

1852
Handwritten
MINUTES

OF THE NINTH SESSION OF THE NIAGARA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA. HELD AT CUMMER'S CHAP-
EL. YONGE STREET, COMMENCING WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18TH, 1852, AT
TEN O'CLOCK, A. M.

QUESTION I.

Handwritten
What Preachers are admitted on trial?

ANSWER:

William Perritte,
Eli Bartram,
Henry Taylor,

James Kurtz,
Thomas Atkinson,
Alonzo E. Griffith.

QUESTION II.

Handwritten
What Preachers remain on trial?

ANSWER:

Handwritten
D. M. Shaw,

O. G. Collamore,

A. L. Thurston.

QUESTION III.

Handwritten
What Preachers are admitted into full connexion?

ANSWER:

Handwritten
John Foster,*
William D. Brown,
John Ormerod,*

John Wood,*
Nathaniel Roy,*
Geo. Crossfield.

*These were ordained this year.

QUESTION IV.

Who are the Deacons?

ANSWER:

Elijah Harris,
George Abbs,

George Bennett,
Edward Lounsbury,
William F. Lowe.

QUESTION V.

Who are the Elders?

ANSWER:

James Richardson,
John Bailey,
Charles Pettis,
Daniel Pickett,
J. W. Byam,
Thomas Robson,
Samuel Morrison,
Schuyler Stewart,
E. L. Koyle,

D. Culp,
Jesse Owen,
Caleb Sweazy,
Thomas Webster,
Samuel Dunnett,
George Turner,
Lewis P. Smith,
Barnabas Brown,
William Cope,

Emerson

Emerson Bristol,
Chester W. Frazer,
George Lawrence,
William Woodward,
I. B. Richardson,
John Tufford,
Barney Markle,
A. Jones,
J. W. Jacobs,*
George Crossfield,*

John Gibson,
Niram A. Frazer,
John Hayward,
Benjamin Lawrence,
George P. Harris,
J. Mitchel,
Gideon Shepard,
William Sutton,
W. D. Brown,*
Thomas Dawes,*

John McLean.*

* These were ordained this year.

QUESTION VI.

Who are the General Superintendents?

ANSWER:

John Reynolds, Philander Smith,

QUESTION VII.

Who have located this year?

ANSWER:

Henry Gilmore, S. M. Eastman,
W. D. Hughson.

QUESTION VIII.

Who are the Supernumeraries?

ANSWER:

James Mitchel, Scuyler Stewart,
Caleb Sweazy, Elijah Harris,
George Bennett, Chester W. Frazer,
I. B. Richardson, Niram A. Frazer.

QUESTION IX.

Who are the Superannuated Preachers?

ANSWER:

Charles Pettis, George Turner,
Daniel Pickett, Barney Markle,
David Culp, Jesse Owen.

QUESTION X.

Who have been expelled this year?

ANSWER: None.

QUESTION XI.

Who have withdrawn this year?

ANSWER: None.

QUESTION XII.

Were the Preachers' Characters examined?

ANSWER: This was strictly attended to.

Charles Pettis

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QUESTION XIII.

Who have died this year?

ANSWER:

J. H. Huston,

A. R. Roy.

QUESTION XIV.

What are the numbers in Society?

ANSWER:

Darlington,	186	Howard,	165
New Market,	82	Southwold,	95
Whitby,	243	Thames,	120
Markham,	175	Bosanquet,	91
Yonge Street,	246	Orangeville,	45
Toronto	297	St. Vincent,	71
Nelson,	200	Welland,	75
Hamilton,	40	Garafraxa,	94
Barton,	266	Oakland,	99
Canboro',	151	Long Point,	67
Gainsboro',	120	Dorchester,	127
Niagara,	87	St. Marys,	109
Norwich,	200	Oneida,	34
Oxford,	110	Oakwood,	76
Blenheim,	100	St. Clair,	96
Dumfries,	200	Sandwich,	24
Rainham,	95	Kincardine,	18
London,	361	Maitland,	11
Malahide,	196	Traveling Preachers	58

Total, 4830

Total last year, 4911

Decrease this year, 81

QUESTION XV.

Where are the Preachers stationed this year?

ANSWER:

Toronto District.

JAMES RICHARDSON, PRESIDING ELDER.

Darlington Circuit.—G. Crossfield.

Whitby Circuit.—Thomas Robson. C. W. Frazer, Supernumerary.

~~Markham Circuit.~~ D. Brown.

New Market Circuit.—D. M. Shaw.

Yonge Street Circuit.—Samuel Dunnnett. One to be sent.

Toronto Circuit.—A. J. Jones, William Sutton.

Nelson Circuit.—Samuel Morrison, William Perritte.

Georgetown Circuit.—John Foster. One to be sent.

Oakwood Circuit.—To be supplied.

Niagara District.

THOMAS WEBSTER, PRESIDING ELDER.

Hamilton Station.—J. Hayward; John Bailey, who is our Book Steward; Gideon Shepard, who is our Editor; Schuyler Stewart, who is our Agent to collect the old debts due the *Canada Christian Advocate*.

Niagara Circuit.—George Abbs.

Welland Circuit.—John Tufford.

Canboro' Circuit.—Eli Bartram.

Gainsboro' Circuit.—R. B. Cook; Caleb Sweazy, Supernumerary.

Saltfleet Circuit.—George Lawrence; George Bennett, Supernumerary.

Barton Circuit.—George P. Harris.

Dumfries Circuit.—Emerson Bristol, J. Kurtz; N. A. Fraser, Supernumerary; B. Markle, Superannuated.

Blenheim Circuit.—John Gibson.

Oakland Circuit.—J. W. Byam; Jesse Owen, Superannuated.

Rainham Circuit.—John Wood.

Oneida Mission.—Barney Brown.

London District.

WILLIAM COPE, PRESIDING ELDER.

London Circuit.—E. L. Koyle, one to be sent; D. Culp and D. Pickett, Superannuated; James Mitchell, Supernumerary. J. W. Jacobs left without an appointment, at his own request.

Malahide Circuit.—H. Taylor, one to be sent; E. Harris, Supernumerary; C. Pettis, Superannuated.

Southwold Circuit.—Thomas Atkinson.

Norwich Circuit.—Edward Lounsbury, one to be sent.

Oxford Circuit.—L. P. Smith; I. B. Richardson, Supernumerary; G. Turner, Superannuated.

Dorchester Circuit.—Thomas Dawes.

St. Mary's Circuit.—William F. Lowe, esse

Bosanquet Circuit.—John McLean.

Howard Circuit.—J. Ormerod. One to be sent.

St. Clair Mission.—To be supplied.

Huron Missionary District.

WILLIAM WOODWARD, PRESIDING ELDER.

St. Vincent Mission.—A. L. Thurston. One to be sent.

Notawasaga Mission.—To be supplied.

Orangeville Mission.—Benjamin Lawrer.

Garafraxa Mission.—Alonzo E. Griffith.

Kincardine Mission.—To be Supplied.

Maitland Mission.—O. G. Collamore.

QUESTION XVI.

When and where shall the next Conference be held?

ANSWER:

At the village of Oakland, Oakland Circuit; to commence on the third Wednesday in August, 1853, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

QUESTION XVII.

What is the amount of the fifth collection?

ANSWER:

Circuits.	Amounts.	Circuits.	Amounts.
Darlington,	£1 4 0	Howard,	£1 5 0
New Market,	0 5 9½	Southwold,	0 12 0
Whitby,	1 5 5½	Thames,	0 10 0
Markham,	1 3 8	Bosanquet,	0 13 3½
Yonge Street,	1 15 0	Orangeville,	0 0 0
Toronto,	4 10 1	St. Vincent,	0 7 6
Nelson,	3 6 6	Welland,	0 12 11½
Hamilton,	0 5 0	Garafraxa,	0 6 10½
Barton,	5 1 7½	Oakland,	1 10 3
Canboro',	0 14 3	Long Point,	0 0 0
Gainsboro',	Not returned.	St. Marys,	1 0 11
Niagara,	2 17 8	Dorechester,	1 10 0
Norwich,	0 17 6	Oneida,	0 0 0
Oxford,	1 6 8	Oakwood,	0 0 0
Blenheim,	1 11 3	St. Clair,	0 0 0
Dumfries,	2 10 0	Sandwich,	0 0 0
Rainham,	0 11 8½	Kincardine,	0 0 0
London,	1 7 3	Maitland,	0 0 0
Malahide,	1 15 7½		

QUESTION XVIII.

How was this appropriated?

ANSWER:

NOTE.—The answer to this question has not been furnished

[Handwritten notes and scribbles, including the word "Laid" and various numbers and lines.]

STEWARDS' REPORT.

CLAIMS, RECEIPTS, AND DEFICIENCIES OF EFFECTIVE PREACHERS, WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE NIAGARA CONFERENCE :

CHARGES.	PREACHERS.	CLAIM.			RECEIVED.			DEFIC'Y.		
		£	s	D	£	s	D	£	s	D
Toronto District,	S. Morrison,	80	0	0	60	11	6	19	8	6
Toronto Circuit,	A. Jones,	80	0	0	80	0	0	0	0	0
Do.	A. L. Thurston,	25	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0
Yonge St. Circuit,	W. D. Brown,	85	3	4	85	3	4	0	0	0
Do.	Elisha Draper,	31	5	8	31	5	8	0	0	0
New Market,	A. Hall,	75	0	0	27	12	7	47	7	5
Markham,	William Sutton,	70	0	0	43	14	5½	26	5	6½
Whitby,	A. R. Roy,	00	0	0	22	19	11	00	0	0
Do.	Wm. Perritte,	00	0	0	12	14	11½	00	0	0
Darlington,	G. Crosfield,	75	0	0	45	5	0	29	15	0
Do.	D. M. Shaw,	25	0	0	15	17	3	9	2	9
Orangeville Mission	B. Lawrence,	Returned			in Mission-			ary Rep't.		
St. Vincent,	W. Woodward,									
Howard,	J. Ormerod,	70	0	0	52	0	0	18	0	0
London,	H. Taylor,	76	0	0	61	0	0	6	0	0
Bosanquet,	O. G. Collamore,	65	0	0	30	6	6½	34	13	11½
Norwich,	J. Wood,	68	15	0	45	18	0	22	17	0
Do.	Thos. Atkinson,	26	5	0	26	5	0	0	0	0
Oakland,	S. Dunnett,	82	10	0	50	12	6	31	7	6
Thames,	J. D. Dolson,	59	10	0	29	11	10½	29	8	11½
Malabide,	Nath'l Roy,	75	0	0	63	5	0	11	15	0
Sandwich Miss'n,	Returned in Mis-			sionary Report.						
Maitland do.										
Kincardine do.										
London District,	W. D. Hughson,	75	0	0	54	6	8	20	13	4
Gainsboro' Circuit,	T. Robson,	No returns								
Blenhiem,	J. Gibson,	No returns								
Barton,	G. P. Harris,	All claims			paid in full.					

TO THE MEMBERS

OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA, WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE NIAGARA CONFERENCE. GRACE, MERCY, AND PEACE, BE MULTIPLIED.

DEARLY BELOVED: The annual return of our Conference assembly presents another opportunity of expressing, in the usual form of a pastoral address, the deep interest we feel in your welfare and the common prosperity of our Zion.

United, as we are, by not merely the common bond of Christian regard, but by the closer ties of the peculiarities of our order and church fellowship, and the still more endearing relations of pastors and flocks; it becomes us to cherish, by every practicable means, those sentiments and sympathies by which we may indeed be as the "three-fold cord, not easily broken."

Since we last addressed you, another year of our probationary time has rolled around, carrying with it to the grand annual the record of our actions, our labors, our sufferings and our cares;

the final results of which will undoubtedly appear in the due order of events, either in our weal or in our woe. We would deprecate our faults, our omissions, and our short-comings, in humble confidence that they are, through the merits of our Saviour, Christ, forgiven. We cherish the hope that our sincere, though imperfect, labors will not be in vain in the Lord. Should it appear, in the great day of accounts, that precious souls have been brought to God, or his glory promoted by our humble instrumentality; how rich will then be our reward—how sweet our consolations—how triumphant our rejoicings!

With this "recompense of our reward" before us, we feel stimulated to fresh exertions and renewed labors; and the patient endurance of whatever hardships or privations may be attendant on the life of an itinerant minister. We would, did occasion call for it, even emulate the example and cherish the devotion of him, who, in view of certain approaching conflicts and sufferings in his master's cause, could exclaim, "None of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus to testify the gospel of the grace of God." May He who has said, "Thy shoes shall be iron and brass; and as thy day, so shall thy strength be," continue with us in our journeyings, then shall not our hearts fear, nor our hands hang down, nor our knees grow feeble; but rather will we say, "Let us go up at once and possess the land, for we are able to overcome it."—"Brethren, pray for us."

It hath pleased the Lord, in His inscrutable wisdom, to make an inroad in the ranks of our ministry during the past year. Two of our number, Brother J. Huston and A. R. Roy, have fallen under the stroke of death—the latter in the vigor of matured manhood, and while actively and successfully prosecuting his labors in the itinerant field; the other in the infirmities of advanced life and the retirement of a superannuated relation; yet both, we trust, prepared for the event—though fallen, not vanquished—though departed from us, yet present with the Lord, and to appear again, as we trust, with him in glory; therefore, will we not "mourn without hope;" but rather anticipate the joyful re-union which awaits the faithful at the "resurrection of the just."

The past year has not been marked with any extraordinary revival within the bounds of our labors; nevertheless, we are warranted to say that there is a manifest improvement in the condition of our church—in the union and stability of her members, the amount of her resources, the extension of the field of operation, especially in the missionary department; the number of her edifices, and the financial state of the printing estab-

lishment, which is now nearly redeemed from its former embarrassments by the liberality of our friends and the prudent management of its conductors; so that should the debts due it be collected, and the same liberality and economy be continued, the "*Book Room*" may, at no distant day, be replenished and put into active and successful operation, as an important auxiliary to the ministry of the church. The publication of religious books, and their distribution by means of an itinerant ministry, are commensurate with the rise and progress of the Methodist societies, both in Europe and America, and they have proved, while increasing religious knowledge, a very valuable and important branch of revenue for the support of worn-out preachers, their widows and children,—the claims of whom are imperious, and must not be overlooked. Dependent as our connexion is on the free will offerings of the people (for we neither have nor desire to have any other means by which the allowance for the support of our effective ministry may be raised) we will be excusable in urging upon our beloved brethren the duty of contributing, in proportion as the Lord may prosper them, to the furtherance of the work. We desire this, not so much for our own sakes, as that "fruit may abound to your account." Where the spirit of liberality is cherished, there will the several christian graces be more conspicuous and matured, the loveliness of our religion show itself, the bonds of brotherhood be strengthened, the confidence and stability of the ministry greatly increased, and the voluntary principle more firmly sustained. And, above all, let us ever remember that "the Lord loveth a cheerful giver." A reference to our published annual Minutes and Missionary Report, will show the amount of our funds and the objects to which they are appropriated, and how inadequate they are to meet the several demands on the various departments of our work.

A wide field is open before us in the increasing extension of the back settlements of our country, and among the aborigines of the land. On you, dear brethren, depends the question,—Shall we go forth and cultivate it? Supply us with the means and laborers will be forthcoming, and the solitary places will be glad, and the wilderness bud and blossom as the rose.

While we would exhort you to liberality in behalf of the institutions of our branch of the great christian community, we would have you not overlook the claims to those that are more general in their character, and which embrace a wider field in their operations. Among the first of these stands the Bible Society. This noble and God-like institution commends itself to us by the simplicity of its object—the universal diffusion of the word of the Lord in the numerous languages of mankind, and

the vast amount of good already attained by the combined operations of the numerous auxiliaries and branches throughout christendom. By means of which more than thirty-three millions of copies of the Scriptures, comprising 130 different versions, have been furnished the various nations and tribes of men—the most remote and barbarous, as well as those more refined and at hand. Then follow in order, Religious, Tract and Book Societies, Sabbath Schools, and Associations and Orders for the suppression of Intemperance. In regard to the latter, we have taken action in this conference with the view of obtaining the enactment of a law for the entire suppression of the poisonous traffic in spirituous liquors; which, we trust, will meet with the cordial co-operation of every lover of religious order, or society.

The advances of the age and the times in which we live are portentous; they are big with important results—old customs and habits, hitherto tolerated by the apathy of past ages, are now passing through the ordeal of public opinion, their character and influence tested, and a thorough revision in many respects is the result. It is for us to be awake to these things, form our judgments, act our part in the public drama, and use our endeavors to preserve what is commendable, and renounce the pernicious. The most casual observer of the religious movements of the day, will discern that there is no neutral ground upon which the friends of truth can repose; the conflict between truth and error, between the “religion of the priest” and the religion of God,” is rife, increasingly so. Let us then, dear brethren, buckle on our armour, stand forth in the ranks, show ourselves on the side of truth, and be prepared for the conflict—“the battle of that great day of God Almighty.”

The institution of the Sabbath is an ordinance of God; therefore, be strict and uniform in its observance. The sanctity of that holy day cannot be dispensed with. It cannot be violated with impunity. Therefore, brethren, we trust you will not suffer yourselves to be drawn into any practice, such as social visiting, worldly conversation, or pleasurable recreations, in which so many half-hearted christians indulge on that holy day.

Our conference has taken action also in regard to this day, with a view of seconding the efforts now being made by others for the interference of the Legislature to prevent its profanation, by business transactions in our Post Offices, or the performance of any other public work. We earnestly invite your co-operation for the suppression of these public evils.

We would not close without again affectionately urging upon you the closest attention to the duties connected with personal and domestic piety. Let the closet witness your regular,

frequent, and fervent aspirations for *purity of heart*; stop not short of its attainment. It is the blood-bought, covenant privilege of every believer. Imitate the example, in this respect, of the early christians, and first among the Methodists, with others. Attend strictly to family prayer, and exert a wholesome parental discipline, "that our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth, that our daughters may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace." We cannot be too particular and strict in our attendance on the public means of grace. Never suffer your seat in the church or class-room to be vacant, unless unavoidably so. Let not the weakness or imperfections of your minister be a plea for your non-attendance. Go to be *profited* by the meeting with God's people, rather than to be *pleased* with an eloquent or entertaining discourse.

As the missionary department of our church is becoming every year of greater importance, we intend to provide a deputation for holding the usual missionary meetings at the proper season; we trust you will bring as many of your neighbors as you can influence to attend with you, and thereby give countenance and aid to a cause which is so well worthy the support of every person interested in the extension of Christ's Kingdom and the salvation of souls.

Finally, brethren, "stand fast in the Lord, be perfect, be of sound mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

Obituary Notice of the Rev. Abraham R. Roy.

Brother Roy was born, October 4th, 1818, in the Township of Gainsboro', C. W., where he spent the early part of his life. He experienced religion in a protracted meeting, held by Rev. L. Salsbury in Page's School House, in the fall of 1838. Immediately after having experienced this great change he commenced to warn others to "flee from the wrath to come," and to invite them to come to Christ for salvation. He was soon licensed to exhort, and subsequently to officiate as a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada.

It soon became evident to those who were most intimately acquainted with his talents and grace, that he was called to a more extensive sphere of action, and he was accordingly recommended to the itinerant work; was admitted on trial in the Conference, and appointed to the Whitby Circuit, on which he labored with great acceptability and success. He travelled successively the following Circuits: Niagara Circuit one year, Oxford and Blenheim one year, Malahide one year, London District two years, Nelson Circuit two years. Towards the close of his second year on the Nelson Circuit he was brought near

the gates of death by a malignant fever, from the effects of which he never fully recovered. His next and last appointment was to the Whitby Circuit; the circuit upon which he commenced his itinerant labors, and upon which they were finally terminated. He entered upon this, his last earthly charge, in high spirits, and continued to labor with great zeal, acceptability, and success, until seized with his last illness, which speedily terminated his earthly career, and he was permitted to exchange the cross for the crown. The closing scene is thus described by Bishop Smith, in a short obituary notice which appeared in the *Canada Christian Advocate* shortly after his decease:

"He left home on Friday, the 21st of May, to fill his appointments, but his work was done. He returned home on Saturday, when medical aid was procured, but in vain; he went down rapidly under a complication of diseases, till Wednesday, about nine o'clock, P. M., when his happy spirit took its flight to glory, leaving the worn-out body to 'corruption, earth, and worms.' I was with him Wednesday afternoon, and left about two hours before his death. When I first entered the room he said, 'Br. Smith I am going to die—I have not a doubt or cloud on my mind. Tell my brethren in the ministry,' said he, 'never to quit the field until God calls them out of it. I have often been tempted to leave the itinerancy, but bless God I die in the field.'"

Thus lived, and thus died our highly esteemed and beloved brother. He closed his useful life in peace and holy triumph, exclaiming, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law, but thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Happy will it be for us, if, in our last moments, we can say, with our departed brother, "All is well." He had been in the field ten years; he had sacrificed much, but he could say, "I am not sorry for any sacrifice that I have made." He then felt that to labor, and sacrifice, and suffer, in the vineyard of the Lord was indeed a privilege, a glorious privilege; and having lived to God on earth, he felt that to die would be eternal gain. May we be enabled to imitate his virtues, to live and labor as he lived and labored, then may we anticipate the same peaceful and happy end, and a joyful meeting with our departed brother in the brighter realms of eternal day.

Obituary Notice of Rev. John H. Huston.

Brother John H. Huston was a native of Ireland. The time when he emigrated to America we know not. The first we

learn of him is, he was engaged in teaching school in the Township of Toronto.

It is more than twenty-five years since he entered the itinerant ministry, and for many years labored in the vineyard of the Lord. Br. Huston was unassuming in his manners, prudent in his management, and of industrious and studious habits. For some years previous to his death he sustained a superannuated relation to the Conference. But he has ceased to labor and suffer in the church militant, and, we humbly trust, rests from his labors in the church triumphant above. He died in peace, October 9th, 1851, at his own residence, in the Township of Dawn, after an illness of three weeks "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

APPENDIX.

NAMES AND STANDING LOCAL PREACHERS WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE NIAGARA CONFERENCE:

Malahide Circuit.—John Elliott, Deacon; David Griffin, Elder; Orrin H. Tyrrell, William Yokom, Richard Yokom, Preachers; Francis Hadely, Deacon Elect.

London.—Aaron Trotman, Preacher.

London Circuit.—W. D. Hughson, Elder; James Bailey, Matthew MaGill, Robert Smith, Ralph Morden, Deacons; William E. Cope, Stephen Lancaster, John P. Morden, Robert McGuffin, William R. Morden, Silas E. McNames, Henry Taylor, Preachers.

Thames Circuit.—Alfred Scarlet, Deacon; Elijah Sutton, Preacher; James Dolson, Deacon. John Bobier, Preacher;

Southwold Circuit.—Ira Bently, Deacon.

St. Clair Mission.—Edward Bakeman, Preacher.

Bosanquet Mission.—Nathaniel Westover, S. M. Eastman, Marmaduke Archer, William Brown, John Jefferson, Preachers.

Kincardine Mission.—John S. Cox, Deacon.

Sandwich Mission.—William M. Campbell.

Darlington Circuit.—J. Bradshaw and William Hill, Deacons; J. Carscadden, Jared Tyler.

Whitby Circuit.—G. Wells, G. Fisher, F. Lattimore, J. Campbell, Deacons; Jarvis Frazer.

Markham Circuit.—George Hines, J. Forsyth, J. Cunningham.

Yonge Street Circuit.—Elisha Draper, Nathaniel Carrol, William Cain, Matthew Taylor.

Toronto Circuit.—James Berry.

Oakwood Circuit and Mission.—William Cotton, Heman Davis, Anson Wood.

St. Vincent Mission.—James Cook, H. Kenarick, George Smith.

Niaraga Circuit.—Daniel Collard, Deacon; Jesse Brodrick.

Welland Circuit.—Thomas Rainey, William Dell.

Canboro' Circuit.—A. Bradshaw, Elder; A. Rogers, William Stringer, J. M. Collins.

Gainsboro' Circuit.—L. Haney, Elder; J. Pattison, Elder; J. Upper, Deacon; G. Lane, Deacon; Jeremiah Cuttler.

Barton Circuit.—J. Vandusen, J. N. Elliot, John Scott.

Dumfries Circuit.—William Bawtenhimer, M. Hendershot.

Nelson Circuit.—Morris Kennedy, Deacon; L. Hager, Deacon; A. Burnell, S. Griffin, L. M. Dymick.

Garafraza Mission.—R. Lyman, Francis Warren.

Oneida Mission.—H. Jones, D. E.; Thomas Funn, D. E.

Rainham Circuit.—G. F. Hill, Deacon; A. Bursee, Elder; C. Reid, Deacon.

Norwich Circuit.—J. Connel, Elder; Hezekiah Tuttle; J. Darling, Orrin Avery, E. Mudge.

Oxford Circuit.—D. M. Howell, — Abbot.

Dorchester Circuit.—Ransom Dexter, Deacon; John Day, W. J. Cartwright, A. Talluch.

St. Mary's Circuit.—T. Brown, Deacon; Richard Vines.

Resolution.

Resolved.—That Trustees having oversight of the Parsonage property, are requested to hold Preachers personally responsible for any waste or mutilation during their occupancy of such property.

Examining Committee.

Thomas Webster,

Samuel Morrison,

E. L. Koyle.

J. Richardson,

Samuel Dunnett.

The candidates to meet the Committee on the Tuesday, immediately preceding the opening of the Conference, at 1 o'clock, P. M.

MINUTES

OF THE NINTH SESSION OF THE BAY OF QUINTE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA. HELD IN THE VILLAGE OF PERRY, COMMENCING ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1852, AT TEN O'CLOCK, A. M.

QUESTION I.

What Preachers are admitted on trial?

ANSWER:

W. A. Sills,
J. D. Bell,

Josiah Sparrow,
P. W. Hindmarsh.

QUESTION II.

Who remain on trial?

ANSWER:

H. D. Powis,

Daniel Pomroy.

QUESTION III.

Who are admitted into full connexion?

ANSWER:

G. I. Betts,

D. F. Hutchinson,

Thomas Plato.

QUESTION IV.

Who are the Deacons?

ANSWER:

G. I. Betts—ordained this year; N. H. Howard—elected Elder, but being sick was not ordained; John McMullan—suspended from the exercise of the functions of the ministry for one year.

QUESTION V.

Who are the Elders?

ANSWER:

J. F. Wilson,

S. W. LaDu,

E. Orser,

T. Plato,

D. F. Hutchinson,

John Tuke,

H. H. Johnson,

A. Wright,

W. Bird,

G. Jones,

S. Young,

W. E. Norman,

J. A. Rogers,

J. G. Bull,

D. Brown,

R. Perry,

H. Lane,

D. Wilson,

J. Hill,

J. W. Sills.

D. Perry,

W. Graham,

B. Smith,

H. Williams,

R. Earl,

J. H. Johnson,

W. Brown,
James McNally,
James Gardiner,
Luman Hurlburt.

Thaddeus Lewis,
Joseph Gatchell,
Charles Manson,

* Ordained this year.

QUESTION VI.

Who are the General Superintendents ?

ANSWER:

John Reynolds,

Philander Smith.

QUESTION VII.

Who are the Supernumeraries ?

ANSWER:

James McNally,

Daniel Brown,

Michael Davy.

QUESTION VIII.

Who are the Superannuated Preachers ?

ANSWER:

Joseph Gatchell,
Thaddeus Lewis,
Robert Perry

H. H. Johnson,
David Perry,
I. N. D. West.

QUESTION IX.

Who have Located this year ?

ANSWER: None.

QUESTION X.

Who have been Expelled ?

ANSWER: None.

QUESTION XI.

Who have Withdrawn ?

ANSWER:

Joseph H. Leonard,

H. Dockham.

QUESTION XII.

Are all the Preachers Blameless in life and conversation ?

ANSWER: This was strictly attended to.

QUESTION XIII.

Who have Died this year ?

ANSWER:

John Sills.

QUESTION XIV.

What Numbers are in Society ?

	ANSWER:	
Hope,	115	Wolf Island, 38
Cobourg,	52	Leeds, 44
Brighton,	153	Kingston, 80
Consecon,	94	Crosby, 152
Hallowell,	123	Elizabethtown, 256
Milford,	67	Brockville, 62
Percy,	130	Augusta, 125
Sidney,	140	Matilda, 135
Belleville,	37	Stormount, 74
Huntington,	180	Rideau, 180
Rawdon,	149	Bytown, 75
Tyendenaga,	204	Bonna Cheur, 50
Bay Quinte,	234	Ottawa, 33
Camden,	194	Winchester, 95
Waterloo,	324	Traveling Preachers, 44
		3639
Total this year,		3639
Total last year,		3911
		3911
Decrease this year,		272
		272

QUESTION XV.

Where are the Preachers stationed this year?

ANSWER:

Bay Quinte District.

S. W. LA DU, PRESIDING ELDER.

- Hope Circuit.—John Tuke; T. Lewis, Superannuated.
- Cobourg Station.—J. H. Johnson; Joseph Gatchell, Superannuated.
- Brighton Circuit.—Hiram Williams.
- Percy Circuit.—N. H. Howard.
- Seymour Mission.—To be supplied.
- Rawdon Circuit.—William A. Sills; H. H. Johnson, Superannuated.
- Sidney Circuit.—George Jones; I. N. D. West, Superannuated.
- Consecon Circuit.—J. A. Rogers.
- Hallowell Circuit.—S. Young; W. E. Norman.

Kingston District.

BENSON SMITH, PRESIDING ELDER.

- Huntington Circuit.—A. Wright; D. Brown, Supernumerary.
- Tyendenaga and Hungerford Circuit.—J. F. Wilson, Josiah Sparrow.
- Belleville Station.—H. D. Powis.
- Napanee Circuit.—William Bird.
- Bay Quinte Circuit.—J. G. Bull, one to be sent; Robert Perry.

Superannuated.
 Camden Circuit.—Henry Lane.
 Waterloo Circuit.—David Wilson, J. W. Sills; D. Perry,
 Superannuated.
 Kingston and Leeds Circuit.—J. Gardiner, P. W. Hindmarsh.

Augusta District.

WILLIAM BROWN, PRESIDING ELDER.

Crosby Circuit.—John Hill.
 Rideau Circuit.—Daniel Pomeroy.
 Elizabethtown Circuit.—William Graham, one to be sent.
 Brockville Circuit.—George I. Betts.
 Augusta Circuit.—Robert Earl.
 Matilda Circuit.—Thomas Plato; M. Davy, Supernumerary.
 Stormont Circuit.—To be supplied.
 Bytown Circuit.—D. F. Hutchinson.
 Ottawa and La Chute Mission.—J. D. Bell; James McNally,
 Supernumerary.
 Winchester Circuit.—Ezra Orser.
 Bonna Cheur Mission.—C. Manson, Luman Hurlburt.

QUESTION XVI.

When and where shall our next Conference be held?

ANSWER:

At Brockville, County of Leeds, to commence on the first Wednesday in September, 1853, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

QUESTION XVII.

What is the amount of the Fifth Collection?

ANSWER:

Circuits.	Amounts.	Circuits.	Amounts.
Hope,	£0 15 5	Cobourg,	1 6 10
Brighton,	0 13 0	Percy,	0 10 0
Rawdon,	0 9 6½	Huntington,	0 11 3
Sidney,	1 1 1½	Belléville,	0 12 0
Tyendenaga,	1 8 1	Consécon,	0 3 6
Hallowell,	1 0 0	Milford,	0 13 7½
Bay Quinte,	1 3 1½	Camden,	0 10 3
Waterloo,	2 9 0½	Leeds,	No return.
Wolf Island,	0 4 4½	Elizabethtown,	2 8 0½
Brockville,	0 7 1	Augusta,	1 8 9
Matilda,	0 10 0	Winchester,	0 10 0
Stormont,	0 3 8½	Ottawa,	0 5 4½
Bytown,	0 10 0	Rideau,	0 5 0
Crosby,	0 12 3	Bonna Cheur,	0 8 8½
Sabbath Collection,	4 3 6		
Total,	£23 8 1½		

QUESTION XVIII.

How was this appropriated?

ANSWER:

Stationary,	£0 7 6	J. Gatchell,	£4 17 1
H. H. Johnson,	4 17 1	Widow Sills,	1 4 3
T. Lewis,	4 17 1	I. N. D. West,	4 17 1
Widow Powley,	2 8 6½		
Total,			£23 8 1½

PASTORAL ADDRESS.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA, WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE BAY QUINTE ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

DEAR BRETHREN,—Actuated by sentiments of affection for you and of a deep interest in your welfare, we cheerfully embrace the opportunity of presenting you with another Annual Pastoral Epistle. The excellent economy of our Church has established such a relation between you and us as renders this duty both pleasing and profitable.

But we enter upon the work with more than usual emotion. Since our last Conferential meeting the angel of death has visited our body and borne a venerable member to the world of spirits. The Rev. and dear Br. John Sills was very suddenly removed from the scene of his labors to receive his reward.

“Death loves a shining mark, a signal stroke,
A stroke, which while it executes, alarms,
And startles thousands at a single fall.”

Possessed of an amiable disposition, indomitable energy, and great faith, he was one of our most successful laborers, and, to use his own language, he “never left the field until his good Master took him out of it.”

The business of our Conference, just terminated, has been conducted with considerable harmony, and we trust a Christian charity pervaded every bosom. Various matters of difficulty and trial often come before us at our annual sessions; but we are happy to state that they are usually adjusted satisfactorily, and at the present period our deliberations have resulted in the happiest prospects of good.

Most of us have had such indications of prosperity upon our respective charges during the past year as encourage us to believe that our work is steadily progressing. It is true the returns from the various fields of labor exhibit a decrease in the number of members within the pale of the Church; but while this certainly ought not so to be, and is a subject of regret to us, it does not argue the instability of our institutions or the inefficiency of our system. The Methodist Episcopal Church ce-

cupies a position in this Province from which, we verily believe, she is destined never to recede. Her economy is admirably adapted to the circumstances of this Colony, and but for her, we have reason to apprehend, thousands of now rejoicing Christians would be unconnected with the visible Church. The late returns for Upper Canada furnish us with conclusive evidence that a very respectable portion of the inhabitants sympathise with our position and are not ashamed to be called by our name. The erection of chapels and parsonage houses in many parts our work, and the increasing liberality of our brethren and friends in sustaining the members of this Conference while laboring among them, prove that our cause is advancing. But above all, we feel that the cause of rational devotion, of genuine piety, of scriptural knowledge, was never more apparent among us than at the present time. We are not satisfied, however, with this condition alone. We pray for a season of great quickening, of gracious revival, of a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We exhort you, dear brethren, to co-operate with us in this special engagement, it is one in which we are mutually interested.

We deem this a suitable occasion to impress upon you more fully the importance of family and Sabbath School instruction. Doubtless we are ourselves more or less at fault for our inattention to this department of our work; but a large share of the neglect likewise lies at the door of the parents and guardians of those children who look for instruction at our hand. While most other denominations of Christians have entered largely into this field, it is to be regretted that we have done but little. The religious education of our children is not a matter of indifference. It is a solemn duty. We omit it at our peril. If we expect to secure a stable and consistent membership—and this, we doubt not, is your wish—we must sow the seed of religious knowledge in the young and tender soil.

In connexion with this, we would urge upon you, dear brethren, the necessity of *studying* (not simply *reading*) the sacred Scriptures. We believe a neglect of this duty has been the cause of many "being carried about by every wind of doctrine." The Bible is brought within the reach of the most indigent. Read a portion of it every day. Consult it. Pray for the enlivening influence of the Spirit while you peruse it, and it will prove to you indeed the "Word of life."

The want of a seminary of learning has for some time been seriously felt among us. We hope the time is not far distant when this desideratum will be supplied. We believe there are both ability and disposition among you to respond suitably to the call whenever we shall deem it expedient to appeal to your liberality. We shall then enjoy facilities for imparting a

sound mental and moral, as well as religious education, to the children of our numerous friends, and especially to those young men who are desirous of qualifying themselves more fully for the work of the ministry in our Church.

The efficiency of our provincial school system is a matter of gratification to us, and we fondly anticipate the most enduring advantages it is yet destined to bestow upon our rising country. We deem it our duty as Christian ministers to approve and further to the extent of our ability all such plans for the general diffusion of knowledge and the consequent improvement of society.

The efforts which are now being made by the friends of temperance to suppress the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, have *ours*, and we trust also, have *your* hearty support. With this movement and all other benevolent enterprises and institutions of the day, we expect to find you always connected. Remember it is your duty as Methodists to "do good to all as you have opportunity."

Especially do we feel, dear brethren, the importance of Christian vigilance and activity when we look at the present aspect of the world. Popery is straining every nerve to regain her ascendancy, and too many professed Protestants are asleep in the midst of danger. A spirit of time-serving is unfortunately prevalent in the Christian Church. May God deliver you from its influence!

We combine with other branches of the Church in laboring to secure a more regular and scriptural observance of the Lord's day. We invite you to unite by precept and example in this noble work.

And now, dear brethren, we are about to repair to our various fields of labor, and we pray, of success. Personally we may be strangers to some of you; but you know *us*, and we know *you*. We wear the same garments, we possess the same dispositions, we have the same mind, we speak the same language. May we all be kept by the power of the same spirit unto eternal life!

JOHN REYNOLDS, }
PHILANDER SMITH, } *General Superintendents.*

JAMES GARDINER, *Secretary.*

Obituary Notice of the Rev. John Sills.

Rev. John Sills, son of Rev. George Sills, was born in Fredericksburg, County of Lennox, November 30, 1799. His early life was subject to all the privations peculiar to the early settlers upon our shores. Yet he was highly favored, inasmuch as his

parents were pious; both being united to the Methodist Episcopal church before he was born, and were among the first fruits of her ministry in Canada. The indomitable energy of character so fully displayed in our lamented brother, was conspicuous in his youth, as well as in his later years. Through the mercy of God, at the age of eighteen years, he, with many others, became a partaker of the "grace which bringeth salvation," and was enabled to "rejoice in God with all his heart." The wholesome and elevating influence of piety gave direction and force to all his subsequent life. He was married to Widow Crawford, who became a helpmate to him through all the uncertainties of this probationary state. She is now left with twelve children to deplore their loss. During the "troublous times" of our Zion, Br. Sills entered the itinerant work, and commenced his labors, June 24th, 1837. Having passed the usual probation he was duly ordained, and occupied, with great credit to himself and signal usefulness to the church, the following circuits, viz:—Hallowell, Waterloo, Elizabethtown, Augusta, Hallowell, Hope, Tyendenaga, and Sidney, remaining in each two years, and beloved by the people of his charge on leaving.

He was a welcome visitor, a constant friend, a faithful minister, a kind father, and an affectionate husband. Fruits of his ministry are now living in every charge where he preached the Gospel, and many others are with him entered into rest. He was eminently a man of one work; the constant aim of Br. Sills was to "make full proof of his ministry." He was permitted to labor up to the close of his earthly career, and fell, as he had often wished he might do, "in the harness"—his last Sabbath on earth being spent in his place in the pulpit.—His last sermon was characterized by the usual fidelity, spirituality, and pointedness of his pulpit efforts. His career, if not brilliant and attractive, was useful and impressive; if he was not adapted to figure, he was "wise to win souls," "and many in eternity will be the crown of his rejoicing." He now "rests from his labors, and his works do follow him." His amiable bearing towards his brethren, and his efficiency as a member of our Annual and General Conferences, endeared him to all who ever associated with him in the ministry, and they cherish an affectionate regard for his memory, and deeply feel the loss they have sustained. Our brother was attacked with a very painful and violent disease, under the influence of which he labored while preaching his last sermon on the last Sabbath which he spent on earth, and on the following day he very suddenly and unexpectedly exchanged the sorrows of the wilderness for the joys of the heavenly Canaan, on Monday, December 22nd, 1851. He was interred in the family burying-ground, in Fredericksburg.

Our brother had a presentiment that he was nigh unto death, but his mind was perfectly serene, and his trust in the Saviour unwavering, and he expressed himself ready to "depart and be with Christ." Thus fell at his post the soldier of the cross, having finished his course and kept the faith. As in his life and labors he exemplified and illustrated the religion of the Gospel, so in his death its consolations cheered him, and he reiterated the confidence of the Psalmist of Israel, "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil: His rod and his staff they comfort me." His friends and family, deeply as they feel their bereavement, yet know that "their loss is his infinite gain," and that through the merits of his Redeemer he now wears the "crown of righteousness reserved for those who are faithful unto death."

APPENDIX.

NAMES AND STANDING OF THE LOCAL PREACHERS WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE BAY QUINTE CONFERENCE:

- Hope Circuit.*—David Lent, James Lent.
Brighton Circuit.—Joshua Webster, Elder.
Cobourg Circuit.—Darias Crouter, Elias Worden.
Sidney Circuit.—A. Wood, Deacon.
Hallowell Circuit.—S. Terwilliger, Elder.
Mulford Circuit.—William Ranous, Deacon; William Williams.
Tyendenaga Circuit.—S. D. Shorts, Deacon; Peter Holmes, William Bennett, William Connor.
Huntington Circuit.—Peter Wright, John Border, W. Sills.
Percy Circuit.—Joseph Stone; J. L. Sweet, Deacon.
Rawdon Circuit.—Ira Hays, John Ranous.
Bay Quinte Circuit.—M. German, Elder; G. Sills, Elder; A. Short, Elder; G. D. Greenleaf, Elder; D. Unger, Deacon; E. Woodcock.
Waterloo Circuit.—E. Ash, Elder; Z. David, B. Huffman.
Kingston Circuit.—B. Atkinson.
Camden Circuit.—C. Thompson, Elder elect.; P. G. Selden, Deacon elect.
Elizabethtown Circuit.—J. Bullis, Elder; B. W. Blanchard, Elder; Daniel Smith, James Smith, R. Stevens, J. Mallory.
Bonna Cheur Mission.—G. E. Hutton.
Rideau Circuit.—J. Andrews, Elder; E. Landon, Deacon.
Crosby Circuit.—William Brown, Elder; A. Wiltse.
Orawa Circuit.—J. Pickering.
Hilda Circuit.—E. Tuttle.
Chester Circuit.—B. Meeker, Deacon; J. Errett, Deacon.

Course of Study.

FIRST YEAR.

Divinity.—Bible; Wesley's Sermons; Second Part of Watson's Institutes; Discipline.

English Grammar.—Kirkham.

Geography.

SECOND YEAR.

Divinity.—Bible with notes, Clark's or Benson's. First Part of Watson's Institutes.

Church History.—Ruter's; Mosheim's.

Church Government.—Bangs' Original Church of Christ; Discipline, with Hedding's Notes; Stephens' Church History.

English Grammar.

THIRD YEAR.

Divinity.—Bible; Wesley's Notes; Horne's Introduction; Third Part of Watson's Institutes; Discipline.

Natural Philosophy.—Comstock.

Logic.—Hedge or Jamieson.

Mental Philosophy.—Upham; Watts; Clark's Mental Discipline.

English Grammar.

FOURTH YEAR.

Divinity.—Bible; Watson's Apology; Fletcher's Checks.

Rhetoric.—Newman or Jamieson.

Moral Philosophy.—Dick or Paley.

English Grammar.

Examining Committee.

S. W. La Du,

J. E. Wilson,

William Brown,

D. Wilson,

J. H. Johnson.

To meet at 5 o'clock, A. M., on the day of the meeting of Conference.

STEWARD'S REPORT.

CLAIMS, RECEIPTS, AND DEFICIENCIES OF EFFECTIVE PREACHERS, WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE BAY QUINTE CONFERENCE:

CHARGES.	PREACHERS.	CLAIM.			RECEIVED.			DEFIC'Y.		
		£	s	D	£	s	D	£	s	D
Bay Quinte District,	J. F. Wilson,	80	2	6	66	6	4½	13	16	1½
Hope Circuit,	G. I. Betts,	32	10	0	14	15	0	17	15	0
Do.	J. Sparrow,	10	8	4	10	8	4	0	0	0
Cobourg Circuit,	G. I. Betts,	32	10	0	32	10	0	0	0	0
Belleville Station,	H. D. Powis,	78	0	0	78	0	0	0	0	0
Brockville Station,	J. H. Johnson,	70	0	0	62	10	0	7	10	0
Percy Circuit,	J. Tuke,	80	0	0	57	14	1	22	5	11
Huntington Circuit,	A. Wright,	72	0	0	67	7	8½	8	4	6
Hallowell Circuit,	S. Young,	85	0	0	85	0	0	0	0	0
Crosby Circuit,	William Graham,	80	0	0	65	16	8	14	3	4
Camden Circuit,	H. Lane,	77	10	0	58	17	6	18	12	6
Rawdon Circuit,	E. Orser,	70	0	0	36	9	9½	33	10	2½
Kingston District,	James Gardiner,	70	0	0	65	0	0	15	0	0
Bay Quinte Circuit,	J. G. Bull,	80	0	0	51	12	1	28	7	11
Do.	D. Brown,	80	0	0	51	5	3	28	15	9
Elizabethtown Ct.,	H. Williams,	75	0	0	47	16	0	27	4	0
Do.	B. Smith,	70	0	0	41	5	6	29	5	6
Ottawa Mission,	H. Dockham,	62	10	0	35	7	3	27	2	9
Millford Circuit,	J. Rogers,	70	0	0	38	18	1	36	1	11
Waterloo Circuit,	D. Wilson,	75	0	0	50	16	10½	24	3	2
Do.	J. Hill,	80	0	0	48	1	7	31	18	5
Stormont Circuit,	J. McMullen,	86	0	0	29	10	8	35	9	4
Rideau Circuit,	D. Pomeroy,	00	0	0	37	10	0	00	0	0
Sidney Circuit,	Wm. A. Sills,	19	0	0	16	10	10	2	9	2
Winchester Circuit,	J. D. Bell,	65	0	0	42	6	1	22	13	11
Augusta District,	William Bird,	70	0	0	57	9	10	12	10	2
Matilda Circuit,	William Brown,	79	0	0	49	0	0	30	0	0
Consecon Circuit,	G. Jones,	82	0	0	47	0	0	35	0	0
Wolf Island Circuit,	J. W. Sills,	25	0	0	25	0	0	00	0	0
Bonna Cheur Mission,	C. Manson,	65	0	0	65	0	0	00	0	0
Bytown Mission,	No Returns,									
Augusta Circuit,	Robert Earl,	75	0	0	69	10	3	5	9	9

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 pp 6-6 torn 22.9.16

