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MINUTES

OF THE

TWELFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE,

OF THE

CANADIAN WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.

HELD AT CAVAN,

*New-Castle District,*

JUNE 9th, 1840.



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Elizabeth Ann  
Berry of Mill Brook

**M**INUTE  
enc  
dist Church  
Concession  
9th, 1840.

After the  
ing and Pr  
President;

Question  
ference?

Answer.—

James Jack  
James Bren  
John Wilki  
Edward Ba  
James Bell  
John Shilto  
James Hale  
Kennedy C  
Brinton P.  
Conrad Co  
James Will

N.B.—W

John Whal  
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Richard Blo

\* To be admoni  
in duty.

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**M**INUTES of the twelfth Annual Conference, of the *Canadian Wesleyan Methodist Church*; held in the Chapel, on the ninth Concession of Cavan, Newcastle District, June 9th, 1840.

After the opening of the Conference by singing and Prayer, *Michael Aikman*, was elected President; and *Kennedy Creighton*, Secretary.

Question 1.—Who are the Members of Conference?

Answer.—Elders.

James Jackson,  
James Brennan,  
John Wilkinson,  
Edward Bailey,  
James Bell,  
John Shilton,  
James Hales,  
Kennedy Creighton,  
Brinton P. Brown,  
Conradt Cope,  
James Williams,

Elders.

John C. Warren,  
John Reid,  
William Sparham,  
\* Trueman Cole,  
John Culham,  
Isaac Haney,  
William Shaw,  
Joseph Sheldon,  
Ira Marshall,  
Hervey Plum,  
William Martin,

N.B.—*William Jackson*, removed.

Answer.—Deacons.

John Whaley,  
Thomas Rump,  
Richard Bloomfield,

Robert Gary,  
John Crea,

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\* To be admonished by the Preacher in charge, to greater diligence in duty.

*Ans.*—Licentiates.

Darius Bettis,	James Laidley,
Thomas T. Howard,	David Nickerson,
James Craig,	Henry Johnson,

*Ans.*—Delegates.

William Hodgins,	—Goulbourne Circuit,
Reuben Brown,	} Lansdown and Rideau.
Gore Bell,	
Abraham Coon,	
John Swaine,	} Peterborough,
Moses Dundas,	
Nelson Hodgins,	} Cobourg and Hillier.
John Wright,	
James Lent,	
Michael Aikman,	} Hamilton Station.
Thomas Lottridge,	
No Delegate,	—Welland Canal Circuit.
Richard Decker,	—Ancaster and Nelson.
Oliver Todd,	—Humber and Trafalgar.
No Delegate,	—Caledon.
Matthew Lowery,	—Waterford.
Jonathan J. Tetezell,	—St. Thomas.
No Delegate,	—London.

*Quest.* 2.—Who have received license this year?

*Ans.*—James Laidley, and James Craig.

*Quest.* 3.—Whose licenses are renewed?

*Ans.*—Darius Bettis, Thomas T. Howard, David Nickerson, and Henry Johnson.

*Quest.* 4.—Who were elected and ordained Deacons?

*Ans.*—None.

*Quest.*  
Elders?

*Ans.*—

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Circuits.

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Uxbridge a

Waterford

St. Thoma

London,

Gosfield an

Members

Preacher

Total in

**Quest. 5.**—Who were elected and ordained Elders?

**Ans.**—James Hales and Kennedy Creighton.

**Quest. 6.**—Who are expelled?

**Ans.**—Abraham Crouter & John Sanderson.

**Quest. 7.**—Who are acknowledged withdrawn?

**Ans.**—Robert Earl, Alexander Anderson, and Moses Blackstock.

**Quest. 8.**—Have the characters of the preachers been examined?

**Ans.**—They have, impartially.

**Quest. 9.**—Who has died this year?

**Ans.**—John Pert.

**Quest. 10.**—What numbers are in Society?

**Ans.**

Circuits.	Members.
Goulbourne,	90.
Lansdown and Rideau,	225.
Peterborough,	290.
Cobourg and Hillier,	140.
Hamilton Station,	78.
Welland Canal Circuit,	102.
Ancaster and Nelson,	221.
Humber and Trafalgar,	100.
Caledon,	30.
Uxbridge and Markham,	20.
Waterford,	160.
St. Thomas,	230.
London,	60.
Gosfield and Thames,	100.
Members	1846
Preachers	83
Total in connexion	1879

**Quest. 11.**—Where are the Preachers appointed to labour this year?

**Answ.**—Lower District.

Goulbourne Circuit, James Craig.

Lansdown & Rideau, James Hales, Darius Bettes

James Hales, *Chairman.*

Peterboro District.

Peterboro,—Kennedy Creighton.

Cobourg and Hilliar,—James Bell.

James Bell, *Chairman.*

Hamilton District.

Hamilton Station,—Thomas T. Howard.

Ancaster and Nelson Cts.—John Wilkinson.

Humber and Trafalgar,—Edward Bailey.

Caledon,—John Shilton.

John Wilkinson, *Chairman.*

Welland Canal,—James Brennan.

James Brennan, *Chairman.*

London District.

Waterford & St. Thomas,—James Jackson & one to be supplied.

London,—James Laidley.

Gosfield & Thames,—To be supplied.

James Jackson, *Chairman.*

**Preachers' Address.**

James Hales,

Newborough.

James Craig,

Huntley.

James Bell,

Picton.

Kennedy Creighton,

Cavan.

Edward Bailey,

Trafalgar.

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John Wilkinson,	Dundas.
Thomas T. Howard,	Hamilton.
James Brennan,	St. Catherines.
James Jackson,	Simcoe.
James Laidley,	London.

### Resolutions of Conference.

*Resolution 1.* That the Union of the *Methodist New Connexion* and the *Canadian Wesleyan Methodist Bodies*, is desirable for the following reasons, viz :—

1st.—The Union of the two bodies would prevent the introduction of an additional *Sect* into the Province; the Missionary Committee of the *Methodist New Connexion*, having resolved to establish a Mission in the *Upper Province*, it is desirable that one of the two many Sections of Methodists, should unite with them to carry their object into operation.

2nd.—By uniting the members and influence of the *Canadian Wesleyan Methodist* body, with the counsel and other help of the *Methodist New Connexion* body, a greater facility would be afforded for extending the Empire of the blessed Saviour.

3rd.—That as it is an incontrovertible fact that we could do more good in a united, than in an isolated state, seeing we are agreed in doctrine, mode of worship and in the great outlines of Church Government; it would be a cause of deep regret to every lover of Christianity to see us laboring in a disunited state in this Province.

*Resolved, 2nd.*—That the Union of the *Methodist New Connexion* and the *Canadian Wes-*



leyan bodies, is practicable on the following grounds.

1st.—That all the *local* preachers now in the *Canadian Wesleyan Church*, be entitled to stand in the same relation to the *united* body and enjoy the same privileges they now do, in the *Canadian Wesleyan Church*; and all local preachers hereafter received, shall submit to the rules and graduate according to the regulations of the *Methodist New Connexion*; and enjoy such privileges as it provides.

2nd.—That the forms for *Sacraments, Marriages and Ordination of Elders* used among the *Canadian Wesleyans*, be retained.

3rd.—That in future, *Circuit or Itinerant Preachers* shall be received and graduate in the *United body*, according to the rules of the *Methodist New Connexion*; and when eligible to be received into full connexion, they may be *Elected and Ordained Elders*.

4th.—That the quarterage from the *People* be regulated according to the circumstances of this country.

5th.—That for the present, the name of the *United body* be, the "*Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion*."

6th.—That legal advice be taken during this *Conference year* on the *Chapel property* of the *Canadian Wesleyan Methodist body*.

7th.—That the *Canadian Wesleyan Methodist Preachers* be received according to their various standings in the *Canadian Wesleyan Methodist body*; and that the salary of each preacher be in accordance with the resolution of the En-

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English Missionary Committee; which is as follows,

“*Resolution 3rd.*—That in relation to the contributions from the Missionary funds towards the support of those Preachers who may be employed, the Committee agree to grant (subject to future alterations as the case may require,) Twenty Pounds per annum towards the support of a married, and Twelve Pounds per annum towards the support of a single preacher; these sums to form the maximum of allowance in addition to what may be raised on the stations: and that it be left to Mr. *Addyman's* discretion to apportion the grants with a due regard to economy and the necessities of each particular case.”

8th.—That the Preachers be required to subscribe to the Doctrines and to the great fundamental principles of the *Methodist New Connexion.*

9th.—That after considering the recommendation and kind offer of the Missionary Committee, a paternal and beneficent fund be established. The recommendation and offer referred to, are as follow,

“*Resolved 4.*—The Committee convinced of the necessity of the connexion in Canada forming a body of itself, as in Ireland, with funds for the support of superannuated preachers, their widows and orphans; and the children of preachers; earnestly recommend to the friends in Canada the establishment, as speedily as possible, of such funds. And as an expression of good

will and sympathy, the committee do grant the sum of thirty pounds annually to each fund; until in the judgment of conference, it shall not be longer necessary."

10th.—That as the great principles of the Methodist New Connexion body are the same as those which have hitherto governed the *Canadian Wesleyan Methodist* body; we see nothing to prevent the Union; but as there is a difference in some circumstantial, we propose that for the present the Quarterly Conferences and Annual Conferences be constituted as heretofore, by the *Canadian Wesleyan Methodist* body.

*Resolved* 3.—That the Resolutions, terms and arrangements of this Conference, in reference to the union be laid before the Circuits of the *Canadian Wesleyan Methodist Church*; and that their opinion and decision be forwarded to the Executive Committee immediately.

*Resolved*, 4.—That in case these resolutions, terms, and arrangements, be acceptable, that steps be immediately taken for carrying the union into effect.

*Resolved*, 5.—That should the terms be declined; the representatives of the *Methodist New Connexion*, desire to express their sincere regret at the event; and state that they will consider both bodies free to pursue its own independent course; so that if disappointed in being one in name, they may have the happiness of being one in Christian Spirit and abundant usefulness.

*Resolved*, 6.—That an executive committee.

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be appointed to correspond with the Missionaries of the *Methodist New Connexion*; and attend to other business during the ensuing year, consisting of MICHAEL AIKMAN, JAMES BRENNAN, THOMAS LOTTRIDGE, & THOS. T. HOWARD.

N.B.—All Letters to the Executive Committee, to be addressed "*Hamilton, Gore District, (Post Paid.)*"

*Resolved, 7.*—That the 17th Resolution of the Conference of 1839, be adopted as a rule; which is, as follows: *Res. 17.* That each Travelling Preacher receive Twenty five Pounds salary for each year he travels; that there be a yearly Conference Steward appointed; and that all monies received over and above said twenty-five Pounds, shall be put into the hands of the Circuit Steward of each Circuit; and that he shall refund said Monies to the yearly Conference Steward to be disposed of, as the Conference may think proper.

*Resolved, 8.*—That the preachers be particularly requested to act this year on the 18th Resolution of the Conference of 1839, which is, as follows: *Res. 18.* That it be the Duty of each minister in charge of a circuit or station to make a return to the Annual Conference every year, of all the members of Society, their families and dependants, and the probable number of all the Congregations under his care; agreeable to the form hereunto annexed: and that said return be published in the minutes each year.

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**CIRCUITS**

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**STATIONS.**

Number of Appointments.	Members in Church.	Members and Families with their dependants.	Probable number of attendants on Public Worship.
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*Quest. 12.*—Who shall compose our next annual Conference?

*Answ.*—All Preachers in orders and eligible to orders and all other Preachers in charge of circuits; and an equal number of Delegates; together with the Missionaries of the *Methodist New Connexion* from Lower Canada.

*Quest. 13.*—When and where shall our next Annual Conference be held?

*Answ.*—In the *Canadian Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, at Hamilton, Gore District*, on the second Tuesday in June, 1841.

**A D D R E S S**

OF THE

**TWELFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE,****To the Members of Society, 1840.**

*Dear Brethren,*

In addressing you at the conclusion of another Annual Conference, we cannot express our desires and Prayers, more appropriately, than, by adopting the language of the Apostle Paul; “Grace, Mercy and Peace be unto you

from God Christ.” the friend (while we vere confi which (con enjoy,) pla “watch for account, th grief.”

Suffer us an importa guage of In wherewith entangled a “union is s with us in e God, and th ing the Re

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from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ." The relation in which we stand to, and the friendly aid that we have received from you, (while we were enduring incessant toils and severe conflicts, in order to retain that liberty which (consistent with the Gospel) we mutually enjoy,) place us under obligations continually to "watch for your souls, as those that must give account, that we may do it with joy and not with grief."

Suffer us, then, Brethren, in the discharge of an important Duty, to exhort you in the Language of Inspiration to "stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again in the yoke of bondage;" and as "union is strength" we entreat you to engage with us in endeavouring to promote the Glory of God, and the Happiness of mankind, by extending the Redeemer's Kingdom.

Having in view the prosperity of the Church by establishing our system more permanently, and extending our labours more widely, we have during this Session of Conference deliberately considered the proposed Union with the *Methodist New Connexion*; as appears from the foregoing Resolutions. We discovered by a critical investigation of their principles; and by comparing their Discipline with ours; that, we need not sacrifice any fundamental principle nor violate any General rule of our Discipline, in order to effect an union with them: inasmuch as the economy of their Church is founded on the design of Imparting to the Societies the sacred

privileges of the Gospel, by granting the admission of lay representation, into every department of the Church.

Under these circumstances, we have agreed on the terms of Union ; leaving it open for your Investigation, and also for the consideration of the Executive Committee, of the *Methodist New Connexion*, in England. But for the present all the business of the Church will be transacted according to the *Canadian Wesleyan Discipline*. When the terms of Union are fully ratified our Executive Committee will convey the information of it to all the Circuits in the Province ; after which we will labour in Union with the *Methodist New Connexion*. And even then, we will not lose our name, but like the sacred Matrimonial Contract, this union will constitute us no more twain but one body.

In expression of our sentiments, Brethren, relative to the union, we believe that God has thereby provided assistance for us, in the use of which we trust that precious souls will be brought to Christ ; which is the Great object for which we labour. We expect, therefore, to receive your hearty Concurrence and aid in endeavouring to attain so desirable an end.

Three Missionaries of the *Methodist New Connexion*, attended our Conference ; viz. the Rev'd. Messrs. Addyman, Crofts & Hutchinson, whose candor, talents and respectable deportment, reflect credit on the Judgment of that Christian Body, which entrusted them with a charge so important in its nature. Their labours were useful in an eminent degree, during the ses-

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sion of Conference in this place. We expect that one or more of them will visit each circuit in this Province during the present Conference year. May their coming be like the coming of the ark to the house of Obed-edom ; viz. accompanied with abundant blessings.

We have cause to rejoice that while our prospect seemed dark and while in the minds of some all hopes of future prosperity became extinct, we see the clouds dispelling and the shades fleeing as from the approach of day. Instead of falling into a state of anarchy or of becoming extinct as a church ; we expect to grow firmer as to our establishment and more decorous as to our Economy. While we were praying to the Lord of the harvest to send forth more labourers into his harvest, he has procured assistance for us in a way which we knew not of ; We therefore hail them as the harbingers of Peace and good will.

And now, Brethren, as the Israelites all moved together when the ark of God went before them, (the Pillar of Cloud and of fire leading them in the way,) so, let us in Union with one another move forward, in the cause of our Divine Master. Aid us by your Prayers ; Be united ; be faithful ; be persevering : trust in God, and be not soon shaken in your mind ; but hold fast the beginning of your Confidence steadfast unto the end.

*Ministers of the Gospel*, remember your high calling and endeavour by all means to save souls. Are we not too remiss in the important Duties of visiting from house to house ? We



should endeavour by private admonition to bring souls to Christ, ever bearing in mind the advice of the Apostle Paul ; "Be instant in season, and out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and Doctrine, Let us not assume the airs or manner of the fop, neither the degrading character of the sloven. But let us move in the dignified medium of decent deportment ; and then we shall appear respectable in our private walks and consistent in discharging our public Duties ; that the Gospel be not blamed. Be particular in explaining to the societies the terms of Union that all may understand and engage in it.

Finally, Be ye all of one mind ; live in Peace, and the God of Love and Peace shall be with you ; and in his Presence ye shall have fulness of joy. Praying, that ye may enjoy prosperity while engaged in your work of faith and labour of love ; and praying that this year may be as a year of Jubilee in all our borders, we subscribe ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

MICHAEL AIKMAN,  
*President.*



