

M63P MINUTES

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OF THE

EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

Primitive Methodist Church,

CANADA,

HELD AT BRAMPTON,

ON APRIL 19TH, 1861, AND FOLLOWING DAYS.

~~~~~  
BY ORDER OF THE CONFERENCE.

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Toronto:

PUBLISHED BY J DAVISON,

Mission Office, Christian Journal Office, and Book Room,

KING STREET EAST.

1861.

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MINUTES

OF THE

EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

According to appointment of the Conference held in Etobicoke, the Conference assembled, and after devotional exercises conducted by the ex-President, proceeded to the transaction of business.

ROBERT BOYLE, *President.*

JONATHAN MILNER, *Secretary.*

Question 1—Who compose the present Conference?

Answer.—WILLIAM ROWE, Gen. Com. Delegate.
THOMAS CROMPTON, English Representative.
WILLIAM GLEDHILL, Agent of Friendly Society.
JOHN DAVISON, Missionary Secretary.
ROBERT WALKER, General Treasurer.

TORONTO—James Edgar, John Nattrass, Joseph Markham, Joseph Kent, Joseph Ellarby, William Fielding, Christ. Sherwood, Joseph Lee, Charles Maginn.

BRAMPTON—Robert Cade, Robert Boyle, John Lacey, William Marshall, Robert Ward, Francis Sleightholme, Thomas Cook, Matthew Gray, and George Jewitt.

HAMILTON.—Timothy Nattrass, William Bee, Alfred Thurlow, George Aulsebrook, Henry Arthur, Joseph Lawson.

GUELPH—Thomas Adams, James Smith, Wm. Hockin, John Keyworth, Thomas Whale, John Elliott.

LONDON—Thomas Dudley, William Newton, George Walker, William Wade, William Tuer, John Thomas.

KINGSTON—George Wood, Jonathan Milner, John Baker, L. W. Purdy, Frank Lyle, William Mutton.

Quest. 2.—What Minister is recommended for the Annual List?

A.—George Watson.

Q. 3.—What Ministers are on trial?

A.—William Clayton and George Watson, who have travelled 4 years; Matthew Henry Matthews and Matthew Henry Moody, who have travelled 3 years; William Herridge, James Cheetham, Samuel Picard Lacey, and William Shakel Hughan, have travelled 2 years; John Goodman, Abraham Heyworth, George F. Lee, William Pyke, and William Monkman, have travelled one year.

Q. 4.—What Ministers are received on Pledge?

A.—Henry Steel Matthews, Richard Augur, Joseph R. Dowling, Charles Roffe, Richard Hassard, Joseph Boyce.

Q. 5.—How are the Ministers stationed for the ensuing year?

TORONTO DISTRICT.

JOHN DAVISON, Editor, Book Steward, and General Missionary Secretary, Mission Office, Toronto.

Toronto—Robert Boyle, *President*; one to be obtained.
Markham—John Natrass, William Pyke.

Darlington—William Herridge; H. S. Matthews, first six months; Joseph R. Dowling, last six months.

Scarboro'—John Garner, Richard Auger.

Reach—Joseph Markham; one to be obtained.

Bram
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BRAMPTON DISTRICT.

- Brampton*—Robert Cade; one to be obtained.
Etobicoke—William Rowe, William Monkman.
 William Lyle and William Jolley, *Supernumeraries*.
Albion—William Lomas, Richard Hassard.
Laskay—Thomas Dudley; one to be obtained.
Orangeville—James Smith.
Osprey—Thomas Foster.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

- Hamilton*—James Cheetham.
Walpole—John Lacey.
Blenheim—William Bee.
Brantford and Paris—John R. Swift, Joseph Boyce.
Grand River—John Goodman.
Walsingham—William Newton.

GUELPH DISTRICT.

- Guelph*—Timothy Natrass.
Galt—Thomas Adams.
Peel and Wellesley—Jonathan Milner, *Secretary of Conf.*
 John Towler, *Supernumerary*.
Brant—George Watson.
Minto—George F. Lee.

LONDON DISTRICT.

- London*—Thomas Crompton.
Bosanquet—William S. Hughan, M. H. Matthews.
MacGillivray—One to be obtained.
Stratford—Richard Paul.
Plympton—Matthew H. Moody.
Chatham—Isaac Ryder.
Caradoc—Abraham Heyworth.
Stanley—Samuel P. Lacey.
Mitchel—One to be obtained.

KINGSTON DISTRICT.

- Kingston*—George Wood.
Portland—James Edgar; J. R. Dowling, first six months;
 H. S. Matthews, last six months.
Napanee—William Cook.
Collinsby—Charles Roffe.
Bay Shore—One to be obtained.

A TABULAR VIEW OF THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA WEST,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 20th, 1861.

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23

CIRCUITS AND MISSIONS.	MEMBERS.			Increase.	Decrease.	From other Stns	From Abroad	Deaths.	Fallen, &c.	Removals.	Left the Conx.	Ministers.	Conx'd Chapels.	Other Preaching Places.	Parsonages.	Sabbath School	Teachers.	Scholars.	CONFERENCE FUND	RELIEF FUND.	CHILDREN'S FUND.	MISSION FUND.	ORDINARY ANNUAL INCOME.	
	Approved.	On Trial.	Total.																					
6.50 Toronto	195	5	200	..	40	2	2	1	17	35	15	2	3	..	..	3	69	333	9 75	9 75	100 00	350 00	861 49
3.30 Markham	260	33	293	..	..	..	..	..	6	40	5	2	3	7	9	6	56	280	13 00	13 00	72 00	280 00	610 00
3.21/4 Darlington	158	49	207	45	..	1	..	1	2	11	15	2	8	5	4	4	32	180	7 90	7 90	40 00	160 43	471 52	
5.26 Scarboro'	106	13	119	..	11	1	..	2	9	20	4	2	7	6	2	1	4	37	5 30	5 30	52 00	169 00	387 95	
3.04 Reach	200	12	212	12	..	2	1	1	11	12	..	1	9	5	4	1	5	30	10 00	10 00	52 00	219 50	455 00	
Osprey	86	16	102	21	..	2	..	..	6	1	3	1	6	1	12	..	1	6	4 30	4 30	3 94	35 00	68 08
4.52 Brampton	253	21	274	10	..	..	..	5	22	13	1	1	4	6	5	4	54	432	12 65	12 65	68 00	308 65	802 00
2.65 Etobicoke	280	78	358	30	..	..	..	3	11	..	16	2	11	12	2	1	8	52	14 00	14 00	72 00	281 90	569 40
2.32 1/2 Albion	229	86	315	30	..	..	..	2	25	17	..	2	12	8	6	1	3	24	11 45	11 45	52 00	200 00	461 03
2.59 Laskay	215	15	230	..	31	..	..	2	34	32	4	1	11	4	10	1	2	17	10 75	10 75	46 00	200 46	506 29
Orangeville	145	..	145	9	..	..	..	..	9	3	..	..	1	5	4	4	3	19	1 50	1 50	..	43 28	189 75
Hamilton	44	7	51	1	..	..	..	..	16	5	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	9	2 20	2 20	12 00	53 00	23 28
Walpole	72	7	79	10	..	2	..	1	3	2	..	1	7	2	4	1	..	..	3 60	3 60	6 50	57 84	127 90
2.52 Blenheim	65	10	75	1	..	..	..	..	3	5	..	1	5	4	4	..	2	6	3 25	3 25	4 20	45 49	138 69
Brantford & Paris	147	5	152	3	..	..	..	1	14	11	5	1	9	5	5	..	3	15	7 35	7 35	8 15	..	287 94
Grand River	94	41	135	18	..	..	..	..	16	9	1	1	5	3	5	..	3	20	4 70	4 70	5 87	115 05	153 54
Guelph	68	17	85	..	9	..	..	..	4	12	4	1	4	3	5	..	2	12	3 40	3 40	10 40	91 81	168 10
Galt	27	1	28	3	..	..	..	2	4	3	..	1	1	1	2	..	1	12	1 35	1 35	2 00	45 00	124 72
5.7 Peel & Wellesley	172	8	180	3	..	3	..	..	30	14	2	1	9	3	5	..	2	18	8 60	8 60	12 58	190 40	247 47
Brant	51	5	56	14	..	13	..	..	17	..	..	1	5	1	8	1	..	..	2 25	2 25	2 60	46 16	54 61
Minto	53	13	56	2	..	1	..	1	3	..	..	1	6	..	8	..	1	9	2 65	2 65	5 18	47 37	39 72
3.08 1/2 London	127	6	133	..	5	2	..	..	6	11	10	2	5	1	7	..	2	22	6 35	6 35	9 49	129 05	259 02
Bosanquet	105	21	126	15	..	..	..	1	3	20	..	1	8	2	7	1	2	11	5 25	5 25	2 00	70 34	167 43
Walsingham	45	9	54	..	12	..	..	..	8	3	12	1	3	1	6	..	..	..	2 25	2 25	5 00	27 02	111 00
4.9 McGillivray	90	54	144	7	..	1	..	..	14	19	3	1	7	2	8	..	2	12	4 50	4 50	2 52	95 94	172 38
Stratford	55	12	67	1	..	4	..	..	14	8	9	2	4	1	8	..	1	2	2 75	2 75	5 06	59 00	130 65
Plympton	40	6	46	6	..	..	..	..	14	3	..	1	3	..	7	..	..	..	2 00	2 00	1 00	31 50	107 29
Chatham	15	8	23	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	7	..	1	4	0 75	0 75	1 00	30 00	25 25
Kingston	28	1	29	..	9	2	..	..	6	7	1	1	2	1	1	..	..	..	1 40	1 40	6 39	59 19	104 42
4.8 Portland	182	46	228	4	..	1	..	1	45	8	2	2	9	5	9	1	1	4	4 00	4 00	10 74	141 86	175 23	
Napanee	133	..	133	13	..	..	..	2	10	23	..	1	7	..	11	..	..	..	1 00	1 00	2 00	65 53	146 92
Bath Road	87	..	87	..	6	2	..	1	..	7	..	1	3	1	6	..	1	8	4 35	4 35	3 00	75 84	159 14	
Total in 1861.	3827	605	4432	281	123	39	3	27	349	398	117	41	24	98	182	10	69	540	3450	171 15	171 15	675 62	3633 80	8539 21
Total in 1860.	3527	747	4274	34	353	410	..	36	24	91	181	9	62	549	2891	166 82	166 82	554 88	3605 73	7470 47
Increase	300	..	158	5	..	7	1	1	7	..	559	4 33	4 33	120 74	28 07	1068 74

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Q. 6.— *What are the Statistics for the present year?*
 (See Statistical Table on the preceeding pages.)

Q. 7.— *Who compose the Committees?*

A. **GENERAL COMMITTEE.**

President and Secretary of Conference, Thos. Adams, T. Crompton, Wm. Rowe, John Garner, R. Cade, R. Ward, John Natrass, Wm. Marshall, Thomas Cook, Joseph Markham, Thos. Dudley, J. R. Swift, John Lacey, Robert Walker, Alfred Thurlow, Joseph Lawson, C. D. Maginn, Timothy Natrass, John Keyworth, Wm. Hockin, Richard Paul, Wm. Wade, John Thomas, James Edgar, George Wood, John Baker, Henry Dougan, L. W. Purdy, and John Davison, *Secretary*.

Meetings to be held in the basement of Alice-street Church, Toronto, at one o'clock on the second Thursday in July, October, January, and the day before next Conference. Members of the Committee to inform the Secretary a *week previous* of their intention to attend, that provision may be made for them in the City.

GENERAL MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

This Committee is the same as the General Committee, and its meetings held at the same time and place. All the missionaries are required to send in their quarterly reports to the Secretary, at the Mission Office, Toronto, at least one week before the time of holding the quarterly meetings of the Committee. Accounts cannot be adjusted unless the Missionaries attend to this regulation.

N.B.—All official business letters will be post-paid from the Mission Office, except remittance letters; and all Ministers on Stations must *pre-pay* their official letters to the Secretary, and they will be allowed payment at Conference.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

President and Secretary of Conference, John Garner, William Rowe, Robert Walker, Joseph Lawson, Wm. Marshall, John Davison, *Secretary*.

DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

Toronto—R. Boyle, John Garner, R. Walker, J. Davison.

Brampton—Robt. Cade, L. Walker, W. P. Lacey, W. Marshall.

Hamilton.—J. Cheetham, H. Childs, J. Lawson.

Guelph—T. Adams, T. Natrass, W. Hockin, J. Milner, J. Ryan.

London—T. Crompton, W. Wade, W. Trebilcock, G. Walker.

Kingston—J. Edgar, G. Wood, L. W. Purdy, J. Baker, H. Dougan.

The first named person to be the Secretary.

The Publishing, Book Room, and Children's Fund Committees are the same as the Executive.

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE.

The Preparatory Committee, to arrange the business for next Conference, consist of the President and Secretary, with the General Committee Delegates to the ensuing Conference.

Q. 8.—When and where shall the next Annual Conference be held?

A.—At Brantford, on the second Friday in April, at 9 o'clock a.m.

Q. 9.—When and where shall the next District Meetings be held, and who shall attend as General Committee Delegates?

Toronto—at Scarboro', on the first Wednesday in April. Joseph Markham, G.C.D.

Brampton—at Orangeville, on the first Wednesday in April. William Rowe, G.C.D.

Hamilton—at Paris, on the first Wednesday in April. John Lacey, G.C.D.

Guelph—Peel & Wellesley (at Bethel), on the first Wednesday in April. T. Adams, G.C.D.

London—at London, on the first Wednesday in April. Thomas Crompton, G.C.D.

Kingston—at Collinsby, on the first Wednesday in April. James Edgar, G.C.D.

Q. 10.— *Who are appointed Members of the Boards of Examiners for the ensuing year, in relation to Candidates for the Ministry in our Church?*

Toronto—R. Boyle, J. Natrass, J. Garner.

Brampton—W. Rowe, R. Cade, W. Lomas.

Hamilton—J. Lacey, J. R. Swift, W. Bee.

Guelph—T. Adams, T. Natrass, J. Milner.

London—Thomas Crompton, Richard Paul.

Kingston—James Edgar, George Wood.

The first named person is Secretary, who shall correspond with his Colleagues and the Candidates.

Q. 11.— *Who are members of the next Conference?*

Robert Boyle, General Committee Delegate; J. Milner, English Representative; J. Davison, Missionary Secretary; Robert Walker, General Treasurer; Thomas Dudley, Agent of Friendly Society.

Q. 12.— *What are the further regulations of Conference?*

That the old Chapels in Kingston, Guelph and Orangeville be sold, and prudent energy be exercised to erect new ones in more suitable localities, and permission be granted to solicit help in those cases, in any part of our work.

That this Conference expresses its sympathy with Brother W. Clayton (now in England), and presents him with the sum of \$40 from the Relief Fund, in consequence of his continued affliction.

That the March quarterly meeting of each Station prepare a List of Ministers, one or more of whom it wishes to have stationed the ensuing year, such list to be appended to the Station's report to District Meetings and Conference.

N.B.—It is particularly desired that all *additional sheets* connected with the above reports should be *equal in size*, and neatly stitched; also, each General Committee Delegate, after District Meeting, to get bound in a book, for use of Conference, his Schedules of Reports from Stations.

That the question of the "*Imposition of Hands*," in the Conference ordination service, be considered by the March quarterly meeting of each Station, as a subject of legislation to be settled next Conference.

That each Missionary on a Station stitch a plan of his Mission to his quarterly schedule, addressed to the Missionary Committee, to enable the Committee to ascertain the *extent* and *amount* of labor expended on week days as well as sabbaths, on each Mission.

That three years ordinarily be the limit of a Minister's being stationed on a circuit or mission; and the limit ordinarily of a "Probationer" be *one year*, of the first two of his travelling.

Conference Jubilee Regulations of 1860.

"It being 50 years since the Primitive Methodist Body was founded, and the British brethren having resolved to hold a Jubilee to raise sub-

scriptions as thank-offerings to God, the Canadian Conference has resolved to hold a Jubilee, and carry out with energy the following regulations:—That donations from \$1 to \$5 be paid within six months; from \$5 to \$10 within one year; and from \$10 to \$100 within two years.—The objects for which the Jubilee Fund subscriptions are raised shall be the Missionary Society, and the formation of a Connexional Book Establishment in Canada. Two accounts will be kept, and parties may give for either object, or both, as they may choose to determine.”

N.B.—Sums contributed to be remitted *direct* to the Secretary for the Treasurer.

MISSIONARY GRANTS.

That the following shall be the scale of yearly grants to Mission Stations, after a minute and careful investigation by a Committee of five, submitted to Conference, revised and confirmed, and which grants are final:

Kingston	\$280 00	Caradoc	150 00
Collingsby	120 00	McGillivray(self-sustaining)	
Portland	300 00	Stanley	190 00
Napanee	180 00	Brant	200 00
Osprey.....	200 00	Bosanquet	220 00
Galt	220 00	Walsingham	220 00
Blenheim.....	220 00	Walpole	200 00
Guelph	230 00	Grand River	90 00
Orangeville.....	180 00	Minto	70 00
Peel & Wellesley .	90 00	Stratford	220 00
Brantford & Paris.	320 00	Plympton.....	20 00
London	300 00	Chatham.....	220 00

CHILDREN'S FUND.

That the scale of contributions from the Stations to the Children's Fund, arranged by a Committee and confirmed by Conference, shall be as follows:

Toronto
Etobicoke
Markham
Dartmouth
Albion
Scarborough
Lashburn
Readington
Brantford
Hamilton
Kingston
Port Hope
Napier
Collingwood
Oranmore
Peel
Osp...

Dr.
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Toronto	\$100 00	Walpole	30 00
Etobicoke	75 00	Grand River	33 00
Markham	75 00	Walsingham	25 00
Darlington	43 00	Brant	20 00
Albion	53 00	London	28 00
Scarboro'	52 00	Caradoc	20 00
Laskay	48 00	MacGillivray	30 00
Reach	45 00	Stanley	_____
Brampton	75 00	Bosanquet	30 00
Hamilton	20 00	Plympton	15 00
Kingston	25 00	Chatham	12 00
Portland	55 00	Brantford & Paris ..	50 00
Napanee	38 00	Guelph	43 00
Collinsby	25 00	Galt	23 00
Orangeville	30 00	Blenheim	30 00
Peel & Wellesley ..	40 00	Minto	20 00
Osprey	30 00	Stratford	20 00

THE CONNEXIONAL FUNDS

For the year ending April 20th, 1861.

THE CONFERENCE FUND.

<i>Dr.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	
Balance, 1860	\$50 26	Cash Kingston Delegate travel- ing expenses, 1860	\$10 00
A balance from Hamilton Cir't ..	1 50	District Schedules Printing	19 00
Cash from Toronto District	50 25	Purchase of District Books	2 62
Cash from Hamilton District ..	21 10	Extra travelling exp, G.M. act ..	6 25
Cash from Kingston District ..	10 75	Delegates travelling expenses to Brampton Conference	174 77
Cash from Brampton District ..	50 35	Printing Conference Stations ..	4 00
Cash from Guelph District	18 55	Binding Schedules	0 20
Cash from London District	23 85	By balance	9 77
	_____		_____
	\$226 61		\$226 61

THE RELIEF FUND.

<i>Dr.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	
Balance, 1860.....	\$410 69	Cash—Relief to Bro. William Clayton	\$40 00
Cash from Toronto District....	50 25	Grant to Children's Fund	300 00
Cash from Hamilton District ..	21 10	By balance.....	245 54
Cash from Kingston District ..	10 75		
Cash from Brampton District..	50 35		
Cash from Guelph District	18 55		
Cash from London District	23 85		
	\$585 54		\$585 54

THE CHILDREN'S FUND.

<i>Dr.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	
Cash from the Stations	\$669 12	Balance due Treasurer, 1860..	\$343 96
Cash from Missjon Fund for Mission deficiencies	512 96	Cash paid to Circuits and Mis- sions for Children's allow- ances	1309 53
Grant from Relief Fund	300 00		
Balance due Treasurer	171 41		
	\$1653 49		\$1653 49

THE BOOK ROOM.

<i>Dr.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	
To Stock received during the year	\$916 00	By Stock on hand	\$354 29
Cash received from Sales	1360 36	Book debts owing	447 30
		Purchased Stock	125 34
		Office exp. Book Steward's rent	140 00
		Cash to General Treasurer ..	1209 43
	\$2276 36		\$2276 36

THE MISSIONARY FUND.

See the Annual Missionary Report now publishing.

Further regulations of the Conference.

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That the attention of the Ministers and Friends is respectfully called to the *Christian Journal*. It is already found that the paper, as a weekly medium for disseminating religious and Connexional intelligence, is of great importance, and unless there is constant and vigorous effort in getting fresh subscribers, and remitting cash, its position will be endangered. It is hoped every Minister and Member of the Body will not fail in taking hold and employing his influence in the interests of this paper—the organ of the Church of his choice.

That the thanks of the Conference be given to all the officers of the Connexion for the attention and energy with which they have discharged the various duties committed to them during the year.

That the thanks of the Conference be given to brother Robert Boyle, superintendant of Brampton Circuit, and the friends in the town of Brampton and its vicinity, for their generous and christian hospitality to the Delegates attending the Conference of 1861.

That the second Sabbath in October be appointed for special prayer for the Province; and the following Friday as a day of fasting and prayer for a general revival of religion in the Primitive Methodist Connexion. x

That the Revs. W. Antliff, R. Cook, and J. Friskin be our principal Delegates to the English Conference of 1861.

PASTORAL ADDRESS

TO THE

Members of the Primitive Methodist Church,

BY THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,

We once more, with joy and gratitude, avail ourselves of the opportunity afforded us by our Annual Meeting in Conference to address you on matters pertaining to your spiritual welfare in this life, and your eternal well-being in the life that is to come. Being appointed by the Great Head of the church to watch for your souls as they that must give account, we therefore invite your attention—first, to your high and holy calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Before entering upon this part of our delightful work, suffer us to say, that our recently closed Conference has been one of general peace and kind brotherly love. Our new system of stationing involved some difficulties at the outset, but those difficulties were soon overcome, and our plan of stationing has, we believe, given general satisfaction. Our connexional increase has not been what we could desire; nevertheless, the Great Shepherd has increased us, and will increase us yet more and more. On a careful review of the state of our church in this country, we discover real cause of gratitude to Him whose sweet intonations are, "I will never leave thee." Our ministers we believe are devoted men, and strongly attached to that system of enlightened

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Christianity popularly styled Primitive Methodism. The societies generally have, during the year, manifested devoted attachment to the doctrines and discipline of our church, preserved the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace, and many of them (would that all had!) benevolently supported the institutions of the body, and thereby assisted in sending the gospel to the regions beyond.

Dear Brethren, to ourselves, and we have no doubt to you, it is a matter of unfeigned thankfulness to witness our scriptural system of divine truth, ordinances, worship, communion, and ministry working out their happy results in the sober wisdom, the enlightened piety, and the holy lives of a constantly increasing people. This we consider the chief end of our ministry. Glory to God in the highest! it has been accomplished, and is now being accomplished in the eternal happiness of great numbers now before the throne in heaven, and in the devoted and circumspect lives of thousands of our Israel upon earth.

Humility before God, on account of our many failings and defects, becomes us, as a part of our Lord's family. Nevertheless, when we reflect upon the fact, that all the good which is done upon the earth the Lord doeth, and not man: that all good stands opposed by myriads of satanic and worldly influences: that were it not for the Lord Jehovah nothing good could be accomplished, we therefore consider the degree of success, power, and purity amongst us as indicative of the Divine presence and blessing, and a source of encouragement to still greater exertions in the salvation of sinners.

Dear Brethren, let us say a word to you concerning your own personal piety: permit us to

urge upon you the great and paramount importance of experimental holiness; not the sickly, sentimental piety of the masses, but the blessed and holy experience of the few to whom Christ will one day say "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." The great power of our redemption, and the numerous promises of the word of God, are intended to lead us into ever increasing degrees of exalted piety: by a constant, believing application to the blood of the Lamb, you will ever stand in a state of glorious acceptance with God, and in the constant enjoyment of the Holy Spirit. Suffer us to say, that all progress in the divine life is inseparably connected with the attainment and possession of this Divine Comforter. Brethren, as you would excel in piety and usefulness, become rooted and grounded in this Spirit of adoption, whereby you may constantly cry "Abba, Father": without it there will be no fixed religious principle, no growth in grace, no victory over the flesh and the world, and no usefulness in the church of Christ: nothing, not even your money, nor yet your prayers, can answer as a substitute for a life of faith in the Son of God: if at any time, through the deceitfulness of sin: through the influence of temptation, the business or the trials of life, you find your faith growing weak, or to have failed you: whenever you find your mind beclouded, flee to him who is the propitiation for your sins, as also for the sins of the whole world.

Brethren, bear with us while we urge you to more zeal in your Master's cause: some of you have done well; would that we could so testify concerning all. Look back upon the past year; how many souls have you brought to Jesus? If

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you had done your duty, would not our connexional increase have been larger? Would it be too much to expect every member of our church to lead at least one sinner to the Saviour during the next twelve months? Brethren, will you try? The Lord will help you. Brother, if you are a Christian, this is your work: better never have the name of a servant, than be found at last a slothful and unprofitable one. Hear the word of the Lord, "Curse ye Morez, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof, because they came not to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty."

A little, dear brethren, concerning our family denominational attachment. It has often pained us to see so great a number of the children of our friends leaving us, and going elsewhere to find a religious home. We readily conceive the possibility of outgoings of this character under peculiar circumstances, and still the act be right; but why does it occur so frequently? Where are many of the children of some of our oldest members? a great number of them certainly not with us in church fellowship. Brethren, let us walk before them with a perfect heart: let us, now that we have chosen our religious home, teach them both by precept and example to love the church in which they were nurtured when tender and young: we should, as far as consistent, manifest a strong denominational preference, believing as we do that our government and polity are inferior to none. Dear Brethren, our own churches have the first and strongest claim upon the children of our own societies: let us bring them up, as far as possible, within the enclosure of our own fold. While under our influence, let us counsel them in this matter, and

if possible make religion at home more attractive than religion elsewhere.

Lastly, we have something to say concerning the Sabbath. The command, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," is as obligatory now as when it first appeared on the table of stone. From our observation of the Sabbath, we conclude that no command has been more violated and disrespected: no church will ever prosper in open violation of any part of the decalogue. Dear Brethren, the obligation of Christians to keep holy the Sabbath day is, we rejoice to state, practically regarded by you: but is it not in your power to be more diligent in your observance of it? Most of you are engaged in secular duties during the week, so that much of the life and power of your spiritual affections must depend on the use you make of the sacred hours of the holy Sabbath. Brethren, it is not sufficient merely to attend the house of God once or twice for the purpose of hearing His word: you need hours for meditation and prayer; the intervals of public worship ought to be religiously improved: self-inspection, holy meditation, private wrestling with God, and careful reading of the scriptures ought to occupy the hours of God's holy day.

Are we not in danger of substituting a bustling outward religion in the place of deep devotional exercises and the work of the Holy Spirit in the heart? May we remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy!

In conclusion, we exhort you to regularity in the divine ordinances, whether held in the week evening or on the holy Sabbath: whether the stated prayer-meeting or more public preaching of the word of God: Brethren, if possible you

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ought to be present : because of your engagement with your minister and the church when you united with the people of God, you at least mentally covenanted to walk in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless, and thereby promote the edification of the entire body : brother, how could you sadden the heart of your minister, how could you slight the ordinances of God's house by staying away, when, with a little inconvenience to yourself, you might have been present with the host of Israel ? Let us not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is.

And now, dear Brethren, abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly, and I pray God your whole spirit, and soul, and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Yours truly, in behalf of the Conference,

ROBERT BOYLE, President.

JONATHAN MILNER, Secretary.

Address of the Canadian Conference

OF

THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH,
TO THE ENGLISH CONFERENCE.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,

Grace, mercy, and peace be multiplied unto you through Jesus Christ.

It is with great pleasure we once more address you, as fellows in the same great field of labour, though occupying a somewhat distant corner of the field. Another year has gone, and by the good providence of God we have been permitted to meet in Conference again, to discharge important duties we owe to him and the church.

We are thankful to hear and read of your growing influence and power for good; of the great liberality of our people in England; and above all of souls added to the church, while religion is maintained as a *spiritual life*. God is honoring the Primitive Methodist Connexion as a signal instrument in the salvation of men, for when we look at the results of fifty years labours, we are constrained to say, what hath God wrought. To Him be all the glory. May you in England, and us in Canada, and our dear people elsewhere, be ever faithful to our *principles and to God*.

It is a matter of regret that our numerical prosperity is not much greater this year; but we are nevertheless thankful to God for the measure of increase realized. Our losses by removals into localities beyond our reach is very great, considering the comparative smallness of our cause. Some stations have a considerable increase, while

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others have decreased. May a baptism of revival influence come upon us all.

We are now and again enlarging our borders, by taking in fresh mission ground: several new missions have of late been entered upon, where the gospel is needed; and we have more calls from distant places than we can supply. Had we a number of suitable young men, and a stronger fund, we could do much more in the mission work.

We need your sympathy and aid as much as ever we did. Without your mission grant for Canada, we could not possibly maintain our ground. There is hope that several of our mission stations will ere long become self-supporting: but when that is the case, other inviting fields of labour will still be sending pressing calls for help.

The Jubilee of our beloved connexion has been brought before our churches and congregations: in many places it found a hearty response; while an opportunity was offered of making known more fully the history, progress, and constitution of the Body.

Our earnest wish is, that you will continue to stretch out to us a liberally helping hand; and at the same time let us have an interest in your prayers, that we may be preserved in the right path, that we may be enabled to maintain our sympathy and fervour before God, and that we may also abundantly increase in usefulness, to the honour of his great name. Amen.

Dear Fathers and Brethren,

We are yours affectionately,

ROBERT BOYLE, President.

JONATHAN MILNER, Secretary.

ADDRESSES OF THE STATIONS

For 1861.

- President of Conference*—Robt. Boyle, box 353, Toronto.
Secretary of Conference—J. Milner, Hawkesville.
General Treasurer—R. Walker, King Street, Toronto.
Missionary Secretary—J. Davison, box 353, Toronto.
Toronto—R. Boyle, box 353, Toronto.
Markham—J. Natrass, Victoria Square.
Darlington—Wm. Herridge, Bowmanville.
Scarboro'—J. Garner, Ellsmere.
Reuch—J. Markham, Green Bank.
Osprey—T. Foster, Lavender.
Brampton—R. Cade, Brampton.
Etobicoke—William Rowe, Malton.
Albion—William Lomas, Albion.
Laskay—T. Dudley, Laskay.
Orangeville—J. Smith, Orangeville.
Hamilton—J. Cheetham, John Street, Hamilton.
Walpole—J. Lacey, Selkirk.
Blenheim—Wm. Bee, Drumbo.
Brantford—J. R. Swift, Brantford.
Grand River—J. Goodman, York, Grand River.
Guelph—T. Natrass, Guelph.
Galt—Thomas Adams, Galt.
Peel and Wellesley.—J. Milner, Hawkesville.
Brant—G. Watson, Walkerton.
Minto—G. F. Lee, Harriston.
London—T. Crompton, London.
Bosanquet—W. S. Hughan, Widder.
Walsingham—W. Newton, Walsingham.
MacGillivray—....., MacGillivray.
Stanley—S. P. Lacey, Varna.
Stratford—R. Paul, Stratford.
Plympton—M. H. Moody, Wanstead.
Chatham—Isaac Ryder, Buckhorn.
Kingston—G. Wood, Kingston.
Portland—J. Edgar, Loughboro'.
Napanee—W. Cook, Roblin.
Collinsby—C. Roffe, Kingston.
Caradoc—A. Heyworth, Mount Brydges.

ROBERT BOYLE, President.
JONATHAN MILNER, Secretary.

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