

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-NINTH
GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF THE
FREE CHRISTIAN BAPTISTS

OF
NEW BRUNSWICK,
HELD AT DOUGLAS, YORK COUNTY.

July 6th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th.

OFFICERS OF GENERAL CONFERENCE.

REV. B. MERRITT,	CHAIRMAN.
" G. A. HARTLEY,	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.
B. J. UNDERHILL, Esq.,	RECORDING SECRETARY.
MR. E. M. TRUESDALE,	ASSISTANT
MR. WILLIAM PETERS,	TREASURER.

SAINT JOHN, N. B.:
PRINTED BY GEORGE W. DAY, NO. IV, MARKET STREET.
1861.

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DOUGLASS, YORK CO., July 6th., 1861.

THE Twenty-Ninth General Conference of Free Christian Baptists of New Brunswick, assembled at Douglass this day, at 10 o'clock, A. M. After enjoying a season of two and a half hours, in social conference, adjourned until 3 o'clock.

At the hour appointed, met for business. Elder B. Merritt was appointed Chairman of General Conference for the ensuing year.

The following members of General Conference were present:—

REV. B. MERRITT, CHAIRMAN.

REV. SAMUEL HARTT.	REV. JACOB GUNTER,
" CHARLES McMULLIN,	" WM. KINGHORN,
" WM. E. PENNINGTON,	" EZEKIEL McLEOD,
" EZEKIEL SIPRELL.	" CHARLES E. BULL,
" JOSEPH NOBLE,	" GEO. A. HARTLEY,
" EDWARD WAYMAN,	" JOHN WALLACE,
" JOHN PERRY,	" THOS. CONNOR,
" ALEXANDER TAYLOR,	" ROBERT DOBSON,
" ROBERT FRENCH,	" WILLIAM DOWNEY,
" YERXA WHITE,	" B. F. RATTRAY,
" J. N. BARNES,	" C. DOUCETT.

LICENTIATES.

BRETHREN J. T. PARSONS, S. DOWNEY, T. VANWART.
DELEGATE FROM NOVA SCOTIA GENERAL CONFERENCE.

REV. CHARLES KNOWLES.

VISITOR.—BRO. JOHN F. GOODERE formerly a Licentiate of Nova Scotia General Conference.

DELEGATES.

FIRST DISTRICT, JOHN HENDERSON.

SECOND DISTRICT, { L. H. ESTABROOKS,
 { ALLAN HOVEY.

THIRD DISTRICT, { E. R. PARSONS, CLERK.

 { BENJAMIN GOODSPEED,

FOURTH DISTRICT, { JONATHAN CLIFF.

 { ROBERT SLIP,

FIFTH DISTRICT, { JOHN ALEXANDER.

 { JAMES CLARK,

SIXTH DISTRICT, { GEORGE WORDEN.

 { ROBERT McLEOD,

GEO. MCCREADY, CLERK.

The Corresponding Secretary's Annual Report read as follows :

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Corresponding Secretary of the Free Christian Baptist General Conference of New Brunswick, for the year ending July 5th, 1861.

BRETHREN BELOVED AND HONORED IN CHRIST.—

The change made by you in some of the officers of our General Conference at its last Annual Session, imposes upon me in connection with this Meeting new duties—duties that have been performed by my worthy predecessor in office ever since the adoption of our present mode of reporting the state of our Churches. That duty I now have pleasure in attempting to discharge; and I may be permitted just here to state, that I have found it very difficult to collect such information of the state of our Churches as is absolutely necessary to enable me to render you even a comparatively full or satisfactory report.

The close of another ecclesiastical year has again brought us together for the transaction of such business in connection with our Churches, as comes within our province in our associated capacity; and such as I prayerfully hope, will, in some degree, tend to increase our efficiency and usefulness as a branch of the Christian Church.

For a few days, as Ministers of the Gospel, we have left our respective fields of labour, and, as lay brethren, have left our business and our homes and are gathered to this one place to transact business for God; and O! that, at even this early stage of our Meeting, we might all be baptized afresh with the Holy Ghost, and hear the Great Head of the Church saying unto us, "Ye call me Master and Lord, and ye say well, for so I am."

Feeling, as I know you do, Brethren, deeply interested in the prosperity of the Kingdom of Christ throughout the world, you will permit me to make a general remark or two, before referring directly to our own Denomination.

Although the past year has not been so signally distinguished for those powerful Revivals that characterized the two or three years preceding it, yet the work of God has been progressing. In different parts of the world the outpouring of the Holy Spirit has been largely enjoyed. The great Revivals of Great Britain and Ireland are still exerting a salutary influence upon the various ranks of society. In Sweden, Denmark, and a number of the smaller States of Germany, religious freedom is rapidly gaining ground. In the South Sea Islands, one-eighth of the population is said, during the last year, to have been added to the Christian Church. Reports from the West Indies say that not less than 20,000 persons have been brought under the influence of the Gospel there. India, recently the scene of the most terrible tragedy of modern times, is now being much blessed with the Gospel. The recent Italian revolution, although strictly a political rather than a religious change, has opened up a very wide and important field for the extension of the labours of the Christian Church. In Southern and Western Africa the civilizing and evangelizing effects of the Gospel are being happily manifested among their sable sons and daughters. China, that in numbers embraces about one-third, or rather more, of the entire population of the globe, has been thrown entirely open to the reception of the Gospel. Other nations, and districts of the earth, have, also, been much blessed. The glorious Gospel of the Blessed God is rapidly gaining ground. Darkness is fleeing before the light, and ignorance and superstition are giving way to the overwhelming truths of the Cross, so that we have reason to believe and rejoice that the time is rapidly coming when "this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached to all nations for a witness."

But while in some portions of the earth the cheering and fruitifying influences of the Gospel are effecting changes exceedingly gratifying to every christian, others are being scourged with persecution, famine, and war, exciting

almost to refer, far neighbour the scale always be and a peo and social should be believe, in regret. I us, and th healthy an every soul Almighty for the hap blessings a blessed, T us in pleas

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almost tearful regret. To those, the limits of my report will not allow me to refer, farther than to make a single allusion to the present sad state of our neighbours of the American Republic. That a nation that has stood so high in the scale of nations for industry, intelligence, education and religion—that has always been so forward in everything that is enterprising and praiseworthy—and a people with whom we are so closely connected by the ties of commerce, and social intercourse, and with whom we have such strong religious sympathy, should be plunged into all the horrors and disgrace of a civil war, excites, I believe, in each christian heart here to-day, feelings of the deepest sorrow and regret. In viewing the disrupted and sad state of a country lying just beside us, and then turning my eyes over our own beloved Province, and seeing the healthy and peaceful state of our country, I cannot refrain from calling upon every soul within the sound of my voice to-day, to unite with me in offering to Almighty God one hearty and unmingled offering of praise and thanksgiving for the happiness and quietude of our own homes, and the many superior social blessings and religious liberties and privileges with which we are so abundantly blessed. Truly, we can exclaim with the Psalmist, "The lines are fallen unto us in pleasant places; yea, we have a goodly heritage."

In now proceeding to report to you the success and general state of our Churches, I may justly say, that during the past year we have enjoyed tokens of the Divine favour, and that there are among us unmistakable signs of prosperity. But that while this is so, there are burdens that embarrass, and trials that tend to weaken us. But before we shall separate from this Conference, I hope, however, that we shall succeed in our efforts to devise ways and means by which we may be freed from all such things as tend to cripple our usefulness.

With one exception the lives and health of our Brethren in the Ministry have been spared throughout the year. Our esteemed and lamented Brother, John Flewelling, who has for the last two years been wasting away under the hand of disease, has, within a few weeks, been removed from our number by death. The Master has called him to his reward. He has gone. And although he will no more mingle with us in our Annual gatherings, we rejoice to believe that he has already joined the company of the spirits of just men made perfect. Bro. Flewelling laboured in the Ministry some time as a Licentiate from this Conference. God blessed his labours. Souls were converted through his instrumentality. But his work is done. And although silently, yet forcibly, he now speaks to us who survive him, to "stand up for Jesus." Soon, and perhaps very soon, some of us here in health to-day, may follow his footsteps. Brethren, let us so live that we may secure from the lips of our Master that glorious benediction, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Last year we again adopted the Circuit System, by which we hoped to give every Minister a field of care, and each of our Churches the labor and oversight of some one of our Ministers. As far as I can ascertain, the appointments have been quite generally accepted by the Churches, and although not entirely, yet to a pretty full extent have been carried out. In some cases the change made by the Circuit Appointments have been satisfactory, in others it has not been so. The propriety of its continuation will doubtless be introduced for your consideration during the business session of this Conference.

One evident mark of our progress and prosperity is the number and style of the Meeting Houses that have been finished and dedicated to the worship of God during the year. Until within a few years the houses erected by us for the worship of God, have been built without much regard to either comfort or taste. And if the building of such houses was justifiable under the circumstances, and at the time when they were built, it is gratifying to know that a great improvement has been made in the style and comfort of our houses of worship. Within the last year seven Meeting Houses have been finished and dedicated to the worship of God, and a number of others commenced building. Among the

number of those finished is the very neat, substantial and creditable building in which we are assembled for the worship of God to-day. In Coverdale, where our Brethren had the misfortune to have their house of worship destroyed by fire, another, far superior to the one they lost, has, by their laudable zeal and commendable energy, been erected on the same spot. In Carleton, a large, substantial, and fine two story house has been nearly completed. The basement, which is a very commodious and pleasant place, has been opened, and occupied for the worship of God for a few months past. On the North River, where a house was much needed, a good and very creditable building has been erected. The Church in the Dutch Valley has honored God by building a house for His worship. At the head of the Millstream the friends have nobly gone to work and furnished themselves with a good place for the worship of God. Also, has the 2nd Church on the Nashwaak built themselves a convenient and suitable house for the service of God. Among those in the course of erection, is the very fine building—the frame of which is already up and enclosed—in Fredericton, and two on the branches of the Oromocto. The Brethren on the Oromocto are also building in connection with their Churches, a parsonage, for a residence of the Minister whom they may have to labour with them,—a very commendable act, and one which we hope will be followed by others of our Churches. God has blessed us with some Revivals, and quite a number of conversions have been reported during the year.

From the First District I have received no report, and have but a limited knowledge of the success that has attended the labours of our Brethren among these most northern Churches of our Denomination. As far as I can learn, the general state of this District is encouraging. The influence of our people is extending and becoming more general. Elder McMullin has labored considerably with some of those Churches during the year with good success. In Wicklow he was blessed to see a good work of grace, and baptized twenty.

Elder Curry has also laboured in this District with good acceptance and encouragement.

Elder Sisson Hives in this District and has labored some during the year. I think Elder Siprell has also laboured considerably with these Churches the last year, as he has formerly done.

The Second District has had the labours of a number of our Ministers, and in some of these Churches a good interest, and Revivals have been enjoyed. The Church in the Seventh Tier in Jacksontown, has been much blessed, principally under the labours of Elder Downey, who baptized twenty-five. Elder White has laboured with encouragement and profit with this Church. The Church in Woodstock has had constant labour and prosperity, and a number have been baptized and added to it by Elder Downey during the year. This Church has also had visits from a number of other Brethren. Elder McMullin has laboured quite a portion of his time with the Brighton, Wakenfield and other Churches in this District. Elder Hartt has laboured with the Third Tier Church and extended care to a number of other Churches in that District, besides visiting a large number of the Churches in the lower, and eastern part of the Province during the past winter. Elder Orser has laboured with the Becksquimaac, Brighton and others of these Churches. The Presque Isle Church has had the labours of Elder Bell.

The Third District has been blessed with some revival influence. The Church worshipping in this place was much blessed and strengthened by a Revival last winter under the joint labours of Elders McLeod and Downey. Twenty-one were baptized and twenty-five added to the Church. The first Church on the Nashwaak has recently been visited by an outpouring of God's Spirit and a good number have been blessed, under the labours of Bro. J. T. Parsons and Elder Kinghorn. This Church was much revived and twenty were baptized. Elder Barnes, who spent the first five months of the year with the Bridgewater and mouth of the Presque Isle Churches, has laboured the rest of the

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year on this District with good acceptance and has seen some revival. He has baptized a number in different parts of his Circuit. At present a good Revival is in progress in connection with the Second Nashwaak Church, under the labours of Bro. J. T. Parsons. Fifteen have already been baptized, and there is the prospect of a very powerful work of God in this place. The Church in Fredericton has enjoyed the labours of Elder McLeod, by whom a number have been baptized and added during the year.

No report has been received by me from the Fourth District, neither have I heard much of the state of these Churches. Labour has been expended there by several of our Preachers, but I have not heard of any special Revival. A good interest, I believe, exists in a number of places, and there have, no doubt, been some additions, and I trust that the good seed, scattered by our Brethren who have been toiling in this District, may yet bring forth much fruit.

The Fifth District has enjoyed some degree of spiritual prosperity. The Church at the Narrows, Johnston, was blessed with a good season of Revival during the winter, under the labours of Elder Dobson. Seventeen were baptized by him at that place. The Church in St. John, during a visit from Elder Hartley, was somewhat blessed. Elder Perry baptized fourteen, and added in all twenty-four to the Church. During the last spring the Church in Carleton enjoyed a season of Revival under the labours of Elder Hartley. Thirty-six were baptized and forty-two added to the Church. Elder Connor has laboured with a number of the Churches of this District and has had a very good interest in several places. Elder Taylor has also spent a part of the year in this District, dividing his time among a number of these Churches and neighbouring Churches in the Fourth District.

The most prosperous part of the Sixth District is the Church at Upper Sussex. This Church had become very low, but in the early part of last winter Bro. J. T. Parsons visited them, and spent several weeks in constant faithful labour. God was pleased to bless his efforts abundantly. Backsliders were reclaimed, and a good number of souls were converted to God. Elders Wayman, Rattray and Hartley also laboured in this Revival. Forty-seven were baptized and added to the Church. Elder Dobson baptized a number and organized a small Church in the Dutch Valley, which was united to the District at its last Session. Elder Gunter has spent the most of his time in this District, and has baptized sixteen in connection with the River Church in Studholm. Elders Pennington and Wallace have also laboured with these Churches. Elder Rattray has spent his time during the whole year on this Circuit, and has enjoyed a good interest in several places.

Thus, dear Brethren, I have briefly alluded to some of the tokens of the Lord's favour towards us. The whole number baptized and added this year is about three-hundred-and-fifty. I may also add that in each of the Districts, there is a large number of efficient Sabbath Schools which will be reported upon by a Committee appointed for that purpose.

Of the things that burden us and impede our progress, perhaps none is more generally felt than our financial embarrassment. This debt has been hanging so long, and so many appeals have been made to our people, that it seems to be getting more and more dreaded; and it is greatly to be hoped that something may soon be done that will lead to the liquidation of our liabilities. Some of our Churches are in a very low state. In some, trials exist that threaten sad consequences. But we pray that the deliberations of this Conference may tend to the removal of many of those things that now weaken us and injure our usefulness.

In conclusion, I may say, dear Brethren, God has given us a large and growing field to cultivate in this Province, and it is important that we occupy it. It is now sufficiently large to require all the time and energies of all the labourers we have, and it is still extending. As Ministers of the Gospel very

much depends upon us. Our calling is high and holy. Our business is to do with the souls of our fellow-men. We have no time to waste in the secular affairs of this life. God has called us to make known to our fellow-men the way of salvation, and

" 'Tis all our business here below
To cry, behold the Lamb."

Let us then, dear Brethren, give ourselves up fully to the work, and magnify our office. We should not be satisfied without giving our whole time to the work of the Ministry; and not even then, without seeing souls converted. The conversion of sinners is our first and highest work, the leading and care of the Church the second. That an important duty devolves upon our Churches is also self-evident. They are to live near to God themselves, never to be satisfied short of a consciousness that their souls are in a state of spiritual life, and to respect and support their Brethren whom God has called to preach the Gospel to them. Ministers are generally held in esteem by others just in proportion as they are sustained and respected by their own Churches. While Ministers then should do all they can to advance and elevate their people, the people should do what they can for the credit, respectability and usefulness of their preachers.

We have no doubt come to an important epoch in our history, and much, very much, depends upon one thing, upon our love one for another. Let us remember that with our hearts full of love, we cannot feel ill toward each other. It will hide a thousand imperfections and magnify every virtue. With hearts filled with love to God, to each other, and the world, we are prepared for the important work before us, but without whatever else we may have, we will find ourselves like Samson when shorn of his locks. Then, O Brethren! my dear Brethren, both clerical and lay, let us ever mind and love each other, that when our mission and service on earth shall be done, we may be found of God in peace, without spot and blameless. Amen.

G. A. HARTLEY, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

The adoption of the Report was moved by Elder Noble, and seconded by Elder Hart, both of whom, with Elder McLeod, made some very appropriate remarks.

Report unanimously adopted. Also, that it should be printed in the Minutes of Conference.

Elder C. Knowles, Delegate from the Free Christian Baptist General Conference of Nova Scotia, made a verbal report of the state of the cause among them in that Province.

Adjourned to meet again on Monday morning at 8 o'clock.

MONDAY, 8 o'clock, A. M.

Met for the transaction of business. Opened by singing and prayer.

VOTED, That the visiting brethren present be admitted to a seat in this Conference.

Chairman called for reports from the Delegates and Committees appointed at the last General Conference, and for all letters and papers to be submitted to Conference, to be laid on the table.

Elder Wayman reported that the Committee appointed to

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investigate the matters of trial in the Third Tier Church, Jackson-town, had visited that Church, but made no decision, being unable to agree in their judgment.

The following Committees were appointed by the Chairman :

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.—Revds. A. Taylor, Wm. Kinghorn, Thos. Connor, and Brn. S. Downey and L. H. Estabrooks.

ON TEMPERANCE.—Revds. B. F. Rattray, Jacob Gunter, Sam'l Hartt and R. French, and Brn. John Alexander and Geo. McCready.

ON THE SABBATH.—Revds. Wm. Downey, R. Dobson and C. McMullin.

ON LICENTIATES.—Revds. G. A. Hartley, W. E. Pennington, E. Wayman, J. Noble and Bro. R. Slip.

ON FINANCE.—Revds. S. Hartt, G. A. Hartley, J. Perry, A. Taylor, C. McMullin, B. Merritt, J. Gunter, and Brn. J. Clark and R. McLeod.

ON HOME MISSIONS.—Bro. J. T. Parsons, Revds. C. E. Bell, J. Wallace, C. Deucett, Y. White, J. N. Barnes, R. Dobson.

Treasurer's Account submitted by Elder Hartley in absence of the Treasurer. Account received and handed to the Finance Committee.

Letter from Bro. Seth Erb read and handed to Finance Committee.

Adjourned by prayer, to meet at 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 o'clock, P. M.

Opened by prayer.

Report of the Committee appointed to visit the Churches and collect funds for the liquidation of Conference debt, was submitted, and after some discussion, adopted.

TEMPERANCE.

The Committee on Temperance submitted their Report, which was discussed at some length and amended and adopted in the following form :—

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on the subject of Temperance offer the following Report :—

Believing that the use of intoxicating drinks, either moderately or excessively, is only productive of evil, physically, morally and religiously, and condemned by the Word of God, whatever human legislation recommend or legalize notwithstanding.

Therefore, we deem it highly necessary, and according to christian rule and government, that every religious denomination, every individual church, and

every individual church member, wholly abstain from the use of ardent spirits as a beverage. And that we also consider a departure from the principles of total abstinence by the professed follower of the Lord Jesus Christ, to be a departure from his or her christian profession, and a violation of their covenant with God. And that the use of intoxicating drinks even moderately, is calculated to harden the heart and stop the ear against the truths of the Gospel. And would also recommend that our Ministering Brethren be decided in reasoning upon "Temperance," as well as upon "Judgment to come."

We would also express our gratitude to Almighty God for the great prosperity of this excellent cause during the past year, not only within our own immediate borders, but generally throughout the Province, the result of which has been the salvation of many from the inebriate's grave.

Your Committee would also embrace this very favourable opportunity of urging upon this General Conference the propriety, as well as the necessity of recommending to the various Temperance organizations, the holding of Temperance Conventions for the purpose of maturing such measures as they in their wisdom may think proper, for the speedy securing the enactment on our Statute Book of a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Respectfully submitted,

B. F. RATTRAY,
GEORGE W. MCCREADY,
SAMUEL HARTT,
ROBERT FRENCH,
JACOB GUNTER,
JOHN ALEXANDER,

} Committee

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools submitted the following Report, which was adopted:—

We, the Committee appointed to Report on Sabbath Schools in connection with our Churches, have endeavoured to attend to that duty. The result of which we submit. We find by an examination of the Reports of the Districts, that there are in connection with the Churches of the

First District,	- - - - -	2 Schools
Second do.	- - - - -	5 do.
Third do.	- - - - -	4 do.
Fourth do.	- - - - -	6 do.
Fifth do.	- - - - -	14 do.
Sixth do.	- - - - -	5 do.
Total,	- - - - -	36.

We feel much at a loss for the want of a full Statistical Report from a number of the Churches, and would respectfully call the attention of all the Delegates from the Churches to furnish the Clerks of the Districts with Reports of the Schools in connection with their respective Churches, and would further say, we believe it to be the duty of all the Preachers and Deacons to establish Sabbath Schools in their different localities, and recommend that they do all they can to increase both the number and efficiency of Sabbath Schools in connection with our Churches.

L. H. ESTABROOKS,
WILLIAM KINGHORN,
THOMAS CONNOR,
SAMUEL DOWNBY,
A. TAYLOR.

Unanimously received.

We, the Brethren from this conference by this Committee appointing

The Parsons, and W.

The Report :

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The Con sider the s Conference. that this im Committee present, was sustaining a for the purp their private The nobi a fund for th praise, and v And furth in the past, mos opinio loss. And we to supply thi deliberation

Adopt

LICENTIATES.

Committee on Licentiates reported as follows :—

We, the Committee appointed on Licentiates, beg to submit that we find three Brethren Licentiates, two of whom—Brethren S. Downey and J. T. Parsons—are licensed from this Conference, and one—Brother T. Vanwart—from the Third District, and by this Conference, and that Bro. Parsons be ordained next Sabbath,—this Conference appointing a Committee to attend to that duty.

G. A. HARTLEY, Chairman.

The Committee appointed to attend to the ordination of Bro. J. T. Parsons, were Elders G. A. Hartley, J. Gunter, J. Noble, E. Wayman, and W. Downey.

THE SABBATH.

The Committee on the Sabbath submitted the following Report :—

Your Committee on the Sabbath beg leave to report :

First. That it is a divine command, "to remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy,"—i. e. : Remember it not only as a day of rest from temporal or secular pursuits, but also as a day to abstain from all manner of pleasure-seeking whatever, for the gratification of the carnal mind, such as pleasure driving, rambling through cities, or from one place to another in pursuit of pleasure; visiting neighbours or relatives, and omitting to attend a place of worship, unless more than a frivolous excuse can be offered for so doing.

Secondly. That if we wish to enjoy the temporal as well as the spiritual blessings which God has so bountifully bestowed upon us as a people and nation, we can only expect to do so in the faithful observance of the above command; and furthermore, that the unanimity, strength, and future prosperity of our Government and ourselves as a Religious Denomination, depends much upon the true recognition of this portion of God's Law.

Signed in behalf of the Committee.

WM. DOWNEY, Chairman.

Unanimously adopted.

MISSIONS.

The Committee appointed to report on Home Missions, reported as follows :—

The Committee appointed on Home Missions, beg leave to report :—That they consider the subject of Missions in this Province as demanding the attention of this Conference, and would recommend that some measures be devised, if at all practicable, that this important field be supplied by at least one faithful, efficient labourer. Your Committee sincerely regret that the financial condition of this Conference will not at present warrant their taking the responsibility, as has been the custom heretofore, of sustaining such labourer, and would earnestly recommend that a subscription be started for the purpose of giving liberal hearted Brethren an opportunity of contributing from their private means, to sustain a Missionary in the year just closed, is worthy of all praise, and we believe, has received the seal of God's approbation.

The noble example set by the public and private Brethren, whose liberality furnished a fund for the support of a Home Missionary in the year just closed, is worthy of all praise, and we believe, has received the seal of God's approbation.

And further, feeling conscious that much of the success that has attended our Ministry in the past, is attributable in a great degree, to Missionary labour, we are of the unanimous opinion, that unless there is a Missionary kept in the field, we shall sustain a serious loss.

And we sincerely hope, that the wisdom of this Conference will devise some scheme to supply this important field of labour, and we pray that the great God will bless such deliberation and crown it with success.

In behalf of the Committee.

Adopted.

J. T. PARSONS, Chairman.

FINANCES.

The Finance Committee submitted the following report :—

We, the Committee appointed to report on Finances, beg to submit: That we find our liabilities, including interest, up to this date, to be \$2,133.07; also, that our creditors are all anxious to get their pay. And we recommend that this Conference adopt some measure in this Session that will effectually liquidate our entire debts.

S. HARTT, Chairman.

Unanimously adopted.

Adjourned by prayer, to meet the next morning at 8 o'clock.

TUESDAY MORNING, 8 o'clock, A. M.

Opened by singing and prayer.

Letter from a newly organized Church at Calais, Maine, read and referred to Special Committee.

Elders E. McLeod, C. E. Bell and T. Connor appointed said Committee, who reported as follows :—

The Committee, on the request of the Church at Calais, submit as follows :

We recommend that the earnest request of this Church be received. That it be united to one of our District Meetings, and that some Brother be appointed to visit them previously, if possible, to the meeting of the District, to which they are to be united, and report by letter, or fully, the state and prosperity of the cause in connection with them at that meeting.

E. McLeod, Chairman.

Adopted.

VOTED,—That this Church unite with the Fifth District, and that Elder Taylor be the Brother to visit them.

A letter from Wm. N. Mallory, and others, was read, referring to matters of trial in the 2nd Church, Wakefield, Third Tier, Jacksontown. After much discussion and deliberation on this matter, the following Resolution was passed :—

RESOLVED,—That this Conference recommend the two parties of the Second Church in Wakefield, to choose a disinterested Committee, in which both parties are agreed, from the community, irrespective of religious tenets, professors of religion, or non-professors, excluding preachers of the Gospel only, to judge and determine in relation to their difficulty in reference to land—both parties binding themselves to abide by the decision of said Committee—and in case either party refuses to carry out this recommendation, the party so refusing cannot be sustained by this Conference.

VOTED,—That a copy of the above Resolution be sent to some Brother on each side of the difficulty.

RESOLVED,—That the Circuit System, as adopted by us last year, be discontinued.

Adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock the next morning.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, 8 o'clock.

Opened by singing and prayer.

The Conference went into committee of the whole on financial matters. Elder Taylor appointed to the Chair.

After several propositions and much discussion as to the best mode of liquidating our liabilities, the following Resolution was adopted:—

WHEREAS, This Conference is under pecuniary embarrassment, which greatly retards our progress in the cause of God; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we raise the amount required for the payment of our liabilities, by forming a Joint Stock Association of not less than one hundred shares, of twenty dollars each; said shares to be paid as soon as possible after the whole number are pledged—not to exceed one year, and that a Treasurer be appointed by this Conference to whom said shares are to be paid in; that persons taking shares are under no obligation to pay them until the whole one hundred shares be subscribed for,—the Treasurer to give notice through the "Religious Intelligencer" when they are all taken up. Also, that a subscription for that purpose be opened in this meeting, and after all that can be obtained here are subscribed for, all the Elders and Licentiates be expected to solicit the taking up of the balance and report within three months to the Treasurer.

Bro. Wm. Peters, the Treasurer of the Conference, was appointed Treasurer of this fund.

VOTED, That Elders G. A. Hartley, J. Perry and Bro. D. W. Clark, be a Committee empowered by this Conference to draw money from the Treasurer of our Liquidation Fund as fast as there may be funds on hand, for the payment of our Conference liabilities.

After some farther discussion on money matters the following Resolutions were passed:—

RESOLVED, That those Churches which have not yet responded to the Resolution of the adjourned Conference, in reference to the liquidation of our debts, be requested to show their liberality, by aiding to the utmost of their ability, the Joint Stock Fund for that purpose provided.

RESOLVED, That every member of this Conference be authorised to use his influence towards carrying into effect the Resolution of Conference for the liquidation of the Conference debt, by a Joint Stock Association; and that all the shares thus taken up be reported forthwith to the Treasurer, that he may be prepared to give notice when the required amount is subscribed.

A subscription was then opened and FIFTY SHARES (just one half the required amount), were subscribed in a short time.

Adjourned by prayer, to meet again Thursday morning.

THURSDAY MORNING, 7 o'clock.

Opened by prayer.

The Committee appointed to investigate and report upon a matter of trial between Elders J. Perry and E. McLeod, submitted the following Report, which was unanimously adopted:—

RESOLVED,—That Bro. Perry has had cause for being grieved in reference to the purchase of property from Bro. McLeod, in consequence of neither party being particular enough in examination of titles and position of buildings, as well as giving and receiving title; but that Bro. McLeod is not guilty of any intentional wrong in the transaction, and we suggest that Bro. McLeod give Bro. Perry such a title as will effectually secure to him all the claim which was held before the sale by Bro. McLeod.

A. TAYLOR, Chairman.

RESOLVED, That Elder G. A. Hartley be Delegate to the Nova Scotia General Conference to be held in September next, and that Elder Samuel Hartt be his substitute.

RESOLVED, That 1500 copies of Minutes of Conference be printed, and that Elder G. A. Hartley be a Committee to prepare them for the press.

RESOLVED, That Bro. Edwin Garrity have his licence renewed by this Conference.

RESOLVED, That our next General Conference be held with the Church in Carleton, Saint John, on the first Saturday in July, 1862.

RESOLVED, That Elder Merritt be paid all the money now in the Treasurer's hands, after reserving enough to pay for printing this year's Minutes and the expences of the Nova Scotia delegation.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

1st DISTRICT MEETING to be held with the Church at Indian Land, last Saturday in August. To attend—All the Elders labouring in the District, with Elders C. McMullin, C. E. Bell and C. Doucet.

2nd DISTRICT,—With the Church at Third Tier, Jacksontown, the last Saturday in October. To attend—All the Elders in the District, with Elder J. Gunter.

3rd DISTRICT,—With the Church in Southampton, the second Saturday in October. To attend—All the Elders in the District, with Elders C. E. Bell, S. Hartt and Bro. J. T. Parsons.

4th DISTRICT,—With the Church at Upper Gagetown, on the third Saturday in October. To attend—Elders S. Hartt, A. Taylor, W. E. Pennington, W. Downey, J. N. Barnes and Bro. J. T. Parsons.

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5th District,—With the Church at Tenant's Cove, on the second Saturday in February. To attend—All the Elders who reside in the District, with Elders E. Wayman and J. Gunter.

6th District,—With the Church in Middleland, on fourth Saturday in February. To attend—All the Elders in the District, with Elders T. Connor and J. N. Barnes.

That the Chairman of this Conference be empowered to appoint a Committee of five to meet with the Church in St. John, to investigate and decide upon matters of trial of long standing among them, at such time as the Chairman may think most suitable, and that the parties connected with the difficulty be notified to attend.

Voted,—That this Conference adjourn to meet with the Church in Carleton the first Saturday in July, 1862.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF FREE CHRISTIAN BAPTISTS OF N. B. in account with
WILLIAM PETERS, Treasurer.

		Cr.
	By balance on hand, July, 1860,	\$122.94
Sept.	rec'd for Intelligencer from Benjamin Belding,	1.75
	from B. J. Underhill, Agent,	18.68
1861.		
Feb.	from 1st Church, Greenwich, for Minutes,	2.18
	1st Church, Johnston, "	2.21
	G. B. Boyer, for 1st Ch., Wakefield, for liq. fund,	5.75
	for Letter Press and Books sold,	11.50
June.	from Mrs. Joanna Good, for liquidation fund,	8.00
	Rev. A. Taylor, Intelligencer fund,	2.28
	By amount collected from S. Holder,	2.84
	from 2d Church, Nashwalk, Conference fund,	1.00
	Mrs. William Wheaton, "	24
	Church, Bear Island, "	88
	1st Church Hampstead, "	12.25
	Church at Dutch Valley, "	48
	Church at Kingsclear, "	2.70
	1st Church, Presque Isle, "	4.00
	3rd Church, Hampstead Conference fund,	3.50
	liq. fund, "	3.50
	Church, Lower Queensbury Conference fund,	1.25
	Church, Upper Hampstead, "	6.92
	1st Church, Nashwalk, "	4.00
	Robt. McLeod for Alex. Baskin, on acct. for Books,	6.00
	Church Upper Sussex,	3.00
	Elder S. Hartt	
	for Dan'l Scriber, liq. fund,	2.00
	Williams Towha Ch. per Samuel Tracy, bal. }	
	of amount asked from that Ch., }	10.00
	1st Church Wakefield Conference fund,	9.25
	By carried over,	\$250.10

By brought over,		\$250.10
By amount from Ch. Lower Brighton, Conference fund,		1.25
" " Mrs. J. Giberson, Tobique,	"	2.00
" " Ch. Beckagumac,	"	2.00
" " Ch. Middle Brighton liquidation fund,	"	8.00
" " John Bubar and wife, Conference fund,	"	75
" " Ch. at Woodstock,	"	7.00
" " Elder H. McLeod		
for David Hartt, liq. fund,		2.00
" Ch. Nackawick, Conference fund,		2.10
" G. McCready,	"	1.00
" " Thos. Atherton, Esq.,	"	1.00
" " D. P. Harris,	"	25
" " Mrs. Harris,	"	25
" " Chas. Bartlett, Esq.,	"	25
" " Ch. Campbell's Settlement,	"	1.50
" " Elder S. Hartt and family,	"	2.00
" " Edward Grass and wife,	"	50
" " Mark Palmer & wife, Jackson's'n,	"	50
" " Miss Cordia Lorum,	"	25
" " Daniel Tracey and family,	"	1.00
" " Isaac Miller and family,	"	75
" " Ezekiel Seely and wife,	"	75
" " Alexr. McLean and wife,	"	50
" " 2nd Church, Dorchester,	"	4.00
" " Ch. North Branch Oromocto, liquid.,	"	2.00
" " do. Confer.,	"	75
" " Alfred Hatch,	"	25
" " Mrs. Sarah Tomlinson,	"	24
" " Mrs. Wm. Tomlinson,	"	24
" " 1st Church, St. John,	"	2.50
" " Elder B. Merritt, as collected by him from		
the following individuals, viz:—		
Jacob Vanwart,	\$20.00	
George Clark,	8.00	
Ch. at Belisle,	41.46	
2nd Ch. Dorchester,	3.00	
Moncton and Coverdale Church,	12.87	
Church at Dover,	2.00	
" North River,	1.00	

88.33

\$333.76

—Dr.—

* 1860.	For paid bal. Rent on Shops,	\$11.05
" "	" T. Hanford, Auction Bill,	5.00
" "	" G. W. Day, printing Minutes, last year,	40.00
" "	" B. J. Underhill, on acc't,	120.00
1861	" " Seth Erbb, on acc't note of hand,	48.40

214.45

\$169.31

WILLIAM PETERS, TREASURER.

NOTE. It will be seen by a Resolution passed in Conference, that the balance in the Treasurer's hands is to be paid to Elder Merritt.