT.
C. KNOWLES.
C. McMULLIN.

[ADOPTED]

The Committee on accounts made the following report which was adopted.

The Committee on Finances, having examined the accounts, find them carefully prepared, and believe they are correct.

By them we find the gross amount of liabilities to be £633 8 3
Assets on hand considered good, 167 2 11

Present liabilities, £466 5 4
Remains unpaid by the Churches, £400 13 10

Making a difference of £65 11 6

To be accounted for as follows,

Interest not anticipated and since accumulated, £30 0 0

Loss on books sold, 15 11 6

Deductions on accounts sold to G. W. Day, 10 0 0

Cash paid for printing Minutes of last year, 10 0 0

£65 11 6

Your Committee recommend that measures be forthwith adopted to enable Conference to relieve them of the above stated liabilities, and also to remunerate William Peters and B. J. Underhill, for services in closing the business stated, in a resolution passed to that effect in your Conference last year.

G. PERRY.
B. GOODSPEED.
G. McCREADY.
E. M. TRUESDELL.

Adjourned.

2 o'clock—Met for business according to adjournment.

The following Committee was appointed to meet Samuel McCreedy, at Sussex, and carry out the resolution of Conference, viz:—Robert McLeod, Wm. McLeod, and Charles Freze, and in case of failure of Charles, his brother Elias be requested to act. B. J. Underhill to accompany them.

Committee appointed to visit the Church at Long Reach, east side, and make report to next General Conference, viz: Elders G. A. Hartley and Thomas Connor, and Brother William Slipp, with power to add.

Committee appointed to amend the Directory to the Churches and make report on Church polity, viz:—Elders S. Hartt, J. Gunter, and Brother E. M. Truesdell.

They Submit the following Report which was adopted, several not voting:—

Your Committee appointed to investigate the Constitution of General Conference and Church polity, come to the following conclusion viz:—That those Sections having reference to the relationship between General Conference and individual Churches, are rather ambiguous, yet we believe that the Constitution and Church polity, as well as all action in the past, do sustain the first principles of our Organization, that is to say, that Churches stand in the same relation to the General Conference as members do to their individual Churches, and that General Conference has the same right of controul over Churches that Churches have over their members.

Therefore *Resolved*, that in future this shall be the action of General Conference.

And furthermore, *Resolved*, that Section 3d in the Church Directory, be so amended as to read thus: All the affairs of this Church shall be under the direction of Church Meetings.

At all Church Meetings the Pastor shall preside, and in case of not having a Pastor the senior Deacon.

SAMUEL HARTT.

JACOB GUNTER.

JOSEPH NOBLE.

E. M. TRUESDELL.

Adjourned to meet at the School House.

Met at School-house half-past 6, for business.

Resolved, that when calls are made on this Conference to visit a Church in difficulty, the Church so asking help shall pay the expences of such Committee.

Committee appointed to visit the Church at North River Westmorland, Elders W. E. Pennington, John Wallace, and Brothers Peter Steves and Noah Steves.

Committee to visit the Church at Douglas, Elders E. Wayman, J. Noble, and B. Merritt, with power to add.

[Adjourned.]

Wednesday Morning, 8 o'Clock, met at the Meeting-house.

The following plan for the support of the Gospel and distribution of Ministerial labour was submitted to Conference for consideration, and is published in order that each Church shall express an opinion on the same at their next District Meeting, so that all may be heard from at the next General Conference.

1. That the Churches be arranged into a given number of Circuits, care being taken to equalise the wealth of the respective circuits as far as possible.

2. That this Conference ascertain the gross amount required for the support of the Ministry.

3. That that amount be divided among the Circuits according to their wealth.

4. That this Conference appoint the salaries of every Minister.

5. That the Ministers be sent to those Circuits in which it may seem probable they can be most useful, irrespective of the amounts required of the Circuits.

6. That every Minister be required to collect the amounts assigned to his Circuit, and all Ministers shall be required to pay the amount exceeding their salary to the treasurer of Conference quarterly, and hence enabling said Treasurer to pay Minister of poorer Circuits the balance of their salaries required quarterly.

7. That every Minister who comes to Conference minus the amount required of them of his Circuit shall lose it out of his salary.
[PASSED]

The following proposal was received and accepted by General Conference.

I propose to be one of twelve who will pay £5 each to sustain a home missionary for one year, choice of missionary to be made by contributors, missionary to labour under the direction of a missionary board appointed by Conference, all money received by him to be strictly accounted for, and to belong to General Conference.

I propose to leave my offer open for one Month, but do not feel myself bound if the amount is not raised, or subscribed by that time.

WM. PETERS

Committee appointed to nominate a Board of Managers recommend the following, which was adopted, viz. — James Slip, Esq., Peleg Smith, Robert McLeod, Sussex, Asa Smith, Robert Slip, George L. Slip, Charles Gunter, D. W. Clark, William McLeod, Thos. W. Carpenter, Revs. Thomas Connor, and John Perry.

William McLeod was afterwards relieved, and Gilbert Perry, Esq., appointed.

The same persons composing the Board of Managers are also appointed a board of Missions.

Adjourned.

The following Resolution was offered and adopted viz:—

Resolved, That it shall be a standing rule of Conference, that there shall be at least two devotional meetings each day of the Session, and that the Moderator shall appoint on each day the Ministers that shall attend these meetings, and the Ministers so appointed shall hold themselves in readiness to comply with the appointment of the Moderator; provided always the Church with which the Conference is held will provide a suitable place for the sittings of business meetings of Conference.

[PASSED]

2 o'clock—Met for business.

Resolved That the agent pay to Seth Erb the sum of Ten Pounds, to be endorsed on one of the notes held by him.

The above sum was paid according to order.

Resolved That William Peters and B. J. Underhill be a Committee to publish Minutes of Conference and that 1,500 copies be Printed.

Resolved That our former agents hand over to the new Board of Managers at as early a day as possible, all Books, Papers, Documents, and Monies.

The following is the expression of Conference respecting the use of Tobacco.

We believe from experience and information that the common use of Tobacco in any form, except in some few cases, as a medicine, is very injurious to the human system, and tends to dissipate and weaken men's mental and moral character, and is also a sinful and extravagant use of money, given of God for a better use than to satisfy an unnatural and self created appetite. Thus we believe to be improper for the church or parents to set the example before their children, and so entail an evil upon our children and after generations. We therefore discontinue the use of Tobacco as a beverage in any form, and wish all our people to use their influence against the continued use of Tobacco, from this time and ever.

[PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.]

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

1st District Meeting to be held with the church at Bishop neighborhood on the last Saturday in August, at 10 o'clock, a. m.

To attend—Elders B. Hart, C. E. Bell, C. McKellin, R. Smith, and E. Spirell.

2nd District Meeting at Upper Brighton, on the last Saturday in October.

To attend—All the Elders appointed to attend the first District Meeting, with Elder J. Gunter.

3rd District Meeting at Kingsclear on the second Saturday in October,

To attend—Elders J. Perry, W. Downey, J. Gunter, J. Noble, A. Taylor, R. French, and B. F. Ratteray.
4th District Meeting at Rushagornish on the third Saturday in October.

To attend—Elders J. Gunter, J. Perry, G. W. Orser, W. M. Knollin, E. Wayman, and A. Taylor.
5th District Meeting at the meeting-house near J. Lake's, Springfield, on the third Saturday in February.

To attend—All the Elders residing or laboring in the District, and also C. E. Bell.

6th District Meeting at Coverdale on the fourth Saturday in February.

To attend—All the Elders in the District, also, Elders J. Perry, and G. A. Hartley.

After hearing the licentiatees relative to their call and labours, the following was the action of Conference relative to them.

Resolved: 1st, That S. E. Gurry, and S. J. Rideout, have their license renewed and they are referred to the Elders appointed to attend the first district Meeting, who are a Committee to decide further respecting them.

2nd, That the License of J. N. Barnes and S. Downey, is sustained. Adjourned to meet at the School-house.

School-house, 7 o'clock.

3d, That the following be a Committee, viz: Elders J. Noble, E. Wayman, and Brothers R. McLeod, W. S. Teakles, and Charles Freeze, with power to add, and to visit those places where Brother John Flewelling has laboured, and if the Committee are satisfied, set him apart by Ordination, if not, renew his license.

4th, That the following be a Committee, viz: Elders S. Hart, B. Merritt, and J. Perry, with power to add, to visit Brother B. F. Ratteray, with the Church at Upper Gagetown, and if satisfied, set him apart to the work of the Ministry by Ordination.

Resolved, That Brother B. J. Underhill, receive out of the Cash now in hand, the sum of Thirty Pounds, on account, and a Conference Note for the balance due him.

Resolved, That the Conference accept the offer of Brother Wm. McLeod, who proposed to pay five pounds for the liquidation of Conference debt, on the condition that he be relieved from the Board of Managers, and that the Church at Millstream be exempt from such demand.

Resolved, That Brother Gilbert Perry be appointed to fill the place of William McLeod, in the Board of Managers and Managers.

Resolved, That Brother William Peters Saint John, be Treasurer of Conference for the ensuing year.

Resolved, That the same amount be raised from each Member of

the Churches formerly, viz: 1s 3d, be requested also this year, to meet the various expenses of Conference. The amounts to be forwarded to William Peter's Treasurer.

Resolved, That the Chairman of General Conference be fully authorised to advertise all appointments of Conference, or any matters connected with the denomination.

Resolved, That this Conference adjourns to meet at Woodstock, on the first Saturday in July next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

B. J. UNDERHILL, Secretary.

At the Conference in July, 1858, our liabilities were			
put down at about			£1134 15 0
Which was increased by continuing			
the publication of the pa-			
per until August 1st, as fol-			
lows, viz:			
Printing, Mailing, and Paper,	£38 15 0		
Editor one month,	12 10 0		
Agent 3 months to October 1, 1858,	35 0 0		
Shop rent, 3 months,	11 13 4		
Difference between amount reckon-			
ed for, prepaid subscribers, and			
amount actually paid McLeod			
and Hartley,			
Actual liabilities when transfer was	22 0 6	119 18 10	
made			
Our liabilities are now, July 21st,			1254 13 10
1859,			
			512 14 0
Liabilities reduced			£741 19 10
Of the amount of Liabilities reduced			
claims have been relinquished,			
and the churches have respon-			
ded to the appeal made in Oc-			
tober last, to the amount of	£337 15 6		
The remainder is for Books sold, and			
debts collected, &c.,	404 4 4	£741 19 10	

The Interest now due on our liabilities would make it amount to about £500,—against which we have in Books, debts due that are good, and cash about £50, which would make yet to provide for £450. The amount that we held against S. McCready at the meeting of Conference and the £20 since paid him, amounting to £134 in all, would have left the amount now at about £315, but as the matter now stands, we have to raise £450, and interest constantly increasing the amount.

We have also the bills returned by McCready against those still owing for the *Intelligencer*, but what amount will be realised on them is quite uncertain.

B. J. UNDERHILL, Recording Secretary.

Saint John, N. B., July 21, 1859: