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EXTRACTS FROM THE
MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-THIRD
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
MINISTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE PEOPLE, DENOMINATED
BIBLE CHRISTIANS,

HELD IN THE

BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, EXETER;

BEGUN ON THURSDAY, JUNE 7th, AND ENDED ON WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 13th, 1877.

Published by order of the Conference, and sold by C. Barker, Book
Steward, and by all the Itinerant Preachers.

PRICE TEN CENTS.

BOWMANVILLE:

PRINTED AT THE "OBSERVER" STEAM JOB ROOMS, KING STREET.
MDCCLXXVII.

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MINUTES
THE TWENTY-THIRD
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BIBLE CHRISTIANS

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EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

QUESTION I.—Who compose this Conference ?

ANSWER.—GEO. WEBBER, President of the Conference, 1876.

WM. JOLLIFFE, Secretary

John Kenner, Superintendent of Cobourg District.

Archibald Clarke,	"	Victoria & Peterboro' do.
William Hooper,	"	Exeter do.
James J. Rice,	"	London do.
William R. Roach,	"	Wisconsin do.
Samuel Jolliffe,	"	Cleveland do.

Representatives sent by their respective District Meetings.

John Williams	sent by	Cobourg	District Meeting
John Nott,	"	do.	do.
Charles R. Tamblin,	"	Bowmanville	do.
William Lander,	"	do.	do.
H. Frise,	"	do.	do.
J. Y. Varcoe,	"	do.	do.
J. F. Cunnings,	"	Victoria & Peterboro'	do.
John Hull,	"	do.	do.
R. Dark,	"	do.	do.
Thomas Werry,	"	do.	do.
William Heard,	"	do.	do.
James Pickard,	"	Exeter	do.
W. Lewis,	"	do.	do.
R. Babb,	"	do.	do.
H. Heal,	"	do.	do.
Thomas Werry,	"	do.	do.
David Tiplady,	"	do.	do.
N. Morrish,	"	do.	do.
T. Burrows,	"	do.	do.

	sent by	London District Meeting.
T. Brenton,	sent by	London District Meeting.
James Southcott,	"	do. do.
John Heard,	"	do. do.
Thomas Pratt,	"	do. do.
C. Gilbert,	"	do. do.
William Worth,	"	do. do.
T. Hunsley,	"	do. do.
J. Venning,	"	Cleveland do.
J. Shackson,	"	do. do.

Preachers sent by their respective District Meetings.

J. H. Eynon,	sent by	Bowmanville District Meeting.
Thomas Greene,	"	Exeter do.
John Edwards,	"	do. do.
Robert Hurley,	"	Cobourg do.
John Chapple,	"	Cleveland do.
John Williams,	"	Exeter do.
C. Barker,	"	Bowmanville do.
J. W. Butcher,	"	Exeter do.
J. Gale,	"	Bowmanville do.
J. Whitlock,	"	London do.
W. Kenner,	"	Bowmanville do.
T. R. Hull,	"	Exeter do.
G. Bodle,	"	Cleveland do.
A. Gordon,	"	Victoria & Peterboro do.
I. Ashley,	"	do. do.
E. Roberts,	"	do. do.
J. Guard,	"	do. do.
G. Dunkley,	"	Exeter do.
W. Ayers,	"	London do.
J. Harris,	"	Victoria & Peterboro do.
L. W. Wickett,	"	Cobourg do.
H. J. Nott,	"	London do.
R. T. Courtice,	"	Exeter do.
W. Kinley,	"	Cobourg do.
W. C. Beer,	"	Bowmanville do.
R. Baker,	"	Cobourg do.
S. H. Rice,	"	Bowmanville do.
A. Richard,	"	Victoria & Peterboro do.
R. Allin,	"	do. do.
J. Archer,	"	Cobourg do.
G. Smith,	"	Bowmanville do.
W. H. Quance,	"	do. do.
T. Broad,	"	London do.
J. Dumbleton,	"	Wisconsin do.
W. H. Butt,	"	Exeter do.

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Q. 3.—Who are admitted into Full Connexion?

A.—

Thomas H. Dry,
James P. Rice,

Thomas Mason,
John M. Tredrea,

William Davis,

Q. 4.—Who remain on Trial?

A.—

*John Pooley,
Joshua Elliott,
William Limbert,
Samuel J. Adlin,

Edwin A. Tonkin,
William Rollins,
Herman Moore,
John Gilson.

Richard Thomas,

These have travelled *three* years.

Thomas Sabine.

He has travelled *two* years.

Daniel Williams,

Francis M. Whitlock.

These have travelled *one* year.

Q. 5.—Who are admitted on Trial?

A.—

James Hoskin,
Silas J. Cunnings,

William Bryenton,
James A. Dafeo.

Q. 6.—What Preachers have died this year?

A.—ABRAHAM MORRIS. He was born July 26, 1801, in the parish of Godshell, Isle of Wight. He had been accustomed to attend the Methodist, Baptist, and Independent religious services; and, for two years, he taught in the Baptist Sabbath-school; but lived without converting grace until 22 years of age. About the year 1823, Bible Christian missionaries visited the Island. Influenced thereto by their labors, he began to seek the Lord in earnest, was savingly converted, and became eminent for piety. In due course, he became a Local Preacher; and, at the Conference of 1827, he was received as a candidate for the Itinerant Ministry, and appointed to his native Circuit in the Isle of Wight. He subsequently travelled on the Tenterden, Monmouth, Weare, Falmouth, Michaelstow, Brentor, Shebbear, Winkleigh, St. Neot, Week St. Mary, Scilly Islands, and Chichester stations; and on these stations many souls were converted under his ministry. At the Conference of 1847 he was appointed to Canada, where he labored on the Huntingdon, Hungerford, Seymour, Dummer, Mariposa, Bowmanville, and Scott stations.

* Bro. Pooley remains on trial the fifth year, at the request of his District Meeting.

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After long, faithful, and efficient service, he at length received superannuation—a relation he has creditably sustained for the last fourteen years of his life. BRO. MORRIS was greatly beloved by his brethren in the ministry, and universally esteemed and respected by the people. He met death with holy confidence, trusting in the precious blood of Jesus. He died, in peace, on the 6th day of October, 1876, in the 76th year of his age.

JOHN BROWN TAPP, who was born at Kingsbridge, Devon, England, 1805. At an early age, he removed to St. Kew, a parish in Cornwall, and lived with an uncle on the maternal side, until the time of entering the ministry. Convinced of sin, under a sermon preached by the late Mr. Truscott, he found peace with God while being prayed with in a shoe shop of Mr. W. Dannon. After giving evidence of ability and usefulness in a local sphere, he was, when 24 years of age, in the year 1829, received as a probationer for the Itinerant Ministry. His first Station was the Scilly Isles, where he labored with zeal for the Master, with satisfaction to himself, and with success in winning souls. From there he removed to Penzance, on which and other Stations, he labored for 15 years, justifying the esteem and confidence of his brethren. In the year 1844, the infant church, having increased its membership 700, its missionary receipts \$650, and eleven young men having offered for the Itinerancy, the Conference was encouraged to enlarge its borders. An additional Missionary was sent to South Wales; Messrs. Callaway and Harris were sent to P. E. Island; and Messrs. Thomas Greene and J. B. Tapp, to Canada West. He was received as a valuable acquisition to the laborers already engaged, and travelled on the Peterboro' Darlington, Mariposa, Mitchell, Pickering, Cobourg, Hampton, Dummer, and Perrytown Stations. In 1865, he took a Supernumerary position; and the following year, his health giving way, he was placed on the list of superannuated preachers. For eleven years God called him to *suffer* His will, as before he had been called upon to *do* it. Rather, he proved that "they also serve, who only stand and wait." A cancer seated itself upon his right cheek, and for years consumed the vital forces of his system, inducing a kind of living death. He was thoroughly resigned to the will of God, and under the wasting power of one of the most hideous and revolting diseases known to man, was able to say, "All the days of my appointed time will I wait till my change come." His conversion was early, his convictions deep, his consecration thorough, his pastorate diligent, his preaching plain, earnest and practical, his business talent creditable, his love of sympathy with the young, striking; his Denominational attachment was ardent, intelligent, and unwavering; his educational advantages, few; his

prayers, powerful; and his success in winning souls, though not commensurate with his desires, yet such as to render him a workman, needing not to be ashamed, and demonstrating that God was well pleased with his offering. His christian experience was not essentially different from that of other followers of Jesus. The following is a specimen taken from his journal:—"Since I last wrote, I have enjoyed many precious seasons. My soul, at times, has been filled with ecstasy of joy, both in public and in private; but at other times I have been

"Hard tossed on the sea of distress.
Hard toiling to make the blest shore."

At times, the harbor has appeared full in view; again, contrary winds have seemed to drive me back, while the mountain billows have hid from view the haven. But my chart and compass are never-failing, and my Pilot being thoroughly reliable, I doubt not but that some fine morning, I shall enter into the fair haven. During the day, I have felt the Lord truly precious, at the close, I feel so much of joy and peace, that I cannot express it. My soul truly panted after God, and I was let into him. I thought this was perfect love. I can truly say, I love God with my whole heart, and I would gladly carry all the world in my arms to Jesus." On Monday, the 16th of July, 1876, the "fine morning" had come, and with steady helm and free bent sail, he passed into harbor, having escaped fatality from all the rocks and quicksands that had threatened his course. He entered into Rest, in the 71st year of his age, and the 47th of his ministry. Filled with wondering admiration, convulsed with a present glory, he shouted, "Heaven! Heaven!!! Heaven!!!!" and then passed to enjoy the felicity to which he had been instrumental in guiding others. May we, like he, prove faithful, and reign with him forever.

Q. 7
A.—

- 1. C
- 2. W
- 3. P
- 4. P
- 5. H
- 6. H
- 7. C
- 8. B

- 9. B
- Robins
- C. B
- 10. E
- 11. C
- 12. O
- 13. P
- 14. P
- Superal
- 15. T
- 16. U

- 17. L
- 18. M
- 19. P
- 20. L
- 21. F
- 22. L
- 23. S
- 24. M

THE STATIONS.

Q. 7.—How are the Preachers stationed?

A.—As follows:

I. Cobourg District.

1. COBOURG—J. Kenner, W. Rollins.
2. WELCOME—W. Kinley; R. Hurley, Superannuated.
3. PORT HOPE—J. Kestle.
4. PERRYTOWN—J. M. Tredrea.
5. HUNGERFORD—T. J. Sabine.
6. HUNTINGDON—R. Baker.
7. CAMPBELLFORD—J. Archer, J. Hoskin.
8. BELLEVILLE—L. W. Wickett.

J. KENNER, *Superintendent of District.*

L. W. WICKETT, *Church Secretary.*

II. Bowmanville District.

9. BOWMANVILLE—W. Jolliffe, H. Ebbott, W. Limbert; P. Robins, J. H. Eynon, J. Gale, Superannuated; Conference officer
- C. Barker, Editor and Book Steward.
10. HAMPTON—S. H. Rice, J. Gilson.
11. COLUMBUS—W. C. Beer, J. A. Dafoe.
12. OSHAWA—A. Clarke.
13. PICKERING—A. Gordon.
14. PRINCE ALBERT—W. Quance, S. J. Cunnings; J. Langdon, Superannuated.
15. TORONTO—G. Webber.
16. UXBRIDGE—J. Holmes.

W. JOLLIFFE, *Superintendent of District.*

S. H. RICE, *Church Secretary.*

III. Victoria & Peterboro' District.

17. LITTLE BRITAIN—W. Kenner, J. Pooley.
18. MANILLA—A. Schuster.
19. PETERBORO' & ASHBURNHAM—E. Roberts, M. Metherall.
20. LAKEFIELD—R. B. Rowe.
21. FENELON FALLS—H. A. Newcombe.
22. LINDSAY—S. Jolliffe.
23. SUTTON—J. Guard.
24. MANVERS & CARTWRIGHT—J. Harris, R. Thomas.

E. ROBERTS, *Superintendent of District.*

S. JOLLIFFE, *Church Secretary.*

IV. Exeter District.

25. EXETER—J. W. Butcher, J. P. Rice, W. Davis ; J. Edwards, Superannuated.

[A division of the pastoral work to be in harmony with the suggestion of the Circuit.]

26. MITCHELL—W. Hooper ; T. Greene, J. Williams, Superannuated.

27. FULLARTON—G. Dunkley.

28. USBORNE—T. R. Hull, J. Elliott.

29. CLINTON—R. T. Courtice.

30. COLBORNE—T. Mason ; I. Ashley, Supernumerary.

31. PALMERSTON—W. H. Butt.

32. WIARTON—R. Allin.

W. HOOPER, *Superintendent of District.*
J. P. RICE, *Church Secretary.*

V. London District.

33. LONDON—J. J. Rice.

34. LAMBETH—J. Whitlock.

35. INGERSOLL—J. Chapple.

36. DEREHAM—J. Veale.

37. COLCHESTER—D. Williams.

38. HAMILTON—G. H. Copeland.

39. ST. THOMAS—A. Richard.

40. WINDSOR—W. Ayers.

J. J. RICE, *Superintendent of District.*
A. RICHARD, *Church Secretary.*

41. PUTNAMVILLE—T. Broad.

42. TALBOTVILLE—F. M. Whitlock.

43. LONDON MISSION—S. J. Allin, Another.

[The brethren laboring on London Mission, are under supervision of the Pastor of London Circuit.]

VI. Prince Edward Island District.

44. CHARLOTTETOWN—W. S. Pascoe.

45. UNION—E. A. Tonkin.

46. WHEATLEY RIVER—J. G. Yelland.

47. VERNON RIVER—G. Smith.

48. MURRAY HARBOR—J. H. Collins.

49. STURGEON & MONTAGUE—W. Bryenton.

[Sturgeon preacher is to exchange once in six weeks with the Murray Harbor and Vernon River preachers.]

50. WEST CAPE—J. Ball.

51. SUMMERSIDE—W. Medland.

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Cleveland
Orange..
Chagrin
Palmyra
Lisbon..
Yorkville
Colborne
Hunting

Totals in

VII. Wisconsin District.

Davis ; J. Edwards,
with the suggestion of

- 52. PALMYRA—W. R. Roach.
- 53. LISBON—J. Greenway, Another ; G. Haycraft, Superannuated.

Williams, Superannuated.

- 54. YORKVILLE—R. Davidson.
- 55. LITTLE PRAIRIE—T. H. Dry.
- 56. BURLINGTON—J. Dumbleton.

W. R. ROACH, *Superintendent of District.*
J. GREENWAY, *Church Secretary.*

VIII. Cleveland District.

numerary.

- 57. CLEVELAND—H. J. Nott.
- 58. ORANGE—G. Bodle.
- 59. CHAGRIN FALLS—R. Mallett, B. A.
- 60. NEWBURG—H. Moore.

ent of District.
ry.

H. J. NOTT, *Superintendent of District.*
R. MALLETT, *Church Secretary.*

Q. 8.—What are the Statistics of the Connexion ?

A.—As follows :

SELF SUSTAINING CIRCUITS.	Itinerant Preachers.	Local Preachers.	Churches.	Other places.	Deaths.	Renovals.	Received from other Circuits.	On Trial.	Approved Members.	Totals.	Teachers.	Scholars.
Cobourg.....	2	3	4		1	6	3	29	170	199	32	198
Welcome.....	2	8	5		3	15	6	18	204	222	42	202
Bowmanville.....	6	9	8		4	30	13	166	439	605	77	644
Hampton.....	2	11	6		5	13	6	44	230	274	71	400
Columbus.....	1	7	4		8	4	4	30	130	160	31	138
Mariposa.....	3	12	9	2	23			25	462	487	80	626
Lakefield.....	1	5	4		2	8	2	3	107	110	28	112
Exeter.....	4	14	10		2	58	8	106	443	609	100	740
Mitchell.....	3	3	2		1	12	4	15	160	175	24	259
Fullarton.....	1	5	3	1	1	8		25	164	189	15	240
Usborne.....	2	2	8	1	3	18	1	13	195	208	64	316
London.....	2	6	3		1	8	9	30	170	200	36	288
Charlottetown.....	1	6	1		2	2	1	20	103	123	16	168
Union.....	1	9	4		2	4		6	107	113	21	100
Vernon River.....	1		3		1	8	3	2	73	75	6	49
Murray Harbor.....	1		2	1	3	3	3	2	91	93	8	63
Sturgeon & Montague.....	1	1	2	2	2			8	37	45	4	63
Cleveland.....	1	3	1	1	2	6		7	101	108	10	86
Orange.....	1	1	2					4	63	67	19	119
Chagrin Falls.....	1	3	1			6			61	61	10	75
Palmyra.....	1	5	4	1	2			78	130	208	40	290
Lisbon.....	2		2	2	1	2		78	87	165	25	90
Yorkville.....	1	7	4	2	1	2		32	99	131	38	220
Colborne.....	1	4	4	1		3		85	105	190	18	149
Huntingdon.....	1	3	4		2	7	2		124	124	18	140
Totals in Circuits.	43	127	100	14	41	249	65	386	4065	4941	831	5775

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MISSIONS.	Itinerant Preachers.		Local Preachers.	Churches.	Other places.	Deaths.	Removals.	Received from other Circuits	On Trial	Approved Members	Totals.	Teachers.	Scholars.	
	1	2												
Port Hope.....	1	2	1			3							53	
Perrytown.....	1		4				6	6	21	53	74	8	60	
Hungerford.....	1	1	4	2	2					68	68	4	50	
Campellford.....	2	1	5	1	5		20		51	119	170	18	124	
Belleville.....	1	1	1				5	3	8	54	62	8	50	
Oshawa.....	1	2	1				13	1	13	102	115	24	138	
Pickering.....	1	4	5	2	1	12		4	16	94	110	22	181	
Prince Albert....	3	3	6			2	2		13	169	182	12	70	
Toronto.....	1	2	1			1	18	5	3	77	80	14	125	
Uxbridge.....	1	4	3			3	10	8	16	74	90	14	110	
Peterboro & Ashburnham.....	2	5	4			2	4	2	3	135	138	32	186	
Fenelon.....	1	4	5	1			8	2		113	113	31	276	
Lindsay.....	2	1				1	12	2	17	75	92	18	134	
Sutton.....	1		4	1			5	2	2	61	63	20	90	
Manvers & Cartwright.....	2	2	6	3			26		11	209	220	40	322	
Clinton.....	1	8	4	1	2	18		6	36	148	184	31	207	
Warton.....	1	4	2	6	1	1		5	12	90	102	26	175	
Palmerstown.....	1	3	1	2	1	3		2	4	51	55	4	54	
Lambeth.....	1	2	3				14		1	78	79	18	76	
St. Thomas.....	2	3	2			2	1		9	100	109	16	115	
Ingersoll.....	1	3	2			2	4		66	56	122	10	98	
Dereham.....	1		3	1	1	3			12	47	59	25	160	
Colchester.....	1	3	1	3			4	4		64	64	10	62	
Hamilton.....	1		1			1	1			35	35	12	100	
Windsor.....	1	1	1			2	5			27	27	10	100	
Wheatley River....	1		3				1	2	3	35	38	6	50	
Summerside.....	1		1	1	1	1	11	2		33	33	8	48	
West Cape.....	1	6	3	3	2	7	4	34		85	119	16	78	
Little Prairie.....	1	1	1	1			6			55	55	17	114	
Burlington.....	1	1	3		1	2			2	34	36	7	65	
Cleveland Mission.	1	4	1	1			1			2	53	55	10	64
Totals in Mission.	38	70	83	29	36	36	252	62	358	2494	2852	503	3565	
Grand Totals.....	81	197	183	43	77	501	127	1244	6549	7793	1334	3340		
Totals in 1876.....	85	195	177	60	74	445	113	672	6371	6943	1261	3396		
Increase.....		2	6		3	56	14	672	178	850	73			
Decrease.....	4				17								56	

Q 9.—What is the State of our Christian Experience?

A.—Our testimony is clear as to our interest in the glorious Gospel Salvation. We have proved, during the past, the power of Divine grace to sustain, under the severest ordeals humanity can pass through. Some of our veterans, with the ripe experience of half a century of honest and successful toil, and courageous fight, have spoken in terms of exultant confidence. The year last past has but repeated the evidence of all by-gone years, as to the truthfulness of the Bible declaration that "the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth;" and the large accessions to our membership, in the course of the year,

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	On Trial	Approved Members	Totals	Teachers	Scholars
3	100	103	12	83	
21	53	74	8	60	
	68	68	4	50	
51	119	170	18	124	
8	54	62	8	50	
13	102	115	24	138	
16	94	110	22	181	
13	169	182	12	70	
3	77	80	14	125	
16	74	90	14	110	
3	135	138	32	186	
	113	113	31	276	
17	75	92	18	134	
2	61	63	20	90	
11	209	220	40	322	
36	148	184	31	207	
12	90	102	26	175	
4	51	55	4	54	
1	78	79	18	76	
9	100	109	16	115	
66	56	122	10	98	
12	47	59	25	160	
	64	64	10	62	
	35	35	12	100	
	27	27	10	100	
2	3	35	8	50	
2		33	33	8	48
4	34	85	119	16	78
		55	55	17	114
	2	34	36	7	65
	2	53	55	10	64
2	358	2494	2852	503	3665
27	1244	6549	7793	1334	9340
13	872	6371	6943	1261	9396
4	872	178	850	73	86

have been a source of rejoicing throughout our Denomination. During the relation of our Christian experience, there was no room to ask, "Is the Lord among us or not?" All seemed to bathe as in a "sea of love," and the meeting closed under exuberant emotions, arising from an all-pervading conviction of the power and presence of God.

Q. 10.—What is the Spiritual State of the Connexion?

A.—Having examined the Spiritual Reports of the Districts, we are pleased to find that the prayers offered have not been unavailing; that the sermons and exhortations given, have not been unaccompanied with the demonstration of the Spirit and of power; that the money spent has not been mis-employed, neither have the sacrifices made been without corresponding results. On most of the stations, a measure of revival influence has been felt. The Church has been quickened, her zeal inflamed, and her love intensified; backsliders have been reclaimed, and sinners converted. The Gospel has proved "the power of God unto salvation" to many precious souls, and times of refreshing have been realized, coming from the presence of the Lord. God has been with His people, amidst their difficulties, temptations, and afflictions, and has proved a present help in time of need. Many have been called from our ranks to enjoy the rest of heaven; and among them are two of our ministers, who have left bright testimony that they are gone to be forever with the Lord, affording us encouragement to be faithful unto death. From the pious resolves to personal consecration, and the earnest desire to attain a higher state of spiritual life, we are hopeful that what has been experienced is but the dawn of a brighter day, the droppings of a copious shower, the first-fruits of an abundant harvest.

OSHAWA AND MARIPOSA STATIONS.

The Conference approved of Oshawa becoming a self-supporting station, and of Mariposa being divided.

COMMITTEES:

Q. 11.—Who are the Executive Committee?

A.—The President, Secretary, Missionary Secretary, Financial Secretary, and General Treasurers, the Superintendents of Districts, J. H. Eynon, P. Robins, A. Clarke, W. Quance, A. Gordon, W. C. Beer, J. Williams, J. Hull, C. R. Tamblyn, J. Pickard, J. Rundle, J. F. Cummings, and J. Southcott.

SUB-COMMITTEE;

The President, Secretary, Editor, P. Robins, W. Windatt, C. R. Tamblyn, J. Rundle, and A. Clarke.

Experience?

interest in the glorious past, the power of the present, and the promise of the future, and the course of the year,

Q. 12. Who are the Stationing Committee?

A.—The President, Secretary, ex-President, Superintendents of Districts, Editor, Missionary Secretary, and Financial Secretary, with one Lay Representative from each District.

Q. 13. Who are the Examining Committee?

A.—W. C. Beer, A. Richard, and W. H. Quance.

Q. 14. Who are the District Examining Committee.

A.—COBOURG DISTRICT : J. Kenner, L. W. Wickett, W. Kinley.

BOWMANVILLE DISTRICT : W. C. Beer, W. H. Quance, and G. Webber.

VICTORIA & PETERBORO' DISTRICT : W. Kenner, R. B. Rowe, S. Jolliffe.

EXETER DISTRICT : R. T. Courtice, W. H. Butt, and J. P. Rice.

LONDON DISTRICT : J. J. Rice, J. Whitlock, and A. Richard.

P. E. ISLAND DISTRICT : W. Medland, J. H. Collins, and G. Smith.

WISCONSIN DISTRICT : W. R. Roach, J. Greenway, and G. Haycraft.

CLEVELAND DISTRICT : H. J. Nott, R. Mallett, B. A., and G. Bodle.

CONFERENCE OFFICIALS.

Q. 15. Who are the Conference Officials?

A.—William Jolliffe, President of Conference ; John Kenner, Secretary of Conference, and General Corresponding Secretary ; Cephas Barker, Editor and Book Steward, General Treasurer jointly with W. Windatt, and Corresponding Secretary with England ; J. Harris, Missionary Secretary ; E. Roberts, Financial Secretary ; W. H. Quance, Church Secretary ; H. J. Nott, Sabbath School Secretary ; J. Hull, and J. Cunnings, Auditors.

DISTRICT MEETINGS, 1878.

Q. 16.—When and where shall the next District Meetings be held?

A.—Cobourg District, at Lodge Room, Hungerford ; Bowmanville District, at Oshawa ; Victoria & Peterboro' District, at Oakwood ; Exeter District, at Clinton ; London District, at London ; —all on the *third* Wednesday in May. P. E. Island District, at Charlottetown, the *second* Friday in May ; Wisconsin District, at Little Prairie, the *first* Wednesday in May ; Cleveland District, at Chagrin Falls, the *third* Wednesday in May.

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CONFERENCE, 1878.

Q. 17.—When and where shall the next Conference be held ?

A.—At Mitchell, on the *first* Thursday in June, 1878, at 9 A. M.; the Executive Committee to meet on the preceding Tuesday at 9 A. M.

N. B.—The Missionary and General Financial Secretaries must have their reports to lay before the Committee; the Stationing Committee to meet the same day at 4 P. M.; the Examining Committee on the following day (Wednesday) at 9 A. M.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS, 1877-8.

The 1st Executive Committee Meeting shall be held in Bowmanville, on the *fourth* Wednesday in August; the 2nd meeting in Toronto, on the *fourth* Wednesday in November; and the 3rd meeting at any place the Committee may appoint, on the *fourth* Wednesday in February, 1878.

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ADDRESS TO THE SOCIETIES.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHURCHES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE, GREETING :

We wish from this, our Annual Assembly, to speak to you with much plainness of speech on subjects of great importance to you and the Denomination. Our address will gather chiefly around the central truth : home training. A subject of wider range, higher moment, graver responsibility, and more solemn and far-reaching issues, cannot be presented to your consideration. We ask you to consider —

1st. *Your example.*—In every branch of life, what we wish others to become, we must be ourselves. If we wish men to be true, honest, just, we must be so. Every living creature imitates. Insects, reptiles, birds, beasts, copy the tones and gestures and actions of their species ; and as truly is man's conduct the scion of his seniors and superiors. The traveller surveys his route from another's map ; the mariner traverses the ocean by another's chart ; the architect works by plans ; the school-boy writes from copy ; and as truly do children copy the manners, maxims, principles, and example of the parental home. Virtue may not be so readily imitated as vice, but the living example, of both is powerful. Nowhere is the life so watched

and copied and incorporated as in the home. Here, where the reserves, restraints, and artificiality of public life are laid aside, and every one becomes himself, example is more powerful than anywhere else. Home work, and the hereafter character of our children, depends much on what *we are*. If you would curb a child's will, or pride, or temper, or impatience, or indolence, or worldliness, first curb your own. Do not set the example of close-fisted greediness to a child you wish to see benevolent and generous. Do not lay aside everything for the sake of worldly advancement, and expect your child to make sacrifices for Christ's sake. Do not be indifferent to the means of grace, and grudging in your support of the Gospel, if you would have your child set a proper value on religion and eagerly accept it with all its conditions. As a true disciple of Christ, watch your life so that you may be able to say to all around you, "Be ye, followers of me, even as I also am of Christ."

2nd. *Be careful to impart sound religious instruction to the family.*—Ignorance is the negation of all moral beauty, for the soul without knowledge is not good, just as a wild and desolate wilderness, where the hand of cultivation has not broken the soil, is overrun with weeds. So is the mind and soul where the hand of instruct

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eful to impart instruction to the ice is the ne- ral beauty, for knowledge is s a wild and ss, where the tion has not s overran with he mind and and of instruc

tion has not blessed it. *You must teach*. Perhaps, you plead unfitness, in some cases, to instruct; it is your duty to employ and improve the gifts you have, and then spare no pains to secure the necessary helps and assistances to fulfil your duty. It is a lamentable thing to see a parent straining every nerve to secure large possessions of land and property for his child, and yet leave his mind a barren waste. Do not spare in your outlay for good books and magazines; and in this connection we urge, let no home throughout the Denomination be without our Connexional paper and magazines. For your own sakes, as well as the Connexion's, let them be the most welcome visitors to your home. In the religious instruction of home, commence early, with the child's first thoughts and aspirations. Perform it regularly, without any deviation from a clearly defined and well-planned rule; and in all instances let religious instruction be given devoutly and seriously. Let the spirit, and manner, and reverent tone, deepen the solemnity of the subject; and, we desire to urge that no family instruction can be complete without family devotion. Christian parents should not only pray for their children, but also *with them*. To speak of a Christian household without a family altar is a strange inconsistency. A thing so vital to home piety and life cannot be neglected without sin. Whether family

devotion should be observed once, twice, or thrice a day, must be left to the discrimination and situation of the family, but it should be performed daily, and no claim of business, or engagements, or company, should prevent the regular devotions of the family. Never hesitate to pause first and take counsel with God, before going forth to the ventures of the hour; never fail to put your family under God's guardianship before they pass out to the toils and temptations of the day, and in all instances unite the *reading of Scripture* with prayer. By that means, you will fill the child-mind with Scriptural knowledge, and impress upon it the lessons and counsels of truth—the most important of all lessons for the promotion of a sound religious education. In that way the house will become a Church, the home a centre of spiritual training, and the first inspiration to religious life will be where it should be—in the church that is in the household.

3rd. *Maintain family government*.—Just as the welfare of the State depends on the wisdom and righteousness of its laws and legislators, so the welfare of a family depends on the home government. The proper exercise of family discipline is a difficult task; people are so apt to adopt extreme measures, and so err on the side of lenience or severity. Much wisdom, patience, firmness, and affection is required,

but in the clear and emphatic language of Scripture, the maintenance of sound family government is essential to the welfare of the family, the Church, and the world: "He that spareth the rod, hateth his child." This duty is encouraged and enforced by the most eminent examples of Scripture. This is the reason why God dealt so familiarly with Abraham, and made him the conservator of the truth which was to bless all men: "I know that Abraham will command his children after him, that they walk in my statutes and obey my commandments;" and all down through the Hebrew dispensation, the duty was solemnly enforced, and it was, in part, for neglecting their own vineyard, that God finally rejected Israel. To store the mind with useful knowledge is good, but to train and discipline the heart, the will, the life, is immensely better. We say correctly enough, the father is the parent of the child, but it is equally true that the child is father of the man, and training forms that child that man. So that one of the greatest blessings you can confer on your children is to cultivate and discipline them to self-reliance, and self-restraint, and self-dependence, that as they go forth into the world they may not rely on their education, or their prosperity, or their family's social influence, but mainly under God upon a *disciplined self*. We cannot forbear the utterance that, if a better family dis-

cipline was maintained in all our homes, and the young people more systematically restrained from foolish and hurtful literature, and questionable company, that may be a little higher in the social scale, but not less dangerous for that—if the homeliness, the simplicity, the true and beautiful refinement of Christian training and life, was more thoroughly cultivated in the home, there would be less apeing after shabby respectability, and languidly genteel clerkships, and affected superiority to the soiled hands of honest labour—the unquestionable cause of so many of the children of our friends forsaking the Church of their fathers, when they enter our cities and towns. Train the children to true respectability,—the respectability of believing in themselves, of moving with self-independence, of having confidence in their own and their fathers' God, and then bid them go forth into life, true to honest toil, true to Christian conviction, true to the hope that is in them.

4th. *Make the spiritual well-being of your children, an object of unceasing care.*—There are three things a good parent should specially seek for his children: (1) That they may share the piety of their parents. (2) That they may accept the distinctive faith and principles of their parents. (3) That they may cheerfully go forward to fulfil the Christian work, and activities of the Church of their

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the spiritual well- children, an object are.—There are a good parent ly seek for his That they may of their parents. may accept the and principles (3) That they go forward to stian work, and Church of their

parents. First of all, and above all, seek to win your children for Christ; then endeavor to root them in the beliefs and principles of which you intelligently approve; and then urge them to accept the unfinished work of their own Church, and to its extension, consolidation, and evangelical power, consecrate their resources of wealth, or influence, or talents, or personal service. Do not ask in doubt, whether it is possible instrumentally to lead your children to Christ and His Church, for the teaching of Scripture is clear and explicit. Hear: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it;" and this Scripture should not be altered to meet appearances, by substituting, "he *may* not depart from it," because many have departed. It is a God-inspired utterance, over which we have no right to cavil, and if the promise be not realized, there must be a grave defect on the manward side. Human training, we acknowledge, is but an instrument, and God must put his finger on the child and change his heart before he will become a true Christian. But is not God ever willing to sanction the means He Himself hath appointed? There is not a thing you can do that God hath appointed, and in the way He hath appointed, but in it you may expect His help and blessing; then certainly in a matter so momentous as the religious training of the

family, you may expect it. Perhaps you ask, do you believe that there is a law and order of sequence, on the ground of which Christians may calculate that when they have discharged the conditions of their relationships, their children would grow up in the fear of the Lord. We say, yes, we do so believe and teach. Parental influence is a law marked by the same authority as God's other laws, and should be as duly recognized. The parent imparts to his offspring physical and intellectual peculiarities. Why not moral and spiritual characteristics? Evil bias is communicable. Why not the same law hold good in the transmission of a Godward thirst? You may reply, there are three forms of objection to this principle: (1) Will it not remove the necessity of conversion? By no means. Is it necessary that the children of godly parents should first plunge into sin and shame, so as to be rescued from the depths of vice? The principle on which we insist, instead of disparaging the need of conversion, only renders it more sure, complete, and early. Do you further enquire, (2) Will not the view pressed upon us, restrict the freedom of the child's will in salvation? Not at all. People calculate with remarkable certainty how persons will choose to act under certain influences and prospects of worldly advantage. Why may we not equally believe that chil-

dren trained according to the Divine word, would choose God, and accept His offered good? Do you again urge, (3) that the view presented will supersede the necessity of the Spirit's influence? Nay, but rather it will furnish those means upon which the Holy Spirit ever rests, with saving power, and facilitate the Spirit's work. There are exceptional instances where the best endeavours and training of home is apparently lost, but these cases are exceptional. In the main, the failure, wherever it may occur, is because the conditions have not been faithfully fulfilled. The husbandman does not blame natural laws, but his own negligence, if he begs in harvest amid fields overran with weeds; and Christian parents will do well to cease reflecting on God, and enquire after their own conduct, and see if they have been always and everywhere consistent with His commands and conditions. Then we think many of you, instead of mourning over family trials and wayward children, would see just cause to weep over your own sins, and seek, amid tears, for Divine forgiveness.

We urge you, as you recognize God's ordinances in the material world, so do it in the moral world. As you cultivate flowers, grain, and plants, in the faith that they will live, and thrive, and blossom, and bear fruit, so cultivate the souls of your family, expecting confidently that they will become beautiful, fragrant, fruit-bearing, holy; then when age and infirmity has incapacitated you for further service in Christ's vineyard, you will have the unfeigned joy of seeing your children fill your offices in the Church—fulfil your most ardent wishes in the extension of the Church, and carry on and on the work you had prayerfully begun; or if the Master should early snatch you away from earth's weariness to heaven's eternal repose, looking down from the upper sanctuary, you would see with unceasing delight, your very own work carried forward by your children to grand and triumphant completion, and the pang you felt at leaving will be exchanged for the heart-thrilling congratulation, "Instead of the fathers, have come up the children!"

W. JOLLIFFE, *President.*

J. KENNER, *Secretary.*

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ADDRESS TO THE ENGLISH CONFERENCE.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,

Assembled in this our twenty-third annual Conference, we hail with unfeigned pleasure, the opportunity of giving expression to sentiments of affectionate esteem, and brotherly love continuously cherished toward you. Most sincerely, and heartily, therefore, do we thus fraternal-ly greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus. Grace and peace be multiplied unto you, through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord.

The distinguished relations we bear to each other as fellow-heirs of the kingdom of God, and fellow laborers in the service of our Divine Master, are suggestive of the fact, that, to whatever extent local and personal interest may urge its claims, we are nevertheless in these relations, "members one of another," and as such, our faith, hope, sympathies, objects, and aims, are one. The manner in which any expression of fraternal regard on our part, has been reciprocated by you, and equally, the willingness you have manifested to accede to any request we have judged it safe and judicious to make for the general good, has given evidence of mutual good-will, and a desire to concur in measures, with a view to augment our denominational resources, and increased appliances in the cause and service of truth generally. Thus fraternal bonds have been strength-

ened; and may the time never come when they shall be less strong than now.

We highly value your expressions of pleasure, in the success realized within our borders last year, and in turn, feel equally gratified in as large, or even larger, proportionate increase with you. Nor was the Australian field without its harvest; in the joy of their ingatherings, we also participate. Verily the joy of one part, is the joy of all. Nor was our own Denomination thus alone favored of God, but other churches in Zion received showers of blessings.

The various departments of Christian work in connection with our sphere of operations, have not been unproductive of fruit during the present year. Following the ploughman and the sower, the reaper has gone forth and gathered many sheaves for the Master, and so hath it been, that the "sower and the reaper have rejoiced together." The result proves that after allowing for more than usual losses from one cause or another, we report an increase of 178 approved members, and 672 on trial, making a total increase of those meeting in church fellowship of 850. It is gratifying to learn that the larger Bible Class scholars in our Sabbath Schools make up a large portion of this increase. This field of labor is productive beyond many, and promises even yet a richer reward. We also joy and rejoice

JOLLIFFE, *President.*
KENNER, *Secretary.*

in the fact that through the Divine blessing, there has been a quickening of spiritual life, and a higher plane of religious experience sought, which in its working, will insure increased activity, and consequently, increased success. It is worthy of note, that a large proportion of our reported increase, are still on trial; hence there are pressing demands for christian instruction, and opportunities are not wanting to make the best possible use of the gifts and graces each member may possess, to the end that these may be established.

We glory in the fact that the Christianity of the Bible is being more clearly understood, and that the church of Christ is beginning to see the dignity of her mission, and to seek the qualification necessary for its accomplishment. Evangelical labor is on the increase, and being signally owned of God as an instrumentality in the salvation of men. And most heartily are we in sympathy with every agency calculated to accelerate the triumphs of truth, whether in connection with our own Denomination, or other branches of the universal church of Christ; nor would we be listless observers of those gigantic movements, as instanced in the struggle between Russia and Turkey, (the issue of which is still pending) and ask whether these may not furnish a page in the history of truth, and be a step towards the accomplishment of the Divine purpose in the over-

throw of sin, and superstition, and the establishment of righteousness. "The Lord reigneth, let the earth rejoice."

Increased spiritual life, whether in the person or in the Church has ever been wont to manifest itself in increased liberality towards the support of the cause of Christ, up to the standard of ability or requirement; and both yourselves and us are witnesses, what an impetus has been given the pecuniary interests of our work, consequent upon a religious and spiritual awakening. Plans have been projected, and necessities provided for, which before were not heard of, or perhaps thought of. For aggressive work, the funds supplying the necessary aid, will need to be replenished, by liberal contributions thereto. Nor have we had reason to complain in the past. Our entering so many new fields of labor a few years since, however, laid our funds under contribution, beyond a precedent, so that it became necessary to adopt measures to relieve the Denomination from pecuniary embarrassment. This has been secured in part, (through the energetic efforts of Bro. Roberts) and to as great an extent as we might reasonably expect, seeing the past two years have scarcely been paralleled in our previous history, as to a general depression in monetary matters. We hope by wise counsel, strict economy, and continued liberality, to provide as our necessities may require. We are

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free to acknowledge your sympathy, and aid, in the loan under negotiation, which we hope will be consummated satisfactorily to all.

It is matter for congratulation and encouragement, that you have been able to take a position in the north of England, moreover, having crossed the line into Scotland, and that in so short a time you have been able to form a new District, comprising those mission fields; we know not as yet where Providence may lead us. Success doubtless will lie in the path thus indicated.

Each year has a history of its own, and events peculiar to itself, and the past has not been an exception. Since our last annual gathering, two of our senior brethren have exchanged mortality for life, namely, Bro. J. B. Tapp, the intelligence of whose death reached you, ere the close of your last Conference, and Bro. A. Morris, whose departure was only about three weeks previous to that of his wife. We have a few of those whom we may call fathers, whose names are as ointment poured forth, such as Robins, Eynon, Green, Edwards, and Hurley, spared to us awhile longer, and it is somewhat significant that Bro. Robins, whose name stands at the head of the list of Approved Preachers, and who has scarcely omitted to attend the Conference for the last fifty years, is not present with us, because attended with too

much fatigue in advanced age. The bill of mortality in your ranks may not be considered large, but the master hath seen fit to call the brethren, Rounsefell and Daniel from service on earth, to their reward in heaven. Others in the ranks, both yours and ours, have had their sorrows, through family bereavements; nor would we think lightly of these, but rather assert that in these alternations of sorrow, mingled with joy, we are mutual sharers with you; and not less in the former, than in the latter, are our fraternal sympathies attracted and strengthened, thus proving our oneness in the body of Christ, and that if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it.

We doubt not but that the somewhat transient visit of our esteemed Editor, (Bro. Barker), to his native land, was hailed by you with exceeding pleasure. After the lapse of so many years, to meet a brother, who has been so thoroughly identified with our denominational interests, to exchange fraternal greetings, renew acquaintances, and interchange thoughts on matters of general interest, must have been both pleasurable and profitable; and not the least in this connection, were the arrangements made by him on our behalf for a loan for a term of years, to which allusion has already been made. Both ourselves and you unite in thankfulness to a watchful guardian Providence,

in preserving Mr. and Mrs. Barker amid the perils of an exceedingly stormy passage across the Atlantic, and reaching their Canadian home in safety, notwithstanding the dangers of the voyage.

Paradoxical as it may seem, yet with good will we somewhat envy you, in that you so frequently receive visits from brethren of the Canadian Conference, and to whom you have always extended a hearty welcome, while we have not had the pleasure of welcoming a brother from the English Conference for a number of years. We hope that you will soon be able to give practical effect to your long contemplated purpose of sending a deputation, in the person of your esteemed Editor, and if that be impracticable, some other brother, to visit the Canadian and Australian work.

We regard the regulation, providing for a separate Conference in South Australia, as a step in the right direction, which cannot but be productive of good results, facilitating as it will the working of their affairs in comparison with their former method, and we judge, that similar regulations, relative to Victoria and Queensland, with provision for a General Conference, would be equally advantageous for the several Australian colonies. The fact that three Conferences already exist, (including home and colonial), leads us in devout ac-

knowledgment of God's mercy, to exclaim, "What hath God wrought!"

We rejoice at your prosperity in educational interests, and the spirit with which you have entered upon the Connexional enterprise of establishing a Bible Christian College. We think the history and present *status* of the Denomination to be sufficient to warrant such an institution being established; and, with the many thousands of Denominational adherents, should never lack patronage and support. We speak gravely and sincerely, when we say, the next in order in the scale of progress will be a Theological Seminary. Why not?

The regulation for increased Lay Representation in our Annual Conference, has led to an increase in the number attending. Nor is this undesirable, as in all matters of Conference deliberation, we need the counsel, wisdom, and outspoken sentiments of our lay brethren. We have in attendance at the present Conference, 79 members, 51 ministers, and 28 representatives. The deliberations, for the most part, have been of a weighty character. The discussions have been animated, earnest, and practical. The sermons, speeches, and addresses, able, stirring, instructive and encouraging. The public services have been seasons of hallowed fellowship, and rich in spiritual influence,

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and will long be held in lively remembrance by the many hundreds who have participated in those seasons of refreshing, coming from the presence of the Lord.

Strengthened thus by an increase of spiritual power, aided by wise counsel, learning lessons from the past, and gather-

ing inspiration at the Cross for the future conflict, we gird on the armour, and resolve to repair to our several fields of labor, there to render more effective service in the cause of the Master, whose we are, and whom we serve.

W. JOLLIFFE, *President.*
J. KENNER, *Secretary.*

ADDRESS TO THE AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,

We hail you with the liveliest satisfaction, and accord you the heartiest welcome into the brotherhood of Bible Christian Conferences. In your new departure, you realize your true Christian manhood. In your newly attained dignity, you feel you are men—loving the good folk in the Old Country none the less, while respecting your selves the more. We know that although the rein was held with the greatest delicacy, nevertheless, there was the humiliating fact that the rein was held. Now you are free to manage your own affairs, and it must be presumed, none so well able as yourselves to regulate matters affecting your own household. In granting Constitutions to two colonial Conferences, our friends in England have shown their ability not only to read the signs of the times, but a commendable readiness to place themselves in the van of progress. The few of our fathers who yet re-

main (though in a superannuated relationship) in connection with the English Conference, must oftimes look across the mighty waters, both to you and to us, and with adoring gratitude exclaim, "What hath God wrought!"

Doubtless, you realize this fact, also: that your new privileges involve new responsibilities, and this will be felt by you yet more and more; but with the eye single to the Master's glory, "you shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it."

We give you credit for certain advantages over us, arising as we think, from the fact, that, in everything, you adhere more closely to the English type than we do, both commercially and religiously. Our proximity to, and consequent extensive intercourse with, the citizens of the United States of America, tends to a departure from old country usages, and, true to nature, we are more ready to imitate their follies than their

virtues. The unrest, the love of change—of adventure and speculation—the go-a-headedness, without any thought as to its morality or otherwise, if it will only pay, so characteristic of our "neighbours, has a marked influence upon our population, upon our commerce, and upon our churches. Doubtless, you have drawbacks peculiar to your colony; but whether this or that, these or those, our mission is one. Ours is the Gospel, adapted to all peoples and climes—Heaven's panacea for the moral and spiritual maladies of the race—the Spirit's sword for killing and making alive—His own instrumentality for enlightening, converting, regenerating, sanctifying and saving men. And whether in Australia or Canada, the same "Gospel of the blessed God," "is the power of God unto salvation, to everyone that believeth." In your successful propagation of the truth, we have greatly rejoiced, and hope to have yet greater cause for joy.

During the past year, with most other churches, we have been honored in leading many precious souls to Jesus. Our increase (850), while not what it should be, nor what it would have been had our membership, in its individuality, come up to the help of the

Lord against the mighty, nevertheless, such evidence of the presence and power of the Spirit, (as such we accept it) fills us with humble gratitude, and we devoutly thank God and take courage. Our Conference has been a good one, and will not soon be forgotten, for, excepting two or three displays of some of human nature's naughtiness, a very heavenly influence has pervaded all the business sessions and the public services. In common with other religious and philanthropic institutions, we have suffered financially from the general monetary depression. Our friends, however, devised liberal things, and have well sustained the schemes of the Church, and thus justify us in believing that, with an improvement in trade and commerce they will soon make our financial deficit a thing of the past.

We again assure you of our oneness with you, and of our hearty reciprocation of all the pious wishing contained in the last paragraph of your very affectionate address.

When the Lord cometh, what a glorious meeting we shall have. For the present, adieu.

Signed on behalf, and by order, of the Conference—

W. JOLLIFFE, *President*.

J. KENNER, *Secretary*.

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GENERAL CHURCH SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Resolved. That, the following Report be adopted, and printed in the minutes :—

“It is with unfeigned gratitude, that your Secretary is able to report, that in no department of our Denominational operations is there a healthier activity, than in this. While we are sharers of each other's joy, in any increase which tends to build up the church of our fathers and of our choice, we think that energies put forth in the building of Sanctuaries, in which the Most High may be worshipped, and suitable and convenient residences for those who preach the Gospel to live in, is indicative of the fact that practical Christianity is still alive and potent for good.

The year that has just closed has been one of marked progress in the accumulation of Denominational Property. The following is a brief synopsis of the most salient features of the various reports from the Districts :—

The total value of Church Property, as reported last year, was \$370,002.58 ; now we report, \$405,576.87, being an increase of \$35,574.29, during the year. On several of the Stations there have been extensive improvements, involving a large outlay. The amount returned for improvements is \$5,675.29. Lambeth Church has been greatly improved. Salem Church, on the Exeter Circuit, has been removed from its old site, to one more suited to the wants of the congregation. The Church at St. Thomas has undergone considerable alterations and improvements. Other properties have been improved by the purchase of organs, painting, and fencing, etc. There have been nine Churches built during the year, at an aggregate cost of \$17,249.00 ; providing accommodation for 2435 persons, with an average attendance of 1200. Four of these Churches are brick, the remaining five are frame. Two other Churches are reported as coming to us from the Manvers and Cartwright Circuit, valued at \$1000. So that, in all, we have eleven new Churches reported during the year, being an increase of six, for the year ; the others having taken the place of previous erections, and hence, although adding to the value of Church Property, are no addition numerically.

The year now closed has been one characterized also by the commendable efforts put forth to provide suitable convenient and respectable parsonages. The friends on the various Stations

where these efforts have been made, deserve credit, and the thanks of the Denomination, for the zeal manifested in this department, and it is hoped that it may stimulate others to put forth similar efforts on Stations where the conveniences are demanded. There have been three Parsonages built of brick, viz: Port Hope, Belleville, and Campbellford; the remaining four are frame, some of these have been built, and others have been purchased during the year. These seven Parsonages have cost an aggregate of \$10,650.00

The total Receipts for the year amount to \$25,792.97, and the Disbursements to \$32,478.18. The total debt, as returned last year, as nearly as can be gathered, was \$56,742.12. There is now a debt of \$63,472.52, an increase of \$6,730.40; against this there are out-standing subscriptions, amounting to \$12,714.65, so that the total debt unprovided for according to present returns is \$50,757.87.

Though there is a considerable increase of debt, yet, when we look at the increase of property, and the stringency of the times, there is great cause for thankfulness to the Inspirer of every good thought, and the Helper of every good work.

Your Secretary finds it necessary again to give a word of caution to the brethren in making the returns to the District Secretaries, to make sure of the amount of debt returned at the last audit, as mistakes are more numerous in this, than in any other part of the Schedule.

Your Secretary would also adopt the suggestion of the Church Secretary for the Bowmanville District, viz: that a book be prepared, similar to the one, in the keeping of the District Secretary for the use of the Pastors, to be kept on the Stations, so that the account may be kept properly from year to year.

Your Secretary would thank the District Church Secretaries for the interest they have taken in trying to get correct returns; and we trust, that in respect to the material prosperity of the Denomination, in the Church Property department, the future may be as the past, and much more abundantly.

W. QUANCE,

General Chapel Secretary.

SABBATH SCHOOL SECRETARY'S REPORT.

In addition to the Statistics already presented, the returns show that in

COBOURG DISTRICT,

There are 8 places without Schools, most of them being on *Campbellford Station* and *Perrytown Mission*. The Pastor of Perry-

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town says:—"I cannot make returns according to the Schedule, but the following is as the Schools stands on this Mission; Providence School was opened only two months, when the Superintendent was taken sick, and the School broke up. Eden School was not opened at all for want of Teachers, but, as a gracious revival is now in progress, the prospects for the future in that place are brighter. Perrytown is doing well, but it is *union*, and had to be a union School, in order to be any thing at all." Only four Stations on this District have any settled course of Lessons. Teachers' Meetings are held on all Stations reported, though in most instances there is no regularity in holding them. So far as shown, only three schools are closed part of the year. *Hungerford* sent in no returns. *Campbellford* raised \$40 for School purposes during the year, but has no library, and takes no paper.

BOWMANVILLE DISTRICT,

Is very prolific in Union Schools. *Prince Albert* has three, and the Pastor says:—"I am sorry to report so many union Schools, but my principle is, better have a union School than none at all. The necessity for them here arises from causes too numerous to mention." *Pickering* has two, and makes no apology, and *Usbridge* has one. There are three other places in this District without schools, making the total nine, from which there are no Denominational returns. The Schools reported, but one, are open throughout all the year. Teachers Meetings not very regular. The *International* order of Lessons is used in nearly all the Schools, and adult Bible Classes are better sustained than in any other District.

VICTORIA & PETERBORO' DISTRICT,

Has no Union Schools; but reports seven places without Schools, and four Schools closed part of the year. Teacher's Meetings are held, in keeping with Districts already mentioned; and I might here state, once for all, that, except in Towns, Teachers' Meetings are greatly neglected. One Station in this District is quite singular in its returns; there is not another like it from Wisconsin to P. E. Island: *Lindsay*, it has one preaching place and two schools.

EXETER DISTRICT,

Has eight places without schools. Four Schools are closed during winter. Only three Stations have a settled course of Lessons.

LONDON DISTRICT,

Reports four places without Denominational Schools, and three open part of the year. Nearly all the Schools use the *International* order of Lessons. The Pastor of *Derham* returns one union School.

P. E. ISLAND DISTRICT.

Only two Schools are open all the year, only two Schools use any order in Lessons, or have any Teachers' Meetings, and only two made complete returns. Except in the city, they seem to raise no money for School purposes, and take no papers. But they are all hoping that the time will come when they will be able to take the *Ensign*.

WISCONSIN DISTRICT,

Has four places without Schools, and half of their Schools closed part of the year. Some of the Pastors complain of finding it difficult to get the regular denominational returns.

CLEVELAND DISTRICT,

Reports two places without Schools; but their Schools, except one, are open all the year.

SABBATH SCHOOL LITERATURE.

The *Ensign* has a circulation among our Schools of 2428, while other papers are patronized to the extent of 1872 copies, being a difference in favor of the *Ensign* of only 556. One District takes more copies of other papers than of the *Ensign*. With one united effort, characterized by the Spirit, which should possess us at this time, we believe that the circulation of the *Ensign* can be raised to 4000. Libraries, as a general thing, are getting out of fashion; and much of the money raised for School purposes, is spent in so called rewards for the children—which we consider a very questionable policy.

FINANCE.

The Schools have raised about \$400 for Mission purposes, and for the use of Schools the noble sum of \$3,084.92; and, so far as we can learn, very little over one third of that is spent in patronizing our own literature, which ought not to be.

H. J. NOTT,
Sabbath School Secretary.

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RESOLUTIONS.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

THANKS TO RETIRING OFFICERS.

I. That, the cordial thanks of this Conference be tendered to the retiring President and Secretary, for their valuable and efficient services during the past year.

GREY PROPERTY.

II. That, we receive and adopt the report of Bro. W. Hooper, in relation to the disposal of the property in Grey, and hereby tender him our hearty thanks for his services in this matter.

EX-PRESIDENT'S CHARGE.

III. That, we hereby express our appreciation of the able and practical Charge, delivered by the Ex-President to the five young brethren received into full connexion, and request its publication in the *Observer*.

OVER-FLOW STATIONS.

IV. That, as the London District has a larger number of stations than are allowed by our Constitution to be contained in one District, we decide that the three last formed stations be regarded as "Over-flow Stations;" that, the returns of said stations be made through the Superintendent of the London District; and that, the brethren on said stations shall enjoy all the privileges of District Meeting, except having a vote in its transactions.

EDITOR AND BOOK STEWARD'S REPORT.

V. That, the Report of the Editor and Book Steward be adopted, and that the hearty thanks of the Conference be accorded him for his valuable services in that department of our denominational interest, and we hereby re-appoint him to that office.

CHURCH SECRETARY'S REPORT.

VI. That we adopt with pleasure, the very encouraging Report presented by the General Church Secretary, and unite to award him our hearty thanks, for his labor in this department.

SABBATH SCHOOL SECRETARY'S REPORT.

VII. That the General Sabbath School Secretary's Report be adopted, and that he be thanked for his services.

GENERAL AGENT'S REPORT.

VIII. That the Report of the General Agent in connection with the Connexional debt, be received and adopted, and that the very cordial thanks of this Conference be given Bro. Roberts, for his valuable services.

TEMPERANCE.

IX. Whereas the custom of tipping, and dram drinking, either occasionally, or habitually, indulged, is subversive of the Christian's best interest for both worlds, and in direct opposition to the principle of christian charity, as enunciated by the apostle Paul, and the painful source of trouble to our Church Officials; therefore

Resolved, 1st. That, we earnestly entreat all our members, not only to abstain from all intoxicating liquors, but to use all their influence to discourage their use.

2nd. That, we fully endorse the principles of the Dominion Alliance, for the suppression of the liquor traffic, and pledge ourselves to use our influence in behalf of prohibition.

DEPUTATION TO ENGLISH CONFERENCE.

X. That, we cannot entertain the idea of sending a Deputation to the English Conference, until they have first sent a Deputation to us, but we do hereby respectfully urge on the Conference in England, to send a Deputation to this Conference, at the earliest possible opportunity.

INFORMATION TO MEMBERS ATTENDING CONFERENCE.

XI. That, the members of Conference be informed, previous to leaving home, where they are to be entertained during the sittings of Conference; the information to be given by card, by the Minister in charge on the Station, where the Conference is to be held.

THANKS TO EXETER FRIENDS.

XII. That, the hearty thanks of this Conference, be, and are hereby, tendered to the Brethren J. W. Butcher, and S. J. Allin, for their unremitting efforts to promote our comfort, and to the Society and friends in Exeter, who have so hospitably entertained us during the sessions of this Conference, and we direct that a copy of the Minutes be given to each family, in token of our appreciation of their kindness.

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MINUTES OF CONFERENCE.

XIII. That, henceforth, no greater number of copies of the Minutes of Conference be printed than are ordered, and that any deficiency in the cost of printing, be charged to the Contingent Fund.

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

XIV. That, the following report be received and adopted, viz : Your Committee, after having carefully examined the different Funds, find that in the Contingent Fund there is a balance due the Treasurer of 13 cts., showing a reduction in the debt of \$178.02 ; the Children's Fund shows a balance in hand of \$178.56, being an increase of \$29.29 ; the Beneficent Fund shows a balance in hand of \$800.36, being an increase of \$108.16 ; the Church Aid Fund shows a balance in hand of \$434.80 ; the Quarterly Receipts for the year \$25,598.24, being a decrease \$151.07 ; the Quarterly Disbursements amount to \$35,136.61, being a decrease of expenditure, \$815.36. We are sorry to find that the debt on the Missionary Society has been largely increased, but in view of the monetary depression during the past year, we wish to express our satisfaction, at the healthy state of the funds in General, and trust that with the return of financial prosperity, even the debt on the Missionary Society will soon become a thing of the past.

INCORPORATION OF MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

XV. That, the Executive Committee are hereby instructed to secure an act incorporating our Missionary Society, during the next session of the Legislature.

CLINTON CHURCH PROPERTY.

XVI. That, the friends at Clinton be allowed to sell the old Church Estate, and appropriate the proceeds to aid the funds of their new structure, and the President is authorized and instructed to give the requisite signature.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH MISSIONARY SECRETARY.

XVII. That hereafter all claims, applications, requests, and resolutions, in connection with the Missionary department of our work, must be in the hands of the Missionary Secretary, at least five days before the August, November, and February Committee Meetings, and all such applications and resolutions, that are to come before the Conference must be forwarded to the Missionary Secretary, immediately after the 4th Quarterly Meetings. And no person, or station, must hereafter feel aggrieved, provided applications pass unheeded, when not so forwarded.

SUPERANNUATED PREACHERS CHILDRENS' CLAIMS.

XVIII. That any Preacher among us, who may be superannuated by this Conference, and enters into secular work, and by that engagement derives an income, equal to, or beyond a Preacher in full work, he shall not be regarded as a claimant on the Childrens' Fund.

CONNEXIONAL CHARGES.

XIX. That, \$10.00, be charged with each preacher for the Contingent Fund, and 25 cts., per member, as formerly, for the Childrens' Fund, for the present year.

MISSIONARY SECRETARY.

XX. That, we unite to acknowledge the ability of the Missionary Secretary, and to thank him for the care, zeal, and consecrated energy, with which he hath attended to the duties of his department.

GRANTS.

XXI. That the following Grants be made to the undermentioned Missions, for the ensuing year:—

Belleville, all they can raise	Palmerston, all they can raise
and - - - \$375.	and - - - \$190.
Campellford, all they can raise.	Clinton, do. less 25.
Port Hope, do.	Lambeth, do. and 100.
Hungerford, do.	Brooklyn, do. and 100.
Perrytown, is left open.	Wiaraton, do. and 185.
Pickering, all they can raise.	St. Thomas, do. and 300.
Prince Albert, do. and \$100.	Dereham, do.
Toronto, do. and 300.	Ingersoll, do. and 200.
Uxbridge, do. and 135.	Colchester, do. and 90.
Fenelon Falls, do.	Hamilton, do. and 325.
Lindsay, do. and 200.	Widsor, do. and 180.
Peterboro, do.	Summerside, do. and 250.
Sutton, do. and 160.	Do. For Furniture 25.
Manvers & Cartwright, all they can raise.	Ashburnham, all they can raise and 100.
London Mission, all London	Talbotville do.
Circuit Missionary money.	Wheatley River, do. and 75.

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Davida
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Gale, J
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ALPHABETICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF
THE ITINERANT PREACHERS.

PREACHERS' NAMES.	WHEN TAKEN INTO THE MINISTRY.	PREACHERS' ADDRESSES.	NO. OF YEARS ON PRESENT STATION.
Allin, Roger	1868	Wiarton	3
Allin, Samuel J.	1874	London	1
Archer, Joseph	1869	Campbellford	3
Ashley, Isaac	1886	Lane's P. O. Colborne	1
Ayers, Walter	1863	Windsor	4
Baker, Robert	1867	Ivanhoe	3
Ball, John	1872	McWilliam's Office, Lot 7, P. E. I.	2
Barker, Cephas	1838	Editor, Bowmanville	11
Beer, William Charles	1866	Columbus	2
Bodle, George	1856	Barry, Ohio, U. S.	2
Broad, Thomas	1874	Muir, P. O. London	1
Bryenton, William	1877	Sturgeon, P. E. I.	7
Butcher, John Watson	1843	Exeter	2
Kut, William Henry	1871	Palmerston	3
Chapple, John	1834	Ingersoll	1
Clarke, Archibald	1860	Oshawa	1
Collins, James H.	1868	Murray Harbor, P. E. I.	2
Copeland, George Howard	1872	Hamilton	2
Courtice, Richard Thomas	1865	Clinton	3
Cummings, Silas John	1877	Prince Albert	1
Dafos, James Abram	1877	Brooklyn	1
Davidson, Robert	1872	Yorkville, Racine Co., Wis., U. S.	1
Davis, William	1873	Centrais	1
Dry, Thomas Henry	1873	Little Prairie, Walworth Co. Wis.	1
Dumbleton, John	1874	Burlington, Racine Co., Wis. U. S.	1
Dunkley, George	1842	Fullarton	3
Ebbott, Henry	1841	Orono	2
Edwards, John	1831	Devon	9
Elliott, Joshua	1874	Oakwood	1
Eynon, John Hicks	1826	Tyrone	17
Gale, Jacob	1843	Bowmanville	9
Gilson, John	1874	Bowmanville	1
Gordon, Andrew	1886	Duffins' Creek	1
Green, Thomas	1829	Mitchell	2
Greenway, John	1872	Sussex, Waukesha, Co, Wis, U. S.	2
Guard, John	1853	Georgina	1
Harris, John	1863	Janetville	3
Haycraft, George	1841	Merton, Waukesha Co, Wis, U. S.	19
Holmes, John	1871	Uxbridge	1
Hooper, William	1840	Mitchell	3
Hooken, James	1877	Campbellford	1
Hull, Thomas Rayner	1855	Elinville	2
Hurley, Robert	1834	Welcome	3
Jolliffe, Samuel	1862	Lindsay	1
Jolliffe, William	1858	Bowmanville	3
Kenner, John	1856	Cobourg	3
Kenner, William	1854	Little Britain	1
Kestle, James	1872	Port Hope	2
Kinley, William	1865	Welcome	2
Langdon, John	1825	Prince Albert	31

Limbirt, William	1874	Tyrone	1
Mallett, Richard, B. A.	1872	Chagrin Falls, Ohio, U. S.	1
Mason, Thomas	1873	Carlow	3
Medland, William	1863	Summerside, P. E. I.	1
Metherall, Moses	1872	Peterboro	1
Moore, Herman	1874	South Cleveland, Ohio, U. S.	1
Newcombe, Henry Avery	1860	Fenelon Falls	3
Nott, Henry James	1865	Cleveland, 20 Henry Street	1
Pascoe, William Samuel	1853	Charlottetown, P. E. I.	3
Pooley, John	1872	Elimville	1
Quance, William	1869	Prince Albert	2
Rice, James Joseph	1863	London, 290 Horton St.	3
Rice, James Pollard	1873	Exeter	1
Rice, Stephen Henry	1867	Hampton	2
Richard, Alexander	1867	St. Thomas	1
Roach, William Roberts	1852	Palmyra, Jefferson Co, Wis, U. S.	1
Roberts, Edwards	1854	Peterboro	1
Robins, Paul	1823	Bowmanville	4
Rolins, William	1874	Coldsprings	1
Rowe, Richard Brokenshire	1870	Lakefield	1
Sabine, Thomas	1875	Tweed	1
Schuster, Anselm	1871	Mauilla	2
Smith, George	1869	Vernon River Bridge, P. E. I.	1
Thomas, Richard	1873	Cartwright	3
Tonkin, Edward Albert	1873	Charlottetown, P. E. I.	1
Tredrea, John Martin	1874	Perrytown	1
Veale, John	1872	Culloden	4
Webber, George	1853	Toronto, 248 Simcoe Street	3
Whitlock, Jesse	1848	Lambton	2
Wickett, Lewis William	1864	Belleville	2
Williams, John	1836	Mitchell	3
Williams, Daniel	1876	Gesto P. Q. Essex Co.	1
Whitlock, Francis Metherall	1876	Talbotville	1
Yelland, John George	1869	Wheatley River	2

ADDRESSES OF CONNEXIONAL OFFICERS.

President,	W. JOLLIFFE, Bowmanville.
Secretary,	J. KENNER, Box, 194, Cobourg.
Editor and Book Steward,	C. BARKER, Bowmanville,
Missionary Secretary,	JOHN HARRIS, Janetville.
Financial Secretary,	E. ROBERTS, Peterboro'.
Church Secretary,	W. QUANCE, Prince Albert.
Sabbath School Secretary,	H. J. NOTT, 20 Henry St. Cleveland.
Connexional Treasurers,	C. BARKER, AND W. WINDATT, Bowmanville.