

MINUTES  
OF THE  
CONFERENCE, &c.

The Wesleyan Missions in the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland—commenced towards the close of the last century by the Rev. WILLIAM BLACK—being constituted a distinct affiliated connexion, the *Minutes* of several conversations of the Ministers of those Provinces and of the Bermudas, assembled in Conference at Halifax on the 17th of July, 1855, under the Presidency of the Reverend Dr. Beecham, (the Deputation from England,) are now published as the Minutes of the first Conference of the WESLEYAN CONNEXION, or CHURCH, of EASTERN BRITISH AMERICA, under the sanction of the British Conference.

HALIFAX, August 18th, 1855.

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AT

# MINUTES

OF

## SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS

BETWEEN

### THE MINISTERS

OF THE

WESLEYAN METHODIST CONNEXION, OR CHURCH,

OF

EASTERN BRITISH AMERICA,

AT THEIR FIRST CONFERENCE, BEGUN IN HALIFAX, NOVA  
SCOTIA, ON JULY 17th, 1855.

HALIFAX :

PRINTED BY JAMES BOWES AND SONS.

1855.

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# MINUTES OF THE CONFERENCE.

HALIFAX, JULY 17, 1855.

REV. JOHN BEECHAM, D. D., President.  
REV. MATTHEW RICHEY, D. D., Co-Delegate.\*  
REV. WILLIAM TEMPLE, Secretary.

## QUESTION I.

Who are now ADMITTED as Ministers INTO FULL CONNEXION WITH THE CONFERENCE ?

### ANSWER.

Thomas Albrighton,	Joseph Herbert Starr,
Alexandria B. Black,	William Tweedy,
Frederick W. Moore.	

## QUESTION II.

What Preachers REMAIN ON TRIAL ?

### ANSWER.

Thomas Gaetz,	Paul Prestwood,
Alexander McL. DesBrisay,	John M. Sponagle,
John Phinney,	Charles Stewart.

These have travelled THREE years.

James Burns,	Hezekiah McKeown,
Duncan D. Curry,	William McKinnon,
Robert Duncan,	George B. Payson,
Charles Gaskin,	Robert Tweedy,
Joseph Hart.	

These have travelled two years.

\* Dr. Richey's address is, HALIFAX.

Samuel Avery, Thomas B. Smith,  
George S. Milligan, A. M. Thomas Harris.  
These have travelled ONE year.

13.

## QUESTION III.

14.

What Preachers are NOW RECEIVED, ON TRIAL ?

15.

## ANSWER.

16.

17.

William Alcorn, James Tweedy.

18.

19.

## QUESTION IV.

20.

Are there any Objections to any of our Ministers or Preachers on Trial ?

21.

## ANSWER.

They were examined one by one.

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## QUESTION V.

22.

How are our Ministers, and Preachers on Trial, STATIONED for the ensuing year.

23.

A. as follows ; viz.,—

## I.—THE HALIFAX DISTRICT.

24. I

1. *Halifax North*, John B. Brownell, Wm. Bennet,  
Henry Pope, Supernumerary.

25. 2

2. *Halifax South*, James England.

26. I

3. *Musquodoboit*, Hezekiah McKeown.

27. I

4. *Margaret's Bay*, William Tweedy.

28. I

5. *Lunenburg*, Joseph F. Bent.

29. G

6. *Petite Reviere*, Henry Pope 2nd.

7. *Mills' Village*, Frederick W. Moore.

30. S

8. *Liverpool*, Ingham Sutcliffe, Samuel Avery,

31. M

9. *Windsor*, Roland Morton.

10. *Newport*, Thos. H. Davies, Joseph Hart.

11. *Maitland*, George W. Tuttle.

12. *Bermuda*, Isaac Whitehouse, Robt. Duncan, Jas.  
Horne, Supernumerary.

Thos. H. DAVIES, *Chairman of the District.*

## II.—THE ST. JOHN DISTRICT.

13. *St. John, South*, Jas. G. Hennigar, W. T. Cardy,  
Chas. Stewart.
14. *St. John, North*, William Smithson.
15. *St. John, West*, Richd. Knight, John Allison,  
Supernumerary.
16. *St. Andrew's*, Arthur McNutt.
17. *St. Stephen's, and St. David's*, Jer. V. Jost, Chas.  
Gaskin.
18. *Mill Town*, Edmund Botterell.
19. *Sussex Vale*, John Prince.
20. *Greenwich*, Duncan D. Currie.
21. *Upham*, George B. Payson.

RICHD. KNIGHT, *Chairman of the District.*

## III.—THE CHARLOTTETOWN DISTRICT.

22. *Charlottetown*, John McMurray, John Brewster,  
John B. Strong, Albert DesBrisay,  
Supernumeraries.
23. *Pownal*, Thos. M. Albrighton, who shall exchange  
with the Charlottetown Preachers,  
under the direction of the Chairman.
24. *Bedeque*, Chas. DeWolfe, A. M., Alexander M.  
DesBrisay.
25. *Truro*, George O. Huestis; John Marshall, Super-  
numeraries,
26. *River Philip & Pugwash*, Robert E. Crane.
27. *Wallace*, William McCarty.
28. *River John*, Alex. B. Black.
29. *Guysborough & Canso*, Jas. R. Narraway, Thos.  
Gaetz, Wm. C. McKinnon.
30. *Sydney, Cape Breton*, Joseph H. Starr.
31. *Margarie*, " James Burns,

JOHN McMURRAY, *Chairman of the District.*

## IV.—THE FREDERICTON DISTRICT.

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 32. <i>Fredericton</i> , Charles Churchill.          | 57. |
| 33. <i>Sheffield</i> , George Johnson.               | 58. |
| 34. <i>Woodstock</i> , William Allen, Willm. Alcorn. | 59. |
| 35. <i>Andover</i> , To be supplied.                 | 60. |
| 36. <i>Nashwaak</i> , Robert Tweedy.                 | 61. |
| 37. <i>Burton</i> , George S. Milligan, A. M.        | 62. |
| 38. <i>Miramichi</i> , John Snowball.                | 63. |
| 39. <i>Bathurst</i> , Robert A. Temple.              | 64. |
| 40. <i>Dalhousie</i> , James Tweedy.                 | 65. |

CHAS. CHURCHILL, *Chairman of the District.*

## V.—THE SACKVILLE DISTRICT.

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 41. <i>Sackville</i> , William Temple.                | 66. |
| MOUNT ALLISON INSTITUTION.                            |     |
| <i>Principal</i> , Humphrey Pickard, A. M.            |     |
| <i>Governor &amp; Chaplain</i> , Ephraim Evans, D. D. |     |
| 42. <i>Point de Bute</i> , William Smith.             | 67. |
| 43. <i>Monkton</i> , James Taylor.                    | 68. |
| 44. <i>Hopewell</i> , Richard Weddall.                | 69. |
| 45. <i>Richibucto</i> , Thomas B. Smith.              | 70. |
| 46. <i>Amherst</i> , Richard Smith.                   |     |
| 47. <i>Parrsborough</i> , James Buckley.              |     |

EPHRAIM EVANS, D. D., *Chairman of the District.*

## VI.—THE ANNAPOLIS DISTRICT.

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| 48. <i>Annapolis</i> , George M. Barrett.  |  |
| 49. <i>Bridgetown</i> , William Wilson; Richard Williams,<br>George Miller, Supernumeraries. |  |
| 50. <i>Aylesford</i> , Wesley C. Beals.  |  |
| 51. <i>Cornwallis</i> , Thos. Harris, under the Superintendence<br>of Bro. Smallwood.        |  |
| 52. <i>Horton</i> , Frederick Smallwood.   |  |
| 53. <i>Digby &amp; Sissiboo</i> , Robert A. Chesley.   |  |
| 54. <i>Yarmouth</i> , Michael Pickles.   |  |
| 55. <i>Barrington</i> , Christopher Lockhart.  |  |
| 56. <i>Shelburne</i> , John Lemuel Sponagle.   |  |

MICHAEL PICKLES, *Chairman of the District.*

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## VII.—THE NEWFOUNDLAND DISTRICT.

57. *St. John's*, Thomas Angwine, Samuel-W. Sprague.  
 58. *Harbour Grace*, One to be sent.  
 59. *Carbonear*, William E. Shenstone.  
 60. *Brigus*, John S. Phinney.  
 61. *Port de Grave*, Adam Nightingale.  
 62. *Black Head*. John S. Addy.  
 63. *Island Cove*, One to be sent.  
 64. *Perlican*, One to be sent.  
 65. *Hants Harbour*, Paul Prestwood.  
 66. *Trinity*, Vacant.  
 67. *Bonavista*, Thomas Smith.  
 68. *Green Bay*, Under the care of the Chairman.  
 69. *Burin*, Elias Brettle.  
 70. *Grand Bank*, John S. Peach.

THOMAS ANGWINE, *Chairman of the District.*

## FINANCIAL SECRETARIES.

<i>The Halifax District,</i>	Roland Morton.
<i>The St. John District,</i>	Edmund Botterell.
<i>The Charlottetown District,</i>	William McCarty.
<i>The Fredericton District,</i>	George Johnson.
<i>The Sackville District,</i>	James Taylor.
<i>The Annapolis District,</i>	Frederick Smallwood.
<i>The Newfoundland District,</i>	Samuel W. Sprague.

Q. VI. What is the NUMBER OF MEMBERS in our Societies?

A. As follows, viz. :

<i>Circuits.</i>	<i>Members in Society.</i>	<i>Circuits.</i>	<i>Members in Society.</i>
HALIFAX and Dartmouth	375	SACKVILLE	200
Misquodoboit	64	Point De Bate	286
St. Margaret's Bay and Sambro	69	Moneton	208
Lunenburg	246	Hopewell	228
Petite Reviero	152	Sussex Vale	380
Mills' Village	100	Woodstock	303
Liverpool	250	Andover	54
Shelburne	130	ANNAPOLIS	169
Barrington	300	Bridgetown	142
Yarmouth	115	Aylesford	238
Horton and Cornwallis	365	Digby	117
Windsor	107	Miramichi	109
Newport	337	Richibucto	125
Maitland	179	Bathurst	107
Bermuda	368	Dalhousie	
CHARLOTTE TOWN	482	St. JOHN'S, N. F. L.	301
Pownal	112	Harbour Grace	57
Bedeque	309	Carbonear	418
Truro and River John	117	Black Head	504
Amherst	250	Perlican and Island Cove	220
Parrsboro'	135	Port de Grave	74
Wallace	508	Brigus	118
River Philip	285	Bonavista	229
Guysboro'	330	Green Bay	199
Sydney	126	Trinity Bay	20
St. JOHN, N. B.	1	Burin	160
Do.	2	Grand Bank	170
Do.	3	Hants Harbour	116
FREDERICTON	290		
Nashwaack	115	Total number of members	
Sheffield	57	this year	13136
Rurton	45	Do. as reported in the minutes	
Mill Town	105	of English Conference	
St. Stephen's	173	last year,	12226
St. Andrew's	54		
		Increase	910
		No. on Trial	587

#### CHILDREN'S FUND.

Q. VII. What is the judgment of the Conference respecting the Children's Fund?

A. 1. The Conference highly approves of the principle of making provision towards the support of the children of

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our Ministers from a certain rate of contribution in proportion to the exact number of members in Society, and resolves that this principle be adopted, and forthwith applied.

A. 2. It having been ascertained, on comparing the number of children, with the number of members in Society in this connexion, that Sixty Eight members will have to provide the allowance for one child, the following statement has been drawn up, determining the number of children, allowances to be provided by the several Districts in the year 1855-6, and to be allotted, at the Financial District meetings to the Circuits according to Rule:—

Districts.	No. of children.	No. of Members
<i>Halifax</i> . . .	34	2297
<i>Annapolis</i> . . .	24	1576
<i>Charlottetown</i> . .	34	2309
<i>St. John, N. B.</i> . .	27	1809
<i>Fredèricton</i> . . .	16	1080
<i>Sackville</i> . . . .	21	1432
<i>Newfoundland</i> . .	39	2633

Charles F. Allison, Esq. and the Rev. Humphrey Pickard, M. A. are requested to act as Treasurers of this Fund, and the Rev. William Temple is appointed as the general Secretary for the ensuing year.

#### CONTINGENT FUND.

Q. VIII. What are the Resolutions of the Conference on the subject of the Contingent Fund ?

A. The Conference, convinced that an efficient Contingent Fund will be indispensably necessary to assist the poorer Circuits in meeting their expenditure, unanimously resolves,

1. That the "Yearly Collection" be made in all the classes in the Lady Day Quarter ;

That a public collection be made in all the congregations in the latter part of the month of August ;

And that private subscriptions be solicited from our friends in aid of the object.

MEMBERS in our

#### Members in Society.

. . .	200
. . .	256
. . .	208
. . .	228
. . .	380
. . .	303
. . .	54
. . .	169
. . .	142
. . .	238
. . .	117
. . .	109
. . .	125
. . .	107
. . .	301
. . .	57
. . .	418
. . .	504
Cove	220
. . .	74
. . .	118
. . .	229
. . .	199
. . .	20
. . .	160
. . .	170
. . .	116

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2. That the Fund, raised from these sources, shall be administered by a committee consisting of the President of the Conference or the Co-delegate, the Secretary of the Conference and nine other ministers, and nine laymen. The Treasurers and Secretary of the Fund, and the Treasurer and Secretary of the Children's Fund are to be members of the committee, *ex officio*.

John H. Anderson, Esq., and the Rev. Frederick Smallwood, are requested to accept the office of Treasurers, and the Rev. Charles Churchill, is appointed Secretary. Including these, the committee for the next year are the President of the Conference, or Co-delegate, the Secretary of the Conference; Charles F. Allison, Esq., and the Rev. Humphrey Pickard, M. A., and the Rev. William Temple, as Treasurers and Secretary of the Children's Fund;—

The Rev. Richard Knight,  
 Rev. Ephraim Evans, D. D.,  
 Rev. Thomas H. Davies,  
 Rev. John B. Brownell,  
 Rev. John McMurray,  
 Rev. William Wilson,  
 Rev. Arthur McNutt,  
 Rev. Thomas Angwine.

With *two* gentlemen members of our Society to be chosen by the Circuit Steward, at the May Meeting of the St. John District; *two* from the Halifax District; and *one* from each of the following Districts, viz—Fredericton, Charlottetown, Annapolis, Sackville, and Newfoundland.

#### WORN-OUT MINISTERS' FUND.

Q. IX. What steps are to be taken for raising a Fund towards the support of the Worn-Out Ministers and their families?

Ans. The Conference is fully convinced that it is not only desirable and proper, but indispensably necessary, to make a suitable provision for ministers who have become disabled for further service, and also for the widows, and bereaved families of such as have been worn-out in the work; and therefore resolves that a committee be appointed

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sources, shall be the President of the Society of the Congregational Laymen. The Treasurer shall be members

Frederick Smallwood, Treasurers, and Secretary. Include the President of the Society of the Congregational Laymen, and the Rev. William Temple, William Temple's Fund;—

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to prepare a complete plan for the formation of such Fund, to be submitted to the next Conference.

The plan which has been acted upon in several Circuits of receiving contributions from the classes and private friends, and of making public collections, for this object; shall be extended as far as practicable for the present year, to other parts of the Connexion.

The following are appointed as the Committee :—

The Rev. Humphrey Pickard, M.A.,  
Rev. Frederick Smallwood,  
Rev. Charles Churchill,  
Rev. Roland Morton,  
Rev. Michael Pickles,  
George H. Starr, Esq., Halifax,  
The Honourable Judge Wilmot, Fredericton.  
John Smith, Esq., Charlottetown,  
Nicholas Mosher, Esq., Newport,  
John Humphrey, Esq., Monkton.

G. T. Ray, Esq., and the Rev. Richard Knight, are requested to accept the office of Treasurers. The Rev. W. T. Cardy is appointed Secretary.

Society to be Meeting of the District; and — Fredericton, Newfoundland.

#### EDUCATIONAL FUND FOR MINISTERS' CHILDREN.

Q. X.—What is the judgment of the Conference respecting the formation of a Fund to provide the usual allowances for the education of the children of our Ministers?

ND.

raising a Fund for Ministers and their

A. The Conference regards such a Fund as highly desirable, and resolves upon its immediate commencement. The fund is to be raised as follows :—

A public collection shall be annually made in the month of December, in all our chapels, and Sabbath preaching places.

that it is not necessary, to have become widows, and orphans in the be appointed

Every minister in full connexion shall pay an annual subscription, the amount of that annual subscription, for the present, to be ten shillings for each individual; and private

subscriptions are to be solicited from our more opulent friends, to whom the ministers are authorized to make application.

The Rev. James G. Hennigar, and John Fraser, Esq., of St. John, are requested to act as Treasurers of the Fund. The Rev. George Johnson, is appointed Secretary.

#### DISTRICT MEETINGS.

Q. XI.—What directions are given respecting District Meetings?

A. 1.—The Circuit Stewards of every Circuit shall be invited to attend the Annual District Meetings, at the time when the financial business is transacted. The Stewards are to receive timely information of the day when their presence will be required.

2. A Financial District Meeting shall also be held in every District as early as convenient after the annual Conference, which the Circuit Stewards shall also be requested to attend, for the distribution of the grant from the Contingent Fund, among the several dependent Circuits, allotting the number of children to the Circuits; and other business.

#### BOOK AFFAIRS.

Q. XII.—What are the directions of the Conference respecting our Book Affairs?

A. That as it is most desirable that a provision be made for the diffusion of Wesleyan literature throughout the Connexion, a committee is appointed to make the requisite inquiries, and obtain all necessary information, with a view to the establishment of a Connexional Book Room upon the most satisfactory basis. The Committee are to make their report to the next Conference; in the meantime the Halifax Branch Book Room, shall be continued in operation, under the direction of the same committee; and the brethren generally are expected to promote its efficiency to the utmost of their ability.

The Committee shall consist of the following:—

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The Rev. Richard Knight, who shall be Chairman of the Committee.

Rev. Humphrey Pickard, M. A., who shall be the Secretary.

Rev. Thomas H. Davies,

Rev. Frederick Smallwood,

Rev. Ephraim Evans, D. D.

Rev. Charles Churchill,

Rev. William Temple,

Rev. Arthur McNutt,

Rev. Roland Morton,

Rev. Robert Chesley,

Rev. John McMurray.

#### WESLEYAN PERIODICAL.

Q. XIII.—What are the conclusions of the Conference respecting the “Provincial Wesleyan”?

A. 1.—That, as the Conference regards the “Provincial Wesleyan” as an admirably conducted religious Periodical; one which, under its present talented Editorial supervision, has already largely subserved the interests of the Wesleyan church in these colonies, it is therefore entitled to this cordial expression of our decided approbation and entire confidence.

2. That as the Conference has gladly recognized this periodical as a suitable medium of communication with the public, it shall therefore be considered the duty of all the members of this body to make every proper effort increase its circulation, and extend its influence, as an authorized Connexional organ for the ensuing year.

#### MOUNT ALLISON ACADEMY.

Q. XIV.—What are the resolutions of the Conference in reference to the Wesleyan Academy, Mount Allison, Sackville?

A. 1. The Conference, having heard of the high state of efficiency to which our Educational Institution at Sackville

has attained,—resolves that, while it devoutly acknowledges the hand of God in the prosperity which has attended the Male branch from its commencement, as also that for Females during the first year of its existence, it expresses its high sense of the ability and untiring devotedness of the Rev. H. Pickard, A. M., the deservedly esteemed Principal; the pastoral, and parental care, as well as general management of Dr. Evans, the Chaplain and Governor; the christian demeanour and effective teaching of Miss Adams, the chief Preceptress of the Female branch, together with the other teachers and officers, who have, during their terms of office, so effectively performed their duties; and it cordially, on these grounds, recommends this Institution to the continued patronage of the friends of education in these Provinces.

2. That this Conference approves of the change which by the authority of the Board of Trustees of the Mount Allison Wesleyan Academy, it is proposed shall be made in the mode of appointing the Trustees, and in the construction of the said Board, so that it may hereafter consist of the President of the Conference, or in his absence the Co-delegate, the Secretary of the Conference, the Principal of the Academy, the Governor and the Chaplain of the same, for the time being, and four ministers and seven lay members to be appointed annually by the conference.

3. That the Rev. John Beecham, D. D., or in his absence, the Rev. Matthew Richey, D. D., the Rev. Wm. Temple, the Rev. H. Pollock, A. M., the Rev. E. Evans, D. D., the Rev. R. Knight, the Rev. T. H. Davies, the Rev. J. McMurray, the Rev. M. Pickles, Chas. F. Allison, Esq., John H. Anderson, Esq., Gilbert T. Ray, Esq., Hon. C. Young, Hon. S. Fulton, Geo. H. Starr, Esq., and Mariner Wood, Esq., be and are hereby appointed, and requested to act as, Trustees for the ensuing year.

4. That, as it is supposed that the appointment of a Committee of Visitors, whose duty it shall be to attend the Examinatory and Anniversary exercises at Mount Allison, to notice generally the state of the Institution in all its departments, and to report thereupon, both to the Board

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of Trustees, and to the Conference, may tend to promote the interests of the Academy, the following esteemed friends are appointed and respectfully requested to constitute such a Committee for the ensuing year, viz :

Samuel L. Shannon, Esq.,  
 James Olive, Esq.,  
 Ralph Brecken, Esq.,  
 The Hon. Judge Wilmot,  
 William K. Dudman, Esq.,  
 Joseph Salter, Esq.,  
 Nathan Tupper, Esq.,  
 The Hon. James J. Rogerson.

#### MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTIONS.

*Thanks to the President and Co-delegate of the Canada Conference.*—1. The Conference takes this opportunity, afforded them by the visit of our beloved brother the Rev. Enoch Wood, President of the Canada Conference, gratefully to express its obligations for the timely, appropriate, and valuable explanations of the state and prospects of the Wesleyan Church under his Presidency, and of the operation of her Institutions. While we shall be ready to take advantage of the valuable information which the President of the Canada Conference has so well placed before us, we shall never forget the spirit of oneness and of love exhibited by our venerable friend in his intercourse with us; and in many of our minds reminiscences of former times, when for many years he laboured with us in the Word and doctrine, give only increased energy to our estimation of his character.

2. The Conference also expresses its appreciation of the visit of the Rev. John Ryerson, Co-delegate, as an indication of the christian and fraternal affection which we trust will ever be maintained between the Wesleyan churches of British America, East and West; and acknowledges with thankfulness the great interest he has taken in the progress of our deliberations, and the obligations under which he

has laid us by the counsel and information he has afforded us in the inauguration of the Conference of the Wesleyan Church of Eastern British America.

*Visit of the Rev. Dr. Beecham.*—The Conference being about to close this its first Session, cannot allow its business finally to conclude without gratefully expressing its sincere and affectionate acknowledgments to the Rev. J. Beecham, D. D., the excellent and intelligent deputation, sent by the Conference and Missionary Committee to effect our organization as a distinct Connexion. While we recognize in the Deputation of so distinguished and influential a member of the English Conference, as a recent President of that reverend body, and the senior Secretary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, a significant, and well intended compliment to the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of Eastern British America, we appreciate most distinctly and most sincerely the advantages we have received from his labours and counsel in the progress of our deliberations. We admire the Christian spirit and candour exhibited in his whole course, both in public and in private, while we have enjoyed his presence among us; and earnestly pray that the event, in the entire success of his plans and labours, and desires, in this deputation may be equal to his most ardent wishes, and that when "an entrance" shall be administered to him "abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord Jesus," he may exultantly welcome into that kingdom the innumerable trophies of grace, which doubtless will be the fruits of these arrangements. The Conference will most heartily rejoice to receive Dr. Beecham at our next meeting, and would respectfully urge the Missionary Committee to further our earnest wishes in this respect.

#### STANDING ORDER.

*District Minutes.*—The Chairmen of Districts are peremptorily required to procure THREE complete copies of the Minutes of the several Annual and other meetings of the District Committees, duly signed by the Chairman and Secretary. One of these copies shall be inserted in the

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District records ; a second shall be reserved for the use of the Conference ; and a third shall be delivered to the sub-Secretaries on the day preceding the Conference, and by them to the President, or Co-Delegate, during the first week of each Conference, to be preserved, under his direction, as a document appertaining to the Connexion. The several copies of the last class shall be written on foolscap paper that they may be annually bound together in one volume.

CONFERENCE OF 1856.

Q. XV. When and where shall our next Conference be held ?

A. In St. John, New Brunswick, commencing on the third Wednesday in June, (the eighteenth) one thousand eight hundred and fifty six, at 9 o'clock, a. m.

*Signed in behalf and by order of the Conference ;*

JOHN BEECHAM, D. D., *President.*

WILLIAM TEMPLE, *Secretary.*

*Halifax, July 26th, 1855.*

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PASTORAL ADDRESS OF THE CONFERENCE,

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST  
CHURCH IN EASTERN BRITISH AMERICA.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,

The desiderated formation of an *Eastern British American Conference*, no longer an object of anticipation, is now an important fact. All our Societies within the territorial limits of the new organization, which have hitherto existed as dependent and isolated districts, under the management and direction of the *Wesleyan Missionary Society*, are thus constituted a distinct Connexion, or church, having received from the Parent Body, a formal investiture of the attributes and privileges appropriate to the ecclesiastical position which we are now called to sustain in an affiliated relation to the English Conference.

At a juncture in the history of Methodism in these Colonies, so replete with interest, our minds naturally revert to the obscure origin of the work, which by the unequivocal tokens of Divine favor has now attained such magnitude and maturity; and whilst we mark its early struggles and steady progress,—its unassuming pretensions, yet irrepressible and expansive energies, we cannot but recognize in the abundant proofs of its spiritual vitality and power, the distinctive characteristics of *Christianity in earnest*.

Little did the sainted WILLIAM BLACK, whose memory is redolent of a thousand precious associations, when, in the Summer of 1780, he began in the County of Cumberland, in this Province, with many tears, to beseech sinners

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to be reconciled to God, imagine, that, in little more than half a century, the little one would become a thousand, and that a Conference would be organized in British America, of which the scene of his juvenile evangelism, should be the spiritual as well as a geographical centre. Little did the venerable WILLIAM BENNETT—compelled by affliction, more than thirty years since, to retire from the ranks of the effective Ministry—conceive, that he would be spared to witness in these Provinces, so signal a development of the Cause, to which were consecrated, with unsparing labor, the zealous energies of his youth. According to this time it shall be said of Jacob and of Israel, What hath God wrought !

The perfect unanimity of judgment among the Ministers, with which this change has been brought about, is matter of unfeigned congratulation ; and affords, under the circumstances, we are constrained to believe, indubious indication of the presence and approbation of Him who is “the author of peace and lover of concord.” Nor, there is the strongest reason to conclude, is it less acceptable to our people. The addresses presented to DR. BEECHAM by the respective District Meetings which he attended, and the consentaneous resolutions adopted by the brethren, expressive of entire acquiescence in the general principles of the Plan proposed as the basis of our Connexional organization, were in every place distinctly echoed by the communications, both oral and written, addressed to the Deputation from the British Conference, by many official and influential lay friends. The issue of this movement is with God ; and on that point we are free to acknowledge, we entertain no painful apprehension, but on the contrary the most elevated hopes ; whilst, in the meantime, it is most gratifying to know, that all the parties most deeply interested in the measure, are “like-minded, having the same love, being of one soul, of one mind.”

Coeval with the important change now effected in the ecclesiastical relations that have hitherto subsisted between us and you, the beloved people of our pastoral charge, is the origination of an entirely new class of reciprocal obligations, on the practical recognition, and faithful discharge of which, must, under the Divine blessing, mainly depend

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the efficient and successful working of the system, on the structure of which so much care has been bestowed.

Among the additional functions and responsibilities devolving upon us, as, in our Conferential capacity, your collective Pastorate, it will be our duty, following the example of the English Conference, henceforth to issue an Annual Address, which will be an official exponent of our views on all questions affecting the interests of the cause of God among us, as well as a convenient medium, through which to convey to you, as occasion may suggest, our affectionate admonitions and exhortations on the various topics of personal godliness, family religion, and social and relative duties. The opening of such a channel of communication, through which may flow forth to you, without restraint, from year to year, those tender and sacred sensibilities, which, while we sustained the relation of Missionary Districts, were, to a great extent, necessarily repressed, we hail with sincere pleasure.

We gladly avail ourselves of the earliest opportunity to open the sluices of those affections by the warm and spontaneous flow of which, we are solicitous, on the recurrence of every Conference anniversary, to afford you profitable and convincing proof that we naturally care for your state.

From the wide range of subjects of which the auspicious commencement of a new era in the annals of Methodism in these Colonies is suggestive, we are anxious to embody in this our first Address, such, and only such matters, as imperatively demand your immediate earnest attention and regard, in order that you may be workers together with us, in carrying out with ardent zeal and unflinching decision, the great and glorious purposes, for the accomplishment of which the provident and paternal wisdom of our revered Fathers in England has,—deeming that under their fostering care we have attained our spiritual majority,—placed us in our present dignified, yet deeply responsible, position.

By our hearty concurrence in the leading principles that lie at the foundation of the new arrangement, we virtually and in good faith, *pledge* ourselves to employ all appropriate and necessary means and appliances to sustain with fidelity and usefulness the position we have thus voluntarily

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assumed. We scarcely need remind our beloved people of the importance, and even necessity, of a well arranged, and suitably adapted system of Finance, in order to carry out the designs of our present organization.

This has been a subject therefore, of very earnest and serious consideration, during this, our first Conference. The long tried financial discipline of the Parent Connexion, — has been carried into operation in the Canadian Conference, as far as circumstances would admit, and has been found to work well. We present then, to our societies, no novel experiment, but a system matured by sound judgment, and long experiment, when we invite attention to the following Connexional funds, which we are assured, should be brought into immediate operation: these we commend to the cordial and zealous co-operation of all our people. The first we specify is the *Contingent* fund. "This is one of the oldest, and most excellent charities under the direction of the British Conference. It has been successfully prosecuted in Great Britain and Ireland for nearly a century. Its main objects are to meet the deficiencies of the poorer Circuits, and to extend the work of God, and also, as its designation implies, to provide, as far as it can for those peculiar exigencies, which may occur during the year."

Too much importance, cannot be attached to this fund. No time should be lost, as to its formation, nor can any sacrifice be too great, in order to sustain it in full vigour. Thus has it been ever considered by the British Conference, and hence the superintendents of Circuits have been required to keep the sources from whence it is sustained emphatically before the people. In the parent land it derives its means of usefulness principally from what are termed the yearly collection in the classes, and the July collection, supplemented by the contributions of such as may be led to see and feel the importance of its designs. These means are equally within the reach of our beloved people, in these Provinces, and press upon their attention with equal justice and necessity.

It will be seen that this fund is indispensable, and must ever be considered as having more than ordinary claims upon the vigorous advocacy of our ministers, and the liberal support of our societies and friends. The next in order is

the *Children's Fund*. This fund cannot but commend itself to the approval of our people; so necessary is it in its formation, and withal, so just, reasonable, and impartial in its principle. For nearly the period of forty years its adaptation to accomplish the object it had in view, has been tested with unfailing effect. Prior to that period the necessity of such a measure had long been experienced in stationing the Preachers. Whilst every Circuit was made responsible for the payment of the usual allowances for all the children of the Preachers appointed to it, men with large families, however suitable as to piety, talent, and diligence, to sustain important Circuits, were liable to be objected against—merely on financial grounds. By the operation of the Children's Fund, this impediment is entirely removed.

The principle of this fund is—that every District shall be considered responsible for providing, within itself, and from its own local resources, the usual quarterly allowances for such a number of Preachers' children, as shall be found on annual examination and calculation to be fairly chargeable on the Circuits belonging to that District, according to the proportion of members in Society.

The necessary calculations having been made, it has been found that 68 members, is the number to provide the allowance of one child. This fund also we commend to Societies for immediate adoption—confident that it will meet their unqualified approval. Then there is the Supernumerary, or worn out Preachers' fund, claiming immediate consideration.

At the British Conference, of 1763, the question was proposed: "How may provision be made for old and worn out Preachers?" at which time a fund was created in itself small, and inadequate, out of which such allowances as could be afforded, were made to the old and sickly Preachers, and their families—as well as for the widows and children of those who had been taken to their eternal reward.

There is, we are convinced, no one feature more prominent in our ecclesiastical organization, than the mutual love and harmony which generally exists between ministers and people, as shown by their readiness to sympathize with

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each other, as occasion may require. In these Provinces our zeal and harmony are proverbial. Herein we may and do rejoice. On this ground, then, there is no one institution we can recommend to our beloved people with so large a measure of confidence, as a fund for the furnishing of relief to the worn out preachers, their widows, and orphan children, when they themselves shall become enfeebled by age, or disease; or, worn out by long and laborious toil, shall

Their body with their charge lay down  
And cease at once to work and live—

having their last hours made additionally tranquil from the thought, that their widows and orphans will not be forgotten by those for whose spiritual and eternal welfare, the zeal of their youth, the vigour of their manhood, and the matured devotion of their declining years, have been consecrated, and employed.

This fund also we recommend to our people. The sources whence it may be sustained will be placed before you by the Committee to whose management it will be entrusted; and we doubt not but that many of our more wealthy and influential people will follow the example so nobly set in the parent land, by such subscriptions, donations, and bequests, as shall sustain it in vigorous existence.

There is but one other we shall name at present, and that is a fund for the Education of the Preachers' Children. From the Educational Fund in the Parent land, large amounts have been received in these Provinces, while but very little has been done in any one District in return, and in some nothing whatever. This state of things can not much longer exist; justice and every other consideration require that in this case, too, our aim should be that of independence.

The Conference have concluded that collections shall, for the present year, and hereafter, be made in all our Chapels for this object, together with appeals for annual subscriptions, to any of our friends, who, it may be hoped will not withhold their aid.

The pre-eminent advantages which the EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION AT SACKVILLE affords for the mental and moral

training of the Youth of our Connexion, demand, united with the expression of our lasting obligations to their munificent Founder, the record of our gratitude to Him who disposeth the hearts of his servants, and whose influence it is not less our duty than our delight to recognise in the establishment and extension of these dispensaries of knowledge, whilst they furnish a plain and powerful motive for commending to you the support, in fullest vigor, of such valuable means of high and healthful instruction. Under the able and assiduous labours of its learned Principal, the Academy for young gentlemen has been conducted to a position of great celebrity ; and it is our firm and fervent hope, based upon the success which has rewarded the well directed energies of a gifted Preceptress, in its inaugural year, that a reputation as favourable and well founded will attend the department for young ladies. The judicious exercise of the various offices of his important station, by DR. EVANS, the Governor and Chaplain, have received our warmest appreciation, and are now with much satisfaction referred to as an additional ground for confidence in the future management of our United Institute. In addition to all the hopes of prospective usefulness, which the evidences of its past success and present prosperity excite, you have the assurance supplied by the fact that it has now, by the action and spontaneous proposal of its original trustees, been unreservedly placed beneath the care of this Conference, and that we have gladly recognised it as a Connexional Institute.

The Conference has constituted THE PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN an authorized Connexional organ ; and we trust the efforts of our Ministers to increase its circulation and extend its influence, will receive your countenance and support.

In inviting with all the affectionate urgency of Pastoral solicitude, your earnest co-operation, to give full effect to the plans upon which the Conference has determined, for the sustentation and expansion of the different departments of our work, we do so with the utmost confidence, because of the ample guarantees obviously furnished by the essential basis of our Connexional existence, that all the characteristic features of Wesleyan Methodism, in respect alike of doctrine and discipline, as exemplified in the Parent Body, shall, in all coming time, be distinctly reflected by the affiliated Connexion of these Colonies.

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Persuaded of your devoted and intelligent attachment to the Church, the ministrations of which have, by the grace of God, put you among His regenerate children, and nurtured you into your present state of maturity, it were no just matter of surprise, if at this great transition crisis, you should indicate some anxiety to see such guards thrown around our infant Organization, as might effectually shield it against the influence of erratic minds and innovating theories; and thus effectually preclude the apprehension which you might otherwise not unreasonably entertain, lest that sacred cause which is to you dearer than life, should deteriorate in hands unused to wield the influential powers with which they are now entrusted. We fully appreciate your firm and filial attachment to the doctrines and institutions of Methodism; and we deeply sympathize with your solicitude for its perpetuation among us in unimpaired integrity and efficiency. If we imagined for a moment, that the change in our ecclesiastical position would jeopard the cause which it is designed to elevate and advance, instead of desiring it as a valuable boon we should strongly deprecate it as a heavy calamity. But on that head we have no fears. Precautionary securities the most satisfactory, against so disastrous a contingency, are interwoven with the whole arrangement. We may here appropriately advert to the more prominent of them: There is, then, in the first place, the exclusive right accorded to the British Conference—so long as it shall see fit to exercise that right—to appoint, from year to year, the President of ours. In the Parent Conference, moreover, is vested the power of *Veto*, in respect to any measure that may be adopted by our Conference, within twelve months from the time of the introduction of such measure; and in case it shall be disallowed within that period by the English Conference, its legality and force shall be thereby superseded. In this prudential provision alone, you possess every guarantee which the collective wisdom and watchful care of the Parent Conference can confer, that all our doctrinal and disciplinary peculiarities, as a section of the Christian Church, shall be conserved inviolate,—peculiarities in the development and adoption of which, whether by our revered Founder, or subsequently by the Conference to

which he devolved his legal authority, we devoutly recognise the especial guidance of the Providence and Spirit of Him who is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in working.

It will not, we are sure, be other than gratifying to your best feelings to learn that the **AUXILIARY** relation of our Missionary Societies in the several Districts, to the Parent Missionary Society, remains unchanged. Our contributions to that noble cause will, as formerly, be accounted for to the **GENERAL TREASURERS** and appear in the **GENERAL REPORT**. And what can be more fitting than that we should thus maintain our association with our Fathers and Brethren in England, in their zealous efforts to spread the Gospel over the regions of Pagan darkness, until such time, at least, as, with their concurrence, we enter upon fields of evangelistic enterprise, the cultivation of which under our own separate management, may best subserve the common object—the conversion of the world to Christ? Meanwhile, by aiding the Parent Society to the utmost of our ability, we shall be only suitably acknowledging obligations for **PAST** and **PRESENT** benefactions, which it will probably never be in our power to repay.

The valuable aid we have derived from the enlightened judgment of the **REV. ENOCH WOOD**, **PRESIDENT OF THE CANADA CONFERENCE**, and his excellent Co-Delegate, the **REV. JOHN RYERSON**, in the solicitous deliberations of our first Conference, is entitled to grateful and permanent record. The promptitude with which those honoured brethren, at considerable personal inconvenience, responded to the invitation to be present with us, and the patience and prudence with which they entered with us into the consideration of every question of difficulty and practical importance, are worthy of all praise.

But chiefly are we indebted to the ample experience, distinguished ability, vigilant solicitude, and indefatigable application of the **REV. DR. BEECHAM**, whom we have long known and esteemed as one of the General Secretaries of our Missionary Society, but whom we now delight to recognize in the more intimate relation of our **FIRST PRESIDENT**. Well and faithfully has he discharged the onerous duties devolved upon him as a Deputation from the Parent

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Connexion, and the President of ours. Often will our minds recur to the seasons we have enjoyed of personal and official intercourse with him ; and never can such recollections return without renewing our impressions of his eminently judicious counsels, and pious and affectionate spirit. We can only say, that in the designation of Dr. BEECHAM, to inaugurate THE EASTERN BRITISH AMERICAN CONFERENCE, we clearly perceive the discrimination of man, and thankfully mark the disposal of God.

In conclusion, let us in the spirit of unreserved consecration to God and his cause, enter upon our new career of duty and privilege. The ground we already occupy in these Provinces demands higher cultivation ; and in regions beyond, many fields white unto the harvest solicit our labours. Brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be more abundantly glorified. Come, and let us afresh swear allegiance at the altar of the Cross. Our vows are already plighted. Let them never be revoked. Daily let us sing in the ways of the Lord—

“ High Heaven that heard the solemn vow,  
That vow renewed shall daily hear,  
Till in life's latest hour I bow,  
And bless in death a bond so dear.”

Signed in behalf and by order of the Conference,

WILLIAM TEMPLE.

*Secretary.*

**ADDRESS TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE LIEUT.  
GOVERNOR.**

ON Wednesday, the 25th of July, the President, accompanied by the Co-Delegate, Secretary, Chairmen of Districts, and several others of the senior Ministers, waited upon His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and in the name of the Conference presented him with the following address:—

To His Excellency Major-General SIR J. GASPARD LEMARCHANT, Knight and Knight Commander of the Order of St. Ferdinand and of Charles the Third of Spain, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Her Majesty's Province of Nova Scotia, and its Dependencies, Chancellor of the same, &c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :

WE, Her Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects, the Ministers of the Wesleyan Conference of Eastern British America,—embracing in its organization the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, and the Bermudas,—assembled for the first time, desire to mark this epoch in the history of our Church in these Colonies, by expressing to your Excellency our warm and devoted attachment to our Sovereign Lady, Queen Victoria, whose diadem derives its richest lustre from the high moral qualities with which she is adorned.

Taught by the oracles of Divine inspiration that “the powers that be are ordained of God,” and recognising in the incomparable Constitution of the British Empire that combination of political elements which makes it the object of admiration or envy to other nations, the constant and zealous inculcation of the highest principles of loyalty on the people of our charge, is a duty alike consonant with the feelings of our hearts and our sense of moral obligation.

We avail ourselves of the present opportunity, emphatically to assure your Excellency, that no portion of the Christian Church sympathises more profoundly with our gracious and beloved Sovereign, in the righteous cause in which Her arms are now wielded, than does that which we have the honour to represent: as none more devoutly prays that by the blessing of Him whose providence controls the

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issues of war, and the destinies of nations, those arms may be speedily crowned with decisive victory.

We beg most respectfully to tender to your Excellency, the assurance of our high appreciation of the solicitude, which, from the day of your assumption of the Government of this Province, you have displayed, to develop its resources and accelerate its progress in all the departments of public enterprise; and our prayer to Almighty God is that your administration may be made a great blessing to this land.

True to those loyal and Protestant principles by which Wesleyan Methodism—its enemies themselves being judges—has been uniformly characterised from the beginning, we desire to connect with this imperfect expression of our sentiments, as dutiful subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, our unfeigned desire that on your Excellency personally, on Lady LeMarchant, and on your family, *every blessing of heaven may descend.*

Signed by order and on behalf of the Conference,

JOHN BEECHAM, D.D., *President.*

WILLIAM TEMPLE, *Secretary.*

HIS Excellency very graciously received the address, and was pleased to make the following gratifying reply:—

REVEREND GENTLEMEN,—

The sentiments of loyalty and attachment to Her Majesty which you have so fervently expressed, are extremely gratifying to my feelings as the Queen's Representative.

That you admire the British Constitution, and that as Christian Ministers you feel it a pleasure and a duty to instil into the hearts of the people, under your charge, devotion to our Sovereign, is alike honourable to you and pleasing to me.

I derive great gratification from the assurance that the warmest sympathies of your Church are with the Queen, in the righteous cause in which she has taken up arms, and I cordially concur with you in the prayer that the existing conflict may speedily terminate in a victory so decisive as to ensure an honourable and permanent peace. Before I take leave of you, permit me to thank you very sincerely for

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your kind and approving mention of my endeavours to develop the resources and advance the interests of this fine Province, and for your invocation of divine blessings on my administration, on my family, and on myself.

J. GASPARD LEMARCHANT,  
*Major-General and Lieut-Governor.*

*Government House, Halifax, July 25th, 1855,*

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### ADDRESS TO THE BRITISH CONFERENCE.

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REVEREND AND DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN :

THE feelings with which we approach you for the first time in our newly assumed position, as the Eastern British American Conference, are too thrilling to permit effective utterance, and too impressive ever to be forgotten. At a period in the history of our race which is the birth-time of events, mighty for good or evil to the latest generations of men, we find ourselves suddenly emerged from the feeble and isolated state of Missionary Districts, into a united Church, possessed of all the means and appliances necessary to the successful prosecution of the great work to which we are consecrated. Our appreciation of the relation in which we now stand to you is heightened by the remembrance that we are one of several affiliated sister churches clustering around our maternal Methodism, to repay her fostering care by dutiful affection, and faithful devotion to the service of our adorable Lord and Master. In adverting to our former connexion with you, we cannot restrain the emphatic expression of our fervent gratitude for the long series of benefits you have conferred upon us, through the agency of your noble Missionary Society. We shall ever hold in endeared recollection the precious services rendered to the cause of Christ among us, by the Committee of that honoured Institution for the diffusion of the light of divine truth among perishing men. Peculiarly fragrant to us is the memory of those sainted worthies of Methodism in whose harmonious character genius and piety were so richly combined, and who brought to the support and management of the Mission enterprize the ripest fruits

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of a sanctified intellect, and the most fervid glow of a purified heart. Richard Watson and Robert Newton among the honored dead, and Jabez Bunting pre-eminent among the living, with other only less distinguished names, shed lustre upon our pathway to the altar of Missions, whence to us and ours, through long and eventful years, have emanated blessings innumerable and invaluable.

Yet though it affords to us so much satisfaction, to give utterance to our gratitude for the fostering care and the generous support which have been accorded to us by you in the past, we are of opinion that the time had fully arrived to place the work of God among us in these Colonies on a more comprehensive and commanding basis, when your respected Deputation reached our shores.

We cannot adequately express to you how high was our gratification when in our District Meetings, soon after his arrival, the precise character of the proposals with which he was charged was made known to us. During our Session in Conference, where those proposals have been more fully discussed and more closely studied, in their various bearings and consequences, our satisfaction has been rendered still more lively. We recognised in the plans submitted to us by your Deputation conclusive evidence of the enlightened liberality of sentiment, and of the generous Christian benevolence by which you were animated, in desiring us to occupy a position in which union and harmony, order and spiritual freedom should combine, to enable us to extend our common faith in all its purity and power to the farthest outskirts of our wide field of labour,—and to transmit it as a prized heritage from our fathers, sacredly inviolate, to the remotest posterity. We have adopted the plans laid before us by your Deputation, in the construction of our Conference, and we have taken such steps as are practicable at this moment, for the establishment of those Connexional Funds needful for the vigorous prosecution of our work.

We esteem it peculiarly providential, that at the period of our entrance upon a new and more elevated phase of ecclesiastical life, we should be in possession of such a noble and well-tried Institution, for the thorough education of our youth of both sexes, as that of the Mount

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Allison Academy. We cherish the hope, through the Divine blessing, that this Institution founded by large christian-hearted benevolence, conducted with ability and zeal, deservedly popular and of high character, may progressively attain to higher degrees of educational excellence, and reach to wider spheres of influence, largely benefitting our church and our country.

Impressed with the great importance of having a medium of constant communication with the public, through which we can, as occasion may require, explain and enforce our principles, and define and defend our distinctive position as Wesleyan Methodists, we have unanimously adopted "The Provincial Wesleyan" published during several years past, under the patronage of the Nova Scotia District,—as our Conferential organ. It has already acquired a respectable circulation, and will, we doubt not, prove extensively useful.

The pleasing issue to which our deliberations have been conducted, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, is, we believe, largely attributable to the admirable selection of **DR. BEECHAM** as your Deputation, and our first President. He found us with strong prepossessions in his favour; he had been long and intimately connected with us as one of the General Secretaries of the Missionary Society; he was favourably known by the productions of his pen; he was preceded by the fame of a most successful occupancy of the Presidential chair of the British Conference, during a year of great trial, when the ark of the church was tossed upon turbulent waters, and the floods lifted up their voice; and he came upon a mission of great importance to the cause of Christ, as identified with our labours. All these circumstances ensured him a heartfelt welcome on his arrival among us, and awakened high expectations in relation to the influence of his exertions upon the prosperity of Methodism in these Provinces. We are grateful and delighted to state that our anticipations, glowing as they were, have been more than realized. Personal intercourse with our valued President has warmed our esteem into admiration and love. We have noted the manly simplicity and unaffected kindness of his general deportment; qualities which are pleasing wherever found, but which in a man of high station and commanding

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influence, are exceedingly attractive. We have profited by his faithful and practical exposition of Divine verities, fraught with heavenly unction. We have marked with high admiration his conduct in the Presidential Chair, distinguished by patience, equanimity, urbanity, and a perfect mastery of all the questions submitted to our consideration. He bears away with him our lasting esteem and christian love, accompanied by our earnest supplications that the Great Head of the Church may preserve his valuable life through many happy years, to bless with sagacious counsel and the graceful exhibition of mellowed and manly piety, the grateful denomination which he has so faithfully served. Thrice happy shall we be while he is providentially spared for the performance of active public duty, to welcome him from year to year as the honoured occupant of the office he so worthily fills.

We are gratified at the selection of the REV. DR. RICHEY, to sustain the important office of Co-delegate—an office which his eminent pulpit abilities, his varied acquirements, his long-trying fidelity to the church of which he is an ornament, and his experience gathered in high office in the Canadian Methodist Church, qualify him honourably and usefully to fill.

We have been greatly refreshed in spirit, and aided in counsel, by the presence of the Rev. ENOCH WOOD, President of the Canadian Conference, and his Co-delegate, the Rev. JOHN RYERSON—their public ministrations, their personal bearing, and their sagacity in Conferential deliberation—the fruit of rich and varied experience in important positions, were alike most pleasing and profitable. We feel deeply grateful to these distinguished ministers of our church, for the interest they manifested in our affairs, and their efforts in our behalf.

And now, Rev. and dear Fathers and Brethren; on this occasion so momentous to us and the numerous societies and congregations committed to our pastoral oversight—standing upon the threshold of our new career, not knowing what may befall us, but with faith in our mission to mankind, and high expectations of rapid enlargement upon every side—permit us to assure you of our profound attachment to all that is distinctive in the glorious Creed, and the effective Discipline of our common Methodism.

Believe us, the ties that unite us now in one sublime purpose to spread the knowledge of Christ's redeeming love far as our energies can reach, are stronger than ever before. We shall ever hereafter claim our privilege, as the youngest daughter church of Methodism, to weep with you when you are in sorrow—to rejoice with you when you “wake up psaltery and harp.” We ask of our Heavenly Father no higher boon on earth than to live faithful, diligent, humble servants of the Lord Jesus, “counting not our lives dear unto us so we may finish our course with joy.”

Meanwhile we rejoice in the remembrance that our new ecclesiastical position, with the vastly increased responsibilities beneath which we are thereby placed, will not deprive us of your Parental supervision, nor of that much needed and generously continued aid which will enable us more readily to meet the exigencies of our widely extended sphere of exertion.

We pray you, honoured Fathers, we beseech you, beloved Brethren; forget us not in your hours of power and blessing, when the Angel of the Covenant is with you, when the glory is in the tabernacle—when the still small voice is heard after the earthquake, the whirlwind and the flame. Then, oh! then, bear us up before the Mercy seat of God in the effectual fervent prayer that availeth much, that we may be faithful unto death.

Signed by order and on behalf of the Conference,

WILLIAM TEMPLE,

*Secretary.*

#### ERRATA.

Circumstances over which the Editor of the Minutes could exercise no control having rendered unavoidable the printing of the first part with some errors, the following corrections are supplied.

Page 5.	Line 10.	For	ALEXANDRIA	read	ALEXANDER.
“ 10.	“ 6.	“	BATE	“	BUTE.
“ 10.	“ 7.	“	MONETON	“	MONKTON.
“ 11.	“ 10.	“	CHILDREN	“	CHILDREN'S.
“ 12.	“ 23.	“	ANGWINN	“	ANGUN.
“ 12.	“ 25.	“	STEWARD	“	STEWARDS.
“ 16.	“ 28.	“	POLLOCK	“	PICKARD.
“ 23.	“ 16.	“	SPECIFIED	“	SPECIFY.
“ 23.	“ 23.	“	WHOM	“	WHICH.
“ 24.	“ 25.	“	TO SOCIETIES	“	TO OUR SOCIETIES.

In the list of stations page 6.—Windsor Circuit—add Rev. W. CROSCOMBE; Supernumerary.