

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

CANADIAN WESLEYAN METHODIST

NEW CONNEXION CHURCH,

HELD AT

LOUTH, NIAGARA DISTRICT,

On the 7th day of June, &c. &c. 1843.

ST. CATHARINES, C. W.

PRINTED BY HIRAM LEAVENWORTH.

1843.

ADDRESS OF SUPERINTENDANTS.

Ancaster,	Nelson, Gore District.
Barnston,	Barnston Corners, C. E.
Bolton,	Georgeville, Stanstead, C. E.
Caledon,	Erin, Gore District.
Cayuga,	York, Grand River.
Cavan,	Cavan, Newcastle District.
Cobourg and Hillier,	Picton, Prince Edward District.
Dunham,	Dunham Flats, C. E.
Goulbourn,	Perth, C. W.
Hamilton,	Hamilton, Gore District,
Henrysburgh,	Napierville, C. E.
Lansdown and Rideau,	Beverly, Johnstown District.
London,	McGillivray, London District.
Montreal,	Montreal.
Potton,	Potton, C. E.
Raleigh,	Clearville, Western District.
Stanstead South, }	Georgeville, Stanstead, C. E.
Stanstead North, }	
St. Thomas,	Aylmer, London District.
Trafalgar,	Trafalgar, Home District.
Waterford,	Simcoe, Talbot District.
Welland Canal,	St. Catharines, Niagara District.

OFFICERS OF THE CONNEXION.

President of the Conference,	Rev. James Bell, St. Catharines.
Superintendent, C. W. Corresponding Member of Annual Committee, Canada West. }	Rev. J. Addyman, Hamilton, G. D.
Superintendent of C. E. Corresponding Member of the Annual Committee for C. E. }	Rev. H. O. Crofts, Montreal.
Treasurer of the Connexion,	J. Hughson, Esq., Hamilton, G. D.

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QUESTION 1
ANSWER. A

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MINUTES, & c.

According to the appointment of the last annual Conference, held at Cavan, Newcastle district, the preachers and lay-representatives assembled at Louth, in the Niagara district, and, after singing and prayer, proceeded to business.

QUESTION 1. Who compose the present Conference ?

<p>ANSWER. <i>Ancaster,</i> <i>Barnston,</i> <i>Bolton,</i> <i>Caledon,</i> <i>Cavan,</i> <i>Cobourg & Hillier,</i> <i>Cayuga,</i> <i>Dunham,</i> <i>Gosfield,</i> <i>Goulbourne,</i> <i>Grimsby,</i> <i>Hamilton,</i> <i>Henrysburgh,</i> <i>Lansdown & Rideau,</i> <i>London,</i> <i>Montreal,</i> <i>Nelson,</i> <i>Potton,</i> <i>Stanstead South,</i> <i>Stanstead North,</i> <i>St. Thomas,</i> <i>Trafalgar,</i> <i>Waterford,</i> <i>Welland Canal,</i> <i>Superintendent of the Mission, Canada West,</i> <i>Superintendent of the Mission, Canada East,</i> <i>Treasurer of the Connexion,</i></p>	<p><i>William Robinson, J. Cummings.</i> <i>John Shilton.</i> <i>James Hales, Richard Staples.</i> <i>J. Brennan, Moses Herrington.</i> <i>R. Deceu.</i> <i>By letter.</i> <i>John C. Warren.</i> <i>By letter.</i> <i>Thomas Lottridge.</i> <i>By letter.</i> <i>J. Bell.</i> <i>E. Baily.</i> <i>Thomas T. Howard,</i> <i>John Stewart.</i> <i>Isaac Blake.</i> <i>Wm. Ramage, Wm. D. Smith.</i> <i>Thomas Rump.</i> <i>John Wilkinson, John Eddy.</i> <i>James Jackson, Daniel Gregory.</i> <i>JOHN ADDYMAN.</i> <i>H. O. CROFTS.</i> <i>JAMES HUGHSON, Esq.</i></p>
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The following brethren, being Elders, agreeably to the terms of the union, were entitled to a seat in Conference, but were not present :—R. Bloomfield; B. P. Brown, T. Cole, J. Haney, J. Marshall, W. Martin, D. Nickerson, H. Plum, J. Reed, J. Sheldon, J. Williams, A. Smith, R. Geary, H. N. Kimball, J. Gear, C. Cope.

QUESTION 2. Have the characters of the ministers been examined ?

ANS. They have, with impartiality.

QUES. 3. Who have been ordained Elders ?

ANS. Thomas T. Howard; E. Van Norman* and William Ramage.*

QUES. 4. Who remain on trial ?

ANS. James Laidley, (he has travelled three years,) W. Ramage, J. Simpson, E. Van Norman, and Frederick Powers, (these have travelled two years,) Francis Hunt, Thomas Goldsmith, Daniel S. Star, Paul West, Daniel Blake, John Howlet, S. Piper, (these have travelled one year.)

QUES. 5. What preachers are now received on trial.

ANS. Frederick Haynes, Francis Weaver, Owen Campbell, Selim Pettit, James Jolliffe.

QUES. 6. Who has been expelled ?

ANS. James Craig.

QUES. 7. Who has died during the year ?

ANS. Gore Atkin Bell. Our highly esteemed and deeply lamented brother Gore Atkin Bell, came to his end, on the third day of last July, aged twenty-seven years, one month and eighteen days. He was a young man of sound religious experience, deep piety, and as a minister, possessed talents of a very promising character. His death was occasioned by a mysterious Providence, which we cannot fathom. Having preached twice on the Lord's day, and on his return homeward in the evening, he was struck with lightning and instantly expired. Clad in the armour of righteousness, and wielding the sword of the Spirit, with his face to the enemy, he fell in the field of conflict. And although a numerous circle of relatives were left to mourn the unexpected event; yet we have reason to believe that his Master dismissed him from his labors, and received him to rest.

* Ordained for special purposes.

QUES. 8

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Dr.

In Treasurer's

Cayuga,

Cavan,

Nelson,

St. Thomas,

Trafalgar,

Raleigh,

Annual grant by

lish Missionar

QUES. 8. How are the preachers stationed, this year?

ANS. *Ancaster and Nelson*, E. Van Norman—one to be sent.
Barnston, F. E. Powers.
Bolton, Isaac Blake.
Caledon, John Shilton, J. Jolliffe.
Cavan, James Hales, F. Hunt.
Cobourg and Hillier, William Robinson, Tho's Goldsmith.
Cayuga, One to be sent.
Dunham, L. P. Adams.
Goulbourne, J. Simpson—one to be sent.
Grimsby, D. S. Starbuck.
Hamilton, J. Addyman.
Henrysburgh, One to be sent.
Lansdown & Rideau, J. Brennan, J. Laidley, F. Haynes—
 one to be sent.
London, Owen Campbell.
Montreal, T. T. Howard.
Potton, R. Bowen, J. Howlet.
Raleigh, W. Ramage.
Stanstead South, G. W. Stone, P. West.
Stanstead North, S. Piper, D. Blake.
St. Thomas, E. Bailey, S. Pettit.
Trafalgar, Thomas Rump.
Waterford, J. Wilkinson, F. Weaver.
Welland Canal, J. Bell.

JOHN ADDYMAN, *Superintendent of the Mission, C. W.*
 H. O. CROFTS, *Superintendent of the Mission, C. E.*

GENERAL STATEMENT OF THE PATERNAL FUND.

Dr.		Cr.	
In Treasurer's hands,	£3 9 6	Bell, James, 2 children,	2 15 0
Cayuga,	0 15 0	Hales, J. 4	5 14 0
Cavan,	0 11 3	Jackson, J. 3	4 12 0
Nelson,	0 5 0	Ramage, W. 2	2 14 0
St. Thomas,	2 1 3	Robinson, W. 4	5 18 0
Trafalgar,	1 2 6	Rump, T. 2	3 0 0
Raleigh,	0 10 0	Shilton, J. 1	1 7 0
Annual grant by the Eng-		Van Norman, E. 3	4 2 0
lish Missionary Society,	30 0 0	Wilkinson, J. 5	7 3 0
		In Treasurer's hands,	1 9 6
	£38 14 6		£38 14 6

GENERAL STATEMENT OF THE BENEFICENT FUND.

<i>Dr.</i>			<i>Cr.</i>
By Loan,	£38	10 0	Loaned to the Confer-
Interest on the above,	2	5 7	ence, towards pay-
Adams, L. P.	0	0 0	ing the Connexional
Bailey, E.	0	0 0	debt,
Bell, J.	1	5 0	Interest on the above,
Blake, I.	0	0 0	In Treasurer's hands,
Blake, D.	0	0 0	
Brennan, J.	1	5 0	
Campbell, O.	0	0 0	
Goldsmith, T.	0	0 0	
Hales, J.	1	5 0	
Haynes, F.	0	0 0	
Howard, T. T. 2 years,	2	0 0	
Howlet, J.	0	0 0	
Hunt, H. 2 years,	0	0 0	
Jackson, J. 2 years,	0	0 0	
Jolliffe, J.	0	0 0	
Laidley, J. 2 years,	0	0 0	
Powers, F. E.	0	0 0	
Piper, S.	0	0 0	
Pettit, S.	0	0 0	
Ramage, W.	1	5 0	
Robinson, W. 2 years,	0	0 0	
Rump, T.	0	0 0	
Shilton, J. 2 years,	2	10 0	
Simpson, J. 2 years,	0	0 0	
Star, D. S.	0	0 0	
Van Norman, E.	0	0 0	
West, P.	0	0 0	
Weaver, F.	0	0 0	
Wilkinson, J. 2 years,	0	0 0	
Annual grant by the			
English Missionary			
Society,	30	0 0	
<i>Private Subscriptions.</i>			
Ancaster,	0	10 0	
Cavan,	0	11 3	
Nelson,	0	8 2	
	£81	15 0	
			£81 15 0

Ancaster,
Bolton,
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Cavan,
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STATE OF THE CONNEXION.

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	Chapels,	Societies,	Circuit Preachers,	Local Preachers,	Members,	Deaths,
Ancaster,	2	7	1	1	195	1
Bolton,	1	7	1	2	220	3
Barnston,		3	2	1	50	
Cavan,	4	22	1	1	471	
Cobourg and Hillier,	3	9	2	4	277	
Caledon,		7	1	1	75	
Cayuga,		2			24	
Dunham,		5	2	2	200	
Gosfield,		5	2	2	86	
Goulbourne,		8	2	1	160	
Hamilton,	1	3	1	3	125	1
Henrysburgh,		5	1		73	
Lansdown and Rideau,	2	24	3	3	550	12
London,	1	3	1	1	58	
Montreal,	1	2	2	2	50	1
Nelson,		9	1	1	282	
Potton,		2	2		40	
Stanstead South,		6	1		80	3
Stanstead North,		3	2		45	2
St. Thomas,	1	9	1	3	137	4
Trafalgar,	2	6	1	2	125	
Welland Canal,	5	13	1	2	457	3
Waterford,	2	17	1	3	280	
Total, this year,	25	177	32	35	4,060	30
do. in England,	271	297	62	736	16,158	320
do. in Ireland,	23	31	19	19	1,242	14
Total,	319	505	133	790	21,460	364
Increase in Canada, during the past year,	6	67	12	5	1,576	8

£81 15 0

Resolutions of Conference.

RESOLUTION 1. That the Ancaster and Nelson circuits be united, as heretofore.

2. That the union of the Protestant Methodists of Eastern Canada, with the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion, negotiated by brother Crofts, on the part of this Conference, be now confirmed.

3. That the Reverends J. Addyman, I. Blake, with Messrs. Herrington, Eddy, & Cummings, be the stationing committee.

4. That, as the Missionary committee in England have expressed an earnest desire that one of our Canadian preachers should visit England, to assist at the Missionary meetings and other religious services; and also to attend the next Conference in that country, this Conference appoints the Rev. JAMES JACKSON to that important work, and earnestly recommends him to the prayers of the church.

5. That the Rev. J. Addyman, and M. Aikman, Esq., be appointed to prepare a petition to the Parliament, and be authorized to attach all the names of this Conference to it, praying that an act be passed, vesting in the united body, all property heretofore vested in the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist church, by Deed, Bond, Mortgage, or any other claim whatever.

6. That every preacher, on returning to his circuit, shall urge upon the different societies, at least two weeks before the Quarterly meeting, the necessity of appointing representatives from their different societies, in order that the Quarterly Conference may be full.

7. That brother Wilkinson be authorized to demand the immediate surrender of the St. Thomas chapel: if it is not surrendered, to employ an Attorney to take steps to compel the surrender of it, for the use of the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion.

8. That, in consequence of the Conference, next year, being appointed to be held so near to Eastern Canada, the subject of the district meeting for the Eastern part of this province, be laid over until next Conference.

9. That the Rev'ds. J. Addyman, J. Bell, and J. Wilkinson, with M. Aikman, J. Hughson and T. Lottridge, Esqrs., in Canada West; and the Rev'ds. H. O. Crofts, T. T. Howard, and

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Isaac Blake, with Messrs. J. Ritchie, L. F. Leach, and O. Masly, in Canada East, form the annual committee for the ensuing year. The Rev. J. Addyman, Corresponding member for Canada West, and the Rev. H. O. Crofts, Corresponding member for Canada East.

10. That the following be adopted, as the CONSTITUTION of the Missionary Society :—

1st. That the institution be called the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion Missionary Society, auxiliary to the Methodist New Connexion Missionary Society in England.

2d. That the Society consist of a Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer, with a committee of nine, who shall be annually appointed by the Conference.

3d. That each preacher in charge, shall see to the formation of local committees, in his circuit, who shall appoint collectors ; and that the Secretary of each local committee prepare a report for each annual meeting.

4th. That a sermon be preached, and a Missionary meeting held, in each principal place on each circuit, once a year.

5th. That the proceeds of this society shall be appropriated to the same purposes as the grants of the English Committee.

11. That, as to the means of supplying the circuits with suitable persons to advocate the Missionary cause, it is

RESOLVED, 1. That brethren Crofts, Howard and Blake, endeavor to organize societies in Canada East.

2. That brethren Addyman, Crofts, and Brennan, (so far as his duties will admit,) during the winter, attend the Goulbourne, Lansdown and Rideau, Hillier, Cobourg, and Cavan circuits.

3. That brethren Addyman, Wilkinson, and Bell, in the fall, attend the several circuits west of Toronto.

12. That the following persons be the officers of the Missionary Society, for the ensuing year—the Rev. J. Addyman, Chairman ; the Rev. H. O. Crofts, Secretary, and J. Hughson, Esq. Treasurer : committee—the Rev'ds. J. Wilkinson, J. Hales, J. Bell, J. Brennan, M. Aikman, Esq., Thomas Lottridge, Esq., Messrs. J. Cummings, G. Jones, and M. Lowery.

13. That the thanks of the Conference be given to brother J. Cummings, for his pious and energetic conduct, in building a house for worship, in Flamborough West.

14. That the thanks of this Conference be presented to J. Hughson, Esq., for his valuable services as Treasurer of the Connexion for the past year ; and that he be requested to continue his services the ensuing year.

15. That our next annual Conference be held at South Crosby, in the Lansdown circuit, on the second Thursday in June, 1844.

JAMES BELL, PRESIDENT.

H. O. CROFTS, SECRETARY.

That the thanks of the Conference be given to the President, for his impartial conduct in the chair.

That the thanks of the Conference be given to the Secretary, for the faithful discharge of his arduous and important duties.

ADDRESS

Of the Fifteenth Annual Conference, to the Members of the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion Church.

Through the care of a gracious Providence, we are permitted again to meet in our annual assembly, and according to our usual custom, to address you ; in doing which, we would adopt the salutation of Paul—"Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

During the past year we have been called to sustain a powerful trial, in the sudden death of one of our young ministers, to whose pious and zealous labors we had looked forward with sanguine expectation ; but no sooner had he entered his scene of labor, than he was called away,

From a suffering Church beneath,
To a reigning Church above."

We feel assured, however, that our loss is his gain.

The past year has been one of unusual toil, occasioned by the great revivals with which we have been favored. Many of the brethren have suffered much, from excessive exertion, and some of them have been obliged, for awhile, to desist from laboring ; but are now recovered, and are ready again to enter upon another year's services, resolved not to relax their exertions so long as the Lord favors them with such signal tokens of his approbation. May the Lord bless them with in-

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creased strength, both of body and mind, and make their labors a thousand fold more successful.

As you will imagine, we are much elated with hearing of the enlarged outpouring of the Spirit, and consequent success of the labors of our dear brethren, on almost every circuit. Our increase, including the accession of our Protestant brethren in Canada East, amounting to 550, reaches the number of 1,576. We feel assured that, for such an abundant ingathering, you will join us in devout thanksgivings to the great Head of the church. We regard this as a special indication of the smile of Providence upon the union, and as a pledge of future prosperity.

The union with our Protestant brethren in Canada East, to which we have adverted, was brought before our last Conference; and brother Crofts, with the Executive committee for Canada East, were empowered to complete the union, provided it could be done on the same principle as the union between the Methodist New Connexion and the Canadian Wesleyan Methodists. This condition met the approval of all parties—consequently, the union was formally consummated, on the 5th of May, in the township of Bolton, under circumstances peculiarly interesting, and a delegate was appointed to attend our Conference, who is now present with us. We cannot but express our gratitude to brother Crofts, for the promptness and activity he has displayed, in negotiating this business. We hail this union with unmingled pleasure and satisfaction, as tending to bring about that period when difference of opinion, on minor points, will no longer divide the church of God; but when we shall all hold the “unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.”

We think there never was a time in the history of the church, when true Protestants were called upon more urgently to resist the invasions of Popery, than the present one. This dreadful error is advancing and spreading in every direction, under a very specious garb. Look at the movements of Puseyism. Remove the mask, and there may be seen the Beast, in all his deformity. We cannot regard these movements but as being **FEARFULLY OMINOUS**, and as furnishing cause for the greatest alarm. The watch word ought to be sounded, “to your tents, O Israel,” and prepare for battle. United, we stand; but divided, we fall.

While we would be grateful to God for the success of the past year, we cannot regard our work as being done, and therefore sit down at ease. The fact is, we have only just commenced. The work we have undertaken, must be strengthened and matured; and new accessions must be made. "The field is the world," consequently we cannot regard our work as being done, till this mighty field is cultivated. Of course, our operations will be confined to Canada—a more interesting portion of the great moral field, could not be presented to our notice. Perhaps there is no country in the world that needs more the sympathies, benevolence, and pious exertions of Christians, and that promises a better return for the labor bestowed.

This statement is clearly borne out by the experience of the past year; for not only our own church, but other churches have been favored with very extensive revivals. In many settlements, conversions have taken place from every house. The past year will form an epoch in the religious history of Canada. Only let the different sections of the Christian church cultivate towards each other, sentiments and feelings of friendliness and brotherly affection, and try to emulate each other in the great business of saving souls, and we feel assured that the MONSTER OF ERROR to which we have referred, will be crushed, and that the time will soon come when we shall not have to say unto our neighbor, "know ye the Lord."

After great revivals, it is not an uncommon thing for there to be a partial relapse. This, however, is not necessary, and may easily be avoided, if ministers and members are faithful to their duty. The great danger is, of persons concluding that so much has been done, during the special services, that they may safely take their ease for awhile: and hence they even neglect the ordinary means, and thus give an opportunity for the enemy to destroy their work, till, in a little time, the church is as cold and as dead as it was before any special means were employed; and thus special efforts are an evil, by superceding the ordinary means, instead of giving life and vigor to those means.

We would especially exhort our ministers and members to guard against this evil: instead of your special exertions causing you to relax the use of the ordinary means, they should make you more dilligent in the use of those means; and thus

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you would secure all the amount of good produced at the protracted services, in the awakening and conversion of sinners, and in the quickening of believers; and all the amount of good resulting from the increased effect given to the ordinary means.

That the coming year may be a season of increased prosperity; that our former conquests may be maintained, and that new aggressions may be made, we would exhort our ministers to increased diligence in all their works and labors of love. **PREACH CHRIST.** Let Christ be the **CENTRE** of your discourses: through him offer a **PRESENT, FREE, and FULL** salvation—the gospel offers no less. Be **PUNCTUAL** in fulfilling your appointments, and endeavor to devote all the time you can, to **PASTORAL VISITATION.** In every possible way endeavor to feed the flock of Christ, over whom the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers.

We would also earnestly exhort our Leaders and Stewards to increased unity, activity and diligence, in attending to the several duties devolving upon them. Our Leaders especially, should endeavor to realize their responsibility. Souls are committed to their charge. The prosperity of the church very much depends upon the manner in which they perform their duties.

We must now address ourselves to the private members of the church, and especially the young members—the lambs of the flock. We cannot express our deep solicitude on your account. Make the word of God your directory and the Mercy seat your refuge **AND YOUR HOME.** Be faithful in your attention to every ordinance instituted by the church, and especially to your class meeting. Class meetings have been the bulwark of Methodism. These excellent means of grace lay hold upon our social nature, and are eminently adapted to excite strong devotional feelings, and to promote a rapid and healthy growth in grace. We never met with any person who sought the benefit of these means, but acknowledged that they were singularly beneficial. It is not an address like this, but a life of experience, that will adequately acquaint us with the worth of class meetings. We are aware that some objections have been brought against class meetings; but they have been of such a feeble kind that it is not necessary to attempt to refute them, by argument. The strongest and safest refutation we

can furnish, is the experience of all those who have tried these means, and who have declared a thousand times, that they are the most precious means they enjoy.

There are some things to be observed, by all those who would enjoy the full benefit of these excellent means of grace. Regularity of attendance, is necessary, as Mr. Bakewell, in his counsels to a young Methodist, has well observed—"Never absent yourselves from your class, because you are in a dull and languid state of feeling. When your temper has been irritated, your mind harrassed, or your spirits exhausted by trying circumstances, or by pressing anxieties, you are ready to conclude that, by going to class, you will neither obtain nor impart any spiritual good; that the statement of your experience will neither be creditable nor edifying; and by these or similar reasonings, you may be induced to believe, that remaining at home is not the result of inclination, but an act of duty. Such are the devices by which Satan endeavors to prevent the people of God from using the means best calculated to remove the evils against which they have to struggle. It is to his interest that you should absent yourself from religious ordinances, when you most need their quickening and comforting influence. When you feel the repugnance adverted to, resist it—conquer it. Resolutely perform what is obviously your duty; and if it be a sacrifice, make it. Let those considerations which have been suggested to you as excuses for your absence, be viewed as the strongest possible reasons for your presence. Go to your class, casting yourself on the mercy of God, and you shall be rewarded for your obedience. You shall be able to give the testimony which thousands have given, who have gone to this ordinance with darkened, desponding and reluctant minds, but who have returned from it with their burden removed, with their strength renovated, and their hearts rejoicing in God." Let nothing but absolutely unavoidable circumstances prevent you from attending your class. We always find that those persons who regularly attend their class, and take pleasure therein, are persons who make rapid advances in the divine life, both in knowledge and in holiness.

Endeavor to be very sincere and brief in the relation of your Christian experience, and strive to cultivate the kindest feelings towards your class mates, that you may mutually profit by each other's experience. We would also strongly recom-

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In accordance with the expressed wish of our last Conference, respecting the appointment of a Canadian preacher to visit England, and with the desire of the English Missionary committee, the Conference have appointed our esteemed brother, the Rev. JAMES JACKSON, to that important work, and would earnestly recommend him and his mission to the especial prayers of the Connexion.

And now, brethren, in conclusion, "we commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

JAMES BELL, PRESIDENT.
H. O. CROFTS, SECRETARY.

ADDRESS

Of the Annual Conference of the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion, to the body formerly known as the Methodist Protestant Church, in Canada East.

DEAR BRETHREN IN CHRIST—Grace, mercy and peace be unto you, from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. We congratulate you on the recent union so happily effected between you and our community. We do this the more heartily, believing it to be an event directed by the great Head of the church; and which, we doubt not, will ultimately promote the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom: an object which ought to call forth the united efforts of all who love the Lord Jesus Christ. Our hopes of success, as the result of this union, are confirmed by the fact, that the union effected between the Methodist New Connexion and our community, has exerted an influence extensive and salutary. Besides, we view the union of Christian bodies, whose doctrines and church discipline are alike, as admirably calculated to render the influence of the combined body, in carrying out the object which each had in view, much greater than it could be while they remained separate. Hence, in contemplating the union of your community and ours, we thank God for the event; and with renewed vigor resume our labors.

We feel deeply indebted to our esteemed brother Crofts, for his zealous and efficient efforts in the negotiation and consummation of this union. And we are happy to inform you, that, as the superintendency of that part of the work still devolves upon brother C.,

you will possess the advantages resulting from his counsel and other assistance. We, therefore, trust that all proper diligence and zeal will be manifested, on the part both of ministers and people, in endeavoring, in connexion with him, to carry out such measures as may be adopted, from time to time, for the advancement of the cause of Christ. For, however excellent our economy; however numerous and experienced our laborers, nothing great can be effected, unless the ministers and people are combined, and faithful in the performance of the duties of their respective stations.

In conclusion, we would exhort our brethren in the ministry who have so recently united with us, to contemplate the important charge committed to them; the extensive field of labor that is opened before them; and the glorious reward awaiting those who are faithful in the work of saving souls. But, brethren, remember that, though the trials connected with your work are neither few nor light, your supports and encouragements are more numerous and powerful. With these considerations in view, go forth in the strength of the Lord; and in the discharge of the duties of your sacred office, endeavor to feed the flock of God, of which you have the oversight, and to bring sinners to the Saviour. And to the members we would say, seeing you are called with an holy calling, and placed under the most solemn obligations, as the light of the world, and the salt of the earth, endeavor, by all possible means, to glorify God. And as the success of ministers depends in so great a degree, on the co-operation of the people, bear up the hands of your ministers, and labor to promote the object for which they spend their strength.

Praying that God may be with you all, both ministers and people, rendering you more abundantly successful than heretofore, we commend you to God and the word of his grace; trusting that he will keep you to the end, and give you an inheritance among the sanctified. AMEN.

JAMES BELL, *President.*

H. O. CROFTS, *Secretary.*