

EXTRACTS
FROM THE
M I N U T E S
OF THE
SEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
MINISTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE PEOPLE DENOMINATED
BIBLE CHRISTIANS,
HELD IN
THE BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHAPEL, BOWMANVILLE:

*Begun on Thursday, 6th, and ended on Thursday,
the 13th day of June, 1861.*

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONFERENCE,
AND SOLD BY ALL THE ITINERANT PREACHERS.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

Bowmanville:
W. R. CLIMIE, PRINTER, "STATESMAN" OFFICE.

1861.

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Question 1.—

Answer.—W

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PREACH

John Hicks E

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John Brown T

Thomas Gree

John Edward

Robert Hurley

John William

Joseph Hoidg

Arthur Doble,

John Pinch,

Henry Steven

John Hooper,

David Cantlon

Thomas R. H

George Bodle,

Gerrance T. C

Andrew Gordo

Isaac Ashley

*Brother J. B. T

JOSEPH HOINC

Question 2.—V

Answer—

Paul Robins

John Langd

John Hicks

EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

1861.

Question 1.—Who compose this Conference ?

Answer.—William Hooper, President of the Conference, 1860.

Paul Robins, Secretary	do	
John Chapple, Superintendent of the Cobourg District.		
Henry Ebbott,	do	Wisconsin do.
John Vanstone, Representative of the Cobourg District.		
William Gilbert	do	Bowmanville do.
Thomas Ford,	do	Exeter do.

PREACHERS SENT BY THEIR SEVERAL DISTRICT MEETINGS.

John Hicks Eynon, sent by the Bowmanville District Meeting.

Abraham Morris,	do	do	do	
John Brown Tapp*	do	Cobourg	do	do.
Thomas Green	do	Bowmanville	do	do.
John Edwards	do	Cobourg	do	do.
Robert Hurley	do	Bowmanville	do	do.
John Williams	do	Cobourg	do	do.
Joseph Hoidge,	do	Exeter	do	do.
Arthur Doble,	do	Cobourg	do	do.
John Pinch,	do	Bowmanville	do	do.
Henry Stevens,	do	Cobourg	do	do.
John Hooper,	do	Exeter	do	do.
David Cantlon,	do	Bowmanville	do	do.
Thomas R. Hull,	do	Cobourg	do	do.
George Bodle,	do	Bowmanville	do	do.
Gerrance T. Colwell,	do	Cobourg	do	do.
Andrew Gordon,	do	Exeter	do	do.
Isaac Ashley	do	Cobourg	do	do.

*Brother J. B. Tapp did not attend the Conference:

JOSEPH HORNE was elected President and PAUL ROBINS was elected Secretary.]

Question 2.—Who remain on the list of APPROVED PREACHERS ?

Answer—

Paul Robins,	George Haycraft, (Superannuated,)
John Langdon, (Superannuated,)	Arthur Doble,
John Hicks Eynon, (Superannuated,)	John Pinch,*

Abraham Morris,
John Brown Tapp,
Thomas Green,
John Edwards,
Robert Hurley,
John Chapple,
John Williams,
William Hooper,
Henry Ebbott,
Joseph Hoidge,

Henry Stevens,
William Roberts Roach,
George Parsons,
John Hooper,
David Cantlon,
Thomas Hayward Hull,
Gerrance Tink Colwell,
Isaac Ashley,
George Bodle,
Andrew Gordon.

*[Brother Pinch is entered again in his proper place on the list according to a resolution of the Conference when his name was left off in consequence of a doubtful state of health.]

Question 3.—Who remain on TRIAL?

Answer—Edward Roberts, William Jolliffe, Thomas Courtice Pickard.
These have travelled THREE YEARS.

Henry James Colwell, Henry James Nott.

These have travelled TWO YEARS.

Adam Curry, Archibald Clark.

These have travelled ONE YEAR.

Question 4.—What is the state of our Christian Experience?

Answer—The more we know of Christ and the religion of the Bible, the deeper is our sense of the importance and blessedness thereof. Our soul's rest on the Saviour with satisfaction and hope, and we trust we shall only live to do our Heavenly Father's will. All the brethren spoke of enjoying a sense of God's favor, and some testified that they enjoy a deeper work, even the entire sanctification of their souls. There were also expressions of peculiar attachment to the Bible Christians as a section of the church, and especially to each other as fellow laborers in the gospel, and strong hopes of greater prosperity. Many friends enjoyed the privilege of uniting with us while we worshipped God and told each other of our joys and prospects.

Question 5.—What is the spiritual state of the work among us?

Answer—It is the conviction of some of the brethren that there has been an increase of Christian Principle and power on some stations during the year; and, after supplying the vacancies arising from removals, deaths and other causes, there has been a net increase of 192 persons who meet in church fellowship with us. We nevertheless have to mourn over a loss on some stations, and think great searchings of heart should take place among us all, as we are fully convinced we ought, and, with the necessaryunction and zeal, might be rendered more extensively useful in spreading vital Christianity among our fellow-creatures. May preachers and people experience a deeper heavenly baptism, and then we shall doubtless make greater progress for good.

Question 6.—What is the Financial State of the Connexion?

Answer—Cobourg, Bowmanville, Hampton, and Exeter, in addition to bearing their own expenses, devote all their Missionary receipts, amounting to \$1,724, to the promotion of the work beyond them; and the friends at Mariposa purpose taking the same position next year. The rest are Missionary Stations, but Mitchell and Palmyra have drawn only a portion of their own Missionary receipts to meet their deficiencies so that they still furnish a surplus of Missionary money, amounting to \$378. The other Stations are more dependent, some of which have a considerable deficiency; but on the whole there are encouraging indications of improvement. The regular quarterly receipts amount to upwards of \$650 more than last year, and the Missionary receipts have increased above \$1,000.

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Grey.

Orange,
Palmyra
Lisbon.
Yorkville
Little P
Illinois.
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What are the statistics of the Connexion?
Answer.—

Self-Sustaining Circuits.	Itinerant Preachers.	Local Preachers.	Chapels.	Preaching Places.	Deaths.	On Trial.	Members.	Total.	Teachers.	Scholars.
Cobourg.	2	19	9	1	2	46	310	356	104	469
Bowmanville.	2	17	9	1	5	26	311	337	82	325
Hampton.	2	28	9	3	4	34	411	445	68	382
Exeter.	2	17	9	6	2	95	412	507	74	405
Totals in Circuits.	8	81	36	11	13	201	1444	1645	328	1581
MISSIONS.										
Peterboro'.	2	2	3	5	1	7	124	131	6	48
Dummer.	1	4	1	3	1		63	63	7	56
Huntingdon.	1	7	2	7		11	124	135	6	75
Seymour.	1	1	3	4			85	85	12	55
Hungerford.	1	5	2	9	3		94	94		
Perry Town.	1	1	4			4	54	58	24	100
Mariposa.	2	17	8	5	2	8	304	312	63	294
Prince Albert.	1	5	4	2	1	1	77	78	50	100
Pickering.	1	4	1	6			60	60	5	18
Scott.	1	2	2	5	1		25	25		
Oshawa.	1			1		10	50	60	14	50
Mitchell.	2	8	3	8	1	5	242	247	31	337
Clinton.	2	6	4	4	2		71	71	4	25
London.	1	8	2	2		10	60	70	17	130
Dereham.	1	2	2	4		14	58	72	18	72
Grey.	1	6	2	5		1	44	45	10	50
Orange, U. S.	1	12	4	2	2	1	153	154	45	249
Palmyra.	1	14	2	6	1		131	231	50	150
Lisbon.	1			4		5	145	150	22	107
Yorkville.		12	2	7	1	4	140	144	26	115
Little Prairie.	1	2		8	1	1	84	85	10	50
Illinois.		2		3		40	25	65	7	35
Fort Atkinson.				1	1			6	6	
Totals in Missions	23	120	50	101	18	122	2219	2341	427	2116
United Totals	31	201	87	112	31	323	3668	3986	755	3697
Increase		12	8			49	143	192	107	177

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Question 8.—How are the Preachers stationed this year?

Answer.—As follows:

I. COBOURG DISTRICT.

Cobourg. J. Chapple, Port Hope P. O.; A. Clark, Cobourg P. O.; J. B. Tapp.
Peterboro'. G. T. Colwell, Peterboro' P. O.
Dummer. A. Doble, Warsaw P. O. Bro. Doble must devote one-third of his labors to Peterboro', for which service Peterboro' Station shall pay to Dummer \$50.
Huntingdon. J. Gale, from P. E. Island, Ivanhoe P. O.
Hungerford. J. Ashley, Tweed P. O.
Seymour. T. R. Hull, Campbellford P. O.
Perry Town. One from England, Perry Town P. O.
 John Chapple, Superintendent of the District.

II. BOWMANVILLE DISTRICT.

Bowmanville. R. Hurley, Bowmanville P. O.; E. Roberts, Orono P. O.; J. H. Eynon, Superannuated.
Hampton. W. Hooper, One from England, Hampton P. O.; J. Langdon, Sup'd.
Mariposa. D. Cantlon, T. C. Pickard, Little Britain P. O.
Prince Albert. G. Bodle, Reach P. O.
Pickering & Scott. H. Stevens; Another, Brougham P. O.; A. Morris, Uxbridge P. O.
Fenelon. One to be sent, Fenelon Falls P. O. This station to be worked under the superintendence of Bro. Cantlon. W. Hooper, Superintendent of District.

III. EXETER DISTRICT.

Exeter. J. Hooper, H. J. Colwell, Exeter P. O.
Mitchell. P. Robins, A. Curry, Mitchell P. O.
Clinton. F. Green, H. J. Nott, Clinton P. O.
London. Jos. Hoidge, Lodon P. O.
Dereham. J. Edwards, Dereham P. O.
Grey. A. Gordon; Another, Ainleyville P. O.
Orange. U. S. W. R. Roach, Chagrin Falls P. O.
 Joseph Hoidge, Superintendent of District.

IV. WISCONSIN DISTRICT.

Palmyra. J. Williams, Palmyra, Jefferson Co.
Lisbon. G. Parsons; Another, Lisbon P. O., Waukesha Co.
Little Prairie. W. Jolliffe, Little Prairie P. O., Bulworth Co.
Yorkville. H. Ebbot, Yorkville P. O., Racine Co.
Fort Atkinson. One wanted.
Illinois. One to be sent, Richmond P. O., McHenry Co.
 H. Ebbott, Superintendent of District.

1st. *Resolved*, Whereas, the officials of some Stations having obtained loans for assisting in the erection of Chapels, &c., say they understood the money to be a gift, while on other stations from embarrassment, or some other cause, the instalments paid have been taken from the Preacher's salary, we require an annual statement of the state of each Chapel, to be made to the Conference, the same as in England. 2. To obtain any loan in future the parties borrowing must give security to the Conference for the payment of the same. 3. That with regard to loans already made, parties wishing any departure from the terms on which the money was obtained, must communicate with the Secretary, who is appointed to make suitable arrangements and present the same for confirmation to the next Conference.

2. *Resolved*, That as there is a debt of \$4,900 on the Bowmanville Chapel, and the friends desire permission to send a person through the connexion to obtain subscriptions, we accede to their request.

3. *Resolved*, allowed to pay, Huntington, Hugerford—Seymour—Princee Albe Pickering,—Scott—Mitchell—P Clinton—Al London—Dereham—Grey—Cleveland—Wisconsin I

ing expenses.

4. *Resolved*, viz: \$10 a qua

5. *Resolved*, first Wednesda consisting of th retary of the C

6. *Resolved*, Bowmanville f during their sit

Signed on be

PAUL RO

DEAR FRIEND permitted us yo ference, and in privilege to add our Mission S have been real on other Station fulness, both on thousand dollars

A few of our to their everlast are influenced b God in connect that many fall s there is an habi ings and class m some of you, th cessary expense worship, and su we say that in growth in grace, whose shoulders to carry on all o

3. *Resolved*, That the following grants be made to Mission Stations. Peterboro be allowed to pay their deficiency from their Missionary receipts:

Huntington,—All they can raise & \$40, and Preacher's expense to the Station.

Hugerford— Do 40,

Seymour— Do 80,

Prince Albert— Do 50,

Pickering,— Do 50,

Scott— Do 100,

Mitchell—Pay its deficiency from its Missionary receipts.

Clinton—All they can raise and \$200,

London— Do 120,

Dereham— Do 70,

Grey— Do 180, for one Preacher.

Cleveland—All they can raise.

Wisconsin District,—\$200 for furniture, and \$25 towards Brother Williams' traveling expenses.

4. *Resolved*, That the amount for Preacher's children be the same as last year, viz: \$10 a quarter with married Preachers and \$25 with single.

5. *Resolved*, That the next Conference be held at Cobourg, to commence on the first Wednesday in June, 1862, at 8 o'clock A. M. The preparatory committee, consisting of the Superintendent and Representatives of Districts, J. H. Eynon, Secretary of the Conference and the Missionary Secretary, to meet the preceding day.

6. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Conference be tendered to the friends in Bowmanville for the very hospitable manner in which they have entertained them during their sittings.

Signed on behalf of and by order of the Conference.

PAUL ROBINS, *Secretary*.

JOSEPH HOIDGE, *President*.

ADDRESS TO THE SOCIETY.

DEAR FRIENDS:—Another ecclesiastical year has run its course, and God has permitted us your Ministers and Representatives to assemble in our Annual Conference, and in this associated capacity we regard it as a duty and esteem it as a privilege to address a few words to you. We find by our returns that in some of our Mission Stations and Circuits very gracious outpourings of the Holy Spirit have been realized, and hundreds have been hopefully converted to God; while on other Stations there has been a retrogressive movement. As a cause of thankfulness, both on your part and ours, our Missionary receipts have increased over one thousand dollars, and our Quarterly receipts over six hundred.

A few of our friends have proved the value of Christianity in death, and are gone to their everlasting rest. As a Conference we think many of our church members are influenced by pure motives and a single eye—deeply interested in the cause of God in connection with the denomination to which they belong, but still we think that many fall short of being what God would have them be. In many instances there is an habitual neglect of week evening appointments, especially prayer meetings and class meetings. We are sorry to learn, in different parts, from our leaders that some of you, though quite able, are unwilling to bear a due proportion of the necessary expenses in building, repairing, lighting, cleaning and heating our places of worship, and supporting the ministry. We hope our friends will bear with us when we say that in our opinion remissness in the above duties is detrimental to your growth in grace, dishonoring to Jehovah, and unjust and discouraging to those on whose shoulders the great weight of the burden lies. The policy of our church is to carry on all our affairs with the least possible expense, and we hope that a will

see the propriety of uniting heartily with their fellow members in every good word and work. Again we suggest to you the importance of taking a deeper interest in our Sabbath Schools as visitors, contributors or teachers. We would recommend to every member the very great advantage to themselves and others of occupying some specific sphere of action, such as a Sabbath School Teacher, a Tract Distributor, a Family and Sick Visitor, a Local Preacher, an Exhorter, or some similar duty. Why should I be in God's Vineyard and yet have no department of his work assigned me? Let us be Working Christians and we shall be healthy, happy and useful. In some cases, to our view, members are too ready to carry their difficulties into Civil Courts instead of following the directions of the Scriptures as set forth and enjoined in our rules of Society. We think all difficulties between parties should be settled if possible in the Church. Dear friends, are not some of you too much conformed to this world in dress, furniture and style of living generally? We are aware that you find it difficult to keep clear of fashions and customs which are all but forced upon you by the predominating influence of the spirit of an unholy world, but still we hope that you will turn away from every practice condemned by the Bible and your own enlightened conscience.

'Tis Holiness and nothing short of it can fit us for the enjoyment of God either in time or eternity. We wish as a Church to be one—Preachers, Leaders and Members,—one in faith, one in affection, one in pursuit, and at length one in Heaven for ever.

PAUL ROBINS, *Secretary.*

JOSEPH HOIDGE, *President.*

ADDRESS TO THE ENGLISH CONFERENCE.

FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—We rejoice in the opportunity of addressing you once more from our Annual Assembly, and thank the Giver of all good that the lives of all our preachers have been preserved through another year. Some indications, also, of Jehovah's approbation and saving power have been granted us. In several instances (O! that they were more numerous) the sinner has been awakened to a sense of his lost condition, and the penitent brought to the sinner's Friend and obtained redemption in His blood, while believers have taken a firmer hold of the Crucified and realized an increased conformity to His likeness. Nevertheless we are not without deep conviction that matters are not with us as they should be. We, ourselves, and the people of our charge require a much larger effusion of the Holy Spirit to engage all our powers earnestly and constantly in the all-important work of glorifying God and winning others to the same ennobling and heavenly employment. It grieves us that our progress is not uniform and universal: while some stations have experienced encouraging revivals and an increase of members, we cannot but feel a degree of sadness when we look at others.

Evil, as well as good, we believe, attaches itself to the very general practice of holding Protracted Meetings during the Winter season in this country. It has led in numerous instances, we fear, to undue trust in occasional efforts, and to laxity in that constant attention to christian duty so essential to a healthy state of piety. And we doubt not but many have mistaken the impressions and emotions connected with these services for real conversion. In other instances, when converted, instead of finding themselves connected with a people whose hearts are uniformly burning with love to Christ and souls, are only associated with persons whose religious feeling and effort are fitful and temporary; the influence of which soon saps the vitality of their Christianity. It is with painful feelings we state our conviction that an undue reliance on occasional efforts has, among other things, tended very extensively to lower the standard of piety in this privileged Province.

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It is with no small degree of pleasure that we observe your attention drawn more fully to the wants of Canada, and that you intend to send out three additional preachers when suitable persons offer themselves. It is a consideration as pleasing to ourselves, as it doubtless is to you, that while some taken out in this Province have turned aside from us not one sent out by the Committee and Conference in England have done so. Our great want at present is a sufficient number of men, vigorous in health, strong in intellect, deeply attached to the Bible Christian cause, possessing acceptable talents, but, above all, filled with the Holy Ghost, and willing to employ all their time and energies in winning souls to Christ and bringing up the Church in the faith and practice of the gospel. May God touch the hearts of such young men in England; and may they speedily stand in our ranks on the side of primitive Christianity in Canada.

A Resolution has been carried in our Conference expressive of our willingness to effect an interchange of preachers with P. E. Island, but when we come to the point of actually carrying out these arrangements, by furnishing the men, we find ourselves at a dead stand. The preachers here, having greater scope, are not in the same difficulty as the Brethren on the Island, and while in deference to you it is likely brethren here would consent to leave Canada for that other field of labor, yet none appear at present desirous of changing nor convinced of their duty to do so, nor does the Conference here feel itself in a position to make it obligatory on any brother. We, however, do not object to the change, but request you to open a correspondence on the subject with any of the brethren that you wish to go.

Growing infirmities, especially of his wife, has caused Br. J. B. Tapp to request rest during the next year, with which request we have felt it our duty to comply. From the same causes we are obliged to request you to superannuate Bro. A. Morris, who, after 31 years of itinerating toil, no longer finds himself equal to the duties and labors of that sphere, especially as severe affliction of his wife, who has stood by his side in the ministry, renders it at present next to impossible for her to bear the fatigue of removals.

We are thankful to say that our Conference has been harmonious and refreshing, and the public religious services have been well attended and marked with manifestations of the Divine presence and influence, and we part from each other with fresh resolves to lay ourselves out for usefulness. Hoping to report greater success at the next Conference if spared to meet again, and at last with you to come before the Lord of the harvest, bringing our sheaves with us.

In behalf of the Conference

JOSEPH HOIDGE, *President.*

PAUL ROBINS, *Secretary.*

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