

MINUTES
OF THE
SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
GENESEE CONFERENCE,
OF THE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH,
HELD AT
PARMA, MONROE CO., N. Y., SEPT. 20-25, 1876.

OFFICERS.

President—E. P. HART.

Secretary—S. K. J. CHESBRO. *Assistant*—W. MANNING.

The Conference was called to order at 9 A. M. on Wednesday the 20th, by the President, who conducted the religious exercises.

The roll of preachers was called and nineteen responded to their names, and fifteen lay delegates presented certificates of election.

S. K. J. Chesbro, having received twenty-eight out of thirty-five votes cast, was elected Secretary.

William Manning was elected Assistant Secretary.

COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship.—J. W. Reddy, W. Manning.

On Missions—The Stationing Committee.

On Education—H. Hornsby, W. Manning, G. W. Coleman, R. W. Hawkins, L. F. Halstead, M. N. Velzey, D. Tefft.

On Sunday Schools—W. Manning, G. W. Marcellus, J. Robinson, W. T. Hogg, W. Fell, A. K. Bacon.

On Claims—G. W. Coleman, M. C. Burritt, S. B. Lane.

On Bible Cause—Wm. Jackson, W. T. Hogg, J. W. McAlpine, David Warner, N. S. Bennett.

On Temperance—S. K. J. Chesbro, A. H. Bennett, W. Fell.

On Publications—O. O. Bacon, J. W. Reddy, C. Wilt-sie, J. Travis.

To Collect Funds for Minutes—A. A. Burgess, Wm. Altoft.

To Publish the Minutes—The Secretaries.

On Secret Societies—A. B. Matthewson, Wm. Jackson, M. T. Merriott.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

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

PREACHERS.

B. T. Roberts,	W. Jackson,	A. B. Matthewson,
J. W. Reddy,	G. W. Coleman,	A. N. Moore,
Asa Abell,	J. W. McAlpine,	C. C. Eggleston,
C. D. Brooks,	M. E. Brown,	R. W. Hawkins,
J. C. Thomas,	I. C. White,	S. K. J. Chesbro,
O. O. Bacon,	T. B. Catton,	Wm. Ingleby,
W. Manning,	M. C. Burritt,	W. T. Hogg,
G. W. Humphrey,	Jno. Robinson,	A. H. Bennett,
G. W. Marcellus,	A. A. Burgess,	J. Ireland,
H. Hornsby.		

DELEGATES.

John Ogley,	Wm. Parish,	S. B. Lane,
Nelson Garlock,	Wm. Altoft,	C. Wilt-sie,
L. F. Halstead,	M. N. Velzey,	Wm. Laugham,
N. S. Bennett,	A. H. Skinner,	M. T. Merriott,
G. T. Hammond,	N. B. Martin,	John S. McGeary,
A. K. Bacon,	D. Warner,	James Paxton,
Wm. Fell,	Millard Randall,	W. P. Carpenter,
G. W. Carl,	D. Tefft,	M. M. Everts,
H. Edwards,	Wm. Cantine, Jr.,	Wm. McKearnan,
M. S. Draper,	Levi Metcalf.	

2. Who are the Stationing Committee?

E. P. Hart, J. W. Reddy, W. Jackson, I. C. White, R. W. Hawkins, N. S. Bennett, W. Fell, M. N. Velzey, S. B. Lane.

3. What preachers are admitted on trial?

James A. Greene, William F. Requa, John Taylor, Cyrenius B. Essex, John T. James, John S. McGeary.

4. Who remain on trial?

W. B. Pattridge, John Walton, R. S. Phillips, Joseph Henning, H. H. Loomis, W. G. Oakes, W. A. Sellew.

5. Who are admitted into full connection? None.

6. Who are the Deacons?

S. K. J. Chesbro, Wm. Ingleby, W. T. Hogg, J. Walton, A. H. Bennett, W. A. Sellew.

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

None.

8. Who have located this year?

J. C. Thomas.

9. Who are the Superannuated Preachers?

Asa Abell, T. B. Catton, A. N. Moore.

10. Who have been expelled? None.

11. Who have withdrawn? None.

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

The 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?

See table of Statistics.

15. What amounts are necessary, etc.?

See reports on claims and missionary appropriations.

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?

Jamestown, Chau. Co., N. Y. Fourth Wednesday in September, 1877.

APPOINTMENTS.

GENESEE DISTRICT—H. HORNSBY, Chairman.

Rochester and Chili Seminary.....	S. K. J. Chesbro
Parma and Chili.....	Wm. Manning, J. Walton
Sweden and Brockport.....	John W. Reddy
Kendall.....	O. O. Bacon
Albion and Gaines.....	J. Travis (supply)
Yates and Carlton.....	M. C. Burritt
Hulburton and Transit.....	H. Hornsby
Asa Abell, superannuated.	

BUFFALO DISTRICT—W. M. JACKSON, Chairman.

Buffalo.....	J. T. James
Lockport, Pendleton, Newfane....	C. C. Eggleston, J. S. McGeary
Tonawanda.....	W. G. Oakes
Akron and Alden.....	James A. Green
Porter and Wilson.....	Wm. Jackson
Wales and West Falls.....	M. E. Brown

WYOMING DISTRICT—I. C. WHITE, Chairman.

Perry and Burk Hill.....	G. W. Marcellus
Java.....	A. B. Matthewson
LeRoy and Bethany.....	A. H. Bennett
Gainesville.....	J. W. McAlpine
Groveland and Greigsville.....	J. C. White
Batavia.....	W. B. Pattridge
T. B. Catton and A. N. Moore, superannuated.	

ALLEGANY DISTRICT—R. W. HAWKINS, Chairman.

Gowanda and Collins.....	R. W. Hawkins
East Otto.....	R. S. Phillips
Belmont and Scio.....	C. B. Essex
Rushford and Caseville.....	John Robinson
Franklinville.....	Wm. Ingleby
Allegany.....	A. A. Burgess
Great Valley.....	To be supplied
Emporium.....	Joseph Henning

PITTSBURG DISTRICT—G. W. COLEMAN, Chairman.

Oil City, Franklin, Meadville....	H. H. Loomis, one to be supplied
Dunkirk.....	W. F. Requa
Jamestown, Randolph and Ellington.....	W. T. Hogg
Leon.....	John Taylor
Pittsburgh, etc.....	G. W. Coleman

C. D. Brooks and J. Ireland to be appointed by Superintendent.
A. H. Greene transferred to Illinois Conference.

STATISTICS.

CHARGES.	PASTORS.	Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Loc. Pr'chers.	Sun. Schools.	Officers and Teachers.	Scholars.	Missionary Collections.	Support of Superin'ts.	Superan'ted Collection.	Preachers' Receipts.	Deficiency.	Value Church Property.	Value of Parsonages.
Rochester	W. A. Sellw.	44	10	54	1	1	10	50	.....	\$5.67	.....	509.94	.....	\$6,000	\$4,000
Parma and Chili	W. Manning, J. Walton	181	23	204	4	4	29	170	.....	15.30	\$3.50	995.00	130.00	12,500	3,500
Kendall	O. Bacon	99	12	111	4	3	27	180	13.56	10.84	.....	600.00	.....	3,000	1,500
Sweden and Brockport	J. W. Reddy	66	10	76	2	2	20	150	3.00	27.32	3.00	300.00	.....	1,400	600
Albion and Gaines	T. Travis (supply)	193	24	217	1	2	20	100	.....	23.00	.....	750.00	.....	10,000	1,800
Vates and Carlton	M. C. Burritt	32	3	35	2	1	8	45	.....	3.50	.....	265.41	.....	4,000	.....
Buffalo	G. W. Coleman	62	23	85	2	3	15	111	18.10	9.36	6.10	652.32	.....	4,000	.....
Lockport, Pendleton, etc.	C. C. Eggleston	94	3	97	2	2	14	111	.....	.....	.....	458.00	.....	7,500	.....
Tonawanda, Pekin, etc.	W. G. Oakes	53	13	66	1	1	13	58	.....	.....	.....	235.50	.....	2,500	.....
Akron and Alden	W. B. Partridge	47	10	57	1	3	20	90	3.38	3.20	2.84	262.00	443.00	2,000	.....
Porter and Wilson	M. Jackson	80	.....	89	1	3	20	168	0.40	13.45	.....	600.00	.....	2,000	2,000
Wales and West Falls	M. E. Brown	78	0	78	1	4	10	70	.....	3.25	.....	300.00	.....	3,000	.....
Perry and Burk Hill	G. M. Marcellus	70	2	72	1	1	4	.....	31.00	2.51	12.94	550.00	.....	2,300	1,200
Java and Johnsonburg	A. A. Mathewson	63	4	67	1	1	7	30	2.15	2.03	2.08	365.00	.....	6,000	1,000
LeRoy and Bethany	A. H. Bennett	52	12	64	1	2	12	68	6.55	4.45	6.20	375.00	.....	4,000	.....
Mt. Morris Groveland, etc.	I. C. White	30	.....	30	2	1	2	13	.....	4.20	.....	226.30	.....	2,500	.....
Gainsville, Eagle, etc.	J. M. McAlpine	47	10	57	.....	2	17	60	.....	4.30	.....	370.00	.....	2,500	.....
Gowanda and Collins	M. H. Monroe .....	.....	.....	75	.....	.....	8	50	.....	2.15	2.20	.....	.....	6,500	1,500
East Otto	R. S. Phillips	34	5	39	1	1	8	50	.....	4.30	.....	330.26	69.74	2,500	.....
Belmont, Scio and Pikeville.	I. W. Sawyer (supply)	71	7	78	2	2	15	40	2.20	.....	2.20	258.11	.....	1,000	1,000
Rushford, Caneda, and Pikeville.	J. Robinson	58	3	61	2	2	15	40	3.50	4.78	.....	384.00	.....	1,000	800
Franklinville and Yorkshire.	W. Ingledy	41	7	48	1	2	14	50	.....	3.75	.....	400.00	.....	3,000	.....
Allegany	A. A. Burgess	90	24	114	2	2	15	60	12.00	10.73	3.5	450.00	.....	4,000	1,000
Great Valley	J. Henning .....	.....	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.00	.....	125.00	.....	.....	.....
Emporium	James Ireland	20	1	21	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.45	.....	455.00	45.00	.....	.....
Oil City, Franklin, etc.	J. T. James, J. Barnhart	110	50	160	3	3	20	80	.....	3.50	10.00	510.87	.....	.....	.....
Dunkirk, Hamlet, Arkwright	W. T. Hoge	22	0	28	.....	1	12	35	.....	.....	.....	265.00	.....	.....	.....
Jamesstown	H. H. Loomis	33	9	42	.....	1	7	25	2.75	1.50	6.45	192.00	.....	.....	.....
Leon, Ellington, Randolph.	J. Taylor (supply)	25	42	67	5	1	13	32	.....	.....	.....	120.00	.....	.....	.....
Reply and North East	C. D. Brooks .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pittsburgh .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
R. W. Hawkins, <i>Chairman.</i>	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total .....	.....	1804	319	2205	37	52	364	1775	111.79	182.68	61.95	12172.71	667.74	\$102,700	\$20,000

* Nine months.

† \$170 of which are traveling expenses.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Conference held its Session in the Free Methodist church, at Parma Center. The daily attendance of visitors excelled any former session of the Conference.

Six sessions were held. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, from 9 to 12 A. M.; Saturday, 9 A. M., and 3½ to 5 P. M., and Monday Morning from 8 to 11 A. M.

The following visiting brethren were introduced to the Conference, and invited to honorary seats: Rev. J. Travis, Rev. D. P. Baker, Editor of the *Free Methodist*, Rev. W. W. Warner, Rev. R. M. Snyder, Rev. L. Wood. The following brethren were introduced to the Conference: Rev. Mr. Dempsey, of the Wesleyan church, who addressed the Conference, Rev. Mr. Whitney, and Rev. Mr. Morris, of the M. E. Church.

The following brethren were received on trial: James A. Green, and W. F. Requa, recommended by Genesee District Quarterly Conference; John Taylor and C. B. Essex, recommended by Allegany District Quarterly Conference; John S. McGeary and John T. James, recommended by the Pittsburg District Quarterly Conference.

Religious services were held as follows: Tuesday, 7½ P. M., J. T. James; Wednesday, 2½ P. M., A. B. Matthewson, 7½ P. M., A. A. Burgess; Thursday, 2½, H. Hornsby, 7½, R. W. Hawkins; Friday, 2½, G. W. Coleman, 7½, J. Travis; Saturday, 1½, J. Taylor, 7½, D. P. Baker; Sunday, Love Feast, 9-30 to 11, preaching by E. P. Hart, followed by Lord's Supper; 1½ P. M., preaching by J. Travis, 7½ P. M., R. W. Hawkins.

Sunday at Parma was a day of "fat things."

Services were held on Sunday at other points, as follows: M. E. Church, Parma, G. W. Marcellus, 10½ A. M.; the same hour J. W. Reddy preached in the Baptist Church, Unionville; at the M. E. Church, North Parma, A. H. Bennett preached at 2 P. M., and E. P. Hart, at the F. M. Church, at 7½ P. M. Services were also held each evening at West Greece. Bros. Eggleston, Chesbro, Brooks, James, and others, preached.

The entire session was harmonious, the best ever held. "Holiness to the Lord," was the theme of the preaching, and in all the business of the Conference the ruling desire was to glorify God.

A Resolution of sympathy for our beloved brother, A. N. Moore, who was prevented from attending the Conference by sickness of long duration, was adopted.

A vote of thanks was given to the friends of Parma and vicinity, for the excellent care taken of us. Entertainment was provided for over two hundred.

Examiners on Course of study for next Year.

PRELIMINARY COURSE—J. W. Reddy, C. D. Brooks.

First Year—A. B. Matthewson, O. O. Bacon.

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

Third Year—Wm. Jackson, A. A. Burgess.

Fourth Year—R. W. Hawkins, M. C. Burritt.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD—William Manning, S. K. J. Chesbro, A. B. Matthewson, A. A. Burgess, W. T. Hogg, Thomas Sully, M. N. Velzey, A. K. Bacon, Thomas Hogg and J. Barnhart. S. K. J. Chesbro, *Rec. Sec'y.*

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON CLAIMS.

Amount of money received, \$52,86. Paid as follows:

Asa Abell.....	\$13.22
H. Hornsby,.....	13.21
A. N. Moore, donation,.....	13.22
Cornelia Herrick, donation,.....	13.21—\$52.86

II.—ON MISSIONS.

Total amount received, \$111.79. Paid as follows:

For money borrowed at last Conference and appropriated to Emporium Mission,.....	\$50 00
Interest,.....	2.45
J. W. McAlpine.....	19.78
W. T. Hogg.....	19.78
J. Henning,.....	19.78—\$111.79

III.—APPROPRIATION FOR 1877.

Dunkirk,.....	\$50.00
Gainesville,.....	50.00

We recommend that collections be taken on all our circuits during the coming year, so as to raise at least \$300; the excess over present appropriations to be appropriated by the Conference of next year. W. Jackson, *Treasurer.*

IV. SECRET SOCIETIES.

Your committee on Secret Societies beg leave to report that they see no reason for changing the testimony which we, as a Church, have borne from the beginning in reference to the character and work of the multiplied secret orders in our midst especially of the foster father of them all—Free Masonry.

Its open rejection of that dear name, which is above every other name, its horrid oaths and death penalty obligations, its adaptation to shield its members before the courts from the infliction of penalties due to their crimes, and its profession to save all its members without respect to their Christian or moral character in heaven, or the grand lodge above, stamps it as an open and consummate enemy of the Gospel of Christ, and to be opposed, and its work and character exposed, by any and all Christian methods within our reach.

We see some fruit of our labors; occasionally one is plucked from its members, but our strongest hope of success is in enlightening the minds of the people, and especially the rising generation. We recommend continued co-operation with the N. C. A. and any other legitimate organization opposed to secretism.

V.—ON EDUCATION.

Your committee beg leave to report as follows:

Why have we an existence as a church, but for the propagation, maintenance, and perpetuation of certain moral principles which are vital to the present and eternal welfare of mankind?

If we are in earnest, then, in this work, and really mean, not to betray our trust, should we not avail ourselves of the most potent agencies for the successful accomplishment of our mission?

We turn to the young more hopefully, than to any other source, as a repository of our principles. It is not enough however that we educate them—that education must be baptized from on high. Neither does conversion without education secure the full measure of power and influence, that might be attained. Intelligent piety is always the most reliable and permanent. The mental and moral training of our children should go together. But if this is done, it will be the result of our own labor—others will not do it for us.

What have we accomplished in this direction, during the sixteen years of our ecclesiastical existence? Thank God something has been done—perhaps more than many have accomplished, and yet not all we could desire.

Those who have done most in the establishment of the school at Chili, feel largely rewarded in its first fruits.

No more earnest and self-sacrificing devotion, to the distinctive principles which we maintain, can be found than among those youth who have shared most largely the benefits of that institution. It is not wisdom to cavil, because everything connected therewith, has not been perfect, while the general results are more favorable than could have been reasonably expected under the circumstances.

The success of the past gives encouragement for the future. Profiting by whatever failures there may have been, as well as stimulated by the measure of success attained, we may confidently expect with renewed and increased effort to reap an ample harvest in the future.

There exists at the present time a pressing need of funds to

finish, and make available the new portion of the building erected and enclosed, nearly a year since. In what direction can our means be expended and produce more fruitful returns, than by such an application of them. Your committee therefore recommend that as a conference, we give to this institution, not only our best wishes and prayers, but make it the object of our earnest efforts; first, by endeavoring to secure the means required to complete the new edifice; and secondly, by commending it to our people, for their patronage and support.

We regret that we have no statistical report to give at this time, and request that the trustees furnish such report, to present to the conference next year.

VI.—ON TEMPERANCE.

Intemperance is a gigantic evil, and is the cause of more misery and suffering than human language can possibly express. From this terrible fountain of misery flows every description of crime. This blighting curse is on our land and is filling the poor-houses, asylums, prisons and cemeteries with its victims. Much has been said on this subject and it is agitating the minds of the people all through the land. We as a people are diametrically opposed to this dreadful evil and also its twin brother tobacco. Therefore,

Resolved, That we earnestly urge all our members and everyone to use all their influence against this evil, and also against the raising and selling of grain to brewers and distillers, or anything that has the least tendency to help on this nefarious cause.

VII.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Feeling that the Sunday-school work requires our *earnest* and systematic efforts for its promotion among us; therefore,

Resolved, First, that we hold a Conference Sunday-school Convention during the Conference year, to be held at Albion, on the first Tuesday in May next.

Second, That we advise the several Sunday-schools sending delegates to said convention to defray their expenses, also, that a collection be taken in the circuit to meet the expenses of the preacher attending the same.

Third, That the Sunday-School Board be composed of the following named brethren W. Manning, S. K. J. Chesbro, A. B. Mathewson, A. A. Burgess, W. T. Hogg, T. Sully, M. N. Velzey, A. K. Bacon, Thos. Hogg and J. Barnhart, and that S. K. J. Chesbro be the recording Secretary.

Fourth, That we not only recommend, but urge our people to maintain Sunday schools Summer and Winter.

Fifth, That the preacher and Sunday-school superintendent, furnish the recording secretary with such statistical matter as may be called for by him.

Sixth, That the recording secretary and preacher in charge at Albion, be a committee to prepare a programme for the convention.

Seventh, That we will, as a people and conference, liberally pat-

ronize, and earnestly support *The Pearl and Lily*, published by Bros. Baker and Arnold.

Eighth, That we advise the holding, of district Sunday-school conventions within the bounds of our conference during the coming year, and that the chairman of each district call the same.

VIII.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

Believing as we do, that the aggressive power of Christianity is in ratio with the intelligence of its possessor, and that while mere intellect tends to skepticism, piety trammelled by ignorance, equally tends to bigotry, we therefore feel the desirability of a thorough union of the two, thereby investing the church with ability to investigate any theory without fear of her becoming skeptical, and inflaming her piety to the highest pitch of zeal, without the danger of fanaticism or bigotry as an attendant result. To-day the press, and particularly the newspaper press of the country, is doing more to mould the opinions of the masses than any other agency. As Dr. Holland says of the newspaper, "It has come among us, and it has come to stay." In our times of speed it is, and it will be, the educator of the masses who have passed beyond their school-days. Our duty is imperative to do what we can to make and sustain a periodical literature that measures up to the full measure of the wants of the age, whose influence will be felt beyond the pale of our own denomination; and as the religion of Jesus Christ is intended to be brought into contact with all that pertains to this state of existence, and to leaven all things to the will the Father, we would have our church organ discuss all things transpiring in our nation, and that from the only true standpoint of such a discussion, viz.: "Holiness unto the Lord." We have published among us as a people, *The Earnest Christian*, *The Christian Pilgrim*, *The Pearl, Lily*, and *The Free Methodist*. *The Earnest Christian*, devoted as it is, solely to the advancement of practical and experimental piety, is probably filling the ideal of its publisher and the wants of our people in this especial path of literature; the same may probably be said of *The Pilgrim*, *The Pearl*, and *The Lily*. We gladly welcome and rejoice in the success that has attended these publications, and cordially recommend them to all evangelical Sunday school workers.

Our denominational organ, *The Free Methodist*, has our warmest sympathies, and to its sheets we look particularly for the defence of our denominational peculiarities, and that it take in a wider range of thought and subject than the above-named and undenominational issues. We desire that it be not only a faithful mentor in all departments of Christian duty, a record of denominational effort, and chronicle of Christian experience, but also a sturdy champion of all truth, and a fearless, honest, healthful critic of all pertinent subjects. To this end, while thanking God for the past success of the paper, and extending our cordial sympathy to its editor, we herein resolve that by donations, subscriptions and contributions we will do what we can to make the paper all we desire it to be.

MINUTES
OF THE
FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
North Michigan Conference,
OF THE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH,
HELD AT
ST. JOHN'S, MICHIGAN, SEPT. 27, TO OCT. 2, 1876.

OFFICERS.

President—B. T. ROBERTS. *Secretary*—C. S. GITCHELL.

The Conference was called to order at 2 P. M., by the President, who opened the session by reading a portion of Scripture and prayer.

The roll was called, and ten preachers responded to their names, and nineteen delegates presented certificates of election.

C. S. Gitchell was elected Secretary.

COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship—B. T. Roberts, J. Ellison, W. R. Cusick.

On Missions—The Stationing Committee.

On Publishing the Minutes—The Secretary.

On Raising Funds for Minutes—C. W. Haynes, M. Brown.

On Sabbath Schools—C. H. Sage, W. J. Johnston, William Barrett.

On Publications—A. H. Springstein, W. J. Johntson, W. Watson.

On Conference Examining Committees—B. T. Roberts.

On Secret Societies—A. H. Springstein, S. Roberts, H. Sawyer.

On Intemperance and Shows—W. J. Johnston, P. Beach, J. Wells.

On Sanctity of Sabbath—S. Roberts, C. H. Sage, A. McGee.

On Education—A. H. Springstein, J. Ellison, C. S. Gitchell.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

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

PREACHERS.

John Ellison,	J. G. Witham,	J. F. Wetherald,
S. Roberts,	C. H. Sage,	C. R. Clark,
W. R. Cusick,	E. E. Miller,	W. J. Johnston,
C. S. Gitchell,	A. H. Springstein,	I. Mudge,
H. Sawyer,	C. W. Haynes,	J. W. Nichols,
J. P. Soule.		

DELEGATES.

H. N. Petit,	A. McGee,	J. Cox,	R. D. Robinson.
C. Gould.	J. Akins,	C. D. Hoyt.	J. Hoard,
R. Howe,	W. Barrett,	P. Beach,	W. East,
E. B. Barker,	M. Brown,	W. Watson,	G. W. Morris,
W. J. Warren,	W. Caywood,	J. Wells,	G. Chamberlain,
R. G. Humphry,	W. M. Pittenger,	S. Webster,	B. Force.
W. H. Osmund.			

2. Who are the Stationing Committee?

B. T. Roberts, J. Ellison, S. Roberts, W. Barrett, C. D. Hoyt.

3. What preachers are admitted on trial?

W. J. Warren, J. Craig, W. S. Chamberlain, R. D. Robinson, W. S. Haight, J. E. Kennedy.

4. Who remain on trial?

T. C. Fisher, A. Mudge, L. L. Warner, T. Fluelling, W. B. Golden, S. Johnson, L. D. Russell, C. D. Hoadley, Wm. McKay.

5. Who are admitted into full connection?

Israel Mudge, J. P. Soule.

6. Who are the deacons?

Wm. McKay, L. D. Russell, W. B. Golden, J. P. Soule.

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

C. W. Haynes.

8. Who have located this year? None.

9. Who are the superannuated or worn-out preachers?
None.

10. Who have been expelled this year? None.
11. Who have withdrawn from the Conference this year?
C. S. Stringham.
12. Are all the preachers blameless in life, &c.?
Their characters were each examined and passed in the usual manner.
13. Who have died this year? None.
14. What is the number of Church members, &c.?
See Statistics.
17. Where are the preachers stationed this year?
See appointments.
18. Where and when shall our next Conference be held?
Gaines, Mich., Wednesday, Oct. 12th, 1877.

APPOINTMENTS.

GRAND RAPIDS DISTRICT—S. ROBERTS, Chairman.

Coopersville,	C. S. Gitchell.
Six Corners,	J. A. Sly. Supply
Saranac,	A. H. Springstein.
Orleans,	C. B. Clark.
Courtland and Cedar Springs,	T. C. Fisher.
Howard and Ensley,	J. G. Witham.
Big Rapids,	L. D. Russell.
Clam Lake,	Wm. McKay.
Sunfield,	J. W. Nichols.
Grand Ledge,	J. Craig.
St. John and Ovid,	C. D. Hoadley.
North Star,	L. L. Warner.
Lansing, DeWitt, Delta, Diamondale, W. J. Johnston, T. Feluelling	

FLINT DISTRICT—J. ELLISON, Chairman.

Macomb,	G. H. Joslyn. Supply.
Greenwood and Brockway,	A. Mudge.
Warren,	J. E. Kennedy.
Goodland and Speaker,	J. Mudge.
Hadley,	R. D. Robinson.
Richfield and Burton,	W. S. Haight.
Flint, Forest and Maple Grove Venice and Corunna, .	J. P. Soule.
Farrandville and Birch Run,	H. Sawyer.
Gaines and Linden,	C. W. Haynes.
Williamston and Lock,	W. B. Golden.
Conway and Leroy,	W. J. Warren.
Levington and South Lyon,	W. S. Chamberlain.
Pontiac and Auburn,	S. Johnson.
Canada,	C. H. Sage.

J. F. Wetherald to be appointed by the Superintendent.
W. R. Cusick transferred to the Minnesota Conference.
E. E. Miller transferred to Kansas Conference.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Rev. T. B. Arnold, associate editor of the *Free Methodist*, Bros. L. T. Frink, C. F. Irish, of the Michigan Conference, were invited to honorary seats.

Rev. John Levington, of the Detroit Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was introduced to the Conference, and invited to an honorary seat.

The lay members of the Stationing Committee were elected by ballot as follows: from Grand Rapids District, Wm. Barrett, Flint District, C. D. Hoyt.

The probationers in the Conference were invited to take seats within its bar.

Israel Mudge, an Elder in the Methodist Church, presented a recommendation from Rev. C. S. Green, President of the Conference of the Methodist Church, was received into full connection. His ordination as elder was recognized.

Conference passed a motion, that those who are deficient in their studies be required to bring them up and pass an examination on those studies in which they are deficient.

On Saturday morning, Rev. B. T. Roberts delivered a practical and beneficial sermon to the preachers of the Conference.

ORDINATIONS.

On Sabbath, after morning preaching, the following brethren were ordained Deacons, by Rev. B. T. Roberts: Charles D. Hoadley, Wm. McKay and Lorenzo D. Russell. Immediately following the afternoon services, by Rev. B. T. Roberts: Charles W. Haynes, was ordained elder. Also during the Monday morning session of Conference, Bro. J. P. Soule was ordained Deacon by Rev. B. T. Roberts.

Conference decided to hold a Conference camp meeting in the month of June next, at Ovid, and no other camp meeting to be held in either district during said Month. The camp meeting to be conducted by B. T. Roberts.

Bro. S. Roberts, was appointed to secure a reduction of fare on the Railroads, for those attending the Conference Camp meeting.

Conference moved that the Examining Committees meet at nine o'clock, on the first day of the next Session.

STATISTICS.

CHARGES.	PASTORS.	Members,	Probationers.	Total.	Loc. Pre'chers	Sun. Schools.	Officers and Teachers.	Scholars.	Preachers' Receipts.	Missionary Collections.	Superin'ts Collection.	Parsonages.	Value.	Churches.	Value.
GRAND RAPIDS DIST.	J. Ellison, Chairman.	60	3	63	2	13	75	521.50	4.85	4.15	1	\$450	1	3,000	
Coopersville,	T. Fluehling,	19	4	23	2	11	23	242.56	2.00	2.00	1	1,200	1	1,200	
Six Corners,	Wm. McKay,	51	3	54	2	10	28	232.70	1.50	3.00	1	1,200	1	1,200	
Orleans,	C. R. Clark,	53	6	59	1	6	13	259.00	2.05	5.90	1	400	1	400	
Saranac,	E. E. Miller,	30	8	38	1	15	59	3.70	3.70	1.10	1	400	1	400	
Courtland & Cedar Springs,	T. C. Fisher,	40	4	44	1	6	20	307.71	2.49	4.00	1	1,000	1	1,000	
Howard City and Easley,	S. Johnson,	61	15	76	2	16	31	167.00	5.65	5.65	1	1,200	1	1,200	
Eagle, Grand Ledge & Earle,	J. G. Witham,	55	15	70	3	8	31	250.00	30	3.20	1	500	2	1,200	
Sunfield & Hickory Corners,	W. R. Cusick,	52	14	66	2	8	31	215.00	30	3.20	1	500	2	1,200	
Clam Lake,	L. D. Russell,	66	16	82	1	7	25	300.00	5.05	5.05	1	2,500	1	2,500	
Big Prairie,	G. W. Havens,	64	29	93	1	7	25	588.45	6.50	6.50	1	800	2	2,400	
St. John and De Witt,	W. J. Johnston,	66	13	79	1	3	16	256.76	1.37	1.50	1	800	2	2,400	
FLINT DISTRICT	S. Roberts, Chairman	66	3	69	2	4	29	134.39	92	4.35	1	500	1	800	
Lansing, Corunna & Lock,	W. B. Golden,	60	3	63	2	1	4	285.09	3.40	4.70	1	500	1	800	
Gaines and Venice,	C. W. Haynes,	46	3	49	2	1	4	125.50	3.40	7.50	1	200	1	800	
Ovid and South Ovid,	J. W. Nichols,	34	3	37	2	2	2	285.09	3.40	7.50	1	200	1	800	
Pontiac, Auburn, S. Lyon,	E. Mathews,	48	13	61	1	1	10	159.92	2.25	3.15	1	200	1	800	
Flint and Forest,	A. C. Ayers,	33	7	40	1	1	40	159.92	2.25	3.15	1	200	1	800	
Farrandville and Birch Run,	H. Sawyer,	51	23	74	1	3	100	373.60	4.46	7.84	4	4,500	4	4,500	
Hadley,	J. F. Wetherald,	105	11	116	3	4	28	527.00	7.84	7.84	4	4,500	4	4,500	
Macomb,	S. Sage, S C Stringham	33	13	46	1	2	9	82.94	4.40	4.40	1	250	1	700	
Forest and Hazelton Center,	J. P. Soule,	27	17	44	2	12	55	256.36	4.62	2.77	1	250	1	700	
North Star and Isabella,	L. L. Warner,	29	16	45	2	17	53	100.00	4.00	3.41	1	1,000	1	1,000	
Livingston,	W. S. Chamberlain,	21	1	22	1	8	30	214.65	4.00	3.41	1	1,000	1	1,000	
South Lyon,	F. Britton,	21	10	31	1	8	30	214.65	4.00	3.41	1	1,000	1	1,000	
Goodland,	I. Mudge,	21	10	31	1	8	30	214.65	4.00	3.41	1	1,000	1	1,000	
Total,	Total,	1059	247	1306	22	180	658	6548.83	49.18	65.83	6,9700	16	\$15,700		

RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas, It is the judgment of this Conference that belfries, steeples and towers are generally expensive, useless and unnecessary appendages to church edifices. Therefore,

Resolved, That we earnestly request and desire all of our preachers, building committees, and all other persons engaged in erecting churches and houses of worship, that they respect the wishes of their brethren in this matter.

Resolved, That we labor and pray for the temperance cause, and that we lift our voice in the name of the Lord against every accession to the great crime of drunkenness.

Resolved, As a conference, we discard the use of fermented wine at the communion.

Resolved, That Christians are harmless, undefiled, and separate from sinners; so as that those who attend theaters, circuses, menageries, balls, parties, and such like places, ought to have no place among us.

Resolved, That we tender a vote of thanks to the citizens of St Johns, for their generous hospitality in entertaining this Conference.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON MISSIONS.

Committee report: Money on hand, \$49.18; \$18.64, paid to J. D. Soule and L. D. Russel each, and \$11.90 to F. Britten, supply on South Lyon Circuit. L. D. Russell to receive thirty dollars the coming year.

II.—ON COLLECTING FUNDS FOR MINUTES.

Committee report,.....\$18.15

III.—ON CONFERENCE EXAMINING COMMITTEES.

Preliminary Course—C. D. Hoadley, C. R. Clark.

First Year—J. F. Wethereld, C. W. Haynes.

Second Year—A. H. Springstein, C. S. Gitchell.

Third Year—S. Roberts, H. Sawyer.

Fourth Year—J. Ellison, W. J. Johnston.

IV.—ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your Committee reports that, whereas Sabbath Schools are of such vital importance, we should put forth a vigorous effort to establish and maintain them on all our charges. Both preachers and members should unite and feel their personal obligation in pushing them forward. While the country is flooded with worldly amusements, and the Sabbath Schools are largely carried on by worldly policy, and, whereas we protest against pic-nics, excursions, festivals, concerts, etc., to interest and support the Sabbath School we should substitute something better, and it can be done only by making them spiritual, stirring, and soul saving, therefore no pains, means or time, should be spared in a cause where the souls of our children and the interests of our Church are at stake. We resolve, therefore, to unite and put forth a more vigorous effort in the Sunday School enter-

prise than ever before, and exhort all our people to come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty influences that are calculated to destroy the rising generation in our land.

V.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

The periodical press of the present day is conducted almost exclusively in the interest of worldliness

Many papers and magazines are published simply as a means of making money, or building up some selfish interest, while many of the higher order of quarterlies and similar prints are designed to disseminate the most dangerous infidelity—often under the names of science or philosophy.

The religious press has become deplorably secularized. The religion represented by many of the church papers is little better than the higher forms of heathen philosophy. Their Christ is not the Christ of the Bible; but we rejoice in all the exceptions that may be found.

If the press in general may be taken as a fair exponent of the state of society, it is alarming and almost hopelessly corrupt, and the saints should diligently avoid these pernicious influences.

The biographies of saintly men and women and other good books should be often read and generally circulated. We believe *The Earnest Christian* to be the best religious magazine published in this country. It is worthy of a hearty support and wider circulation. *The Free Methodist*, published at Sycamore, Ill., is accomplishing increasing good. We rejoice in its many qualities, and hope that its circulation may be so extended as that it may be greatly improved. The children's papers published by Rev. Baker & Arnold, are commended to our families and Sabbath schools.

Our people are cautioned against an indiscriminate use of books in our public libraries, as many of them are unworthy of a place in a religious home.

We will do well to place our own publications, and such others as are on sale among us in the hands of our members and children and others, as their influence is never against the truth, but for it. On all the publications of the church should be written "Holiness to the Lord."

VI.—ON SANCTITY OF THE SABBATH.

Your Committee beg leave respectively to report that in the original command of God as given to his ancient people, every seventh day should be set apart for holy purposes.

Recognizing this fact as we do, in our observance of the Christian Sabbath as a day of rest and devotion to God, we are pained to see the wide spread and utter disregard of the command of God on the part of thousands employed on Rail Roads, Steamboats, Ferries, Street-cars, Milk-wagons, Farms, and in many other ways. Therefore,

Resolved, That we enjoin it upon all of our membership that they strictly observe the Sabbath as a day of rest from all secular employment, and that it be observed as an holy day unto the

Lord; and riding or visiting for pleasure, of permitting our children to indulge in sports and plays that may be lawful upon other days, but are nevertheless an infraction of the Divine command when indulged in upon the Sabbath.

VII.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

So extensive and so thorough have been the investigations of this subject and so general have been the divulgements by members of the various secret orders, that no reasonable doubt can now remain that organized secretism is evil and only evil, both in its origin and tendencies.

Free Masonry in its various forms, is an invention of Satan designed for the overthrow of all that is good. To an alarming extent, the leading forces of society are under its control.

It is the duty of God's people:—1. To abstain from connection with obligated secret associations. 2. To do all we consistently can to prevent others from becoming entangled therein. 3. To prosecute an uncompromising opposition to them in the name of the Lord.

As ministers and members of the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, we shall hold ourselves free to cooperate with all who in a scriptural manner actively seek the extirpation of this monstrous evil. Our people are earnestly exhorted in all their anti-Masonic movements to rely upon God for success, and to do all things according to the Gospel of Christ. We believe that the Gospel alone is the power of God unto salvation, and the church is the only necessary organization through which to operate in seeking the establishment of the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

VIII.—ON EDUCATION.

Education comprises, 1st, The acquisition of useful knowledge; and 2ndly, but chiefly the healthy development of the faculties of the whole man. To be profitable, this expansion and training of our powers must be in accordance with the laws of reason and morality. Education begins with infancy. Without education, men are likely to be barbarous and superstitious, while a Godless education makes conceited infidels or accomplished villains. Multitudes of children and men are being trained in all the subtle arts of deception and crime, and the church of God ought to be diligent in the work of moulding the sentiments and habits of the people. Many children take their first lessons in vice on the play-grounds of our primary schools, and are confirmed in a total disregard of God and eternity by the worldly influence of the higher institutions of learning.

Iniquity abounds; we are in the midst of a general apostacy from God. The churches depend largely on carnal agencies—from the Senate to the family, equity is forgotten. Spiritually these are days of peril, especially to the young. The church should undertake, with greatly increased vigor, in the name of the Lord, to check this desolating tide. In the blessed work of

teaching the rising generation the way of true wisdom, every means that God will honor should be faithfully used. In this connection we especially commend our seminaries at North Chili, N. Y., and Spring Arbor, Mich. These schools are doing a noble work, and they ought, with their present burdens, and limited facilities to be supported with multiplied liberality.

Conference Roll and Preachers' Post-Office Address.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Post-Office.</i>	<i>County.</i>	<i>State.</i>
J. Ellison,	Spring Arbor,	Jackson,	Mich.
S. Roberts,	Ovid,	Clinton,	"
C. S. Gitchell,	Spring Arbor,	Jackson,	"
H. Sawyer	Farrandville,	Genesee,	"
J. G. Witham,	Greenville,	Montcalm,	"
C. H. Sage,	Ellesmere,	Ontario,	Canada
A. H. Springstein,	Saranac,		Mich.
C. W. Haynes,	Gaines,	Genesee,	"
J. F. Wetherald,			
C. R. Clark,	Orleans,		Mich.
W. J. Johnston,	Lansing,		"
J. Mudge,	Blacks Corner,	Lapeer,	"
J. W. Nichols,			
J. P. Soule,	Flushing,	Genesee,	"
PROBATIONERS.			
Wm. McKay,	Clam Lake,		"
C. D. Hoadley,	St. John's,	Clinton,	"
L. D. Russell,	Big Rapids,		"
S. Fluelling,	DeWitt,	Clinton,	"
A. Mudge,	Black's Corner,	Lapeer,	"
L. L. Warner,	North Star,	Gratiot,	"
T. C. Fisher,	Cedar Springs,	Kent,	"
J. E. Kennedy,			
J. Craig,	Grand Ledge,		"
R. R. Robinson,	Hadley,	Lapeer,	"
W. H. Haight,	Flint City,		"
W. B. Golden,	Corunna,	Shiawassee,	"
W. J. Warren,	Williamston,	Ingham,	"
S. Johnson,	Pontiac,		"
W. S. Chamberlain,	Fowlerville,	Livingston,	"

MINUTES
OF THE
THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
NEW YORK CONFERENCE,
OF THE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH,
HELD IN THE
F. M. Church, Windsor, N. Y., Sept. 27, to Oct. 2, 1876.

OFFICERS.

President—E. P. HART.
Secretary—W. GOULD. *Assistant*—J. E. BRISTOL.

COMMITTEES.

- On Public Worship*—C. H. Southworth, W. W. Dickson,
E. P. Hart, W. Gould.
On Publishing Minutes—W. Gould, J. E. Bristol.
On Collecting Funds for Minutes—G. R. Harvey.
On Nominating Examiners on Course of Study for 1877—
W. M. Parry, W. Jones, W. W. Dickson.
On Missions and Missionary Appropriations—The Station-
ing Committee.
On Bible Cause—J. E. Bristol, G. W. Swingle.
On Sunday Schools—M. D. McDougal, W. Gould, J. Wintsch.
On Memoirs—W. Gould, O. V. Ketels.
On Claims—J. Glen, C. McKellar.
On Publications—T. S. LaDue, G. R. Harvey, J. A. Cas-
terline.
On Secret Societies—T. S. LaDue, W. Jones, C. Jayne.
On Ministerial Relations—W. Jones, W. M. Parry, M. D.
McDougal, C. Kaeppel, W. W. Dickson.

On Superintendents Claims—W. Jones, G. R. Harvey, C. Jayne.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Arrangements for Sunday-school Conventions—T. S. La Due, W. Gould, J. Glen, J. Wintsch.

On Care and Use of Conference Tent—W. Gould, T. S. La Due.

Examiners on Course of Study for Next Year.

PRELIMINARY COURSE—C. H. Southworth.

First Year—J. Glen, F. J. Ewell.

Second Year—T. S. La Due, W. W. Parry.

Third Year—A. G. Terry, M. D. McDougal.

Fourth Year—W. Gould, E. P. Sellew.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

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

PREACHERS.

A. G. Terry,	T. S. LaDue,	W. Jones,
W. Gould,	J. Mathews,	F. J. Ewell,
M. D. McDougal,	W. M. Parry,	S. H. Bronson,
J. Glen,	G. R. Harvey,	C. H. Southworth.
E. P. Sellew,	G. E. Ferrin,	R. Coons,
O. V. Ketels,	J. E. Bristol.	E. E. Adams.
G. Eakins,	A. Ahgreen,	G. Edwards.

LAYMEN.

Aaron Phelps,	W. Bartholomew,	James Meeker,
W. W. Dickson,	J. W. Tamblyn,	G. W. Swingle,
J. A. Franklin,	C. Jayne,	W. F. Plumb,
Charles Kaeppl,	J. Mackey,	John Wintsch,
J. A. Casterline,	C. Kneely,	C. McKellar.

2. Who are the Stationing Committee?

E. P. Hart, W. Jones, W. Gould, C. Jayne, J. A. Casterline.

3. What preachers are admitted on trial?

J. Wintsch, J. W. Tamblyn.

4. Who remains on trial?

F. J. Wurster.

5. Who are admitted into full connection?

G. Eakins, G. Edwards. E. P. Sellew and E. E. Adams, received by transfer from the Susquehanna Conference.

6. Who are the deacons?

Andrew Ahgreen, James E. Bristol, E. E. Adams ordained last year. G. Eakins, J. W. Tamblyn, G. W. Swingle ordained this year; the two last-named, local deacons.

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

C. H. Southworth.

11. Who have withdrawn from the Conference this year?
None.

12. Are all the preachers blameless in life, etc.?

Their characters were each examined and passed.

13. Who have died this year?

Frederick Hendrickson. See Report of Committee on Memoirs.

14. What is the number of church members?

See table of Statistics.

15 and 17. What amounts are necessary for the superannuated preachers, etc.?

See Report of Committee on Claims, and table of Statistics.

16. Where are our preachers stationed this year?

See Appointments.

17. Where and when shall our next Conference be held?

At Wilkesbarre, Luzerne Co., Pa., commencing Wednesday, September 4th, 1877.

APPOINTMENTS.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT—W. GOULD, Chairman.

New York (Thirty-seventh street).....	W. M. Parry
New York (Grand street)	To be supplied
New York (Fifty-third street).....	O. V. Ketels
Brooklyn (1st church)	To be supplied
Brooklyn (2nd church).....	To be supplied
Riverhead and Farmingdale.....	J. W. Tamblyn
Newark.....	J. Wintsch
Rahway and Elizabeth.....	E. P. Sellew
Philadelphia.....	M. D. McDougal
Windham	F. J. Wurster
Dover and Stanhope.....	J. Glen
Allentown, Phillipsburg and Quakertown	J. E. Bristol
Emaus and Saucon Valley	To be supplied
Swedish Mission.....	A. Ahgreen

NORTHERN DISTRICT—T. S. LADUE, Chairman.

Wilkesbarre and Whitehaven.....	W. Jones
Abington and Prospect Hill.....	E. E. Adams
Beech Pond and Oregon.....	To be supplied
Canaan and Hollisterville.....	G. R. Harvey
Uniondale and Lennox.....	S. H. Bronson
Windsor and Harpersville.....	G. Eakins
Bainbridge, Unadilla and Oneonta.....	G. E. Ferrin
Liberty and Beaverkill.....	Supplied by J. S. Bradbrook

A. G. Terry, Conference Evangelist, member of the Northern District Quarterly Conference.

C. H. Southworth, superannuated, member of the Northern District Quarterly Conference.

George Edwards, Missionary to Washington Territory and Oregon, member of the Southern District Quarterly Conference.

F. J. Ewell and J. Mathews to be appointed by the President, and members of the Southern District Quarterly Conference.

R. Coons to be appointed by the Chairman of the Northern District; member of the Quarterly Conference of said district.

M. N. Downing and W. W. Warner, transferred to the Susquehanna Conference.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ORDINATIONS.—On Sunday, October 1st, after the morning sermon, Geo. Eakins, J. W. Tamblin, and G. W. Swingle were ordained deacons; the two last named as local deacons.

Introductions and honorary seats were granted to Revs. A. M. Colgrove, pastor of Windsor M. E. Church; E. P. Sellow, J. B. Freeland, J. N. Steil, and E. E. Adams of the Susquehanna Conference; D. P. Baker of Illinois Conference; and W. Jackson, of the Genesee Conference.

Oliver Nelson, a layman from the 2nd Brooklyn church, was admitted to an honorary seat, as a representative of said church.

Four morning sittings were held, beginning at 9 A. M., closing at 12 M. Afternoon sittings were held on Saturday, September 30th—one at 4 P. M., and another at 8.40 P. M.

STATISTICS OF NEW YORK CONFERENCE.

CHARGES.	PASTORS.	Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Loc. Pr'chers	Sun. Schools.	Officers and Teachers.	Scholars.	Vols. in Library.	Am't raised for S. School purposes.	Preachers' Receipts.	Missionary Collections.	Bible Collec'n	Superan'tated Collection.	Value Church Property.
Windham	G. Ekins	19	3	22	2	2	2	5	20	22.53	\$70.10	\$.56	3	3.35	\$100
Liberty	G. E. Ferrin	35	1	36	2	2	5	20	220.00	225.00	225.00	2.54	\$3.24	.50	2,000
Bainbridge, Unadilla, Oneonta, Windsor and Haperville	R. Coons	34	2	36	2	1	10	66	188	22.53	425.00	2.54	\$3.24	3.46	4,000
Hancock and Delaware	C. H. Southworth	70	9	79	8	1	10	80	250	16.55	225.00	3.00	3.00	4,000	
Beech Pond and Canaan	A. G. Terry, J. S. Tamblyn	7	1	8	1	1	4	10	2	340.00	475.00	1.00	1.43	900	
Unionville and Lennox	E. E. Adams	42	9	51	1	4	10	70	345	25.00	891.65	10.00	1.43	12,000	
Abington and Prospect Hill	S. H. Bronson	9	1	10	2	2	6	35	450	39.00	649.79	4.62	11.82	15,000	
Wilkesbarre and Whitehaven	G. R. Harvey	43	2	45	5	2	16	24	20.00	202.00	202.00	10.00	5.00	5,000	
<i>Chairman of Northern Dist</i>	T. S. Ladue	57	2	59	1	1	4	40	30.00	300.00	300.00	15.00	5.00	3,81	
New York (Thirty-seventh st.)	W. M. Parry	46	4	46	2	1	11	35	450	39.00	1047.50	4.62	11.82	15,000	
New York (Fifty-third street)	O. V. Ketels	16	1	16	1	1	4	24	20.00	20.00	202.00	10.00	5.00	5,000	
Brooklyn (1st Church)	Supplied by S. K. J. Chesbro	33	1	34	1	1	6	40	20.00	20.00	1050.00	15.00	3.81	1,800	
Riverhead and Farmingdale	Supplied by W. M. Parry	23	4	29	1	1	5	20	20.00	20.00	178.90	3.66	2.04	2,300	
Newark	Supplied by J. Wintsch	22	2	22	1	1	7	12	35.00	35.00	223.00	3.00	3.25	10,000	
Rayway and Elizabeth	J. S. Bradbrook and J. Glen	17	4	21	1	1	5	10	30	47.18	223.00	3.00	2.00	10,000	
Dover	J. Glen	54	16	70	1	1	16	70	40.00	672.43	2.00	2.00	2.30	10,000	
*Phillipsburg and Quakerstown.	J. Markham and others	14	2	16	1	1	6	40	22.00	22.00	2.00	2.00	2.30	2,500	
Etnaus and Sacon Valley	F. J. Wunster	23	1	24	1	2	10	40	10.00	10.00	60.50	3.25	1.00	2,500	
Alentown	J. E. Bristol	18	1	19	1	1	5	25	381.38	381.38	2.00	2.00	1.25	2,300	
Philadelphia	M. D. McDougal	40	8	48	1	1	14	50	34.42	34.42	259.18	3.00	1.00	7,000	
Swedish Mission	A. Ahgren	16	1	17	1	1	6	35	40	13.00	62.12	2.00	2.00	2,300	
Brooklyn (and Church)	Supplied by W. M. Parry	16	1	17	1	1	6	35	40	13.00	62.12	2.00	2.00	2,300	
<i>Southern District Chairmen</i>	W. Jones	16	1	17	1	1	6	35	40	13.00	584.18	2.00	2.00	2,300	
Total		659	66	725	23	23	130	656	1704	317.68	9962.92	57.63	33.53	19.92	\$60,800

* This report is for Phillipsburg Society only.

A memorial service was made the special order for 11 A. M., on Friday, September 29th, at which a memorial of Brother T. Hendrickson was read and adopted. Remarks on the character and death of the deceased brother were made by S. H. Bronson, O. V. Ketels, F. J. Wurster, and W. Gould.

A special service for the consideration of Sabbath-school interests, was held from 9 to 10½ A. M. on Sunday, October 1st; T. S. LaDue, presided. The report of the Sunday-school Committee was read and short speeches made by W. Gould, J. B. Freeland, Sister Hart J. Glen, and others.

A. G. Terry was elected to the office of Conference Evangelist.

CHAIRMEN OF DISTRICTS.—A motion to employ stationed chairmen only, was introduced, debated, and lost. It was subsequently reconsidered, and again lost. On motion it was resolved to elect two traveling chairmen. W. Gould and T. S. LaDue were elected by ballot.

After adopting report on Bible cause, it was resolved that the moneys collected, be paid to the American Bible Society by W. M. Parry in such a manner as to secure a life membership in said Society to Brother J. Glen.

D. P. Baker, editor of *The Free Methodist*, addressed the Conference on the present position and prospects of *The Free Methodist*, *The Pearl*, and *The Lily*.

A paper, which had been adopted by the Quarterly Conference of the Northern District, and forwarded by said Conference for action thereon by this body, was read and adopted. Its subject was, "Partaking other Men's Sins." See resolutions.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Committee on Superintendents Claims, a collection was taken on Sunday morning after the sermon, amounting to \$101.67; \$22.79 was appropriated to meet said claims from the amount raised for missionary purposes. See reports of committees on Superintendents' Claims, and Missions.

A vote of thanks was tendered to the Delaware and Hudson Railroad Company for their kindness in granting a free return to the ministers, delegates, and visitors of the conference on the Nineveh branch of their road.

A vote of thanks was also tendered to the citizens of

Windsor for their kindness in entertaining the Conference and its visitors.

Conference and visitors expressed, by a unanimous rising vote, an appreciative sense of the able and satisfactory manner in which E. P. Hart, the General Superintendent, had presided at this session.

George Edwards, who was located by the Susquehanna Conference, in 1873 was readmitted to full connection, and appointed by the Superintendent as missionary to Washington Territory and Oregon.

Prayer-meetings were held at 6 A. M. each morning during the sittings of the Conference, except Monday, Oct. 2d.

Preaching services were held each afternoon and evening during the week days as follows:—Wednesday afternoon, O. V. Ketels; in the evening, J. Glen. Thursday afternoon, J. E. Bristol; evening, E. P. Hart. Friday afternoon, M. D. McDougal; evening, T. S. LaDue. Saturday afternoon, W. Jackson; evening, D. P. Baker.

Sunday services were held as follows: Free Methodist Church, 10½ A. M., E. P. Hart; 7 P. M., J. B. Freeland. Presbyterian Church, 10½ A. M., D. P. Baker; M. E. Church, Windsor, 7 P. M., E. P. Hart; M. E. Church, Ouaquaga, 1½ P. M., E. P. Sellew; M. E. Church, East Windsor, 3½ P. M., E. E. Adams. Sacramental service and Love Feast were held at 2 P. M., in the F. M. Church.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That collections be taken up in the following order during the coming year, viz.: For Superannuated Fund, first quarter; Superintendents' Claim, second quarter; Bible Cause, third Quarter; and Missions, fourth quarter.

Resolved, That all our preachers in charge of circuits be requested to present and read the statistics of their circuits in connection with the passage of their characters at the next Annual Session of this Conference.

Resolved, To require all Examiners on the Course of Study, and all candidates for examination thereon, to be present at the seat of Conference next year, one day in advance of the time fixed for its assembling.

ON PARTAKING OTHER MEN'S SINF.

A copy of a paper adopted by the New York annual Conference of the F. M. Church, but originating in the Q. C. of the Northern District of said annual conference.

We, the Quarterly Conference of the Northern District of the New York Annual Conference of the Free Methodist church, assembled at Abington camp ground, Aug 30th, 1876: For the glory of God, and designing the promotion of the spiritual interests of the church of God, do hereby unite in setting forth as follows:

Whereas, The Bible and our Discipline have plainly forbidden us to be partakers of other men's sins as to commit sin personally.

Whereas, Obedience to this requirement will prevent us from aiding and abetting others in doing what we cannot do ourselves with a clear conscience, or what ought not to be done at all.

Whereas, This principle is violated by the practices of many professed Christians, and to some considerable extent by the members of our own societies.

Whereas, Much difficulty is experienced in administering our discipline against the said practices in consequence of differences of opinion existing among ourselves respecting the application of the said principle.

Whereas, We believe the said differences can be at least in part remedied by the specific official utterances and teachings of our law making, [law interpreting and law applying assemblies. Therefore,

Resolved—1st, That we unite in declaring our firm belief of the truth of the following maxims:—First. All Christians are bound to employ *all* their *time* and *talents* in co-operating with Christ in the purpose of his manifestation, viz: The destruction of the works of the devil, and to avoid the doing of anything which would in any way tend to help Satan's kingdom. Second. That all business which cannot be done to the glory of God and the good of men, ought not to be done at all. Third. No Christian can voluntarily help another in doing what is wrong in itself. Fourth. All persons are responsible for the direct and indirect consequences of all their acts so far as they can control them. Fifth. No person can avoid responsibility for the consequences of carrying on a wrong business which his labor promotes, by reason of his being an agent or employe, and not the principal or owner of said business. Therefore,

Resolved—2d, We will avoid, discountenance and disallow all participation in the sins of others. First. By not growing, furnishing, or manufacturing or selling material for carrying on any sinful business, or sinful parts of business. Second. By not aiding in carrying on such business, either by employing capital, laboring or otherwise. Third. We will especially oppose all participation in the traffic in alcoholic beverages, opium, with all preparations thereof, and tobacco, when employed in sinful self-indulgence. Fourth. The manufacture or sale of such articles of dress as are forbidden by the word of God and our Discipline, and Fifth. The engaging in, or patronage of all Sabbath-breaking business, or the transaction of any business on the Lord's day, which, while legitimate on other days, cannot be lawfully allowed on the Sabbath, such as Sunday cheese and butter manu-

facture, iron making, raft-running, railroading, street-car running and such like.

Resolved—3d, We will call the attention of our people generally, and of our annual and general conferences to the subject in question, and earnestly urge that such action be taken as will more fully declare our principles thereon, and define the course to be taken in enforcing them.

Resolved—4th, That a copy of this paper be forwarded to *The Free Methodist* for publication; that another copy be presented to the next session of the New York Annual Conference, and that we petition the next General Conference in relation to the question.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON MEMOIRS.

Our beloved Brother Frederick Hendrickson has fallen asleep in Jesus; and the New York Conference suffers the loss of the first minister admitted to it by the ordinary probationary course.

Bro. Hendrickson was born at Midlum of Tohr in Germany, July 8th, 1840. When about 12 years old he became a sailor. About the age of 24 or 25 he married a countrywoman of his native place; but his married life was of short duration; in about one year after, his wife died leaving a daughter who still remains in the home of his father-in-law in the land of Bro. Hendrickson's birth. In pursuit of his seafaring calling he came to this country for the first time in 1859, but did not make his residence here until 1867, when he came to New York City and abode there.

From his earliest years the Spirit of God strove powerfully with him; and for two years previous to his making New York his home, he was seeking the Lord. Through his early acquaintance with Bro. O. V. Ketels he was led to visit our Grand street, pilgrims, among whom he was soon gloriously converted. Having taken the narrow way from hearty choice he walked in it perseveringly to the end of his life. He quickly felt leadings of soul to engage in seeking the salvation of others; and at a Q. M. held in Grand street, N. Y., having remained for prayer at a hall where the services were held between the afternoon and evening meetings, he received a revelation of the will of God concerning him, and felt a clear call to become a preacher of the Gospel.

Bro. Hendrickson was emphatically a pious man. Prayer was his vital breath, his native air; private devotion was his greatest luxury. He was remarkably conscientious. His conscience was quick as the apple of an eye. Small omissions pained his soul and he sought to live far away and on the right side of the border line between worldliness and spirituality. Frivolity was abominable to him; lightness and jesting were exceedingly annoying. He was a man of few words in ordinary converse and those were right ones. His last end was that of the righteous man. He had entered the field of his labor for a second year with unusually strong desires and hopes, and had begun to work for God

with renewed courage and zeal, when the Master called him to come up higher. He knew the voice, and though he had a desire to stay and work on earth, he said, "It is all right." At the beginning of his last sickness he had a clear intimation that the nervous fever, and general breaking down of his system partly brought on by his excessive labors of the preceding year would end in death, and he spent the moments previous to and in the intervals of the delirious spells which he suffered before death, in arranging unsettled matters, exhorting his attendants, especially the doctor, and expressing triumphantly his sure hope of everlasting life. Even his utterances in the moments when reason was temporarily dethroned were such as indicated a sanctified soul. His last understood words were, "All right," and he passed away to the eternal Sabbath on Sunday, Oct 1st, 1876, at 5 a. m. His name and memory remain to us as ointment poured forth.

II.—ON TENT.

The committee to whose care the conference tent was entrusted respectfully report

1st. They assumed the care of said tent and also of the lamps and camp meeting equipage belonging to the conference, and have preserved and repaired the same as circumstances have required, and that said conference property is in as good condition for future use as at the beginning of the conference year.

2nd. That the expenses of travel, and the cost of repairs and such new articles as have been purchased, amount to \$50 04; and that the receipts for such purposes, and the several collections taken at the said meetings for the support of the members of your committee are \$61 33, leaving a balance of \$11 29, actual expenses for said support. Your Committee can report with truth that much evident good has been accomplished by the use of said tent.

III.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We are thankful for the blessing of God which has rested on our efforts to lead the rising generation to God, and rejoice that that many of the children committed to our care have given clear evidence of scriptural conversion, and that our people here and there are exhibiting a good degree of interest in Sunday-school work, but we are quite sure that as a conference and people we are very much behind hand in this department of our work. On several of our circuits there are no Sunday-schools, and where schools are maintained they are frequently allowed to languish for want of interest and properly organized effort. These things ought not so to be. As a church we should take the front rank among those who labor for the instruction of the rising generation in principles of Christian truth. The devil and formal churches should not be allowed as they often are to bend the twigs which we hope to see growing on trees in the garden of the Lord. We call on all our preachers and people to awake to righteousness in this respect, and set themselves diligently to take hold of this department of our work and do it efficiently.

Let our preachers especially, diligently attend to the children in their ministrations. Let our people co operate heartily, supplying money and labor in helping on the work to the full extent of their ability, and above all let our people who have children lay the foundation for successful Sunday-school labor, by training up their little ones in the home circle in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

IV.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

A good report was adopted, which is omitted for want of room.

V.—ON BIBLE CAUSE.

Committee report that they have received \$33 53, for Bible cause.

VI.—ON CLAIMS.

Committee report the receipt of \$19.92, as the amount collected on claims during the past year, and recommend that the whole amount be paid to W. W. Warner, our only claimant.

VII.—ON MISSIONS.

Receipts \$57.79: We recommend that the following appropriations be made,

A. Ahgreen,	\$25.00
A. G. Terry,	10.00
E. P. Hart, as Superintendent and Missionary, . .	22.79—\$57.79

VIII.—ON SUPERINTENDANTS' CLAIMS.

Resolved,—1st. That an effort be made Sabbath morning and evening next, to raise \$100.00, for the support of our General Superintendants.

2d, That all the preachers raise fifteen cents per members during the second quarter of the coming Conference year, and that the money be forwarded to Rev. W. Jones, Wilkesbarre, Luzerne Co, Pa.

Conference Roll and Preachers' Post-Office Address.

<i>Year of admission to full connection.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Post-Office.</i>	<i>County.</i>	<i>State.</i>
1860,	A. G. Terry,	Hancock,	Delaware,	N. Y.
"	T. S. LaDue,	Windsor,	Broome,	"
1863,	W. Jones,	Wilkesbarre,	Luzerne,	Pa.
"	W. Gould,			
"	J. Mathews,			
1864,	F. J. Ewell,			
1866,	M. D. McDougal,	1317 North 25th st.,	Philadelphia,	Pa.
1867,	W. M. Parry,	329 West 37th street,		N. Y.

1868,	S. H. Bronson,	Uniondale,	Susquehanna,	Pa
1869,	J. Glen,	Dover,	Morris,	N. J.
"	G. Edwards,	Seattle,	King,	W. T.
1870,	G. R. Harvey,	Hollisterville,	Wayne,	Pa.
"	C. H. Southworth,	Binghamton,	Broome,	N. Y.
"	E. P. Sellew,	Rahway,	Union,	N. J.
1871,	G. E. Ferrin,			
1872,	R. Coons,			
1874,	O. V. Ketels,	317 Front street, New York City,		N. Y.
1875,	J. E. Bristol,	Allentown,	Lehigh,	Pa.
"	E. E. Adams,	Waverly,	Luzerne,	Pa.
1876,	G. Eakins,	Windsor,	Broome,	N. Y.
"	A. Ahgreen,	Hartford,		Conn.
ADMITTED ON TRIAL.				
1875,	F. J. Wurster,	Windham,	Greene,	N. Y.
1876,	J. Wintsch,	173 South Orange ave.,	Newark,	N. J.
"	J. W. Tamblyn,	Riverhead,	Suffolk,	N. J.

Local Preachers' Names and P. O. Addresses.

<i>Circuit.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Post Office.</i>	<i>County.</i>	<i>State.</i>
Brooklyn,	John Grey,	8th street, Brooklyn,	Kings,	N. Y.
"	H. Hunt,	Cor. 17th and 4th, Brooklyn,		"
Riverhead,	S. L. Downs,	Riverhead,	Suffolk,	"
New York (37th st.),	W. Lamont,	329 West 37th st.,	New York,	"
New York (53d st.),	C. H. Kaepfel,	502 West 53d st.,	New York,	"
Newark,	J. Somerville,*	145 James st.,	Newark,	N. J.
Rahway,	J. T. Haviland,*	Rahway,	Union,	"
Emaus, &c.,	John Knauss,	Emaus,	Lehigh,	Pa.
Allentown,	Joel Schultz,	Allentown,	Lehigh,	"
Phillipsburg,	J. Markham,	Pittstown,	Hunterdon,	N. J.
Wilkesbarre,	W. B. Bertels,*	Wilkesbarre,	Luzerne,	Pa.
Wilkesbarre,	J. Pembleton,	Wilkesbarre,	Luzerne,	Pa.
Wilkesbarre,	W. Eva,	Wilkesbarre,	Luzerne,	Pa.
Wilkesbarre,	H. H. Pease,	Seattle,	King,	W. T.
Wilkesbarre,	Caleb Jayne,	Whitehaven,	Luzerne,	Pa.
Canaan,	G. W. Swingle,	South Canaan,	Wayne,	Pa.
Uniondale,	J. M. Hobbs,	Uniondale,	Susquehanna,	Pa.
Uniondale,	P. Phillips,	Glenwood,	Susquehanna,	Pa.
Liberty,	E. Dewey,*	Fishes Eddy,	Delaware,	N. Y.
Windsor.	W. W. Dickson,	Windsor,	Broome,	N. Y.
Windsor,	L. Woodruff,*	Windsor,	Broome,	N. Y.
Unadilla,	L. D. Southworth,	Croton,	Delaware,	N. Y.
Unadilla,	J. P. Marble,	Oneonta,	Otsego,	N. Y.

☞ Those marked thus * are in Deacons orders.

MINUTES
OF THE
SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Susquehanna Conference,
OF THE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH,
HELD IN THE
F. M. CHURCH, ALTON, WAYNE CO., N. Y.,
SEPTEMBER 13-16, 1876.

OFFICERS.

President—B. T. ROBERTS.
Secretary—O. M. Owen. *Assistant*—E. P. Sellew.

COMMITTEES.

On Committees—E. Owen, J. B. Freeland, M. N. Downing, A. Case.
On Public Worship—M. N. Downing, J. B. Freeland, J. B. Stacy, A. Case.
On Statistics—The Secretaries.
On publishing Minutes—The Secretaries.
On Missions and Missionary Appropriations—The Stationing Committee.
On Sunday Schools—J. Odell, J. B. Stacy, O. W. Young, S. Beckwith, I. Ballou, H. Cole.
On Claims—Z. Osborne, W. Southworth, J. Harvey, D. Dexter.
On Bible Cause—L. Kelley, L. S. King, R. C. Stoner, O. A. Pratt.
On Temperance—T. Whiffin, L. H. Robinson, F. A. Town, W. Sullivan.

On Publications—E. Owen, J. B. Freeland, D. Caster-ton, F. Heasty.

On Education—B. Winget, A. F. Curry, A. W. Paul, A. Wise, W. Hames.

On Collecting Funds for Publishing Minutes—D. Dempsey.

On Secret Societies—E. P. Sellew, T. Whiffin, D. Dexter, Almiron Smith.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Examiners on the Course of Study for 1877.

PRELIMINARY COURSE—L. Kelley.

First Year—W. Southworth, J. B. Stacy.

Second Year—B. Winget, A. W. Paul.

Third Year—T. Whiffin, Z. Osborne.

Fourth Year—O. M. Owen, J. B. Freeland.

ON MAKING COMPLETE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONFERENCE SUNDAY-SCHOOL CONVENTION—O. M. Owen, E. P. Sellew, J. A. Odell.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

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

PREACHERS.

A. F. Curry,
J. Olney,
J. B. Freeland,
M. N. Downing,
J. B. Stacy,
Z. Osborne,
J. Odell,
B. Winget,
J. W. Sawyer,
R. M. Snyder,

E. Owen,
W. Southworth,
T. Whiffin,
D. Dempsey,
E. P. Sellew,
T. A. Ross,
J. Guyon,
S. V. McVey,
L. Kelley,
Geo. Stover.

O. M. Owen,
A. W. Paul,
J. D. Osmun,
C. W. Stevens,
O. W. Young,
Samuel Perkins,
Lester S. King,
L. H. Robinson,
L. W. Cronk,
J. N. Steil.

DELEGATES.

Henry Cole,
Albert Case,
Almiron Smith,
O. A. Pratt,
James Harvey,
Sidney Bowers,
W. M. Sullivan,
Justus Reid.

J. F. Lawrence,
Amos Darrow,
H. L. Whitman,
Selden Beckwith,
David Dexter,
Monroe Collins,
R. C. Stoner,

Wm. Hames,
Alexander Wise,
Isaac Ballou,
D. A. Casterton,
J. O. Fitch,
G. W. Richards,
Byron Latler,

2. Who are the stationing committee?

B. T. Roberts, M. N. Downing, A. F. Curry, J. B. Freeland, H. Cole, S. Beckwith, W. M. Sullivan.

3. What Preachers are admitted on trial?

W. H. Clark, Orlo Moore.

4. Who remain on trial?

Harvey Perkins, A. H. Knapp.

5. Who are admitted into full connection?

L. W. Cronk, A. H. Knapp, R. M. Snyder, Geo. Stover.

6. Who are the deacons?

C. W. Stevens, J. D. Osmun,—ordained two years ago; O. W. Young, S. W. Perkins, L. S. King, L. H. Robinson, and R. R. Jacobs, local preacher, ordained this year.

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

J. N. Steil, L. W. Cronk.

8. Who have been located? None.

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

J. Guyon.

10. Who have been expelled this year? None.

11. Who have withdrawn from the conference this year? None.

12. Are all the preachers blameless in life, etc.?

Their names were called and characters passed.

13. Who have died this year? None.

14. What is the number of church members, etc.?

For the answer to this and to the 15th, see Table of Statistics and Report of Committee on Claims.

16. No Business.

17. " "

18. Where are the preachers stationed this year?

See appointments.

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

At Clyde, Wayne Co., N. Y., September 21st, 1877.

APPOINTMENTS.

CLYDE DISTRICT—M. N. DOWNING, Chairman.

Clyde and Rose	O. M. Owen
Montezuma and Port Byron.....	M. N. Downing
Pittsford and Bushnell's Basin.....	C. D. Brooks (supply)
Webster and Ontario	O. W. Young
Alton and Wayne Center.....	D. Dempsey

SYRACUSE DISTRICT—E. OWEN, Chairman.

Syracuse.....	E. Owen
Fulton	T. Whiffin
Chittenango and Cicero	J. B. Stacy
Nelson and Stockbridge.....	L. H. Robinson
Black River.....	Z. Osborne
Copenhagen.....	J. C. Kennedy (supply)

UTICA DISTRICT—W. SOUTHWORTH, Chairman.

Utica.....	J. A. Odell
Rome.....	Wm. Southworth
Frankfort and Schuyler.....	S. V. McVey
Brookfield, Edmeston and New Berlin.....	L. W. Cronk
Stratford and Salisbury.....	B. F. Tisdale (supply)
New London.....	J. Olney

SARATOGA DISTRICT—B. WINGET, Chairman.

Saratoga	B. Winget
Schoharie.....	L. Kelly
Lansingburgh and Bath	W. H. Clark
Greenfield and Corinth.....	To be supplied
Grafton.....	A. B. Burdick (supply)

BINGHAMTON DISTRICT—J. B. FREELAND, Chairm'n.

Binghamton and Owego.....	J. B. Freeland
Ithaca.....	J. D. Osmun
Summer Hill.....	T. A. Ross
Norwich, Sherburn and Columbus.....	L. S. King
Smyrna.....	H. Perkins
Pharsalia	S. W. Perkins

DANVILLE DISTRICT—A. F. CURRY, Chairman.

Sparta, Bloods and Ossian	A. F. Curry and Orlo Moore
Italy.....	Geo. Stover
Gibson and Lindley	A. W. Paul
Tuscarora.....	R. M. Snyder
Williamsport.....	A. H. Knapp
German Mission.....	J. N. Steil

To be appointed by the President—C. W. Stevens, J. W. Sawyer, Ezra Lyon, E. P. Sellew, W. W. Warner.

W. W. Warner received by transfer from New York Conference.

E. E. Adams transferred to New York Conference.

CHARGES.

	Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Local Preachers.	S. Schools.	S. School Scholars.	Officers and Teachers.	Volumes in Library.	Am't raised for S. S.	Preachers' Receipts.	Am't raised for Ch'man on charge.	Missionary Collection.	Claims.	Bible Cause Collection.	Valuation of Church Property.	Value of Parsonage.	Total.	Chairman's Receipts.
Clyde and Syracuse Districts.....	68	26	94	1	2	70	16	.....	6.25	\$586.93	.....	\$4.85	\$6.08	1.60	3500	\$500	3500	\$450.76
Ovye and Rose.....	7	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	92.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ontario Mission.....	36	3	41	1	1	40	13	100	17.00	340.16	25.44	1.00	2.28	1.70	2500	.....	2500	.....
Alton and Wayne.....	34	.....	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	305.14	34.13	2.25	.....	.....	2500	.....	2500	.....
Pittsford and Bushnell's Busm	54	6	60	2	3	150	18	.....	22.00	352.00	.....	1.45	2.11	.....	3500	.....	3500	.....
Webster and Ontario.....	60	10	70	1	1	60	14	234	22.80	575.00	38.00	3.07	1.30	.....	4000	.....	4000	.....
Syracuse.....	58	24	82	1	1	35	8	.....	6.10	386.56	45.59	79	.....	57	1800	.....	1800	.....
Hilton.....	47	5	52	2	2	51	9	.....	.....	199.20	30.00	.....	.....	.....	75	500	75	.....
Chittenango and Cicero.....	27	.....	27	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	199.20	30.00	1.06	.....	.....	1000	.....	1000	.....
Nelson and Stockbridge.....	17	1	18	1	1	12	2	139	5.32	235.31	20.00	.....	.....	.....	800	.....	800	.....
New London and Toberg.....	25	9	34	1	1	30	6	.....	.....	50.00	10.00	.....	.....	.....	1200	.....	1200	.....
Snyrna.....	13	.....	13	1	1	23	7	25	10.00	351.00	30.00	.....	.....	.....	3000	.....	3000	.....
Pharsalia.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	240.00	34.21	3.00	2.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Utica and Saratoga Districts.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Utica.....	91	28	119	2	1	50	12	200	21.00	640.55	67.52	11.00	35.00	.....	6000	.....	6000	.....
Rome.....	44	1	45	1	1	34	4	250	14.00	650.80	30.36	1.00	1.11	.....	5500	2000	7500	.....
Frankfort and Schuyler.....	43	4	47	1	2	112	14	220	34.42	306.75	38.82	.....	3.12	.....	1500	.....	1500	.....
Black River.....	30	8	38	2	1	20	6	20	3.45	335.00	104.51	.....	13.10	12.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Brookfield, Edmeston, New Berlin,	30	10	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	238.78	21.65	1.03	.....	.....	1000	600	1600	.....
Columbus, Sherburn and Norwich,	31	2	33	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	244.90	55.27	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Saratoga Springs.....	21	3	24	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	347.50	48.70	2.46	2.15	.....	4250	900	5150	.....
Greenfield and Corinth.....	21	.....	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73.71	53.75	1.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Schoharie.....	40	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	268.80	48.89	.....	2.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Stratton.....	13	5	18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Stardford and Salisbury.....	15	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lansingburg and Bath.....	24	9	33	2	1	20	5	.....	2.00	180.62	47.17	.....	2.00	50	2000	.....	2000	.....
Binghamton & Dansville Dist.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Binghamton and Owego.....	74	6	80	1	1	25	5	100	10.15	550.00	45.00	.....	3.50	75	8000	2000	10000	.....
Ithaca.....	16	1	17	1	1	20	6	40	4.00	78.00	35.00	.....	1.00	.....	3000	.....	3000	.....
Summer Hill.....	36	2	38	1	1	20	8	.....	1.00	129.80	.....	1.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Williamsport.....	4	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sparta.....	23	3	26	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	189.24	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	225	225	.....
Ossian and Tuscarora.....	28	29	57	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.05	273.10	.....	1.79	4.01	.....	1000	.....	1000	.....
Italy and Bloods.....	28	9	47	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.00	268.40	.....	1.40	1.10	.....	3600	.....	3600	.....
Gibson and Lindley.....	49	9	58	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13.00	320.00	.....	1.20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	1110	223	1333	29	32	1108	215	1934	\$8925.66	\$8925.23	\$960.24	\$40.10	9.604	17.12	\$63125	\$6725	69,850	1236.82

MISCELLANEOUS.

Six sessions of the Conference were held; one at 9.15 A. M. Three at 8½ A. M. One, Saturday, 4 P. M., and one, the last, on Saturday, at 8-30 P. M.

A motion to have traveling Chairmen was lost,—17 voting for and 23 against.

Rev. H. N. Cook of the Methodist Church, and R. W. Hawkins of the Genesee Conference were introduced to the Conference and invited to honorary seats.

The credentials of Elisha Hudson as an elder of the M. E. Church, were recognized.

R. S. Bronson was discontinued at his own request.

A motion was passed that the Chairmen report the whole amount of their receipts; and pastors are requested to report as preacher's receipts, all they receive for preaching the Gospel.

A motion carried that the preachers present the claims of Chili Seminary to their respective charges, and raise what they can by subscription and collection.

Resolved, That the following order be observed in taking our conference collections: Superannuated Collection, 2nd Quarter; Bible Collection, 3d Quarter; Missionary Collection, 4th Quarter.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Conference that we disapprove of our people changing their apparel in mourning for the dead.

The classes and class examiners are requested to be present the day before the opening of the next Conference, at 9 A. M.

Selden Beckwith was appointed Missionary Treasurer.

E. Owen raised on pledges, \$72.00 for Bro. Roberts, of which \$28.00 were paid.

A collection was taken Sabbath morning for Bro. Roberts in the F. M. Church to the amount of \$18.38, and at the Stone Church to the amount of \$2.31, making \$20.69.

Religious services were held each afternoon and evening. The following brethren preached; A. F. Curry, J. Olney, E. P. Sellev, Z. Osborne, L. Kelly, D. Dempsey, O. M. Owen, R. M. Snyder, R. W. Hawkins, Wm. Southworth, O. W. Young. On the Sabbath,

B. T. Roberts, A. F. Curry and E. Owen in the F. M. Church, and J. B. Freeland in the Stone Church.

Conference voted to insert in the Minutes the names of the evangelists.

ORDINATIONS.

On the Sabbath, after morning preaching, the following were ordained deacons:—L. W. Cronk, R. M. Snyder, Geo. Stover; and R. R. Jacobs, local preacher. At the close of afternoon service, J. N. Steil and L. W. Cronk were ordained elders.

Sacrament was also administered after Sabbath morning preaching.

The Conference, by rising, tendered a vote of thanks to the citizens of Alton for so hospitably entertaining them.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON STATISTICS—(See statistics).

II.—ON MISSIONS AND MISSIONARY APPROPRIATIONS.

Money in hands of Committee, \$41.24.

Paid for Lansingburg	\$25.00
“ Williamsport	10.00
“ Ontario Mission	6.24—\$41.24

Appropriations for next year:

Lansingburg	\$25.00
New London	25.00
Nelson and Stockbridge	25.00

III.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We believe the Sabbath-school cause to be of sufficient importance to demand more of our time and attention as a people, and that renewed and persevering efforts should be put forth to gather within our schools as many as possible. The object of the Sabbath-school being the diffusion of Divine knowledge and the conversion of the young, we should jealously guard their moral education, by prohibiting the introduction of all sensational and fictitious literature in our schools, and sanction nothing but sound religious literature and the Word of God. We recommend that a Conference Sunday-school Convention be held during this year.

IV.—ON CLAIMS.

Collected this year	\$93.06
Claimant received	48.00
Leaving a balance of	\$45.06
Deficiency	\$119 25

Resolved, That the amount now in the hands of the Committee be placed in the hands of some person that will convey it to Sister Selby as soon as practicable.

V.—ON BIBLE CAUSE.

Whereas, The American Bible Society is doing a noble work in printing and circulating the Word of God throughout the world, and is worthy the patronage of all who love the Lord Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, Special and persistent efforts are being made to exclude the Word of God from our public schools of our beloved country, by the Papal power and infidelity combined; therefore,

Resolved, 1st, That we, as a conference, take a collection during the coming year, at every appointment on our various charges, for the above society.

2d, That the money now in the hands of any of the members of this Conference be paid to J. B. Freeland and sent to said Society.

VI.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

Your committee on publications being deeply impressed with the necessity of greater earnestness in our efforts as a conference to circulate *The Earnest Christian*, and of laboring to promote a freer circulation of *The Free Methodist*, as well as *The Pearl*, and *The Lily* for the Sabbath-school, do hereby recommend the re-adoption—and more practical adoption—of our last years' report on publications.

VII.—ON EDUCATION.

The prosperity and usefulness of our children depend largely upon the degree and kind of education they receive in youth. Our common school system does not make sufficient provisions for their complete education, hence the need of other institutions of learning to carry forward and complete what has been commenced there.

While attending the common schools, our children are under our control, and restrained by home influences and associations from falling into many evil habits and practices which they otherwise would naturally be led into. But when we send them from our homes to attend schools of higher grade, they are released, to a great extent, from home restraint, and frequently the corrupting influences are so great at these schools, that it is extremely hazardous to place our children there. Would it not be well for us to pause at the very threshold and seriously inquire whether, considering all their interests, they would not be injured instead of benefited by being sent to them? Oftimes habits are formed at these schools that are debilitating to their bodies, degrading to their morals, and ruinous to their souls.

In view of the above facts; we are glad to know that, by the blessing of God upon the efforts of our general superintendents and others, the Chili and Spring Arbor Seminaries have been started, and are being carried forward successfully; and that to these institutions of learning we may send our children and feel assured that they will be comparatively free from the contami-

nating influences found in many of like grade, and also receive thorough instruction.

As the Chili Seminary is located almost on the borders of our conference, we think it is our duty to take it under our especial patronage and care; and do all we can individually and collectively towards its more permanent establishment and full prosperity. It is a child of our church, given in answer to prayer, and our future prosperity and usefulness depend, under God, very largely upon the success of our schools. At present we understand that Bro. Roberts, our senior superintendent, is responsible for the payment this fall of a thousand dollars or more, which was expended on the new wing recently inclosed. Measures should be taken in order to his immediate relief from this financial burden. Let us pray, pay, and labor for the success of our schools.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

VIII.—ON FUNDS FOR PUBLISHING MINUTES.

Amount raised.....\$20.00

IX.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

Your committee beg leave to report that, in our judgment, this is no time to slacken our efforts against this one of the prominent evils of the day, as it retains the same wicked virus that has always existed in it, accompanied with the same amount of strategy as ever. This is seen in the frequent introduction of new devices to advance secret institutions, as in the case of the Grange, which pretends to benefit the farmers, when the real intent is to strengthen Freemasonry. As we believe that the press is a wonderful power in counteracting evil as well as promoting it, we therefore recommend the publication in tract form for circulation of an article in Brother Robert's hands, entitled, "Masonic Benevolence," by Rev. W. A. Sellev. We also recommend the circulation of the *Christian Cynosure*, published at Chicago, and of the *Cynosure* tracts, especially one entitled, "I Know Nothing about Masonry," by B. T. Roberts and General Phelps.

X.—ON CONFERENCE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

We recommend that our Conference Sunday-school Convention be held in Syracuse, commencing the first Tuesday evening in May, 1877, and continuing through the following Wednesday and Thursday. And furthermore, your committee will publish in *The Free Methodist*, in due time, a programme of exercises for said convention.

Conference Roll and Preachers' Post-Office Address.

Year of admission to full connection.	Name.	Post-Office.	County.	State.
1860,	A. F. Curry,	Almond,	Allegany,	New York
1862,	J. Olney,	New London,	Oneida,	"
"	J. B. Freeland,	Binghamton,	Broome,	"
1863,	M. N. Downing,	Alton,	Wayne,	"
1865,	J. B. Stacy,	Chittenango Station,	Madison,	"
"	Z. Osborne,	Black River,	Jefferson,	"

1866,	J. A. Odell,	Utica (203 Park avenue),		
1867,	B. Winget,	Saratoga,	Rensalaer,	
1868,	J. W. Sawyer,			
1869,	E. Owen,	Syracuse (20 Linden st.),	Onondaga	
1869,	W. Southworth,	Rome,	Oneida,	
"	T. Whiffin,	Fulton (Box 161),	Oswego,	
"	D. Dempsey,	Alton,	Wayne,	
1870,	T. A. Ross,	Summer Hill,	Cayuga,	
1871,	J. Guyon,			
1872.	S. V. McVey,			
"	L. Kelly,	Charlotteville,	Schoharie	
"	O. M. Owen,	Rose,	Wayne.	
"	A. W. Paul,	Gibson,	Steuben,	
1874,	J. D. Osmun,	Ithaca,	Tompkins,	
1875,	C. W. Stevens,	Greenfield,	Saratoga,	
"	O. W. Young,	West Webster,	Monroe,	
"	Samuel Perkins,			
"	Lester S. King,	Norwich (Box 1087),	Chenango,	
"	L. H. Robinson,	Nelson,	Madison,	
1875,	John N. Steil,	Waterloo,	Seneca.	
1876,	L. W. Cronk,	Edmeston,	Otsego,	
"	R. M. Snyder,			
"	Geo. Stover,			

ADMITTED ON TRIAL.

1874,	A. H. Knapp,			
1875,	Harvey Perkins,			
1876,	Orlo Moore,	Cohocton,	Steuben,	New York
"	W. H. Clark,	Lansingburg,	Rensalaer,	"

Local Preachers' Names and P. O. Addresses.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Post Office.</i>	<i>County.</i>	<i>State.</i>
Hiram Reddy,	Arkport,	Steuben,	New York
A. B. Burdick,†	Quackenkill,	Rensalaer,	
F. Heasty,	Lansingburg,	Rensalaer,	"
B. F. Morrell,	East Albany,		"
G. H. Button,			
John Woodhull,	Rome,	Onelda,	"
Geo. Willard,	Union Hill,	Wayne,	"
Willie Hibbard,	West Webster,	Molroe,	"
Geo. Milum,	Clyde,	Wayne,	"
B. F. Tisdale,	Middle Spright,	Fulton,	"
John Benedict,*	Plymouth,	Chenango,	"
J. C. Kennedy,	Black River,	Jefferson,	"
D. Dexter,	Black River,	Jefferson,	"
Amos Chrysler.†	Navarino,	Onondaga,	"
O. D. Norton,	Nelson Flats,	Madison,	"
Orville Frink,	North Pharsalia,	Chenango,	"
James Brown,†	Utica,	Oneida,	"
James Downend,*	"	"	"
Daniel Colgrove,	Edmeston,	Otsego,	"
Charles Howe,	"	"	"
Moses P. Smith,	Davenport Centre,	"	"
Wm. M. Sullivan,	Binghamton,	Broome,	"
William Griswold,	Harford,	Tompkins,	"
Elisha Hudson,†	Lindley,	Steuben,	"
Ezekiel Osmun,	Ithaca,	Tompkins,	"
Almiron Smith,	Plank Road,	Onondaga,	"

Those marked thus, * are Elders; and those marked thus, † are Deacons.

Names and Addresses of Evangelists.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Post Office.</i>	<i>County.</i>	<i>State.</i>
Mrs. M. H. Freeland,	Binghamton,	Broome,	New York
" Melissa Carter,	Granby Center,	Oswego,	"
" Mary Wise,	Fulton,	"	"
" Lucy Potter,	Norwich,	Chenango,	"

MINUTES
OF THE
SECOND ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
IOWA CONFERENCE,
OF THE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH,
HELD AT
SOUTH ENGLISH, IOWA, APRIL 6-10, 1876.

OFFICERS.

President—E. P. HART. *Secretary*—C. E. HARROUN, JR.
Missionary Treasurer—G. B. HOWARD.

COMMITTEES.

On Sunday Schools—A. Steadwell, C. E. Harroun, Jr., J. Pilbeam.
On Public Worship—E. P. Hart, C. E. Harroun, Sen., A. P. Goode.
On Education—E. P. Hart, C. E. Harroun, Sen., E. E. Hall.
On Publications—J. W. Dake, A. Steadwell, W. E. Huff.
On Temperance—C. E. Harroun, Jr., J. Buss, A. Garing.
On Collecting Funds for Minutes—A. Steadwell.
On Publishing Minutes—The Secretary.
On Secret Societies—E. P. Hart, T. Smith, A. Steadwell.
On State of the Work—Stationing Committee.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

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

PREACHERS.

J. Travis	J. W. Dake,	A. Steadwell,
C. E. Harroun, Sen.,	J. Buss,	O. P. Crawford,
S. H. Smith,	J. N. Bovee,	C. E. Harroun, Jr.

DELEGATES.

Jesse Pilbeam,	W. E. Huff,	A. Garing,
Thomas Smith,	E. E. Hall,	G. B. Howard.

2. Who are the Stationing Committee?

Rev. E. P. Hart, Rev. C. E. Harroun, Sen., E. E. Hall.

3. What preachers are admitted on trial?

R. S. Ellis.

4. Who remains on trial?

T. Vipond, L. C. Gould, S. S. Stewart, A. P. Goode, W. C. Thompson, H. S. Carpenter. The two last-named received as transfers from Illinois Conference.

5. Who are admitted into full connection?

J. N. Bovee; S. H. Smith, from the Michigan Annual Conference, Wesleyan Methodist Church—his ordination recognized.

6. Who are the deacons?

C. E. Harroun, Jr., R. S. Ellis, and J. N. Bovee, who were ordained this year.

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

None.

8. Who have located this year?

O. P. Crawford, at his request.

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

None.

10. Who have been expelled this year? None.

11. Who have withdrawn from the Conference this year?

None.

12. Are all the preachers blameless in life?

Their characters were each examined and passed.

13. Who have died this year? None.

14. What is the number of church members?

See table of Statistics.

15. Where are our preachers stationed this year?

See Appointments.

16. Where and when shall our next Conference be held?

In connection with a camp-meeting, to commence Sept. 6th. 1876. Place left with a committee.

STATISTICAL REPORT.

CHARGES.	PASTORS.	Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Local Preachers.	Sunday Schools.	Officers & Teachers.	Sunday Schol Scholars.	Money Expended	Preachers' Receipts.	Missionary Collections.	Chairman's Receipts.	Value of Church Property.
Waterloo	O. P. Crawford	66	24	90	1	1	1	1	.....	\$152.39	\$0.45	.....	\$2,000
Salina and Mount Zion...	A. Steadwell	60	3	63	2	2	2	2	.....	199.00	30.00	23.50	1,800
No name given.....	No name	29	24	53	2	2	2	2	.....	94.00	.....	.....	.....
White Oak.....	T. Vipond.....	28	.....	28	1	1	6	50	.....	75.85	.....	6.35	.....
DeWitt.....	C. E. Harroun, Jr.	26	.....	26	2	2	2	.....	.....	180.91	2.21	19.33	2,000
Blakesburg	L. C. Gould	44	3	47	2	2	1	40	\$20	100.00	.....	12.10	400
Prairie Valley.....	J. N. Bovee	26	9	35	4	1	7	25	4	150.00	5.88	32.93	.....
Bear Grove	J. Buss	44	12	56	4	1	3	.....	.....	205.00	5.75	29.64	.....
Page County Mission	G. W. Stewart.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fairfield and Birmingham	J. W. Dake	111	6	117	4	2	16	130	.....	250.00	.....	.....	2,000
Keokuk Co. Mission.....	A. P. Goode	40	37	77	1	1	1	.....	.....	180.00	.....	13.00	.....
Total.....	.....	474	118	592	16	5	32	245	\$24	1587.15	43.79	148.40	\$8,900

APPOINTMENTS.

WATERLOO DISTRICT—C. E. HARROUN, Sen, <i>Chair'n.</i>	
Waterloo	J. Buss
Praine Valley.....	J. N. Bovee
Otter Creek.....	S. S. Stewart
DeWitt.....	H. S. Carpenter
Hardin Co., Miss.....	S. H. Smith
FAIRFIELD DISTRICT—C. E. HARROUN, Sen, <i>Chair'n.</i>	
Fairfield.....	J. W. Dake
Salina and Mount Zion.....	L. C. Gould
South English.....	R. S. Ellis
White Oak.....	T. Vipond
Blakesburg.....	A. Steadwell
Bear Grove.....	C. E. Harroun, Jr.
Keokuk Co., Miss.....	A. P. Goode
Page Co., Miss.....	Geo. Stewart (supply)

MISCELLANEOUS.

It was ordered to hold two sessions of Conference per day, the morning session to open at 8½ A. M. and close at 11½ A. M. The afternoon session to convene at 2 P. M., and close at 5 P. M., after which an address of half an hour, to the Conference, by the President.

Rev. D. P. Baker, editor of *The Free Methodist*, was introduced to the Conference and invited to an honorary seat.

The probationers in the Conference were also invited to honorary seats in the Conference.

Rev. R. S. Ellis was also invited to an honorary seat.

The following brethren were elected to constitute the committee to locate the place of holding the Conference and Camp Meeting.

C. E. Harroun, Sen., Rev. J. W. Dake, E. E. Hall, G. B. Howard, S. Mills, and D. P. Baker, addressed the Conference upon the Central Aid Committee, as it relates to the mission work of the West.

Rev. Mr. West, pastor of the South English Baptist church was introduced to the Conference and invited to an honorary seat.

The Conference ordered that the minutes be published with those of the fall Conferences.

Rev. S. H. Smith, formerly of the Wesleyan Methodist

Church, was introduced to the Conference, and invited to an honorary seat.

Superintendent Hart was elected to appoint Examining Committee for next year.

The report of education was given verbally by the Superintendent, relating to the Spring Arbor and Chili seminaries.

Conference ordered that the missionary collection be taken up the first quarter.

It was ordered that the preachers take up a collection during the last quarter, at the rate of 15 cents per member for the General Superintendent, and bring the same to Conference.

A collection was taken up Sunday morning for the General Superintendent.

It was ordered that the mission money be sent to G. B. Howard, South English, Keokuk Co., Iowa, to be distributed among the following missions, *pro rata*, to which the following appropriations were made: Blakesburg, \$50; Harden Co. Mission, \$25; White Oak, \$25; Keokuk Mission, \$50.

The Committee appointed last year to purchase a Conference Record Book reported. Report accepted and Committee discharged.

The Committee appointed to appropriate the missionary money on hand, reported appropriated to L. C. Gould, \$11.70; G. W. Stewart, \$7.80. Report accepted and Committee discharged.

By vote, the Conference requested the Secretary to furnish the editor of *The Western Herald* a synopsis of the Conference proceedings.

A vote of thanks was tendered to the citizens of South English for their hospitality, and the pastor and members of the Baptist Church for the use of their church.

COMMITTEES.

PREPARATORY COURSE—C. E. Harroun, Jr., R. S. Ellis.

First Year—J. N. Bovee, S. H. Smith.

Second Year—J. W. Dake, A. Steadwell.

Third Year—C. E. Harroun, Sen.

Fourth Year—J. Buss.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We are of the opinion that the Sunday-school is the child of the church, and should abide under its maternal and fostering care. That the church should, by all legitimate means, seek to reproduce in the Sunday-school her own character, to make it an exponent of her principles and doctrines. Therefore, the church and Sunday-school should never be separated.

Inasmuch as we believe the doctrines and principles upon which the Free Methodist Church is based is divine and eternal. Therefore, we recommend that our people, as far as possible, institute and maintain as many Sunday-schools as practicable.

We would hereby enter our protest against Sunday-school picnics, concerts, and other festivities which tend to alienate the mind and heart from the principles of our holy religion.

II.—SECRET SOCIETIES.

We, your committee, advise the adoption of an article by J. W. Sharp, entitled "Secret Societies," published in the Free Methodist of April 5, 1876, except the last eight lines, as an expression of our view on this subject:

"Truth and right grow up in the light. The right to investigate belongs to every American citizen. Inventors, machinists, artisans, salesmen, all attempt to bring the character and merits of their wares to the public notice and competition. But secret societies demand that we pay the price, sign a receipt, and take the article, good or bad, without investigation. They also seal the lips of the person from telling whether he has been cheated or not. According to the showing of the Grand Lodge Treasurer's report, the boasted benevolence of Free Masonry is a bare-faced swindle. The figures in their reports show that only 13 to 17 cents on the dollar goes to benevolent purposes. What becomes of the rest, we must take their word for.

Benevolent societies, as the American Bible Society, pays out from 85 to 90 per cent. for benevolent purposes, and account for the rest with open books. Right needs no covering but its own innocence. Good institutions by the cloak of secretism destroy their right to the confidence of honest men. Secret societies belong to the dark ages, and should die with the times that begot them.

Masonry—the great head center of all secret organizations—claims to be religious but denies Christ, and the blood of atonement, claiming by the common gavel, square and compass, and other symbolic tools, to fit its notaries for the Grand Lodge above. Thus doing away with repentance and faith in Christ, the new birth, and in fact striking at every doctrine of the New Testament salvation. The mysterious ceremonies and blasphemous titles are used to dazzle the mind, darken the understanding, pamper selfishness, and quiet the conscience. The lesser ghosts of secretism are following the Christless head. It is our duty to warn and instruct the people against these dark shadows of the pit and oppose them to the last."

MINUTES
OF THE
THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
IOWA CONFERENCE,
OF THE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH,
HELD ON THE
OTTER CREEK CAMP GROUND, IOWA,
SEPTEMBER 6-10, 1876.

OFFICERS.

President—E. P. HART. *Secretary*—C. E. HARROUN, JR.
Missionary Treasurer—E. E. HALL.

COMMITTEES.

- On Missions*—C. E. Harroun, Sen., E. E. Hall,
On Sunday Schools—J. W. Dake, C. E. Harroun, Jr., C. Norris.
On Temperance—J. N. Bovee, L. Mendenhall.
On Secret Societies—E. P. Hart, O. C. Stoughton, L. C. Gould.
On Publishing Minutes—C. E. Harroun, Jr., L. Mendenhall.
On Raising Funds for Minutes—G. B. Howard.
On Publications—J. W. Dake, O. C. Stoughton, C. E. Harroun, Sen.
On State of Work—C. E. Harroun, Sen., E. E. Hall, R. S. Ellis, E. Picket.
On the Case of S. H. Smith—E. P. Hart, C. E. Harroun, Sen., E. E. Hall.
On Education—J. W. Dake, L. Mendenhall.
On Nominating Examiners on Course of Study for 1877—J. W. Dake.

Examiners on Course of study for next Year.

PRELIMINARY COURSE—J. N. Bovee.

First Year—J. M. Scott.

Second Year—C. E. Harroun, Jr.

Third Year—A. Steadwell.

Fourth Year—C. E. Harroun, Sen.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

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

PREACHERS.

J. Travis,	J. Buss,	J. W. Dake,
S. H. Smith,	J. M. Scott,	T. Vipond,
C. E. Harroun, Sen.,	A. Steadwell,	C. E. Harroun, Jr.
J. N. Bovee,	L. C. Gould,	S. S. Stewart.

LAYMEN.

L. Mendenhall,	E. Picket,	C. Norris,
M. Layton,	Wm. Cooledge,	E. E. Hall,
O. C. Stoughton,	G. B. Howard,	H. Gaffin,
J. McArthur.		

2. Who are the Stationing Committee ?

E. P. Hart, C. E. Harroun, Sen., E. E. Hall.

3. What preachers are admitted on trial ?

G. A. Loomis, G. W. Stewart.

4. Who remain on trial ?

A. P. Goode, W. C. Thompson, H. S. Carpenter, R. S. Ellis.

5. Who are admitted into full connection ?

J. M. Scott was received by transfer from the second year's probation in the Illinois Conference ; L. C. Gould, S. S. Stewart, T. Vipond.

6. Who are the deacons ?

J. N. Bovee, R. S. Ellis ; L. C. Gould, S. S. Stewart, G. A. Loomis. The three last-named were ordained this year.

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

J. M. Scott, having traveled two years as deacon ; L. Mendenhall recommended by the Fairfield District Quarterly Conference ;—T. Vipond, having traveled two years as deacon ; C. E. Harroun, Jr.

8. Who have located this year ? None.

9. Who are the superannuated or worn-out preachers?
None.

10. Who have been expelled this year?—S. H. Smith.

11. Who have withdrawn this year?—None.

12. Are all the preachers blameless in life?

Their names were each called and their characters passed except that of S. H. Smith, who was expelled.

13. Who have died this year?—None.

14. What is the number of church members, etc.?

See statistics.

15. Where are the preachers stationed?

See Appointments.

16. Where and when shall our next Conference be held?

At Walker, Linn Co., Iowa, September 12th, 1877.

APPOINTMENTS.

WATERLOO DISTRICT—J. W. DAKE, Chairman.

Waterloo.....	J. M. Scott
Walker.....	C. E. Harroun, Sen.
Otter Creek.....	W. C. Thompson
DeWitt.....	H. S. Carpenter
Maquoketa.....	S. S. Stewart
Harden Co. Mission.....	Eli Mosman (supply)

FAIRFIELD DISTRICT—J. W. DAKE, Chairman.

Birmingham and Fairfield.....	R. S. Ellis, A. T. Riley (supply)
Salina and Mount Zion.....	L. C. Gould
South English.....	J. N. Bovee
White Oak.....	A. P. Goode
Blakesburg.....	A. Steadwell
Texas Mission.....	G. A. Loomis
Unionville, Mo.....	Robert Scott (supply)

BEAR GROVE DISTRICT—J. W. DAKE, Chairman.

Bear Grove.....	C. E. Harroun, Jr., and T. Vipond
Page County Mission.....	G. W. Stewart

J. Travis' appointment left with the General Superintendent.

STATISTICAL REPORT.

CHARGES.	PASTORS.	Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Local Preachers.	Sunday Schools.	Officers & t'chers.	Sunday School Scholars.	Money raised for S. S. purposes.	Preachers' Receipts.	Chairman's Receipts.	Missionary Collections.	General Supt's Collection.	Value of Church Property.	Received.
Blakesburg	A. Steadwell	43	48	2	4	2	16	72	30.20	\$60.00	1.00	5.25	6.00	\$500	120.28
Birmingham and Fairfield	J. W. Dake	112	8120	17	4	2	16	72	30.20	225.00	.....	.....	.....	1,500	.....
Keokuk Co. Mission.....	A. P. Goode.....	64	2	66	4	3	10	100	12.00	2.00	.....	14.10	75	.....	.....
Salina and Mount Zion..	L. C. Gould.....	10	7	56	3	2	7	60	15.00	100.00	26.00	7.45	4.50	.....	.....
Page County Mission....	G. W. Stewart....	49	7	67	3	2	7	80	.....	170.00	16.85	10.25	5.00	.....	.....
Bear Grove	C. E. Harroun, Jr..	46	21	67	2	1	11	87	.....	200.00	36.00	7.45	4.50	.....	.....
South English.....	R. S. Ellis.....	28	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	170.00	16.85	10.25	5.00	.....	.....
White Oak.....	T. Vipond.....	29	6	35	2	1	11	53	13.48	33.00	1.00	3.65	3.69	600	.....
Walker.....	J. N. Bovee.....	34	15	49	2	1	.....	105	21.15	105.21	15.00	3.65	.....	.....	.....
Otter Creek.....	S. S. Stewart.....	29	3	29	1	.....	.....	59	70	59.70	7.85	4.50	1.90	2,000	.....
De Witt.....	H. S. Carpenter...	26	3	29	1	.....	.....	103	94	103.94	7.55	4.50	1.90	2,000	.....
Waterloo	J. Buss	48	14	62	1	3	24	40	.....	.....	.....	2.90	.....	1,748	.....
<i>Chairman.</i>	C. E. Harroun.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total,.....	.....	487	88	570	16	17	96	492	70.72	1244.85	90.65	48.00	23.48	6,300	120.58

MISCELLANEOUS.

The third session of the Iowa Annual Conference was held in connection with a camp meeting in the timber on Otter Creek, Linn Co., Iowa, belonging to J. Millburn.

The Conference ordered two sessions per day.

The request of Rev. J. Travis, "that his appointment be left with the General Superintendent," was granted.

ORDINATION.—L. C. Gould, S. S. Stewart, G. A. Loomis, were ordained deacons after the morning service. T. Vipond, L. Mendenhall (local preacher), J. M. Scott, C. E. Harroun, Jr., were ordained elders after evening service.

It was ordered that the disbursement of the missionary money on hand be referred to a committee.

The secretary was instructed to solicit a reduction of fare for the preachers and delegates attending Conference next year on the various railroads over which they may travel.

It was ordered that the President appoint a committee to ascertain the expenses of the Camp Meeting, and that a collection be taken to defray them, and after meeting the expenses, the balance be paid to the Chairman of District and General Superintendent.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.
I.—ON MISSIONS.

Money on hand appropriated as follows :

A. P. Goode,.....	\$10.00
G. W. Stewart,	10.00
T. Vipond,.....	10.00
A. Steadwell,.....	20.00—\$50.00

II.—ON FUNDS FOR MINUTES.

Amount received,	\$13.68
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III.—ON CAMP-MEETING EXPENSES.

E. P. Hart,.....	\$20.00
C. E. Harroun, Sen.,.....	5.00
S. Mills,	1.40
J. Milburn,60—\$27.00

IV.—ON STATE OF WORK.

God has been pleased to bless our labors the past year. There is unity among both preachers and membership, upon our doc-

trines and issues, and also unity of effort to build up the work of the Lord. It is believed that both preachers and membership are enjoying present salvation, and laboring to communicate the same instrumentally to others. Holiness, both as a doctrine and an experience, is better understood as our people become better acquainted with it. The Spirit of God is manifestly present in the stated means of grace, and at our Quarterly Meetings, and especially at our Camp Meetings. God has specially blessed our labors.

Your Committee recommend that, as a church, we adhere strictly to our acknowledged doctrines, as set forth in our book of Discipline; that we carefully recommend our General Rules, both by precept and example.

We recommend that our preachers go to points beyond our societies and their Sunday appointments, and take up other appointments; and in order to do this, that they establish week evening preaching wherever practicable. That we adhere to our work as a mission church.

V.—ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

A good report was adopted, which is omitted for want of room.

VI.—ON EDUCATION.

Report—an excellent one—omitted.

VII.—ON TEMPERANCE—(Omitted).

VIII.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

Whereas, No man can be true to his vows to the church and at the same time hold connection with any secret society, because the law of Christian love, as well as the rules of the church, compel him to prefer a Christian to all others, when giving aid or employment; while the obligation of all secret societies compel him to prefer their members to all others.

Whereas, The Masonic and Oddfellow lodges especially teach a false system of religion, viz.: that by the use of certain symbols and implements, with their own endeavors, men can fit themselves for seats at God's right hand, rejecting even the name of Christ from their lodges and ritual; and

Whereas, No man who is true to his Masonic obligations will testify, in a court of justice, against a brother Mason; and

Whereas, The most of our offices are held by men who are sworn on the penalty of death to ply to the relief of a brother Mason, and deliver him from difficulty whether he be right or wrong: so that our courts of justice are impotent whenever a Mason is interested as principle; and

Whereas, We believe that if these facts are explained and kept before the people, the whole system of secrecy will fall. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we continue to spread the light by circulating books, tracts, and periodicals devoted to this object, and to this end would recommend Finney on Masonary, Ronaynes' Hand-Book, *The Cynosure*, *The Free Methodist*, and such tracts as in the judgment of each will do the most good.

MINUTES
OF THE
SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
ILLINOIS CONFERENCE,
OF THE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH
HELD AT
AURORA, ILLINOIS, OCTOBER 11-15, 1876.

OFFICERS.

President—B. T. ROBERTS.

Secretary—J. C. Terrill. *Assistant*—W. W. Kelley.

Missionary Treasurer—E. A. Kimball.

Trustees of the Benevolent Association—J. C. Terrill, O. P. Rogers, D. P. Baker, D. Reynolds, M. V. Clute, E. A. Kimball.

Members of Executive Committee—J. C. Terrill, E. A. Kimball.

Examiners on the Course of Study for 1877.

PRELIMINARY COURSE—T. B. Arnold, M. V. Clute.

First Year—C. W. Frink, C. P. Miller.

Second Year—J. C. Terrill, W. F. Manley.

Third Year—D. P. Baker, J. E. Whiting.

Fourth Year—W. W. Kelley, A. H. Greene.

COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship—A. H. Greene, J. G. Terrill, D. P. Baker.

On Missions—The Stationing Committee.

- On Sunday Schools*—M. V. Clute, M. L. Vorheis, E. A. Kimball.
- On Publications*—W. W. Kelley, A. H. Greene, O. P. Rogers, J. G. Terrill.
- On Education*—D. P. Baker, W. E. Coquillette, O. P. Rogers.
- On Temperance*—C. W. Frink, E. C. Best, M. V. Clute, T. B. Arnold, James Powers, J. J. Schuyler.
- On Secret Societies*—W. E. Coquillette, S. B. Kimball, D. A. Fay, J. C. Lawton.
- On Claims*—The Stationing Committee.
- To Publish the Minutes*—The Secretaries.
- To Appoint Examiners for Next Year*—The President.
- To Collect Funds for Minutes*—M. V. Clute.
- The Stationing Committee*—B. T. Roberts, J. G. Terrill, D. P. Baker, O. P. Rogers, W. Harding.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

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

PREACHERS.

J. G. Terrill,	M. V. Clute,	Judah Meade,
C. W. Frink,	W. W. Kelley,	W. F. Manley,
N. E. Parks,	T. B. Arnold,	D. P. Baker,
C. A. Brandt,	Peter Chalmun,	C. P. Miller,
M. L. Vorheis,	M. C. Collins,	W. B. Walls,
David Fear,	James Thaxter,	C. H. Lovejoy,
John Wilson,	A. H. Greene,	J. E. Whiting,
Ira T. Ward,	J. Buss,	A. F. Terris,
James Kelso,	C. S. Spaulding,	W. E. Coquillette.

DELEGATES.

J. J. Schuyler,	D. H. Fay,	S. B. Kimball,
James Powers,	Warren Tyler.	Franklin Moore,
William Harding,	E. T. Gates,	J. C. Lawton,
O. P. Rogers,	E. A. Kimball,	James Patrick,
D. M. Poor,	James Riley.	

3. What Preachers are admitted on trial?

W. T. Brooks.

4. Who remain on trial?

J. J. Hales, C. B. Ebey, E. C. Best.

5. Who are admitted into full connection?
David Fear, Julius Buss, Arthur F. Ferris, James Kelso, Clarence S. Spaulding, William E. Coquillette.
6. Who are the deacons?
N. E. Parks, J. Wilson, J. Thaxter, C. P. Miller, Ira F. Ward;—A. F. Ferris, J. Kelso, C. S. Spaulding, W. E. Coquillette were ordained this year.
8. Who have been located?
C. H. Lovejoy, at his own request.
9. Who are the superannuated or worn-out preachers?
J. Mead, T. B. Arnold, N. E. Parks, A. H. Greene.
12. Are all the preachers blameless in life, etc.?
Their names were called and characters passed.
14. What is the number of church members, etc.?
See Table of Statistics.
18. Where are the preachers stationed this year?
See appointments.
19. When and where shall our next Conference be held?
At Clintonville, Illinois, October 3, 1877.

APPOINTMENTS.

FOX RIVER DISTRICT—M. V. CLUTE, Chairman.

Chicago.....	J. G. Terrill
Aurora.....	W. E. Coquillette
St. Charles.....	V. A. Dake (supply)
Clintonville.....	W. T. Brooks
Lodi, &c.....	W. F. Manly
Crystal Lake, &c.....	W. W. Kelley
Marengo, &c.....	M. L. Vorheis
Belvidere.....	E. C. Best

ROCK RIVER DISTRICT—D. P. BAKER, Chairman.

Winnebago &c.....	C. P. Miller
Lena &c.....	J. Buss
Savanna, &c.....	C. W. Frink
Ashton and Grandetour.....	A. F. Ferris

GALVA DISTRICT—D. P. BAKER, Chairman.

Galva and Kewanee.....	James Kelso
Sheffield and Atkinson.....	J. E. Whiting

CENTRAL ILL. DISTRICT—M. V. CLUTE, Chairman.
 Jacksonville.....To be supplied
 Whitehall.....J. J. Hales
 Athens and McLean Co.....C. S. Spaulding
 Crawford Co.....E. Stockwell (supply)

BELVILLE DISTRICT—DAVID FEAR, Chairman.

West Belville.....C. B. Ebey
 Alma and Dutch Hollow.....To be supplied
 Du Quoin.....James Whittaker (supply)
 Lebanon.....David Fear
 St. Louis (Morgan St.) }M. C. Collins
 Edwardsville and Bunkerhill }Shepherd Adams
 Calvy and Mt HopeW. B. Walls
 St. Peters.....H. Stephens (supply)
 Sharon (Wis) and Alden (Ill).....supplied by James Thaxter
 Swede mission.....John Wilson
 Oregon Territory.....C. A. Brandt
 Washington Territory.....Ira F. Ward

Peter Chalmun to be appointed by the President.

MISCELLANEOUS.

J. Buss was received by transfer from the Iowa Conference.

By request the President delivered two addresses of fifteen minutes each to the preachers, at the close of the Friday and Saturday sittings.

James Scott was reported as having been transferred to the Iowa Conference; and H. S. Carpenter a probationer, as having been received by the same Conference.

A collection was ordered to be taken on the Sabbath for the General Superintendent.

The Conference ordered that the preachers who have not taken the Conference collections, give their reasons for not doing so.

The time for taking the missionary collection was fixed for the second quarter, and that for the superannuated for the third quarter.

It was ordered that the examiners for next year and those to be examined, be present at the seat of Conference, at noon the Tuesday previous to its next session. It was also ordered that the chairman of the Belville district, examine C. B. Ebey in his last year's studies, as early as practicable and report to the next Conference;

brother Ebe being unable to attend this session from sickness in his family.

The following committees were ordered for next year, with the names attached as chairmen of them: On Sunday-schools, J. G. Terrill; Temperance, T. B. Arnold; Education, W. W. Kelley; Secret societies, W. E. Coquillette.

A unanimous rising vote of thanks was tendered the people of Aurora for courtesies and hospitality.

At the close of the Sunday morning service, Arthur F. Ferris, Clarence S. Spaulding, Edwin C. Best, James Kelso and William E. Coquillette, were ordained deacons.

The Sunday services were seasons of great blessings, nearly all the pulpits of the city were supplied by our ministers.

The Conference ordered that so much of the report of the Secretary of the Chicago board of trustees, as relates to the financial condition of the Chicago church enterprise, be published with the minutes.

A letter from Judah Mead was read, and the following portion of it was referred to a committee consisting of D. P. Baker, J. G. Terrill, E. A. Kimball, James Powers, O. P. Rogers:

"It does seem to me that if you could see what an open door there is here for the Free Methodist Church, you, Brother Roberts would manage to come, or send Brother Hart to this coast (California), if only for a few months."

VISITORS,—Revs. D. M. Sinclair, of the Wisconsin Conference; W. A. Sellew, of the Michigan, and Principal of Spring Arbor Seminary; M. T. Brooks, late of the N. W. Indiana Conference of the W. E. Church; and E. Stockwell, of the Methodist, were severally introduced, and invited to honorary seats in the Conference.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved—1, That the trustees of the Benevolent Association, take such steps as they judge best after taking legal counsel, to secure an absolute title to the property donated to the conference by Father Doane.

Resolved—2, That the demands of our work in Chicago, and its relation to our work generally, demand that our earnest and persistent efforts be put forth to pay for the church property now occupied by our people in that city; and that, as a Conference, we pledge ourselves to assist in so doing according to our ability.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON CLAIMS.

The committee recommends that the moneys on hand for the Superannuated be paid to N.E. Parks, and that a collection be taken during the year to be applied on the balance of this claim.

II.—ON MISSIONS.

Your committee find that several appointments within the bounds of the Conference are too weak to support a preacher. He and his family must suffer from inadequate support, or the circuit must suffer for the want of pastoral care. To refuse to assist them is to lose more than we save. We lose in our souls—for giving enlarges the heart, and God fills such with much of his goodness. We lose in financial strength—for the church that cares for the work abroad will care for the work at home. Therefore all our societies—and each member of our societies, should be taught to give—and to give as God prospers them.

We need for the coming year, \$232: \$50 for Lena; \$50 for Savanna; \$50 for Whitehall; \$25 for Athens, and \$25 for Alma and Dutch Hollow Circuits; and the remainder to apply on unpaid appropriations. This is a small amount for our conference to raise, being only about 15 cents per member. If more than this should be raised it will be on hand at the next conference.

III.—REPORT OF TREASURER.

Receipts for year ending, Oct. 16, 1876: From the Conference	
Secretary, Oct. 1875,	\$5 75
From the former treasurer,	12 34
“ Aurora Circuit,	12 90
“ Chicago Circuit,	11 08
“ Manlius and Atkinson,	11 85
“ St Charles,	6 00
“ Clintonville and Elgin,	7 07
“ Marengo,	6 55
“ Crystal Lake,	14 90
“ Belvidere,	9 95
“ Winnebago,	4 69
“ Lena,	3 05
“ Savanna,	1 50
“ Kewanee,	4 00
“ Athens and McClean,	3 00
“ Sister Burr of Iowa,	1 00
“ Lodi,	3 20— \$118 83
Total amount paid to D. P. Baker,	\$79 02
“ “ “ James Kelso,	39 43
“ “ “ P. O. Orders and Postage,	33— \$118 83

IV.—REPORT OF TREASURER OF BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

Received from Sister Baily, executrix of Lewis	
Bailey,	\$117 00
Lewis Bailey, former treasurer,	5 50— \$122 50

DISBURSEMENTS.

To J. P. Corron, for fencing grounds of the Association.....	\$45 00
“ J. P. Corron, for clearing grounds.....	16 88
“ “ “ “ “ “.....	14 00
Taxes for 1875.....	6 22
Total disbursements,.....	\$82 00
Balance in treasury.....	\$40 50

V.—ON EDUCATION.

Report omitted.

VI.—ON JUDAH MEAD'S LETTER.

In the judgment of your committee the time has come when the demands of the work on the Pacific coast are such as to make it highly important that some person having the proper qualifications be sent to that portion of the field. The proposition to send one of our General Superintendents to look after and organize the work in that section, meets with our hearty approval, and we present for your consideration the following plan for raising the requisite means to accomplish this end :

1. That a committee be appointed to estimate the amount necessary to defray the traveling expenses to and from the field in question, and report the same with an appropriate appeal through the Free Methodist.

2. That a Secretary and Treasurer be elected, whose business it shall be to solicit and receive subscriptions, and when the requested amount is subscribed, to collect the same and pay to the party who may be sent to that field.

3. We would nominate brother J. C. Terrill, to act as the committee mentioned above, and T. B. Arnold to act as treasurer.

VII.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.—(Omitted.)

VIII.—EXTRACT OF REPORT OF TREASURER OF CHICAGO CHURCH.

The church stands on the corner of May and Fulton Streets, three blocks from where the society worshiped on Morgan Street. The building is 88x45 feet, on a lot 100x 50 feet. It has a basement wholly above ground, with a 10 feet ceiling, giving a lecture room 70x45 feet, and two class rooms each 16x17 feet. The audience room is 72x45, with a gallery capable of seating 100 persons. The building is of wood, with heavy frame, and only eight years old. Its original cost was \$12,500, without the furnaces and furniture. The valuation of the lot is \$5000, making the total cost \$17,500

The property is held by Mr. Shirra, on a fore-closed mortgage, who will convey it to our people next May for \$6000, (what the property cost him), with one year's interest at 6 per cent. There is added to the above \$448 for paving the street in front making out an abstract, attorney's fees, and necessary repairs on the church, making the total cost of the property \$6,788. On this amount there has been paid \$800, leaving a balance to be paid

next May of \$5,988. Of this there is provided \$2,700, leaving unprovided for \$3,288.

Reasons for Purchasing the Property.—The society has completely outgrown its old quarters. The church is in the locality where we need it, and among a class of population to which our work is adapted—the laboring class. For us to go elsewhere, would be to start anew without a congregation or a Sunday School. We have the opportunity of purchasing for less than one-half what it would cost us to build. These things clearly indicate the will of God, and our duty.

The society has done about all it can do towards paying for the property. It was after deliberate counsel with leading ministers and laymen of our church, that we entered upon the undertaking. The property will be deeded for the use of the Free Methodists of the United States. All who are interested in the undertaking are invited to assist. Subscriptions and money may be sent to J. C. Lawton, 16 Newberry Avenue, Chicago, Ill. Persons wishing to correspond in respect to the enterprise should direct to Rev. J. C. Terrill, 117 West Huron Street, Chicago, Ill.

The society took possession of the property July 23d, and is successfully pushing the work of the Lord.

J. C. LAWTON, Treasurer Board of Trustees.

IX.—SUNDAY DAIRYING.

Whereas, the custom of carrying milk to the cars and factories on the Sabbath day for the manufacture of cheese and various other purposes, is becoming more and more common in this state; And, Whereas, we deem said practice contrary to the teaching of the Bible and the Free Methodist discipline, and Whereas, There is great danger that many well-meaning persons in our connection may be led through the example of professed Christians and the love of money, either to engage in, or continue in said practice, and thus pave the way for Sabbath-breaking in other forms. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, as a conference, believe the practice of carrying or sending milk to factories, or to the market, on the Sabbath, is wholly anti-scriptural and unchristian, and we hereby pledge ourselves to discountenance it in every proper Christian manner.

X—ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Inasmuch as we believe the old adage, "As the twig is bent, so the tree inclines," we regard the Sunday School as an indispensable auxiliary to the prosperity of Church and State. Too much importance cannot be attached to this branch of the work of the church and of personal Christian effort. While there are thousands of children whose characters are to some extent being moulded by the church, and religious influences growing out of the Sunday School, there are other thousands outside of this and every other means of moral improvement, that must find the help they need in the Sunday School, or fail to find it at all.

We are sorry to say that we have reason to fear the modern

modes of creating and continuing an interest in the Sunday School, viz: Picnics, christmas tree, class banners, &c., have a tendency to defeat the great object of the Sunday School, inasmuch as they are productive of a spirit of envy, emulation and worldly love. The Saviour said, "Every plant that my Father hath not planted shall be rooted up." Every seed that has not in it the germ of Godliness, should not be sown. We are highly pleased with the visible improvement in the Sunday School work in our conference during the past year. Also, for the good results of our Sunday School conventions.

We believe the use of Sunday School papers preferable to that of libraires, and would recommend the *Lily and Pearl* to our people.

We pledge ourselves to a continuance of our efforts in this work, and to pray more earnestly for the conversion of the children.

XI.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

Intelligent readers are constantly increasing, and consequently the demand for reading matter. This presents to the Christian worker a wide field of usefulness which if neglected, will be sown thick with tares by the enemy. The danger is not so much from a lack of good books and periodicals, as from the abundance of the bad, and the activity of their venders. While there is an abundance of good and cheap literature, we do not make sufficient effort to put it into the hands of those who need it.

Among a great many good, cheap books, we would recommend the following, as well calculated to lead persons into a closer union with God, and a greater degree of usefulness among men: the Memoirs of Bramwell, Abbott, Carosso, Hester Ann Rogers, Watson's Wesley, and Wesley's Christian Perfection.

Our work demands a weekly paper that gathers the news of our own and other denominations, the general intelligence and thought of the age, and which will present it condensed and clearly defined to our people. We are poor and cannot afford the various publications in special lines of thought. The periodical that gleans from all will secure our patronage. So far as the *Free Methodist* meets this want we are thankful, and express the hope that its efforts in this direction will be continued, and heartily recommend it to the patronage of our people.

In the special field of practical piety, sound experience, and advocacy of Christian perfection, *The Earnest Christian* meets our wants and wishes, and we recommend it to the patronage of our people.

We would recommend the Pearl and the Lily as excellent Sunday School papers, and worthy our patronage.

XII.—ON TEMPERANCE.—(Report omitted.)

MINUTES
OF THE
TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
MICHIGAN CONFERENCE,
OF THE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH
HELD AT
DELTA, FULTON CO., OHIO, SEPT. 20-24, 1876

OFFICERS.

President—B. T. ROBERTS.
Secretary—W. H. James. *Assistant*—A. Bradfield.

COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship—B. T. Roberts, C. F. Irish, I. W. Bell.
On Publishing Minutes—The President and Secretaries.
On Raising Funds for Minutes—E. Mathews, E. Leonardson.
On Missions and Missionary Appropriations—The Stationing Committee.
On Secret Societies—J. A. Wilson, E. C. Shipley, E. Mathews.
On Temperance—J. W. Sharp, B. R. Jones, Joseph Jones.
On Sunday Schools—A. Omens, George Lawrence, E. Leonardson.
On Education—I. W. Bell, B. R. Jones, A. M. Shipley, J. Plues.

Examiners on Course of Study for Next Year.

PRELIMINARY COURSE.—W. H. James and E. Leonardson.
First Year—J. A. Wilson, J. Cripps.
Second Year—L. T. Frink, A. V. Leonardson.
Third Year—G. A. Olmsted, C. E. Irish.
Fourth Year—I. W. Bell, A. Omens.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

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

PREACHERS.

E. P. Hart,	J. W. Witham,*	A. H. Springstein,*
J. Elison,*	E. E. Miller,*	C. W. Haynes,*
C. S. Gitchell,*	A. Omens,	J. W. Sharp,
J. A. Wilson,	G. A. Olmsted,	J. F. Wetherald,*
L. T. Frink,	S. Roberts,*	C. R. Clark,*
A. V. Leonardson,	C. H. Sage,*	J. W. Nichols,*
W. D. Bishop,	I. W. Bell,	W. M. Johnson,*
H. Sawyer,*	C. F. Irish,	George Linn,
B. R. Jones,	E. Leonardson,	A. Bradfield,
E. Mathews,	Wm. Mabbs,	J. Cripps,
W. H. James,	S. Marshall,	
W. R. Cusick*	S. C. Stringham,*	

DELEGATES.

A. M. Shipley,	J. Jeffs,	E. Basset,
Wm. Flower,	G. Lawrence,	J. Plues,
Geo. English,	J. Harter,	T. J. Anderson,
A. F. Godwin,	I. P. Ulrich,	C. L. Lowe,
J. Jones,	C. B. Shafer,	J. Hefner,
C. W. Butterfield,	E. C. Shipley,	J. Palmater,
L. Beach,	W. Watkins,	J. Romine.

2. Who are the Stationing Committee ?

B. T. Roberts, B. R. Jones, I. W. Bell, C. S. Gitchell, John Plues, E. C. Shipley, Joseph Harter.

3. What preachers are admitted on trial ?

N. R. Woods, James Scott, Joseph Hayden, Benjamin Burlington.

4. Who remain on trial ?

Parmeius Vincent, Joseph Lawrence, Howland Ferguson, Thos. Riley, Allen Godwin, Walter A. Sellow, Jacob Leisenring, Peter Zeller, C. D. Hoadley, (transferred to Northern Michigan Conference.) Geo. Windust.

5. Who are admitted in full connection ? None.

6. Who are the deacons ?

Augustus Bradfield, George Linn.

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

* Transferred to Northern Michigan Conference.

William Mabbs, C. F. Irish, S. Marshall, J. W. Sharp, J. Cripps.

8. Who have located this year? None.

9. Who are the superannuated or worn-out preachers? Anson Omens.

10. Who have been expelled this year? None.

11. Who have withdrawn from the conference this year? None.

12. Are all the preachers blameless in life, etc.? Their characters were each examined and passed.

13. Who have died this year? None.

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?

It was left with the preacher in charge of Cleveland circuit, and the chairman of the district to decide between Ridgeville, Loraine Co., or Cleveland, Ohio, and report through *The Free Methodist*; time, Wednesday, Oct. 3d, 1877.

APPOINTMENTS.

SPRING ARBOR DISTRICT—B. R. JONES, Chairman.

Jackson and Sandstone.....E. Mathews

Concord and Eckford.....To be supplied by A. Omens

Napoleon and Kelly Corners.....L. T. Frink

Ransom.....Wm. Mabbs

Ridgeway.....J. Lesenring

Raisenville.....G. A. Olmsted

Ypsilanti and Sumpter.....P. Vincent

Huron.....A. Bradfield

Wayne.....Jasper Hayden

THREE RIVERS DISTRICT—B. R. JONES, Chairman.

Coldwater and Sherwood.....Thos. Reiley

Three Rivers, Sherman, Marsellus. J. W. Sharpe, B. Burlington.

Paw Paw and Lawrence.....H. Ferguson

Waverly and Johnston.....W. H. James

Angola.....Peter Zeller

TOLEDO DISTRICT—J. W. BELL, Chairman.

Delta.....C. F. Irish

Howland and Ottway Lake.....S. Marshall

Amboy, Fairfield and Dover.....Supplied by Geo. Thompson

Ida and Petersburg.....Geo. Linn

CLEVELAND DISTRICT—J. W. BELL, Chairman.	
Cleveland	Joseph Lawrence
Unionville	N. R. Wood
Ridgeville	Supplied by James Hamilton
Mansfield and Howard	E. Leonardson
Summerfield	Josiah Cripps, James Scott
Upper Sandusky	To be supplied
NORTHERN IND. DIST.—A. V. LEONARDSON, Chairman.	
Attica	A. V. Leonardson
Ft. Wayne and Columbia city	A. F. Godwin
Indian Point	To be supplied
Mishawaka	Geo. Windust
SOUTHERN IND. DISTRICT—J. A. WILSON, Chairman.	
Evansville	J. A. Wilson
Bloomfield	J. C. Wright
Cochrane	To be supplied
Cincinnati and Lawrenceburg	To be supplied

W. D. Bishop, Seamen's Bethel, San Francisco, member of Spring Arbor Quarterly Conference.

C. S. Gitchell transferred to the North Michigan Conference.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Bros. John Ellison, C. W. Haynes, T. B. Arnold and W. A. Sellew, of the Free Methodist Church; Rev. E. F. Tanner, of the Presbyterian Church, and Rev. S. P. Clutts, of the E. M. Church, were invited to honorary seats in the conference.

It being reported that Howard and Mansfield had but one preacher during the past year, the president decided that they were entitled to but one delegate.

The same fact appearing in reference to Fort Wayne and Columbia city, the same decision was made in reference to that circuit. On recommendation by the president, the two delegates from each of these circuits retired and agreed: the delegates from Howard and Mansfield that Bro. E. C. Shipley be the delegate; and in the case of Fort Wayne and Columbia city, that Bro. Joseph Harter be the delegate. Their action was confirmed by the conference.

Moved and carried, that Bro. W. H. James, the assistant Secretary of last year, correct the minutes of last year, and report to the present session of conference.

The corrections made by the assistant Secretary in last year's minutes, and reported to conference, were approved.

Walter A. Sellew, a probationer in the Genesee conference, having been transferred to this conference by superintendent E. P. Hart, with consent of the chairmen, was continued on trial.

It was ordered that the money now on hand, which has been raised for the superintendent's claim, be paid to B. T. Roberts.

It was ordered, that all the preachers in charge of circuits, take up a collection of ten cents per member, in the latter part of the year, for the superannuated fund.

NOTE OF THANKS.—Whereas, we have been so cordially received, and so kindly entertained during our present annual session. Therefore, Resolved, that we extend to the citizens of Delta and vicinity, our sincere thanks for the kindness and hospitality they have shown us.

It was ordered that the persons to be examined in the next years' course of study, meet at the seat of conference the day preceding conference for examination.

RECOMMENDATIONS.—N. R. Woods, James Scott, recommended by the Spring Arbor District. Jasper Hayden, recommended by the Toledo District, and B. Burlington, recommended by the Kalamazoo District, were admitted on trial.

The ordination of Andrew Parker, an elder, coming to us from the Evangelical Association, was recognized.

ORDINATIONS.—On Sabbath, after morning preaching, the following were ordained elders by imposition of the hands of B. T. Roberts, and other elders, C. F. Irish, William Mabbs, S. Marshall, J. W. Sharpe, J. Cripps.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the trustees of Spring Arbor Seminary be requested to make a financial report, annually to this conference; as it has been overlooked at this session, that they publish such a report in *The Free Methodist* as soon as they can do it conveniently.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON COLLECTING FUNDS FOR MINUTES.

No Report.

II.—ON MISSIONS AND MISSIONARY APPROPRIATIONS.

Reported money on hand,	\$37 45
Appropriations of money on hand:	
A. V. Leonardson,	20 00
P. Vincent, to apply on appropriation for coming year, ..	10 00

CHARGES.	PASTORS.	Members.	Probationers	Total.	Loc. Pr'chers	Sun. Schools	Officers and Teachers	Scholars.	Preachers' Receipts.	Missionary Collections.	Superannated Collection.	Value Church Property.
SPRING ARBOR DISTRICT												
Spring Arbor	B. R. Jones, Chairman	79	14	93	1	2	11	70	\$360.00		\$12.30	
Jackson	G. A. Olmstead	27	6	33	1	1	7	34	448.00		\$1200	
Napoleon	E. Mathews	25	1	26	1				136.05		1000	
Wayne	William Mabbs	67	28	95	2	15	40		212.66	\$2.00	4.00	2000
Huron	J. Leisenring	36		36					433.91	6.51	24.30	3600
Raisenville	J. Cripps and P. Vincent.	119	25	144	1	2	10	80	179.39		2.05	5000
Kidgeway	A. Omens	67	16	83					406.59	3.41	31.13	
Ransom	A. Bradford	56	4	60					180.00			
KALAMAZO DISTRICT												
Coldwater and Sherwood	B. R. Jones, Chairman	50	5	55	2	3	16	75	430.43		1.75	1500
Three Rivers and Sherman	T. Riley	29	16	45	2	2	9	45	277.00		4.05	
Paw-Paw and Waverly	J. W. Sharp and H. Ferguson.	70	9	79	4	1	11	55	449.00	5.00	7.40	800
Marcellus Mission	J. Rotte.	10	4	14	2				94.07	.25	.30	
Marcellus Circuit	B. Burlington	6	24	30	1		13	40	74.00			
Alagansa and Ovid	P. Zeller	14	2	16	1		7	11	78.30	4.50	1.95	
TOLEDO DISTRICT												
Delta.	I. W. Bell, Chairman	60	6	66	2	4	25	85	199.40			3000
Holland.	C. F. Irish	26		26	1	6	25	278.18	2.35	1.85		3000
Fairfield and Amboy	C. D. Hoadly	63	13	76	2	4	30	145	396.55	7.67	9.95	2200
Petersburg.	L. T. Frink	61	7	68	2				205.53			1000
CLEVELAND DISTRICT												
Cleveland	I. W. Bell, Chairman	43	18	61	2	1	8	51	317.44		3.00	4500
Mansfield and Howard.	J. Lawrence	31	12	43	1	1	4	30	365.32		3.50	
Summerfield.	E. Leonardson	163	32	195	4	4	31	163	406.28	1.80	29.25	3325
Upper Sandusky	W. H. James								509.31			
Ridgeville	S. H. Bradford	26	4	30	1							
NORTHERN INDIANA DISTRICT												
Columbia City	C. S. Gitchell, Chairman	52	6	58	2	2	13	60	206.74		3.00	2000
Attica	A. V. Leonardson								324.47			
Indian Point	A. F. Godwin											
	T. Carveth											
SOUTHERN INDIANA DISTRICT												
Evansville	C. S. Gitchell, Chairman	30	3	33	1	6	35	419.00		1.00	2.05	2500
Bloomfield	J. A. Wilson	20	20	20	1	8	40	138.00				1000
	G. Windust											
Total		1930	255	1485	29	33	230	1095	8890.27	37.49	\$142.58	\$37625

J. W. Sharpe,.....	7 45
Appropriations for coming year ;	
Bloomfield, Ind.	\$25 00
Jackson, Mich.	25 00
Ypsilanti, "	15 00
Cleveland, Ohio,	25 00

The ministers are requested to take up a missionary collection in their respective circuits, sometime previous to July 1st, 1877, and forward the amount to A. M. Shipley, Treasurer, Spring Arbor, Jackson Co., Mich.

III.—ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

As a church, we are bound to take a decided stand for the right on all moral questions, and to avow our opposition to every thing which we consider wrong in itself, or evil in its tendencies; and as secretism must of necessity be either good or evil in its own nature, and tend to promote either the cause of vice or virtue; and Whereas we believe that the natural tendency of all the secret Orders of the land are evil, and evil only, Therefore,

Resolved—1st. That it becomes us to speak out clearly and positively in their condemnation, and seek by every honorable means to resist their progress and expose the enormity of their sins.

2d.—That we will aid, so far as we have ability, the circulation of the Christian Cynosure, and all other literature which tend to enlighten the people in respect to the unchristian character and evil tendencies of Free Masonry and other Secret Societies.

IV.—ON TEMPERANCE.

We find the sin of intemperance spreading over the land, reaching all grades of society and cursing every calling with its blighting influence. Though screened by some, it prevails from the attic to the pulpit more or less, and so conscious of their power and wealth have the liquor ring become, that they defy all efforts to restrain their cold-hearted and cold-blooded traffic.

A vast amount of mind and capital has been drawn in to support their wicked traffic, and so conscious are the abettors of this vast system of wrong that their whole business is wicked and injurious to individuals and society, that they dare not trust the honest sentiments of the day on temperance, but seek by secret, wicked organizations to corrupt legislation, buy mean politicians, intoxicate voters and corrupt the ballot box. Cunning, sly, wealthy, and desperate, all efforts to control, legalize or modify this hell-born system that murders men, and defies God, have failed to abate the nuisance.

The traffic in malt and spirituous liquors now require about \$625,000,000 annually in this country; and reliable tables show that about 78,000 persons are killed by liquor annually, while we have over 800,000 habitual drunkards cursing the land. We find the use of tobacco closely allied to that of liquor, and wicked men feel they are of one family, and usually go together; and the public sentiment is not fully awake. Yet there can be no

doubt that the use of the weed tends to filthiness of habit. Its narcotic destroys the health, undermines the constitution, injures the brain, and benumbs the moral sense. A traffic so totally wrong and wicked, and productive of such wide-spread misery, has no rights under a Christian government. Total abstinence from, and opposition to, the growing, manufacture, sale, and use of tobacco and intoxicating liquors must be our position. Therefore,

Resolved—1st. That we urge every preacher to preach at each appointment, on temperance.

2d. That we urge a close adherence to the general rules on intoxicating liquors and tobacco.

3d. That we consider the growing, manufacture, sale, or use, of tobacco, an evasion of the letter, and violation of the spirit of our general rules.

4th. And as God-fearing men, we will labor to eradicate and keep this evil from our Zion.

V.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Being fully convinced, that as a church, we are not fully aroused to the interests of the Sabbath School cause, and whereas the care of young and immortal souls has been neglected by those of mature years and experience, and of necessity committed to the care of those lacking experience; and whereas, the literature of the present age is working spiritual death to the young, and rising generation; and whereas, the department of song is very deficient, and we believe the Sabbath School cause is suffering among us for want of financial aid; and as a church, we are dependant largely upon the young and rising generation to fill our places in the work of soul-saving and maintaining a pure church, and that it is essentially necessary that the young may be instructed in the fear of God, and that they may be fully aroused to the snares and dangers that surround them on every hand. Be it

Resolved—1st. That the members of our church who are of riper years and experience, encourage this branch of our Master's vineyard, by their presence, their labor of love, and according to their financial ability.

2d. That there be a greater diffusion of that class of literature and song books, that shall be most conducive to the salvation of the young.

3d. That we recommend our brethren and sisters everywhere, to meet and unite in a service of song, as often as practicable, that the worship of song may be more edifying and improve thereby.

4th. That our preachers be required to observe the discipline pertaining to Sabbath Schools.

Conference Roll and Preachers' Post-Office Address.

<i>Year of admission to full connection.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Post-Office.</i>	<i>County.</i>	<i>State.</i>
1864,	W. D. Bishop,	San Francisco,		California
1870,	I. W. Bell,	Spring Arbor,	Jackson,	Mich.
1873,	Aug. Bradfield,	Waltz,	Wayne,	"
1873,	J. Cripps,	Summerfield,	Noble,	Ohio
1865,	L. T. Frink,	Napo'leon,	Jackson,	Mich.
1860,	E. P. Hart,	Spring Arbor,	Jackson,	Mich.
1870,	C. F. Irish,	Delta,	Fulton,	Ohio
1868,	B. R. Jones,	Jackson,	Jackson,	Mich.
1868,	W. H. James,	Paw-Paw,	Vanburen,	Mich.
1867,	A. V. Leonardson,	Attica,	Fountain,	Ind.
1870,	E. Leonardson,	Mansfield,	Richland,	Ohio
1873,	Geo. Linn,	Ida,	Monroe,	Mich.
1868,	E. Mathews,	Jackson,	Jackson,	M.ch.
1871,	Wm. Mabbs,	Ransom.	Hillsdale,	Mich.
1871,	S. Marshall,	Holland,	Lucas,	Ohio
1869,	A. Omens,	Spring Arbor,	Jackson,	Mich.
1871,	G. A. Olmsted,	Dundee,	Monroe,	Mich.
1872,	J. W. Sharpe,	Three Rivers,	St. Joseph,	Mich.
1867,	J. A. Wilson,	Evansville (1321 Walnut Street,		Ind.
ADMITTED ON TRIAL.				
1876,	B. Burlington,	Three Rivers,	St. Joseph,	Mich.
1875,	H. Ferguson,	Paw-Paw,	Vanburen,	Mich.
1875,	A. F. Godwin,	Fort Wayne,		Ind.
1876,	J. Hayden,	Wayne,	Wayne,	Mich.
1873,	J. Leisenring,	Ridgeway,	Lenawee,	Mich.
1875,	J. Lawrence,	Cleveland, (Cor. Bridge and Taylor St.),		Ohio
1875,	Thos Riley,	Coldwater,	Branch,	Mich.
1875,	W. A. Sellew,	Spring Arbor,	Jackson,	Mich.
1876,	J. Scott.	Summerfield,	Noble,	Ohio
1875,	P. Vincent,	West Sumpter,	Wayne,	Mich.
1872,	Geo. Windust,	Mishawaka,		Ind.
1875,	P. Zeller,	Angola		Ind.

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Minnesota & N. Iowa Conference,
OF THE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH,
HELD AT
PLYMOUTH, IOWA, OCTOBER 4th, 1876.

OFFICERS.

President--B. T. Roberts. *Secretary*—C. M. Damon.

COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship—G. C. Coffee, C. A. Cusick.

On Sunday Schools—S. P. LaDue, S. P. Norton.

On Temperance—J. C. Norton.

On Secret Societies—John Ball, C. M. Damon, S. P. Norton,

On Publications—S. H. Greenup, D. H. Simons, C. H. La-
Due.

On Publishing Minutes—C. M. Damon.

On Collecting Funds for Minutes—A. J. Cook.

Examiners on Course of Study for Next Year.

PRELIMINARY COURSE—S. H. Greenup, J. C. Norton.

First Year—C. W. LaDue.

Second Year—S. P. LaDue, J. Ball.

Third Year—G. C. Coffee.

Fourth Year—C. M. Damon.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

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

PREACHERS.

C. M. Damon,	S. H. Greenup,	S. P. LaDue,
Nelson Cook,	J. C. Norton,	C. W. LaDue,
C. A. Cusick,	J. Ball,	E. N. Summer,
G. C. Coffee,	H. J. VanAuken,	William Cusick.

DELEGATES.

S. P. Norton,	James Sutton,	D. H. Simons,
H. G. Cusick,	Wm. Baldwin,	Egbert Smith,
A. J. Cook,	G. W. Enney,	Nancy Gemans,
Wm. Owen,	David Durant,	George Lackore,

2. Who are the Stationing Committee ?

B. T. Roberts, G. C. Coffee, A. J. Cook.

3. What preachers are admitted on trial ?

Newton Brown.

4. Who remain on trial ?

J. M. Cook, J. S. Bradley, J. B. Newville, Cyrus Cook, Luther Cook, J. L. Greenup, and Daniel W. Cook, who was received this year from the North-west Iowa Conference of the M. E. Church, having been one year on trial in that body.

5. Who are admitted into full connection ?

H. J. VanAuken ; and Wm. Cusick, (by transfer from the North Michigan conference.)

6. Who are the deacons ?

J. C. Norton, C. A. Cusick, J. S. Bradley, H. J. VanAuken.

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

C. W. La Due.

8. Who have located this year ? None.

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

Nelson Cook, without a claim.

10. Who have been expelled this year ? None.

11. Who have withdrawn from the Conference this year ? None.

12. Are all the preachers blameless in life ?

Their characters were each examined and passed.

13. Who have died this year ? None.

14. What is the number of church members ?

See table of Statistics.

15. What amounts are necessary, etc. ?

No estimate was made.

16. What has been collected on the foregoing accounts ?
Nothing.
17. Where are our preachers stationed this year ?
See Appointments.
18. Where and when shall our next Conference be held ?
At Osage, Mitchell Co, Iowa, on Wednesday Sept. 19th,
1877.

APPOINTMENTS.

MINNESOTA DISTRICT—C. M. DAMON, *Chairman*.

Havanna, Owatonna, and Blooming Prairie, Ct.,
 Newton Brown.....William Cusick
 Dodge City and Clinton Falls.....J. B. Newville
 Mapleton, Vernon, Mountain Lake, Ct., J. S. Bradley, C.W. LaDue
 Cannon Falls, Dundas and Fairabault,..... S. H. Greeeup

NORTHERN IOWA DIST.—C. M. DAMON, *Chairman*.

Plymouth and Mason City, Ct.G. C. Coffee, Luther Cook
 Grant.....J. M. Cook
 Forest City,.....C. A. Cusick
 Algona,.....H. J. VanAuken
 Osage,.....J. C. Norton
 Lime Springs,.....Cyrus Cook
 Waukon,..... D. W. Cook, W. Barham, supply
 Flood Creek,.....J. L. Greenup
 To be appointed by the president,J. Ball
 Oregon Mission,.....E. N. Sumner
 Conference Evangelist,.....S. P. LaDue

MISCELLANEOUS.

C. M. Damon, was elected traveling chairman of both Districts of the conference, receiving 12 of the 20 votes cast on the second balloting.

A motion was subsequently made to reconsider the order to have one traveling chairman for the two Districts, but was lost.

The committee in the case of Nelson Cook, was delinquent. Bro. Cook's conference relation was continued, and Bro. G. C. Coffee was appointed a committee to correspond with him. In view of his living without the bounds of the conference, having never attended its sessions, it was order-

STATISTICAL REPORT.

CIRCUITS.	PASTORS.	Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Local Preachers.	Sunday Schools.	Officers & Teachers.	Sunday School Scholars.	Preachers' Receipts.	Value of Church Property.
Havans, etc.	Cyrus Cook	31	4	35	1	1	7	25	\$128.00	\$400
Dodge City, etc.	C. M. Damon	18	4	22	22				420.00	
Mapleton, Vernon, etc.	J. S. Bradley	23	11	34	34				167.39	
Northfield, etc.	J. M. Cook	11	1	12	2				188.00	300
Pine Island	A. G. Hawes, sup									
Blooming Prairie	H. J. Van Auken	18	1	19	1	1			148.50	
Algona	J. B. Newville	11	1	12	1	4	65	65	83.05	1,000
Forest City	C. W. LaDue, J. L. Greenup	17		17		1	9	32	175.00	
Grant	S. H. Greenup	15	1	16	2					
Plymouth, etc.	C. A. Cusick, L. Cook	68	5	73	1	2	14	33	477.79	2,500
Flood Creek	John Ball	8		8					9.85	
Osage, etc.	J. C. Norton	13	8	21	1	3	45	45	136.00	
Waukon	W. Barham, sup	9	2	11	1	1		25	5.00	
Oregon Mission	E. N. Summer	13		13						
<i>Chairman</i>	G. C. COFFEE								400.00	
Total		255	38	293	9	8	37	175	2334.58	\$4,200

ed that if he shall request a location, the request be granted.

A. W. Childs, and I. N. Aldrich, were discontinued from the traveling connection.

The disciplinary questions to those joining the church in full connection, were proposed by the president to Bro. D. W. Cook, after which he was received into the Free Methodist Church, and then into the conference, with the relation he sustained in the M. E. Church.

H. J. VanAuken was ordained deacon after the morning service, on Sabbath, and C. W. LaDue was ordained elder at the close of the afternoon service.

In the absence of the president, the first sitting of the conference was called to order by the secretary of the last conference, at the appointed time, Wednesday, Oct. 4th, at 2 o'clock P. M., in the Public School House, Plymouth.

After the roll call, it was moved to adjourn till the following morning at 9 o'clock. On Thursday, conference met at the call of the president, in the new Free Methodist Church, at Plymouth. This is a plain, commodious building, 36 feet by 50, with an unfinished basement, 25 feet by 36, erected under the supervision of Bro. Coffee, the chairman of the District.

At the close of the services, Saturday evening, Bro. Roberts called for subscriptions to complete the payment for the church and furnishings, and received about \$1,000, in consequence of which he dedicated it Sabbath morning, free of incumbrance.

On Sabbath, a collection of about \$45.00 was raised, to meet our conference proportion of the allowance for the general superintendents, for the past year, and was paid to Bro. Roberts.

A small deficiency remaining in the collection ordered last year, to raise the balance of the amount required in the case of Bros. Cusick and Coffee, it was ordered that the circuits which are deficient, be required to bring up the amount of this deficiency.

Bro. Wm. Cusick, of the North Michigan conference, was transferred to this conference by the president, at the request of the conference,

T. S. LaDue was transferred from this to the New York conference, and J. P. Shattuck to the Wisconsin conference.

J. Ball, was first elected to secretary, but declining to serve, C. M. Damon was elected.

On motion, A. J. Cook was relieved from the committee on collecting funds for publishing the Minutes, and H. J. VanAuken was appointed in his place.

A conference camp meeting was ordered to be held by Bro. Roberts, next year, at Plymouth, Iowa, following the Michigan meeting.

It was ordered that our Minutes be published in connection with those of the other conferences.

The committee on collecting funds for the above, reported about \$13.00 subscribed, of which about \$11.00 was paid.

The time of the sessions at 8 1-2 o'clock, and 11 1-2 o'clock.

The conference probationers were elected honorary members.

Bro. Roberts preached five times during the session of conference, and the following persons each once: John Ball, C. M. Damon, J. B. Newville, D. W. Cook, S. H. Greenup, and J. S. Bradley.

The altar service, following preaching, Friday P. M., was one of special interest. On Saturday P. M., Bro. Roberts preached to the preachers on success in soul saving.

The reports of the committee on the course of study, indicated much deficiency in that direction.

Newton Brown, received by the conference on trial, was recommended by the Quarterly conference of the Iowa District.

A unanimous vote of thanks by rising, was given to the citizens of Plymouth and vicinity, for their hospitable entertainment of the conference.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

I.—ON TEMPERANCE.

Whereas, Intemperance is a growing evil in our midst, and calculated to work ruin wherever it exists; therefore, Resolved, that we, as a Conference, labor assiduously and perseveringly for its overthrow; withholding at the polls our votes from those that are in any way implicated in the cause of intemperance; utterly discountnancing the raising of barley to put upon the market; of hops and tobacco for unlawful uses; and that we earnestly pray for its extirpation from our midst.

II.—SECRET SOCIETIES.

Whereas, Masonic secretism is formidable and poisonous in its influences; "sporting itself with its own deceivings," while it claims to prepare its subjects in the "lodge below," for the "celestial lodge above," without the name of Christ or his atoning blood; educating men by general protection to common dishonesty and crime; deceiving the world in claiming to have secrets ennobling and elevating to society, while its aim is strictly mercenary; and Whereas, they hold the lives of their fellow-men in their hands, under terrible oaths and fearful penalties: as to cut their throats from ear to ear, tear their breasts upon, take their vitals from them, etc: and Whereas, other secret organizations are but stepping stones to Masonry, and justly deserve our utter discountenance; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Conference should act perseveringly and untiringly in its efforts to place it in its true light before the world.

III.—ON PUBLICATIONS

Highly esteeming *The Free Methodist* and *Earnest Christian*, we can conscientiously recommend them, and pledge our hearty support, and will pray for their publishers that they may have stamina to fearlessly denounce all sin.

We consider the *Christian Pilgrim* a sterling sheet, and would recommend it for general circulation; also, with the *Pearl and Lily*, to Sabbath Schools.

We recommend the energetic circulation of real Methodist literature, as the *Life of Hester Ann Rogers*, *Carvosso*, *Bramwell*, and *Benjamin Abbott*.

We call attention to the *Cynosure* and *Iowa Freeman*.

IV.—ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Whereas, it behooves every Christian who feels the worth of immortal souls, that every means be used to spread the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and especially among the young, while their minds are young and susceptible of the truth, and the "evil days come not when they shall say I have no pleasure in them."

We therefore resolve, that this Conference recommend to the several societies of this body, to use every proper means to organize Sunday Schools on their work, as it is, and should be, the nursery of the Church.

And that the officers and teachers, so far as possible, should be persons of a clear Christian experience.

That we protest against holding Sunday School pic-nics, as they foster a taste for worldly pleasure, and lead the mind away from Christ, thereby preventing the great usefulness of the cause.

MINUTES
OF THE
SECOND ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
WISCONSIN CONFERENCE,
OF THE
FREE METHODIST CHURCH
HELD AT
PORTAGE, WIS., OCTOBER 5-7, 1876.

OFFICERS.

President—E. P. HART.

Secretary—J. P. SHATTUCK.

COMMITTEES.

On Public Worship—D. M. Sinclair, J. W. Townsend.

On Publications—L. Whitney, L. Auchanfach, F. A. McDonald.

On Missions—E. P. Hart, D. M. Sinclair, A. Bennett.

On Reforms—J. P. Shattuck, J. H. Knapp, J. W. Cain.

On Publishing Minutes—J. P. Shattuck, D. M. Sinclair.

On Raising Funds for Minutes—Charles Nickerson.

On Memoirs—L. Whitney, J. W. Cain, E. Z. Thwing.

On State of the Work—D. M. Sinclair, E. Z. Thwing, A. Bennett.

To Appoint Examiners on Course of Study for next Year—
D. M. Sinclair.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Missions—D. M. Sinclair, Elias Peachy.

Executive—L. Whitney, C. E. Lumm.

Examiners on the Course of Study.

PREPARATORY COURSE—E. Z. Thwing, F. W. Arndt.

First Year—J. P. Shattuck, J. W. Cain.

Second Year—L. Whitney, D. M. Sinclair.

Incorporate Committee—D. M. Sinclair, J. P. Shattuck.

Tent Committee—D. M. Sinclair, L. Whitney, J. W. Townsend, A. Bennett.

DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS.

1. Who are the preachers and delegates having a seat in this Conference ?

PREACHERS.

D. M. Sinclair,	L. Whitney,	E. Z. Twing,
J. W. Cain,	J. P. Shattuck.	

DELEGATES.

A. Bennett,	Chas. Nickerson,	J. W. Townsend,
Samuel Fleming,	Levi Auchanfach,	J. H. Knapp,
Levi Johnson.	John Rowley.	

2. Who are the Stationing Committee ?
E. P. Hart, D. M. Sinclair, A. Bennett.
3. What preachers are admitted on trial ?
I. Emerton.
4. Who remain on trial ?
F. A. McDonald, F. W. Arndt, J. A. Murray.
5. Who are admitted into full connection ? None.
6. Who are elected and ordained deacons ?
None.
7. Who have been elected and ordained elders this year ?
None.
9. Who are the superannuated or worn-out preachers ?
None.
11. Who have withdrawn ? None.
12. Are all preachers blameless in life, etc. ?
Their characters were each examined and passed.
13. Who have died this year ? W. A. Noble.
14. What is the number of church members, etc. ?
See Statistics.
16. What has been collected and applied on missionary purposes ?
See Statistics and Report on Missions.
17. Where are the preachers stationed this year ?
See appointments.
18. Where and when shall our next Conference be held ?
At Beaver Dam, Sep. 26th, 1877.

STATISTICAL REPORT.

CIRCUITS.	PASTORS.	Members.	Probationers.	Total.	Local Preachers.	Sunday Schools.	Officers & Teachers.	Sunday School Scholars.	Money Expended.	Preachers' Receipts.	Chairman's Receipts.	Missionary Collections.	Valuation of Church Property.
Deanvill and Pierceville,	F. A. McDonald,	32	1	32	1	2	1	2	.....	\$190 16	\$56 22	\$1 10	.....
Whitewater,	J. A. Shattuck,	45	8	48	1	1	1	1	.....	312 50	58 74	9 00	\$ 3500
Beaver Dam,	I. Emerton,	24	4	28	2	9	2	30	\$12 00	157 12	42 65	.....	800
Sharon,	J. W. Cain,	9	1	10	..	..	..	..	.....	100 00	30 40	.....	1200
Portage,	J. A. Murray,	25	8	33	..	..	..	..	7 50	225 00	48 74	4 12	1000
Plattville, New Diggings,	E. Z. Twing,	65	2	67	2	6	2	35	.....	400 00	95 19	2 00	1600
Hudson and Emerald,	F. W. Arndt,	20	3	23	2	5	2	25	.....	138 10	43 34	.....	.....
Menomonee & Eau Clair,	L. Whitney,	28	12	40	2	10	2	35	9 00	162 69	59 23	50	.....
Total, .....	.....	248	33	281	7 12	38	140	140	\$28 50	1685 57	443 51	\$16 72	\$ 8100

APPOINTMENTS.

WHITEWATER DIST.—D. M. SINCLAIR, <i>Chairman</i> .	
Whitewater,.....	F. A. McDonald
Sharon,	L. Whitney
Deanville, Portland, Strong Brook, Pierceville, {	J. W. Cain,
and Stoughton,.....	} J. H. Knapp, <i>sup.</i>
Magnolia Mission,.....	C. E. Lumm, <i>supply</i> .
Beaver Dam,.....	J. A. Murray.
Portage,.....	J. P. Shattuck
PLATVILLE DISTRICT—D. M. SINCLAIR, <i>Chairman</i> .	
Platville and Martinville,	E. Z. Twing
Cuba City and New Diggings.....	To be supplied
NORTHWEST DISTRICT—D. M. SINCLAIR, <i>Chairman</i> .	
Emerald,	S. Fleming, <i>supply</i>
Menomonee and Bear Creek,.....	I. Emerton
Eau Claire and Cranberry,.....	F. W. Arndt

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Conference was held in the Free Methodist Church, in the city of Portage. It was to have commenced October 4th, but Bro. Hart not arriving, the day was spent in examination of classes. On the 5th, the Superintendent not yet having arrived, the house was called to order by the Secretary of the former conference. The roll was called, and D. M. Sinclair was elected chairman, *pro tem*, and conference was opened in due form. October 6th, Bro. Hart, having arrived, took the chair. A good spirit prevailed all through the session. From first to last, a deep sense of the need of the Spirit's help seemed to pervade the entire conference.

Services were held every afternoon and evening, and God was signally present to endorse his truth. Several were at the altar, seeking pardon and purity.

At the close of the Saturday evening service, \$113 were raised to liquidate the indebtedness on the church in Portage, nearly one-half being in cash, the rest in pledges to be paid within six months. By reference to the report on the state of the work, it will be seen that the work is progressing in this State, and we augur a further success in the Wisconsin Conference.

I.—ON PUBLICATIONS.

We recognize the press as one of the most powerful of human agencies for the promulgation of knowledge, whether good or evil. We also recognize the fact that the matter issued from the press is largely invested with the power to reprint its moral character upon the moral perceptibility of the public.

Therefore, we deem it to be our duty to put forth an earnest effort to circulate such publications as are of a pure type, and them only, being governed by the one God given principle, a strong desire to promote his glory. We recognize *The Earnest Christian* as worthy of our highest esteem, and as a forerunner in the promotion of this work of reformation, we believe it to be a mighty engine of power, under God in battering down the walls of error wherever it goes. This is due to its bold, fearless position, as an exponent of Bible doctrine, not being laden with the poison of controversy, or the discussion of moral principle, it is not encumbered with antidotes to counteract their influence, but goes out in its moral purity, scattering the seeds of truth that bring forth after their kind, in righteousness. We feel in duty bound to manifest our appreciation of the manly character of its beloved editor, in the exercise of his prerogative, in excluding from its columns all extraneous matter, by increasing its circulation wherever we can, holding up his hands that he may prevail.

We recognize *The Free Methodist*, as a channel through which our distinctive reformatory principles are set forth and defended, and we believe that it is exerting a wide spread influence for good, and in accepting the support of the church whose name it bears, it assumes the position of servant, therefore, an exponent of our doctrine as found in our discipline, therefore open to the pre exposition of our distinctive doctrines, and the open discussion of the best modes of promulgating them. But we enter our most solemn protest against its columns being occupied with such poisonous articles as to demand from the editor the administration of an antidote in the same columns. It ought to be as sacredly guarded against false doctrine as our pulpits are, for the following reasons. First, Antidotes seldom if ever counteract the effect of the poison; of which moral poison is the most virulent. Therefore, the most active and wide-spread, and the most difficult to counteract, because the moral disease engendered causes the mind to eject the antidote before it can perform its work. Second, Because by rejecting the poisonous article, there is no necessity for the antidote, thereby saving the space for the promulgation of wholesome, Bible truth.

Resolved, That the articles published in *The Free Methodist* during the last year, condemning the article in our discipline on the Lord's Supper, for declaring who shall not be admitted to it among us, did in those articles denounce our discipline as unchristian, and without warrant from the word of God, thus thrusting a public insult in the face of the church. We recommend the *Christian Pilgrim*, *Pearl* and *Lily* as worthy of the patronage of all good people.

II.—ON EDUCATION.

A good report was adopted, which is omitted for want of room

III.—ON REFORMS.

For the different vices that prevail in the land your committee can see but one cause from which they spring, and but one source by which they may be remedied. Although they are presented in a variety of forms, and some more prominent and glaring than others, yet they can all be traced to depravity of the heart, in accordance with the scriptural account, "That the imaginations of the heart is only evil, and that continually."

Therefore, according to the law of cause and effect, we see no way of reform from the evils of society, but by a removal of the cause. Not that we would assume, that depravity must be removed before any change in any particular could take place, but before anything can be done, there must be a conviction awakened in the heart, and men must be made to feel in some degree the evils of any practice to which they may be addicted before there will be a move to forsake them. There are many who oppose the effects of sin rather than seek to remove the cause. While we are glad to see efforts made to remove evil of any kind, and are in sympathy with all of the reformation movements of the day, yet we cannot endorse the way in which many of these movements are conducted, but shall be obliged to take the means put into our hands by the Gospel, for we know it to be the power of God in the reformation of men and principles. Therefore, we can only stick to the principles of our holy religion to accomplish what men of the world are trying to do by merely human instrumentality. Taking this view we cannot see it right for men called of God to preach the Gospel to leave that calling and go out to lecture on some prominent evil, in which they have become especially interested.

By the blessing of God in the baptism of the Holy Ghost, we expect to cry aloud and spare not, and offer to the people the remedy that removes the cause of all their evils, whether it be in principle or practice, salvation from sin by a thorough change of heart.

VI.—ON THE STATE OF THE WORK.

In looking back over the past year we can see more clearly than ever before the guiding hand of God. We have not been without our trials and conflicts. At times the storm cloud has risen dark and fearful, but our God has stilled the tempest and brought us through beyond our most sanguine expectations.

We can say truly, "Thus far the Lord has led us on." We are becoming more convinced that this work is of God. We see that there is a pressing demand for the work in the land; the issue that God thrust us out on was, "Holiness to the Lord;" that is our issue to-day. Our work is not simply a service, but a reformation, and it embraces not one or more of the reforms of the day, but all of them: Temperance, secrecy, dress, simplicity in worship, cleanliness, honesty, &c., in fact everything that does

not have the stamp of Bible holiness on it, we can have no fellowship with, or sympathy for. The work is increasing on our hands, and God is crowning our efforts with success. In order to accomplish the work God has given us to perform, we need: 1st. To deeply feel the importance of the work God has laid upon us. 2d. We must keep our distinctive issues squarely and constantly before the people. 3d. We must have the inner soul experience ourselves—holiness of heart, of life, and all manner of conversation. 4th. We must have the anointing of the Holy Ghost for the work. Without the Holy Ghost to help us we will be almost certain to compromise our principles, lower the standard, and become weak and powerless, losing our peculiar locks, and thus becoming like the nations around us; then God will be done with us, and we shall have no apology for an existence. Feeling our sufficiency is of God, and in him is our trust, believing a final victory is for the faithful, we will drive this battle on in the name of the God of Israel.

V.—ON MEMOIRS.

During the first year of our existence as a conference, death has been in our midst and taken from us our brother, W. A. Nobles. He died in the city of Portage on the 26th of August, 1876, in the 59th year of his age. At the time of his death he held a superannuated relation to our conference. We mourn his loss as a co-laborer in the field of conflict. During his itinerant life in the Free Methodist connection, he has been an earnest and successful laborer, but he has left us to battle on against sin and Satan a little longer, while he has gone on before us to join (we trust) the blood-washed company and to walk the golden streets of the New Jerusalem. We ask the prayers of the church for his lonely widow and orphan boy.

VI.—ON MISSIONS.

We recommend: 1st. The appointment of a Conference Missionary Treasurer. 2d. That each of the preachers follow the direction of the Discipline for raising missionary money. 3d. That the missionary collection be taken up the first quarter and sent to the Missionary Treasurer of this conference. 4th. That Ellis Peachy, of Beaver Dam, be elected Conference Missionary for the coming year. 5th. That the missionary money be held in the hands of the Treasurer subject to the call of the Chairman of the district, to be appropriated as the Treasurer and Chairman may deem best. 6th. That \$21 of the money on hand be given to Brother Emerton. 7th. That \$5 be given to Brother Arndt.

ERRATA

In answer to question, "Where shall the next session of the New York Conference be held?" instead of September 4th, read—"Wednesday, September 12th, 1877,"

Susquehanna Conference, instead of September 21st, read—"Wednesday, September 19th, 1877."

Times and Places for holding the Conferences in 1877.

New York, at Wilkesbarre, Pa.,	Wednesday, Sept,	12.
Iowa,	" "	12.
Susquehanna, at Clyde, N. Y.,	" "	19.
Minn. and N. Iowa, at Osage, Iowa,	" "	19.
Genesee, at Jamestown, N.Y.,	" "	26.
Wisconsin, at Beaver Dam, Wis.,	" "	26.
Michigan,	" Oct.	3.
Illinois, at Clintonville, Ill.	" "	3.
Kansas	" "	10.
North Michigan, at Gaines, Mich.	" "	10.

Unless otherwise specified, the first session of each Conference will be held at 2 o'clock P. M.