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# Discipline.

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THE  
*Doctrines and Discipline*

OF THE

METHODIST NEW CONNEXION CHURCH

OF CANADA,

WITH THE RITUAL AND AN INDEX.

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REVISED AND CORRECTED BY A COMMITTEE APPOINTED  
BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

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STREET WEST, AND SOLD BY ALL THE MINISTERS,

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## ADVERTISEMENT TO THE PRESENT EDITION.

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In presenting a new edition of our Discipline to the members of our beloved Denomination, we are called upon to express our unfeigned gratitude to the Great Head of the Church for the great success which He has been pleased to vouchsafe to our efforts in this Province. This is strikingly exhibited by a comparison of our numbers, resources, and influence of the present year with those of 1841, the year in which the first edition of this book was published. "According to this time it shall be said of Jacob and Israel, what hath God wrought."

Many of the fathers of our Church have fallen asleep. May the present generation prove themselves worthy successors of those who now inherit the promises! May our tribe ever be foremost in the great vocation of Methodism: "to spread scriptural holiness over these lands."

The present edition of the Book of Discipline has been carefully revised, and many errors in the older editions corrected. All the legislation up to the close of last Conference is consolidated, and a general alphabetical index has been introduced, which will prove an invaluable assistant in finding, in a moment, any subject required. Owing to our distance from the press, a few typographical inaccuracies may have crept in, but even in this respect it will compare favourably with other works. The typographical execution of the work is very superior, and is no discredit to our Connexional Printing Concern.

W. T.

April 5th, 1866.



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## INTRODUCTION

PREFIXED TO THE EDITION OF 1841.

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THE Annual Committee authorized by the Conference to prepare a book of Discipline applicable to the present state of the Connexion, before entering upon their work, deem it necessary to give some account of the two Bodies that have united—of the manner in which the union was formed—and of the position in which they now stand.

The Canadian Wesleyan Methodists seceded from the Episcopal Methodist Church in Canada in 1829, in order to secure a more liberal and scriptural form of Church Government, by uniting the people with the Ministers in all legislative and judicial acts, still retaining the doctrines and ordinances of that body.

The Methodist New Connexion seceded from the Wesleyan Methodist body in England in 1797, influenced by similar reasons, and desirous of accomplishing the same great objects as their brethren in Canada. During the early years of their existence, they had to endure severe trials from various causes ; but they had especially to endure all manner of obloquy and persecution from certain parties on account of maintaining and defending those principles of Religious freedom which are the patrimony of every man, and the chartered boon of

every Christian. In a few years, however, they outlived the unmerited calumnies which were cast upon them; and, through the Divine blessing, were favored with peace and spiritual prosperity.

For more than twenty years they have supported a Mission in Ireland; that Mission has gradually enlarged, so that at the present time they have more than twenty Missionaries in the field preaching in English and in Irish, besides a number of Scripture Readers. For the last five years that Mission has progressed with great rapidity, so that by its increased means of usefulness, it is gradually becoming a greater blessing to the inhabitants of that morally benighted country.

For many years past, the Methodists of the New Connexion have been convinced, from a view of the spiritual destitution of many parts of the world, and of the means which God has placed at their disposal, that it was their imperative duty to open a foreign Mission. For several successive Conferences the subject was discussed. At length the Canadas were fixed upon as the scene of their benevolent operations. Several reasons brought them to the conclusion, that the Canadas presented the strongest claims to their sympathies. In 1837, at the Conference held in Leeds, they appointed an Agent, (MR. ADDYMAN) to visit the Canadas, and to select a field of labor for himself and other Missionaries that would be sent. The Agent commenced his Missionary work in Lower Canada, where the Almighty, by a singular providence, opened his way into many important and destitute places, which are now occupied by other agents of the same body.

In the early part of 1840, the agent made a tour through a great part of the Upper Province, for the purpose of ascertaining its spiritual state, and its general means of Religious instruction. During that tour,

he became acquainted with the Canadian Wesleyan Methodists at Hamilton. A union was then suggested, and from various considerations, and particularly from a routine of coincident circumstances, it did appear that such a Union was favored by Divine providence. At the ensuing Conference of the Canadian Wesleyan Methodists, held at Cavan in 1840, the representatives of the two bodies met together, and adopted terms of union subject to the approval or disapproval of each body. Generally, the terms of union were approved, and at the Annual Conference in 1841, held at Hamilton, the union was unanimously consummated. In consequence of the change occasioned by the union, it was deemed necessary by the Conference that a new Book of Discipline should be immediately prepared. The Annual Committee were therefore requested to direct their attention to that important business.

Having given the above explanation of the reason which led us to publish this Book of Discipline, we now send it forth amongst you, with our fervent prayers for your happiness and prosperity.

We hope to see this little work extensively circulated; for nothing is more important, next to a knowledge of the word of God, than that our own members should be well acquainted with the Doctrines we teach, and the Discipline by which we are governed, and trained to habits of usefulness and fitness for heaven.

The Rules contained in this Book will be your guide. They provide for the peculiarity of Missionary operations, for maturing the Missionary stations, and for their settlement into regular circuits. They provide also for the government of your various Meetings and Offices, and for the maintenance of that wholesome discipline amongst you, which is essential to your individual comfort, and to your collective welfare.

Most devoutly do we pray, that Preachers and People may be united as the heart of one man; that whilst walking by these rules, both your piety and usefulness may be promoted, and that the great Head of the Church may pour out His Spirit, and abundantly prosper you, through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and glory for ever.

## TERMS OF UNION.

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1. That the Local Preachers now in the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist Church be entitled to stand in the same relations to the united body, and enjoy the same privileges they now do in the Canadian Wesleyan Church. And all Local Preachers hereafter received, shall submit to the Rules, and graduate according to the Regulations of the Methodist New Connexion, and enjoy such privileges as it provides.

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

3. That the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist Circuit Preachers be received into the united body, according to their various standings in that community.

4. That for the present, the name of the united body be the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion.

5. That twenty pounds per annum (subject to future alteration, as the case may require), be allowed from the English Missionary fund towards the support of a married, and twelve pounds, per annum, towards the support of a single preacher. These sums to form the maximum of allowance, and that it be left to the discretion of the Superintendent of the Mission, with the assistance of the Conference, to apportion the grants with a due regard to economy, and the necessities of each particular case.

6. That a Paternal and Beneficent Fund be established, for the encouragement of which the Missionary Society agree to grant the sum of thirty pounds annually to each fund, until, in the judgment of the Conference, it shall not be longer necessary.

7. The Canadian Conference to have the direction of the work in Canada, assisted by the representative of the Methodist New Connexion in England, as the Superintendent of the Mission, who shall be a member of the Canadian Conference *ex-officio*, and Corresponding Member of the Annual Committee. It will be the duty of said representative, or general superintendent, to see that all engagements connected with claims on the Mission Fund are faithfully performed, and to assist the Conference to carry out the benevolent plans contemplated by the union.

8. That to ensure, so far as prudential means can accomplish the object, a supply of suitable Preachers for the wants of the united body, the Wesleyville Institution be established to afford the means of instruction for a limited period. And that in the first instance, suitable young men, connected with the religious community in Canada, be selected, or young men recommended from England by the Missionary Committee.

9. That the stations of the Methodist New Connexion in the Eastern part of this province (formerly called Lower Canada) be united with the Canadian Conference.

10. As Missionary exertions are employed to gather precious souls into the Church of Christ, and extend the Redeemer's Kingdom, so the exertions of the English Methodist New Connexion Missionary Society will be directed to the establishment of an active, prosperous, permanent and distinct community in Canada. That as this important end is attained by the formation of

circuits, the introduction of the system, and the Missionary stations becoming so many parts of the body, in that proportion the influence of the English Connexion shall cease in its concerns ; and the body in Canada shall become a distinct religious community, united only to the Brethren in England in Christian love, and in those kind offices which will always be proper and acceptable.



DOCTRINES AND DISCIPLINE  
OF THE  
METHODIST NEW CONNEXION CHURCH  
OF CANADA.

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SECTION I.

OF CANDIDATES AND ADMISSION INTO SOCIETY.

1. Persons desirous of uniting with our Societies are required to evidence an earnest concern for the salvation of their souls, by a diligent attendance on our means of grace, and by ceasing to do evil, and learning to do well.

2. When persons first begin to meet in Class they shall be considered under the watch-care of the Church, till they give satisfactory evidence of their religious experience, then they shall be received into full connexion in the Church. The mode of admission shall be by the Preacher, at a Society Meeting, with exhortation and prayer. If, however, a person wishes to be received more privately, and there is reason for such a wish, the Leaders' Meeting, and if there be no Leaders' Meeting, the Society Meeting will doubtless endeavour to meet such views.

3. It is expected that those persons who are admitted

into our Society, should procure a copy of our Rules, that they may make themselves well acquainted with our Doctrines and Discipline.

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## SECTION II.

### CONCERNING MEMBERS OF SOCIETY.

1. Persons admitted into church-fellowship with us, shall be required to meet weekly in Class, or as frequently as possible.

2. For the support of the Ministry amongst us, and to discharge other pecuniary demands, all our Members are required to contribute quarterly, according to the ability with which God hath blest them ; for the laborer is worthy of his hire.

3. All our Members shall diligently attend the public and private means of grace with which, as a religious community, we are favored : and especially that most invaluable ordinance, the Supper of the Lord.

4. It is the duty of our Members to cultivate a spirit of brotherly affection towards one another, and to manifest this spirit by promoting each other's welfare, preferring each other in business, advising each other in difficulty, and defending each other in character ; encouraging to duty ; admonishing in error ; and restoring when fallen ; comforting in distress, visiting in affliction, and assisting in need ; thus shall we bear each other's burdens, and the household of faith will be established.

5. Should one Member consider himself injured by another, he shall conform to our Lord's direction : " If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone ; if he shall hear

thee, thou hast gained thy brother ; but if he shall not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established ; and if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the Church, but if he neglect to hear the Church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican." Matt. xviii. 15—17.

6. Brother ought not to go to law with brother, but should first endeavour to adjust existing differences through the mediation of mutual friends ; and our Members are exhorted to submit their differences to this reasonable and scriptural mode of adjustment.

7. Should a Member become insolvent, and make an assignment, or become bankrupt, or take the benefit of any Legislative Act, whereby he shall not pay his creditors their full demands, it shall be the duty of the Church to inquire into such case, that the character of our upright but unfortunate Members may be satisfactorily sustained ; and that those who are guilty of dishonesty may be excluded from amongst us. It is also expected from those Members who have failed in business, or have contracted debts for which they have ceased to be legally responsible, that, if they afterwards become possessed of property, they pay, as soon as possible, their former deficiencies, and fulfil their former contracts.

8. If a brother be overtaken in a fault, his Leader shall be informed thereof ; when such Leader shall endeavour to restore his offending brother with faithfulness and affection.

9. Members omitting to meet in class one quarter without assigning a satisfactory reason to the Leader's meeting, or to the Preacher and Leader, where there is no Leader's Meeting, shall be visited and admonished, and if they afterwards wilfully neglect, for the same period, they shall be considered as having with-

drawn from us, when the Leader shall state the circumstances to his class, for its information. But should they withdraw while guilty of practices which render them liable to expulsion, they shall be excluded by the Preacher, in the presence of the Society of which they are members, unless the Leaders' Meeting or society shall judge such proceedings inexpedient.

10. Any Member guilty of causing disturbances, of indulging in slandering or tale-bearing, of refusing to pay his lawful debts, of propagating false doctrines, or refusing to be governed by our rules, or of immoral conduct, shall, for the first offence, be reproved ; for the second be suspended from the enjoyment of church privileges for such time as shall be deemed necessary ; and for the third be expelled. But should the crime be flagrant or notorious, then upon due evidence thereof, he shall be put out immediately.

11. Members removing from one class to another should explain to their Leader or to the Leaders' meeting their reasons for so doing, and when removing from one Circuit to another, they shall take with them a testimonial from the Superintendent or the Leaders' meeting, certifying that they are in good standing with the Church from which they are removing.

12. As forming part of the universal Church of Christ, our people are called upon to entertain liberal feelings, and to cherish a friendly disposition towards professing Christians of other denominations ; and to evidence the same by allowing them a place at the Supper of the Lord, and in other social means of grace, by rendering them the kind offices of brethren, by giving them an interest in our prayers, and by rejoicing in their prosperity.

13. It is incumbent upon our Members, under the various circumstances, and in all the relations in which

they are placed by Divine Providence, to exercise themselves to have a conscience void of offence towards God and man. As to their private duties, they should examine themselves whether they be in the faith, possessing the power as well as the form of godliness, and growing in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ; they should search the Scriptures daily; be regular in secret prayer; frequent in devout meditation; and in all things, walk humbly with God. As husbands and wives, they are to be patterns of fidelity; helpers to each other in their worldly cares, and in the way to heaven. As parents, it devolves upon them to provide for the temporal and spiritual wants of their children; attending to their instruction, leading them to the house of God, confirming their precepts by a holy example, and crowning the whole by their strict attention to the exercises of family devotion. The pious children united with us are, by their good conduct, to be the joy and comfort of their parents; behaving towards them with affection, and rendering to them due obedience; administering to them in necessity, and supporting them in old age. As members of civil society, it is the duty of all our people to submit themselves to the constituted authority of the state to maintain the laws of the land: to promote peace and good order around them, and to implore the divine blessing on kings, governors, magistrates, and on all classes of our fellow subjects. As masters and servants, they are to be exemplary in performing their respective duties; as neighbors, to be kind; as friends, to be confidential; and to be courteous and benevolent in all their social intercourse. In the world, our people are to be diligent in business, punctual in their engagements, and upright in their dealings; useful in public offices, and faithful in all their trusts; to be patterns of temperance and fru-

gality, avoiding places of dissipation and public amusement ; to flee the appearance of evil, and to delight in the company of the righteous. They should never forget the high character which Christians are to sustain as the "salt of the earth," and the "light of the world ;" and that it is expressly enjoined by the great Head of the Church Himself: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

### SECTION III.

#### CONCERNING THE GOVERNMENT AND INSTRUCTION OF THE CHURCH. .

1. The Government of each Church or Society in our connexion is vested in itself ; and is exercised partly by the members of the whole Church assembled together, and partly by chosen brethren denominated LEADERS and STEWARDS, who generally meet every week for this purpose.

2. These separate Churches, whenever it is necessary or expedient, are united in a federation of Churches called a CIRCUIT ; which circuit is watched over, instructed, and regulated by Ministers and other Church Officers appointed for the purpose, and meeting once every three months, and sometimes on special occasions, in a meeting or Conference called the QUARTERLY CONFERENCE of the Circuit.

3. The Connexional element, Scriptural in itself, and producing the happiest results in the mutual relation and combined action of Churches, is further applied and developed in the union of these Circuits into DISTRICTS ; and also in the combination of the whole of the Churches in one general Connexional relation, represented and regulated by an annual meeting of Ministers and Lay

Brethren appointed by the Circuits ; and which assembly is called the ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the Connexion. The Rules relating to these institutions of Government and Instruction follow in order.

#### SOCIETY MEETINGS.

1. These meetings shall be held wherever it is practicable, at least once a quarter, and the conveners of them shall be the Circuit Preacher or Society Stewards, or both acting in concert. The principal object of these meetings is the spiritual edification of the Church, by exhortation on the part of the Minister present, by prayer and other religious exercises. The Members shall be specially and faithfully admonished respecting their personal religion and Christian deportment, their closet and family duties, and their attendance on our private and public means of Grace. At these meetings, portions of the rules relating to private members shall be read over occasionally, so as, if possible, to insure the whole being read once a year.

2. The miscellaneous business of Society Meetings includes : The election of Society Stewards ; the reception of the Society's financial accounts ; the expression of their views respecting any of the brethren proposed for the Ministry, and the election of the Representatives to the Quarterly Conference ; they shall also make the return of Members of the Church to the quarterly meeting, preparatory to forwarding them to the Annual Conference ; and lastly, to record their votes for the election of Lay Representatives to the Annual Conference. But as a diversity exists in our Circuits as to the mode of electing these last named Church Officers, each Society shall regulate its action in such elections by the rule or custom of the Circuit to which it belongs.

3. In the formation of a new Church, the members thereof shall have the appointment, in conjunction with the Circuit Preacher, of the Leader or Leaders, but when churches are organized, the Leaders' meeting shall nominate the Leaders and the Class concur in the appointment, according to Section V. Clause II.

4. In making returns of Members of Congregations, all shall be regarded as such, who are known adherents of our Church, and attend our services.

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## SECTION IV.

### MODE OF BRINGING AN ACCUSED MEMBER TO TRIAL.

1. No accused person, whether Preacher or Layman, shall be expelled or suspended from the enjoyment of his Church privileges, until he has had a fair trial according to rule.

2. Every accused person shall have sent to him officially a copy of the charges preferred against him, one week previous to trial, that he may be prepared to examine witnesses, and make his defence on his trial.

3. The Quarterly, or a Special Circuit Meeting, shall be competent to inquire into any charge brought against any Circuit Preacher, in regard to immoral conduct, preaching false doctrine, or gross neglect of duty ; but no such charge shall be entertained, unless the Preacher has had seven days' previous notice of its nature, and of the time of bringing it forward. In conducting this inquiry, the Meeting shall hear the charge and evidence in the presence of the Preacher accused, and also his defence against the same ; after which it shall determine, in the fear of God, and if necessary, it shall suspend the



Preacher till the ensuing Conference ; subject to the right of appeal as provided for in our discipline. When circumstances allow, the Superintendent Preacher, or Circuit Stewards, shall previously consult or obtain the assistance of the Annual Committee, and in all cases shall give an early account of its proceedings to the Corresponding Member of the Annual Committee.

4. Every Layman shall be tried by the Leaders' Meeting, in the presence of the Preacher ; but where there is no Leaders' Meeting, the Society to which the accused belongs, with the Superintendent Preacher, or in his absence one of his Brethren shall be competent to try the accused person. But should the accused object to this mode of trial, and be able to make it appear to the Executive Preacher, that he is not likely to obtain justice, then, he may be tried by a Committee of five persons ; two to be chosen by the accused, two by the accuser : the Preacher to form the fifth, who shall be Chairman, and have the casting vote ; and in case either the accused or the accuser, or both, refuse to select the said Committee, the Executive Preacher shall supply the lack. But if the Executive Preacher be a party implicated, then the Chairman of the District shall choose the fifth member ; and if the Chairman of the District be himself implicated, then the next oldest Preacher in the District shall make the choice.

5. No person preferring a charge against any Minister or Lay Member, nor any witness proving or disproving a charge shall be allowed to vote in the trial resulting from said accusation.

6. Should any accused Member feel himself aggrieved by the decision of the Meeting appointed to try his case, he shall have the liberty of appealing to the Quarterly Conference of the Circuit, upon giving the Superintendent one week's notice of his intention.

## SECTION V.

## LEADERS AND STEWARDS AND THEIR MEETINGS.

## LEADERS.

1. It is essential that every person who enters upon the important office of Leader, should possess the following qualifications : 1. Sound Christian experience. 2. Holiness of life. 3. Clear views of the gospel. 4. That degree of aptness to teach, which will render him acceptable. 5. Approved stability and attachment to our system. 6. A firm determination to maintain our discipline. 7. Affection for the souls intrusted to his care. And 8. A full purpose of heart to be useful to his Class, to his Brethren, and to the world.

2. In appointing a Leader, the following method shall be adopted. The Class shall be entitled to recommend a person to the consideration of the Leaders' Meeting ; but the Leaders' Meeting shall have the right of nominating for the office. The nomination made by the Leaders shall be communicated, first, to the Class, and then to the person proposed, for his concurrence. If either dissent, a second nomination shall take place, and so on till a suitable person shall be found. In new or small societies, where there is no Leaders' Meeting, the appointment of Leader shall rest with the Superintendent Preacher of the Circuit, and the Members of the Class. The brother who has been chosen shall then be furnished with a copy of the following questions, which he shall be required to answer as in the presence of God, either at the next Leaders' Meeting, or at a meeting appointed for the purpose.

1. Do you believe in the fall and universal depravity of man?
2. Do you believe in the divinity of Christ?
3. Do you believe that Christ died for all men?
4. Do you believe in the necessity of repentance, faith and holiness?
5. Do you believe in the immediate influence of the Holy Spirit producing these effects?
6. Do you believe in the necessity of holding fast, faith, and persevering in good works?
7. Have you a clear experience of God's favor?
8. Have you power over sin?
9. Do you approve our rules, and will you enforce them?
10. Will you be faithful in discharging the duties of a Leader?

Having answered these questions, the brother shall retire while the Leaders' Meeting forms its resolution thereon, which shall be done with strict impartiality and faithfulness. If there appear just ground to set aside the nomination, it shall be communicated to the Class, and to the brother concerned in the most tender manner; but if the nomination be confirmed, then the brother appointed shall be called in again, and be received into office by exhortation and prayer.

3. A Leader may have an Assistant when necessary; who shall be nominated and chosen as the Leader. The Assistant shall lead the Class in the absence of the Leader, and, that he may receive his advice, occasionally in his presence; he shall assist the Leader in all the duties appertaining to his office; but shall not release the Leader from his proper responsibilities.

4. Each Leader shall meet his class weekly, and after singing and prayer, relate his own religious experience; he shall then inquire into the spiritual state of his

Members, administering to them, with all long-suffering and faithfulness, that encouragement, instruction, and reproof, which their cases require. His manner shall be affectionate and lively ; and at the close of the Meeting he shall call over the names of his members, inquire after those that are absent and the cause of their absence, which he shall note down in his Class Book, that it may be a faithful index to the state of his Class. He shall especially visit his sick Members ; comfort those who are in distress ; seek after the negligent ; and endeavor to restore those that are fallen. He shall urge his Members to a punctual attendance on the Lord's Supper and all other means of grace.

5. A Meeting, consisting of the Leaders, Society Stewards, Circuit Preachers, and a Representative for each Female and Circuit Preacher's Class, shall regulate the affairs of each Society and public place of worship. Such Meeting shall be held at a convenient hour, weekly or once a fortnight, as may be found necessary, and shall be opened with singing, and be concluded in seasonable time with prayer.

6. The Leaders' Meeting shall carefully attend to all those affairs which come within its province, viz., the regular payment of Class-money into the hands of the Steward ; directing or sanctioning the disbursements ; an examination of the Class Books, with special inquiry after the sick, that they may be visited ; filling up vacancies or electing new officers ; determining on notices for the pulpit, and the times of such announcements ; and superintending all other matters which appertain to the Society. It shall also be the duty of the Leaders to consider what plans of usefulness may be devised ; zealously and prayerfully carrying them out into actual and continued operation.

7. The Leader's Meeting shall co-operate with the

Preachers, in carrying into effect the Rules of the Connexion and the Resolutions of Conference; so that proper discipline may be maintained, and the hands of our Preachers be strengthened in the duties with which they are intrusted.

8. It is hereby declared that a meeting for the purposes contemplated in clause 6 of this Section is an assemblage of the Leaders and Officers in each particular Society; and not of the Leaders from the whole of the Societies in the Circuit.

#### SOCIETY STEWARDS.

9. To each Society there shall be two Stewards chosen from its members, one of whom shall act as Treasurer, and the other as Secretary, agreeably to their appointment: they shall be persons of stability; acquainted with our Rules, and attached to our system; men of order and diligence, discreet in the management of their own affairs, and able to manage the temporal concerns of the Society. Providing other suitable brethren can be found to undertake the office, neither Local Preachers nor Leaders shall be chosen for Society Stewards.

10. The Society Stewards shall be nominated by the Leaders' Meeting, (but where there is no Leaders' Meeting, by the Superintendent) and appointed by a Society's Meeting, to be held immediately after the February Quarterly Meeting. They shall be changed or re-elected annually; but should they at any time prove unworthy of their office, or become unable to perform its duties, the Leaders' Meeting, after full investigation, shall represent the case to the Society, that they may be removed from their Stewardship, and others be immediately appointed in their place.

11. The Treasurer Steward shall take charge of light-

ing and cleaning the chapel, and of all other matters and arrangements connected with the comfortable maintenance of divine worship : he shall prepare the provision for the Lord's Supper and Love Feasts, and see that the collections arising therefrom (after defraying expenses) are distributed each quarter amongst the poor Members, or are otherwise disposed of, under the direction of the Leaders' Meeting. He shall take charge of and receive all Society and Conference Collections and pay them over according to the Rules of the Connexion ; he shall also receive the monies at the Leaders' Meeting and discharge the current demands thereon : he shall pay the proper quarterage for the Society into the hand of the Circuit Steward at or before the Quarterly Meeting, and the Leaders' Meeting shall take care to supply him from time to time with the means of making these payments, that the Society may be kept clear of debt, and its affairs be agreeably conducted.

12. The Secretary Steward shall keep the accounts, but the books shall be accessible to his colleague: he shall also prepare or revise notes for the pulpit ; he shall enter the proceedings at the Leaders' Meetings ; bring before them the order of business to be transacted ; he shall assist at the Collections and Love Feasts. He shall bring forward the Members on trial, and register those who are admitted into Society: he shall enter correctly, and keep the names of the Members, Class by Class, with the places of abode : and otherwise faithfully perform the duties of his office.

13. The Secretary Steward shall prepare a statement of the Society's receipts, distinguishing the several Collections, and the amount raised by each Class ; and also a detailed account of the disbursements, to be submitted to the first Leaders' Meeting after each

Quarterly Meeting, accompanied with the proper vouchers ; and these accounts, after being duly approved, balanced and signed by the Chairman in its behalf, shall be read over at the next Fellowship or Weeknight Meeting of the Society, for its information.

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## SECTION VI.

### QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

1. In each Circuit, there shall be a Quarterly Meeting for transacting its general business, to be held in February, May, August, and November, at such time and place as shall be agreed upon, which shall be duly published.

2. The Quarterly Meeting shall be composed of the Circuit Preachers, and Circuit Stewards, the Secretary of the Local Preachers, who shall take their seats *ex officio* ; also of Representatives of the people chosen from the Local Preachers, Leaders, Trustees (being Members), and other experienced persons from our different Societies. Each Society shall send one or more Representative according to the number of its Members ; the proportion or scale to be fixed by the May Quarterly Meeting of each Circuit, as shall also the mode in which the votes shall be taken in the election of representatives ; but any other Members of Society shall, nevertheless, have free admission to the Quarterly Meetings, with liberty to give their opinions, subject to the regulation of the Chairman, and of a majority of the Meeting, but they are not to vote.

3. The Quarterly Meeting shall begin and conclude with singing and prayer. Christian temper should govern both the language and deliberations of the

Meeting. The Chairman should act with impartiality, and his authority therefore must be maintained.

4. The Quarterly Meeting shall pay the Preachers' salaries, and other incidental expenses, agreeably to the Rules of the Connexion; they shall also pay the expenses of the Representatives (if required) to and from Conference; they shall likewise pay for the Minutes ordered on behalf of the Circuits, and all other just demands chargeable on that Meeting.

5. The Quarterly Meeting shall fix what each Society shall contribute, according to its numbers and privileges, keeping in mind the ability of each Society, and also its local expenses; and it shall be the duty of each Quarterly Meeting to adapt its expenditures to its income, so that every demand may be punctually discharged.

6. The Quarterly Meeting shall determine on any alteration in the number of Preachers, governing itself as far as possible by the wishes of the Societies interested: it shall also admit new places for preaching, or set others aside, which have been tried to no purpose: it shall have power to apply to the Annual Committee for temporary supplies of preaching during the sickness of a Preacher, or for any additional labor that may be wanted; it shall also determine upon matters of appeal with impartiality and wisdom, or refer them to Conference as it shall see proper.

7. The Quarterly meeting shall admit persons on the Plan as Exhorters, and Local Preachers on trial, pass them through the several stages of their probation, and afterwards receive them into office as full Local Preachers. It shall also recommend Local Preachers to be taken out to travel; determine upon and prepare the Ministers' testimonials at the May Quarterly Meeting; and appoint or confirm the appointment of Representa-



tives to Conference ; and, lastly, prepare the Ministers' Certificates ; the whole according to the Rules laid down on these several heads.

8. Whenever a Quarterly Meeting shall judge it needful to divide a Circuit, or to employ an additional Preacher, a copy of the resolution passed to that effect shall be sent to Conference, where the matter shall be considered and decided upon.

9. The number of Minutes wanted for the following year shall be ascertained at the May Quarterly Meeting, and the Representatives be instructed to order them at the charge of the Circuit.

10. The February Quarterly Meeting shall nominate persons from whom the Lay Representative shall be chosen, each Circuit adopting its own mode of election ; and the May Quarterly Meeting shall either appoint or confirm the appointment of such Representative, requiring from him a pledge that he will attend all the sittings of Conference, and furnishing both him and the Minister whom it sends, with the necessary credentials and instructions.

11. In case a Lay Delegate, duly nominated and appointed by the suffrages of the Societies and Quarterly Meeting, becomes in any wise disqualified from attending Conference, it is legal and proper for the final Quarterly Meeting of a Circuit to nominate and appoint another person to that office without referring the candidate to the Membership for election.

12. A Special Circuit Meeting to be constituted as the Quarterly Meeting, may be called by the Superintendent and Circuit Steward, or either of them, whenever circumstances may in their judgment render it necessary. A circular, stating the object for which the Meeting is called, and the time and place for holding it, shall be addressed to the Stewards of each Society, and to all the

official persons specified in the Rules for constituting a Quarterly Meeting, at least three days before it takes place, that sufficient opportunity may be afforded for deliberating and electing Representatives to attend the Meeting according to Rule. The said Meeting shall be fully competent to determine on the matters for which it was called, but on no other, and its resolutions in regard to such matters shall be binding; but unless the meeting be so called and constituted, it shall be considered irregular, and its proceedings of no effect.

13. The following questions shall be proposed at each May Quarterly Meeting; the answer to which shall be entered in the Circuit Book, and a certified copy thereof be forwarded along with the Credentials to Conference.

1. Respecting a single Preacher:—Has he been comfortably accommodated through the year with board, lodging, and with suitable opportunities for pursuing his studies?
- \* 2. Respecting a married Preacher:—Have his demands on the Circuit been regularly paid? Has he been provided with a suitable house?
3. Respecting the Superintendent:—Has he been properly supported in maintaining discipline, and in enforcing the laws of the Connexion?

14. The Quarterly and Special Circuit Meetings shall support the Preachers in carrying into effect the Laws of the Connexion and the Resolutions of Conference, that proper discipline may be maintained in our Circuits; and it shall also be the endeavour of those Meetings, on all occasions, to go hand in hand with the Trustees of our Chapels, and to consult them in those matters where their rights and interests are concerned. The

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\* NOTE.—The answer to this question shall shew positively either the amount actually paid him by the Circuit, or the real deficiency of the year.

Quarterly Meeting shall call over the names of the Preachers, both Itinerant and Local, and shall inquire into any charges which may be preferred, either for neglect of official duty, or improper conduct.

15. Each May Quarterly Meeting shall send a document to the Annual Conference, signed by the Chairman and Secretary, stating that the character of the Preacher in full connexion has been brought under consideration according to Rule.

16. Any Circuit refusing to receive the Minister appointed to it by the Conference, unless it can show the Annual Committee that it has just cause for such refusal, shall receive no appointment from the Conference for said year, nor any money granted to said Circuit for any purpose whatever.

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## SECTION VII.

### CIRCUIT STEWARDS.

1. Each Circuit shall have two Stewards for the management of its temporal affairs. They shall be Members of our Society, attached to our system, conversant with our rules, of approved stability, accustomed to business, and if possible having the means as well as the disposition to serve the Circuit. They shall be appointed or re-appointed at the February Quarterly Meeting, and shall continue two years in office, the Senior retiring each year, to make room for his successor; but the Quarterly Meeting shall have power to change either or both of them, should they deem it proper, and also to remove them from office, at any time, when, after due investigation, that step shall be judged necessary.

2. It shall be their province to attend the Quarterly Meeting, and to see that suitable provision is made for its accommodation : they shall receive the payments of the different Societies and disburse them according to the order of the Meeting ; they shall enter the receipts and payments, and duly balance them ; they shall record the Resolutions of the Meeting, and read both them and the accounts over at its close ; they shall assist the Superintendent Preacher in preparing a Minute of the business to be transacted, and also aid him in carrying the Resolutions into effect. They shall be considered Members of the Quarterly Meeting from the Meeting next following their appointment.

3. It shall likewise be their duty to provide houses and the necessary furniture for the Preachers, under the direction of the Quarterly, or a Special Circuit Meeting ; see to any urgent repairs being done, and any pressing wants supplied in the interval betwixt the Quarterly Meetings, but limited to such amount as the rule of the Circuit shall determine. They shall take an annual inventory of the furniture in each house, examine into its condition, and lay a true statement thereof before the quarterly meeting previous to Conference.

4. They shall annually register in the Circuit Books the names of all the Members in each Society, Class by Class, receive the yearly, and other Collections belonging to their department ; enter the particulars into the Circuit Book, and pay the amount to the Lay Representative, for the disposal of Conference. They shall bring forward the choice of Representative in due course, and prepare, according to Rule, their credentials, and all other Circuit documents to be sent to Conference.

5. So far as may be practicable, the two Stewards shall divide the duties of their office, after the manner of the Society Stewards, as may best suit their conve-

nience, rendering each other all needful assistance ; but should they reside in different parts of the Circuit, each shall take charge of his separate District, under the regulations of the Quarterly Meeting.

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## SECTION VIII.

### MINISTERS.

1. When any of our Members feel desirous of acting as Exhorters, their wishes shall be signified to the Leaders' Meeting, and where there is no Leaders' Meeting, to the Superintendent Preacher, who shall judge of their fitness for the work.

2. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent Preacher to give them suitable appointments, till he has had an opportunity of deciding whether they are competent to be placed upon the plan as regular Exhorters.

3. When exhorters are acknowledged by the Quarterly Meeting, and receive appointments on the Plan, they shall be subject to the authority of that meeting ; which shall take them under its charge, regulate their duties, encourage the meritorious, and set aside those who are negligent or unacceptable.

4. The Exhorters shall address the people on the most necessary spiritual subjects ; they shall be lively and affectionate in their manner ; and their exhortations shall be short, pointed, and practical.

### LOCAL PREACHERS' AND THEIR MEETINGS.

5. It is essential that all our Local Preachers be experimentally acquainted with the things of God, and adorn that Gospel which they preach ; they should have

correct views of the fundamental doctrines of the Gospel, and be able to express their views profitably to the people; they should also feel persuaded of their call to the work, and be determined plainly and faithfully to proclaim the truth as it is in Jesus.

6. When any person in exhorting, or other religious exercises, has given evidence of such qualifications as render it desirable to bring him forward as a Local Preacher, he shall first be proposed to the Leaders' Meeting belonging to the Society of which he is a Member; secondly, to the Local Preachers' Meeting, and lastly, to the Quarterly Meeting; and, on being approved by all these Meetings in succession, his name shall be entered on the Plan as a Local Preacher on trial.

7. In those places where there is no Leaders' or Local Preachers' Meeting, a meeting of the Society of which he is a Member, called for the purpose (at which the Superintendent, or a Preacher under his direction, is present), shall recommend, and the Quarterly Meeting sanction his admission as a Local Preacher on trial.

8. Local Preachers shall continue four quarters on their probation, or so much longer as the Quarterly Meeting shall deem expedient. During this term, an appointment shall be given them, where it is practicable, in each of the principal places in the Circuit, that the people may judge of their talents and proficiency.

9. When a Local Preacher has been on probation four quarters, the Local Preachers' Meeting shall consider his case, and fully express its opinion, whether he be qualified for admission on full Plan or not; this opinion shall be entered into the Local Preachers' Book of proceedings, and be laid before the ensuing Quarterly Meeting.

10. After a Local Preacher on trial has been approved

by the Local Preachers' Meeting, he shall be proposed, during his absence, to the Quarterly Meeting; and, unless it resolve to continue his probation, he shall be introduced to the Meeting, and be questioned by the Superintendent Preacher; first, as to his religious experience; second, as to our doctrines, article by article; thirdly, as to our mode of Church government; fourthly, as to his call to and views of preaching the Gospel; and fifthly, as to conforming to the regulations of the Circuit, and being zealous in the great work before him. After answering these questions, the Candidate shall retire while the Meeting considers his replies. If his statement be satisfactory to the Meeting, he shall be received as a Local Preacher on full Plan, with an appropriate address from the Superintendent, and with prayer. Should the Quarterly Meeting judge it necessary to prolong his trial, a deputation shall be appointed to communicate the determination of the Meeting, which shall be done with suitable advice.

11. Should any Local Preacher on trial feel himself aggrieved at the Local Preachers' Meeting neglecting to consider his case, or at reporting unfavourably thereon to the Quarterly Meeting, or at their recommendation to lengthen his probation, he shall be entitled to appeal to the following Quarterly Meeting, on giving seven days' notice thereof to the Superintendent Preacher, or Circuit Steward, in writing; and the Quarterly Meeting shall investigate the case, and either reverse or confirm what the Local Preachers' Meeting has done.

12. Every Local Preacher, whether on full Plan or on trial, shall conform to the discipline of the Circuit, especially in being punctual to his appointments, and in attending the Local Preachers' Meetings. And it shall be his duty, whenever unable to attend to his appointments, to use his utmost endeavours to get

them supplied by one or more of his brethren whose names are on the Plan.

13. The Circuit and Local Preachers shall meet once in each quarter, previously to the Quarterly Meeting of the Circuit, at such time and place as shall be agreed upon.

14. In the absence of the Superintendent Preacher, the next Preacher shall act as Chairman ; or in the absence of the Circuit Preacher a Local Preacher shall be appointed by the Meeting : a Secretary also shall be chosen, who shall record the proceedings and take charge of the Minutes thereof, in order to present them to the Quarterly Meeting for its decision, in which he shall have a seat.

15. It shall be the duty of the Local Preachers' Meeting to notice such alterations as they think are advisable, in the hours or places of preaching, and to inquire into any neglect of appointments. For the information of the Quarterly Meeting it shall also receive the recommendations of the Leaders, or Society Meeting as to Exhorters or Local Preachers, examine into the conduct and improvement of the brethren on trial, and, if required, shall give its opinion on each case to the Quarterly Meeting.

16. The Local Preachers in their Meeting shall endeavour to spend some time in promoting their mental and spiritual improvement, and that their meeting may be profitable to others as well as to themselves : the Meeting shall be so arranged, if possible, that a watch-night may be held for public edification. The Meeting shall begin and end with prayer.



## LOCAL ELDERS.

These are brethren, having received ordination as Elders, and most of whom have been engaged in the Itinerant Ministry. From various causes they are located in the Circuits, and hence are called *Local Elders*. The rules especially affecting them are—

17. The Local Elders by the terms of union are eligible to attend the Annual Conference.

18. The Local Elders are amenable to the Quarterly Conference, and the Quarterly Conference have the direction of their labours.

19. In the event of any Local Elders desiring to attend the Annual Conference, it shall be their duty to notify in writing the February Quarterly Meeting of the Circuit, on which they reside, of such intention, and the Quarterly Meeting, if they see fit, shall elect from among themselves a suitable layman to accompany him; and both Local Elder and layman shall be furnished with certificates in the same way as the regular Itinerant Ministry.

## MINISTERS OR CIRCUIT PREACHERS.

20. The qualifications necessary for a Circuit Preacher are, sound experience in divine things, exemplary piety, acceptable ministerial talents, the fruits of ministerial labours, a willingness to bear the hardships of an itinerant life, a firm purpose to conform to, as well as enforce the discipline of the Connexion, a holy resolution to be faithful and persevering in all ministerial duties, and in unreserved dedication of time and talents to God, for the promotion of his glory and the salvation of precious souls.

21. No persons shall be called out as Circuit Preachers but such as have been approved by the Society

where they live, by a majority of the Local Preachers, Stewards, and Leaders, forming one Meeting ; by a majority of the Quarterly Meeting of the Circuit ; and lastly, by the District Meeting in whose jurisdiction the Circuit is located.

22. It shall be the duty of the Quarterly Meeting faithfully to weigh, and impartially to determine, on the merits of every candidate : it shall consider how far he possesses the requisite qualifications for the work, and also if he has strength of body equal to the labours thereof. If its determination be favourable, then the Candidate shall be called before the Meeting, and the Superintendent Preacher shall propose to him the following questions, which he shall answer in the fear of God.

1. Have you a lively faith in Christ? and as an evidence of it, do you enjoy a sense of the divine favour?
2. Have you power over sin? and are you pressing after holiness?
3. Do you believe yourself divinely called to the work of the Ministry?
4. Do you know and believe our doctrines?
5. Do you understand and approve of our discipline?
6. Will you preach the one and enforce the other to the utmost of your power?
7. If appointed to a Circuit, are you resolved to devote yourself to the important duties of your office?
8. Are you able to relinquish your present situation in an honourable manner?
9. Are you free from debt? or will you engage to discharge every demand upon you to the satisfaction of the Meeting?

10. Have you formed any engagement relative to marriage, and will you conform to the regulations of Conference on this head ?

After these questions have been answered, the Candidate shall retire while the Meeting resumes its deliberations. If a majority approve of his being recommended to the Conference as a Circuit Preacher, he shall be called into the Meeting again, and be addressed by the Chairman with due solemnity. If the Meeting determine otherwise, then a deputation shall be appointed to communicate the same with becoming tenderness. And a copy of the above certificate shall be sent to the Chairman of the District, to be laid before the District Meeting.

23. Every Preacher taken out to travel amongst us, shall be considered as a probationer for not less than four years of active service, and so much longer as the Conference shall judge necessary. During this period he shall receive a yearly testimonial from the May Quarterly Meeting, answering to the following particulars :

1. Has he in his spirit and deportment exemplified the graces of the Christian character ?
2. Has he improved during the year in his qualifications as a preacher of the gospel ?
3. Has his preaching been acceptable ?
4. Have his labours been owned of God, either in the conversion of sinners, or in the edification of believers ?
5. Has he been faithful and diligent in the discharge of pastoral duties ?
6. Has he laboured under the direction of his Superintendent, and in concurrence with him, to carry into effect those rules which relate to the order of the societies, and the Circuit ?

7. Does his health appear equal to the duties of the itinerant life?
8. Is he able to meet his pecuniary engagements?
9. Will the Circuit engage to receive him at the close of his probation, provided he improves, and retains the approbation of Conference?

These questions must be put separately, and the answers may be simply "Yes," or "No," or they may be qualified, as "generally so," or, "not to the extent that might be wished." The number of votes for and against each answer must be specified, together with the whole number constituting the Meeting. The probationer must retire while the questions are considered; but should any objection be made to his having a full and perfect certificate, he shall be called in to give such explanations as he may think fit.

24. A probationer having continued to the end of four years, and received testimonials from the Circuits during that period, according to Rule, he shall be personally examined under the direction of Conference, especially concerning his doctrinal views; and if the Conference itself be satisfied as to his suitableness for the Ministry, his probation shall then be concluded, and his name appear in the next published Minutes as a Circuit Preacher in full Connexion. He shall be required to attend the Conference at which his probation terminates, that he may publicly give an account of his religious experience, the motives which led him to engage in the Ministry, the reason why he prefers our system of Church Government, and a statement of the doctrines he believes and teaches; after which he shall receive a charge from one of the Senior Preachers, appointed for the purpose by the previous Conference, and the divine blessing be implored upon him and his labours. Should the Conference on the other hand, see

good to extend the period of his probation, it shall communicate the reason for so doing; and the Candidate shall be mindful to conform to its counsel, in order to be approved on the next occasion; or should Conference judge it necessary to set him aside altogether, it shall faithfully perform its duty with Christian affection.

25. In consequence of their peculiar situation, our single Preachers shall not marry during their probation; and any Preacher violating this rule shall be put back a year on his probation: nor shall any Preacher bring any expense upon the Conference, or upon any Circuit, by reason of a wife or family, until he be admitted into full Connexion, and afterward only with such limitation in respect of children as though he were married at that time.

26. Candidates appointed to study in the Theological Institute by the Conference, or sanctioned by the Annual Committee, shall receive their testimonials from the Committee of Education, and if satisfactory, the time thus spent shall be accounted on their probation; and any candidate, having made a University course and taken out a degree of B. A., shall be regarded as eligible to ordination and reception into full connexion, after travelling two years, if he be found otherwise eligible.

#### MISCELLANEOUS RULES RELATING TO CIRCUIT PREACHERS.

27. Our Junior Preachers, especially during their probation, are charged diligently to pursue their studies, to seek and attend to the advice of their Superintendents, whose duty it is to watch over and counsel them, as fathers in the Lord; they are to be prudent in all their connexions, to avoid a hasty spirit, to be circumspect both in their private and public walk, and by an

agreeable and spiritual intercourse to render themselves useful to the families that receive them. They are required also carefully to study, next to the word of God, such portions of the works of Wesley, Fletcher, Watson and Cooke, as expound the doctrines of Methodism.

28. The Circuit Preachers in full Connexion, shall be men of faith and holiness, uniting themselves in Class with their brethren, and discharging their ministerial duties with all fidelity and perseverance. They shall maintain the truth of our doctrines, always keeping in view the end of their preaching, the awakening and conversion of sinners, the restoration of backsliders, the comforting of penitent inquirers, and the edification of those that believe. They shall, when practicable, meet one or more Classes, and when they have an opportunity, attend the Meetings for religious improvement, enjoined in our Rules. They shall visit each family, the heads whereof are Members of Society, at least once in each quarter; more diligently attending to the sick. As fellow-labourers they are to be of one spirit, holding affectionate intercourse together, seconding each other's exertions, and engaging in mutual prayer for their personal happiness, and the divine blessing on their labours. It is also required that the Superintendent be assisted by his colleagues in all his plans and important duties.

29. Our Preachers and their families are called upon to be examples of frugality in their expenses, and neatness in their apparel, of cleanliness in their houses, and of domestic order and management. By attention to these things, the Preachers' wives will exalt the character of their husbands, and in like manner, both they and their children will do honour to their station.

30. No Circuit Preacher shall engage in any worldly business, unless it be selling the books of the Connexion.

31. No Preacher shall leave his Circuit during the time of Conference (save him who is appointed to attend it), without the consent of those places which his absence may effect. And the Preacher appointed to represent the Circuit, shall not leave it to attend Conference, earlier than is necessary to arrive in due time at the place where the Conference assembles ; and every Preacher is expected to arrive in his Circuit, not later than the second Sabbath after the Conference closes.

32. Should any Preacher be desirous of addressing a Circular or Pamphlet to the Connexion, or any part thereof, or of issuing any publication controverting our acknowledged principles and existing Rules, he shall, previous to publishing, subject the work to the inspection and judgment of the Annual Committee.

33. Our Circuit Preachers in full Connexion, having received the sanction of the people and of the Conference, shall be considered eligible to be appointed as Superintendent of a Circuit so long as their health and character remain consistent with such duties, and any of our Circuits will accept their appointment.

34. Should any Preacher become disabled by sickness, from performing his labours between Conference and Conference, his case shall be represented to the Annual Committee, who shall make the best arrangement in their power for supplying the disabled Preacher's lack of service ; and should his sickness be of a nature to prevent him from resuming his labours, after being laid aside for the space of six months, his case shall be considered a case of permanent affliction. If a married Preacher or a widower, he shall retain the use of the Circuit house and furniture, should he desire to do so, for the remainder of the year ; and he shall receive as salary, the allowance to which he is entitled from the Superannuated Preachers' Fund ; the grant to the Cir-

cuit, as well as the income accruing from the Circuit, being appropriated towards the expense of the supply; should he be an unmarried probationer, such provision shall be made for him for the year as the annual Committee and Conference may deem proper under the circumstances.

35. Any minister refusing to go to the Circuit to which he has been constitutionally appointed by the Conference, such refusal shall be regarded as his final resignation as a minister in our itinerancy, unless, in the proper discharge of its functions, the annual Committee sanction such refusal.

36. As a general rule, the married Preachers shall be considered as stationed on a Circuit for two years, and a single Preacher for one year; but should any Circuit wish to retain a Preacher a year longer than this period, its request shall be considered by the Annual Conference, and if it be expedient the request shall be complied with.

NOTE.—Resolution 26 of Conference 1864 declares that the above “is to be interpreted as implying that while there is no absolute prohibition for a preacher to remain on a Circuit longer than the period specified in said rule, the rule is to be accepted as a general rule; and should it be deemed necessary to continue a preacher on a Circuit longer than our past practice in the application of said article has explained it, such a decision shall first have the sanction of a vote of Conference, before it is acted upon by the Stationing Committee.”

37. In case of the death of the wife of any of our Ministers, he being ordained, in full Connexion, and then travelling a Circuit, or Mission, notwithstanding such decease, such Minister shall be entitled to receive the whole amount of his salary for that year, from the



Circuit, upon which he labours, the same as if his wife were yet living.

38. No Itinerant Minister locating, shall be received again into the Itinerancy, without a recommend from the Quarterly Conference of the Circuit on which he resides; and where there is no Quarterly Conference, the recommend shall come from the nearest Quarterly Conference to the place of his location.

39. Supplies called out under the cognizance of the Annual Committee, and who may afterwards be received into our ministry, shall be considered as having travelled one year; provided they have served as supplies for nine months.

40. All our ministers shall be returned as members on those Circuits on which they labour.

41. Our Superintendent Preachers shall be men living near to God, and under the influence of his Holy Spirit; who can bear and forbear; and pursue an impartial course amongst the people; who can meet difficulties with firmness, and overcome them with Christian temper; who count not their lives dear unto them, so that they may be useful to the Church of God, to their brethren in the Ministry, and to precious souls in general.

42. The Preacher, whose name stands first in the Minutes of Conference, shall be the Superintendent of the Circuit; and is Chairman of all the business meetings, appointed by the Discipline on his Circuit: to him shall be intrusted the responsibility of carrying the resolutions of Conference into effect, and also of enforcing the Rules of the Connexion; he shall be accountable to the Quarterly Meeting, District Meeting, and to the Conference for these duties; and his brethren, both Circuit and Local, together with the Leaders' and Quarterly Meetings, are required to support him in their execution.

43. It shall be his duty to attend the Local Preachers' Meetings, in order to assist in conducting their business. He shall also attend as frequently as possible the different Leaders' Meetings in his Circuit : he shall examine the Class Papers, and see that the Leaders do their duty : he shall inquire into the mode adopted by each Leader for Meeting his Class, and give all needful advice on the occasion. In the whole of these duties, his colleagues shall cheerfully take their part.

44. He shall be authorized to instruct and advise his fellow-labourers in the Ministry, with all affection and faithfulness, as circumstances may require, or their conduct demand ; especially he shall inquire into the personal religion, direct the studies, and promote the usefulness of his brethren on probation.

45. In conjunction with the Circuit Steward, he shall annually prepare, for the use of the Conference, an abstract of the number of Chapels, Parsonage Houses, Societies, Local Preachers, Members in his Circuit, and the deaths which have taken place during the year ; and he shall prepare a list of the names of the members on his Circuit annually, and shall lay before each Conference a duly certified copy thereof.

46. He shall have the Books of the Connexion under his care, and promote their sale to the utmost of his power. And as the welfare of the Chapels and Trust Estates belonging to the Connexion is intimately connected with its prosperity, the Superintendents of the various Circuits are recommended to interest themselves therein, by promoting the regular holding of Trust Meetings, and the annual adjustment of Accounts ; so as to prevent misunderstandings, and to increase among our worthy friends a spirit of co-operation.

47. Every Minister in charge of a station who shall neglect to take up collections for our Connexional funds

shall pay for each neglect the sum of four dollars, which fine shall go to the fund or trusts in which he is a defaulter.

48. When a Preacher arrives on a Circuit and finds any discrepancy between the number of members in the Circuit and the number returned to Conference—he shall correspond with his predecessor—that he may receive his explanations; otherwise he shall be considered personally responsible for any error that may exist; and when the discrepancy is serious, and is not satisfactorily accounted for—the case shall be represented to the Annual Committee to be dealt with according to their discretion.

49. Every Minister locating is required to send to Conference annually a document notifying the Conference of his situation and intentions for the future.

50. The Local Elders, Supernumerary and Superannuated Ministers on the various Circuits shall be required to bring, or send to the Annual Conference, yearly, a testimonial of character similar to the one required from all our Preachers in full Connexion.

51. No Preacher in charge of a Circuit shall countenance the employment of any Preacher discontinued by the Annual Conference.

52. Any labour which our Superannuated Ministers may be able to render on the Circuits on which they reside, shall be under the direction of the Quarterly Conference of that Circuit.

## SECTION IX.

## PREACHERS' SALARIES.

1. The married Preachers shall receive for themselves and wives \$400 per annum, besides horse-shoeing, horse-feed, travelling expenses, fire-wood, and house rent. They shall also be provided with heavy articles of furniture ; whatever may be furnished in kind shall be reckoned off the \$400.

2. The single Preachers on probation shall receive \$150 per annum, and should their labours on a Circuit require them to keep a horse, they shall receive horse-feed, horse-shoeing, and travelling expenses. Those unmarried Preachers who have finished their probation and are received into full Connexion, shall receive \$200 per annum and travelling expenses. No additional expense to be brought upon a Circuit by a Preacher marrying, unless he was stationed as such by the Conference.

3. The salary of a married probationer shall be \$200, exclusive of horse-shoeing, horse-feed, travelling expenses, fire-wood, and house-rent.

4. The scale for the appropriation of all funds raised in the Circuits or granted by Conference for ministerial support, shall be in the proportion of three-elevenths to single, and eight-elevenths to married Preachers, in full Connexion. In cases where Conference shall station two married men on one Circuit—one a minister in full Connexion, the other a married probationer, unless otherwise ordered by the Conference, the minister in full Connexion shall receive two-thirds of all monies raised by, and granted to the Circuit, for salaries ; the remaining third shall be the married probationer's proportion.

## SECTION X.

## DISTRICT MEETINGS.

1. These meetings shall be composed of all the travelling Preachers in the District, and of lay representatives, appointed by the Quarterly Meetings. Whenever it is practicable the lay-representative of a Circuit at the Conference shall be its representative to the District Meeting, and should more than one Circuit Preacher go to a District Meeting from a Circuit, such Circuit shall be entitled to the right of sending a corresponding number of lay members to the District Meeting. All our travelling Ministers shall be required to attend these meetings.

2. A chairman shall be appointed by the Conference to each District, who shall be responsible for the proper conduct of these meetings; but should the General Superintendent of Missions be present at any District Meeting, he shall preside on the occasion.

3. Ordinarily, there shall be two District Meetings in each year, the first to be held on the 2nd Wednesday in October, the last to be held on the 2nd Wednesday in May. All other District Meetings during the year shall be deemed special.

4. A special District Meeting for the transaction of urgent business, may be appointed at any period of the year, by the Annual Committee of the Connexion, or by the request of the Chairman of the District, and any two Ministers within the District—and of which at least ten days' notice shall be given to every Superintendent in the District. The Annual Committee shall in all cases be notified of special District Meetings, and no other business shall be transacted but that specified in the notice calling such meetings.

5. The functions of ordinary District Meetings shall be to maintain the discipline of the Connexion in the Districts both as regards Ministers and Members. To this end, they shall be competent to arrange for Missionary, or special services in the District, with a view to promote the work of God among our people. They shall receive, and adjudicate upon appeals made to them by the Quarterly Meetings of the Circuits. They shall take cognizance of the personal and official conduct of all Ministers, and inquire into the conduct, studies, and general qualifications of all probationers in the District, and report thereon to the Annual Conference. The District Meetings shall have full legislative authority, with the power to report on all matters of administration within their bounds; subject to the approval of the Annual Conference.

6. Should any Circuit deem it necessary to suspend a Preacher from his duties, the District Meeting on the appeal, either of the Preacher or the Circuit, shall examine the case, and the parties concerned shall be governed by its decisions until the next Annual Conference.

7. The May District Meetings shall take special care to have all the statistics, finances, and Connexional business of the District properly arranged, so as to facilitate as far as possible the business of the Annual Conference.

8. The statistics of each District prepared by the Secretary of the District Meeting in regular District form, together with the Resolutions and recommendations of the District Meetings, as well as the spiritual state of each District, shall be annually presented to the Conference by the Chairman of each District.

## SECTION XI.

## MISSIONS.

Our Home Missions shall be distinguished from our Circuit work in the following manner:

All Circuits and Stations, self-sustaining, shall constitute the Connexion proper, under the supervision and direction of the Annual Committee.

All Circuits and Stations able to meet their local expenditure, independent of any grant from the Mission Fund, shall be placed on the list of self-sustaining Circuits.

All those Circuits and Stations unable to sustain themselves without a grant from the Mission Fund, from year to year, shall stand on our Minutes of Conference as Missions.

1. This institution shall be called the Methodist New Connexion Missionary Society of Canada, auxiliary to the Methodist New Connexion Missionary Society in England.

2. The Missionary Committee shall consist of the General and Assistant Superintendents, the Chairman of each District, and a Layman from each District, who shall be chosen by the May District Meetings from among the representatives appointed by the Circuits to attend the ensuing Conference.

3. Each Preacher in charge shall see to the formation of local committees in his Circuit, who shall appoint Collectors, and that the Secretary of each local committee prepare a report for each annual meeting.

4. A sermon shall be preached, and a missionary meeting held, in each principal place on each Circuit once a year.

5. Any Minister in charge of a Circuit or Mission

who shall neglect to hold Missionary Meetings on his charge, or to attend his own Missionary appointments during the year, shall not be entitled to any grant from the Mission fund, for himself, or the Circuit to which he may be sent.

6. The proceeds of this Society shall be appropriated to the same purposes as the grants of the English Conference.

7. The Missionary Committee shall have the supervision and direction of all Missionary work in the Connexion.

8. The Spring District Meetings shall each year inquire into and decide how much each Circuit and Mission on said District can and will raise for Mission purposes during the year next ensuing; and also what is the sum needed by the Missions on said District for the same period; and the Secretary of said District shall immediately report to the General Superintendent the decisions of the District Meetings. And the Missionary Committee shall meet during the sittings of Conference, take this report into consideration, and decide according to their best judgment upon the grants to be made, and the sums to be raised upon the respective Circuits and Missions, and shall report at the third reading of the Stations; which report when adopted by the Conference shall be final; and in making grants this Committee shall be guided by the following rule: To first select those new spheres of labor which because of their recent connection with the body may be called "new missions," and the claims of these shall be first considered and provided for. To then take a second class of missions, which though not new ground, are, nevertheless, on account of their weakness and poverty, entitled to the second rank in the appropriations. Then take a third class comprising the remaining parts of



our work, and after discontinuing the grants to as many of these as they shall deem proper, divide the remaining sum (if any at their disposal) in an equitable manner among the missions of the first and second class.

9. The grants, be they more or less, shall be a payment in full to all the Missions, and no claim shall be afterwards entertained by the Conference, for any deficiencies, except such as may arise from extraordinary circumstances, and a vote of at least two-thirds of the *whole* Conference shall be necessary to obtain a grant to make up any deficiency.

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## SECTION XII.

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

1. There shall be an Annual Meeting or Conference of Preachers and Lay Representatives, for transacting the business of the Connexion, to be held at such time and place as the previous Conference shall determine.

2. Each Circuit shall be entitled to send one of its Preachers and one of its Lay Members to the Conference ; or, in cases of necessity, to be sanctioned by the Annual Committee, a Circuit may send one Representative, provided there be alternately a Preacher and Layman each time of single representation. Should any Circuit be unable, in the judgment of the Annual Committee, to send a Representative, a letter accompanied by the required documents, details and collections, shall be sufficient. The Circuits sending single Representatives, or written communications to Conference, shall nevertheless have the right to a full representation at any period afterwards.

3. The Treasurer of the Connexion, the General

Superintendent of Missions, the Mission Secretary, the Financial Secretary, the Secretary of the Publishing Committee, the Representatives of the Board of Education, and the Editor of the Connexion Journal, shall be members in virtue of their official situation.

4. Trustees of Chapels, when their legal rights are concerned, shall be allowed a Representative in Conference during the time their business is transacted; but no longer.

5. The Conference shall make by-laws for the regulation of its business: it shall also have the power to make laws, from time to time, for the government of the Connexion: but before any fundamental law affecting the whole body is repealed or altered, it shall take the sense of the Quarterly Meetings, and also consult the English Conference; and afterwards form its determinations.

6. The Conference, should it see proper, shall be at liberty to exercise a friendly interference in the affairs of all our Societies and Circuits, for the adjustment of existing differences, and otherwise to promote the harmonious and efficient working of the different parts of the community.

7. The Conference, together with its Committees, shall discharge their various duties, uninfluenced by partiality, and unmoved by intimidation. The glory of God, and the prosperity of his cause, shall be the grand end of all their deliberations and procedures. The Conference will maintain the system for the benefit of the people; and the people in supporting the Resolutions of Conference will support their dearest rights and privileges.

8. The Preacher and Lay-brother who are appointed as colleagues, shall unite as much as possible in discharging the trust confided in them by the Circuit,

agreeably to their instructions ; in other matters they shall be at liberty to follow their own judgment.

9. The instructions brought by the Representatives from their Circuits, shall be delivered to the President, unless their nature requires them to be placed in the hands of others appointed to manage the description of business to which they relate, and these instructions shall be attended to in the best manner possible.

10. No Member of Conference shall withdraw himself from its sittings until the business is transacted, without permission. Any Preacher who violates this Rule, shall be disqualified from attending the next Conference ; any Lay-man who does the same, shall be subject to a vote of censure, and be called to account at the next Quarterly Meeting of his Circuit. No Member shall be allowed to act for another except in case of sickness or leave of absence.

11. All letters addressed to the President of Conference shall be post-paid, except from the officers of the last year ; and any letters affecting the characters of individuals, or the interests of Circuits, or of the Connexion, shall be submitted to the Representatives of such Circuits, and to the Corresponding Member of the Connexion, who, with the President, shall judge whether and how they shall be submitted to the Conference.

12. Each Conference shall attend to the following Rules, and as far as practicable, to the following routine in the appointment of Officers and Committees, and in transaction of its business :

I. The President of the last Conference, or in his absence the last President who is present, shall take the Chair, and after the reading of the Scriptures by the Secretary, and the opening prayer, he shall call upon some of the brethren to assist him in reading over the

credentials, Circuit by Circuit, and in entering the names of the Representatives on a roll for the use of Conference.

II. After thus ascertaining who compose the Conference, the Members shall ballot for a President, qualified by his activity, judgment, experience and position in the Conference, for that important station; but no person shall be eligible to the Chair who has not a majority of all the votes present. When the ballots are counted, if no one has a majority of all the votes present, the two highest on the list shall be taken and ballotted for again--then, should the numbers be equal, the President shall have the casting vote.

III. The next business shall be to ballot, in like manner, for a Secretary, whose duty it shall be to record the Resolutions of Conference, and to enter in the Journal, or proper books, the reports of the various Committees, as well as to take charge of all other matters belonging to this office.

IV. After these preliminaries, the Conference shall again unite in prayer for Divine assistance, especially on behalf of the President elect, who shall afterwards take the chair, and address the Conference in a suitable manner.

V. The next business of Conference shall be to receive application for the division and increase of Circuits, and to determine thereon, that the Representatives may be admitted to its deliberations.

VI. The question concerning the examination of the Preachers' characters, shall then be proposed; and all Circuit documents relating thereto, including the required certificates for probationers, shall be separately examined; and the Conference shall determine on the different cases, as circumstances may require, according to the Rules of the Connexion. The Preacher appointed

to attend the Conference, shall not be deprived of his place at its sittings by any defect with which he may be charged, except in cases of alleged immorality.

VII. An Auditing Committee, composed of one Preacher and one Lay-man, shall be appointed by each Conference, to audit all the accounts of the Connexional funds.

VIII. The President shall take the earliest opportunity of apprising the Members, at what time the respective officers will be in readiness to receive the state of the Connexion as to numbers, &c., the different Conference collections, announcing the names of these officers, and where they will sit for this purpose.

IX. The Conference, in this stage, shall receive the report of the Annual Committee; and either take the matters contained therein into consideration, or call upon the Secretary to note them down for that purpose.

X. Immediately afterwards, the President shall inquire what business the different Members have to bring forward in Conference: he shall then take down the heads thereof, and shall make the best arrangement in his power (or obtain the aid of a Committee to do it) for introducing them successively to the consideration of Conference; and this arrangement, or order of business, shall be read over from time to time in the Conference for its information.

XI. The Conference shall appoint a Committee for stationing the Preachers, of whom there shall be three Preachers and two Laymen one year, and *vice versa* the next; this Committee shall be appointed by ballot, and only one Member shall be chosen from the Representatives of any Circuit. The Committee shall call in the Lay Representatives one by one, and take down their instructions; they shall also call in the Preachers, and take down their requests: they shall then draw up a

plan to the best of their judgment, and as far as possible, in conformity with the views given them : they shall then read their plan for the first time in Conference, after which the Preachers and Representatives shall be again called in, and such modifications made as may be practicable ; the plan shall then be read a second time in Conference, and the Conference shall refer it a third time to the Committee, in order to determine any matter or matters of difficulty ; and the third reading shall be final.

XII. The Conference shall fix upon the persons who shall prepare the yearly address, and draw up any addresses or notices that may be required.

XIII. The names of the brethren recommended by the Quarterly Conferences to be employed as Circuit Preachers, shall be noted down, and examined case by case, and if needful, entered in the Conference Journal, to be taken out as occasion requires.

XIV. The state of the Connexion shall next be taken into consideration, Circuit by Circuit, as to number of Members, deaths, &c., the state of the funds, &c. So far as is required, the Superintendent Preachers shall then give an account to Conference of the manner in which they have discharged their duties through the year, especially in regard to the plans they have pursued, and the discipline they have maintained in their respective Circuits.

XV. The Conference shall appoint the Annual Committee, the Treasurer of the Connexion, and any other Connexional officers that may be required.

XVI. The Resolutions of Conference shall all be read over before it closes its sittings ; and the Conference shall determine what part of its minutes shall be published.

XVII. The Conference shall then be closed with a

parting address from the Chair, or by some minister at its request, and by commending each other and the Connexion to God in prayer.

13. It shall be the bounden duty of each Lay Representative to assist the Superintendent Preacher of his Circuit to the utmost of his power, in carrying into effect the Resolutions and Collections ordered by the Conference during the following year.

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## SECTION XIII.

### ANNUAL COMMITTEE.

1. The Conference shall annually appoint a Committee of five persons for transacting the business of the Connexion, betwixt Conference and Conference. Three of the Members shall be Preachers, and two Laymen one year, and *vice versa* the following year. The President of the Conference, with the General Superintendent of the Missions, shall be two of the number. The General Superintendent to be the Corresponding Member ; the remainder to be chosen by ballot, from Circuits as near to each other as may be found advisable.

2. It shall be the duty of the Annual Committee to attend to the Resolutions of Conference, and to see that they are carried into effect. It shall make provision for such Circuits as shall in its judgment want supplies betwixt Conference and Conference, but without interfering with existing appointments (unless by consent of all concerned), or pledging the Conference beyond what is unavoidable. It shall also receive applications from

persons and places desirous of uniting with us, and determine thereon, or refer them to Conference, as it shall see proper.

3. The Annual Committee shall expound the Resolutions of Conference in case of doubts (subject to the opinion of the following Conference;) it shall order pecuniary payments where Conference shall have overlooked them, or where it is clear they belong to Conference, and are urgently wanted. It shall give advice in all matters of dispute or difficulty which shall be referred to its consideration; and when needful, its members shall consult together, or conjointly address the Connexion; the charges whereof shall be paid by the Conference.

4. The Corresponding Member shall receive and answer letters, and communicate the decision to the Committee; for which purpose he shall consult his brethren in office, and be guided by the opinion of the majority. In cases of extreme urgency, he and his colleagues residing in the same Circuit shall be authorized to act upon their own responsibility, taking care to communicate their proceedings as early as possible to their brethren. A Member shall be entitled to enter his protest against any measure which he disapproves; or he may resign, and the remaining Members shall fill up his place; but no Member shall interrupt the business of the Committee on any occasion whatever. The Corresponding Member shall record the transactions of the Committee, and prepare a report for Conference; which report shall receive the sanction of his brethren, and be entered in the Book provided for that purpose.



## SECTION XIV.

RELIGIOUS ORDINANCES AND MEETINGS FOR CHRISTIAN  
EDIFICATION.

1. *Public Worship, and the Ministration of the Word.*—The hours and order of Sabbath preaching shall be fixed by the proper authorities. These services shall commence with singing and prayer ; in the morning and evening a portion of the Holy Scriptures may be read, after which a second hymn shall be sung ; a sermon shall then be preached, seasonable in its nature, and suitable in its length to the occasion. A third hymn, if convenient, shall then follow, and the whole close with solemn prayer.

2. *Baptism.*—This Christian ordinance shall be administered on the Sabbath, monthly, in all our Chapels, by our Circuit Preachers where practicable ; and also privately, when it is particularly requested, and the Minister is satisfied that the application is proper. In the country districts it will be proper for our friends to avail themselves of opportunities as the Preachers may visit them. This ordinance shall be administered to the children of our Members, of persons worshipping with us, and of others at the discretion of the Preachers.

3. *The Lord's Supper.*—This divinely appointed ordinance shall be administered on the Sabbath, monthly, in our principal Chapels, by the Circuit Preachers, where it is practicable, and our people shall be exhorted regularly to attend upon this ordinance, both as a pledge of their attachment to their Redeemer, and as a condition of their communion with his people.

4. *Class Meetings, Lovefeasts, Band Meetings, and Prayer Meetings,* shall be punctually attended to under the

direction of the Leaders' Meetings, or Superintendent Preachers. The mode of admission to Lovefeasts shall be determined by the Quarterly Meetings of each Circuit.

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## SECTION XV.

## DOCTRINES.

1. We believe that there is one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of all things.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are given by Divine Inspiration, and form a complete rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe that three persons exist in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, undivided in essence, and co-equal in power and glory.

4. We believe that in the person of Jesus Christ the Divine and human natures are united, so that he is truly and properly God, and truly and properly man.

5. We believe that man was created in righteousness and true holiness, but that by his disobedience, Adam lost the purity and happiness of his nature; and, in consequence, all his posterity are involved in depravity and guilt.

6. We believe that Jesus Christ has become the propitiation for the sins of the whole world; that he rose from the dead, and that he ever liveth to make intercession for us.

7. We believe that repentance towards God, and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, are necessary to salvation.

8. We believe that justification is by grace, through faith, and that he that believeth hath the witness in

himself; and that it is our privilege to be fully sanctified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the spirit of our God.

9. We believe that man's salvation is of God, and that his damnation is of himself. We believe, also, that in the Gospel plan of redemption, men are treated as rational, accountable creatures; that "it is God that worketh in us to will and to do of his own good pleasure;" and that we are to "work out our own salvation with fear and trembling."

10. We believe that it is possible for man to fall finally from grace.

11. We believe the soul to be immortal, and that after death it immediately enters upon a state of happiness or misery.

12. We believe in the resurrection of the body—in the general judgment at the last day—in the eternal happiness of the righteous—and in the endless punishment of the wicked.

For the illustration of these doctrines, we refer to the four volumes of Mr. Wesley's Sermons, and his Notes upon the New Testament, Watson's Theological Institutes, and Doctor W. Cook's Works.

"If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not." 2 John, 10.

## SECTION XVI.

### CHAPELS AND FUNDS OF THE CONNEXION.

1. *Chapels.*—To promote the peace and stability of the Community, it is earnestly recommended that all our

Chapels be settled on trust for the use of the Connexion, according to the Deed prepared and inserted in this Book.

2. Our Trustees are exhorted to insure their Trust Property to at least two-thirds of the estimated value.

3. To relieve the case of embarrassed chapels and parsonages, a Relief Fund is established, and collections are taken up in the Circuits in the month of January. The distribution of this fund is managed by a Committee called the Chapel Committee, which shall consist of the Chairmen of all Districts, the General Superintendent of Missions and one Lay-brother from each District, being a representative to the Conference, to be appointed as a member of said Committee by the last District Meeting of each year. This Committee shall act only during the sittings of Conference; and all chapel and parsonage business not disposed of by Conference, shall be transacted by the Annual Committee, who shall act in regard to such cases as they do in all money payments and make appropriations provisionally only, and always subject to the approval of the following Conference. This shall be a standing order of Conference as to chapel and parsonage business.

4. All Deeds and Bonds of Chapels and Parsonages for which claims are made on the Chapel and Parsonage Fund, shall be forwarded to the Treasurers of that Fund, for his inspection, previous to any appropriations being made to said estates, and no application for relief in favor of embarrassed trust estates shall be entertained, unless that before engaging in the matter, the whole expense, amount of land, nature of title, size and character of building, be first submitted to the Chapel and Parsonage Fund Committee for their approval.

5. All deeds of Chapels and Parsonages are to be registered in the proper County Register Office within one year after they are executed.

## CONTINGENT FUND.

6. A Collection shall be made through our congregations during the month of July each year, which shall be immediately remitted to the Treasurer of the Contingent Fund, to be applied in enabling the Conference to meet the various incidental and extraordinary demands upon it, for which no other provision is made. The receipts and disbursements of this fund shall be annually published in a detailed form in the Minutes of Conference.

## PATERNAL FUND.

7. A public Collection shall be annually made in all our Chapels, and also a private one among our able friends, for the purpose of forming a Fund with which to maintain the children of our Preachers, so that they may be stationed without inconvenience in any Circuit of the Connexion : and as all our Circuits are equally interested in the benefits of this Fund, they shall all be required to promote it to the best of their power.

8. The Preachers shall note the Births of their children to the Treasurer of the Fund, who shall enroll them, and the claim for payment shall commence from that time. For children under eight years, \$12 per annum ; and from eight to twelve years, \$20 per annum ; when they shall go off the Fund ; but no preacher shall be allowed his dividend who shall neglect to furnish the Conference with a written statement of the number and ages of all his children who are legally entitled to draw from this Fund.

9. Ministers received on probation as married men shall have no claim on this Fund for children born prior to their reception on trial ; but for their children born during their probation, they shall be allowed the same

claim as for those born after their admission into full connection with the Conference.

10. The public Collections and private Subscriptions for this Fund, shall be made between the months of March and April in each year. A detailed account of the Contributions and Disbursements shall be submitted to Conference, and published in the Minutes.

## SECTION XVII.

### SUPERANNUATED MINISTERS' ANNUITANT SOCIETY.

The annexed Constitution of this Society is published by direction of the Conference, for the purpose of shewing our friends its nature and object, and to induce them, if possible, to support it liberally. The absolute necessity of such a Society must be acknowledged by all, when we state that our Ministers have nothing to look to for support in sickness and old age but the funds of this Institution : their widows and orphans are provided for in no other way than by this Society. The salaries of our ministers are so low that it is impossible for them, *out of their salaries*, to make any provision for their own future wants, or for those of their widows and orphans, should they leave any. It is therefore evident, that without an institution of this character, they must be left, in many instances, in circumstances of great destitution, when no longer able to serve the Church in the active discharge of the duties of the Ministry. This must not be : those who share the benefits of a Gospel Ministry must give this Society their hearty support. Every Minister in the Connexion is required to pay a certain amount every year ; but this is not sufficient to meet the demands which are

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made on the fund. Our friends should support it, according to the ability which God has given them, and with due regard to the other claims on their liberality. Every subscriber of two dollars and upwards annually is an honorary member of this Society.

### CONSTITUTION OF THE SUPERANNUATED MINISTERS' FUND.

1st. This Society is established for the relief and support of disabled and superannuated Preachers, and their widows and orphan children, in the Methodist New Connexion Church of Canada.

2nd. The funds of this institution shall be derived from the following sources: All Ministers who now are, or shall hereafter be in the aforesaid Connexion, shall be members of this Society, and shall pay thereto in advance, if married, five dollars; if unmarried, four dollars per annum. A public collection shall be taken up in each congregation in all our Circuits in the month of October, annually; each Minister shall also solicit annual subscriptions from our members and friends. Also from the interest of funds invested by the Society, and any profits which may be derived from the Printing Office and sale of our publications. This last provision to be subject to the ratification of the Annual Conference.

3rd. Every subscriber of two dollars, or upwards, per annum, shall be entitled to a seat and vote in the Annual Meetings of this Society; and every subscriber of one dollar, or upwards, shall have his name inserted in the Minutes of Conference, and receive a copy of that publication at the expense of this Society.

4th. This Society, at its Annual Meeting, shall appoint by ballot, upon nomination, a Manager, who shall have charge of all the monies and other effects of this Society,

and on whom all orders shall be drawn. Said Manager shall give to the Society ample security for the true and faithful performance of all the duties of his office.

5th. The Society, at its Annual Meeting, shall also appoint, by ballot, a Committee of four, who shall be styled the "DIRECTORS OF THE SUPERANNUATED MINISTERS' ANNUITANT SOCIETY;" said Committee to hold office for two years, two of whom shall retire annually, who shall nevertheless be eligible to re-election. They shall arrange the business of the Society from Conference to Conference, subject to the sanction of the Annual Meeting, before which they shall yearly report their proceedings. They shall audit the accounts of the Manager, and if found correct, shall sign the same, and shall produce a statement thereof, to be inserted in the Annual Minutes of Conference.

6th. Laymen, when members of this Society, and present at the Annual Meeting, may be appointed to any of its offices.

7th. If any Preacher neglect to pay his annual subscription before the close of the sittings of the ensuing Conference from that at which he is taken out, then such Preacher shall lose a year's standing in the Society; and should he still neglect to pay his subscription till the close of another Conference, he shall be excluded from all the benefits of this Society, till he has paid ten years thereto.

8th. No Preacher shall be considered a free member, or be entitled to any of the benefits of this Society if he surpass the age of 32 years at the time of joining.

9th. Any Preacher, or Preacher's widow, who shall leave the Connexion, or join in church-fellowship with any other body of people, when the local situation of such annuitant will admit of his or her remaining with, or attending the worship of God amongst the members



of the said Connexion, shall lose all benefits arising from this Society.

10th. If any Preacher's widow marry, be proven guilty of immorality, or should, in the opinion of Conference, be justly expelled from our Society, she shall be deprived of all benefit arising from this Institution.

11th. If any Preacher, or Preacher's widow, shall sell, dispose of, or otherwise part with his or her annuity, either by act of law or otherwise, in whole or in part, he or she shall forfeit the same, and all benefits arising from this Society; neither will the Society pay the same to such party purchasing said annuity.

12. If any Preacher marry a woman fifteen years younger than himself, neither she nor any children arising from such marriage shall receive any benefit; or should any member marry when superannuated, neither his wife, nor children arising from such marriage, shall be entitled to any benefit from this Society.

13. No money belonging to this Society shall be advanced on loan, except on mortgage on land, and then only to one-half the value of such property, being the first mortgage.

14th. From the time that a Preacher becomes superannuated, or superannuated, his subscription shall cease; but should he be restored to health, and two-thirds of the Conference think fit to employ him again as a regular Preacher, he shall commence paying subscriptions again, as before; but the time he has been unemployed in the Ministry shall not be reckoned as a part of his standing in this Society. But if he refuses to obey the call of the Conference, he shall cease to be a member of this Society, and forfeits all claims to its benefits.

15th. No Minister shall be a free member, or claimant,

unless he has travelled, and paid into the Fund for the term of ten years.

16th. All back payments which the Preachers have not paid in shall stand as loans to the Preachers concerned, subject to interest, and their own personal security be received—but such Preachers shall not be considered free, until all arrearages be paid up.

17th. Any Preacher who is a free member of this Society, and is declared by two-thirds of the Conference to be a supernumerary, or superannuated Preacher, shall receive the following allowance, viz:—if he has travelled and paid for 35 years and is married, he shall receive during the life of himself and wife \$140 per annum; if unmarried, or a widower \$80 per annum. If he has travelled and paid for 30 years, then he shall receive during the life of himself and wife \$110 per annum; if unmarried, or a widower \$60 per annum. If he has travelled and paid for 25 years, he shall receive during the life of himself and wife \$100 per annum; if unmarried, or a widower \$50 per annum. If he has travelled and paid for 20 years, he shall receive during the life of himself and wife \$80 per annum; if unmarried, or a widower \$40 per annum. If he has travelled and paid for 15 years, and is married, he shall receive during the life of himself and wife \$60 per annum; if unmarried, or a widower, \$30 per annum. If he has travelled and paid for 10 years, he shall receive in lieu of a permanent claim the sum of \$50 per annum for a term of four years, when his claim shall cease. All annuities to be paid in half-yearly instalments, *i. e.*, when there is sufficient funds in the Manager's hands to permit this being done.

18th. The widow of a Minister who travelled and paid 35 years, shall receive during the time she continues his widow \$74 per annum; if 30 years, \$64 per

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annum ; if 25 years, \$53 per annum ; if 20 years, \$42 per annum ; if fifteen years, \$30 per annum ; if 10 years, \$20 per annum.

19th. Twenty dollars shall be allowed for funeral expenses on the death of any free member, his wife, or widow.

20th. Every widower who is a free member, and every widow of a free member, shall receive \$12 per annum for every child he or she may be left with, until such child shall attain the age of 12 years, after which time the annuity shall cease ; but should the mother of any such orphan children be deficient in her duty to them, the Directors of this Society shall be authorized to appoint guardians to watch over the interests of such children.

21st. *Provided, always,* that when the claims upon the Superannuated Preachers' Fund for any year, shall be more than the income of such year, each claimant shall receive a per centage in proportion to his claim, to the full amount only of the current income.

22nd. Should any preacher desist from the Ministry, or be expelled the Connexion, he shall not be entitled to any benefit from this Society ; but should any Preacher on trial be rejected for want of ability, he shall be repaid all the money he has subscribed to this Society.

23rd. All claimants for the orphan children of Preachers, shall be required to send to Conference a certified list of the number of said children and their ages, as a condition of payment of their annuity.

24th. If any Preacher, Preacher's widow, orphan's benefactor, honorary member, or subscriber of \$2 per annum, consider himself or herself aggrieved by this Society, then he, she, or they shall be at liberty to

appeal in person, or otherwise, to the General Annual Meeting of the Society, whose decision shall be final.

25th. It shall be competent for this Society to vary or alter these Rules, and make new ones, provided such alterations or intended new rules be proposed to the General Annual Meeting, and inserted in the Minutes of the preceding Conference, and be agreed to at the following Annual Meeting of the Society, by at least three-fourths of the members there assembled.

THE RITUAL;  
OR,  
FORMS  
FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
RELIGIOUS ORDINANCES.

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*The Lord's Supper.*

The Elder shall say,

YE THAT DO TRULY AND EARNESTLY  
REPENT of your sins, and are in love and charity  
with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new  
life, following the commandments of God, and  
walking from henceforth in his holy ways ; draw  
near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to  
your comfort ; and make your humble confession  
to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your  
knees.

Then shall the Elder say,

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table,  
O merciful God, trusting in our own righteousness,

but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy ; Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful souls and bodies may be made clean by his death, and washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Then the Elder shall say the Prayer of Consecration, as followeth :

ALMIGHTY GOD, our Heavenly Father, who, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption ; who made there (by his oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world : and did institute, and in his holy gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that, his precious death, until his coming again : hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee, and grant that we, receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his blessed Body and Blood ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed took bread : and when he had given

thanks he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take eat ; this is my body which is given for you : do this in remembrance of me. Likewise, after supper he took the cup ; and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this ; for this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins ; Do this, as oft as ye shall drink, in remembrance of me. Amen.

Then shall the Minister first receive the Communion in both kinds himself, and then proceed to deliver the same to the other Ministers in like manner (if any be present), and after that to the people also, in order, into their hands. And when he delivereth the bread, he shall say :

THE BODY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, which was given for *thee*, preserve *thy* soul and *body* unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for *thee*, and feed on him *in thy heart* by faith with thanksgiving.

And the Minister that delivereth the Cup, shall say,

THE BLOOD OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, which was shed for *thee*, preserve *thy* soul and *body* unto everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's Blood was shed for thee, and be thankful.

Then shall the Elder say the Lord's Prayer : the people repeating after him every petition :

**OUR FATHER** who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name: Thy Kingdom come: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven: give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the Power and the Glóry, for ever and ever. Amen.

Then the Elder, if he see it expedient, may put up an extempore prayer; and afterwards shall let the people depart with this blessing :

**MAY THE PEACE OF GOD**, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

N. B.—If the Elder be straitened for time, he may omit any part of the service, except the prayer of consecration.

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### Baptism of Infants.

The Minister shall use the following, or some other exhortation, suitable to this sacred office.



DEARLY beloved, forasmuch as all men are conceived and born in sin, and that our Saviour Christ saith, None can enter into the Kingdom of God except he be regenerate and born anew of water and of the Holy Ghost; I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous mercy he will grant to *this Child* that thing which by nature *he* cannot have; that *he* may be baptized with water and the Holy Ghost, and received into Christ's holy church, and be made a *lively member* of the same.

Then shall the Minister say,

Let us Pray.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, who, of thy great mercy didst save Noah and his family in the Ark from perishing by water; and also didst safely lead the children of Israel, thy people, through the Red Sea, figuring thereby thy holy baptism; and by the baptism of thy well beloved Son Jesus Christ in the River Jordan, didst sanctify water for this holy sacrament, We beseech thee, for thine infinite mercies, that thou wilt look upon *this child*: wash *him* and sanctify *him* with the Holy Ghost; that *he*, being delivered from thy wrath, may be received into the ark of Christ's church, and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love,

may so pass the waves of this troublesome world, that finally *he* may come to the land of everlasting life; there to reign with thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O merciful God, grant that the old Adam in *this child* may be so buried, that the new man may be raised up in him. Amen.

Grant that all carnal affections may die in *him*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *him*. Amen.

Grant that *he* may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph against the devil, the world and the flesh. Amen.

Grant that whosoever is dedicated to thee by our Office and Ministry, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end, Amen.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLIVING GOD, whose most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed out of his most precious side both water and blood, and gave commandment to his disciples that they should go teach all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; regard, we beseech thee, our supplications, and grant that *this child*, now to be baptized, may receive the fullness of thy grace and ever remain in

the number of thy faithful and elect children,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the people stand up, and the Minister shall  
say.

Hear the words of the Gospel written by St.  
Mark, in the tenth chapter, at the thirteenth  
verse:

They brought young children to Christ that he  
should touch them. And his disciples rebuked  
those that brought them, but when Jesus saw it,  
he was much displeased and said unto them,  
Suffer the little children to come unto me, and  
forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of  
God.—Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall  
not receive the kingdom of God as a little child,  
he shall not enter therein. And he took them up  
in his arms, put his hands upon them, and  
blessed them.

Then the Minister shall take the child into his arms  
and say to the friends of the child,

Name this Child.

And then naming it after them, he shall sprinkle or  
pour water upon it, or if desired, immerse  
it in water, saying:

IV. I baptize thee in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Then shall be said, all kneeling:

OUR FATHER who art in heaven, Hallowed

be thy name; Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Then shall the Minister conclude with extemporary Prayer.

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### **Baptism to Such as are of Riper Years.**

The Minister shall use the following or some other exhortation, suitable to this holy office.

DEARLY BELOVED, forasmuch as all men are conceived and born in sin (and that which is born of the flesh is flesh, and they that are in the flesh cannot please God, but live in sin, committing many actual transgressions): and that our Saviour Christ saith, None can enter into the kingdom of God, except he be regenerate and born anew of water and of the Holy Ghost: I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous goodness he will grant to *these persons* that which by nature *they* cannot have; that *they* may be baptized with water and the Holy Ghost, and received

into Christ's holy Church, and be made lively *members* of the same.

Then shall the Minister demand of each of the persons to be baptized, severally:

*Quest.*—Wilt thou renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow or be led by them?

*Ans.*—I will.

*Quest.*—Dost thou believe in God the Father, Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth? and in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord? And that he was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary? that he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried? that he rose again the third day: that he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right Hand of God the Father Almighty, and from thence shall come again at the end of the world, to judge the quick and the dead?

And dost thou believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church; the Communion of Saints; the Remission of Sins; the Resurrection of the Body, and everlasting life after death?

*Ans.*—All these I stedfastly believe.

*Quest.*—Wilt thou be baptized in this faith?

*Ans.*—This is my desire.

*Quest.*—Wilt thou then obediently keep God's

holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life.

*Ans.*—I will endeavor so to do, God being my helper.

Then shall the Minister say.

O MERCIFUL GOD, grant that the old Adam *in these persons* may be so buried, that the new man may be raised up in *them*. Amen.

Grant that all carnal affections may die in *them*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *them*. Amen.

Grant that *they* may have power and strength to have victory, and triumph against the devil, the world and the flesh. Amen.

Grant that *they* being here dedicated to thee by our Office and Ministry, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end Amen.

ALMIGHTY, everliving God whose most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed out of his most precious side, both water and blood; and gave commandment to his disciples, that they should go teach all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Ghost: Regard, we beseech thee, the supplications of this congregation; and grant that the *persons* now to be bap-

tized, may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and elect children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the Minister take each person to be baptized by the Right Hand; and placing him conveniently by the Font, according to his discretion, shall ask the name; and then shall sprinkle or pour water upon him (or if he shall desire it, shall immerse him in water), saying,

*N.* I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer, all kneeling.

OUR FATHER who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven: Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us: And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Amen.

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## Matrimony.

First, the Banns of all that are to be married together must be published in the Congregation, three several Sundays, in the time of Divine Service (unless they be otherwise qualified according to law), the Minister saying after the accustomed manner:

I publish the Banns of Marriage between *M*

of —, and *N* of —. If any of you know cause or just impediment, why these two persons should not be joined together in holy matrimony, *ye* are to declare it : This is the first [*second* or *third*] time of asking.

At the day and time appointed for Solemnization of Matrimony, the persons to be married, standing together, the Man on the right hand, and the Woman on the left, the Minister shall say,

DEARLY BELOVED, we are gathered together here in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together this Man and this Woman in holy Matrimony; which is an honourable estate instituted of God in the time of man's innocency, signifying unto us the mystical union that is betwixt Christ and his Church; which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with his presence, and first miracle that he wrought in Cana of Galilee, and is commended of St. Paul to be honourable among all men; and therefore is not by any to be enterprised, or taken in hand unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, advisedly, and in the fear of God.

Into which holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined. Therefore if any can shew any just cause why they may not lawfully be joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter for ever hold his peace.



And also speaking unto the persons that are to be married, he shall say,

I REQUIRE and charge you both, (as you will answer at the dreadful day of judgment, when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed), that if either of you know any impediment why you may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, you do now confess it. For be ye well assured, that so many as are coupled together otherwise than God's word doth allow, are not joined together by God, neither is their matrimony lawful.

If no impediment be alleged, then shall the Minister say unto the man :

*M.* Wilt thou have this woman to thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance, in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live ?

The Man shall answer,

I WILL.

Then shall the Minister say unto the Woman.

*N.* Wilt thou have this man to thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance, in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou obey him, serve him, love, honor, and keep him, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other,

keep thee only unto him, as long as ye both shall live?

The Woman shall answer,

I WILL.

[Then the Minister shall cause the Man with his Right hand to take the Woman by her Right Hand, and to say after him as followeth :

I *M.* take thee *N.* to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my faith.

Then shall they loose their hands, and the Woman with her Right Hand taking the Man by his Right Hand, shall likewise say after the Minister :

I *N.* take thee *M.* to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, cherish, and to obey, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereunto I give thee my faith.]

Then shall the Minister join their Right Hands together and say,

Those whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder.

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NOTE.—That part between the brackets is sometimes omitted.

Forasmuch as *M.* and *N.* have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have pledged their faith either to other, and have declared the same by joining of hands; I pronounce that they are Man and Wife together, In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

And the Minister shall add this blessing:

GOD THE FATHER, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction, and grace, that ye may so live together in this life, that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. Amen.

Then the Minister shall say,

OUR FATHER who art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us: And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

**Burial of the Dead.**

N. B.—The following or some other solemn service shall be used.

The Minister meeting the Corpse, and going before it,  
shall say,

I AM THE RESURRECTION and the life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die. John xi. 25, 26.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. And though, after my skin, worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another. Job xix. 25, 26, 27.

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. 1 Tim. vi. 7. Job i. 21.

At the Grave when the Corpse is laid in the earth, the  
Minister shall say,

Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery. He cometh up, and is cut down like a flower; he fleeth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in one stay.

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for succour, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts: shut not thy merciful ears to our prayers, but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not at our last hour for any pains of death to fall from thee.

Then shall be said :

I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, write; From henceforth blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; even so saith the Spirit; for they rest from their labors.

Then shall the Minister say.

Lord have mercy upon us.

*Christ have mercy upon us.*

Lord have mercy upon us.

OUR FATHER who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name: Thy Kingdom come: Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven: give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us: and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with us all evermore. Amen.

## **The Form and Manner of Ordaining Elders.**

[When the day appointed is come, there shall be a sermon, or exhortation, declaring the Duty and Office of such as come to be admitted Elders ; how necessary that order is in the church of Christ, and also how the people ought to esteem them in their office.

After which, one of the Elders shall present all them that are to be ordained, and say,

I PRESENT unto you these persons present, to be ordained elders.

Then their names being read aloud, the elder shall say unto the people.

BRETHREN, these are they whom we purpose, God willing, this day to ordain elders. For after due examination, we find, not to the contrary, but that they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and that they are persons meet for the same. But if there be any of you who knoweth any impediment or crime in any of them, for which he ought not to be received into this holy ministry, let him come forth in the name of God, and shew what the crime or impediment is.

[If any crime or impediment be objected, the Elder shall surcease from ordaining that person until such time as the party accused shall be found clear of the crime.]

After this shall be read for the Gospel, part of the tenth chapter of St. John.

St. John x. 1—16.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheep fold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door, is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth, and the sheep hear his voice, and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but flee from him, for they know not the voice of strangers. This parable spake Jesus unto them, but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them. Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door, by me if any man enter in he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture: The thief cometh not but to steal, and to kill, and to destroy; I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are

not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth, and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold and one shepherd.

And that done, the Elder shall say unto them as hereafter followeth :

You have heard, brethren, as well in your private examination, as in the exhortation which was now made to you, and in the holy lessons taken out of the gospel, and the writings of the apostles, of what dignity, and of how great importance this office is whereunto you are called. And now again we exhort you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you have in remembrance, into how high a dignity, and to how weighty an office ye are called: That is to say, to be messengers, watchmen and stewards of the Lord, to teach, and to premonish, to feed and provide for the Lord's family, to seek for Christ's sheep that are dispersed abroad, and for his children who are in the midst of this evil world, that they may be saved through Christ forever.



And now that this present congregation of Christ, here assembled, may also understand your minds and wills in these things, and that this, your promise, may the more move you to do your duty: ye shall answer plainly to these things which we, in the name of God and his Church, shall demand of you touching the same.

DO YOU think in your heart, that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, to the order of Elders?

Answer.

Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain sufficiently all doctrines required of necessity for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined, out of the said Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach nothing as required of necessity to eternal salvation, but that which you shall be persuaded, may be concluded and proved by the Scriptures?

Answer.

WILL YOU then give your faithful diligence, always so to minister the doctrine and sacraments, and discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded?

Answer.

WILL YOU be ready with all faithful diligence to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's word; and to use both

public and private monitions and exhortations, as well to the sick as to the whole within your charge as need shall require and occasion shall be given?

Answer.

WILL YOU be diligent in prayers, and in reading of the Holy Scriptures, and in such studies as help to the knowledge of the same, laying aside the study of the world and the flesh?

Answer.

WILL YOU be diligent to frame and fashion yourselves, and your families, according to the doctrines of Christ; and to make both yourselves and them, as much as in you lieth, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ?

Answer.

WILL YOU maintain and set forward, as much as lieth in you, quietness, peace, and love among all Christian People, and especially among them that are or shall be committed to your charge?

Answer.

Then shall the Elder, standing up, say,

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hath given you this will to do all these things, grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same; that he may accomplish his work which he hath begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

When this prayer is done, the Elders present shall lay their hands severally upon the head of every one that

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receiveth the order of Elders : the Receivers humbly kneeling upon their knees, and the Elder saying,

THE LORD pour upon thee the Holy Ghost for the Office and Work of an Elder in the Church of God, which office is now committed unto thee by the imposition of our hands. And be thou a faithful Dispenser of the Word of God, and of his Holy Sacraments; In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Then the Elder shall deliver to every one of them kneeling, the Bible into his hand, saying,

TAKE THOU AUTHORITY to administer the holy sacrament in the congregation.

Then the Elder shall conclude by prayer.





F O R M

OF A

GENERAL DEED OF TRUST.

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**W**HEREAS in and by an Act of Parliament of that part of this Province, formerly known as Upper Canada, passed in the ninth year of the reign of King George the Fourth, entitled "An act for the relief of the Religious societies therein named, it is enacted that whenever any Religious Congregation or Society of Presbyterians, Lutherans, Calvinists, Methodists, Congregationalists, Independants, Anabaptists, Quakers, Menonists, Tunkers, and Moravians, shall have occasion to take a conveyance of Land, for the site of a Church, Meeting House or Chapel, or Burying-Ground, it shall and may be lawful for them to appoint Trustees, to whom, and their successors, to be appointed in such manner as shall be specified in the Deed, the requisite Land for all or any of the purposes aforesaid (not exceeding five acres for any one congregation) may be conveyed, and such Trustees and their successors in perpetual succession, by the name expressed in such Deed, shall be capable of taking, holding, and possessing such land, and of commencing and maintaining any action in law or equity, for the protection

thereof and of their rights thereto. And whereas a Religious Society of Methodists, have occasion to take such a Deed of Conveyance of a Parcel or Tract of Land, situate in the Township of \_\_\_\_\_ and County of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Province of Canada, for the site of a Meeting-House, or Chapel and Burying-Ground, have appointed Trustees by the name and style of the Trustees of the Chapel of the Methodist New Connexion Church of Canada, in the Township of \_\_\_\_\_ Now this Indenture, made the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and \_\_\_\_\_ between \_\_\_\_\_ of the Township of \_\_\_\_\_

in the County of \_\_\_\_\_ and Province aforesaid (*here insert grantors, addition, and if married the name of his wife*) of the first part, and (*here the names, residences, and additions of the Trustees*) the Trustees aforesaid, of the second part; witnesseth that the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ lawful money of the said Province, to him in hand, paid by the said party of the second part, before the sealing and delivery hereof, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath given, granted, bargained, sold, released, confirmed, and conveyed, and by these presents doth give, grant, bargain, sell, release, confirm and convey unto them, the said party of the second part, by the aforesaid name and style of the Trustees of the Chapel of the Methodist New Connexion Church of Canada in the Township of \_\_\_\_\_ and their successors to be appointed in manner hereinafter specified, all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim and demand whatsoever, either in law or equity, which he (*if the party be named, they*) hath (*have*) in, to or upon, all and singular, that certain Lot, Parcel, or Tract of Land,

situate, lying and being in the Township of  
in the County, and Province aforesaid, and which  
may be otherwise more particularly known and  
described as follows: That is to say, commencing  
(*here set out the abutments, courses, and distances*) to the place  
of beginning, containing \_\_\_\_\_ acres, be the  
same more or less, together with all and singular, the  
Houses, Out-houses, Woods, Ways, Waters, Privileges,  
and Appurtenances belonging thereunto, or in any wise  
appertaining: To Have and to Hold, all and singular,  
the above-mentioned and described Piece or Tract of  
Land and Premises so situate, lying and being as afore-  
said, together with all and singular the Houses, Out-  
houses, Woods, Ways, Waters, Privileges, and Appur-  
tenances belonging thereunto, or in any wise apper-  
taining unto them the said party of the second part, and  
their successors in the said Trust forever, for the site of  
a Chapel or Meeting House and Burying Ground, for  
the use of the members of the said Methodist New  
Connexion Church of Canada, according to the Rules  
and Discipline of the said New Connexion, in Trust and  
Confidence that they shall and will at all times hereafter  
forever, permit all and every the Ministers of the said  
New Connexion of Methodists, who are or may hereafter  
be duly licensed or otherwise authorized by the  
Conference of the said Connexion, to Preach and  
Perform Divine Service in said House, and Burial Service  
in said Burying Ground, according to the Rules,  
Discipline and Customs of said Connexion. And in  
further Trust and Confidence that the said Trustees for  
the time being shall, if they think fit, permit the regular  
Ministers of any other Protestant Denominations of  
Christians, to preach and perform Divine Service in the  
said House, when it shall not be required for the use of  
the Ministers of the said Methodist New Connexion



Church of Canada. And also in further Trust and Confidence, that the said Trustees for the time being, or a majority of them, shall and may at any time or times, or at such times as they or a majority of them shall deem expedient, set apart and appropriate so much of the above granted and described premises, as may be necessary for the use and purposes of a Parsonage or place of residence for the Ministers of the said Connexion, and to build, or cause to allow to be built thereon, a fit and proper building for said purpose. Provided always, and it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of this Indenture, and of the parties hereto, that if any of them the said Trustees, or any future Trustees to be appointed under this present provision, shall die, or if any of them shall go to reside beyond the distance of                    miles from said premises, and continue to reside beyond such distance from said premises for the space of                    years, or shall be convicted of felony or any other crime, or shall refuse or decline, or otherwise become incapable of acting as Trustees, and the said original number of Trustees for the time shall thereby be reduced to one-half of the original number ; then, and in any or either of the said cases, and when and so often as the same shall happen, it shall and may be lawful to and for the surviving or continuing Trustees for the time being, or a majority of them, with all convenient speed, by writing under their hands, to nominate and appoint so many other orderly and devout persons, being Members of the Methodist New Connexion Church of Canada, or frequenters of Divine Worship at the said Chapel, and who are known to be attached to the said Connexion, to be Trustees in the place or stead of the persons who shall so die, go to reside at a distance as aforesaid, or be convicted or become incapable to act as aforesaid, or at his or their

own request shall by the other Trustees be permitted to relinquish or be discharged, as shall together with the then surviving or continuing Trustees make up the original number of Trustees, and should the said surviving or continuing Trustees, when so reduced to one-half of the said original number as aforesaid, at any time hereafter refuse or neglect to elect, nominate and appoint new Trustees as aforesaid, for the space of twelve months; then and in every such case and when and so often as the same shall happen, it shall and may be lawful for any seven members of the said New Connexion of Methodists, who have been in the habit of attending Divine Worship at said Chapel for the space of twelve months then last past, and who will still continue to attend the same, by writing under their hands, to require the said surviving or continuing Trustees for the time being to nominate proper persons as aforesaid to fill up the vacancies in the number of the said Trustees; and if the said surviving or continuing Trustees shall neglect or refuse so to do, for the space of six calendar months after such notice or request in writing shall be given as aforesaid, then and in such case, and when and so often as the same shall happen, it shall and may be lawful for the same, or any other seven Members as aforesaid, to call a meeting of the other Members of the said Connexion who attend said Chapel for the purpose of Divine Worship together with the officiating Minister or Ministers for the time being; and it shall and may be lawful for the persons so attending such Meeting, or a majority thereof, to nominate, elect and appoint, such and so many fit and proper persons as aforesaid, to be such new Trustees as will make up the original number as aforesaid; and the Trustees so nominated and appointed in either of the above cases or modes, shall be held and deemed to be

the lawful Successor or Successors of the said above named Trustees of the second part, and shall have in perpetual succession the same capacities, rights, powers and duties as are given to the said above-named Trustees, in and by this Indenture, and by the Statutes above referred to.

And to the intent and end that evidence of the due nomination and appointment of succeeding Trustees, in the said trust, may be preserved, the Trustees for the time being are hereby required to keep a Book of record, in which the name or names of any person or persons nominated and appointed as aforesaid, and also the manner of the nomination and appointment, and all the proceedings relating thereto, shall be entered, and such entry shall be subscribed by the Trustees making the appointment, or if made by a meeting of Members as above provided for, to be subscribed by at least seven of the said Members so making such nomination and appointment—(*Here insert the following clause if the party be married*). And this Indenture further witnesseth that the said

wife of the

above-named for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar of lawful money aforesaid, to her in hand paid by them the said party of the second part, hath remitted, released, and forever relinquished, and by these presents doth remit, release, and forever relinquish unto them the said party of the second part, and their successors duly appointed as aforesaid, all and all manner of Dower and Right or Title of Dower whatsoever, which she the said

in the event of surviving her said husband, might or of right ought to have or claim in, to and out of the said certain parcel or Tract of Land and Premises above-mentioned, and every Part and Parcel thereof, and all manner of Action or Actions and Writ or Writs of Dower whatsoever.

MEMORIAL FOR DEED OF TRUST. 103

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we the said parties to this Indenture, have hereunto set our hands and seals, on the day and year above written.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in presence of

*(The parties sign in the same order in which their names are mentioned in the Deed.)*

---

FORM OF MEMORIAL FOR DEED OF TRUST.

A MEMORIAL, to be Registered pursuant to the Statute in such case made and provided, of an Indenture of Bargain and Sale made under and by virtue of an Act of the Parliament of that part of the Province of Canada formerly known as Upper Canada, passed in the ninth year of the Reign of King George the Fourth, entitled "An Act for the relief of the Religious Societies therein named," made the            day of            in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and            between            of the Town of            in the County of            and Province aforesaid, *(here insert the grantors' addition, and if married, wife's name)* of the first part, and *(here add names, residences*

# 104 MEMORIAL FOR DEED OF TRUST.

*and additions of the Trustees as in the Deed*) Trustees of the Chapel of the Methodist New Connexion Church of Canada, in the Township of \_\_\_\_\_ of the second part, whereby it is witnessed that the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ lawful money of the said Province, to him in hand paid by the said party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath given, granted, bargained, sold, released, confirmed and conveyed unto the said party, of the second part, by the name and style aforesaid, and their Successors to be appointed in manner hereinafter specified, all the Estate, Right, Title, Interest, Property, Claim and demand whatsoever, of him the said party of the first part in, to, or upon all and singular a certain Parcel or Tract of Land and Premises, situate, lying and being in the Township of \_\_\_\_\_ in the County and Province aforesaid, and which may be more particularly known and described as follows: That is to say, commencing at (*here set out the abbuttals, courses and distances as in the Deed*) to the place of beginning, containing \_\_\_\_\_ acres, be the same more or less, together with all and singular the Houses, Out-Houses, Woods, Ways, Waters, Privileges, and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining: To Have and to Hold, all and singular the above-mentioned and described Parcel or Tract of Land and Premises, with all and singular the Houses, Out-Houses, Woods, Ways, Waters, Privileges, and Appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining unto them the said party of the second part, and their successors in the said Trust forever, for the site of a Chapel or Meeting-House and Burying-Ground, for and upon certain Uses and Trusts in the said Indenture mentioned; (*if grantor be married insert*

# MEMORIAL FOR DEED OF TRUST. 105

*as follows*: and whereby it is also further witnessed for the further consideration therein mentioned, that the said \_\_\_\_\_ wife of the said

\_\_\_\_\_ hath remitted, released, and forever relinquished unto the said party of the second part, and their successors, all and all manner of Dower, which she might or would be entitled to in the event of her surviving her said husband, in the said Parcel or Tract of Land and Premises thereby conveyed, and which said Indenture is witnessed by \_\_\_\_\_ of &c., and this Memorial is hereby required to be registered by \_\_\_\_\_ the said party of the \_\_\_\_\_ part therein named.

Witness \_\_\_\_\_ Hand \_\_\_\_\_ and Seal \_\_\_\_\_ this  
 \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year of our Lord  
 one thousand eight hundred and \_\_\_\_\_

Signed and Sealed in Presence of.



## APPENDIX.

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### CHAPEL DEEDS.

"An Act respecting the Registration of Instruments relating to Lands in Upper Canada, assented to on the 18th of September, 1865," makes many important alterations on the old law on this subject. The Registrar and other legal authorities at London inform us that by its provisions, no *memorials can in future be registered*, but that the *Deeds* must be registered *at full length*. If this be correct, Memorials will no longer be needed—two copies of the Deed requiring to be executed. See quotations under.

LONDON, April 5th, 1866.

W. T.

From the Statutes of Canada, passed in the 29th year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, Anno Domini, 1865, chapter 24, sections 30 and 31, page 102—"All Instruments that may be registered under this act shall, on and after the first day of January next, be registered at full length, including every certificate and affidavit, excepting certificates by the Registrar accompanying the same, upon and by the delivery to the Registrar of the original instrument where but one is executed, or when such instrument is in two or more original parts, upon and by delivery of one of such parts.

In case one of two or more original parts is registered, the Registrar shall endorse upon each of such original parts a certificate of such registration, and such original, so certified, shall be received as *prima facie* evidence of the registration and of the due execution of the same."



## PROBATIONERS

All Probationers shall diligently pursue such studies, as shall be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Education, and shall subject themselves to such yearly examinations as the Conference may direct.

All Probationers ordained for special purposes shall be particularly examined respecting their understanding and approval of the polity of the Methodist New Connexion Church.

The requisitions in the course of study do not supersede, or set aside any of the requirements of our Discipline in such cases provided.

The following questions shall be proposed to each candidate *publicly* at each May District Meeting, by the Chairman of the District—the answers to which shall be faithfully recorded in the District Book, and brought to Conference for the inspection of the Board of Education and Conference in forming their decisions on the merits of each candidate :

1. Have you *daily* and *prayerfully* read the word of God during the year?
2. Have you a time *specially* set apart for this sacred duty?
3. Have you a *definite rule* as to the order or amount of such daily readings?
4. Have you read the Bible regularly through *once*, or oftener, during the year?
5. What part of Mr. Wesley's doctrinal works have you studied this year?
6. What part of Mr. Fletcher's writings have you studied this year?
7. What other works, helpful to personal piety or ministerial usefulness, have you read?
8. Have you any rule by which you apportion your

time for the attainment of personal holiness, for study, and for pastoral duties?

9. Have you carefully visited the sick under your care during the year?

10. Have you had fruit of your ministry in the conversion of sinners?

11. Have you paid attention to the establishment of Sabbath schools; and have you catechized the children of those schools, and of our friends and hearers, as you have had opportunity?

12. Have you visited the people at their houses, enquiring into their religious state, praying with them, and administering to them wholesome counsel?

13. Have you carefully read over our Discipline during the year, and has it your approval and confidence?

---

#### FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the "Superannuated Minister's Annuitant Society" of the Methodist New Connexion Church of Canada, the sum of  
Dollars, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of said Society.

Signed this      day of  
A.D., 18

A. B.  
(Testator.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ } Witnesses.

Three witnesses should state that the testator declared this to be his last will and testament, and that they signed it at his request and in his presence, and the presence of each other.



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