

U. W. O. LIBRARY  
EXTRACTS

FROM THE

MINUTES

OF THE

Fourteenth Annual Conference

OF THE

MINISTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE PEOPLE DENOMINATED

BIBLE CHRISTIANS,

HELD IN

THE BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHAPEL, MITCHELL,

Begun on Thursday, June 4th, and Ended on  
Thursday, June 11th, 1868.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONFERENCE,

AND SOLD BY F. ROBINS, BOOK STEWARD, BOWMANVILLE,  
AND ALL THE ITINERANT PREACHERS.

PRICE SEVEN CENTS.

BOWMANVILLE:

PRINTED AT THE "STATESMAN" OFFICE, KING STREET, BY W. R. CLIMIE.

1868.

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## FOURTH

Question 1.—V

Answer.—Jose

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REPRESENT

John Vanstone

Samuel Vanst

James Pickard

PREAC

Paul Robins, s

John Hicks E

Thomas Green

John Edwards

John Williams

Jacob Gale,

Jesse Whitlock

William R. Ro

William S. Pa

David Canton

Thomas R. H

Garrance T. C

George Webbe

Edward Robe

William Jolliff

Archibald Clai

John Kinsey,

William Wade

John Harris,

Richard Hick

CEPHAS

and JOHN W

Resolution

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services as Pr

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# EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

*Question 1.*—Who compose this Conference?

*Answer.*—Joseph Hoidge, President of the Conference, 1867.

Cephas Barker, Secretary

William Hooper, Superintendent of the Exeter District.

Robert Hurley, " Wisconsin "

## REPRESENTATIVES SENT BY THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICT MEETINGS.

John Vanstone, sent by Cobourg District.

Samuel Vanstone, " Bowmanville "

James Pickard, " Exeter "

## PREACHERS SENT BY THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICT MEETINGS.

Paul Robins, sent by Bowmanville District.

John Hicks Eynon, " "

Thomas Greene, Exeter "

John Edwards, " "

John Williams, Bowmanville "

Jacob Gale, " "

Jesse Whitlock, " "

William R. Roach, Exeter "

William S. Pascoe, Bowmanville "

David Cantlon, Cobourg "

Thomas R. Hull, Bowmanville "

Garrance T. Colwell, Exeter "

George Webber, " "

Edward Roberts, " "

William Jolliffe, Bowmanville "

Archibald Clarke, Cobourg "

John Kinsey, Exeter "

William Wade, " "

John Harris, Bowmanville "

Richard Hicks, " "

CEPHAS BARKER was elected President; WILLIAM S. PASCOE, Secretary;  
and JOHN WILLIAMS Journal Secretary.

*Resolution 1.*—That the very sincere and hearty thanks of this Conference be tendered to the brethren Joseph Hoidge and Cephas Barker, for their valuable services as President, and Secretary, during the past year.



Q. 2.—Who remain on the list of Approved Preachers?

Francis Metherall, (Superannuated)	David Cantlon,
Paul Robins,	Thomas R. Hull,
John Langdon, (Superannuated)	George Bodle,
John Hicks Eynon, do	Garrance T. Colwell,
Abraham Morris, do	Andrew Gordon,
John Brown Tapp, do	Isaac Ashley,
Thomas Greene,	George Webber,
John Edwards, (Supernumerary)	Edward Roberts,
Robert Hurley,	William Jolliffe,
John Chapple,	Henry James Nott,
John Williams,	Archibald Clarke,
Cephas Barker,	Henry Newcombe,
William Hooper,	Edward Price,
Henry Ebbott,	John T. Sencabaugh,
Joseph Hoidge, (Supernumerary)	John Kinsey,
George Hayercraft, (Superannuated)	George Dunkley,
John Watson Butcher,	Samuel Jolliffe,
Jacob Gale,	William Wade,
Jesse Whitlock,	William P. Hunt,
William Woodman,	Walter Ayers,
William R. Roach,	John Harris,
William S. Pascoe,	Richard Hicks, (Supernumerary)
Henry Kenner,	James J. Rice.

Q. 3.—Who are admitted into full connexion?

Charles J. Pearse,	Lewis W. Wickett,
--------------------	-------------------

Q. 4.—Who remain on trial?

Mark Browning, *	Richard T. Courtice,
William Heysett,	William Hodnett,
Thomas W. Glover,	William Kinley,

These have traveled THREE years.

William C. Beer.

He has traveled TWO years.

James Collins, 1st,

Robert Baker,

Alexander Richard.

These have traveled ONE year.

Q. 5.—Who are admitted on trial?

James Collins, 2nd,

Roger Allen,

\* M. Browning remains on Trial at his own request.

Q. 6.—

SELF-

O

Cobourg  
Port Hope  
Bowman  
Hampton  
Mariposa  
Exeter...  
Palmyra

Total

M

Peterborough  
Dummer  
Hunting  
Hungerford  
Seymour  
Perryton  
Oshawa  
Pickering  
Scott...  
Prince...  
Fenelon  
Mitchell  
Clinton  
London  
Dereham  
Grey...  
Usborne  
Colborn  
Rockliffe  
Olevala  
Orange  
Lisbon,  
Yorkville  
Illinois,  
Littleton  
Charlotte  
Vernon  
Murray  
Ebenezer  
Bideford  
Grand...

Total

Grand

Q. 7

A.—

## Q. 6.—What are the statistics of the Connexion?

SELF-SUSTAINING CIRCUITS.		Itinerant Preachers.	Local Preachers.	Chapels.	Other Places.	Deaths.	Removals.	On Trial.	Members.	Totals.	Teachers.	Scholars.
Cobourg.....	2	12	4			3	3	27	160	187	44	283
Port Hope.....	2	12	5	1	1			7	197	204	64	249
Bowmanville.....	5	13	9	1	6	22	37	388	425	74	415	
Hampton.....	2	20	11	1	5	20	5	354	359	131	565	
Mariposa.....	2	15	10	1	2	37	24	338	362	55	371	
Exeter.....	2	13	8	3	2	18	15	336	351	97	742	
Palmyra.....	1	9	2	5		3	10	73	83	36	160	
Totals in Circuits.....	16	94	49	12	19	103	125	1846	1971	501	2755	
MISSIONS.												
Peterboro.....	1	3	4	2	4	7	3	135	128	35	210	
Dummer.....	1	2	1	2	2	9	1	77	78	6	40	
Huntingdon.....	1	7	2	7		6		117	117	22	120	
Hungerford.....	1	3	3	5		6		168	168	7	86	
Seymour.....	1	1	2	2	1		20	81	101	8	48	
Perrytown.....	1	3	4	1	1	3		54	54	8	40	
Oshawa.....	1	1	1		1	6	8	84	92	22	115	
Pickering.....	1	4	5	2		4	18	74	92	21	102	
Scott.....	2	5	4	2	1	4	14	41	55	15	149	
Prince Albert.....	3	11	5	3		6	4	112	116	43	195	
Fenelon.....	1	7	2	4				104	104	14	55	
Mitchell.....	2	11	6	3	2	26	11	292	303	41	370	
Clinton.....	1	2	4		2	14	2	77	79	24	90	
London.....	2	7	2	2		2	16	127	143	33	205	
Dereham.....	2	6	3	2		3	3	76	79	7	40	
Grey.....	1	1	2	2				32	32			
Usborne.....	2	6	8	2	1	11	16	186	202	56	200	
Colborne.....	2	4	3	4	1		13	103	116	13	70	
Rockland.....	1	2	1	2	1	62		121	121	18	118	
Cleveland, U. S.....	1		1			9	16	73	89	15	140	
Orange & Chagrin Falls, U.S.	2	5	3	1	2	1	12	100	112	38	192	
Lisbon, U. S.....	2	1	1	2		1	15	74	89	15	93	
Yorkville, U. S.....	1	12	4	5	4	9	76	146	222	24	131	
Illinois, U. S.....												
Little Prairie, U. S.....	1	1		4	1	2	1	40	41	12	85	
Charlotte Town, P. E. I.....	2	12	7	2	2	5	2	204	206	23	230	
Vernon River, P. E. I.....	1		5					89	89	10	135	
Murray Harbour, P. E. I.....	1		2	4			1	53	54	4	50	
Ebenezer, P. E. I.....	2	8	1	7				87	87	7	75	
Bideford, P. E. I.....	1	1	2	5				54	54	6	45	
Grand River & Three Rivers.	1	1	2	4				31	31	2	30	
Totals in Missions.....	42	127	90	81	26	196	252	3012	3264	549	3453	
Grand Total.....	58	221	139	93	45	299	37	4858	5235	1050	6208	

## Q. 7.—How are the Preachers stationed?

A.—As follows:

I. COBOURG DISTRICT.

- 1.—*Cobourg*—G. Webber.
- 2.—*Port Hope*—E. Price, J. B. Tapp, Superannuated.
- 3.—*Peterboro'*—J. W. Butcher.
- 4.—*Dummer*—W. Woodman.
- 5.—*Huntingdon*—G. Bodle.
- 6.—*Hungerford*—A. Gordon, J. Collins, 1st.
- 7.—*Seymour*—C. J. Pearse.
- 8.—*Perrytown*—J. Gale.

C. Barker, Superintendent of the District.

II. BOWMANVILLE DISTRICT.

- 9.—*Bowmanville*—W. Jolliffe, J. J. Rice; P. Robins, Book Steward, C. Barker, Editor.
- 10.—*Hampton*—T. R. Hull, R. T. Courtice; J. Hoidge, R. Hicks, Supernumeraries. T. R. Hull to reside at Columbus.
- 11.—*Oshawa*—W. S. Pascoe.
- 12.—*Mariposa*—J. Whitlock; T. W. Glover.
- 13.—*Pickering*—J. Williams.
- 14.—*Prince Albert*—D. Cantlon, R. Baker; J. Langdon, Superannuated.
- 15.—*Scott*—G. Dunkley, A. Morris, Superannuated.
- 16.—*Fenelon*—J. Harris.

J. Hoidge, Superintendent of the District.

III. EXETER DISTRICT.

- 17.—*Exeter*—W. Hooper, J. Collins, 2nd, J. Edwards, Supernumerary.
- 18.—*Mitchell*—A. Clarke, T. Greene.
- 19.—*Clinton*—W. R. Roach.
- 20.—*Grey*—W. Heysett.
- 21.—*Colborne*—J. Kinsey.
- 22.—*Usborne*—G. T. Colwell, M. Browning.

W. Hooper, Superintendent of the District.

IV. LONDON AND CLEVELAND DISTRICT.

- 23.—*London*—E. Roberts, W. Hodnett.
- 24.—*Dereham and Ingersoll*—W. Wade, W. C. Beer.
- 25.—*Cleveland*—J. T. Sencabaugh.
- 26.—*Orange and Chagrin Falls*—L. W. Wickets, R. Allin.

E. Roberts, Superintendent of the District.

V. WISCONSIN DISTRICT.

- 27.—*Palmyra*—H. Kenner.
- 28.—*Lisbon*—S. Jolliffe; G. Baycraft, Superannuated.
- 29.—*Yorkville*—R. Hurley.
- 30.—*Illinois*.
- 31.—*Little Prairie*—H. Ebbott.
- 32.—*Rockland*—W. Ayers.
- 33.—*Portage Lake*—One from England.

R. Hurley, Superintendent of the District.

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## VI. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND DISTRICT.

- 34.—*Charlottetown*—J. Chapple, W. Kinley.  
35.—*Ebenezer*—A. Richard; F. Metherall, Supernannuated.  
36.—*Vernon River*—I. Ashley.  
37.—*Murray Harbour*—H. J. Nott.  
38.—*Grand River and Three Rivers*—W. P. Hunt.  
39.—*New Bideford*—H. Newcombe.

J. Chapple, Superintendent of the District.

### PRINTING PRESS.

*Res. 28.* 1.—Believing that the *Observer* has become a necessity for our connexional influence and power, we decide that it be continued as our denominational organ, under the editorship of brother Barker; and that as the duties of the editor require that he should be freed from the responsibility of a circuit; we decide that he be set down for Bowmanville as Editor. Arrangements to be made respecting his Sabbath day appointments.

2.—That as we have premises in Bowmanville suited to the purpose of a printing establishment, the connexional committee be requested to make the necessary arrangements for the printing office there, and determine the amount of rent to be paid for the portion of the premises so to be occupied.

3.—That to raise the necessary funds, a general appeal be made throughout the connexion; and that the following brethren be appointed to canvass for that purpose:—Br. Hoidge in the Cobourg, Bowmanville, Exeter and London and Cleveland Districts; Br. Chapple in Prince Edward Island District; Br. Hurley in Wisconsin District, and Br. Ayers in Rocklaid and Portage Lake Stations; the money to be paid on or before the first of November next.

4.—That no liabilities be incurred for the Printing Press until the sum of \$2,000 be paid, or a sufficient guarantee given for the amount. Should such amount, or guarantee not be forthcoming, the *Observer* be continued as at present.

5.—That the connexional committee supervise the publishing of the paper, and the management of the printing establishment, when said establishment shall be called into existence, by appointing a sub-committee for that purpose.

### FINANCIAL RELATION OF STATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

*Res. 31.*—That as some of our friends in the United States think it would be to the interest of our cause there, to allow them to have the entire control of all their financial affairs; we resolve, that the matter of their entire independence in this respect be brought before the first Quarterly meeting of each station, to ascertain whether or not it be the general opinion of our leading friends there; and if it be, we consent that they be allowed after the next Conference, to apply all their finances as they think proper, with the understanding that they also provide for all their liabilities.

### CHARGE FOR PREACHERS' CHILDREN.

*Res. 32.*—That the charge to the Stations for the Children's Fund for the coming year be the same as last year; viz. \$40 with married preachers in full connexion; and \$100 with single preachers, and married preachers on probation.



## CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE.

*Res. 33.*—The time-honored custom of a fellowship meeting has been this year one of special blessedness and power: all the brethren who spoke bore clear testimony of conversion to God: some of a high degree of spiritual life. Most spoke of trial more or less severe, with doubt and duty, temptation and fear, self and sin; but all determined to be more than ever given to Christ and his work; so that when the season of christian fellowship below shall end, all may meet in the glorious home above.

## CONSTITUTION OF SABBATH SCHOOLS.

*Res. 37.*—That the Sabbath School constitution prepared by Mr. R. Moore, and submitted to this Conference, with certain alterations suggested by the conference itself, be adopted; that the thanks of the Conference be given to brother Moore for his kind and able effort in drawing it up, and that it be printed under the direction of the Connexional Committee.

## CHILDREN.

*Res. 38.*—That with the view of bringing the children of our members and friends into closer relationship to the church, we resolve:

1.—That where practicable, such of our Sabbath School and other children as shall accept an invitation to receive special religious instruction, be formed into catechumen classes, under the care of suitable persons, to be appointed by the Elders' Meetings; and that they be made the subjects of discipline, religious instruction, and encouragement suited to their age and capacity.

2.—That the names and attendance of said children be recorded in a book to be provided for that purpose, and that the returns be made annually, through the Quarterly and District Meetings to the Conference.

3.—That they be continued in this relation until the Elders' Meeting shall judge them fit to be received on trial for church membership, or they be otherwise removed from such relation by action of the Elders' meeting.

4.—In order that parents in the church and our friends generally may have these matters properly laid before them and explained, and that they may be induced to co-operate with the ministers in these attempts to train up their children in the Lord, we further resolve, that every pastor shall, as soon as possible, call a general church meeting to which he shall read these resolutions, offer what remarks he may think necessary, and take steps to carry into effect the directions herein contained.

## TEMPERANCE.

*Res. 40.*—We deeply regret that, notwithstanding the agencies employed to prevent the spread of intemperance; it still exerts its baneful influences around, withering the brightest prospects of youth, enfeebling the vigor of manhood, and dishonoring the gray hairs of age. Nor are its pernicious effects confined to time, but stretch through eternity—for "no drunkard can inherit the kingdom of God." We believe that the only ground of safety from its wiles is total abstinence from all intoxicants; and are rejoiced that the practice of abstinence though slowly, yet we believe, is surely and steadily gaining ground; and we hope that the day is not far distant when under its holy guardianship, the purity of woman, and the innocence of childhood shall be protected from the

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many evils which intemperance produces. For the consummation of this glorious object the earnest sympathy, hearty co-operation and fervent prayers of all who love the Lord Jesus Christ are necessary. It is high time for the church in relation to this matter to awake out of sleep. As a body of ministers and other officials of the church we solemnly pledge ourselves to use our best endeavour to serve the cause of temperance.

#### DUTY OF CIRCUIT STEWARDS.

*Res. 41.*—1.—That the Circuit Stewards of each Station shall be expected to visit the preacher's residence, and examine the furniture before the fourth Quarterly Meeting of each year, and report its condition to the said Quarterly meeting; and lay before it a statement of any items of furniture necessary to the comfort of the minister, and his family. They must also assist the newly appointed preacher in examining the furniture.

2.—That Article 2 under the heading "Circuit Stewards," on page 10 of the Digest, shall be and is hereby repealed.

#### MISSION GRANTS.

*Res. 45.*—That the following grants be made to the Mission Circuits for the year ending May 10th, 1869:

##### Peterboro'—All their Missionary Money.

Dummer—	do	do	
Seymour—	do	do	and \$ 50
Huntingdon—	do	do	" 40
Hungerford—	do	do	" 150
Perrytown—	do	do	" 70
Prince Albert—	do	do	" 150
Pickering—	do	do	
Scott—	do	do	" 170
Fenelon—	do	do	" 100
Oshawa—	do	do	" 80
Clinton—	do	do	" 100
London—	do	do	" 100
Dereham & Ingersoll—	do	do	" 250
Grey—	do	do	" 150
Usborne—	do	do	
Colborne—	do	do	
do	Special Grant		" 50

Lisbon—	do	do	
Yorkville—	do	do	
Little Prairie—	do	do	" 150
Rockland—	do	do	" 100
do	Special Grant		" 100
Bideford—	do	do	" 70
Murray Harbour—	do	do	" 50

Grand River and Three Rivers, left with the Committee.

#### Q. 8.—WHAT IS THE SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE CONNEXION.

A.—We are pleased to find from the reports of the several districts that God has

crowned the year with His goodness. On most of the Stations the Holy Spirit has been richly poured out, resulting in the quickening of believers and the conversion of sinners. Increasing activity has been manifested in the education of the rising generation; in providing facilities for the accommodation of those who desire to worship God—for the proclamation of the truth, and the salvation of souls. And although all the success that was anticipated has not been realized; yet, verily, the sower and the reaper have rejoiced together. We confidently hope the few who have died during the year, have been gathered home to be for ever with the Lord. We are nevertheless impressed with the fact that, although there has been a marked improvement in spirituality, yet we progress too slowly, and in view of the enemies the church has to encounter, the influence she is required to exert, the important and glorious mission she is called to fulfil, deeper toned piety, increased activity, unreserved consecration to God, and a richer baptism of the Holy Ghost are absolutely required.

#### STATISTICS.

*Res. 46.*—We are thankful to report a good degree of success during the past year; the word has been quick and powerful, resulting in the awakening and conversion of sinners, so that after allowing for deaths, removals, and unfaithfulness, we have a net increase of 2 itinerant ministers, 4 chapels, 148 persons on trial for membership, 101 members; Total 249. There have also been organized 23 additional Sabbath Schools, with an increase of 123 teachers, and 522 scholars.

#### JUBILEE FUND.

*Res. 47.*—That we regret the imperfect returns of subscriptions to the jubilee fund, and recommend that the names of subscribers, together with the amount subscribed not already returned, be collected if possible by the pastors on the several stations; and forwarded to the secretary of said fund, so that he may be able to prepare a list to compare with the amount in the hands of the General Treasurer, and, if thought proper, to prepare such list to be printed. That this may be effected the fund shall remain open another year.

#### THANKS.

*Res. 48.*—1.—That the thanks of the Conference be given to brother D. Cantlon, for the able and satisfactory manner in which he has filled the office of Missionary Secretary for the past three years.

2.—That the thanks of the Conference be respectfully presented to the Managing Director of the G. T. Railroad, for the special facilities afforded to its members in coming to and returning from this place.

3.—That the thanks of this conference be tendered to the friends in Mitchell, for the kind and hospitable manner in which they have received and entertained us during our session; and that a copy of the minutes of our proceedings be presented to those friends.

#### DESECRATION OF THE SABBATH.

*Res. 53.*—Being deeply convinced of the divine sanctity of the Sabbath, and that it is the imperative duty of all men strictly to observe it as a day of rest and devotion, we deeply deplore that it is not thus regarded by many in this Dominion; especially by Railway Companies who run their trains on this holy day. We therefore respectfully suggest to the authorities the necessity of enforcing the

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laws which prohibit Sabbath desecration. And we further resolve that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Hon. A. G. Archibald, Secretary of State.

### COMMITTEES.

**Q. 9.—Who are the Connexional, Missionary and Book Committees?**

**A.**—The President and Secretary of Conference, the Superintendents of Districts, the Missionary Secretary and Treasurer, the General Financial Secretary, P. Robins, W. Jolliffe, S. Vanstone, W. Windatt, and G. Hazeldine. W. S. Pascoe, Secretary of the Connexional Committee, and General Corresponding Secretary; C. Barker, Corresponding Secretary with England; G. Webber, Missionary Secretary; D. Cantlon, General Financial Secretary; J. H. Eynon, General Treasurer.

**Q. 10.—Who are the Stationing Committee?**

**A.**—The President and Secretary of Conference, Superintendents and Representatives of Districts, P. Robins, and the Secretary of the Missionary Society.

**\*\*.**—The first meeting of the Connexional Committee to be held in Bowmanville, on the 9th day of August, at 9 o'clock, a. m.

### DISTRICT MEETINGS, 1869.

For the Cobourg District, at Peterboro'; Bowmanville District at Eldad; Exeter District, at Exeter; London and Cleveland District, at London, the third Wednesday in May; For the Wisconsin District, at Little Prairie, the second Wednesday in May; For the P. E. I. District the first Saturday in March.

**Q. 11.—When and where shall the next Conference be held?**

**A.**—At Hampton, on the the first Thursday in June, 1869, at 9 o'clock, a. m. Committees preparatory thereto to meet as follows:

The Connexional, Missionary and Book Committees on the Preceding Tuesday at 9 a. m. N. B.—The Missionary and General Financial Secretaries must have their Reports ready to lay before these Committees.

The Stationing Committee to meet the same day at 4 o'clock.

The remaining Committee, D. Cantlon, W. Jolliffe, and A. Clarke, the preceding Wednesday, at 11 o'clock, a. m.

Messrs. W. Jolliffe and W. Windatt are the auditors of the various Connexional Funds.

Signed in behalf and by order of the Conference,

**C. BARKER, President.**

**W. S. PASCOE, Secretary.**

## ADDRESS TO THE SOCIETIES.

DEARLY BELOVED.—Another year of toil has passed away, and as a branch of the Church of the Lord Jesus, we are spared to make a brief record of its labors—labors similar to those of other years—preaching the gospel, the administration of the ordinances, conducting of Sabbath Schools, Bible-Classes, Bands of Hope, &c.

The results of these labors the Great day will disclose. Some of the Church seem to have made progress in the Divine life; many have adorned their profession—have honoured God, and caused their Ministers much joy: others have turned back and given evidence that they have neither part nor lot in the matter. Of others, we still stand in doubt, many have been set aside from the fellowship of the Church. 912 have been admitted to the communion of saints. 45 have died, we trust, in the Lord. There has been a large number of removals, and we fear they are lost to us as a people, so that we regret to learn that our increase of membership during the year is but 249. The various funds of the Church have been liberally sustained; the receipts of the Missionary Society are increased: we still are laboring however, under a burden of debt to the amount of \$1442.78.\* As we review the year, the thought presses heavily on our minds that all who are connected with us do not evidence a healthy state of soul; and as the revival of religion in the hearts and lives of Christians is essentially necessary to increased usefulness, we must begin with the Church or people of God, for here the power must first be exercised which is to bless and save the world. That we ought to cherish deeper piety and more devoted zeal for the Lord of Hosts, must be admitted by all his people; but this admission should be followed by honest searchings of heart, each one for himself, and the result cannot fail to be deep humiliation before God, on account of our coldness of soul,—our want of more life and earnestness in his service. Yes, brethren, we are all in fault here, nor is our guilt of a trifling nature. God demands and most righteously expects vigorous activity for His glory, and yet our love is faint and feeble, and we are professedly languid and half-hearted even in the best of causes.

Ought this state then, to be allowed, and indulged in? Surely not. We are called upon to investigate the matter, and to do so with that measure of diligence which its solemn importance demands. Religion is a matter of incalculable importance—of infinite moment! We may believe a thousand things of little consequence, and for this reason, be little affected by them, but when we profess to believe the awfully important truths of Divine Revelation contained in the Bible, and exhibit not those corresponding emotions of soul, which such truths firmly fastened on our hearts will produce; we are giving all around us license to regard our professed belief as nothing more than a pretence.

It does not follow, that, because we are members of the Church therefore every affection of our hearts and every pursuit of our lives agree with the con-

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fession of our lips; but most assuredly it ought. Dear Brethren, it becomes us honestly and faithfully to institute solemn inquiry as to our state, to rend aside every deceitful veil, and to examine as with the candle of the Lord all the evidence that offers itself on the subject, for it is not of trivial or secondary moment, but of the very greatest importance.

It is in our lives that the image of our Lord ought to be reflected, for thus runs the Great Lawgiver's words: "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father which is in Heaven." Yes, Brethren, it is our duty to exhort you all to make daily advances in the divine life, that your profiting may appear unto many; hear, brethren, the words of Jesus, "Herein is my father glorified that ye bear much fruit, so shall ye be (or evidence yourselves to be) my disciples."

Are we furnishing such evidence? Greatly do we rejoice that many among you are up, and doing; but why are not all putting forth their energies to praise God by active zeal? "Were not ten cleansed, but where are the nine?" Is any christian exonerated from works of faith and labors of love? Come then, Brethren, to the trial, "examine yourselves whether ye be in the faith, prove your own selves." Let every member come forth as a voluntary witness in the case of his own soul's health; let a scripturally instructed conscience preside on the judgment seat, and let the eye of God be regarded as fixed on us during the enquiry, "for the darkness hideth not from him," but mark the awful words, the night shineth as the day." We affectionately submit the following questions:

1st. What is our condition and character as "Members one of another?"

Beloved brethren, great is the joy we all are allowed to experience when we see christian churches planted where not many years since no such association of believers were to be found. Who can tell whereunto this may grow? If that man felt honored who planted a vegetable for human food, on a previously uncultivated island, we may be permitted to feel vastly more honored in being enabled to plant Christian ordinances in any given place. Let us therefore thank God and take courage. As Brethren in associated Christian fellowship, you ought to be mutual helpers in the pilgrimage of kindred minds; for we are members one of another, you are exhorted "to provoke one another to love and to good works."

Whatever minor differences arise among you let that sacred injunction fall on your hearts, let "each esteem other better than themselves,"<sup>a</sup> in honor preferring one another." Let yours, brethren, be that Divinely enkindled love, of which it is so sweetly written,—"It suffereth long and is kind," "it is not easily provoked, it seeketh not her own."

2nd. What are we as members of the family circle?

It is the grace and glory of the Christian religion that it has reference to every relationship of life. When we endeavor to discharge our Divinely appointed duties in the family, we promote the grand designs of Providence, and by conscientiously seeking to discharge our domestic obligations, we glorify God. The relation of parent, husband, master, and ruler illustrate God's character towards his people, and those of child, wife, servant, and subject, exhibit the dependence, union and obedience of believers towards their loving and gracious Lord. How then ought the father to be a pattern of the authority and love of



the Great Father, studying to imitate his guardian watchfulness and discipline over his household; the mother too, ought to reflect that soft and soothing tenderness, that her fond heart may faithfully represent that yearning pity over the children of her love. The endearments of home are among the most valuable blessings of our Father in Heaven, and its influence ought to be of the most approved character. May each of us feel how needful it is to live christianity at home, as well as profess it abroad.

Are you found regularly engaged in that most hallowed privilege and duty, family prayer? And do you try to render its daily return attractive and useful to your homes? Do you, brethren, draw your families to the house of God by fully manifesting your own ardent love for the courts of his grace?

3rd.—What are we in the public worship and service of the sanctuary?

Do we then call the Sabbath a delight, the sanctified day, honourable before all other days? See that its sacred hours be not shortened by late rising, nor worse than wasted by doing thine own ways, finding thine own pleasure, and speaking thine own words. Let no slight excuse suffice to confine you to your homes, but say, "we will not forsake the house of our God."

If friends come to your dwellings, show them how much you value christian ordinances, and do not let the courtesy that is due to visitors interfere with uniform regularity of attendance on public worship.

Beloved, allow us to inculcate upon you kindness and affection to those brethren who as class-leaders and local preachers labor for your welfare to the best of their ability. Encourage and cheer them. Let your deportment towards them prove how much you value their sacrifices of time and toil.

4th.—What are we in the closet exercises of religion?

In this most privileged engagement we enter the immediate presence of the Eternal fountain of good.

"What wondrous grace, who knows its full extent,  
A creature, dust and ashes, speaks to God,  
Tells all his woes, enumerates his wants,  
Yea, pleads with Deity, and groans relief.  
'Tis prayer—effectual fervent prayer,  
Puts dignity of worms—proves life divine,  
Makes demons tremble, breaks the darkest cloud,  
And faith, a princely power, prevails with God."

In this exercise, dear brethren, may be ascertained the exact amount of our piety. Communion with God is the life and health of every christian grace.

It nourishes humility, spirituality of mind, solid peace, meekness of spirit, deadness to the world, and love to God, his cause and people. To live without prayer is to live without religion.

Unless private devotion be cultivated, personal religion is impossible, and on personal religion,—no matter what profession we make, our eternal happiness alone depends. What will it avail us, when the awful day of scrutiny comes, to have had only a name to live if not really alive unto God.

Dear brethren, examine yourselves as those who profess to walk with God.—Ask frequently; do I hunger and thirst for communion with the source of spiritual life? What degree of relish have I for the closet? Depend upon it,

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there is no safer test by which we can try ourselves before God. If we ardently wish for larger measures of heavenly influence to settle on our own hearts, and to give life to those around us who are now dead in fearful indifference to their salvation, we shall earnestly supplicate the Lord who is able and willing "to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think." He whom you seek to glorify will graciously water all your efforts. Take courage. Faint heartedness ought to have no place among an army commanded by such a Captain as Jesus. An army, the weapons of whose warfare are not carnal, but "mighty through God, to the pulling down of strong holds." The victory is already won in the Divine mind, and is to be realized by his peoples' faith.—Therefore, beloved brethren, "be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." Here is encouragement.

We have the pledged promise of the King of kings, that our "labor shall not be in vain in the Lord." No, it cannot be. Whenever we seek to glorify God by teaching men the "way of salvation," we may depart with joy and sing in holy and unshaken confidence, "It shall prosper, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." (Isaiah, 55, 12.)

C. BARKER, *President.*

W. S. PASCOE, *Secretary.*

#### ADDRESS TO THE ENGLISH CONFERENCE.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN :—As fellow heirs of the grace of life—co-workers together with God in the same vineyard—employed in the same blessed work of persuading men to be reconciled to God—and feeding the church of God which he hath purchased with his own blood, we are permitted from this our annual Conference to send you our fraternal greetings.

The Societies under our care are reported, with here and there an exception, to be growing "in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We confess however, to the existence of something, a near approach to the enigmatical, about this gravest of all grave questions. Our difficulty lies here: By what rule are we to judge respecting growth in grace? Are the preceptoral portions of the New Testament to be the standard of appeal? Are the plain and positive declarations of our blessed Lord to be regarded? Or are we to suppose the church to be without any Authoritative teaching in respect thereof; every man being at liberty to do that which is right in his own eyes? By what test shall love to the world be detected? Or how shall it be decided whether our affection is set on things above or on things on the earth?

Is there no danger that, after we have sown fig leaves together wherewith to hide our nakedness, under the influence of worldly opiates, we may dream we are rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; while as seen by God, we are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked?

These are no idle interrogatories; for upon the answers thereto must depend our views of the spiritual state of the church.

During the past year our Heavenly Father has been pleased to answer the prayers of the Saints and command his blessing on the preaching of "the word." Many Backsliders whose names had been continued on the Church register have been quickened again; others, who had gone out from us, have been reclaimed; and many have for the first time experienced the blessedness of being "saved by grace through faith." 912 persons have been admitted on trial for membership, 45 have died, 299 have removed; and alas! far too many have made shipwreck of faith, and of a good conscience, and walk no more with us; leaving a net increase to our societies of 249 persons.

The Sabbath School department is prosperous. Per resolution of the Conference of 1867, a new constitution for their Government has been prepared, by Mr. R. Moore, Senr., a long tried and deeply interested friend of Sabbath Schools. This subject has received our best attention, and after making some amendments in the constitution so prepared, it was unanimously adopted, and ordered to be printed. A copy thereof shall be forwarded to you in due course.

The very important question of the relation of children to the Church has received our most anxious consideration: after a long and well sustained discussion a series of resolutions were adopted; a copy thereof is herewith forwarded to you, which will we hope under the divine blessing eventuate in much good.

The resolutions of your last Conference, transmitted to us, have been duly considered, and we have requested our President to communicate to you the views we entertain in reference to Resolution 21.

In finance we are steadily progressing; but it is painfully evident that a large proportion of our friends have yet to master the rudiments of Christian liberality.

We have to make the humiliating acknowledgement, that the amount raised in behalf of the Jubilee Fund is very far below what we had expected it would be.

You will be pleased to know that our denominational organ, "The Observer," is increasing in public favor—has been made a blessing, and will we doubt not, with the smile of Heaven, prove a great benefit to our people generally, and to others into whose hands it may come.

Bro. Ham, whose name was dropped from our list of probationers by the last Conference, has since been called to his rest in Heaven. Bro. Edwards has, contrary to the fears entertained twelve months since, been engaged in his loved-life work most of the year. Our highly respected ex-President, Bro. Hoidge, and Bro. R. Hicks are under the necessity of resting, at least for a time, from public speaking.

Two young men who had passed through the term of their probation have, after due examination, been received into full connexion with the Conference. Two others, having been regularly recommended by their respective Quarterly and District meetings are now received as probationers for our ministry.

You have placed us under great obligation by your prompt response to our request from the last Conference, for an additional supply of Missionaries. The three brethren, Pascoe, Price, and Hodnett, received, as they deserved, a hearty welcome, and are satisfactorily and successfully doing the work of evangelists, making full proof of their ministry.

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While through a gracious providence our ministerial ranks have remained unbroken, death has entered the families of four of the brethren and removed from them loved and loving ones. Sarah Elizabeth Barker while on a visit to Prince Edward Island, whether she had gone for her health's sake, in September last, sweetly fell asleep in Jesus, in the twenty-first year of her age. Robert William Hoidge, died on the 2nd of August in the ninth year of his age. His end was very happy. Carlos George Bodle departed this life last October, in the eighth year of his age. Br. J. Kinsey has sustained the loss of two infant children. Of such is the kingdom of Heaven.

It is cheering to know that in the cloudy and dark day, our bereaved friends were mercifully sustained, and richly replenished with heavenly benediction and grace. O, the greatness, and preciousness of the promises; all yea and amen to them who are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit.

Since the last Conference our political status has been greatly changed, and as you are aware, by an Act of the Imperial Parliament, the Confederate provinces of British North America have been constituted the "DOMINION OF CANADA." We have had, therefore, to pass through the excitement of a general election, and that, one of the most demoralizing ever experienced in her Majesty's possessions on this side of the Atlantic; and must necessarily have greatly retarded the aggressive work of the Church. Political matters don't run smoothly, and the end is not yet. During the first session of the Legislative Assembly of this Province, Ontario, the Government very commendably entered upon a course of retrenchment in the public expenditure, and were nobly sustained by both sides of the House. Among other items doomed no more to appear in the estimates is the grants to the Denominational Colleges, a relic of former customs since passed away. The managers of said Colleges have been informed that at the end of the current fiscal year, the grants will cease: this has created no small stir; and threatenings loud and long have been made, and possibly there may be more than a little bitterness manifested before the question is finally disposed of. We trust however, that in the day of trial, our friends will be found true to their principles. Ultimately right will prevail.

The American Fenians, more properly assassins, are again threatening our quietude, but it is generally understood that the Government are prepared for any eventualities that may arise; nevertheless, it has a distracting influence upon the public mind and disturbs the regularity with which we are wont to attend to the every day duties of life. It is certainly difficult to understand the action or rather want of action on the part of the Government of the United States in respect of Fenianism. Whatever might be the consequences of an attempt on the part of the poor ruffians to repeat the doings of 1866; the United States Government must be held responsible as accessories before the fact.

Scarcely had we recovered from the shock caused by the foul assassination of the late Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee, when the Atlantic Cable flashed the news through old ocean's depth of the attempt made in Sydney against the life of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, but providentially, the would-be murderer failed of his purpose. Our right loyal hearts, and there are none more loyal than ours, with a spontaneity you will better understand than we can express poured out their prayers to God for our beloved Sovereign, the Queen, and the wounded Prince.



We are far, very far from being uninterested spectators of the rapid progress the distinctive principles of Nonconformity are making in your midst, and hail with delight the swift approach of the good time coming, when the State shall have given the Church a "writing of divorcement and put her away," and she, the Church, cleansed from her political and consequent moral defilement shall, not only in Ireland, but in every place be seen lifting up holy hands without wrath and doubting; preaching the word, with the Holy Ghost sent down from Heaven, signs and wonders following: everywhere blessed and everywhere made a blessing.

Next to what is occurring in England, it affords us unmixed pleasure to watch the rapid spread of our long cherished views on politico religious questions, (seeing they are, as we believe, in full accord with the sublime lessons taught by our Divine Lord when sojourning with man on the earth,) on the continent of Europe, and particularly in Austria. We are confidently expectant of still greater things. "The Lord reigneth."

Not the least among the cheering indications of our time is the fact that many of God's ancient people, the Jews, are inquiring the way to Zion, with their faces thitherward. "All Israel shall be saved, and the fulness of the Gentiles shall come in." Despite the cavilings of the skeptic and the teachings of "Philosophy and science falsely so-called," Truth must triumph and the Lord shall reign in Mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients gloriously, "And the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day."

The sittings of this Conference have been characterized by unbroken harmony. We have verily experienced "how good, and how pleasant a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Several of our public services have been seasons of "showers of blessings," "coming from the presence of the Lord." In the Sabbath evening Prayer meeting several persons were deeply affected, and two professed to find peace through believing.

In separating for our respective fields of labour we are hopeful that our future as a church will be as the path of the just, and our success in winning souls greatly multiplied. Accept the assurance of our unwavering love to you, and of our ever increasing desire for your prosperity.

"Now the God of peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the Sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

C. BARKER, *President.*

W. S. PASCOE, *Secretary.*

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## ALPHABETICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF ITINERANT PREACHERS.

PREACHERS' NAMES.	When taken out.	WHERE STATIONED.	Number of years on pres't at'n
Allin, Roger.....	1868	Orange & Chagrin Falls.....	1
Ashley, Isaac.....	1856	Vernon River, P. E. I.....	3
Ayers, Walter.....	1863	Rockland, U. S.....	2
Baker, Robert.....	1867	Prince Albert.....	1
Barker, Cephas.....	1838	Editor.....	3
Beer, William C.....	1866	Dereham & Ingersoll.....	1
Bodle, George.....	1856	Huntingdon.....	2
Browning, Mark.....	1864	Usborne.....	2
Butcher, John W.....	1843	Peterboro'.....	1
Cantlon, David.....	1855	Prince Albert.....	1
Chapple, John.....	1834	Charlottetown.....	4
Clarke, Archibald.....	1860	Mitchell.....	1
Collins, James 1.....	1867	Hungerford.....	1
Collins, James 2.....	1868	Exeter.....	1
Colwell, Garrance T.....	1856	Usborne.....	3
Courtice, Richard T.....	1865	Hampton.....	1
Dunkley, George.....	1862	Scott.....	2
Ebbott, Henry.....	1841	Little Prairie.....	2
Edwards, John.....	1831	Superannuated.....	1
Eynon, J. H.....	1826	Superannuated.....	9
Gale, Jacob.....	1843	Perrytown.....	1
Glover, T. W.....	1866	Mariposa.....	1
Gordon, Andrew.....	1856	Hungerford.....	1
Green, Thomas.....	1829	Mitchell.....	1
Harris, John.....	1863	Fenelon.....	2
Hayercraft, George.....	1841	Superannuated.....	11
Heysett, William.....	1864	Grey.....	1
Hicks, Richard.....	1863	Superannuated.....	1
Hoidge, Joseph.....	1841	do.....	1
Hooper, William.....	1840	Exeter.....	3
Hull, Thomas R.....	1855	Hampton.....	1
Hunt, William P.....	1862	Grand River & Three Rivers.....	1
Hurley, Robert.....	1834	Yorkville, U. S.....	1
Jolliffe, Samuel.....	1862	Lisbon, U. S.....	3
Jolliffe, William.....	1858	Bowmanville.....	3
Kenner, Henry.....	1855	Palmyra.....	1
Kinley, William.....	1865	Charlottetown, P. E. I.....	1
Kinsey, John.....	1862	Colborne.....	1
Langdon, John.....	1825	Superannuated.....	22
Metherall, Francis.....	1822	do.....	10
Morris, Abraham.....	1827	do.....	8
Newcombe, Henry.....	1860	New Bideford, P. E. I.....	1
Nott, Henry J.....	1859	Murray Harbour, P. E. I.....	1
Pascoe, W. S.....	1853	Oshawa.....	2

KER, President.  
ASCOE, Secretary.

## ALPHABETICAL &amp; CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF ITINERANT PREACHERS—CONTINUED.

Pearce, C. J. ....	1864	Seymour.....	1
Price, E. ....	1861	Port Hope.....	2
Rice, James J. ....	1863	Bowmanville.....	1
Richard, Alexander .....	1867	Ebenezer, P. E. I. ....	1
Roach, William R. ....	1852	Clinton .....	1
Roberts, Edward .....	1858	London .....	3
Robins, Paul .....	1823	Book Steward.....	5
Sencabaugh, J. T. ....	1861	Cleveland.....	2
Tapp, J. B. ....	1829	Superannuated.....	3
Wade, W. ....	1863	Dereham & Ingersoll. ....	1
Webber, G. ....	1858	Cobourg.....	1
Whitlock J. ....	1848	Mariposa.....	1
Wickett, L. W. ....	1864	Orange & Chagrin Falls.....	3
Williams J. ....	1836	Pickering.....	1
Woodman, W. ....	1851	Dummer.....	2

*Cleveland*  
*Orange*  
*Palmyra*  
*Lisbon,*  
*Yorkville*  
*Little F*  
*Rockland*

*Charlotte*  
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## ADDRESSES OF THE PREACHERS.

## CANADA.

*Cobourg*,—Cobourg P. O.  
*Port Hope*,—Port Hope P. O.  
*Peterboro'*,—Peterboro' P. O.  
*Dummer*,—Warsaw P. O.  
*Huntingdon*,—Ivanhoe P. O.  
*Hungerford*,—Tweed P. O.  
*Seymour*,—Campbellford P. O.  
*Perrytown*,—Perrytown P. O.  
*Bowmanville*,—Bowmanville P. O. 2nd Preacher, Orono P. O.  
*Hampton*,—Columbus P. O. 2nd Preacher, Hampton P. O.  
*Oshawa*,—Oshawa P. O.  
*Mariposa*,—Little Britain P. O. 2nd Preacher, Manilla P. O.  
*Pickering*,—Duffin's Creek P. O.  
*Prince Albert*,—Prince Albert P. O.  
*Scott*,—Leaskdale P. O.  
*Fenelon*,—Fenelon Falls P. O.  
*Exeter*,—Exeter P. O.  
*Mitahell*,—Mitchell P. O. 2nd Preacher, Fullarton P. O.  
*Clinton*,—Clinton P. O.  
*Colborne*,—Carlow P. O.  
*London*,—London, P. O.  
*Dereham & Ingersoll*,—Ingersoll P. O. 2nd Preacher, Culloden P. O.  
*Usborne*,—Winchelsea P. O. 2nd Preacher, Exeter.

*President*  
*Ex-Pre*  
*Confere*  
*Mission*  
*General*  
*General*  
*Book S*

RS—CONTINUED.

## UNITED STATES.

*Cleveland*,—176 Orange Street, Cleveland, Ohio, U. S.  
*Orange & Chagrin Falls*,—Chagrin Falls, Ohio, U. S.  
*Palmyra*,—Palmyra, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, U. S.  
*Lisbon*,—Sussex, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, U. S.  
*Yorkville*,—Yorkville, Racine County, Wisconsin, U. S.  
*Little Prairie*,—Little Prairie, Walworth County, Wisconsin, U. S.  
*Rockland*,—Rockland, Ontonagon County, Michigan, U. S.

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

*Charlottetown*,—Charlottetown, P. E. I.  
*Ebenezer*,—Mr. Williams' office, Lot 7, P. E. I.  
*Vernon River*,—Vernon River Bridge, P. O., P. E. I.  
*Murray Harbour*,—Murray Harbor South, P. E. I.  
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