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MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

Primitive Methodist Church,

CANADA,

HELD AT BRAMPTON,

ON THE SIXTEENTH OF APRIL, 1857, AND FOLLOWING DAYS.

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Published by Order of the Conference.  
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TORONTO:

PUBLISHED BY JOHN DAVISON

Mission Office and Book Room, King-st. East.

1857.

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Question
Answer-

Also, I
Meetings :

TORONTO
G. Wright
J. Ellerby

HAMILTON
son, J. E.
Poore, W

Q.—2.

A.—Ti

Q.—3.

A.—R.

MINUTES, &C.

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

WILLIAM LYLE, *President.*

JAMES EDGAR, *Secretary.*

Question—1. Who compose the present Conference?

Answer—John Lacey, General Committee Delegate.

William Rowe, English Representative.

William Lawson, Missionary Secretary.

Robert Walker, Missionary Treasurer.

John Davison, Agent of Friendly Society.

Also, Delegates appointed by their respective District Meetings:—

TORONTO—W. Lyle, T. Crompton, J. Edgar, E. Barrass, G. Wright, C. McGinn, J. Kent, T. Spotswood, W. Carline J. Ellerby, G. Raper, and J. Wilson.

HAMILTON—R. Boyle, T. Adams, W. Lomas, W. Stephenson, J. Elliott, W. Marshall, J. Lawson, W. Gilchrist, J. Poore, W. Sturbridge, W. P. Lacey, and J. Cook.

Q—2. What Minister is taken into the Annual List?

A.—Timothy Natrass.

Q—3. What Preachers remain on trial?

A.—R. Stephenson, who has travelled four years; J. R.

Swift, Joseph Markham, James Haldershaw, J. Milner, who have travelled three years; W. Cook, who has travelled two years; W. Bee, and J. Smith, who have travelled one year.

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

A.—M. Gray, (received from 1856,) W. Clayton, T. Baldwin, G. Watson, and C. Gilmore.

Q.—5. *What Preachers have ceased to travel?*

A.—R. Poulter, R. Par-sons, and R. Painiin.

Q.—6. *How are the Ministers stationed for the ensuing year?*

A.—In the following order:—

TORONTO DISTRICT.

Toronto :

J. Edgar.
J. Markham.

Etobicoke :

T. Crompton.
J. Clarke.
W. Jolley, Sup.

Markham :

J. Garner.
W. Cooke.

Darlington :

E. Barrass.
J. Haldershaw.

Albion :

R. Cade.

Scarboro :

G. Wood.

Laskay :

W. Lyle.
J. Milner.

Reach :

T. Foster.

Kingston :

J. Nattrass.

Portland :

J. Lacey.
W. Clayton.

Napanee :

J. Simpson.

Bath Road :

W. Gledhill.

Osprey and St. Vincent :

R. Stephenson.

Brampton :

R. Boyle
J. R. Swi

Hamilton :

W. Step

Walpole :

W. Lom
J. Smith

Galt and Ble

J. Ryder
T. Nattr
Bro. R.
heim, an

Wuelph :

W. New

Orangeville :

M. Gray

Bro. W. J. I

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

Brampton :

R. Boyle.
J. R. Swift, last 6 months.

Hamilton :

W. Stephenson.

Walpole :

W. Lomas.
J. Smith.

Galt and Blenheim :

J. Ryder.
T. Natrass.
Bro. R. to live at Blenheim, and Bro. N. at Galt.

Suelph :

W. Newton.

Orangeville :

M. Gray.

Peel and Wellesly :

W. Bee.
C. Gilmore.
J. Towler, Sup.

London :

W. Rowe.
T. Dudley.

Brantford and Paris :

T. Adams.
J. R. Swift, first 6 months

Brant :

T. Baldwin.

Bosanquet :

G. Watson.

Walsingham :

R. Paul.

Bro. W. J. Dean is removing to England, through ill health.



Primitive Methodist Church, Canada,

Deaths.	Fallen.	Local Preachers.	Class Leaders.	Chapels.	Other Preaching Places.	Parsonages.	Sabbath Schools	Sabbath School Teachers	Sabbath School Scholars.	Relief Fund.	Conference Fund.
										£ s. d.	£ s. d.
...	19	11	9	3	3	69	343	2 1 0	2 1 0
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2	7	7	9	4	3	1	2	6	45	0 13 4	0 14 4
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...	5	2	4	..	6	..	2	0 18 9	0 18 9
2	5	1	5	..	8	0 8 0	0 8 0
..	3	2	5	..	13	0 8 0	0 8 0
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3	24	13	12	3	13	1	2	14	70	1 19 0	1 19 0
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..	28	180	153	71	150	..	33	277	1426	23 9 11½	23 9 11½
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COMMITTEES.

Q.—9. *Who compose the Committees?*

A.— (1.) GENERAL COMMITTEE.

President and Secretary of Conference, and English Representative, with J. Davison, T. Crompton, J. Garner, R. Boyle, E. Barrass, T. Adams, J. Lacey, W. Stephenson, W. Lawson, R. Walker, W. P. Lacey, J. Lawson, J. Kent, P. Coleman, G. Wright, C. McGinn, T. Cook, and R. Sargant. Meetings to be held in the Mission Office, Toronto, at one o'clock, P.M., on the second Wednesday in July, October, January, and the day before next Conference, at nine o'clock, A.M.

(2.) THE GENERAL MISSIONARY COMMITTEE shall be composed of the Members of the General Committee. Its Meetings shall be held at the same times and places as those of the General Committee. All the Missionaries are especially desired to send their Quarterly Reports to the Secretary, at the Mission Office, King Street, Toronto, *one week, at least*, before the time of holding the Quarterly Meetings of the General Missionary Committee. Three Members of these Committees being present at the time of meeting, are competent to act. R. WALKER, Esq., *Treasurer*; J. DAVISON, *Secretary*.

(3.) THE EXECUTIVE.—The Executive of the two above-named Committees shall be composed of the following persons:—President and Secretary of Conference, W. Lawson, R. Walker, R. Sargant, J. Lawson, T. Crompton, R. Boyle, W. Marshall, and J. Davison. Meetings to be held at the the Mission Office, King Street, Toronto, on the second Wednesday in each month, at one o'clock, P.M.

(4.) DISTRICT COMMITTEES.

1. TORONTO.—T. Crompton, R. Walker, W. Daniels, T. Lawson, J. Davison, and J. Edgar, *Secretary*.

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

President
Boyle, J. Edgar
and J. Davison

The same
J. Davison, S

(7.)
The same
J. Davison, S

(8.)
President and
Delegates, and
Conference.

(9.) SUPER
J. Lacey, T.
Boyle, Elliott,
Secretary.

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The followin
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(5.) PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

President and Secretary of Conference, E. Barrass, R. Boyle, J. Edgar, W. Lawson, R. Walker, Thomas Crompton, and J. Davison, *Secretary*

(6.) BOOK ROOM COMMITTEE.

The same as the EXECUTIVE. R. Walker, *Treasurer*, J. Davison, *Secretary*.

(7.) CHILDREN'S FUND COMMITTEE.

The same as the EXECUTIVE. R. Walker, *Treasurer*, J. Davison, *Secretary*.

(8.) PREPARATORY COMMITTEE.

President and Secretary of Conference, General Committee Delegates, and General Secretary, to meet the day before Conference.

(9.) SUPERNUMERARY FUND COMMITTEE.—Composed of J. Lacey, T. Crompton, Adams, Rowe, Davison, Edgar, Boyle, Elliott, Lawson, Walker, Raper, and E. Barrass, *Secretary*.

Q.—10. *Where and when shall the next Annual Meeting of the Ministers' Association be held?*

A.—At Toronto, on Wednesday, April 14th, 1858.

Q.—11. *Where and when shall the next Annual Conference be held?*

A.—In Alice Street Church, Toronto, on Friday, April 6th, 1858, to commence at 9 o'clock in the morning.

The following persons are members of the next Conference:—W. Lyle, *General Committee Delegate*; J. Edgar, *English Representative*; R. Walker, *General Treasurer*; J. Davison, *General Secretary*, R. Boyle, *Friendly Society's Agent*.

Q—12. *When and where shall the next District Meeting be held? and by which of the General Committee Delegates shall each be attended? Ans.*

(1.) **TORONTO.**—At Hainstock's Chapel, Etobicoke Circuit on Wednesday, April 7th, 1858, E. Barrass, G. C. D.

(2.) **HAMILTON.**—At John Street Church, on Wednesday April 7th, 1858, W. Rowe, G. C. D. Each Meeting to commence at 9 o'clock in the morning.

Q—13. *What are the further Regulations of Conference?*

(1.) That on the evening preceeding the next Toronto District Meeting, Bro. T. Crompton, preach a Sermon on the mutual duties of the Ministers and Members of the Church.

(2.) That a general Camp Meeting be held in the vicinity of Kingston or Portland, in the month of June, under the direction of Bro. J. Lacey, and with the assistance of the Ministers on the eastern part of the Toronto District. Also one in the vicinity of Etobicoke or Markham, if practicable.

(3.) That the Brethren forming a Deputation from the Primitive Methodist Eastern Conference, United States, consisting of the Rev. C. Spurr, Mr. W. Donaldson, and Mr. T. Foster, be cordially accepted by this Conference; and that their credentials and statements be considered satisfactory.

(4.) That the Report of the Committee appointed to confer with the above mentioned Brethren, in relation to forming a fraternal union, be confirmed; and the duty of carrying out the necessary provisions of the Report, be given up to the General Committee.

(5.) That this Conference send a Deputation to the Eastern States Conference, if it can change the time of its session which is to be held in Brooklyn, N. Y. on the second week in April, 1858.

(6.) That each Station provide a proper chest or safe, in which to deposit its Chapel Deeds, and other Records; and that it be in the special care of the Superintendent Minister or Steward.

That having
Ministers' Salaries
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That having carefully deliberated on the subject of Ministers' Salaries, in consequence of the increased expenditure in all articles of produce, the Conference unanimously adopted the following scale :—

(7.) That a married Minister in full Connexion, have £25 per quarter.

(8.) That the salary of all married Ministers, on probation, £20 per quarter.

(9.) That the salary of single Ministers in full Connexion, £12 per quarter, exclusive of Board and Horse keep.

(10.) That the salary of single Ministers on probation, be 10 per quarter, with Board and Horse keep.

(11.) That if a Circuit chose to make any arrangement with its Minister, to grant him more allowance than is stated in the rule, it shall be at liberty to do so.

(12.) That the first Quarterly Meeting on each Station, after Conference, shall make the needful regulations to raise the amounts for the Minister's Salary, and where they think expedient, they shall form a Committee, to solicit from the regular hearers quarterly contributions on behalf of the cause of God.

(13.) That in all Stations where the Minister's Horse is not provided for, by the Station, the horse allowance for Cities £3 5s. per quarter; and for Towns and Country Stations, 2 10s. per quarter.

(14.) That the following grants of Missionary Monies appropriated to the various Mission Stations for the ensuing year :—*Kingston*, £75 ; *Portland*, £75 ; *Osprey and Vincent*, £30 ; *Galt and Blenheim*, 100 ; *Perl and Wellesley*, 70 ; *Branford and Paris*, £90 ; *Bosanquet*, £40 ; *North Road*, £7 10s. ; *Napinee*, £70 ; *Guelph*, £75 ; *Orangeville*, £50 ; *London*, £190 ; *Brant*, £53 ; *Walsingham*, £.0.

(15.) The General Committee Delegates to the District Meetings, if practicable, be appointed Delegates to the ensuing Conference.

(16.) That J. Davison be appointed to the offices of Missionary Secretary, and Book Steward; and that the English Conference be respectfully desired to pay half of his allowances; the Canadian Conference to pay the other half. Also, that 20 per cent. be allowed to our Circuit and Mission Book Stewards, for selling Connexional Books; and 10 per cent. on those from other Houses, the managers of our Sunday Schools, to be desired to purchase through our Book Room. The location of the Mission House and Book Room, to be in King Street Toronto.

(17.) That in future when an investigation is entered into by Conference, respecting the moral character of any of its members, the hearers shall be required to withdraw during such investigation.

(18.) That in the *peculiar state* of Darlington Circuit, it be allowed to appropriate three-fifths of its *own* Missionary Income, for the ensuing year.

(19.) That Galt and Blenheim, be united as one Station; and designated Galt and Blenheim Station.

(20.) That St. Vincent Mission be designated, Osprey and St. Vincent Mission.

(21.) That the Conference sanction the London authorities in securing a plot of land on which to erect a Church; and that Mr. W. Lawson be appointed to assist the Superintendent of that Station, in the necessary arrangements.

(22.) That the Report of the Committee on the Church property Schedules, be adopted.

(23.) That the period of Ministers removals be, May 18th, and that they be in their new Stations, May 31st.

(24.) That Bro. J. Lacey, deliver the Ordination address to the young Ministers at the next Conference.

(25.) That Conference,— Bro. J. Davison the Pastoral Religious Sc English Prim

(26.) That to the Legisla on the necess the Marriage all Clergyme J. Edgar to and Bro. W.

(27.) That our Missiona mended to for Schools, whe

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(29.) That Bro. J. Davison Adams for hi

(30.) That R. Walker, fo Barrass, for Committees o services as G President and

(31.) That Bro. M. Gra

(25.) That Bro. W. Rowe, write the address to the English Conference,—Bro. Crompton, that to the Western States,—Bro. J. Davison, that to the Eastern States,—the President, the Pastoral Address,—and Bro. R. Boyle, an article on the Religious Services of the present Conference, for the English Primitive Methodist Magazine.

(26.) That a Petition from this Conference be presented to the Legislature, in favour of a Prohibitory Liquor Law, one on the necessity of abolishing Sabbath Traffic, and another on the Marriage Bill question, especially in reference to placing all Clergymen in this Province, on a legal equality;—Bro. J. Edgar to draw up the *first*, Bro. E. Barrass the *second*, and Bro. W. Rowe the *last*.

(27.) That to awaken greater earnestness and effort in our Missionary operations in the coming year, it is recommended to form Juvenile Missionary Societies in our Sabbath Schools, wherever practicable.

(28.) That we, as a Conference of Ministers and Lay Brethren, record our grateful thanks to Almighty God, for having enabled us to add 51 Members to our Body, besides making up a loss of 594 by removals, fallen, and deaths, with 16 reported *too many*, last year.

(29.) That the thanks of our Conference be given to Bro. J. Davison for his Conference Sermon, and to Bro. T. Adams for his Ordination Charge.

(30.) That the thanks of Conference be given to Bro. R. Walker, for his services as General Treasurer; to Bro. E. Barrass, for efficient services rendered to the Connexional Committees during the year; and to Bro. J. Lacey for his services as General Committee Delegate; and to the retiring President and Secretary of Conference.

(31.) That the thanks of the Conference be presented to Bro. M. Gray, for the gift of one acre of land in *Brant*, for

Connexional purposes; to Bro. C. Maginn, for one acre of land in Osprey, on which to erect a Church; to Bro. I. Wilson, for half an acre in Garafraxa, and to J. Ketchum, Esq., Jun., for a lot in the Village of Melville, for a similar purpose.

(32.) That the thanks of this Conference be given to Bro. W. Lawson, for his long and valuable services as Missionary Secretary, and that a superior copy of the Holy Scriptures be presented to him, as a token of affectionate esteem.

(33.) That the following sums be paid by the respective Circuits, and Missions, for the ensuing year, to the Children's Fund:—Toronto, £23; Etobicoke, £16 10s.; Markham, £15 10s.; Darlington, £9 10s.; Albion, £11 10s.; Scarborough, £9 10s.; Laskay, £11 10s.; Reach, £10 10s.; Kingston, £10 10s.; Portland, £11 10s.; Napanee, £9 10s.; Bath Road, £7 10s.; Osprey and St. Vincent, £5 10s.; Brampton, £15 10s.; Hamilton, £11 10s.; Walpole, £10 10s.; Galt and Blenheim, £16 10s.; Guelph, £9 10s.; Orangeville, £8 10s.; Peel and Wellesley, £11 10s.; London, £14; Brantford and Paris, £11 10s.; Brant, £7 10s.; Bosanquet, £8; Walsingham, £8 10s.

(34.) That the Conference acknowledges its gratitude to the friends in Brampton, for the hospitable manner in which they entertained the Delegates.

(35.) That in humble reliance on Almighty God, to favour us with a General Revival, we set apart the first Friday in October next, as a day of prayer and fasting; and that each of our Ministers be desired to preach to his people previously, on these duties, and solemnly invoke a larger Baptism of the Holy Spirit from heaven, on our labours.

Q.—36. V
ending April

A.—

Balance on hand
Cash from Toronto
" " Hamilton

Q.—37. V
year ending A

A.—

Balance on hand
Cash from Toronto
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Q.—38. V
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Q.—36. What is the state of the RELIEF FUND, for the year ending April 30th, 1857?

A.—

Dr.	Cr.
Balance on hand £12 17 9½	By Cash to Gen. Mis. Com.
Cash from Toronto Dist. 24 9 3	for W. J. Deane's illness. £13 18 0
“ “ Hamilton “ 14 7 6	By Cash for T. Crompton's
	illness. Dorthg on Ct. 5 6 10½
	Balance on hand 32 9 8
£51 14 6½	£51 14 6½

Q.—37. What is the state of the CONFERENCE FUND, for the year ending April 30th, 1857?

A.—

Dr.	Cr.
Balance on hand £0 1 5	To Printing Conf. Minutes £7 0 0
Cash from Toronto Dist. 24 9 3	“ Binding Di. t. Reports 0 2 0
“ “ Hamilton “ 14 7 6	“ Printing & Shedale Book 2 8 9
	“ Printing Report Forms 3 15 0
	“ Delegates exp. to Conf. 20 5 2
	“ Sunday expen. at Conf. 1 18 9
	“ Balance on hand 3 8 6
£38 18 2	£38 18 2

Q.—38. What is the state of the CHILDREN'S FUND, for the year ending April 30th, 1857?

A.—

Dr.	Cr.
To Cash from Circuits and	To Balance due to Treas'r £2 13 7½
Missions £201 0 0	“ Cash paid on Account 231 12 3½
Balance due to Treasurer 33 5 11	
£234 5 11	£234 5 11

Q.—37. What amount of MISSIONARY MONEY has been raised the past year, ending April 30th, 1857?

A.—

To Balance last year	£504 16 5½
Receipt for the year 1857	1528 17 11
	£2033 17 4½

For distinct particulars see Missionary Report.

THE
Conference Pastoral Address,
TO THE MEMBERS
Of the Primitive Methodist Church, Canada.

DEARLY BELOVED,—“ Grace and peace be multiplied unto you, through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who hath called us to glory and virtue.”

In again addressing you a fraternal epistle, we feel bound to thank God the Father of mercies, for the blessings vouchsafed to us all during the past year ; and for the manifestations of his presence during the sittings of Conference, held in the town of Brampton.

All the services connected with this occasion have been of a highly interesting character, having been graciously favored with the divine influence. The unity of the Spirit has been enjoyed ; and brotherly love has prevailed. We have found, that as “ iron sharpeneth iron, so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend ;” and that the mutual converse and counsel of brethren is delightful and instructive. While bowing together at the throne of the heavenly grace our souls have been quickened with desire for the salvation of our Membership and Congregations, and for the prosperity of the Universal Church of Christ ; to whom, with the Father and Spirit, be glory, dominion, and power, for ever and ever. Amen.

Let us remind you, dear Brethren, that personal piety lies at the foundation of true prosperity in the Church. The life of God in our souls will give a meanness for usefulness here, and for glory hereafter. The experience of the great Apostle

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to the Gentiles is far too rare among modern Christians,—“ I am crucified with Christ : nevertheless I live : yet not I, but Christ liveth in me ; and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.” There is too little living with God in the closet : too little walking with him in life’s busy scenes. We profess to believe in the knowledge of salvation by the remission of sins ;—the witness of the Spirit, of our adoption into the heavenly family ;—the entire sanctification of our nature—body, spirit, soul ;—and that we may be preserved in such a state of perfected holiness “ unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Let us, then, “ go on unto perfection ;” and seek and obtain those higher blessings of light, purity, and joy, purchased by the blood of the everlasting covenant. It is from the inward, spiritual life ; that the holy obedience of the Christian flows ; and all the virtues which adorn the child of God, and which, together with the “ work of faith and labour of love,” mark him a power of holy influence in the church and the world, proceed from the same fountain. Oh ! then, live in constant communion with the Saviour, that his grace may be in you, “ as a well of water springing up into everlasting life.”

Next to personal holiness, the importance of *family* religion presses itself on our attention. The family is an institution of God. It is intended to subserve important purposes in the destiny of the human race. He who has placed us in families, has wisely ordained that parents should “ command their children, and household after them ; that they may keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment.” Like Joshua, then, resolve that, “ as for you and your house, you will serve the Lord.” If, as one has remarked, a well-trained family is the best legacy that a parent can leave to the world, train up your children “ in the way in which they should go,” being assured by the word of inspiration that when they are “ old they will not depart from it.” Let the services at our domestic altars be conducted in such a spirit and manner that they may be seasons of hallowed enjoyment,

exerting an untold influence on the moral welfare of our offspring and domestics, amid all the changing scenes of mortal life. Were we, besides the ordinary reading and prayer, to connect singing the praises of God with family worship, as frequently as possible, it would, we think, cause increasing interest to the younger members of the social circle, and also prepare them for taking part in the hymn of praise in the public services of the sanctuary. Seek, then, in faith, the conversion of your children: and, believing rightly, you will attain it. Instruct your families carefully in the doctrines and morals of the gospel, leaving not all the work to your pastors and teachers, and the family shall become what God designed it to be, the *nursery of the church*;—yea, each of you will have a “church in your house.”

And while we attend properly to the spiritual wants of our own children, let the welfare of the young in general share in our best regards, and most earnest Christian efforts. The Sabbath School affords an opportunity of sowing the good seed in the virgin soil, which should be eagerly embraced by all who would lay the foundations of life in the principles of evangelical religion. Here is an important sphere of labour, to which we feel anxious you should direct, with us, most earnest attention. Let the Sabbath School, and the Bible Class, go hand in hand in the work of the conversion of the young. The facts elicited at the Sabbath School Convention, recently held in the city of Kingston, ought to be sufficient to stir up even the sluggish to labor in the good work. And while Romanists are striving to undermine our excellent Common School system, let us watch sedulously the interest of general education, and ply diligently the work of moral training in our Sabbath Schools.

We would also remind you of the obligations of the Sabbath, and of the necessity of rightly improving its sacred hours, so that the day of the Lord may be kept holy. “In holy duties let the day, in holy pleasures pass away.”—Thus shall it greatly aid in the formation of Christian charac-

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ter; and in preparing us for the never-ending Sabbath of the New Jerusalem. Sabbath-breaking is a sin that characterises the present age, in connection with its increasing facilities for travel and the pursuit of commerce. Worldly men seem determined, on our railways, stages, and steamboats, to break through all the restraints of divine and human laws, and to outrage the moral sense of the public mind, by robbing God of his Sabbath, and sowing broadcast the seeds of vice and infidelity in our young Canada. Surely it becomes the disciples of Christ to bear a public and faithful testimony against such high-handed wickedness. By example and by precept, let us reprove the Sabbath-breaking of the age.

We invite your attention to another topic, namely, the great Philanthropic, Moral, and Religious Institutions of the day; such as the Temperance cause; the movements in order to the Abolition of Slavery, and the removal of that plague-spot from the heart of the neighbouring Republic; and Bible, Tract, and Missionary Societies. Let all these have our sympathy and co-operation. We most affectionately entreat all our Members to abstain from the bewitching cup of inebriety; and to aid those who seek the deliverance of our land from the scourge of drunkenness, by the legal prohibition of the liquor traffic.

We wish to acknowledge your praiseworthy efforts—your liberality, in the past year, in sustaining the Missionary Society; but we have also to admit, from the continued high prices, the necessity of a further advance in your Ministers' salary, which we hope you will cordially approve, and as liberally sustain.

In calling your attention to the ordinances of God's house, we would direct your thoughts especially to prayer and class-meetings. A faithful attendance to these will cause you to relish the more public means of grace, help to keep alive the flame of divine love in your hearts, and lead you to pray much for those who labour among you in the word and doctrine: "ye also helping together by prayer for us." Remember that the Spirit's influence is absolutely needful, to

render effectual the means which we unitedly employ for the conversion of the world. And the Spirit is poured out in answer to prayer. Those among us, as well as in other sections of the Christian church, who have been eminently useful, have been remarkable for prayer, and devotedness to God.

To our Class-Leaders and Stewards,—Brethren, you occupy important positions in the Church: yours are responsible stations. You, with our Local Preachers, are helpers of the regular pastors; and on the proper performance of your duties depends very much the healthy state of the church, both in regard to piety and finances. In order that we may “give ourselves to prayer, and to the ministry of the word,” we hope you will prevent unnecessary burdens of financial matters from resting on the minds, or occupying the time of your Ministers;—such things should not be allowed to interfere with their studies, and pastoral duties.

May our Class-Leaders imitate the “Good Shepherd,” going before their flocks,—having their own souls alive to God,—“being filled with the Spirit,”—so that out of the abundance of their hearts they may speak to their charge words of warning, direction, and comfort; which they themselves receive from the Mouth—the Book of God. Let us act in union; live in love; walk by faith; and the very God of peace shall be with us, and sanctify us wholly; and we pray “that your whole body, and soul, and spirit, may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of a good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

In behalf of the Conference,

WILLIAM LYLE, PRESIDENT.
JAMES EDGAR, SECRETARY.

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ADDRESS OF THE CONFERENCE

OF THE

Primitive Methodist Church in Canada,

TO THE

CONFERENCE IN ENGLAND.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—It affords us considerable pleasure to address you from this, our fourth Annual Conference, knowing that you take a lively interest in our movements in this great Colony, and rejoice to hear of our advancement.

We beg to assure you, we have read with deep interest and much profit your last Conferential Address to the Churches in Foreign Stations, and highly regard it for the estimable cautions and directions it contains. We feel encouraged, in labouring for God, to know we have your sympathies, and that your prayers are offered to the Great Head of the Church in our behalf. Our great anxiety, as a part of the great Primitive Methodist family, is, to tread in the footsteps of our fathers, and faithfully imitate their example; being convinced that to do this will be the surest way of promoting the glory of God, and the salvation of our fellow-men.

You will be happy to learn, that in the various Sessions of our Conference we have been greatly favoured with the assistance of the Holy Spirit; and the utmost unanimity of sentiment and feeling has existed among the brethren. At no previous Conference did our Ministers and Lay-Brethren evince so deep an interest in the well-being of our Church, as at this; and at none was there such an entire consecration to God. This may, in part, be attributed to the various religious services held in connection with the Conference, and which were eminently of a spirit-refreshing nature.

RESIDENT.
SECRETARY.

We regret that our increase for the year has been so small ; but this is attributable, partly to an error in the returns of last year, and partly to the great number of removals which have taken place since the last Conference. These removals are one of the many obstacles lying in our pathway. Had we ministers, whom we could send after our members, they would still be in church-fellowship with us, but having none we can spare, they become lost to us, and are incorporated with other churches ; and yet, with these drawbacks, our Church was never in a more sound and healthy state ;— peace is within our walls, and prosperity within our palaces.

We have passed, after due deliberation, certain financial measures, and made certain financial arrangements, for which there was a great necessity, and which we earnestly hope will secure your approbation.

The appointment of Brother John Davison to the joint offices of Book Steward and General Missionary Secretary, we trust will prove satisfactory to you. In the judgment and business habits of Bro. Davison we can confide ; and his appointment to the offices mentioned was with the unanimous desire of the Conference. Our retiring Secretary, Brother Lawson, carries with him our thanks, for having faithfully discharged the onerous duties of his office for several years past.

The presence and assistance of the Rev. Mr. Spurr, and J. Donaldson and T. Foster, Esqrs., the Deputation from the United States Eastern Conference, added much to the interest and pleasure of our Sitzings. We have formed a fraternal union with the Conference these bretheren so ably represented ; and have made certain arrangements, which we fondly hope will cement the union, and conduce greatly to their, and our prosperity.

We cannot refrain from expressing our deep sorrow, that, from the failure of his health, Brother W. J. Dean is compelled to return to his native land. By the urbanity of his manners, and Christian consistency of his conduct, he has

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deared himself to our hearts; and while we would submit to the Divine will, yet we reluctantly part with him; and we shall not fail to pray, that by his return to a country whose climate is more suited to his constitution, his life may be spared; and that with increased usefulness he may labour in the vineyard of his Master.

It is with pain we see, that while our openings in this Province are increasing, our labourers are being cut off. Can you not, dear Fathers and Brethren, do something extra for us? While we have done considerably ourselves, and our people have given liberally to sustain our Church funds, yet it is evident to us, our movements must be greatly circumscribed, unless largely, for a time at least, aided by you.

In conclusion, permit us to say, we have been much gratified in witnessing the constant development of the life and power of Primitive Methodism in our father-land; and trust, as a section of the Church militant, it will continue to enjoy, in an ever enlarged measure, the approbation of God.

“Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.”

Signed by order, and in behalf of the

Primitive Methodist Church in Canada,

WILLIAM LYLE, PRESIDENT.

JAMES EDGAR, SECRETARY.

Brampton, 22nd April, 1857.

ADDRESSES OF THE STATIONS,

&c.,

FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

President of Conference, Rev. W. Lyle, Laskay P.O.
Secretary of Conference, Rev. J. Edgar, Toronto.
Connexional Treasurer, R. Walker, Esq., Toronto.
Missionary Secretary and Book Steward, Rev. J. Davis,
 King Street, Toronto.

Toronto, Rev. J. Edgar, Agnes Street, Toronto.
Etobicoke, Rev. T. Crompton, Humber P.O., Clairville.
Markham, Rev. J. Garner, Victoria Square P.O.
Darlington, Rev. E. Barrass, Bowmanville P.O.
Albion, Rev. R. Cade, Bolton Village P.O.
Scarboro', Rev. G. Wood.
Laskay, Rev. W. Lyle, Laskay P.O.
Reach, Rev. T. Foster, Epsom P.O., Ontario County.
Kingston, Rev. J. Nattrass, Kingston P.O.
Portland, Rev. J. Lacey, Sydenham P.O., *via* Kingston.
Napanee, Rev. J. Simpson, Napanee P.O.
Bath Road, Rev. W. Gledhill.
Osprey and St. Vincent, Rev. R. Stephenson, Osprey.

Brampton, Rev. R. Boyle, Brampton, Chinguacousv.
Hamilton, Rev. W. Stephenson, Hughson Street, Hamilton.
Walpole, Rev. W. Lomas, Selkirk P.O.
Galt and Blenheim, Rev. I. Ryder, Washington P.O.
Guelph, Rev. W. Newton, Guelph P.O.
Orangeville, Rev. M. Gray, Orangeville, *via* Brampton.
Peel and Wellesly, Rev. W. Bee, Elora P.O., Wellington C.
London, Rev. W. Rowe, London P.O.
Brantford and Paris, Rev. T. Adams, Brantford P.O.
Brant, Rev. T. Baldwin, Durham P.O.
Bosanquet, Rev. G. Watson, Pine Hill P.O.,
Walsingham, Rev. R. Paul, Town Line, Walsingham.

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

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WILLIAM LYLE, *President*.

JAMES EDGAR, *Secretary*.