

MINUTES
OF THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION,
OF THE
Susquehanna Conference,
HELD AT
Dover, Morris County, N. J., Sept. 10-15th, 1873.

OFFICERS.

President—B. T. ROBERTS.
Secretary—W. GOULD. *Assistant*—E. P. SELLEW.

COMMITTEES.

- On Public Worship*—B. T. Roberts, W. M. Parry, W. Gould, J. W. Searing.
On Statistics—W. Gould, E. P. Sellew.
On Publishing Minutes—B. T. Roberts, W. Gould, E. P. Sellew.
On Collecting Funds for Minutes—D. Dempsey.
On Missions and Missionary appropriations—The Stationing Committee.
On Claims—L. Kelly, A. F. Curry, D. Colgrove, D. J. Robinson.
On Sunday Schools—Z. Osborne, A. G. Terry, L. Woodruff, J. C. Bristol.
On Publications—J. B. Freeland, W. Southworth, B. Winget, J. Mackey, B. F. Stoutenberg, A. Wise.
On Bible Cause—J. B. Stacy, J. Olney, J. Benedict, J. W. Searing.
On Temperance—J. Glen, J. Odell, W. W. Coon, D. Dexter.
On Education—E. Ower, M. N. Downing, J. Mackey, L. Atwood.

On Secret Societies—Z. Osborne, J. B. Freeland, W. W. Coon, L. Woodruff.

On Appointment of Examiners on Course of Study—B. T. Roberts.

On Ministerial Support—W. Southworth, J. B. Freeland, J. Mackey, D. J. Robinson, L. Woodruff.

On Conference Boundaries—W. Gould, M. N. Downing, E. Owen, A. F. Curry, B. F. Winget, L. Woodruff, A. Wise.

Examiners on Course of Study for next year.

SUSQUEHANNA CONFERENCE.

Preliminary Course—W. Southworth, T. Whiffin.

First Year—A. F. Curry, G. R. Harvey.

Second Year—J. B. Freeland, J. B. Stacy.

Third Year—Z. Osborne, J. Olney.

Fourth Year—E. Owen, E. P. Sellw.

FOR THE NEW CONFERENCE.*

Preliminary Course—J. Glen.

First Year—A. G. Terry, J. Mathews.

Second Year—W. M. Barry, S. H. Bronson.

Third Year—M. D. McDougal.

Fourth Year—M. N. Downing.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1. What are the names of preachers and delegates having a seat in this Conference?

PREACHERS.

A. G. Terry,

A. F. Curry,

J. Olney,

J. B. Freeland,

J. Mathews,

W. Jones,

W. Gould,

M. N. Downing,

J. B. Stacy,

Z. Osborne,

M. D. McDougal,

J. Odell,

W. M. Parry,

B. Winget,

S. H. Bronson,

J. W. Sawyer,

E. Owen,

W. Southworth,

J. Glen,

T. Whiffin,

D. Dempsey,

G. R. Harvey,

T. A. Ross,

C. H. Southworth,

E. P. Sellw,

G. E. Ferrin,

W. H. Steegar,

J. Guyon,

W. W. Warner,

S. McVey,

L. Kelly,

R. Coons,

O. M. Owen,

A. W. Paul,

W. W. Dickson.

*N. B. These Committees will only act if a new Conference is formed.

DELEGATES.

L. W. Cronk,	D. Dexter,	C. O. Schantz,
B. F. Stoutenberg,	R. Lombard,	W. B. Bertels,
H. F. Hill,	W. M. Crossman,	W. Spry,
D. J. Robinson,	F. A. Town,	P. R. Phillips,
M. Marble,	W. A. Peters,	L. Woodruff,
J. Benedict,	W. W. Coon,	J. C. Bristol,
S. V. Randall,	F. Wooster,	E. Steenrod,
D. Colgrove,	J. Mackey,	W. D. Steenrod,
F. L. Hammond,	J. W. Searing,	J. McGlashen,
A. Wise,	J. T. Haviland,	E. Coons.
O. D. Norton,	G. Lamb,	
L. Atwood,	J. Ogden,	

2. Who are the Standing Committee?

B. T. Roberts, E. Owen, W. Gould, J. B. Freeland, B. F. Stoutenberg, A. Wise, J. Mackey.

3. What Preachers are admitted on trial?

Samuel Perkins, Charles W. Stevens, Orren W. Young, Lewis W. Cronk, Lester S. King, Frederick Hendrickson, George Eakins, James C. Bristol, Lewis M. Hough, Elbert E. Adams.

4. Who remain on trial?

Oluf V. Kettles, Lafayette H. Robinson, John D. Osmun.

5. Who are admitted in full connection?

A. F. Curry and E. P. Sellew, received by transfer from the Genesee Conference; James Mathews re-admitted after locating in Kansas Conference.

6. Who are the Deacons?

Rufus Coons, Olin M. Owen, William W. Dickson, and Asahel W. Paul; all of whom were ordained last year. James M. Somerville was ordained this year as a Local Deacon.

7. Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year?

George E. Ferrin, James Guyon and Wm. W. Warner.

8. Who have located this year?

George Edwards.

There was no business under the 9th, 10th and 13th Questions.

11. Who have withdrawn?

George W. Anderson.

TABLE OF STATISTICS OF SUSQUEHANNA CONFERENCE.

NAMES OF CIRCUITS.	No. Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Local Preachers.	S. Schools.	S. S. Scholars.	Officers and Teachers.	Volumes in Library.	Raised for Sunday Schools.	Preachers' Receipts.	Missionary Collections.	Bible Collections.	Superannuated Collections.	Value of Church Property.
	Clyde, Rose and Sodus.....	98	19	117	3	2	75	15	225	\$10.00	\$625.00	\$14.63	\$6.25	\$3.50	$5,000
Port Byron & Montezuma— <i>No rept.</i>														
*Webster and Ontario.....	58	4	62	2	2	45	13	100		406.40	6.25		5.00	1,400
Pittsford and Bushnell's Basin.....	45	5	50	1	1	25	6	70		588.03	3.05		5.05	2,500
*Italy, Penn Yan and Rock Stream.	15	1	16							244.00				
Cohocton and Sparta.....	26	18	44	1	1	20	6			316.44		2.82		
Binghamton and Owego.....	58	4	62	1	1	25	6	200	5.90	589.67	3.00	1.50	3.20	12,000
Gibson and Lindleytown.....	32	7	39	2						445.00	5.25	3.00		3,600
Corthland, Ithaca and Dryden.....	38	3	41	3	1	20	9	75	7.00	358.41	9.20	3.00		2,800
Summer Hill.....	20	6	26	1	1	10	1			256.84	1.00	.70		1,400
*Smyrna, Otselic and Pharsalia.....	46	11	57	2	1	12	5			264.07				
Columbus, Sherburne and Norwich.	34	8	42	1						115.00	4.00			
Edmeston and Brookfield.....	27	2	29	3							5.50			1,000
Chairman's receipts for the Clyde and Binghamton Districts.....														
Syracuse.....	50	3	53	2						532.00				
Fulton.....	52	8	60	1	1	38	10	60	4.00	356.52	1.93	3.62		1,200
Chittenango.....	37	8	45	1	1	60	12	30	6.03	652.93	12.40	3.85		2,000
Nelson, Stockbridge and Erieville.	29	1	30	2						270.03	1.37	.41	.66	
Rome, Lowell and New London....	73	17	90	2	1	40	8	200	13.00	590.00	3.50		4.00	5,500
Black River Mission.....	18	1	19	2						355.30	3.00	1.00		1,000
Utica.....	73	8	81	3	1	75	14	190	52.00	775.90	29.63	3.22	18.00	6,000

Frankfort and Schuyler.....	44	7	51	2	2	85	25	150	16.00	320.68	2.60	1.00	2.00	.....
Oppenheim.....	17	5	22	1	2	80	10	200	4.50	162.50	1.40	.62	2.50	1,000
Saratoga Springs and Schuyler.....	26	...	26	...	...	...	...	206	.....	137.53	.....	.....	.....	5,000
Greenfield and Corinth.....	21	6	27	...	...	...	...	...	.....	250.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lansingburg.....	14	9	23	1	1	20	4	50	.....	344.42	2.67	.....	.....	2,000
*Grafton.....	15	4	19	1	1	64	8	260	.....	52.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chairman's receipts from Syracuse and Saratoga Districts.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	325.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
New York, 37th Street.....	51	5	56	3	1	46	15	612	34.82	1100.00	16.50	12.00	12.25	20,000
New York, Grand Street.....	33	3	36	1	1	35	6	...	30.00	373.00	15.84	6.12	13.62	.....
Newark, German Mission.....	8	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	.....	45.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Brooklyn.....	46	3	49	1	1	60	8	...	25.00	960.00	17.02	.....	.....	.....
Riverhead and Greenport.....	26	2	28	2	1	40	6	54	8.00	201.62	.....	.....	.....	1,150
*Waterbury Mission.....	6	...	6	3	...	...	...	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rahway, Dover and Phillipsburg..	70	14	84	1	2	80	19	30	20.40	1320.00	13.70	13.12	6.62	17,000
Philadelphia.....	29	4	33	1	...	...	...	...	.....	671.00	5.00	1.00	1.00	1,000
Allentown, Emaus, Saucon Valley..	40	2	42	1	3	70	16	40	23.87	168.50	26.85	2.00	3.13	.....
Farmingdale.....	3	4	7	...	...	...	...	...	.....	20.00	.....	.....	.....	250
Wilkesbarre and Whitehaven.....	40	2	42	1	1	12	10	300	9.00	575.78	.....	.....	.....	200
Canaan and Beach Pond.....	41	10	51	1	3	100	25	250	20.00	375.00	5.46	.....	4.07	4,000
Abington and Lennox.....	15	6	21	1	...	...	...	...	.....	324.64	2.20	.....	.....	.....
Windsor and Harpersville.....	56	13	69	2	3	50	14	188	45.00	680.00	6.55	4.45	4.30	4,200
Bainbridge, Sidney and Unadilla..	6	5	11	1	1	5	3	...	.....	50.00	.....	.....	.....	3,000
Delaware.....	20	1	21	1	...	...	...	...	.....	114.70	.....	.....	.....	.....
Liberty.....	36	...	36	1	1	12	6	...	.....	150.00	.50	.....	.....	.....
Windham.....	35	7	42	2	1	44	5	...	4.00	100.00	.....	.....	.....	800
Scoharie.....	12	...	12	1	...	...	...	...	.....	162.32	.....	.....	.....	.....
Emporium Mission.....	2	7	9	...	...	...	...	...	.....	60.10	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chairman's Receipts on New York York and Windsor Districts.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	826.91	.....	.....	.....	.....
<i>Total</i>	1541	253	1794	54	39	1248	285	3490	836.62	17562.24	220.00	69.68	94.60	105950

12. Are all the Preachers blameless, etc ?

Their characters were each examined and passed.

14. What is the number of Church Members, etc ?

For answer to this question, and also to the 15th and 16th, see Table of Statistics.

17. Where are the Preachers stationed this year ?

STATIONS OF THE PREACHERS.

CLYDE DISTRICT—W. SOUTHWORTH, *Chairman.*

Clyde and Rose	W. Southworth
Alton and Wayne Centre	L. W. Cronk
Montezuma	To be supplied
Pittsford and Bushnell's Basin.....	G. R. Harvey
Canandaigua.....	T. Ross
Webster and Ontario.....	J. Odell

BINGHAMTON DISTRICT—A. F. CURRY, *Chairman.*

Binghamton and Owego.....	B. Winget
Almond.....	A. F. Curry
Gibson and Lindleytown.....	L. Kelly
Ithaca, Cortland and McGrawville.....	T. Whiffin
Summer Hill.....	J. D. Osmun
Smyrna, Otselic and Pharsalia.....	S. McVey, one to be supplied
Columbus, Sherburne and Norwich.....	J. Guyon
Emporium.....	To be supplied
Italy, Penn Yan and Rock Stream.....	J. W. Sawyer
Cohocton and Sparta.....	J. B. Stacy

SYRACUSE DISTRICT—E. OWEN, *Chairman.*

Syracuse.....	O. M. Owen
Fulton	Z. Osborn
Chittenango and Cicero.....	O. W. Young
Nelson, Stockbridge and Erieville.....	J. Olney
Rome.....	E. P. Sellow
New London.....	L. S. King
Black River.....	D. Dempsey
East Boston	E. Owen

UTICA DISTRICT—J. B. FREELAND, *Chairman.*

Utica.....	J. B. Freeland
Frankfort and Schuyler.....	C. H. Southworth
Stratford and Salisbury.....	To be supplied
Saratoga Springs and Schuylerville....	Supplied by H. Matthews

Greenfield and Corinth.....	L. D. Robinson
Lansingburgh.....	W. H. Steegar
Grafton.....	To be supplied by A. B. Burdick
Brookfield and Edmeston.....	Samuel Perkins

NEW YORK DISTRICT.—M. N. DOWNING, *Chairman.*

New York, 37th Street.....	M. N. Downing
“ “ Grand “	O. V. Kettles
Brooklyn.....	James Matthews
Farmingdale.....	To be supplied
Riverhead and Greenport.....	Lewis M. Hough
Waterbury Mission.....	To be supplied
Newark German Mission.....	To be supplied

PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT—J. GLEN, *Chairman.*

Dover.....	W. M. Parry
Phillipsburg and Kingwood.....	W. W. Dickson
Rahway and Elizabeth.....	George Eakins
Philadelphia.....	J. Glen
Allentown, Emaus and Saucon Valley.....	F. Hendrickson
Wilkesbarre and Whitehaven.....	M. D. McDougal

WINDSOR DISTRICT—W. JONES, *Chairman.*

Windsor.....	To be supplied
Harpersville, Bainbridge and Sidney..	W. Jones and E. E. Adams
Liberty and Delaware.....	A. G. Terry, S. H. Bronson
Windham.....	G. E. Ferrin
Schoharie.....	C. W. Stevens
Canaan and Beach Pond.....	Rufus Coons
Abington and Lenox.....	James Bristol

W. Gould, W. W. Warner, and A. W. Paul, to be appointed by the President.

W. W. Dickson, to supply English preaching on the Allentown Circuit.

18. Where and when shall our next conference meet?

If the Conference is not divided, at Brooklyn, N. Y., on Wednesday, September 9th, 1874:

If the Conference is divided, at Utica, N. Y., on Wednesday, September 9th, 1874 and the new Conference shall meet at Brooklyn, on Wednesday September 2d, 1874.

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. Conference held its session in the Free Methodist Church of Dover, N. J.

2. B. T. Roberts was present and called the Conference to order at the hour appointed, (9 A. M.) on Wednesday, September 10th, 1873.

3. Morning sittings were held on the 10th, 11th, 12, 13th and 15th, commencing at 8.30 A. M., except on the 13th when it commenced at 8 A. M., and on the 15th at 7.20 A. M., and closed at 12, noon.

Afternoon sittings were held on the 11th, 12th and 13th.

4. On the first calling of the roll, 22 ministers responded. 21 laymen presented credentials at the first sitting.

The Secretary was elected by ballot, receiving 24 of 42 votes cast.

5. The lay-members of the Stationing Committee were elected by ballot; B. F. Stoutenberg receiving 18 of 34; A. Wise 24 of 46 and J. Mackey 24 of 45 votes cast.

6. John G. Champlain was admitted to an honorary seat, as the delegate from Riverhead and Greenport circuit, he having been only informally appointed.

7. L. Bailey was invited to an honorary seat and twice addressed the Conference briefly, on the present condition and prospects of the Free Methodist paper.

8. James Sommerville, who has been a Local Preacher on the New York District for four years, and who was recommended by said district, was elected to Local Deacon's orders.

9. Rev's H. P. Daniels, and T. H. Landon, of the New-ark Conference of the M. E. Church, were introduced. Bro. Daniels addressed a few words of cheer to the conference.

ORDINATIONS.

10. On Sunday, Sept. 14th, at the close of the morning service, James A. Sommerville was ordained Deacon by imposition of the hands of B. T. Roberts.

At the close of the 2 P. M. service, George E. Ferrin, Jas. Guyon and William W. Warner were ordained Elders by the imposition of the hands of B. T. Roberts and several other elders.

CHAIRMEN OF DISTRICTS.

12. On a motion to employ all the Chairmen of the conference entirely in District work, a division of the house was had, when 13 ministers voted, yea, and 18, nay; 19 laymen voted yea, and 12, nay. The motion was declared lost, as a majority of both ministers and laymen had not voted in its favor.

FORMATION OF A NEW CONFERENCE.

13. A Committee was appointed to report on the subject. The Committee presented a verbal majority report, as follows:

Resolved, To recommend the Executive Committee to form a new Conference, south of the 42d parallel of latitude.

A minority report was presented verbally, as follows:

Resolved, That we recommend that the Conference be divided on the line adopted by the Conference last year.

The majority report was adopted, which was afterwards amended by a motion to alter the said boundary so as to include the Delaware and Windham Circuits in the new Conference.

Resolved, also, that, if a new Conference be formed, it be called the New York Conference.

TRANSFERS. ETC.

14. A. F. Curry and E. P. Sellev, having been transferred from the Genesee Conference, during the interval between the last year's conference and this, by the General Superintendent, their names were ordered to be placed upon the roll.

James Mathews, who had been reported as located by the Kansas Conference, was re-admitted to the travelling connection in this, under a ruling of the President, who decided that this could be done without a recommendation from the circuit where he held his membership at the time of location.

G. Willard was discontinued from the trial list at his own request.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMEN.

The Chairmen of Districts were elected by ballot, one ballot was cast for each district with the following result.

Clyde	District—W. Southworth	received 34 of 53
Binghamton	“ A. F. Curry	“ 48 of 52.
Syracuse	“ E. Owen	“ 46 of 51
Utica	“ J. B. Freeland	“ 53 of 53
Windsor	“ W. Jones	“ 44 of 54
New York	“ M. N. Downing	“ 46 of 54
Philadelphia	“ J. Glen	“ 29 of 52

RESOLUTIONS.

1. ON TAKING UP THE CONFERENCE COLLECTIONS.—*Resolved*, To ask every preacher, when his name is called on the passage of his character, Have you taken up the collections ordered by last Conference?

2. *Resolved*, That all resolutions offered for the action of this Conference, be presented in writing.

3. DEFICIENCY IN STUDIES.—*Resolved*, That all persons reported as deficient in their examination on the Course of Study, be required to be re-examined at the next ensuing Conference on those studies in which they are deficient.

4. ON PUBLISHING THE MINUTES.—*Resolved*, That we will publish our Minutes in connection with those of the other Conferences held this fall; and that the money now collected for that purpose be paid to B. T. Roberts as publisher.

5. ON CONFERENCE COLLECTIONS.—*Resolved*, That during the coming year, we will take up the following collections on all our circuits, and in the order indicated wherever practicable:

Bible Collections, during the Second Quarter.

Missionary Collections, during the Third Quarter.

Superannuated Collections, during the Fourth Quarter.

6. ON APPROPRIATION OF BIBLE MONIES.—*Resolved*, That J. Mackey be requested to pay the Bible monies now raised, to the American Bible Society, in such a manner as to secure life memberships to J. Glen and D. Dempsey.

7. ON CANDIDATES FOR EXAMINATION.—*Resolved*, That all candidates for examination on the Course of Study, and all examiners thereon, be required to be present at the seat of Conference next year, at 9 A. M., one day previous to its sitting.

8. ON SUNDAY RAFT-RUNNING.—*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Conference, that rafting or running lumber on the Sabbath day, is a violation of the moral law; and that any members of our Church who may practice it, should be dealt with as persons guilty of immoral conduct.

9. COPIES OF REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS, ETC.—*Resolved*, That a copy of the report on Secret Societies be sent to the *Christian Cynosure* and the *Methodist Free Press*, for publication; and that a copy of the resolution on Sunday Raft-running, be sent to the *Free Methodist*.

10. VOTE OF THANKS.—*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Conference be tendered to the citizens of Dover and its vicinity, for their kindness in entertaining its members during its present session.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON RAISING FUNDS FOR PUBLISHING MINUTES.

The committee reports, that the sum of forty-six dollars and forty-five cents has been contributed,—\$46.45.

Resolved, That the above amount be paid to B. T. Roberts, as publisher.

III.—ON MISSIONS AND MISSIONARY APPROPRIATIONS.

Total amount received, \$220.

Resolved, That the above amount be appropriated as follows: J. Glen, \$50; L. D. Robinson, \$25; W. Warner, \$25; W. W. Dickson, \$15; A. W. Paul, \$25; S. McVey, \$10; J. B. Stacy, \$15.

N. B.—The foregoing amounts were appropriated last year.

That the following amounts be paid: W. H. Steegar, \$20; J. Tamblin, \$10; A. G. Terry, \$10; J. Olney, \$10; E. E. Adams, \$5

III.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

Whereas, Speculative Free Masonry and other secret combinations exist in our land; and

Whereas, These same combinations control, to an alarming extent, the laws of our land, causing the banner of justice to trail in the dust, and the guilty to go unpunished; and

Whereas, Masonry is false and hypocritical in its pretensions to age, sanctity, and the value of its secrets; it is exclusive, selfish, and unjust in its pretended benevolence; it inculcates a religious worship in which there is no Mediator, no atonement, and no confession of sin; it professes to save men on the sole ground of Masonic morality, without the aid of Christ; it binds men to keep secrets and discharge duties of which they are profoundly ignorant—contrary to the laws of God and man; it imposes many extra-judicial oaths; contrary to Christ's positive command, *Swear not at all*; the language of its oaths is disgusting and profane, its penalties horrible, and its obligations such as no man can keep without positive disobedience to the laws both of God and man; its ceremonies are frivolous, contemptible, and in some cases blasphemous, and its titles anti-republican and unchristian. All of which may be known by every intelligent man. Therefore,

Resolved, 1st, That our position as a Church against secret societies, is right and in harmony with the word of God—"In secret have I said nothing."

Resolved, 2d, That we earnestly invite all that have been beguiled into the meshes of secretism, to come out from among them and be separate, and touch not the unclean thing.

That we will put forth renewed efforts to enlighten the people on the subject of secretism and its irreligious tendencies, by preaching, by moral suasion, and in every possible way.

We recognize *The Christian Cynosure* as a pioneer in this mighty conflict with the powers of darkness, and will aid in its circulation, and in the circulation of other literature bearing upon the subject.

IV.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Whereas, God has said, "The promise is to you and to your children," it becomes the Church of Christ to take such steps and to use such measures, as shall convince the young of their fallen state, and of the necessity of availing themselves early of the glorious invitations and promises extended to them by their Heavenly Father, if they would meet His approbation and escape the damnation of hell.

Jesus Christ, the great Head of the Church, says, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not." The Church—the Lamb's wife—should in the same spirit say, Come; and as the spiritual nurse, feed the lambs of the flock with the "sincere milk of the word," that they may grow in grace thereby. To this end, it is

Resolved, 1st, That we, as a peculiar people called of God, take more effective measures for instructing the young among us, and for placing before them such literature only as shall lead them to a just sense of their relation to God and of His claims upon them.

Resolved, 2d, That it is not only the duty of the preachers to use their influence in carrying forward this work, but that it is especially binding upon the fathers and mothers, who have the every-day oversight of their children, to use every available means that God has given to instruct and properly control them in divine and holy things.

Resolved, 3d, That we, as a Conference, deplore the prevailing laxity and indifference that exists among us as a people in the parental relation.

All the efforts of the Church, as a body, will prove abortive, so long as there is a failure on the part of parents to meet this question in the light of God's truth.

We therefore, as a body, beseech our people to remedy this matter by putting forth immediate action in the Holy Ghost for the highest spiritual culture of the youth among us, not forgetting the children of the ungodly around us.

V.—ON EDUCATION.

The education of the heart in the principles of righteousness and true holiness, we consider the most important of all attainments. Yet scholastic education and the acquiring of general and useful knowledge, should not be despised. The more fully it is combined with heart piety, the more useful one may become. Parents should be more interested in the thorough education of their children, than in laying up for them treasures upon earth. Wealth is insecure; education is abiding. Wealth may give influence, but education will do more. It will secure lucrative and trustworthy positions when wealth fails. Better leave a child penniless with a good education, than wealth without it. In the providence of God, we, as a denomination, have two schools under our jurisdiction, where not only a liberal education may be obtained on liberal terms, but where special attention is also given to the spiritual and eternal welfare of the students.

A goodly number of clear conversions have occurred among the students at Chili Seminary, some of whom are young men of great promise.

We learn with gratitude that the school at Spring Arbor, Mich., has opened under favorable circumstances, and that it gives evidence of being a successful enterprise.

Let us pray earnestly that these schools may be so thoroughly managed and divinely blessed, as to become a permanent success. Let us also make a specialty of directing the attention of our societies and congregations to the importance of patronizing the same.

VI.—ON PREPARING A PLAN FOR RAISING A FUND FOR SUPERANUATED PREACHERS.

Your Committee, to whom was assigned the duty of preparing a plan for creating a fund for superannuated ministers and the widows and orphans of those who have died in the work, recommend to the Conference the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That we hereby request our ensuing General Conference to adopt a plan for creating a chartered fund, from voluntary contributions and bequests, the annual interest of which shall be equally divided from year to year among the several Annual Conferences, (excepting those conferences which have such corporation of their own,) for the support of our Superannuated Ministers and the widows and orphan children of those who have died in the work; and that such plan, together with a form of bequest for said fund, be printed in our book of discipline.

VII.—ON CLAIMS.

Your Committee report: That Sister M. J. Selby is the only claimant of this Conference, and that she needs and deserves her entire allowance.

The receipts for this Conference year for claimants have been

ninety-four dollars and fifty cents, (\$94.50) eighteen of which have been paid to Sister Selby previous to Conference, leaving in the hands of the Committee seventy-six dollars and fifty cents, (76.50).

Resolved, That the money in the hands of the Committee be paid to the claimant by some one authorized by the Conference.

VIII.—ON MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.

Whereas, Our people are not agreed on the mode of raising the salaries of the preachers stationed among them; and,

Whereas, They do not seem to know that our book of discipline has anything upon the subject; therefore,

Resolved, 1st. That we, as a Conference, earnestly recommend to all our members, and particularly our official members, the immediate and practical adoption of the provision of our Discipline, found on Page 100, Chapt. 8, Sec. 1; and especially paragraphs 6 and 7.

Resolved, 2d. That we especially ask the General Conference, at its next session, to so change the wording of said Section 1, Chapt. 8, as to secure, if possible, greater harmony among us in the manner of ministerial support.

IX.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

Your Committee on publications submit:

That, in view of the floods of foolish and foul trash which flow in sickening streams from the secular presses of the land; and in view of the fearful fact that much, we had almost said most, of the publications of the great religious associations are so mixed in their character that we never know whether it is safe to patronize them or not; we need something pure in character, and positive in utterance in order to be powerful in influence on our families, our churches, and the communities where we circulate. We believe this need is met in magazine literature by the now well known and ever welcome *Earnest Christian*. We give it our unqualified endorsement, and pray God to fill its editor with all grace and courage to meet the demands upon him. And we will urge those over whom we have influence to subscribe for it. We also feel that we cannot afford to do without our weekly paper, *The Free Methodist*. We are sorry to hear of the embarrassment of its editor, mainly on account of delinquencies on the part of subscribers. This ought not to be. As, then, we need such an organ,

Resolved, 1st. That we urge our people to subscribe for it, and pay for it, pray for it and push its circulation.

Resolved, 2d. That we approve the editor's proposal to adopt the "Cash in advance" system strictly.

We also recommend that the "Songs and Hymns for Pilgrims," published by B. T. Roberts, be used extensively in our social meetings.

We urge, further, that our people furnish themselves with Disciplines, in order to study them, and with tracts for distribution, that we may be a holy, useful and intelligent people.

X.—ON TEMPERANCE.

Whereas, The evils of intemperance, according to the testimony of the most zealous workers in the cause of temperance, are increasing on all hands; and,

Whereas, This is brought about chiefly by the use of those means which are of men and not of God, such as worldly sociality and connection with secret societies; Therefore,

Resolved, 1st. That as a Church, we bend our energies to make the "tree good that the fruit may be good," rather than waste our time in attempting to make good fruit grow on corrupt trees.

Resolved, 2d. That in all our labors to reform men from this sin, as from all others; we imitate Him who once said: "That which goeth into the man, defileth not the man; From the heart proceed evil thoughts," etc, which lead to evil practices.

Resolved, 3d. That we will, by all legitimate means, support and help every worthy institution, void of secrecy, to overthrow and exterminate intemperance.

XI.—ON BIBLE CAUSE.

The American Bible Society has done, and is doing, a good work, for which we thank God.

We recognize the Bible as the great light God has sent into our world to reveal unto us the glorious plan of salvation through His Son.

In diffusing this light we are working for God and advancing the Redeemer's kingdom in the earth; hence the Bible cause presents its claims forcibly to every lover of humanity. Therefore,

Resolved, That we will continue to co-operate with the American Bible Society by taking up collections for it on all our charges during the coming year.

XII.—ON WOMAN'S WORK IN THE CHURCH.

Whereas, It is generally believed by our church that, in accordance with Joel's prophecy, God often pours His Spirit upon His hand-maidens as well as upon His servants, prompting them to public declaration of gospel truth; and,

Whereas, Our Discipline is not sufficiently explicit upon the subject of woman's public teaching to secure harmony in our treatment of the question; Therefore,

Resolved, That we ask the ensuing General Conference so to amend or explain our book of discipline as clearly to define our views as a church upon this subject; thus enabling us to properly authorize and encourage suitable female laborers among us, and at the same time check improper aspirants to this high vocation.

T. Schoons,	“	“	“
A. B. Burdick,*	Quackenkill,	Rensselaer,	“
D. Dexter,	Black River,	Jefferson,	“
J. C. Kennedy,	“	“	“
F. L. Hammond,	Syracuse,	Onondaga,	“
J. Fullford,	Fayetteville,	“	“
J. Woodhull,	Rome,	Oneida,	“
B. A. Inman,	“	“	“
R. S. Bronson,†	Erieville,	Madison,	“
O. B. Norton,	Morrisville,	“	“
A. J. Cady,	Canandaigua,	Ontario,	“
L. L. Barret,	Alton,	Wayne,	“
H. Perkins,	“	“	“
G. Milem,	Loch Berlin,	“	“

N. B.—Those marked thus *, are in Elders orders; those marked thus †, are Deacons.

MINUTES
OF THE
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
GENESEE CONFERENCE,
HELD AT
Perry, Wyoming Co., N. Y., Sept. 18-22, 1873.

OFFICERS.

President—B. T. ROBERTS.
Secretary—W. JACKSON. *Assistant*—W. MANNING.

The Conference opened at 9 A. M., by the election of G. W. Coleman for temporary Chairman. Bro. H. Hornsby conducted the devotional exercises.

The Conference roll was called, and nearly all the preachers responded to their names, and delegates from nearly all the circuits presented certificates of election and took seats in the Conference.

At the conclusion of which, the General Superintendent arrived and took the chair.

COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship—G. W. Humphrey, B. T. Roberts, Rob't Clemens.

On Missions—The Stationing Committee.

On Education—G. W. Marcellus, B. T. Roberts, J. R. Annis, L. Halstead.

Sunday Schools—S. S. Board—G. W. Humphrey, G. W. Coleman, W. Jackson.

On Claims—G. W. Coleman, G. W. Holmes, O. O. Bacon.

Bible Cause—M. C. Burritt, A. A. Burgess, Dewey Tefft.
On Temperance—C. D. Brooks, J. W. Reddy, Jno. Walton.
On Publications—W. Jackson, R. W. Hawkins, T. Sully.
To collect Funds for Minutes—M. E. Brown, Wm. Wright.
On Memoirs—G. W. Coleman, T. Sully.
On Secret Societies—G. W. Coleman, H. Hornsby, B. Burritt,
 Thos. S. Ladue.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1. What are the names of preachers and delegates having a seat in this Conference?

PREACHERS.

B. T. Roberts,	A. H. Greene,	M. C. Burritt,
J. W. Reddy,	G. W. Marcellus,	Jno. Robinson,
E. Herrick,	H. Hornsby,	A. A. Burgess,
A. Abell,	W. Jackson,	A. B. Mathewson,
L. Wood,	G. W. Coleman,	A. N. Moore,
C. D. Brooks,	J. W. McAlpine,	C. C. Eggleston,
J. C. Thomas,	F. J. Ewell,	R. W. Hawkins,
O. O. Bacon,	M. E. Brown,	S. K. J. Chesbrough,
Wm. Manning,	I. C. White,	G. H. Joslyn.
G. W. Humphrey,	T. B. Catton,	

DELEGATES.

Rob't Clemens,	Thos. Sully,	D. Tefft,
Josiah French,	Wm. Wright,	A. H. Skinner,
Bailey Burritt,	T. M. Hardy,	C. Sperry,
Thos. S. Ladue,	Stacey C. Jones,	Marshall Judson,
G. W. Holmes,	S. Whitmer,	J. R. Olmsted,
J. R. Annis,	W. Parish,	N. A. Bennett,
Jno. Walton,	Levi Metcalf,	G. W. Barney.

2. Who are the Stationing Committee?

B. T. Roberts, J. W. Reddy, G. W. Coleman, G. W. Humphrey, C. D. Brooks, G. W. Holmes, Thos. Sully, C. Sperry, Levi Metcalf.

3. What preachers are admitted on trial?

Addison H. Bennett, Wilson T. Hogg, Joseph Henning.

4. Who remain on trial?

N. H. Brown, Wm. Ingleby.

5. Who are admitted into full connection?

G. H. Joslyn, S. K. J. Chesbrough.

6. Who are the Deacons?
N. H. Brown, S. K. J. Chesbrough, A. B. Muthewson, A. N. Moore, C. C. Eggleston, G. H. Joslyn, A. A. Burgess.
7. Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year?
None.
8. Who have located this year? None.
9. Who are the superannuated preachers?
E. Herrick, H. Hornsby, A. Abell.
10. Who have been expelled? None.
11. Who have withdrawn? None.
12. Are all the preachers blameless in life and conversation?
Their names were all called, and their characters separately examined and passed.
13. Who have died this year?
W. H. Trerise.
14. What is the number of Church members, etc.? (See Statistics)
15. What amounts are necessary for the superannuated preachers?
Two hundred dollars.
16. What has been collected on the foregoing account? (See Report on Claims.)
17. Where are the preachers stationed this year? (See Appointments.)
18. Where and when shall our next Conference be held?
At Albion, Thursday, Sept. 17, 1874.

APPOINTMENTS.

GENESEE DISTRICT.—W. MANNING, *Chairman.*

Rochester,.....	S. K. J. Chesbrough.
Parma and Chili,.....	O. O. Bacon, Levi Wood.
Kendall,.....	W. Manning.
Sweden and Brockport,.....	G. W. Marcellus.
Albion and Gaines,.....	A. N. Moore.
Clarkson,.....	J. W. Reddy.
German Mission,.....	J. C. Thomas.
Mission to California,.....	G. W. Humphrey.
A. Abell,.....	Superannuated.

STATISTICS OF GENESEE CONFERENCE.

CHARGES.	PASTORS.												
	No. Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Loc. Preachers.	S. Schools.	S. S. Scholars, Offic. & Teachers.	Missionary Col- lections.	Superannuated Collections.	Bible Cause Col- lections.	Preachers' Re- ceipts.	Deficiency from Claims.	Probable Value of Church Property.	Probable In- come of Parsonages.
Albion and Gaines.	170	7	177	3	3	233	\$50.00	\$20.00	.....	\$750.00	.....	\$10,000	.....
Rushford	71	8	79	2	2	51	.....	.....	.....	500.00	.....	2,000	\$700
Knapps' Creek.	18	2	20	.....	.....	56	.....	.....	.....	150.00	.....	.....	.....
East Otto.	38	12	50	1	1	60	15.50	3.30	.....	432.00	.....	3,000	.....
Sweden and Brockport.	49	7	56	.....	.....	132	28.00	14.75	.....	405.00	.....	1,400	600
Buffalo.	79	14	93	2	1	91	10.20	10.40	.....	603.00	.....	10,000	.....
Yates and Carlton.	40	6	46	2	1	37	7.10	.....	.....	260.00	.....	3,600	.....
Kendall	97	22	119	1	2	166	30.00	.....	.....	600.00	.....	4,000	800
Dunkirk and Ellington.	23	8	31	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	221.61	.....	.....	.....
Akron and Alden.	62	3	65	3	1	54	10.09	7.53	\$5.16	480.77	101.72	2,300	.....
Oil City	67	35	102	4	1	53	.....	.....	.....	750.00	.....	.....	.....
Gowanda and Collins.	112	21	133	3	3	121	18.00	22.00	.....	.....	.....	7,000	.....
Belmont and Pikeville	55	16	71	.....	.....	86	.....	.....	.....	338.00	.....	2,000	1,000
Porter and Wilson.	60	3	63	.....	.....	58	15.00	13.50	.....	600.00	.....	2,000	1,500
Java and Gainesville.	112	13	125	3	2	81	7.25	7.00	3.00	500.00	.....	8,000	1,000
Jamestown and Union.	15	3	18	1	1	33	.....	.....	.....	100.00	.....	.....	.....
Parma, Chili, etc.	194	28	222	5	5	260	47.50	21.15	2.00	1200.00	.....	12,500	3,500
Yorkshire and Cadiz.	54	7	61	1	3	172	5.25	5.07	.....	350.00	.....	1,500	500
Tonawanda, etc.	52	.....	52	.....	.....	76	5.26	.....	.....	360.00	.....	2,000	.....
Lockport, etc.	75	1	76	2	2	94	10.00	5.00	.....	425.00	.....	7,500	.....
Allegany	96	9	105	2	4	100	80.00	2.36	.....	425.00	.....	4,000	1,000
Perry and Burk Hill.	68	1	69	2	1	40	32.00	6.00	.....	550.00	.....	2,300	1,200
Wales and West Falls.	89	8	97	2	2	87	8.00	7.00	.....	390.00	60.00	2,900	.....
Mt. Morris, Leroy, etc.	63	16	79	2	3	100	.....	.....	.....	600.00	.....	7,000	.....
Rochester.	44	10	54	1	1	84	.....	.....	.....	193.65	.....	7,000	5,000
	1803	260	2063	38	48	2381	321.06	145.06	10.76	11,714.03	161.72	99,600	16,800

Genesee
SUSQUEHANNA CONFERENCE.

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BUFFALO DISTRICT.—G. W. COLEMAN, *Chairman.*

Buffalo,.....Supplied by Wm. Gould.
Lockport, Pendleton and Newfane,.....G. W. Coleman.
Porter and Wilson,.....W. B. Pattridge, Supply.
Tonawanda, Pekin and Military Road,.....M. E. Brown.
Akron and Alden,.....A. B. Mathewson.
E. Herrick,.....Superannuated.

WYOMING DISTRICT.—W. JACKSON, *Chairman.*

Perry and Burk Hill,.....M. C. Burritt.
Wales and West Falls,.....I. C. White.
Java and Attica,.....A. A. Burgess.
Mt. Morris, Groveland and Greigsville,.....N. H. Brown.
Leroy and Bethany,.....W. Jackson.
Gainesville,.....W. G. Oaks, Supply.
Vineland Mission,.....F. J. Ewell.

ALLEGANY DISTRICT.—T. B. CATTON, *Chairman.*

Alleghany,.....Jno. Robinson.
Gowanda and Collins,.....J. W. McAlpine.
East Otto,.....C. C. Eggleston.
Belmont and Pikeville,.....W. Ingleby.
Rushford, Caseville, etc.T. B. Catton.
Cadiz and Yorkshire,.....G. H. Joslyn.
Oil City,.....Joseph Henning.
Dunkirk, Jamestown and Ellington, ..C. D. Brooks, W. T. Hogg.

R. W. Hawkins and A. H. Greene, to be appointed by the Superintendent.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Conference, by vote, requested the preachers to remain during the passage of their character, unless a vote is necessary to decide their relations.

On motion, the appointment of A. H. Greene was left with the General Superintendent.

E. P. Sellow was transferred to the Susquehannah Conference.

The following resolution was submitted and adopted by the Conference :

Resolved, That no member of the Conference shall speak longer than five minutes, or more than once, on any question that may arise, without permission of the Conference.

A. A. Abell was granted a superannuated relation at his own request, and H. Horsnsby and E. Herrick were continued in the same relation.

The Conference voted to appoint G. W. Humphrey as a missionary to California, and the Conference raised \$335 towards paying his traveling expenses.

G. W. Barney having been recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Wyoming District, as a suitable person to be ordained an Elder in the Church of God, he was elected by the Conference, and was ordained to that office by the imposition of hands on Sabbath p. m.

The Conference directed the Secretaries to publish the Minutes in connection with those of the other Conferences.

The Chairmen of the Districts were authorized to employ Alvin Paige as the wants of the work may demand.

The following paper, presented by C. D. Brooks, was referred at his request to the General Conference, as a suitable form of license to be granted to women whom a Quarterly Conference may judge called to preach the Gospel:

This certifies, that we, the members of the.....District Quarterly Conference, being acquainted with the gifts and graces of Sister.....do gladly state our entire confidence in her Christian integrity, and we prize highly her ability to teach and expound the Scriptures of divine truth: and that she may have encouragement to use her gifts, we cheerfully recommend her as a public laborer, for the upbuilding of the cause of Christ.

Voted by the Conference held at....., 18..
.....Chairman.
.....Secretary,

A collection of \$5.46 was taken, to pay for printing, stationery and postage, in connection with the offices of Rec. Sec. of S. S. Board, and Conference Secretary.

The Chairman of Genesee District was directed to communicate with J. C. Thomas, German Missionary, in relation to his work, and report the result to the next Conference.

The following was adopted by the Conference, and visitors, by a rising vote:

Resolved, That we appreciate the generous hospitality shown us by the citizens of Perry, in entertaining the Conference during

its session, and that we tender our sincere thanks for the same, earnestly praying that all who have thus cared for us may prove that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

A resolution of thanks was also offered to Wykoff & Tuttle, for their kindness in granting the Conference the free use of Smith Hall for the Sabbath services.

The Chairmen of the Districts reported the following to be the result of the action of the Quarterly Conferences, in reference to the arrangement of District work, referred to them by the last Annual Conference :

Genesee District recommends no change from the present plan.

Buffalo District recommends a change.

Wyoming District recommends no change.

Alleghany District—the question was not submitted.

Bro. Addison H. Bennett, having been recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Genesee District; and Bro. Joseph Henning, having been recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Wyoming District; and Bro. Wilson T. Hogg, having been recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Alleghany District, as suitable persons to be received by the Conference into the traveling connection, were duly admitted into the Conference on trial.

The appointment of F. J. Ewell to the Vineland Mission, was continued for another year by vote of the Conference.

Brethren S. K. J. Chesbrough and Geo. H. Joslyn, having passed a satisfactory examination in the prescribed course of study, and having satisfactorily answered the Disciplinary questions, were admitted into full membership in the Conference.

Religious services were held every afternoon and evening during the Conference, except Saturday afternoon. The following ministers preached from the texts and at the times stated :

Wednesday	Evening,	S. K. J. Chesbrough,	Ps. 66 : 18.
Thursday,	2½ P. M.,	M. C. Burritt,	Titus 2 : 14.
"	Evening,	R. W. Hawkins,	John 17 : 20, 21.
Friday,	2½ P. M.,	W. Manning,	1 Jno. 1 : 5.
"	Evening,	I. C. White,	2 Cor. 6 : 1.
Saturday	"	A. N. Moore,	Ps. 23 : 1.

Sabbath, 10.30 A. M., at Smith Hall, B. T. Roberts preached

from Ps. 51: 12. The sermon was preceded by a love feast and followed by the administration of the Lord's Supper.

At the same hour, W. Jackson preached at the Baptist Church. Also, at the same hour, A. N. Moore preached at the Congregational Church at West Perry.

At 2.30 P. M., Bro. G. W. Coleman preached an appropriate funeral discourse on the death of our lamented and esteemed Bro. W. H. Trerise, from Phil. 1: 21—"To die is gain."—At the close of the sermon, G. W. Barney was ordained to the office of Elder.

In the evening, C. D. Brooks preached at the Congregational Church at West Perry.

The annual S. S. Meeting was held on Sabbath evening. An appropriate discourse was delivered by J. W. Reddy, from Is. 54: 13.

The sermon was followed by the report of the Rec. Sec'y of the S. S. Board, (published elsewhere in the Minutes.)

Rev. J. Watts, of the M. E. Church, followed with a very interesting, able and instructive speech.

A. N. Moore was appointed to preach the annual sermon on the subject of Sunday Schools at our next session.

The last session of the Conference was held on Monday morning. The appointments were read, and District Chairmen elected. Father Abell led in prayer, and the brethren separated, again to engage in the labors and conflicts and to share the joys and blessings of another year.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

EXAMINERS ON THE COURSE OF STUDY.

Preliminary—W. Jackson, J. Robinson.

First Year—M. C. Burritt, Levi Wood.

Second Year—G. W. Marcellus, J. W. McAlpine.

Third Year—G. W. Coleman, M. E. Brown.

Fourth Year—R. W. Hawkins, W. Manning.

S. S. BOARD, FOR 1873 AND 1874.

G. W. Marcellus, G. W. Coleman, M. C. Burritt, C. D. Brooks, Alanson K. Bacon, T. Corliss, R. M. Paul, W. A. Sellw. *Recording Secretary*—S. K. J. Chesbrough.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON RAISING FUNDS FOR MINUTES.

Reported,.....28 00
 Additional subscriptions were received, making a total of..37 20

ON MISSIONS.

Receipts,.....\$332 30

DISBURSEMENTS.

C. D. Brooks,.....\$100 00
 C. C. Eggleston,..... 100 00
 W. G. Oaks,..... 75 00
 G. W. Humphrey,..... 57 30—\$332 30
 Appropriations of last year,.....\$474 89
 Deficiency of collections,.....\$153 09

The Committee recommend that they be authorized to borrow the money to pay the deficiency, and that the same be refunded out of the first missionary money collected.

And we further recommend that all the preachers urge increased collections, to ensure the raising of at least \$400 the coming year.

III.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

Excused from reporting,

IV.—ON EDUCATION.

No report but a verbal statement of the condition of Chili school, by B. T. Roberts.

V.—ON BIBLE CAUSE.

We recognize the A. B. S. an efficient means in shedding abroad the light of the gospel of the Son of God.

Thousands of the destitute have been supplied with the word of God through this instrumentality. Many, without doubt, have been led to think on their ways, and have turned their feet into the testimonies of the Lord.

Resolved, That we will heartily co-operate with the A. B. S. in the good work in which they are engaged, and we do hereby recommend that the claims of the Society receive our attention, and that collections for the cause be taken on the various charges within the bounds of this Conference.

VI.—ON TEMPERANCE.

No report.

VII.—ON CLAIMS.

Received, as per resolution of last year, \$27.50 from the following circuits: Gowanda, \$10.00; Albion, \$7.00; Lockport, \$5.00; Sweden, etc., \$5.50. Paid as per direction of last Conference.

Received for present year \$124.85, which was paid to E. Herrick.

VIII.—ON INCORPORATION OF THE FREE METHODIST CHURCH.

The Committee reported that they had secured a legal incorporation of the General Conference of the Free Methodist Church.

MINUTES
OF THE
NINTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
MICHIGAN CONFERENCE,
HELD AT
St. Johns, Mich. Sept. 25-29th 1873.

OFFICERS.

President—B. T. ROBERTS.
Secretary—B. R. JONES. *Assistant*—I. W. BELL.

COMMITTEES.

- On Public Worship*—B. T. Roberts, John Ellison.
On Publications—B. R. Jones, L. T. Frink, J. C. Wales.
On Missions—The Stationing Committee.
On Secret Societies—I. W. Bell, F. Hyde, A. Bradfield, C. S. Gitchell.
On Sunday Schools—C. H. Sage, G. A. Olmsted, W. Barrett, W. Gadden.
On Publication of Minutes—The Secretaries.
To Collect Funds for Minutes—W. H. James, Geo. Havens.
On State of the Work—Chairmen of Districts.
On Education—C. S. Gitchell, M. L. Hart, A. V. Leonardson, C. H. Sage, C. F. Irish.
On Sanctity of the Sabbath—W. R. Cusick, E. Mathews, L. D. Russell.
On Temperance—H. Sawyer, A. Omens, E. F. Tremain.
On Memoirs—J. Ellison, G. A. Olmstead, C. Ash.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1. What are the names of preachers and delegates having a seat in this Conference?

PREACHERS.

E. P. Hart,	H. Sawyer,	S. Roberts,
John Ellison,	B. R. Jones,	C. H. Sage,
C. S. Gitchell,	W. H. James,	I. W. Bell,
J. A. Wilson,	Edward Mathews,	C. F. Irish,
L. T. Frink,	W. R. Cusick,	E. Leonardson,
H. L. Jones,	J. G. Witham,	Wm. Mabbs,
A. V. Leonardson,	E. E. Miller,	Scott Marshall.
W. D. Bishop,	A. Omens,	
Wm. McKibbey,	G. A. Olmstead,	

DELEGATES.

O. H. McClain,	C. Ash,	J. Olmsted,
H. Pailthorp,	R. Howe,	E. T. Pettis,
Geo. Mayer,	F. Gordon,	C. Felt,
E. F. Tremain,	F. Hyde,	J. Bittle,
M. L. Hart,	J. Corbet,	J. Romine,
J. Palmateer,	A. Bradfield,	L. W. Simmons,
Geo. Havens,	L. D. Russell,	D. Budway,
Wm. Godden,	J. C. Wales,	J. McCutcheon.
Geo. Linn,	G. W. Roe,	
Wm. Barrett,	J. W. Vickery,	

2. Who are the Stationing Committee?

B. T. Roberts, John Ellison, S. Roberts, C. S. Gitchell, M. L. Hart, J. W. Vickery, C. Ash.

3. What Preachers are admitted on trial?

W. McKay, T. C. Fisher, L. D. Russell, J. Cripps, J. Leisenring, A. Bradfield, Geo. Linn, Jas. Linn, Jesse Monroe, A. W. Perry.

4. Who remain on trial?

G. R. Tompkins, C. H. Haynes, H. C. Ayers, J. W. Sharp, C. H. Cusick.

5. Who are admitted in full connection?

Wm. Mabbs, S. Marshall.

6. Who are the Deacons?

I. W. Bell, E. Leonardson, C. F. Irish, J. Cripps,* S. Marshall.*

7. Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year?
None.

* Ordained this year.

8. Who have located this year? Wm. McKibby.
9. Who are the superannuated preachers?
H. L. Jones.
10. Who have been expelled? None.
11. Who have withdrawn? None.
12. Are all the Preachers blameless, etc?
Their characters were each examined and passed.
13. Who have died this year? L. J. Francisco, E. M. Town.
14. What is the number of Church members, etc.? (See Statistics.)
15. Where are the preachers stationed this year? (See Appointments.)
16. Where and when shall our next Conference be held?
At Coopersville, Ottawa Co., Michigan, Sept. 23d 1874.

APPOINTMENTS.

GRAND RAPIDS DISTRICT.—J. ELLISON, *Chairman*.

Coopersville,.....	A. V. Leonardson.
Saranac,.....	S. Marshall.
Orleans and Long Lake,.....	C. F. Irish.
Mont calm, Enslv and Cortland,.....	E. E. Miller.
St. Johns and Ovid,.....	J. G. Witham.
Grand Ledge, Lansing, Detroit and South Ovid,....	W. R. Cusick.
North Star,.....	Jesse Monroe.
Isabella,.....	Wm. Mabbs.
Farrandville and Saginaw,.....	Jas. Linn.
Flint and Forest,.....	Thos. Fisher.
Gaines,....	C. H. Sage.
Clam Lake,.....	G. A. Olmsted.

SPRING ARBOR DISTRICT.—E. P. HART, *Chairman*.

Spring Arbor and Napoleon,.....	I. W. Bell.
Ransom,.....	W. H. James.
Coldwater, Quincy, Eckford and Ovid,.....	A. Omens.
Sherwood, Mattison and Burr Oak,.....	J. Leisenring.
Lawrence and Paw Paw,.....	S. C. Stringham, Supply.
Huron and Ypsilanti,.....	C. W. Haines, Geo. Havens, Supply.
Wayne,....	H. Sawyer.
McComb,.....	E. Leonardson.
Waverly and Gobles,.....	L. D. Russell.
Raisinville,.....	J. W. Sharp.

CHARGES.		PASTORS.											
		Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Local Preachers.	S. Schools.	Officers & Teachers.	S. School Scholars.	Vols. in Library.	Preachers Receipts.	Chairman Receipts.	Missionary Collections.	Prob. Val. of Church Property.
TOLEDO DISTRICT.													
	E. P. Hart, <i>Chairman</i>	22	5	27	2	2	1	7	44	\$360.50			\$2,500
	Cleveland and Brunswick	47	2	42	2	1	10	50	380.00				3,500
	Mansfield and Windsor	45	2	47	1	1	10	40	250.00				3,000
	Toledo, Holland and Whitehouse	81	6	87	1	1	17	60	175	402.65		\$1.47	3,000
	Delta	47	7	54	3	2	17	30	208.50			3.25	4,000
	Fairfield and Blissfield.	78	14	92	5	1				208.65		3.00	4,000
	Ridgeway	61	20	81						218.35			
	Petersburg	68		68		1	4	20		226.80			1,800
	Raisinville	69		69		2	8	40	60	288.00		4.00	1,800
	Huron	31	13	44		2				207.80		5.00	
	Wayne												
COLDWATER DISTRICT.													
	Napoleon, Spring Arbor & Concord	54	12	66	1	4	19	106	102	272.00		4.42	2,000
	Ransom	40	6	46	2	3	12	50		284.00		4.00	
	Coldwater and Burr Oak	95		95	3	4	35	136		669.00			1,000
	Waverly and Lawrence	52	10	62	1	1	6	28		166.35		5.75	
GRAND RAPIDS DISTRICT													
	Coopersville	100		100	1	5	34	179		525.80	\$460.50	5.75	3,000
	Saranac	40	11	51	1	1	6	25		278.00			1,400
	Orleans	48	2	50						300.30		5.50	
	Montcalm	16	5	21	1	1	8	38		100.00			500
	Courtland	48		48	1	1	6	20	110	354.40			3,500
	Enslly	43	17	60	1	3	15	55	70	550.00		1.35	
	St. Johns	109	37	146	1	3	10	40	200	327.70			2,500
	Isabella	20	6	26	2	2	3	15	65	293.00			600
	Farrandville and Saginaw	40	3	43	1	3	15	65		165.00			
	Flint and Forest	40	2	42	1	3	15	65		174.75		2.10	
	Gaines	28	6	34		1	6	30		460.00	550.00		3,000
INDIANA DISTRICT.													
	Cincinnati and Lawrenceburg	28	2	30	2	1	15	90		550.00			
	Evansville and Ft. Branch	13		13		1	7	18		50.00			450
	Tippecanoe	12		12	1	1	13	35	55	181.35		5.50	
	Westville and Indian Point.	19	3	22	1	1	13	35	55	181.35		5.50	450
	Fort Wayne												
	{ J. W. Sharpe.												
	Total	1441	192	1633	34	45	263	1211	772	8726.90	1010.50	51.09	35,750

Jackson and S. Jackson,.....A. W. Perry.
 Ridgeway, Blissfield and Franklin,.....J. Cripps.
 Fairfield and Amboy,.....Supplied by D. D. Gitchell.

TOLEDO DISTRICT.—L. S. FRINK, *Chairman*.

Cleveland and Brunswick,.....A. Bradfield.
 Unionville,.....E. Mathews.
 Toledo and Holland,.....A. Godwin, Supply.
 Delta, Washington and Whitehouse,.....L. T. Frink.
 Petersburg,.....H. C. Ayers.
 Mansfield and Windsor,.....J. A. Wilson.
 Brush Run,.....S. M. Bradford, Supply.
 Upper Sandusky,.....Geo. Linn.

INDIANA DISTRICT.—S. ROBERTS, *Chairman*.

Cincinnati and Lawrenceburg,.....G. R. Tompkins.
 “ “ German work,.....F. Mueller, Supply.
 Evansville and Ft. Branch,.....B. R. Jones.
 Bloomfield,.....To be Supplied.
 Tippecanoe,.....C. S. Gitchell.
 Westville and Indian Point,.....W. McKay.
 Fort Wayne,.....To be Supplied.
 H. L. Jones,Superannuated.
 W. D. Bishop, Missionary to California.
 C. A. Cusick, to be appointed by the President.

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. The General Superintendent called the Conference to order on Thursday, Sept. 25th, at 9 A. M.
2. Thirteen ministers responded to the calling of the roll; and nineteen laymen presented their certificates.
3. A motion to elect the Secretary by ballot was lost, and the Conference ordered that he be elected by acclamation. R. B. Jones was elected, and, by his request, I. W. Bell was appointed assistant.
4. By motion it was ordered that Conference assemble at 8.45 A. M., and adjourn at 11.45 A. M., each day. On Saturday afternoon, sessions were held at 3.45, and 8.45.

CORRESPONDENCE.

5. A communication from Rev. E. P. Hart, who was absent through sickness, was read by the President.

A correspondence from W. D. Bishop, of California, was read, and Conference ordered that it be forwarded to the *Free Methodist* for publication.

CHAIRMEN.

6. Conference ordered that the Chairmen be appointed to District work.

By motion, the Chairmen of Districts were requested to commence their Quarterly meetings on Friday evening, and continue over the Sabbath; also that the Saturday meetings commence at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Resolved, That the preachers and delegates from each District retire, after the appointments are read, and nominate their respective chairmen.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND COLLECTIONS.

7. The preachers were requested to procure a list of the subscribers to the Spring Arbor Seminary on their respective circuits, to collect their subscriptions, and forward the same to Rev. E. P. Hart, as soon as possible.

The \$1.00 remaining in the Superannuated fund, was paid to Sister L. J. Francisco.

The preachers of Grand Rapids District were requested to take up a collection on their respective circuits for the benefit of Sister E. M. Town, and forward the same to the preacher on Orleans Circuit.

\$51.74 were raised for the benefit of Prof. Jones of Spring Arbor Seminary.

\$9.25 were placed in the hands of the Secretary to purchase a new Conference Journal, and he authorized to transcribe the contents of the old journal into the new.

VACANCIES.

8. Rev. C. S. Gitchell was elected by ballot to act on the Standing Committee in the absence of Rev. E. P. Hart, Chairman of Toledo and Coldwater Districts.

9. The following vacancies in the Examining Committees for 1873 were filled.

In 3d year's course, W. H. James to act in place of Rev. L. J. Francisco, deceased.

In 4th year, A. V. Leonardson to act in the absence of E. P. Hart.

LOCATION.

Wm. McKibby was granted a local relation by his own request.

ORDINATIONS.

X. On Sunday, Sept. 29th, at the close of the afternoon service, the following brethren were ordained Deacons by the President: Josiah Cripps, S. M. Bradford, J. W. Baron and John Billings.

S. Marshall was elected to Deacon's orders, and ordained by the President at the Monday morning session.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

XI. Wm. McRay, L. D. Russell, J. Cripps, A. Bradfield, Geo. Linn and Jas. Linn, were admitted on trial, being duly recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Toledo District.

Josiah Cripps was elected to Deacon's orders, having previously served in a local capacity for the requisite number of years.

By recommend from the Quarterly Conference of Grand Rapids District, T. C. Fisher was received on trial.

Jacob Leisenring, being recommended by Coldwater District Quarterly Conference, was admitted on trial.

Being duly recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Wyoming District, Genesee Conference, Jesse Monroe was received on probation.

A. W. Perry was admitted as a probationer by transfer from the Kansas Conference.

G. B. Havens, of Toledo District, and Thomas Carveth, of Grand Rapids District, were recommended as suitable persons to be employed by the Chairmen of said Districts.

The following local preachers were elected to Deacon's orders:

J. W. Baron and John Billings by recommendation from Coldwater District Quarterly Conference, and S. M. Bradford by recommendation of the Quarterly Conference of Toledo District.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, 1st. That the preachers instruct the people respecting the question on perfect love, before receiving them into the church.

Resolved, 2d. That we extend an invitation to the General Conference to hold its next session at Spring Arbor, Michigan.

Resolved, 3d. That the Executive Committee be requested to organize a new Conference from the territory of Michigan Conference, as follows: viz, The states of Ohio and Indiana: Said organization to be effected during the coming Conference year.

And that the time and place of holding the first session of said Ohio and Indiana Conference, providing it be organized, be left with the President.

Resolved, 4th. That \$50.00 of the Missionary money now on hand, be paid to E. E. Miller.

Whereas, We, the ministers and members of this Conference have been so cordially received, and kindly entertained by the citizens of St. Johns and vicinity: Therefore,

Resolved, 6th. That we extend to these people our sincere thanks for the kindness and hospitality they have shown us.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON RAISING FUNDS FOR MINUTES.

Reported.....\$28 11

II.—ON MISSIONS.

Receipts.....\$51 44

APPROPRIATION.

E. E. Miller.....\$50 00

III.—ON MEMOIRS.

Not being provided with a report, they were requested to prepare one and forward it for publication in the Minutes.

IV.—ON STATE OF THE WORK.

Your Committee on State of the Work would respectfully report, that the cause of God as represented within the bounds of our Conference, is in a very encouraging and prosperous condition. The Macedonian cry for help reaches us from many places that we find it impossible to supply; and while we are determined to spread our work as fast and as far as possible in order to save men, yet we would earnestly impress upon the minds of our brethren the importance of steadily maintaining the ground already occupied. Your Committee would also earnestly recommend that great care be exercised in receiving members into the Church, that they give good evidence of having been soundly converted to God.

V.—ON TEMPERANCE.

We beg leave to report as follows: We call your attention, first, to the following striking statistics, introduced by Mr. A. P. Flagg, of Springfield, Mass., in a temperance lecture given in Chicago not long ago, showing the vast amount of, and rapid increase in, the production of intoxicating liquors:

“ In 1850, the total value of the liquors produced in the United States was \$21,500,000. In 1857 it had increased to \$41,500,000. In 1867, about \$240,000,000 were produced, or more than six gallons for each man, woman and child in the country. The number of distilleries in the United States in 1860 was 1,193. In 1867 this number was increased to 3,000. There are in the United States 500,000 habitual drunkards. The revenue from liquor alone in the United States for the year ending June 3, 1867, was \$1,483,491,565; the entire annual sales of the article being about one-eighth of the aggregate products of the country—about ten times the value of all the church property in the United States, and more than that of all our railroads, those of Pennsylvania only being excepted.”

We are shocked in view of such alarming facts; and being convinced that the evil of intemperance is on the increase still, we can but see the importance of an increased zeal on our part as a Church in our effort to stay the tide of iniquity and ruin.

Therefore, *Resolved*, 1st. That we, as a Church regard anything that gives aid to the liquor traffic, such as growing hops, barley or other grains for the liquor market; or voting into office men who either manufacture, sell, or use, as a beverage, intoxicating liquor, a violation of the moral law, and of that clause in our General Rules which requires us to avoid evil of *every kind*.

Resolved, 2d. That we regard the use of tobacco a species of intemperance, and those who either use, raise, or sell it, are not only improper persons to be received into our church, but also to be invited to the Lord's table among us.

All of which is submitted.

VI.—ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Sabbath School is more especially for the young. Children can be saved early in life: this we have well proved. Since God set in motion this Free Methodist movement, many of our children have been converted. The Gospel is the “power of God unto salvation, to all that believe,” and if the Sabbath School be made a saving power, it must agree with the Gospel, and be conducted in such a *way* and in such a *spirit*, that we can look forward and expect the help of the Holy Ghost. A failure here and all is lost.

The popular way of conducting Sabbath Schools is a decided failure. The means used are faulty, and sometimes wicked. The interest is kept up by worldly contrivances, such as concerts, picnics and excursions. Now we all know that the Spirit of God cannot aid in any of these things, but an opposite spirit prevails.

A display of ornaments and fashion, with an effort to excel in nice, worldly speeches, is the common order. The literature, also, is as really unscriptural. The books and papers lack the real *Gospel*, and are *full* of light, trashy stories. Now, if we object to the way others carry on their schools, and also to the reading they furnish, let us take a better course, and furnish Gospel reading. The children *must* be fed, and if we Christians don't do it the devil will.

Therefore we urge the publication, by our people, of a *weekly child's paper*. Also we ask and urge our people, to make greater effort in the Sabbath School cause.

VII.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

A careful survey of the present condition of the world convinces us that there is much to be done. The powers of darkness are to be overcome. The press may be made a mighty agency for either good or evil. And being the children of light, it is our duty to avail ourselves of this powerful weapon against the works of darkness.

We believe the *Earnest Christian* and *Free Methodist* are peculiarly adapted to this important work. Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we extend to the *Earnest Christian* our hearty support, and pray the blessing of the Lord upon it and its editor.

2. That the *Free Methodist*, standing as the organ of the Church, should be placed upon the most substantial basis possible. The present number of delinquent subscribers is resulting in great financial embarrassment to the publisher. We are fully convinced that the *Free Methodist* should be brought to a cash system.—Without this, it is difficult for any paper to succeed, unless the paying subscribers pay about once and a half for their paper.

Furthermore, we consider it dishonest for persons to continue to take a paper, without paying the subscription price, or having an understanding with the editor.

VIII.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

It is said that "Everything has its day." Nations rise in numbers, splendor and renown, until they reach their apex, then decline or fall. So with all combinations where numbers form the union. This to some extent may be the fact; but nations in their wasting often start afresh and put on another appearance, and come again to distinction. Secretism in our land once rose to high position, then fell into shame and disgrace—was despised, rejected and trampled under foot; but has since ascended to a high elevation, and threatened to carry, and does to a fearful extent, both Church and State. Wherever it takes a Church to its embrace or governs it, all Christianity is driven out or counteracted. Such being the fact, we scruple not to bar it from the pale of our Church; and as it is anti-Christian, we hesitate not to condemn it, and warn men of threatening danger awaiting them in persisting in an alliance with the powers of darkness. We need not cultivate or invite a fearful and timid feeling respecting an open

rebuke against these fraternities, but where duty speaks, deal such blows as will be unmistakably felt. We have all the encouragement necessary to hasten a completion of their downfall. God is against them; men who love God's cause and feel a deep interest in the salvation of souls, and enter into sympathy with the sufferings of Christ, are against them; and now men of principle in the churches, and many out of the churches, are beginning to arouse themselves against these damnable orders, and an under current in most communities is increasing which must soon terminate them. It is well known to our people, and profoundly felt by the secret orders, that there has arisen a fast increasing body of men, coming from some twenty different denominations, and organized under the name of The National Association Opposed to Secret Societies. And as Christians, we should be identified in this prosperous movement. Therefore,

Resolved, 1st. That we will assist in helping this society in its various operations, in organizing auxiliaries, and lecturing through the land; also voting for those men of principle whom they secure to fill the various offices of our country.

2d. That as far as we are able, to take the *Christian Cynosure* and secure as many subscribers as possible.

IX.—ON EDUCATION.

We live in an age of educational privilege. When many parents are taking advantage of these opportunities, knowing that, with an education, their children may be more useful and better able to meet the contests of life. And while our states and different denominations are taxed to their utmost in bringing schools, where, with little expense, we might embrace their labors: yet, we find, in connection with these institutions of learning, many objections which hinder the student from rapid advancement and thorough investigation of the sciences. First is the extravagance of apparel, which demands large sums of money, wastes time in arranging, and occupies hours for exhibition. Second, those social entertainments, calling for days of preparation, followed by a day of resting, besides the long reflections upon the parades accompanying such procedures. And, thirdly, and the most objectionable feature in our state schools, is the rejection of the reading of the Bible, and, in our denominational schools, is the discouraging of experimental religion and vital godliness.

As it is a duty we owe to God and our children, as far as lies in our power, to lift them from ignorance, there is an obligation binding us to bring them up in the admonition of the Lord. Unite the educational interest with the religious necessities, and you have a school which will benefit the country, be a blessing to your children and an honor to the cause of God.

We have deeply felt the need of such an institution, and through God's blessing have been enabled to start one, and, in connection with this report, will give a brief history of its advancement.

Last Conference a committee was selected to secure the most suitable location for such a school. Said committee met immediately, fixed on Spring Arbor and left the securing of the site to brother E. P. Hart, who, by his constant and indefatigable labors, raised enough in that community to purchase ten acres of land, with two old college buildings upon it, and on the strength of the subscription of last conference, commenced repairs, which amounted to some two thousand dollars. The value of said property is estimated at about nine thousand dollars.

The rapidity with which the repairs were carried on encouraged the holding of a term of school, which commenced in May and closed the last of July. The dedication of the school took place September 2d, conducted by Rev. B. T. Roberts, and the school opened under the most flattering prospects: and now has some sixty students and will probably number over one hundred the next term.

The spiritual attainments keep pace with the educational, and it is a desirable place for parents to settle their families. Several of our people have built houses, and others intend to build soon.

As it takes an interest to sustain any enterprise, so it will be necessary to interest ourselves in this school. Therefore,

Resolved, That we will hold it up by our prayers, and according to our ability give of our means, and also, as far as practicable send our children to the school, and thus make it a success.

Resolved, That the following brethren be, and they are hereby appointed a standing committee to secure an incorporation of this school, to nominate the Trustees, and to take the general oversight of its interests until trustees are appointed; to wit,

E. P. Hart, John Ellison, C. S. Gitchell, C. G. Mattice, Joseph Jones and E. T. Pettis.

Alphabetical List of Members of Conference.

Comprising also the year of entering the traveling connection, together with the Post Office address of each preacher for the Conference year.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>En. Trav. Con.</i>	<i>Post Office.</i>	<i>County.</i>	<i>State.</i>
W. D. Bishop,	1864,	San Francisco,		California.
I. W. Bell,	1870,	Spring Arbor,	Jackson,	Michigan.
W. R. Cusick,	1867,	Dewitt,	Clinton,	
John Ellison,	1865,	St. Johns,	"	
L. T. Frink,	1865,	Delta,	Fulton,	Ohio.
C. S. Gitchell,	1864,	Attica,	Fountain,	Indiana.
E. P. Hart,	1860,	Spring Arbor.	Jackson,	Michigan.
C. F. Irish,	1870,	Orleans,	Ionia,	"
H. L. Jones,	1865,	Ida,	Monroe,	"
B. R. Jones,	1868,	Evansville,	Vanderburgh,	Indiana.
W. H. James,	1868,	Ransom Centre,	Hillsdale,	Michigan.

A. V. Leonardson,	1867,	Coopersville,	Ottawa,	Michigan.
E. Leonardson,	1870,			
Edward Mathews,	1868,			
Wm. Mabbs,	1871,			
E. E. Miller,	1869,	Cedar Springs,	Kent,	"
S. Marshall,	1871,	Saranac,	Ionia,	"
Anson Omens,	1869,	Coldwater,	Branch,	"
G. A. Olmsted,	1871,	Cedar Springs,	Kent,	"
Septer Roberts,	1869,	Ft. Wayne,		Indiana.
H. Sawyer,	1868,	Wyandott,		Michigan.
C. H. Sage,	1870,	Gaines,		"
J. A. Wilson,	1867,	Mansfield,	Richland,	Ohio.
J. E. Witham,	1870,	St. Johns,	Clinton,	Michigan.

Preachers on Trial.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>En. Trav. Con.</i>	<i>Post Office.</i>	<i>County.</i>	<i>State.</i>
H. C. Ayers,	1872,	Erie,	Monroe,	Michigan.
A. Bradfield.	1873,	Cleveland,		Ohio.
J. Cripps,	1873,	Ridgeway,	Lenawee,	Michigan.
T. C. Fisher,	1873,	Richfield Centre,	Genesee.	"
C. W. Haynes,	1872,	Waltz Station,	Wayne,	"
Geo. Linn,	1873,	Upper Sandusky,		Ohio.
Jas. Linn,	1873,			
J. Leisenring,	1873,	Sherwood,	Branch,	Michigan.
Jesse Monroe.	1873,	North Star,		"
Wm. McKay.	1873,	Westville,		Indiana.
A. W. Perry,	1872,	Jackson,	Jackson,	Michigan.
L. D. Russell,	1873,	Glen Dale,	Vanburen,	"
J. W. Sharp.	1872,	Raisinville,	Monroe,	"
G. R. Tompkins,	1872,	Lawrenceburg,		Indiana.
C. A. Cusick,	1871,			

Local Preachers.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Post Office.</i>	<i>County.</i>	<i>State.</i>
John Farmer.	Aurora,		Indiana.
F. Mueller,	"		"
Wm. Jones,	Cleveland, W. S.		Ohio.
John Billings,	Concord,	Jackson,	Michigan.
E. B. Williams,	Coldwater,	Branch,	"
J. W. Baron,	"	"	"
H. G. Fellows,	Richfield Centre.	Genesee,	"
G. B. Havens,	Hillsdale,	Hillsdale,	"
A. Godwin,	Holland,	Lucas,	Ohio.
John Oswalt,	Mansfield,	Richland,	"
S. M. Bradford,	"	"	"
Thos. Garveth,	Saranac,		Michigan.
John Tomlinson,	Sherwood,	Branch,	"
Joseph Harter,	Ft. Wayne,		Indiana.

MINUTES

OF THE

SECOND ANNUAL SESSION.

OF THE

Minnesota and Northern Iowa Conference,

HELD AT

Havana, Minn., October 9-12, 1873.

Conference assembled Thursday at 9 o'clock, A. M., and spent half an hour in religious services, led by Brother T. S. LaDue. A season of profit.

Rev. T. S. LaDue was elected President pro. tem., and C. M. Damon Secretary.

Rev. B. T. Roberts, General Superintendent, arrived at 11 o'clock A. M., the first day, and took the chair.

COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship—T. S. LaDue, J. C. Norton.

On Publication of Minutes, and Collecting Funds for same—
C. M. Damon, L. McLeod.

On the Sabbath—S. P. LaDue, G. Dotson, D. R. Morrison.

On Sabbath Schools—J. C. Norton, J. S. Bradley, Newel Sumner.

On Secret Societies—T. B. Chase, T. Hortop, A. G. Hawes,
C. M. Damon.

On Temperance—S. H. Greenup, C. Hawes, C. W. LaDue.

On Publications—A. W. Childs, L. McLeod, E. N. Sumner.

On Education—T. S. LaDue, J. M. Cook, C. Heuston.

ON EXAMINATION OF STUDIES.

Preliminary Course—C. W. LaDue, John Ball.

First Year—J. C. Norton, J. M. Cook.

Second Year—S. P. LaDue, J. P. Shattuck.

Third Year—T. B. Chase, A. W. Childs.

Fourth Year—C. M. Damon, S. H. Greenup.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1. What are the names of preachers and delegates having a seat in this Conference?

Preachers—T. S. LaDue, C. M. Damon, S. H. Greenup, S. P. LaDue, J. P. Shattuck, T. B. Chase, Nelson Cook.

Delegates—A. G. Hawes, C. Hawes, L. McLeod, G. Dotson, D. R. Morrison, T. Hortop, C. Heuston.

2. Who are the Stationing Committee?

B. T. Roberts, T. S. LaDue, Granville Dotson.

3. What preachers are admitted on trial? None.

4. Who remain on trial?

J. C. Norton, C. W. LaDue, J. M. Cook, John Ball, A. W. Childs, E. N. Sumner.

5. Who are admitted into full connection? None.

6. Who are the Deacons?

There are none.

7. Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year?

C. M. Damon, A. W. Childs.

8. Who have located this year? None.

9. Who are the superannuated preachers?

Nelson Cook, without a claim.

10. Who have been expelled? None.

11. Who have withdrawn? None.

12. Are all the preachers blameless in life and conversation?

Their names were all called, and their characters separately examined and passed.

13. Who have died this year? None.

14. What is the number of Church members?

Members, 167. Probationers, 55.

No collections reported.

Number of Sunday Schools,	6
Number of Officers,	26
Number of Scholars,	100
Number of Volumes in Library,	None.
Amount expended,	\$37.75

17. Where are the preachers stationed this year? (See Appointments.)

18. When and where shall our next Conference be held?

At Plymouth, Cerro Gordo Co., Iowa, on Thursday, Oct. 8th, 1874, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

APPOINTMENTS.

MINNESOTA DISTRICT.—T. S. LaDue, *Chairman*.

Pine Island and Cannon Falls.....	T. B. Chase, J. S. Bradley.
Havana and Waseca.....	S. P. LaDue, C. Cusick.
Fairmount and Mountain Lake.....	A. W. Childs, C. W. LaDue.
Pleasant Valley and LaCrosse Valley.....	J. C. Norton.
Minneapolis.....	J. P. Shattuck.

NORTHERN IOWA DISTRICT.—T. S. LaDue, *Chairman*.

Shell Rock River Circuit,....	C. M. Damon, E. N. Sumner, J. Ball.
Forest City and Algona,.....	S. H. Greenup, J. M. Cook.
Nelson Cook,.....	Superannuated.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On motion, 9 o'clock A. M. was agreed upon as the time for opening the morning sessions of Conference; and 11,45 A. M. for closing.

Resolved, That candidates for the examination of studies next year, appear the day before the opening of the Conference, at 9 o'clock A. M., at the place of Conference meeting.

The travelling preachers on trial were admitted to seats in the Conference, as honorary members.

Motion was carried that, Those preachers who are continued on trial, if deficient in their Conference studies, be required to bring them up with the next year's course.

Resolved, That, as a Conference, we affectionately advise the Official Boards of the several circuits, to make special provisions for the supply of their preachers, as early in the year as possible, with the books prescribed by the Discipline for Conference studies.

Charles Cusick was transferred from the Michigan Conference to the Minnesota and Northern Iowa Conference.

Very interesting and profitable remarks were made by the President in connection with the offering of Reports.

A unanimous vote of thanks was given by rising, to the brethren and friends of Havana and vicinity for their kind and generous entertainment of the Conference.

The Conference was held in a large school house, was well attended by brethren and friends from a distance and at hand, and a large measure of the Spirit attended the religious services afternoons and evenings.

Several were converted or sanctified, and others were penitent. Brother Roberts preached five times in demonstration of the Spirit and of power. Harmony and brotherly love generally prevailed throughout the session.

Members of Conference were somewhat tardy in morning attendance.

At the close of the morning service on Sunday, C. M. Damon and A. W. Childs were ordained Elders. In the evening Bro. Roberts preached to a full congregation in the M. E. Church at Owatonna.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON THE SABBATH.

Whereas, Great efforts are being made to open public city parks on the Sabbath, for the purpose of driving, walking, dancing and other amusements; also to open the public reading rooms, thereby affording visitors opportunity to peruse any fiction they may choose; and,

Whereas, The reading of political papers and novels, visiting, travelling, and worldly conversations are common on the Sabbath, even among professing Christians.

We, the members of this Conference, pledge ourselves, by pastoral labor, and preaching to bring our Church and congregations into a love and observance of the Sabbath.

II.—ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We believe the Sunday School cause to have a just claim upon us. That there was never a time when the call was more urgent,

because of the limited amount of true Christian zeal, in the churches through the land, and of Sabbath School zeal among us, and the time for inculcating gospel truths is speeding: Therefore,

Resolved, 1st. That we will organize Sabbath Schools wherever possible.

2d. We will, as preachers, faithfully observe Section XIV, Page 77 of Discipline. We advise that a portion of the time, at our Quarterly and Camp meetings, be devoted to this interest.

3d. That we will not purchase libraries of fiction, but will put forth our endeavors to furnish the children and youth with pure, religious reading.

4th. It behooves the Church, and especially the parents of the Church, to impress upon every child, at the earliest dawn of reason, an abhorrence of sin, and a love for that which is pure and good.

III.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

We regard all secret societies as opposed, in principle, to the gospel of Christ, who says, "In secret have I said nothing;" and whose followers are the light of the world. It is exceedingly dangerous and wrong to commit ourselves to practice, and to keep secret,—*we know not what*; and especially to be in league with un-saved men.

The secret societies of the day, however beneficial or benevolent their professed aims, as the Grange and Temperance orders, involve their members in a fellowship, unlawful for Christians to enter into with sinners, and tending naturally to draw them away from Jesus. We believe the oath-bound orders, particularly Free Masonry, teach a religion without Christ, and are dangerously inconsistent with republican institutions.

The gospel of the ever blessed God needs no blindfolded handmaid to lead men from sin to holiness and heaven.

Thrust out, in the providence of God, to preach Christ crucified, we feel it our duty as a people to bear plain and decided testimony against everything that conflicts with this central idea of a pure gospel. We will, therefore, earnestly pray and labor for the overthrow of secret organizations. We hail with joy the rapid spread of anti-secret principles in our land, and, as far as consistent, we will heartily co-operate with all efforts in this direction.

IV.—ON TEMPERANCE.

Whereas, The evil of intemperance is exerting its baneful influence throughout the land:—we as a Conference consider it our duty to take a decided stand against it: therefore we recommend,

1st. Stringent legal prohibition.

2d. That we use our influence against it, by preaching the pure gospel, whose cardinal principle is self-denial: by denouncing it directly, and by engaging in organized movements conducted on Christian principles.

3d. That, considering the pernicious effects of the use of tobacco, causing the nation, during the year 1871, to waste the prodigious sum of \$350,000,000 more than the staff of life, which cost only \$200,000,000, and poisoning 50,000 persons annually; besides enervating millions of our young men:—we continue to raise our voice against it and stringently enforce our excellent rule.

V.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

Your committee on publications report as follows;

We regard the press as a great power in the land, for good or evil. We see that great exertions are made to flood our country with various kinds of light and pernicious literature, poisoning the mind of the rising generation, perverting their minds from wholesome and useful reading. Therefore,

Resolved, That we as members of the Minnesota and Northern Iowa Conference, will use our endeavors to put the *Free Methodist*, *Earnest Christian* and *Free Methodist Discipline* in every family which includes a member of the Free Methodist Church, and as many more as we can.

Resolved, That Bro. B. T. Roberts be requested to publish, at the earliest opportunity, a book composed of his editorials in the *Earnest Christian*.

Resolved, That we recommend the publication in pamphlet form, of the articles on Annihilationism, written by Bro. T. S. LaDue for the *Free Methodist*, and published in that paper.

Resolved, That we recommend our ministers and members to supply themselves with, and circulate B. T. Roberts' address to the Western New York Agricultural Society, entitled "Conspiracies against Farmers."

VI.—ON EDUCATION.

The importance of education appears from Scripture teaching and example, and from history, both sacred and profane. Some of the most eminent characters of the Bible, and men most highly honored of God, were well versed in the learning of their day. Moses was skilled in all the learning of the Egyptians, the most highly cultured people of that age. Paul, the chief apostle, was one of the best educated men of his times, and enjoined upon Timothy, his son in the Gospel, study and attention to reading. The great reformers Luther and Wesley, and many of their coadjutors were learned men.

Many of the most efficient men of church and state have been self-educated,—for instance some of the worthies of the M. E. Church: who acquired extensive knowledge from books while threading forests and traversing prairies on horse-back; and who, amidst a vast amount of preaching and labor, by improving every moment in study, became mighty in the Scriptures and in theological attainments and general information. In view of such examples, none of our ministers need despair, who have not been able to avail themselves of the advantages of schools and colleges.

And, in view of such examples, we exhort all our candidates for examination, to thoroughly educate themselves in the disciplinary course of study.

We rejoice in the establishment of institutions of learning among us, and that the Chili and Spring Arbor Seminaries are flourishing. And we advise our people to patronize these, as in them scholars are not exposed to the temptations to worldliness, vanity and frivolity so strong in almost all other similar institutions, and in them, while the intellect is cultivated, the heart and affections are powerfully drawn in the ways of righteousness and holiness.

VII.—ON PUBLISHING MINUTES.

The Committee on Publishing Minutes, etc. reported verbally \$13.00 raised for the purpose of publishing our Minutes in connection with those of the other Conferences.

MINUTES
OF THE
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION,
OF THE
ILLINOIS CONFERENCE,
HELD AT
Winnebago, Illinois, October 1-6th, 1873.

OFFICERS.

President—REV. B. T. ROBERTS.
Secretaries—REV. J. G. TERRILL, REV. W. W. KELLEY.

COMMITTEES.

- On Public Worship*—C. E. Harroun Sr., J. Travis, L. L. Burdick.
On Missions—The Stationing Committee.
On Sunday Schools—J. G. Terrill, M. L. Vorheis, L. Mendenhall.
On Secret Societies—J. M. Y. Smith, W. F. Manley, L. H. Bishop, G. C. Coffee, J. A. Shoemaker.
On Publications—J. G. Terrill, Lewis Bailey, C. E. Harroun, James Smith, R. Gilbert.
On Education—J. W. Dake, R. Gilbert, Melville Beach, Anson Steadwell, E. H. Kimball.
On Temperance—L. Whitney, O. Fairbanks, J. F. Drury, W. W. Kelley, O. C. Stoughton.
On the Bible Cause—S. A. Gilley, E. Z. Twing, L. C. Ebey, James Knapp, S. Ostrander.
On Claims—D. M. Sinclair, C. W. Frink, Sidney Mills, J. Travis.
On Collecting Funds for Publishing Minutes—S. A. Gilley, G. C. Coffee.
On Publication of Minutes—The Secretaries.
Tent Committee—M. L. Vorheis, L. H. Bishop, D. M. Sinclair.

Examiners on Course of Study for next year.*Preliminary Course*—C. E. Harroun, E. Z. Twing.*First Year*—A. Steadwell, T. B. Arnold.*Second Year*—C. W. Frink, J. W. Dake.*Third Year*—W. W. Kelley, D. M. Sinclair.*Fourth Year*—J. Travis, C. E. Harroun.**DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.**

1. What are the names of preachers and delegates having a seat in this Conference?

PREACHERS.

J. Travis,
C. E. Harroun, Sr.
J. G. Terrill,
J. W. Dake,
J. Mead,
J. Buss,
M. V. Clute,
B. F. Doughty,
C. W. Frink,
W. W. Kelley,

L. Bailey,
J. W. Cain,
Peter Chalmun,
W. F. Manley,
N. E. Parks,
W. A. Nobles,
D. M. Rose,
J. M. Y. Smith.
G. C. Coffee,
D. M. Sinclair,

J. Whitney,
S. A. Gilley,
M. L. Vorheis,
E. Z. Twing,
Anson Steadwell,
T. B. Arnold,
D. P. Baker.
Charles H. Brandt.

DELEGATES.

R. Gilbert,
L. L. Burdick,
S. Ostrander,
S. Mills,
J. Smith,
J. Lester,
J. Knapp,
L. C. Ebey,

M. Beach,
E. A. Kimball,
G. W. Perry,
O. C. Stoughton,
M. S. M. West,
L. H. Bishop,
O. Fairbanks,
J. A. Shoemaker,

L. Mendenhall,
J. F. Drury,
A. Tottenham,
W. Morrison,
E. S. Cook,
J. S. Updike,
G. A. Moore,
J. C. Black.

2. Who are the Stationing Committee?

B. T. Roberts, J. Travis, L. Bailey, D. M. Sinclair, L. H. Bishop, M. Beach, James Smith.

3. Who are admitted on trial?

James Thaxter, C. P. Miller.

4. Who remain on trial?

John Wilson, C. E. Harroun, Jr.

5. Who are admitted into full connection?

T. B. Arnold, Chas. A. Brandt, D. P. Baker.

6. Who are the Deacons ?

S. A. Gilley, M. L. Vorheis, E. Z. Twing, J. Wilson,*
James Thaxter.*

R. Gilbert,* L. Mendenhall* and T. Vipond,* local preachers.

7. Who have been elected and ordained Elders this year ?

W. A. Nobles, W. F. Manley, J. W. Cain.

D. P. Baker was recognized as an Elder, having been ordained in the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

8. Who have located this year ?

G. C. Coffee, at his own request, C. H. Underwood, D. M. Rose.

9. Who are the superannuated, or worn out preachers ?

Judah Mead, M. V. Clute.

10. Who have been expelled ? None.

11. Who have withdrawn ? None.

12. Are all the preachers blameless in life and conversation ?

Their names were called and their characters passed in the usual manner. Complaints appearing against C. H. Underwood, he was located and his case referred to the chairman of his district. Complaints appeared against B. F. Doughty and his case was referred to the chairman of his district for further investigation.

13. Who have died this year ? None.

14. What is the number of Church members ?

(See Table of Statistics.)

15. Where are the preachers stationed this year ?

(See Appointments.)

16. Where and when shall our next conference meet ?

At Marengo, Illinois, Sept. 30th, 1874.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Conference ordered that the minutes be published in connection with those of the other Conferences.

*Ordained this year.

STATISTICS OF ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

CIRCUITS.		PREACHERS.												
		No. Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Loc. Preachers.	S. Schools.	Offic. & Teachers.	S. S. Scholars.	Money Expended.	Preachers' Receipts.	Chairmen's Receipts.	Missionary Collections.	Superannuated Collections.	Probable Value of Church Property.
Chicago.....	J. G. Terrill.....	57	15	72	2	1	14	70	99.90	968.12	60.00	14.28	16.71	1,500
Aurora.....	J. M. Y. Smith.....	48	5	53	2	1	12	65	46.08	800.00	41.36	16.50	.....	12,000
Eglin and Clintonville.....	M. V. Clute.....	48	2	50	1	1	10	70	.....	390.00	52.80	8.00	7.00	5,000
St. Charles.....	N. E. Parks.....	42	7	49	3	2	14	70	11.50	450.00	42.80	.....	.....	1,600
Geneva and Wheaton.....	James Thaxter.....	28	4	32	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	125.00	25.00	.....	.....	.....
Lodi and Blackberry.....	S. A. Gilley.....	52	2	54	1	2	10	75	10.00	335.54	44.55	6.50	5.00	3,800
Crystal Lake.....	W. W. Kelley.....	66	7	73	2	10	98	98	31.00	480.00	42.80	26.14	18.50	3,000
Marengo.....	M. L. Vorheis.....	37	7	44	1	8	45	45	16.50	450.00	30.00	17.93	7.00	3,000
Belvidere.....	C. W. Frink.....	35	.....	35	1	4	10	4	2.75	410.00	30.00	11.62	8.20	2,600
Whitewater.....	D. M. Sinclair.....	56	2	58	1	2	15	120	44.00	425.0	58.18	23.00	17.39	3,500
Deanville and Pierceville.....	E. Z. Twigg.....	36	4	40	2	1	6	25	.....	300.00	43.47	4.00	.....	.....
Beaver Dam and Calamus.....	W. A. Nobles.....	20	2	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	123.50	21.58	.....	.....	1,000
Plattville and Martinville.....	James M. Scott.....	31	10	41	1	1	8	50	.....	248.00	41.55	5.50	.....	.....
New Diggings and Big Patch.....	J. W. Cain.....	32	.....	32	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	152.00	21.45	.....	.....	.....
Winnebago.....	C. E. Harroun, Sr.....	55	5	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	20.00	500.00	56.00	4.00	.....	3,500
Freeport and Lena.....	L. Whitney.....	27	1	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	245.87	32.50	5.00	.....	.....
Savanna.....	Thomas Vipond.....	34	.....	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	77.18	34.40	.....	.....	.....
Ashton.....	W. F. Manley.....	52	3	55	1	5	25	25	5.75	575.00	61.50	9.00	8.85	2,500
Dewitt.....	Anson Steadwell.....	29	4	33	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.00	204.00	39.67	10.00	5.00	2,500
Otter Creek.....	T. B. Arnold.....	42	31	73	2	4	34	145	33.55	242.08	46.88	15.10	1.35	275
Waterloo Mission.....	J. W. Dake.....	16	14	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	170.74	35.00	.....	.....	3,000
Galva, Kenawee, Sheffield, etc.....	G. C. Coffee & C. E. Harroun, Jr.....	96	10	106	2	3	25	159	.....	721.20	121.04	9.00	.....	.....
Jacksonville and Whitehall.....	J. Buss.....	20	13	33	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.00	130.00	35.00	10.00	.....	2,000
Fairfield.....	B. F. Doughty.....	80	4	84	3	18	60	105	22.00	310.00	44.00	40.00	.....	1,100
Birmingham and Mt. Zion.....	C. P. Miller.....	80	22	102	1	3	25	105	.....	169.70	26.25	.....	.....	.....
Blakesburg.....	A. P. Goode.....	21	.....	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
White Oak—No report.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
South W. Dis.	.....	1140	170	1310	22	36	256	1450	355.03	9304.43	1147.78	275.57	100.00	51,875

North W. Dis. West W. Dis. Wis. Dist. Fox River Dist.

The hour for meeting was fixed at 8.30 A. M., and 11.45 A. M. as the time for adjourning each sitting.

The Stationing Committee were instructed to district the work for traveling chairmen as far as practicable. It was found impracticable for Fox River District this year.

Dillon P. Baker, formerly of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, was received in full connection, and his ordination as Elder recognized.

Friday afternoon was devoted to the consideration of our Sunday School work, Rev. B. T. Roberts presiding.

Saturday afternoon was devoted to the consideration of our Missionary work. Addresses were made by Rev. D. M. Sinclair, and Rev. B. T. Roberts, President Blanchard and others. A collection was taken at the close of \$250.00.

In connection with a complaint of mal-administration against Rev. G. C. Coffee, the following decisions were made by the Chair:

1. What constitutes a legal call for a Society Meeting?

DECISION. A call made at one of the public preaching services of the Society, or Church, fixing the time for holding said Society Meeting a reasonable time in the future.

2. How are we to understand the term "Society," in our Discipline, in such cases?

DECISION. All the members of our Church who meet together stately, in one place, for worship.

The Conference decided that the committee in the case of W. m. Carter was not constituted according to our rule of discipline.

The Standing Committee in regard to a Conference School, reported: That several thousand dollars had been subscribed for the purpose of starting such a school. The Committee was continued for another year.

The report of the committee in the case of Rev. C. H. Underwood, appointed last year, was adopted.

President Blanchard, of Wheaton College, and Rev. Mr. Strout, a minister in the M. E. Church, of Winnebago, were elected to honorary seats in the Conference.

Joseph Travis was elected delegate to the National Christian Convention, opposed to Secret Societies, to meet in May next, and J. M. Y. Smith was elected reserve.

The Conference requested the President to act as delegate from this body also.

A collection was ordered to be taken in all our Societies, in April next, to defray the expenses of the above delegate, and also ordered, that if there should be more raised than sufficient for that purpose, that the remainder be paid into the Missionary fund.

The Secretary of the Illinois Conference Benevolent Association, reported a clear title to *ten* acres of land in Clintonville, Illinois, and \$100.00 cash in hand.

Rev. L. Bailey and E. A. Kimball were elected to fill the vacancies in the Board of Trustees, according to the Charter of the Association.

A collection was ordered to be taken at the close of the Sunday A. M. service, for the benefit of the General Superintendent.

The time for taking the Missionary collection was fixed for the first quarter.

O. P. Rogers, of Marengo, Illinois, was elected Missionary Treasurer.

\$100.00 was appropriated to the Waterloo Mission, and \$100.00 to the chairman of the Central Illinois and Iowa Districts.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON CLAIMS.

There has been collected and paid to Judah Mead the past year.....	\$99.54
Superannuated monies on hand,.....	16.25
Total raised during the year,.....	\$115.79

The only claimant upon the fund at present is Brother M. V. Clute, and we recommend that the monies on hand be paid to him: and that we here proceed to make up the sum of \$50.00, including that on hand. We also recommend that our preachers be requested to take the Superannuated collection at the earliest opportunity, and forward the same to Brother Clute.

II.—ON MISSIONS.

There was raised during the year \$315.85, of which there is on hand \$64.42. Unpaid claims of last year's appropriations, \$65.00.

We recommend the re-adoption of the resolutions passed last year, which read as follows:—

Resolved, That each chairman report quarterly, through the *Free Methodist*, a brief statement of the necessities of the Mission fields on his district.

Resolved, That we hold our Conference Missionary Meeting on Saturday afternoon of our next ensuing session.

Resolved, That the uncollected subscriptions to our missions be placed in the hands of our Missionary Treasurer, to be forwarded by him to the several preachers for collection.

We would also recommend that O. P. Rogers, of Marengo, Ill., be appointed Missionary Treasurer for the conference.

We would also recommend that the appropriations for the year be as follows :

Magnolia Charge,.....	\$50 00
Portage and Fort Winnebago,.....	50 00
Towards liquidating the debt on Detroit church,.....	100 00
To the chairman of the Iowa and Central Illinois District,.	100 00

III.—ON THE SWEDE WORK.

We recommend that the chairman of the adjoining district co-operate with the chairman of the Swede District, in district work.

Also, that there be an exchange of pulpits between the Centre Pararie and Galva charges.

We would also recommend, that Brother Chalmru be permitted to visit the congregations and societies of the conference, to solicit aid to pay the debt on the church at Centre Prairie.

IV.—ON BIBLE CAUSE.

In these days of general declension from the purity of the gospel, both in doctrine and practice, we know of no better means by which to check the tide of sin and error, and of worldliness in its various forms, than by sprcading the Word of God, the entrance of which giveth light.

And, *Whereas*, the American Bible Society is striving with great diligence to place, in the hands of all who are destitute, the Bible as given by God, without note or comment: therefore,

Resolved, That we heartily co-operate with said Society and their agents as heretofore.

V.—ON TEMPERANCE.

Whereas, The hydra-headed monster Intemperance is still spreading its poisonous influence over the land, and with unblushing impudence scattering misery, disease and death in its road : and,

Whereas, the temperance laws enacted by the Legislatures of several states of our Union, (for which we thank God) and the labors of temperance men and societies have failed to arrest its progress to any considerable extent ; and,

Whereas, the increase of intemperance is principally owing to the example of those in high positions of trust, in the councils of our cities, states, and our general government: and,

Whereas, We recognize the Gospel of the Son of God as the only power with which we can successfully meet and overcome this evil: therefore,

Resolved, That we, as a body of Christian men, will renewedly consecrate ourselves to this branch of Christian work.

VI.—ON EDUCATION.

Limiting education to two important particulars—the development of the intellect, and the right training of the heart—as Free Methodists we cannot overestimate it. Disgusted with the heartless formalism of most churches, we seek to restore the spirituality and simplicity of early Methodism.

Man could not be capable of moral relationship to God were he not an intellectual being. While it is true that the most intellectual are not always, or even generally, the most spiritual, it is, nevertheless, equally true that real piety necessarily implies a degree of intellectual culture. A high degree of spirituality is sounder and safer when based upon a cultivated mind. While we seek a higher type of spirituality we cannot consistently be inattentive to intellectual cultivation.

An examination of the literature of the day, and of the colleges and high schools generally, leads us to conclude that generally more importance is attached to intellectual development, than to the moral training of the heart. In this we believe that churches succumb to the spirit of the world. The world is willing to bear the intellectual image of God, but not his moral image. With a tireless zeal the institutions of education, controlled mainly by worldly-conformed churches, endeavor to cultivate the intellect while the heart remains a moral desert.

As a church entertaining these views, we find it difficult to find institutions conducted in accordance with our views. We therefore heartily commend the high schools, Chili and Spring Arbor Seminaries, now under the supervision of our church. We also deem it important that a similar school be organized within the bounds of our Conference. The multiplication of schools however should not exceed our ability to support them. In this particular we should learn wisdom from the mistakes of other churches. We will encourage those books and periodicals adapted to the genius of Free Methodism. Let not our devotion to literature, however, absorb our chief attention. May our church never become a shop for the manufacture of intellectual giants that are moral dwarfs.

VII.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

The Press is a power both for good and for evil. Few persons are unable to read. Books and periodicals abound, and exert an influence which we are slow to realize. As a church we cannot

fill the great mission—the evangelization of the world—unless we enlist every available means to enlighten and purify the human heart.

Though, as a Church, we have no publishing house—no General Conference organs—we find many literary and religious publications, that, in main, answer our purpose. Though published upon individual responsibility, the *Earnest Christian*, and *Free Methodist* are virtually the organs of the church by common consent. As a church, it is our duty and privilege to sustain these periodicals, and continue their moral control. Ministers, especially, should canvass for them, and give special attention to the collection of dues. We are pained to learn that the receipts of the *Free Methodist*, even for the present year, are some \$300 less than the cost of publication: while the editor's health is impaired. His release from pastoral duty will, we hope, greatly relieve the embarrassment; but nothing can compensate for the failure, or long delay of payment by subscribers. We feel ourselves conscientiously bound, not only to aid in the circulation of this indispensable periodical, but also to aid in the collection of dues from delinquent subscribers. In view of the failure and embarrassment caused by delay in payment, we deem it best strictly to require advance payment.

We also feel it to be our duty, from the relation that the *Earnest Christian* sustains to our work, to do our best to extend its circulation.

We would recommend that our preachers, in their annual reports, give the number of subscribers to the *Free Methodist* and *Earnest Christian*, the sums received for said periodicals, and the amount, if any, still due each one.

We also recommend to the attention of our people the *Christian Cynosure*, which, from its relation to some of the issues that we, as a Church, are endeavoring to sustain, is to be regarded as one great help in advancing our work.

VIII.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

There is reason for encouragement as to our Sunday School work. There is evidently a growing interest in regard to it, both among ministers and laymen. Yet there is room for improvement.

The manner of reporting statistics, gives but little or no idea of the degree of interest in the school, or the success in inculcating the word of God. We need to report, not only how much we do, but the manner in which it is done; and this will, in some measure, give us the information desired. In this work as in all things else, there is no great excellence without labor. The great want of the Sunday School is labor—on the lesson, as to its matter, and how to teach it; and with the scholars, personally and collectively.

Our ministers can do much to advance the work. Their very presence is an inspiration to the School. The children feel it.—It encourages the officers and teachers. And, besides, the genera

study of the word of God at the present day, is increasing the demand for preachers who can expound the Scriptures. It needs no prophet to foretell that the "coming" preacher will be pre-eminently a biblical preacher. The indications of Providence are in that direction, and it will be unwise in our ministers not to regard them.

Our laymen can do much to help along the work. Their presence in the Sunday School is an encouragement always. They should bear the financial burdens of the School, and not throw it upon the children, officers and teachers.

Our people are beginning to feel the need of knowing how to work. And as the efficient means to accomplish this is, to meet together for mutual aid and counsel, provision should be made for such meetings.

We would recommend the following resolutions :

Resolved, 1. That all our ministers should give their attention and aid to the Sunday Schools under their charge.

Resolved, 2. That we deem it the duty of our people to take their Sunday Schools into closer connection with the Church, by providing for them financially, and seeing that proper persons superintend them.

Resolved, 3. That a Conference Sunday School Convention be held the coming year within the bounds of this Conference.

The report was amended by adding the following :

Resolved, That the time and place for the Sunday School Convention be fixed, and the order of exercises be arranged, by the Committee on Sunday Schools.

IX.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

We are fully convinced of the baneful tendency of secret societies, and notice with painful regret their disastrous influence on the political, moral and religious enterprises of the age. Observation shows that the evils of these organizations are increasing and intensifying, and notwithstanding all opposing efforts, they are attracting a large class of young men into their ranks, who are beguiled by fascinating allurements, and special pretences, only to find that these things are without any reliable basis.

We are also of the opinion that the present period is no time for compromise or relaxation of effort in seeking to uproot these secret conclaves. While it is our conviction that the preaching of the Gospel is the great means to this end, we nevertheless recognize every other wise and Scriptural effort that seeks to accomplish the same object; and we recommend that as far as we can consistently, the encouragement and sustaining of Anti-Secret Societies and Conventions.

We therefore *Resolve, 1.* That from the Free Methodist Church having been so closely identified with the anti-secrecy movement in this country, we cannot in conscience nor in good grace hold ourselves aloof from it.

Resolved, 2, That as far as we have been informed in regard to

it, we indorse the proceedings of the Convention of the National Christian Association, held at Monmouth, Illinois, in May last.

Resolved, 3. That we appoint a delegate to represent this body in the next annual Convention of the National Christian Association.

Resolved, 4. That we recommend the Christian Cynosure, the Methodist Free Press, and the Reformer, as valuable helps in carrying on the anti-secrecy movement.

APPOINTMENTS.

FOX RIVER DISTRICT—L. BAILEY, Chairman.

Morgan Street, Chicago.....	J. G. Terrill
Wheaton.....	To be supplied
Aurora.....	J. M. Y. Smith
Elgin and Clintonville.....	N. E. Parks
St. Charles.....	James Scott, supply
Lodi and Blackberry.....	A. Steadwell
Crystal Lake.....	D. P. Baker
Marengo.....	M. L. Vorheis
Belvidere.....	C. W. Frink

L. Bailey, Editor of The Free Methodist.

WISCONSIN DISTRICT—D. M. Sinclair, Chairman.

Whitewater.....	D. M. Sinclair
Deanville and Pierceville.....	E. Z. Twing
Beaver Dam and Berlin.....	To be supplied
Platteville, New Diggings and Big Patch.....	S. A. Gilley
Portage City and Fort Winnebago.....	W. A. Nobles
Magnolia.....	J. W. Cain

CENTRAL DISTRICT—J. TRAVIS, Chairman.

Ashton.....	J. Thaxter
Galva and Kawanee.....	W. W. Kelley
Atkinson, Manlius and Sheffield.....	C. E. Harroun, Jr.
Freeport and Lena.....	L. Whitney
Savannah.....	Thomas Vipond
Winnebago.....	C. E. Harroun, Sr.
Jacksonville and Whitehall.....	W. F. Manley

IOWA DISTRICT—J. TRAVIS, Chairman.

DeWitt.....	C. P. Miller
Otter Creek.....	T. B. Arnold, one to be supplied
Waterloo.....	J. W. Dake
Sioux City Mission.....	To be supplied
Fairfield and Birmingham.....	Supplied by A. H. Greene
Salina and Mt. Zion.....	J. Buss
White Oak.....	A. P. Goode, supply
Blakesburg.....	W. C. Thompson
Bear Grove and Atlantic.....	To be supplied

APPENDIX.

Report on Memoirs of Michigan Conference.

Death has broken our ranks. Rev. L. J. FRANCISCO departed this life in Orleans, Michigan, October 23d, 1873, of typhoid fever and inflammation of the lungs, aged thirty-nine years and twenty-three days. He had preached for twenty years. He formerly was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Michigan Conference. Feeling that duty called him to join the Free Methodist Church, he accordingly united with the Michigan Conference in 1870, and although feeble in health, he continued his faithful labors among us for two years, giving universal satisfaction.

Shortly after uniting with the Free Methodist Church, he was asked why he did so. He gave this correct and pointed answer: "I joined the Free Methodists because I was one." We loved Bro. Francisco dearly, and feel our loss; but our loss is his gain. Love crowned all his actions. His death was a glorious victory. He could be heard all over the house shouting and praising God. It was victory all the way down to the river, and God gave him an abundant entrance into the kingdom of His dear Son.

Rev. Wm. R. Cusick preached his funeral sermon to a large and attentive congregation, and the power of God was among the people. May the Lord bless his afflicted family, and prepare us all for so glorious a death.