

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-EIGHTH
GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF THE
FREE CHRISTIAN BAPTISTS

OF
NEW BRUNSWICK,
HELD AT WOODSTOCK.

July 7th, 9th, 10th and 11th,

* OFFICERS OF GENERAL CONFERENCE.

W. E. McLEOD,	- - - - -	CHAIRMAN.
EV. G. A. HARTLEY,	- - - - -	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.
J. UNDERHILL, Esq.,	- - - - -	RECORDING SECRETARY
MR. E. M. TRUESDALE,	- - - - -	ASSISTANT " "
MR. WILLIAM PETERS,	- - - - -	TREASURER.

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MINUTES.

Woodstock, July 7th, 1860.

THE Twenty-Seventh General Conference of Free Christian Baptists of New Brunswick, assembled at Woodstock this day at 10 o'clock, a. m. Conference Meeting until half-past 12 o'clock.—Adjourned.

At half-past 2 o'clock, P. M., met for business. Opened by prayer. Members of Conference called. Present as follows:—

ELDERS.

B. MERRITT,	E. WAYMAN,	C. McMULLIN,
S. HARTT,	G. ORSER,	J. NOBLE,
C. BELL,	E. McLEOD,	J. GUNTER,
G. A. HARTLEY,	J. PERREY,	W. DOWNEY,
W. KINGHORN,	A. TAYLOR,	E. SISSON,
B. F. RATTRAY,	C. DOUCETT,	J. WALLACE,
E. SIPRELL,	S. CURRY,	

LICENTIATES.

J. N. BARNES, J. PARSONS, S. DOWNEY, S. RIDEOUT.

DELEGATES.

SAMUEL BISHOP,	} FIRST DISTRICT.
WILLIAM McDOUGAL,	
ELISHA BAKER,	} SECOND DISTRICT.
ALEX. McLEAN,	
THOS. GALLOP,	} THIRD DISTRICT.
S. PARENT,	
DAVID BITT,	} FOURTH DISTRICT.
THOS. NASON,	
T. W. CARPENTER,	} FIFTH DISTRICT.
P. SMITH,	
WM. PETERS,	} SIXTH DISTRICT.
ROBERT McLEOD,	
NOAH STEEVES,	

B. J. UNDERHILL,	} CLERKS.
E. M. TRUESDALE,	

VISITORS.

ELDER STEVENS,	} FREEWILL BAPTIST MINISTERS FROM MAINE.
" JELLISON,	
" T. KENNEY,	
" Y. WHITE,	

ELDER E. McLEOD unanimously chosen Chairman for the ensuing year, in the room of Elder B. Merritt, resigned.

Annual Report of the Corresponding Secretary read as follows:—

REPORT

Of the Corresponding Secretary of the Free Christian Baptist General Conference of New Brunswick, presented at their Twenty Eighth Annual Session, held at Woodstock, July 7th, 1860.

BELoved FATHERS AND BRETHREN,—

The expiration of another year and the return of the period when we re-assemble in General Conference, reminds me of my duty as your Corresponding Secretary, and imposes on me the task of preparing for your consideration and acceptance the Annual Report of the condition of our Denomination, with such additional facts and suggestions as may seem to be advantageous to our Churches and people.

In no former year did I enter upon this duty with such feelings as at present,—at no former period in our history was this duty so difficult, because never before were our circumstances the same, and each year in our history, as a matter of course increases not only our responsibility to God and the people among whom we are planted, but also calls for a greater measure of wisdom and energy to carry forward the work which we believe the Holy One has assigned to us.

I cannot refrain from reminding you that we live in an extraordinary age.—View it in what light we may—from what stand point we please—it is an age of wonder. In every nation, and in every feature of society, fears and hopes are strongly blended, and such is the uncertainty of events and the suddenness with which they occur, that we know not what a day may bring forth. They who look to the earth can behold little else but trouble and darkness, dimness and anguish; while those who look to God and rely on the word of His grace behold light in the midst of the darkness, and remember with hope and assurance that the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.

The extraordinary outpouring of the Holy Spirit which has characterised the history of the last two years in both the United States and Great Britain, with many other countries, reinvigorating the church in both her ministry and her members, and adding such vast numbers to her ranks, from almost every condition and state of society, calls from all christians devout thanksgiving and praise to Almighty God. Truly in view of the past we may couple with the exclamation "What hath God wrought," the Divine challenge "Who shall limit the Holy One?"

The present year can be no other than one of great interest to christians. It seems to be emphatically a year of prayer. From a far distant land—from a place where within the memory of some of us here to-day—the living God was not worshipped—no christian temples were reared—an appeal—a fervent, heart-touching and soul quickening appeal comes up, not to a single section of the church—not to a mere portion of the great spiritual army—but to all christians—to ministers and laymen, to unite with one heart and with one accord in prayer to God, that the showers of blessings already vouchsafed to the churches in America and Great Britain may be extended, that Missionary fields may be blessed, and that the Great Head of the Church would hasten the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all lands.

The response to this Appeal was nearly universal. Everywhere, in Asia from whence the appeal came—in Africa, among the Missionary stations there—in Europe generally—and in this western hemisphere, almost without exception, christians gave themselves to prayer. That every prayer offered in devout dependence on God, and in humble faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, will have its answer in God's own time and way we cannot doubt. Bread cast upon the

waters will be found after many days; and so also they who wait for the Lord shall never be confounded.

The impression seems to be upon all christians who watch the signs of the times that important events are at the door: and the universal outpouring of the Spirit is anxiously looked for by many. Its very expectation gives impetus to efforts. The Bible Societies, Missionary Societies, Tract Societies, and other morally regenerating and redeeming agencies, are straining every nerve and exerting every power to extend their beneficence, and hasten the glorious period when the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth, as the waters cover the sea. When Judah shall no more vex Ephraim, nor Ephraim vex Judah, when the leopard and the kid shall lie down together, the calf, the young lion, and the fawning, and a little child shall lead them.

Shall not we who are here to-day join in one heart-felt prayer,—

Come thou long expected Saviour;
Prince of light, and source of good;
Come assert thy power to reign,
Rule the nations with Thy Word.

With this general and brief reference to the state and aspect of the religious world, I now draw nearer home, and offer a remark or two on the state of religion generally in our own Provinces.

Although no general revival has been experienced either in Nova Scotia or New Brunswick during the last year, yet there have been some things of an encouraging character. A spirit of union in some places among brethren of different denominations has been cultivated and cherished; union prayer meetings have been inaugurated in some cities and villages, some of which still continue and other efforts for reaching the masses have been instituted hitherto untried in our Provinces, but which in other places have proved successful, and have been signally blessed. Neither have our Provinces been without some mercy drops. Local revivals have occurred in several places, and a goodly number of souls have been born to God. A new feature in revival in this Province has been manifested in the work of God recently reported in Resipouche. On some things in this work we are not prepared to pass judgment: it seems to bear the character of the Irish awakenings, and we are content to allow God to carry on his own work in his own way. If souls are saved we should and do rejoice, and we do long for the advent of a power of Apostolic character, before which stubborn infidelity shall bow, and by which the spirit of worldliness and corruption shall be purged from the hearts and lives of those professing godliness.

Hitherto in all the Annual Reports which I have presented to you, it has been my pleasing duty to report large accessions to our number by conversions. The past year however, revival influences have been less felt among us than for several of the preceding years, and our churches have shared less in those seasons of grace so necessary to growth and enlargement, than some sister denominations. We have not however, been entirely destitute. The large accession to the church in this place, and which worships within these walls, calls forth our gratitude to God. The labours of our beloved brother Downy have been signally owned here the past year, as in other places the preceding one. And the encouraging fact we cannot pass over in silence, that among the number added to the church, one has already given indubitable evidence of being called of God to the work of the ministry, and has already successfully engaged in winning souls to Christ. Our prayer is, may he feel deeply the baptism of the Holy Spirit, anointing and qualifying him for a long and successful ministry, and let every heart respond, AMEN.

During the month of March the labours of brethren McMullen and Orser were instrumental in the promotion of revival at a place called Tobique first, and there have been twenty-one baptized. We learn that the moral change in this place is apparent to all acquainted with the community. Other revivals have also been promoted in this county, among which was one at Lower Brighton, under the labours of brethren Parsons and McMullen, and twenty-two were added to

the church. An extraordinary declension had existed in that church, but they have generally been revived and reclaimed, and now stand in good union.

In the eastern portion of our Conference but little revival interest has been felt, and but few additions have been made to our numbers. In Coverdale during the visit of brother Hartley to that place in March, a good work of grace was enjoyed and twenty-seven were added to the church. In two or three other localities some interest has been awakened, but as a general thing the cause is low.

The whole number added to our churches by baptism during the year is 216. This is a much less number than during any preceding year since I have acted as your Corresponding Secretary.

The general condition of our churches is not satisfactory; the most are without regular Ministerial care, while also many of our preachers have no stated fields of labour. Elements of anarchy and insubordination exist in some places which threaten the saddest consequences, and which require the prayerful consideration of this Conference. That our churches at the present period in their history do require the faithful and efficient oversight of judicious and well qualified overseers, no discriminating person can doubt.

Upon the deliberations and measures adopted by this Conference much depends. While we all are ready to acknowledge that unless God build the city the workmen labour in vain; yet it is equally true, that God will not build without the use and exercise of those means which He himself has ordained. Much depends upon the unity of those engaged in the work. But great care is required lest we mistake uniformity for unity, and in our zeal for the former, lose the latter and pull down rather than build up the cause we profess to love. The history of the past is full of lessons. Christ must be held as the head—in both faith and practice. He must be first, highest, greatest. Without this we must fall.—When our zeal for any thing consumes within us the Spirit of Christ, and forbearance becomes displaced by impatience, meekness by passion, love by envy, no matter then what our uniformity is, our unity is lost, and we shall be more apt to bite and devour each other, than to lay down our lives one for another.—The spirit of Christ must be cultivated, it is a tender plant, the weeds of selfishness are deadly poison to it, and it can only grow on soil moistened by the Holy Spirit.

It is of the highest importance that the scriptural relation between ministers and churches should be fully comprehended and understood. A defect in this may be attended with the saddest consequences. The ministerial office is of divine appointment, and attached to it are weighty and eternal responsibilities.—Its great end is "the perfecting of the saints," that "every man may be presented perfect in Christ Jesus." Without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, will the church be found in the day of God.

Who can contemplate the magnitude of this work, and not exclaim in relation to the instrumentalities employed in it; "Who is sufficient for these things?" He is really a minister of Jesus Christ who is called thereto as was Aaron. To preach the gospel is his office; to labour in word and doctrine; to watch for souls as one that must give an account. Ministers should be responsible men, invigorated with power from another life; in the midst of the world's gloom they are set to be its light; they are commissioned to reclaim a revolted world, and they bear from Jehovah himself the seal of their commission; hastening on to eternity to render their solemn account, there should be nothing eccentric or trifling in their movements. If moral dignity, consistent action, and inflexible fidelity belong to any class of men on earth, it is the ministers of Jesus Christ. The church is God's embattled host against his foes, and ministers under the great leader, are set to teach, to warn, to correct, to lead the sacramental army forward in her mighty struggle; always themselves being in the front of the battle, and receiving the first shock of the enemy.

With this view of the office and work of those who are set apart to preach the gospel, it is easy to conceive their necessity in the church, and the importance of

every church having the oversight of a judicious, intelligent, and faithful minister of Christ. The want of this has been a most serious drawback on the vigor and influence of many of our churches. The want of proper pastoral oversight and care has paralyzed their energies; large portions of some churches and communities have been lost to us, while some of our ministers also have felt the loss of not having the opportunity of carrying out the labour which constituted a part of the work to which they were called.

It may be that there are some cases in our ministry, where there is an unwillingness to settle down in the pastoral office, and to take the responsibility of watching for souls as those that must give an account. While also on the other hand there may exist in some churches the idea that regular ministerial labour and care is not necessary to their growth in grace and increase in the knowledge of God. These things are to be regretted. And I deem the subject of ministerial oversight in our churches, not only for preaching the gospel, but also for purposes of discipline of such importance that I cannot pass the matter over in silence, and I do hope that such measures may be adopted in this Conference as shall leave no minister without responsibility to some church, and no church without obligation and responsibility to some minister.

Neither let it be conceived for a moment that overseers in the church are mere "hirelings," employed for a year, like a schoolmaster, or labourer, then to be sent adrift at the caprice of two or three persons, whom they may have failed to please. They are set in the body by God's appointment, they are made overseers by the Holy Ghost, and it is God's approval that they should first seek.

The limits assigned to a Report forbid the discussion of these and other matters, and all we can do is to remind you of some of them.

Let us not separate this year, until we have, under the teachings of the Divine Wisdom, matured a plan for the most efficient care of our people; until we can go forth and say every minister will and shall devote himself to the work to which he has professed to be called: and every church is expected, and must cast into the Lord's treasury as he prospers them, for the maintenance of the Gospel, and the spread of the Kingdom of Christ.

Matters of a business nature will be laid before you by the proper persons at the proper time during the session.

Sabbath Schools will be reported on by a Committee appointed for that purpose. Praying that the divine blessing may rest upon us, and our Conference result in great good to our denomination, and the cause of God in general, I submit my report for your consideration and acceptance.

E. McLEOD.

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

MONDAY, 8 o'clock, A. M.

Social prayer meeting for one hour. Business Conference opened. After reading some extracts from Reports of District Meetings and conversation on various matters, the Chairman appointed the following Committees:—

On Sabbath Schools.—B. F. Ratray, W. Peters, Jos. Parsons.

On Temperance.—Saml. Hartt, E. M. Truesdale, J. Perry.

On the Sabbath.—E. Wayman, T. W. Carpenter, W. Downey.

Letters and Appeals.—J. Noble, P. Smith, R. McLeod, C. McMullin, C. E. Bell.

On the state of the Churches, and the best means of caring for them.—G. A. Hartley, B. Merritt, J. Gunter, N. Steeves, E. Baker.

On the Ministry.—J. Perry, E. Wayman, A. Taylor, G. A. Hartley, Jos. T. Parsons.

On Licentiates.—J. Noble, A. Taylor, J. Perry.

On Finance.—David Ebbitt, Robert McLeod, E. Baker, B. Merritt, C. McMullin, G. A. Hartley, E. Siprell.

To prepare a Chronological List of the Ministers of the Denomination.—B. J. Underhill, E. M. Truesdale.

Adjourned by prayer.

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

Opened by prayer.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools reported as follows :—

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools would lay before you the following Report :—

The institution of Sabbath Schools affords, we firmly believe, the most efficient means of imparting a thorough knowledge of the Word of God to the juvenile mind, and the education of the young in the great doctrines of the Cross, is of the highest importance, and to neglect the duty of imparting that knowledge, is a sin in the eyes of Him who has committed children to our care.

We must from the above considerations then, express our regret that a sufficient interest is not manifested in behalf of Sabbath Schools among those to whom the youth in a special manner are looking for spiritual instruction and counsel, and which is, we consider, one of the greatest deficiencies in our ministry as well as in those who should be nursing fathers and mothers. By the reports of the various delegates to their respective District Meetings, we have learned that during the past year very many Sabbath Schools, after flourishing for, from one to three and four years have been abandoned altogether, and this we can only account for on the ground that they have failed to receive that pecuniary support which such a noble institution has a right to look for and demand from those who profess to love God and his cause. However dark and portentous the scene may be, we are not altogether destitute of prospects of a very encouraging nature. Sabbath Schools are, we believe, a bright satellite lit up with the brightness of the Sun of Righteousness; a streamlet, deriving its waters from the great life-giving fountain, and in this we have hope.

We also find that in many parts of our Province, and in connexion with many of our churches, very flourishing Sabbath Schools are kept up, and the delight which the children display in them prove conclusively the unabating zeal and interest of their managers. And we would again elicit the attention of every friend of Sabbath Schools to the fact that almost invariably where Concerts are encouraged there a healthy Sabbath School

is exerting its glorious influence. In St. John, Carleton, Jerusalem, Hampstead Hall, Wickham, and other localities, there are to be seen the effectual working of Sabbath School Concerts.

Your Committee however, would suggest to this Conference the propriety of taking into consideration the advisability of holding Sabbath School Concerts upon the Sabbath day.

And we would also beg leave to caution all who are and may be engaged in them, to entirely reject anything in the nature of recitations, singing and addresses which would not be in accordance with the spirit of the Gospel.

We would also call the attention of our Sabbath School Superintendents and teachers to a very excellent Hymn-book for the use of Sabbath Schools, entitled the "Sabbath School Bell," in which is incorporated suitable tunes. Also to the necessity of keeping well furnished and suitable libraries without which we believe a very great and serious declension must be the result.

Hoping that those who are now engaged in teaching may not get weary in well doing, and that all who stand aloof may see the importance of co-operating with their brethren and sisters in the promotion of Biblical knowledge, and thereby be instrumental in the hands of the great shepherd of the sheep of turning many to him, and learn the beauty of his word, wherein he says by the mouth of his servant,—“He that winneth souls is wise,”

Respectfully submitted,

B. F. RATTRAY, Chairman.

Unanimously received.

THE SABBATH.

The Committee appointed to Report on the Sabbath, submitted the following:—

The institution of the Sabbath was designed by God as a sign between Him and us. Therefore the manner in which it is kept is a proof of our regard for Him. No person can be a consistent Christian and not hallow the Lord's Day. Your committee deeply regret the laxness with which some church members seem to regard the sanctification of the Sabbath. That it is not a day for visiting, sleeping or idle conversation, the Bible plainly teaches. He that would remain at home or visit, rather than attend a place of worship on the Sabbath, or allow his children or servants so to do, what ever may be his profession, has just grounds to question his union with God and his character as a christian. We are exorted "not to neglect the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is." We recommend that the burial of the dead be avoided in all cases on the Sabbath when practicable. We furthermore regret that the Laws now existing for the better observance of the Sabbath are not more rigidly enforced. Your Committee are gratified with the successful and beneficial effects of the discontinuance of Sabbath labour in the Post Office Department by the worthy ex-Postmaster General, Hon. C. Connell, and we sincerely hope his successor, Hon. James Steadman, may follow his praiseworthy example.

WILLIAM DOWNEY, Chairman.

Unanimously received.

ON LETTERS.

The Committee to whom was submitted several Letters and Appeals report as follows:—

1. The letter from S. Carlisle is *withdrawn*.
2. The letter from S. Erbb is referred to Committee on Finance.
3. The appeal from members of the church in Wakefield; your Committee recommend this Conference to respond to, by appointing disinterested brethren to take up all matters relative to the trial there and make decision.
4. Your Committee suggest that the thanks of the General Conference be tendered to the Hon. C. Connell for procuring for us a Church lot at the Grand Falls.

J. NOBLE, *Chairman*.

Unanimously received.

VOTED.—That Elders E. McLeod, S. Hartt, G. A. Hartley, and brother J. T. Parsons be Committee to tender thanks to Hon. C. Connell.

TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on Temperance beg to report that since the Temperance or Total Abstinence cause has been publicly advocated, it has by the blessing of God performed a mighty work in many parts of the world in reclaiming fallen and degraded men and reinstating them as useful and respectable members in society. Your Committee are of opinion that the cause of Temperance in many parts of this Province is on the wane at the present time, and that the drinking usages and drunkenness are advancing; and notwithstanding many individuals are doing all they can to sustain the good cause, your Committee fear that the professed friends of Temperance do not as a whole exert such an influence as will make the temperance movement progressive. Prohibition should be the motto and aim of every temperance man, and his labours and hopes should tend as far as possible to bring about the happy day when Prohibition from all that intoxicates will stand immovable on our Statute Books.

Your Committee recommend that a greater interest be manifested in the members of our several churches, and that a Total Abstinence Society be formed in connection with each individual church, and that all our preachers lend their aid and influence to sustain such societies.

S. HARTT, *Chairman*.

Unanimously received.

VOTED.—That the following brethren be a Committee to visit the second church in Wakefield, and make decision on the difficulties existing among them:—*i. e.*—Elders J. Noble, G. A. Hartley, J. Perry, E. Wayman, J. Gunter, and brethren P. Smith and Robert McLeod.

VOTED.—That—*Whereas* the use of the Wine in common use, is objectionable to be used by Churches upon Sacramental occasions, Therefore

Resolved—That our Churches be recommended to substitute Domestic Wine instead.

Passed unanimously.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

The Committee on the State of the Churches submitted the following Report:—

Your Committee on the State of the Churches and the best means of caring for them, beg to submit the following:

As far as your Committee are able to ascertain the state of our churches, they consider them generally low. In some heavy trials exist, while others are more

prosperous and quite efficient. In a portion of them the ordinance of the Lord's Supper is regularly administered, while in many others the sacrament is entirely neglected. During the past year quite a number of our churches have been without Pastors, and some of our Ministers without Churches. We learn that among those without ministerial labour are some that are fully able to secure and support a minister, but who seem careless about making any effort to do so. Your Committee are of opinion that a want of regular faithful ministerial labour and proper church discipline are among the prominent causes of their present low state, and believe that every church should have the labours of some faithful man of God, and carry out a proper course of discipline and regularly attend to the administration of the ordinances of the Gospel.

G. A. HARTLEY, *Chairman*.

A lengthy discussion took place on the above Report, which was not closed at the time of adjournment.

Adjourned by prayer to meet the next morning at 7 1-2 o'clock A. M.

TUESDAY MORNING SESSION, 7 1-2 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Social Prayer Meeting half an hour.

Business Session opened by prayer at 8 o'clock. Discussion on the Report on the state of the churches resumed.

Report unanimously received, whereupon the following Resolution was submitted:

RESOLVED, That our Churches be divided into proper circuits of care, to each of which one or more Ministers shall be appointed to labour on the condition that a mutual arrangement can be entered into between the preachers and churches of the district to which they are appointed by the Conference, similar to the plan adopted in 1858.

After a very lengthy and warm discussion on this resolution it was passed, and our churches laid off in the following circuits and the Ministers appointed to labour on each whose names are annexed.

1st Circuit. Port Fairfield, Portash—Tobique River—Elder Currey.

2nd Circuit. Indian Land, Monquot, Upper Brighton, Beckagumick, Holme's Church, Middle Brighton, Lower Brighton, and Head Presquise Island, Elders McMullin and Orser, and brother Rideout Licentiate.

3rd Circuit. Ghee, Gallop, Greenfield and Perkins' Corner, Elder Siprell.

4th Circuit. Presque Isle, Bridgewater, Letter B, Mouth Presque Isle, Elder Bell.

5th Circuit. Victoria Corner, Third Tier, Williamstown and Palmer Settlement, no appointment.

6th CIRCUIT. Woodslock, Upper Woodstock, Lower Jackson-town, and 7th Tier, Elders Downey and White.

7th CIRCUIT. Southampton, Campbell Settlement, Caverhill Set- tlement, Upper Queensbury, Bear Island, Lower Queensbury, and Dumfries, Elder Barnes and brother Vanwart Licentiate.

8th CIRCUIT. Kingsclear, Fredericton, Douglas, and Nashwaak, Elders McLeod and Kinghorn.

9th CIRCUIT. Rushagornish, Lincoln, Mouth Oromocto, and Gary, Elder French.

10th CIRCUIT. North and South Branches of Oromocto, Elder Doucet.

11th CIRCUIT. Lower Hampstead, New Ireland, Upper Gagetown and Upper Hampstead, Elder Taylor.

12th CIRCUIT. Head of Reach, Jones' Creek, French Neighbour- hood, and Jerusalem, Elders Conner and McKenzie.

13th CIRCUIT. Wicknam, Bald Hill, Shannon Settlement and Bellisle, Elder Merriitt and Brother Downey Licentiate.

14th CIRCUIT. St. John and Portland, Elder Perry.

15th CIRCUIT. Carleton, Elder Hartley.

16th CIRCUIT. Campobello and Grand Manan, Elder Wayman.

17th CIRCUIT. Springfield, Millstream, Upper Millstream and Mountain, Elder Gunter.

18th CIRCUIT. Four Churches on Washademoak Lake, Elder Dobson.

19th CIRCUIT. Upper Sussex, Portage, and Dutch Valley, Elder Rattray.

20th CIRCUIT. Four Churches on Peticodiac River, Elder Pen- nington.

21st CIRCUIT. River Church, Roache's, Ward's Creek, and Smith's Creek, Elder Wallace.

Adjourned by Prayer until 2 1-2 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 1-2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Opened by Prayer.

B. J. Underhill's account read, and handed to Committee on Finance to report upon.

VOTED, That the next Annual Session of the General Conference be held with the Church in Douglas, commencing the 1st Saturday in July 1860, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

VOTED, That the Rev. G. A. Hartley be Corresponding Secretary in the room of Rev. E. McLeod, resigned.

DELEGATION TO NOVA SCOTIA.

Elders G. A. Hartley and W. Downey, Delegates appointed at the last General Conference to visit the Nova Scotian Conference, Reported as follows:—

The Delegates appointed by this Conference at its last Session, to attend the General Conference of Free C. Baptists in Nova Scotia, beg to submit the following report:—

This Conference which meets in September, held its last Session at Barrington. It was the pleasure of your Committee to meet with them. Although there were quite a number of additions reported during the year, we did not consider, upon the whole, that there was the same tone of encouragement, nor such marks of prosperity as hitherto. One of the greatest hinderances that we discovered to their enlargement and usefulness as a religious denomination, is a want of that union and oneness of effort among the Ministers that is so essential to the prosperity of any people. Nearly all their Ministers were present, and a very fair representation of delegates. As it is at present with us, some of their Ministers are settled as Pastors over Churches, and others travel as itinerants. Some years since they organized a Home Missiary Society, but failed in carrying it out. Last year they organized another, which, if properly carried out, we think will result in doing them much good.

Your Committee was cordially received, and invited to aid them in the transaction of their business.

The social meetings were good but of no special interest

G. A. HARTLEY,
WM. DOWNEY.

Unanimously received.

VOTED, That Elders A. Taylor and E. McLeod be delegates to the next General Conference of Free C. Baptists in Nova Scotia.

Adjourned by Prayer to meet Wednesday morning.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION, 7 o'clock, A. M.

Social Prayer Meeting. Business Session opened at 8 o'clock, by prayer.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee on Finance beg to report, that they have audited the accounts and find them correct.

Out of the £689 3s. 9d. asked from the churches at the adjourned Conference held at Little River, in October 1868, we find that the sum of £500 7s. 1d. has been paid, £390 9s. 4d. of which was previously to the last General Conference, and £9 17s. 9d. since. Donations to the amount of £62 19s. 9d. have been made by individuals during the current year. We also find the amount due from the Churches according to the assessment made at the adjourned Conference, to be £332 16s. 8d.

Our entire liabilities, including interest, up to this date, is £564 6 10½. As assets we find in Books at cost and Book accounts, £25 7s. 11d.

Your Committee are persuaded that they have now got the whole amount, but are not able to recommend any method for its liquidation. We can only suggest that this Conference consult on this matter and devise the most effectual way in their judgment for such arrangement as will pay off the whole debt as soon as practicable.

DAVID EBBITT, Chairman.

Unanimously received.

£5 1s. 10½d. was paid at the Conference, reducing the total debt to £559 4s. 0d.

A long discussion took place on what means would be most judicious to adopt to raise the amount necessary to liquidate the claims against the Denomination; the following resolutions were finally adopted:—

Resolved, That four Preachers be appointed to travel throughout the Churches and collect the balance yet unpaid of the amounts requested by the adjourned Conference; and also solicit all the aid possible toward paying the debt; and further

Resolved, That all the Ministers be required to give them their most hearty aid and influence in carrying out the object of their mission.

Resolved, That Elders C. McMullin, B. Merritt, G. A. Hartley, and J. Perry, be the Agents to act on the foregoing resolutions.

LICENTIATES.

The Committee on Licentiates reported as follows:—

Your Committee on Licentiates report as follows on the four brethren present, viz: Rideout, Barnes, Downey and Parsons:

In absence of any knowledge of Brother Ridecut's labour and efficiency in the ministry, refer his case to the Conference.

We recommend the Ordination of Brother Barnes as soon as practicable.

Your Committee also recommend the renewal of the Licenses of Brethren Downey and Parsons.

J. NOBLE, *Chairman*.

Voted, That brother S. Rideout's License be renewed.

Voted, That brother J. N. Barnes be ordained at Presque Isle next Sabbath.

Voted, That the Licenses of brethren S. Downey and J. T. Parsons, be renewed.

Adjourned until 2 o'clock, P. M.

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

Opened by prayer.

The following preamble and resolution being submitted, was adopted unanimously:—

Whereas, Brother Yerxa White, formerly an ordained Minister in the Free Will Baptist Denomination in the States, has applied to this Conference for membership, and has by a unanimous vote of the Elder's Conference been recommended to us, therefore

Resolved, That he be received as a member, upon being received into fellowship with some church in the denomination.

Voted, That a Committee be appointed to revise our Constitution, and that the following brethren be said Committee:—

Elders E. McLeod, G. A. Hartley, B. Merritt.

Voted, That the following brethren be a Board of Managers for the ensuing year:—

E. McLeod, B. J. Underhill, G. A. Hartley, D. W. Clark, Wm. Peters, Jas. Lake, B. Merritt, T. W. Carpenter, J. Gunter, E. M. Truesdale. Jas. Slip, Esqr., John Perry.

Resolved, That no preacher or lay member of any Church is justly liable to censure by his brethren in church connexion, or any other person or

persons on account of any unproven charge or charges preferred against him by any person or persons—inasmuch as one respectable man's word is as good as that of another—and law, justice and christian charity hold and view every person innocent until proved guilty.

Passed unanimously.

Voted, That 1500 copies of the Minutes of this Conference be printed, and that Elders G. A. Hartley and E. McLeod be a Committee to prepare them for printing.

Resolved, That the same amount as formerly asked of each Member of our Churches—viz., 1s. 3d., be still required of them; and that the Deacons of the several Churches collect and forward the same to the Treasurer, W. Peters, at St. John. Adopted.

Voted, That this Conference adjourn, to meet with the Church in Douglas the first Saturday in July, 1861.

FREE CHRISTIAN BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE in account with WILLIAM PETERS, Treasurer.

By amounts received for Conference Fund, from July 4th, 1859, to August 20th, 1860, inclusive.

1st Church Wakefield,	£3 5 0	Ch. Carpenter Settlement,	1 1 9
Jacob Gillis,	0 2 6	Mrs. Chandler Brown,	0 3 1½
Ode Dumphrey,	0 7 1½	1st Church Wakefield,	5 10 0
1st Church Brunswick,	0 5 0	Ch. Presque Isle, Tracy Mills,	3 10 0
Church, Kennebecasis,	0 5 0	Church Grandmanan,	0 5 0
1st Church Salisbury,	0 4 3	Church Woodstock,	2 0 0
2d Church St. John,	1 10 0	Ch. Upper Sussex, Branch,	1 0 0
2d Church Beckaguimic,	0 14 0	Church Upper Sussex,	1 1 4½
1st Church Sussex,	1 5 0	1st Church Hampstead,	3 0 0
Mrs. R. Dobson,	0 3 0½	Peleg Smith,	0 3 0½
4th Church Brighton,	0 3 9	Church Lower Brighton,	0 8 9
1st Church Brighton,	0 5 0	3d Church Wickham,	0 13 0
John Good, senr.,	0 5 0	1st Church Greenwich,	1 1 1
S. Wright,	0 5 0	2d Church Greenwich,	0 14 9
Ch. Beckaguimic, bek. setlmt,	0 10 0½	Ch. Bridgewater, Maine,	1 3 1½
— Cronk,	0 0 5	Church East, letter B.,	0 3 9
J. Beckwith,	0 6 3	Church, Mouth Presque Isle,	0 16 3
Jones Fitzherbert,	0 0 4½	Leonard Palmer,	0 2 6
Elijah Cauaman,	0 0 7½	Mr. Barter,	0 1 3
James Sharp,	0 0 5	Mary J. Mills,	0 1 3
Friend,	0 1 0	Isiah Miller,	0 3 9
Church, Big Presque Isle,	0 8 9	Samuel Hartt and Family,	0 6 3
Church Coverdale,	0 8 9	Edward Grass,	0 2 6
Richardson Webb,	0 5 0	Judah Hartt,	0 1 3
1st Church Saint John,	0 15 0	Chas. Rideout,	0 2 6
4th Church Hampstead,	0 13 0½	A. McLean,	0 2 6
2d Church Hampstead,	1 13 7	Thos. Slip,	0 3 1½
Church Middle Brighton,	0 8 9	Church, mouth Beckaguimic,	1 0 3
Church Beckaguimic,	1 5 11	Ch. at Five Points, Coverdale,	0 10 0
Church Kingsclear,	0 5 0		

To paid Geo. W. Day for printing Minutes of 1849, £10 0 0
 Balance on hand, 30 14 8½ £40 14 8½

FREE CHRISTIAN BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE in account with B. J.
1859. UNDERHILL.

July 1	By balance in hand as per account rendered,	£ 1 18 6
"	" cash per J. Powel, Dover Church,	2 0 0
"	" " per J. Goodspeed, Nashwak Church,	4 0 0
"	" " J. B. Cliff, Kingsclear do.	1 5 0
"	" " Harding Noble, per C. McMullin,	1 0 0
"	" " E. McLeod, Taylor Village Church,	4 5 0
"	" " J. Gunter, Douglass do.	4 13 14
"	" " J. Gunter for Isiah Hallett,	0 10 0
"	" " W. Downey for W. Slip,	1 0 0
"	" " W. Downey " Mrs. Geo. Vanwart,	1 0 0
"	" " W. Downey " Thomas Vanwart,	0 10 0
"	" " W. Downey " Nackawick Church,	1 0 0
"	" " W. Downey " Campbell Settlement do.	2 10 74
"	" " E. Wayman for Portage, Upper Sussex,	0 15 10
"	" " E. Wayman for Bellisle Creek Church,	1 3 0
"	" " E. Wayman for " Minutes,	0 2 6
"	" " E. Wayman for John Kingston,	0 5 0
"	" " E. Wayman for O. Dunphey,	0 7 14
"	" " E. Wayman for Seth McLeod,	0 5 0
"	" " J. Gunter for Andrew Gunter,	0 10 0
"	" " J. Gunter for Jas. Coperthwait,	0 15 0
"	" " J. Gunter, for Mrs. Lydia Coperthwait,	0 13 04
"	" " J. Gunter for Daniel Jones,	0 10 0
"	" " George Jonah for Books sold,	2 12 6
"	" " C. E. Bell for Minutes,	3 5 0
"	" " Mrs. R. Dobson for do.	0 3 14
"	" " Silas Lewis for do.	0 4 3
"	" " G. A. Hartley for do.	1 10 0
"	" " J. Noble for River Church,	5 15 0
"	" " J. Noble for Middleland do.	5 5 0
"	" " C. McMullin for Raipford Lovely,	0 5 0
"	" " C. McMullin for James Adams,	0 9 44
"	" " C. McMullin for Abraham Tompkins,	0 8 0
"	" " C. McMullin for Sarah DeMerchant,	0 5 0
"	" " C. McMullin for Geo. Ann Bishop,	0 5 0
"	" " C. McMullin for Mrs. B. Curry,	0 5 0
"	" " C. McMullin for Jonathan Curry,	0 5 0
"	" " C. McMullin for Edward Curry,	0 10 0
"	" " C. McMullin for Mrs. McNany,	0 5 0
"	" " C. McMullin for Mrs. Must Rideout,	0 10 0
"	" " C. McMullin for Beckagumie Church Minutes,	0 14 0
"	" " C. McMullin for do do liquidation,	5 12 74
"	" " John Wallace for Snider Mountain Church,	0 11 3
"	" " John Wallace for Kierstead Mountain do.	1 0 0
"	" " Isaac Davis for New Ireland do.	0 10 0

To carried up £51 18 104

1859		
July 4.	To paid Seth Erb on Note,	£10 0 0
	" paid William Peters money for Minutes,	8 0 11
	" Wm. Burr, Dover, Mrs. Estey's Missionary money,	2 10 0
July 8.	" Self per Order of Conference,	30 0 0
13.	" Loss on Central Money, £24,	0 7 10
20.	" Samuel McCready by Conference Order,	20 0 0
	" B. J. Underhill expenses to Sussex Vale and back,	0 15 0
Aug. 22.	" B. Reynolds rent,	13 0 0
Oct. 5.	" J. Perry, for Cottage Bibles,	0 8 4
7.	" B. Reynolds rent,	12 0 0
Dec. 1.	" B. Reynolds rent,	25 0 0
1860		
Feb. 24.	" B. Reynolds rent,	16 10 0
	" Rev. James Burns, £2 12s. sterling,	3 5 0
	" Rev. Dawson Eurns,	6 16 1
	" McLeod and Hartley balance,	1 18 11
	" E. Wayman, note,	25 0 0
	" Gilbert Perry on note,	12 14 3
	" B. Reynolds for rent,	35 0 0
		£223 6 4