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MINUTES

OF THE

Third Annual Conference

OF THE

Primitive Methodist Church,

CANADA,

HELD AT HAMILTON,

ON THE ELEVENTH OF APRIL, 1856, AND FOLLOWING DAYS.

Published by Order of the Conference.

TORONTO:

THOMAS CUTTELL & SON, PRINTERS, KING STREET

1856.

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Hamilton,
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Question

Answer-

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Meetings :

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MINUTES,

&c.

According to appointment of the Annual Conference held in Toronto, April 20th, 1855, the Conference for this year, being composed of Ministers and Laymen of the Primitive Methodist Church, C.W., assembled in John Street Church, Hamilton, April 11th, 1856, and after devotional exercises, conducted by the ex-President, proceeded to the transaction of business.

JONH DAVISON, *President.*

WILLIAM ROWE, *Secretary.*

Question—1. Who compose the present Conference ?

*Answer—*Thomas Adams, *General Committee Delegate.*

Thomas Crompton, *English Representative.*

William Lawson, *General Secretary.*

Robert Walker, *Connexional Treasurer.*

Also Delegates appointed by their respective District Meetings :—

TORONTO—John Lacey, Edward Barrass, James Edgar, John Garner, John Sherwood, Thomas Burgess, Joseph Kent, William Nason, James Motley, John Natrass, William Mutton, and George Wright.

HAMILTON—John Davison, William Rowe, Robert Boyle, William Newton, Walter P. Lacey, John Elliott, Walter Lawrence, Joseph Lawson, John Masters, Thomas Ward, and Alfred Thurlow.

Q.—2. What Preachers are taken into the Annual List ?

*A.—*Robert Cade, Isaac Ryder, and George Wood. Bro. W. to be ordained next Conference.

Q.—3. What Preachers remain on trial ?

*A.—*Robert Stephenson, Richard Poulter, *who have travelled*

three years ; Timothy Natrass, J. R. Swift, Joseph Markham, James Haldershaw, Jonathon Milner, *who have travelled two years* ; and William Cooke, and Richard Paintin, *who have travelled one year.*

Q.—4. *What Preachers are now received on trial ?*

A.—William Bee, David Gostelow, and James Smith.

Q.—5. *What Preachers have withdrawn from the Church ?*

A.—Samuel Driffield.

Q.—6. *What Preachers have ceased to travel ?*

A.—James G. Montgomery.

Q.—7. *What Preachers have died this year ?*

A.—None.

Q.—8. *How are the Preachers stationed for ensuing year ?*

A.—In the following order :—

TORONTO DISTRICT.

Toronto.

Edward Barrass.
Robert Cade.

Etobicoke.

James Edgar.
William Gledhill.
William Jolley, Sup.

Markham

John Garner.
James Clarke.

Darlington.

Thomas Crompton.
One to be obtained.

Albion.

John Lacey.

Scarboro'.

Richard Poulter. x
One to be obtained.

Laskay.

William Lyle.
James Haldershaw.

Reach Mission.

Thomas Foster.
William Cooke.

Kingston Mission.

John Natrass.

Portland Mission.

Joseph Simpson.
Jonathon Milner.

Napanee Mission.

George Wood,

Bath Road Mission.

Joseph Markham.
The Preachers on King-
ton and Bath Road to
change one Sabbath in
every month.

St. Vinc

Rob
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Tim

Hamilton

Wil

Blenheim

Wil

Walpole

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St. Vincent Mission.

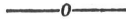
Robert Stephenson.
Also to visit Osprey one
Sabbath in each month.

Osprey Mission.

One to be obtained.

Montreal Mission.

One to be obtained.



HAMILTON DISTRICT.

Brampton.

Robert Boyle.
Timothy Natrass.

Woodstock Mission.

William J. Deane.

Hamilton.

William Stephenson.

London Mission.

William Rowe.
Thomas Dudley.

Blenheim M. C.

William Newton.

Brantford and Paris Mission.

Thomas Adams.
James R. Swift.

Walpole M. C.

Robert Parsons.
James Smith.

Brant Mission.

William Lomas.

Guelph Mission.

Richard Paul.

Bosanquet Mission.

Isaac Ryder.

Galt Mission.

John Davison.

Orangeville Mission.

David Gostelow.

Walsingham Mission.

One to be obtained.

Peel and Wellesley Mission.

William Bee.
Richard Paintin.
John Towler, Sup.

Minto Mission.

One to be obtained.

STATIONS.	MEMBERS.										Relief Fund.	Conf- erence Fund.							
	Approved.	On Trial	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.	Deaths.	Removals.	Ministers.	Local Preachers.	Leaders.			Chapels.	Other Places.	Sabbath Schools.	S. S. Teachers.	S. S. Scholars.		
TORONTO.....	155	17	172	27	..	4	25	2	16	9	3	1	3	55	300	1	4	1	1
Etiobicoke.....	255	36	291	..	..	3	33	3	21	15	13	4	5	38	173	2	8	2	2
Markham.....	409	35	444	1	13	1	40	4	19	13	14	6	3	65	65	3	14	0	0
Darlington.....	130	35	165	..	..	..	27	2	8	8	6	8	4	190	30	1	7	6	4
Albion.....	173	15	188	..	..	..	20	2	4	4	4	4	3	30	50	0	16	8	5
Scarborough.....	100	10	110	..	57	..	73	1	4	12	3	3	2	50	112	1	9	2	1
Keesh.....	161	14	175	..	..	1	10	2	6	7	3	11	4	9	50	1	6	8	5
Kingston.....	143	5	150	..	..	..	12	2	5	5	3	7	3	112	50	1	5	7	1
Portland.....	198	14	212	..	..	4	27	2	4	7	1	8	2	50	50	0	7	0	4
Napanee.....	..	50	50	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
HAMILTON.....	..	62	62	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brantford.....	34	8	42	..	17	1	26	1	11	10	6	..	1	36	50	0	10	6	4
Walsby.....	164	13	177	..	..	6	50	2	11	11	5	..	1	50	50	1	9	6	1
Blenheim.....	164	5	172	..	19	3	21	1	9	8	3	14	2	115	76	0	15	10	8
Galt and Guelph.....	83	10	93	8	..	2	10	2	8	6	5	4	1	13	115	0	15	6	6
Orangeville.....	84	8	92	6	..	1	16	1	5	6	3	4	2	76	35	0	15	4	2
Peel and Wellesly.....	196	13	209	..	4	1	18	3	13	4	1	12	5	35	26	0	6	2	0
Woodstock.....	34	7	41	..	9	..	5	4	3	4	2	6	1	35	26	0	6	10	0
London.....	34	7	41	..	..	..	15	2	5	4	1	8	..	35	26	0	6	10	0
Paris and Brantford.....	47	9	56	..	..	..	15	2	6	3	1	8	..	35	26	0	6	10	0
Brant.....	16	8	24	..	..	..	2	1	6	3	1	1	1	1	7	7	0	12	4
Rossmore.....	33	2	35	..	..	..	2	1	6	3	1	1	1	1	7	7	0	12	4
St. Vincent.....	14	..	14	14	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total in 1856.....	2707	332	3039	263	131	28	459	36	180	153	71	150	33	277	1426	23	9	11	23
Total in 1855.....	2538	364	2902	341	110	39	337	34	151	154	66	132	29	243	1392	23	17	0	23
Increase.....	169	..	137	78	21	6	92	2	29	1	5	18	4	34	28	0	8	0	0
Decrease.....	..	32

Q.—10.
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President
representative, W
T. Adams, F
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COMMITTEES.

Q.—10. *Who compose the Committees?*

A.— (1). GENERAL OR CONNEXIONAL COMMITTEE.

President and Secretary of Conference, English Representative, W. Lyle, J. Lacey, E. Barrass, J. Edgar, J. Garner, T. Adams, R. Boyle, W. Stephenson, W. Newton, W. Lawson, R. Walker, R. Sargent, P. Coleman, J. Sherwood, J. Lawson, A. Thurlow. Meetings to be held at Toronto, Thursday, July 10, 1856; Hamilton, Thursday, October 9th, 1856; Toronto, Thursday Jan. 8th, 1857; and at Brampton, Thursday, April 15th, 1857. Each Meeting to commence at 10 o'clock, A. M. W. Lawson, shall be the Secretary for this Committee, and for the General Missionary Committee.

(2). THE GENERAL MISSIONARY COMMITTEE shall be composed of the Members of the Connexional Committee. Its Meetings shall be held at the same time and place as those of the General Committee. Missionaries are hereby reminded that they must send their Quarterly Reports to the *Secretary, Hamilton; one week*, at least, before the time of holding the Quarterly Meetings of the G. M. Committee. *Three* members of these Committees being present at the time of meeting, are competent to act.

R. Walker, Esq., Treasurer.

(4.) EXECUTIVE.—The *Executive* of the two above named Committees shall be composed of the following persons:— President and Secretary of Conference: E. Barrass, W. Stephenson, W. Lawson, R. Walker, J. Lawson and R. Sargent. Meetings to be held alternately at Toronto and Hamilton, on the first Wednesday in each month, to commence at 1 o'clock, A. M. One Member from Toronto must attend all the meetings held at Hamilton, and the Secretary must attend those held at Toronto.

(4.) DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

1. TORONTO.—Thomas Crompton, Robert Walker, William Daniels, Thomas Lawson, and Edward Barrass, *Secretary*.

STATIONS.

MEMBERS.

Approved.

On Trial

Total.

Increase.

Decrease.

Deaths.

Removals.

Ministers.

Local Preachers.

Leaders.

Chapels.

Other Places.

Sabbath Schools.

S. S. Teachers.

S. S. Scholars.

Relief Fund.

Conference Fund.

2. HAMILTON.—John Elliott, William Marshall, Walter P. Lacey, L. Walker, and Robert Boyle, *Secretary*.

(5.) PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

President and Secretary of Conference, Edward Barrass, Robert Boyle, James Edgar, William Lawson, Robert Walker and Thomas Crompton, *Secretary*.

(6*) BOOK ROOM COMMITTEE.

President and Secretary of Conference, Thomas Crompton, Robert Boyle, William Stephenson, William Lawson, Robert Walker, Robert Sargant, Walter P. Lacey, John G. Walker, William Nason, Joseph Lawson, and Edward Barrass, *Sec.*

(7.) CHILDREN'S FUND COMMITTEE.

President and Secretary of Conference, Edward Barrass, Robert Sargant, Joseph Lawson, Robert Walker, *Treasurer*, and William Lawson, *Secretary*.

(8.) PREPARATORY COMMITTEE.

President and Secretary of Conference, John Lacey, Robert Boyle, William Lawson, and the General Missionary Delegates to the next District Meetings, who shall meet at Brampton April 14th, 1857, at 2 o'clock, A. M. to arrange the business of Conference, William Rowe, *Secretary*.

Q.—11. *Where and when shall the next Annual Meeting of the Ministers' Association be held?*

A.—At Brampton, on Wednesday, April 15th, to commence at 9 o'clock in the morning. A full attendance of all the Ministers and Lay Brethren who can attend, is earnestly requested.

Q.—12. *Where and when shall the next Annual Conference be held?*

A.—At Brampton, Chinguacousy, on Friday, April 16th, 1857, to commence at 9 o'clock in the morning.

The following persons are members of the next Conference:—John Lacey, *General Committee Delegate*; William

Rowe, *Eng*
Friendly S
Walker, C

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Rowe, *English Representative*; John Davison, *Agent of the Friendly Society*; William Lawson, *G. M. Secretary*; Robert Walker, *Connexional Treasurer*.

Q.—13. *Where and when shall the next District Meetings be held? and by which of the General Committee Delegates shall each be attended?* *Ans.*

(1.) **TORONTO.**—At Bethesda Chapel, Markham Circuit, Wednesday, April 7, 1857, John Lacey, G. C. D.

(2.) **HAMILTON.**—At Woodstock, Wednesday, April 7, 1857, Robert Boyle, G. C. D. Each Meeting to commence at 9 o'clock in the morning.

Q.—14. *What are the further Regulations of Conference?*

A.—1. That an inventory of all Church property, whether consisting of Churches, Parsonage Houses, Lands, &c., shall be preserved among our Church Documents.

(1.) That a Book shall be kept for this purpose which shall be forwarded to every Conference, so that it may be ready for reference.

(2.) That the General Committee shall issue Schedules, which, being duly filled up by the Superintendent of each Station, and approved of by the January Quarterly Conferences, and returned to the General Committee, it may be ascertained, the amount of Church Property on each Station.

(3.) That the Schedules shall be similar to those issued for a similar purpose in England, with the following additions, it shall be stated in what Township, Concession, and Lot, said property is situated, its description, &c., and whether, and where, and by whom, the Deeds are registered, and also, with whom the Deeds are deposited.

(4.) That the Stations shall be desired to forward the Deeds of their Church Property, which may not be in the hands of Mortgagees, to be deposited in the Connexional Fire Proof Safe.

(5.) That the Form or Schedule submitted to Conference from Toronto Circuit shall be adopted.

II. That when the official brethren of a Mission Station desire to be made into a Mission Circuit, they shall, (providing that the Station has already existed 12 months,) make application to the General Missionary Committee for the purpose, stating fully their reasons and prospects, and giving proof that there are a sufficient number of officials capable of managing the business of the Station, such application must be made at least 10 days previous to the District Meetings.

III. That Minute 6, page 10, of the Minutes of 1854, shall be repealed, and the following adopted instead thereof:—That *Missions* on becoming *Mission Circuits*, shall be allowed to retain *four fifths* of the Missionary Money, raised on the Station, the first year; *three-fifths*, the second; *two-fifths*, the third; and *one-fifth* the *fourth* year, after which, they shall be considered selfsustaining.

IV. That Mission Circuits stand on the Stations next to the Circuits, according to priority.

V. That neither the General Missionary Committee nor the Executive shall make any grants of money from the Missionary Fund for Chapels, Parsonages, &c. Applications for extraordinary grants must be in the hands of the General Missionary Committee prior to its *fourth* Quarterly Meeting: and the General Missionary Committee shall report on all such cases to Conference.

VI. That on all our Mission Stations the greatest economy shall be used in renting houses for Missionaries, and that not more than £20 shall be advanced from the General Missionary Fund to provide furniture for a Missionary; and if in any case more furniture is needed than this sum will provide, it shall be obtained on the Station, by a special subscription.

VII. That the General Missionary Committee shall in future send a Delegate to every District Meeting, who shall be entitled to all the privileges thereof.

VIII. That a Schedule of Grants of Missionary Money to be made to the Stations during the year shall be prepared by

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the Executive, and submitted to the *fourth* Quarterly Meeting of the General Missionary Committee, naming the amounts of money expected to be raised on each Mission Station ; but should it happen that any of the Stations fail to raise the required amounts, then its Quarterly Conference must assign reasons for such failure to the next meeting of the General Missionary Committee ; and only when the reasons are satisfactory shall the Committee make up the deficiency ; but if any Station be dissatisfied with the decision of the General Committee, it may appeal to the next Annual Conference. This Rule shall be tried as an experiment for one year.

IX. That each Mission Station shall be desired to provide for maintaining the horses kept by the Preachers employed thereon ; and only when Stations are so poor that they cannot comply with this Rule shall the Preachers be allowed £2 per quarter from the General Missionary Fund.

X. That each Travelling Preacher on Country Missions shall use his utmost endeavours to establish at *least eight preaching places*, in order to raise additional finances, and thus become, as soon as possible, self-sustaining.

XI. That the Members of our Church shall be admitted as hearers in all our District Meetings and Conferences, on obtaining Tickets of Admission from the Superintendent of the Station where the said Meetings and Conference shall from time to time be held.

XII. That, in the opinion of this Conference, it is very desirable to establish a Weekly Journal, to be the organ of our Church.

XIII. That the Rule which requires an extraordinary case to be made out for the re-Stationing of a Superintendent Preacher a *third* year, or more, shall be repealed.

XIV. That there shall be *one* exchange of Preachers every Conference, between the two Districts.

XV. That Bath Road shall be a separate Station from

Kingston ; and that the Preachers on those Stations shall exchange pulpits one Sabbath per month.

XVI. That Walsingham, Talbot Township, shall be reopened as a Mission, and that the first Preacher obtained shall be sent there.

XVII. That Minto be taken up as a separate Mission.

XVIII. That Osprey be taken up as a Mission, and until a Preacher can be sent, the Missionary at St. Vincent shall visit it one Sabbath in every month.

BOOK ROOM.

XIX. That in the opinion of this Conference, the time has arrived to establish a Connexional Book Room in Canada.

1. That the Book Room shall be located in the City of Toronto.

2. That, the Book Room shall be a Joint-Stock concern, consisting of 200 Shares, at £5 per share.

3. That attempts shall be made to raise the sum of £500 on behalf of the Connexion, so that *one-half* of the shares may be the property of the Conference.

4. That every person holding two or more Shares shall be entitled to vote in any of the meetings held for the election of the Book Room Committee.

5. That *five* Members of the Committee shall be a quorum.

6. That the Committee whose names are to be found on p. 8, shall attend to all matters pertaining to the Book Room, and use every means possible to hasten its commencement.

7. That, Rev. J. Davison, President of Conference, J. Elliott, Esq., of Brampton, and R. Sargant, Esq., of Toronto, shall be the Trustees of the Book Room.

8. That each Superintendent shall be requested to act as Agent on his Station for the Book Room, and that they be affectionately desired to sell the Shares and take up subscriptions towards the Conference stock.

9. That we affectionately desire the English Conference

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to make us a grant of Books to the amount of £150 sterling, providing that *that* Conference cannot make us a grant of Money, towards the Connexional stock.

10. That further details shall be prepared by the Committee, as they may deem fit.

XX. That the Conference shall petition the Provincial Legislature in favour of a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

XXI. That a Petition shall also be sent to the Provincial Parliament against Separate Schools.

XXII. That the Conference also petition the Provincial Parliament, praying for a better observance of the Sabbath, and in particular, that all the Government *employees* in the Post Offices shall be released from their toil on the Lord's Day.

XXIII. That in consequence of the many declensions from our Church through the use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and likewise, the incalculable injury their use has caused, and is still producing to society generally; the Conference, would most earnestly and affectionately request, all members in our Church to use every means in their power to discountenance their use.

XXIV. That the Conference is of opinion that it is especially desirable that all our official members should become Total Abstainers.

XXV. That all our members, official and unofficial are earnestly entreated to discourage Sabbath breaking, by refraining from travelling and working themselves, except in cases of necessity or mercy, and by discouraging public bakery and other persons from yielding to that vice. The members of our Church are particularly desired not to travel by Railway on the Sabbath days.

XXVI. That all our Ministers and members must use every prudent means to encourage Temperance Societies.

XXVII. That the Revs. G. Lamb, J. Flesher, and Mr. T. Bateman, shall be our Representatives in the English Conference of 1856.

XXVIII. That the Conference believes the British Government to be the best in the world, and therefore, it affectionately desires all its Ministers and Local Preachers, to pray every Sabbath in all our places of Worship for the Members of the Royal Family and all in authority.

XXIX. That there be a Connexional Camp Meeting held in Blenheim Circuit in June, and that the authorities of that Circuit arrange for holding the same.

XXX. That the following Ministers shall, if desired, attend the said Camp Meeting, the Revs., the President and Secretary of the Conference, T. Adams, E. Barrass, J. Edgar, W. Stephenson, W. J. Dean, R. Boyle, J. R. Swift and Mr. W. Lawson.

XXXI. That we record our thanks to the giver of all good for a net increase of 137 Members in our Church.

XXXII. That with a view to promote more extensively a Revival of the work of God amongst us, the Conference desires that Friday, September 24th, may be set apart as a Connexional Fast Day, and that in every place, if possible, prayer meetings shall be held, and the Ministers shall be desired to direct the special attention of their auditories on the Sabbath previous, to this important matter.

XXXIII. That in future the President of Conference for the time being, shall write the Pastoral Address, and the English Representative also for the time being, shall write the Address of the Canadian, to the English Conference: the President shall, also, be appointed to preach the first sermon at the Conference, succeeding that over which he presides.

XXXIV. That Mr. Lawson should prepare the Minutes, and Documents to be sent to the English Conference.

XXXV. That the Rev. E. Barrass, prepare the Minutes of Conference for the Press, and the Missionary Report, and the Society Tickets.

XXXVI. That the Rev. Robert Boyle write a letter on behalf of this Conference to the Conference of Primitive Methodists in the Western States.

XXXVII. States' Conf maintain a United State their proposa

XXXVIII. the rate of 1 tions, *one-half* the *one-half* the the sums wh contribute to Markham, 1 *boro'*, £7 15 £6; *Portla* Vincent, £3 *Blenheim*, £ *Orangeville*, £6; *London* *sanquet*, £5

XXXIX. ' ections durin their quota du to the Treasu

XL. That Conference a for sending u G. Wood, T entered hearti

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XLII. Tha Conference s Quarterly Me

XXXVII. That the President write a letter to the Eastern States' Conference, and state that while we are willing to maintain a friendly correspondance with brethren in the United States of America, that we must decline acceding to their proposal for an exchange of Preachers.

XXXVIII. That payment to the Children's Fund shall be at the rate of 10 per cent. on the income of the respective Stations, *one-half* to be paid the first quarter, and the remaining *one-half* the third quarter of the year; and the following are the sums which the Stations respectively shall be expected to contribute to this fund:—*Toronto*, £18; *Etobicoke*, £14; *Markham*, £11; *Darlington*, £7 4s.; *Albion*, £8; *Scarboro'*, £7 15s.; *Laskay*, £9; *Reach*, £7 10s.; *Kingston*, £6; *Portland*, £9; *Napanee*, £4; *Bath Road*, £5; *St. Vincent*, £3 10s.; *Brampton*, £12; *Hamilton*, £9 4s.; *Blenheim*, £7; *Walpole*, £6 10s.; *Guelph*, £6; *Galt*, £6; *Orangeville*, £6; *Peel and Wellesley*, £8; *Woodstock*, £6; *London*, £8; *Brantford*, £8; *Brant*, £5 10s.; *Boisauquet*, £5 10s.

XXXIX. That each Mission Station shall make *three* collections during the year at each Preaching Place, towards their quota due to the Children's Fund, and remit the same to the Treasurer forthwith.

XL. That the Conference records its thanks to the British Conference and the English General Missionary Committee, for sending us three Missionaries during the year, viz., Bros. G. Wood, T. Natrass, and J. R. Swift, all of whom have entered heartily into the work of God amongst us, with every prospect of success.

XLI. That the Official Brethren on the respective Stations shall be earnestly entreated to co-operate with the Ministers, to visit and bring to the house of God, persons whom they now to be living in the neglect of religion.

XLII. That each Mission Station shall, if the Quarterly Conference see fit, appoint a Representative to attend the Quarterly Meetings of the General Missionary Committee.

XLIII. That the thanks of the Conference are hereby recorded to the Rev. T. Crompton, for the excellent Address which he delivered at the Ordination Service, and requests him to allow it to be published, with the Essays of the Ministers' Association.

XLIV. That the Rev. T. Adams shall deliver the next Ordination Address.

XLV. That the Conference records its thanks to Robert Walker, Esq., for his services as Connexional Treasurer and General Book Steward, and begs him to consent to fill these offices another year.

XLVI. That the Conference records its thanks to W. Lawson, Esq., the General Missionary Secretary, for his past year's services, and rejoices in his acceptance of the office another year.

XLVII. That the Conference records its thanks to the various Members of the General Committee and General Missionary Committee, and also to the Members of the Executive, for the satisfactory manner in which they have attended to their arduous duties during the past year.

XLVIII. That Bro. E. Barrass shall be appointed Book Steward for Toronto District, and Bro. W. Stephenson for Hamilton District. The District Book Stewardship to be done away with, when the Book Room shall have been established.

XLIX. That the Conference tenders its thanks to the President and Secretary, the General Committee Delegate, the English Representative, and all its Officers, for the manner in which they have attended to their respective Offices during the Sessions of Conference.

L. That the Conference acknowledges its debt of gratitude to the friends in Hamilton, for the very hospitable manner in which they have entertained the Delegates who have attended this Annual Convocation.

LI. That the following question shall be inserted in the Annual Reports from the Stations:—"What is the average income per Quarter of your Station?"

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LII. That the next year's contribution to the Conference and Relief Funds shall be 6d. per Member.

Q.—15. What is the state of the RELIEF FUND, for the year ending April 30th, 1856 ?

A.—

Dr.		Cr.	
Balance on hand	£16 9 2	By Cash to Gen. Mis. Com. for S. Driffield's illness.	£ 6 8 3
Cash from Toronto Dist. .	14 7 11½	By Cash to Gen. Mis. Com. for R. Boyle's illness...	20 13 1
" " Hamilton "	9 2 0	Balance on hand.....	12 17 9¼
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	£39 19 1¼		£39 19 1¼

Q.—16. What is the state of the CONFERENCE FUND, for the year ending April 30th, 1856 ?

A.—

Dr.		Cr.	
Cash from Toronto Dist. . .	£14 7 11½	To Balance due to Treas'r	£ 1 18 11¼
Subscriptions in Toronto District Meeting.....	7 10 0	" Printing the Minutes of Conference, 1855....	7 10 0
A friend in Markham Ct. .	0 10 0	" Conference Documents	0 17 6
Two fines at Conference .	0 2 6	" Delegates to Conf. 1856	23 7 2
Two friends at Hamilton. .	0 17 6	" Candidates for Annual List	1 17 6
Sale of Minutes of Confer. .	3 10 0	" Postages & Telegraphs	0 7 7
Cash from Hamilton Dist. .	9 2 0	" Balance on hand	0 1 5
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	£36 0 1¼		£36 0 1¼

Q.—17. What is the state of the CHILDRENS' FUND, for the year ending April 30th, 1856 ?

A.—

Dr.		Cr.	
Cash from Circuits	£88 16 0	Cash paid, 1st Quarter ..	44 6 0
" " Missions	27 0 8½	" " 2nd " ..	45 6 8
Balance of Missions' quota from Gen. Mis. Fund ..	74 16 4	" " 3rd " ..	54 0 0
Cash due from Albion Ct. .	4 0 0	" " 4th " ..	53 0 0
	<hr/>	Printing Receipt Forms..	0 10 0
	£194 13 0¼	Balance on hand.....	0 16 4¼
			<hr/>
			£194 13 0¼

Q.—18. What amount of MISSIONARY MONEY has been raised the past year, ending April 30th, 1856 ?

A.—

Balance in hand, April 30th, 1855.....	£292 12 8
Cash received from all sources	1686 7 0
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	£.978 19 8

• For particulars see the Missionary Report.

THE
Conference Pastoral Address,
TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH, CANADA.

BELoved AND DEAR BRETHREN,—Grace and peace be multiplied unto you from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. The “circling year” having assembled us once more in Conference, in the City of Hamilton, as your Ministers and Delegates, we affectionately present you with our Annual Pastoral Address. We propose to submit those matters which have occupied our deep and prayerful attention, in relation to *Past, Present, and Future.*

1. THE PAST. We rejoice to inform you that we met in the Spirit of Christian love; and throughout the entire Session that spirit continued unbroken; although, as might be expected, various subjects, which required earnest consideration, elicited different views and opinions. The Ministers' Meeting for “Mutual Improvement,” prior to Conference, was deeply interesting and devotional; and amid exciting subjects in discussion, in Conference, the hourly petitions offered to God were frequently attended with a hallowing influence from on high. The Religious Services in connection with the Conference were very satisfactory; and our Ministers occupied the pulpits of several Denominations in the City on the Sabbath. At our own Church, in John street, from the Sacramental Service, at seven a.m., until the closing service in the evening, the Lord was powerfully present, and several souls were converted to God.

In reference to Statistical affairs, we have, through the fluctuating nature of our Colonial population, suffered from removals. This cause retards the permanence and increase of our Society in this country, more than some other Bodies, whose operations are more extended; but we trust our gradual expansion will save us considerably from these heavy annual losses. We have lost 458 Members by removals and death; but these have been made up, and we report an increase of 137. Our Missionary income, from all sources

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has been nobly sustained; more than £1,000 has been raised, which is about £300 over the preceding year. Four new Missions have been established, in each of which the prospects are encouraging. We have several openings presenting themselves, but we lack both men and means. We have now 14 Mission Stations; 20 Missionaries; 113 Congregations, and 1,137 Members. We have, during the year, received from the British Conference three young men, who have entered zealously into our Canadian work; and we trust we shall have an additional number, with corresponding means, forthwith. Two Ministers were received into full Connexion at an Ordination Service; and an interesting Address was delivered by Bro. Thomas Crompton, which will be published. Several Places of Worship have been erected during the year, especially a most commodious Church in Toronto, which reflects the highest credit on both the Ministers and friends in that city. By the affection and attachment of our liberal Members and Congregations, our Ministers' allowances have been met by voluntary effort; and our gratitude is due to the Giver of all Good, that, with one or two exceptions, our Ministers have had health to sustain the wear and tear peculiar to their arduous toils. Other questions besides those of a Denominational character, occupied the term of Conference; such as the Loyalty of the Body to the Throne of Britain; the Sabbath Observance question; Temperance; Education, &c. During the period of Conference, the Delegates were most hospitably entertained by our people, and by some of other Churches, in the City of Hamilton.

2. THE PRESENT. And, beloved Brethren, to promote your spiritual happiness, and the success of our cause in Canada, several measures have been suggested, the details of which are being matured by a Committee, which, when submitted to you, it is hoped will give satisfaction. Among these is the formation of a Connexional Book Establishment, in Toronto;—the publishing of a Religious Journal;—and a Revival Hymn Book. Other measures were passed, which, when fully developed and applied, will, we trust, act with additional stimulus in enabling our Missions soon to become self-supporting, that our Missionary Funds may be applied to originate new Missions in the "regions beyond." At present, several Churches are in progress of erection, in important places, such as Brantford, Brampton, &c. It affords us, dear Friends, unspeakable thankfulness to God, to record the fact, that our Body now exists in profound peace: confidence, and love reign throughout the Ministry and entire Membership. We also bless God for the flourishing and peaceful condition

of the "land we live in:" and especially that the peace of the world, lately disturbed by a bloody war, is being restored. Every consideration we can now muster urges us to fresh efforts to bless and to save humanity. The *present* period is highly propitious. This is the accepted time; "behold, now is the day of salvation"—for ourselves, our families; and our country.

3. THE FUTURE. In anticipating the future, in relation to our Connexional exertions, we feel sanguine; and we would encourage ourselves and you in the Lord our God. But, that our expectations may not be shorn, but amply realized in the coming Connexional year, suffer us to urge you, dear Brethren, to the possession of more personal holiness. No intellectual or physical superiority in our Ministry;—no liberalism in our Church polity;—no Executive cleverness in applying recent acts of Conference or discipline, will *save us*, nor give stability to our enterprise, without more religion. Let us be more than ever devoted to "*knee work*"—private pleading with God for full redemption, through the blood of Jesus. The inscription which flashes on our Connexional banner is—"Present, Free, and Full Salvation." Let us be worthy of marching under such a Standard, and with such a Leader as the Lord Jesus, we shall have the victory over sin, death, and hell.

Beloved, remember the Family Altar; never omit family devotion. Sustain the hearts of your Ministers by your presence at the Services of the Sanctuary—especially the Prayer Meeting and Class Meeting. Encourage, with your active co-operation, all the varied means which will be brought into action, to overtake and overturn ignorance and sin, and to save precious souls.

To carry on the work of God, your pecuniary support will be required, as heretofore. The calls upon your free contributions, to sustain the Church of your choice, will be arranged to suit your opportunities of giving. We remind you especially of the Conference and Children's Fund;—the Missionary Subscription;—and particularly the Quarterly support to the Ministry on your own Station. Give as God hath prospered you, and his blessing will rest upon your "basket and store." God "loveth a cheerful giver." View and ponder this matter in relation to your obligations to God, and in the light of the Judgment Seat of Christ; for soon we must appear before him, to give an account of our stewardship.

Finally, dear Brethren, we beg to remind you of the Yearly Fast, appointed to humble ourselves before God, as a people;

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and we would also recommend Quarterly Fasts, on the Fridays previous to the holding of Religious Quarterly Meetings, that there may be a holier preparation wrought in our hearts, to relate God's dealings with us in the Lovefeast; and that the holy Sacrament may be to us, what the Lord Jesus designed, the most precious Ordinance of his Church on earth.

And now, dear Brethren, we commend you to God, and to the Word of his Grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among them that are sanctified. Brethren, beloved in the Lord, farewell; be perfect, be of one mind; live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you. Amen.

(Signed on behalf of the Conference.)

JOHN DAVISON, *President.*
WILLIAM ROWE, *Secretary.*

Address

OF THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CANADIAN CONFERENCE TO
THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST ENGLISH CONFERENCE.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN.—Grace, mercy, and peace be multiplied unto you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. At the close of another Conferential year, we, the representatives of the Primitive Methodist Connexion, in Canada, in Conference assembled, once more address you; and we do so with all possible brotherly and fraternal feelings. Though on another Continent, and in many respects in different circumstances to those in which you are placed, we are notwithstanding, engaged with you in the great work of extending and sustaining the interests of our Zion. And trust it will ever be in us to emulate your *zeal, energy, and prosperity*, in the blessed cause of our common Lord.

This, our third Canadian Conference, has been held in the City of Hamilton. As in Toronto last year, the pulpits of most religious denominations in the City, were occupied by our brethren. The McNab Street Wesleyan Church was kindly lent for the purpose of holding our Conference Missionary Meeting; and other services, and also a Temperance Meeting were held in our own Chapel. We trust that all the

services had their part in making an impression for good upon many minds.

The business of Conference, on the whole, has been done harmoniously, though, on some matters of Legislation a wide difference of opinion existed. We believe a sincere and earnest desire prevailed among the Brethren to subserve the interests of the Church. May the seal of Heaven be given to every proper measure, and may it tend to a blessed issue.

We are thankful to the Great Head of the Church, that none have been taken from our Ministerial ranks by death, during the past year. God has spared his servants, to labour in the vineyard. This is well, inasmuch as our need of Ministers, is so great that we are utterly unable to meet the calls, which perpetually come to us from destitute parts of the country. Two brethren have resigned during the past year; but we have succeeded in calling out three others, who have been connected with Primitive Methodism in England

As it regards our Missionary prospects we could occupy various other posts of usefulness had we men and means. Though our Missionary revenue is in advance of last year, about £300 cy., yet, we cannot keep our brethren and those parts of the Mission field we now occupy, to say nothing of taking up new Missions, without considerable monetary assistance from the kind liberality of our English Friends.

The natural migratory disposition of the people, in a land like this, leading them to flock into new Townships and Settlements, is a great difficulty with which our comparatively circumscribed cause has to contend. We name the following viz:—From one of our small Stations, which only employs one preacher, no less than 73 members have removed during the last year and have mostly settled in a part of the country which we have not yet reached. From those friends earnest and repeated cries come for us to follow them with a Missionary; while land is offered gratis on which to build a Chapel and Parsonage. From many other places also we have calls of nearly a similar kind. We would ignore the least indulgence in mere sectional feelings; but we must state as a fact, that because we are unable to be diffusive according to the demands which the progress of civil society over the land calls for, many from our flocks are led into other folds, or are scattered abroad like sheep without a Shepherd.

In this new country we have such a mixture of people from different parts of the earth, who have brought with them

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their diversified casts of character, peculiarities of habit, taste, and sentiment, that this, together with the thinness of the population, and roughness of many parts of the country, and the absorbing desire that prevails both among the settlers and the Commercial portion of the community to accumulate wealth, surrounds us with circumstances, in many respects dissimilar to those of our father land; nevertheless amidst all this, we assure you, our aim is to be aggressive and progressive in our operations, and as much as possible in the same measure, which has characterized Primitive Methodism at home from the beginning.

Our net numerical increase is 137. While we admit we need a deeper baptism of the Holy Spirit, greater heartfelt solicitude, and more burning zeal for the salvation of men; and have cause to mourn over our comparatively small success. Yet, the many removals from our Societies to places where our people have no existence, have been the great cause of our increase being so limited. We need to occupy a much larger surface in the vast harvest field that stretches before us; but we are quite conscious, that this cannot be done, except very slowly, unless we receive a corresponding supply of men and means from your resources. Some denominations have had Government grants; but it is a principle with us to seek no such aid, we depend upon our own monetary ability and the kind assistance rendered by you, that we may be able to extend the Redeemer's cause in this *large and goodly land*.

And now dear Fathers and Brethren, we beg to express a hope that we may continue to live in your sympathies, and share in your prayers and liberal support; and our prayers for you shall ever be, that you may prosper more and more; that you may increase in number, greatness, and usefulness; that the great principles with which the Body commenced, and which have tended so much to its progress, may ever be maintained; that God's richest blessing may be your portion, and we pray also, that your coming Conference may signally contribute to the edification of 'all present, and to the furtherance of the good work in which you and us are engaged.

—Amen.

Hamilton, April, 1856.

(Signed on behalf of the Conference,)

JOHN DAVISON, *President*.

WILLIAM ROWE, *Secretary*.

Addresses of the Stations,

&c.,

FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

General Missionary Secretary, W. Lawson, Esq., Hamilton
Connexional Treasurer, Robert Walker, Esq., Toronto City.
President of Conference, Rev. J. Davison, Galt.
Secretary of Conference, Rev. W. Rowe, London, C.W.

Toronto, Rev. E. Barrass, Agnes Street, Toronto City.
Etobicoke, Rev. J. Edgar, Humber P.O., near Clairville.
Markham, Rev. J. Garner, Victoria Square P.O.
Darlington, Rev. T. Crompton, Bowmanville P.O.
Albion, Rev. J. Lacey, Bolton Village P.O.
Scarboro', Rev. R. Poulter.
Laskay, Rev. W. Lyle, Laskay P.O.
Reach, Rev. T. Foster, Epsom P.O., Ontario County.
Kingston, Rev. J. Natrass, Kingston City.
Portland, Rev. J. Simpson, Sydenham P.O., via Kingston.
Bath Road, Rev. J. Markham.
Napanee, Rev. G. Wood, Napanee P.O.
St. Vincent, Rev. R. Stevenson, Lake Shore Line P.O.
 Sydenham, Owen Sound.
Brampton, Rev. R. Boyle, Brampton. Chinguacousy.
Hamilton, Rev. W. Stephenson, John street, Hamilton City.
Walpole, Rev. R. Parsons, Williamsville P.O., Walpole.
Blenheim, Rev. W. Newton, Washington P.O.
Galt, Rev. J. Davison.
Guelph, Rev. R. Paul, Guelph P.O.
Orangeville, Rev. D. Gostelow, Orangeville, via Brampton.
Peel and Wellesley, Rev. W. Bee, Elora P.O., Wellington C.
Woodstock, Rev. W. J. Dean, Woodstock P.O.
Brantford, Rev. T. Adams, Brantford P.O.
London, Rev. W. Rowe.
Brant, Rev. W. Lomas, Durham P.O.
Bosanquet, Rev. J. Ryder, Pine Hill P.O.

(Signed by order and on behalf of the Conference,)

JOHN DAVISON, *President*.

WILLIAM ROWE, *Secretary*.

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