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MINUTES
OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
METHODIST, EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN CANADA,
HELD AT TRAFALGAR, COMMENCING WEDNESDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER,
1841.

Question 1st.—What Preachers are admitted on Trial ?
Philip Waldron, Wentworth D. Hughton, Benjamin Lawrence,
James Degeer,* Abraham Roy, George Taylor.
*Note—Those marked thus * are ordained Deacons.

Question 2nd.—What Preachers remain on trial.
Wm. T. Cartwright, Alexander Wright, Elijah Harris,
Titus G. Simons, Wm. McKeeby, Andrew Bursee.
Luman Hurlburt.

Question 3rd.—Who have been admitted into full Connection ?
Emerson Bristle, Gideon Shephard, J. N. D. West,
Appelton Jones, James Mitchell, Henry Lane,
Barny Markle, Robert Lyman, Robert Earl.

Question 4th.—Who are the Deacons ?
James Degeer,* Thomas Webster, Robert Lyman,*
Richard Beal, Harny Markle,* Appelton Jones,*
Emerson Bristle,* Edwin S. Furman, Gideon Shephard,*
Henry Lane, Jr. Wm. McKeeby, Christopher Thompson.
*Note—Those marked thus * were ordained this year.

Question 5th.—Who are the Elders ?
James Richardson, Caleb Swazey, Francis Bird,
David Culp, David Perry,, Leonard D. Salsbury,
Philander Smith, Barnabas Brown,* Michael Davy,
John Bailey, James Mitchell,* Joseph H. Leonard,
John H. Huston, George Turner, Wm. E. Norman,
Thadueus Lewis, Henry H. Johnson, Wm. Bird,*
James McNally, Hanvy Gilmore, John Sills,*
Jesse Owen, John W. Byam, J. N. D. West,
Benson Smith, Charles Pettis, Robert Earl.*
*Note—Those marked thus * were ordained this year.

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Question 6th—Who is the General Superintendent ?

JOHN REYNOLDS.

Question 7th—Who have located this year ?

David Griffin, Leonard Haney.

Question 8th—Who are the Supernumeraries ?

Caleb Swazey, George Turner, Robert Earl.
David Perry, James McNally.

Question 9th—Who are the Superannuated Preachers ?

Charles Pettis.

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

Question 11th—Who have withdrawn this year.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

Question 12th—Were all the Preachers characters examined ?

This was strictly attended to.

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

Question 14th—What are the numbers in Society ?

Canboro'	352	Blenheim,	341	Sidney,	540
Niagara	140	Oxford,	238	Hollowell,	290
Toronto,	120	Matilda,	116	Bay Quinte,	422
Yonge Street,	220	London,	354	Waterloo,	348
Whitby,	336	Thames,	242	Elizabethtown,	224
St Johns,	64	Malahide,	110	Augusta.	274
Nelson,	214	Brighton,	250	Rideau,	111
Dumfries,	289				

Total, 5,997
Preachers, 52

Total, 6,049
Total last year, 5,325

Increase this year, 724

Question 15th.—Where are the Preachers stationed this year ?

NIAGARA DISTRICT, DAVID CULP, P. E.

Canboro Circuit,	Emerson Bristle, one to be supplied.
Niagara do	Edwin S. Furman, Titus G. Simons.
Nelson do	William McKeeby, one to be supplied.
Yonge Street do	Barnabas Brown, William Bird,
Toronto do	Jesse Owen, Francis Bird,
Whitby do	James Degeer, Abraham Roy.

James Richardson is Agent for the Upper Canada Bible Society.

LONDON DISTRICT, BENSON SMITH, P. E.

London Circuit,	Henry Gilmore, B. Lawrence,
Thames do	James Mitchell, one to be supplied.
Howard do	Wentworth D. Hughston,
Malahide do	Barney Markle,
Barton do	Robert Lyman,
Dumfries, do	Leonard D. Salsbury, one to be supplied.
Blenheim do	William T. Cartwright, E. Harris.
Oxford do	Andrew Burse.

Robert Earl, Supernumerary.

BAY QUINTE DISTRICT, JOHN BAILEY, P. E.

Brighton Circuit,	Joseph H. Leonard, Michael Davy,
Hollowell do	William E. Norman, one to be supplied.
Sidney do	Thomas Webster, Philip Waldron,
Belleville do	Gideon Shepherd,
Bay do	H. H. Johnson, J. H. Huston,
Watloo do	Appelton Jones, George Taylor,
Elizabethtown do	John Sills, Alexander Wright,
Aughsta do	John W. Byam.
Matilda do	Luman Hurlburt,
Ricéau do	Henry Lane, Jun.
Bonshire Mission,	I. N. D. West.
Brockville,	Philander Smith.

Richard-Beal, Christopher Thompson and Thaddeus Lewis, left without an appointment at their own request.

Question 16th —When and where shall our next Conference be held? Answer. At Cummer's Chapel, Yonge Street, the first Wednesday in September, 1842, at the hour of 10 o'clock, A. M.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN CANADA.

DEARLY BELOVED,

Grace, mercy, and peace be unto you from God our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

We, your Ministers and Servants for Jesus sake, being assembled in our Annual Conference, desire, in the sincerity of our hearts, and fulness of the love of Christ, to present to you this our Annual Pastoral Epistle.

Be pleased, in the first place, dear Brethren, to accept of our assurance of unabated love towards you, and desire for your temporal and eternal welfare, being bound to you not merely by the ties of our common humanity, but by those which arise from oneness of spirit, principle and object, your joy is our joy, your fear is our fear, and your hope is our hope.

We have the heartfelt pleasure of informing you that through the fatherly care and tender mercy of our God, the shafts of death have not been permitted to invade the ranks of your Ministers, or take any of our fellow labourers away during the past year; but in health and strength of body we again meet each

other, and are enabled to attend to those matters which relate to the interests of our Zion; the right adjustment of which is the object of our meeting.

We have likewise the pleasure of congratulating you on the success with which it, has pleased the Divine Spirit to crown our feeble labours the past year; 724 persons have been added to our Societies, making the total number of persons holding acceptable Membership in our Church at the present time 6,049. We are also happy to say that we have peace within our borders; and unanimity, harmony and love have characterised the deliberations of our Conference. Every year's experience and observation make it manifest that we are an improving people; and though far from that maturity in wisdom and usefulness to which we aspire, yet we are much encouraged by its gradual approximation so observable among us.

The number of our fellow labourers called into the itinerant field and added to our Conference this present Session, is six, making the total number of your travelling Preachers 52.

We hope you will not forget the injunction of our blessed Lord, but rather daily remember before the Throne of Grace, to pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth labourers into his harvest,—such as he himself will both call, qualify and own—none else can do his work.

We have been much delighted and edified during this Session of our Conference, to have with us a dear respected brother, the Rev. Hiram Shepherd, who is a member of the Black River Conference in the Methodist Episcopal Church in the neighbouring States; his counsels and labours have been very serviceable, and such tokens of brotherly esteem and love we highly appreciate. You will now, dear Brethren, suffer us to offer a few thoughts regarding some things closely connected with the welfare of the beloved Zion to which we belong. First; the continuance, improvement and efficiency of your Ministers depends very much on their being provided with sufficiency of the things of this life, to make both themselves and their families comfortable while laboring among you. The claims of justice require this; your Ministers, in taking the itinerant field, give up their worldly avocations or means of providing for themselves and families, and subjecting themselves to all the privations and hardships of moving the whole of their household from year to year, they apply the whole of their strength and labour to the service of the Church. And shall not the latter provide

for them? Most surely, justice demands it; and the Gospel law requires it. "Even so hath the Lord ORDAINED that they who preach the GOSPEL should live of the GOSPEL." See the passage at length in 1st Corinthians, chap. 9, from the 7th to the 11th verses.

We refer not to this subject as those who complain of, or distrust the goodness or disposition of our Brethren. We have full confidence in you, but we are desirous with yourselves to see the finances of our Church so improved as to fully meet every reasonable and disciplinary call upon them: to effect this requires, not only liberality of feeling, but system, punctuality and attention. Whatever may be our privations or our wants, we may venture to assure you that the VOLUNTARY system alone for the support of the Gospel Ministry is the only one to which we can resort, or which we can countenance; and therefore in no way will we draw from the resources of the State, nor participate in the provisions of the Clergy Reserve Bill, to meet the wants of our Church; whatever others may do in this respect is no rule to us. Secondly; To preserve the purity and simplicity so remarkably conspicuous in dress and manners among the Primitive Methodists, we would affectionately call your attention closely to that excellent compendium of Christian duty embodied in our Book of Discipline, called "The General Rules of our Society," as handed down to us from the venerable Mr. Wesley, whose name and character we all venerate.

Thirdly; Remember, dear Brethren, the Apostolic injunction, "Be ready to every good work." The various religious enterprises of the day—Bible, Tract, Missionary and Sabbath School Societies claim and are most worthy of your co-operation, support and prayers. Be found among the foremost at the various meetings of these Societies. An aggressive warfare must be vigorously maintained against the strong holds of the enemies of our common Christianity until they all come down and the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our God and of his Christ. The great work of Reformation, effected by means of "Temperance Societies," is not among the least of those worthy our notice. Let every Episcopal Methodist at least be known as a thoroughgoing temperance man—an avowed supporter of the total abstinence scheme for the eradication of Intemperance.

We would inform you of our desire to prosecute the Missionary work by means of societies connected with and under the

management of our own Church; and therefore have instructed the Preachers to form Branch Missionary Societies wherever practicable, to which we affectionately invite your hearty co-operation; and we confidently solicit your patronage in behalf of this peculiarly good work.

Brethren, suffer the word of exhortation which enjoins a constant and devout attendance on all the means of Grace to which you may have access; always be found at your place at the house of worship, at the Class and Prayer Meetings. Never omit your stated domestic and private devotions; cultivate assiduously the Christian affections of the heart; live so near God that you may hold constant communion with him. "Live in the spirit" Let your religion be such as shines in your meekness of temper, forbearance towards others, patience under afflictions, benevolence and kindness towards all, forgiveness of injuries and love to your neighbours. Let there be no occasion to say that you find your religion at the place of meeting and leave it there; but let it be seen at your firesides, in the market, the shop or the field, as well as the meeting house. Then will "others see your good and glorify your Father which is in heaven"

Finally, Brethren, Farewell; be of good comfort; be of one mind; live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

You are in our hearts to live and die with you,

Signed in behalf of the Conference,

JOHN REYNOLDS, President.

THOMAS WEBSTER, Secretary.

A P P E N D I X.

In as much as a yearly report of the Parent Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada has appeared for two years past in the Minutes of the Annual Conference, it appears right to state to our friends the reason why it does not appear in the present Minutes; and the reason is simply because the necessary papers from which a correct report could have been prepared were forgotten by the person who was to have brought them to Conference. We think the matter was explained to the satisfaction of the meeting by the Society's Secretary, the Rev. Joseph H. Leonard. It may be proper here to remark that the Annual meeting of the Society met on Monday evening the 7th instant, at The Trafalgar Chapel. The object of the meeting was explained and enforced by the President of the

Society, our venerable Bishop, to a crowded and attentive audience; after which the Assembly was addressed by the Revs. Thomas Webster, James Richardson, John Bailey, and Hiram Shepherd. Mr. Shepherd is a member of the Black River Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States; he spoke of the Mission cause at some considerable length to the pleasure and edification of the congregation and the profit of the Society. At the conclusion of his eloquent address the collection was taken up, the annual subscriptions received, and several new members added to the Society. When it was proposed by Brother Shepherd the liberal hearted people of Trafalgar should constitute the Bishop and his Lady-life members of the Society, which was accordingly done by a subscription of £2 10 each. It was then suggested by the Rev. Joseph H. Leonard that they should pay the same compliment to Brother Shepherd, and £2 10 was immediately subscribed for the purpose. The meeting was then concluded with singing a Missionary Hymn and Prayer by the Rev. James Richardson.

The following persons are Officers for the ensuing year :

JOHN REYNOLDS, President.
 JAMES RICHARDSON, } Vice Do.
 DAVID CULP, }
 JOHN BAILEY, Treasurer,
 JOSEPH H. LEONARD, Secretary.

Managers—Benson Smith, John Sills, Wm. E. Norman, John W. Byam, Leonard D. Salsbury, John H. Huston, (Gideon) Shepherd, William McKeely, Francis Bird, Leonard Haney.

Amount of Fifth Collection.

Canboro' Circuit,	£3	0	0	Niagara	do	0	17	9	
Toronto	do	1	0	8½	Yonge Street,	do	0	19	9
Whitby,	do	0	13	0	St. Johns,	do	0	0	0
Nelson,	do	0	0	0	Dumfries,	do	0	9	4
Blenheim,	do	1	16	1½	Oxford,	do	0	0	0
London.	do	1	5	0	Thames,	do	0	5	0
Malahide,	do	0	0	0	Brighton,	do	0	0	0
Sidney,	do	2	6	2	Hollowell,	do	1	0	3½
Bay Quinte,	do	0	12	4	Waterloo,	do	0	17	6
Elizabethtown,	do	0	0	0	Augusta,	do	0	9	10
Matilda,	do	0	0	0	Rideau,	do	0	0	0
Total,						£16	0	0¼	
Conference Collection,						2	13	2	
Proceeds from the sale of Discipline,						3	7	1	
						£22	1	0¼	

The above was expended as follows,—Stationary £0 16 14—
Paid Widow Seaver, £21 4 10½. Total £21 1 0.

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

Benjamin Meeker,
Jabez Bullis, Deacon,
Abraham Wilsey,
Israel Mallory,
Barraclough Atkinson,
Zachariah David,
William Ranous,
James Shaw,
Alfred Wood,
Ira Hays,
Gilbert Loin, Deacon,
Amos Bradshaw, Deacon,
Jeremiah Cutler,
John Ham, Elder,
George Sills, Elder,
Benjamin Lewis,
Sawuel D. Shorts,
Morris Hendershot,
John Black, Deacon Elect,
Aldmon Wright,
Morris Kennedy, Deacon,
Thomas Brown,
Daniel Collard, Deacon Elect,
Matthias Horn,
Thomas Addems,
John E. Waldron,
William Brown,

Elijah Tuttle,
William Brown,
Charles Huler,
Coots,
Alexander Foster,
William Williams,
Ira Bently, Deacon,
Alfred Scarlet,
William Sills,
James T. Robinson,
Jacob Patterson, Deacon,
John Upper, Deacon Elect,
Leonard Hany, Elder,
Augustus Shorts, Elder,
Zebediah Mills,
Daniel Unger,
Reuben Wilsea,
Joshua Webster, Elder,
Ferguson,
Lawrence Hager, Deacon,
Abram Parnell,
Michael Gray,
Charles Reed, Deacon,
Charles Roberts,
James Bailey, Deacon,
N. F. English,
David Griffith, Elder.

RUB.
22.9.16