

**WESLEYAN METHODIST CONFERENCE:  
ITS UNION WITH THE CONFERENCE OF  
THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH IN  
CANADA, IN AUGUST, 1833, AND ITS  
SEPARATION FROM THE CANADA  
CONFERENCE, IN AUGUST, 1840**

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Wesleyan Methodist Conference: Its Union with the Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada, in August, 1833, and Its Separation from the Canada Conference, in August, 1840 by W. Ryerson & E. Ryerson

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**W. RYERSON & E. RYERSON**

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# WESLEYAN METHODIST CONFERENCE:

ITS UNION WITH THE CONFERENCE OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST  
CHURCH IN CANADA, IN AUGUST, 1833, AND ITS SEPARATION  
FROM THE CANADA CONFERENCE, IN AUGUST, 1840:

CONSISTING OF

THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE  
OF BOTH BODIES AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

BY W. AND E. RYERSON,

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CANADA CONFERENCE.

PUBLISHED IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF  
THE ENGLISH CONFERENCE IN THE PRINTERS OFFICES.



"While you are in search after truth in questions of a doubtful nature, or such as you have not yet thoroughly examined, keep up a just indifference to either side of the question, if you would be led honestly into the truth."—Dr. WATTS.

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1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. It highlights the need for consistent and reliable data collection processes to support informed decision-making.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of technology in modern data management. It discusses how advanced software solutions can streamline data collection, storage, and analysis, leading to more efficient and accurate results.

4. The fourth part of the document addresses the challenges associated with data security and privacy. It provides guidance on implementing robust security measures to protect sensitive information from unauthorized access and breaches.

5. The fifth part of the document explores the importance of data quality and integrity. It discusses strategies for identifying and correcting errors in data, ensuring that the information used for analysis is accurate and reliable.

6. The sixth part of the document discusses the ethical considerations surrounding data collection and use. It emphasizes the need for transparency in data practices and the protection of individual privacy rights.

7. The seventh part of the document provides a summary of the key findings and recommendations. It reiterates the importance of a comprehensive data management strategy that encompasses all aspects of data collection, analysis, and security.

8. The final part of the document offers concluding thoughts on the future of data management. It suggests that continued innovation and collaboration will be essential for overcoming the challenges and realizing the full potential of data in the digital age.

## P R E F A C E.

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THE proceedings and correspondence published in the following pages deeply involve the character of Wesleyan Methodism, and are, therefore, of deep interest to its friends. Up to the present moment, there is no instance of two bodies of Methodists, regularly descended from the venerable Wesley, existing in the same country. The Wesleyan Conferences, both in England and America, have hitherto illustrated, as well as professed, the principle enjoined by Mr. Wesley, in a letter written to America, about six weeks before his death, that, "the Methodists are one people in all the world, and it is their full determination so to continue,

*'Though mountains rise and oceans roll,  
To sever us in vain.'*"

To prevent an anomaly, as unreasonable as it would have been disgraceful and sinful, a very numerous attended Wesleyan Conference, held at Manchester, in 1833, unanimously agreed to a union with the Wesleyan Conference in Canada. At the close of the session of the Conference lately held in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, a majority of about seventy ministers, who remained after the departure to their Circuits of upwards of three hundred ministers, (before whom the Representatives of the Canada Conference earnestly entreated that the questions pending might be investigated) have decided to break off that union; and a Committee appointed by them have since determined to commence operations in Upper Canada, separate from the body established in that Province, since 1787;—thus erecting altar against altar in the great and hitherto united family of Methodism. The Rev. PETER JONES, Indian chief and Missionary, has expressed his determination, in any alternative, to adhere to the Canadian

Conference, which was the means of his conversion and that of his people. Of course, all the Indians, under his influence, will do the same. It is possible that some of the Indian converts may be induced to join the agents of the London Wesleyan Missionary Committee. Thus will schisms and divisions be introduced amongst those converts from heathenism, which must be fatal to the extension of Christianity, amongst the yet unconverted tribes, and may prove the occasion of the apostasy of many who have been "brought out of darkness into marvelous light."

It therefore becomes the duty, as it must be the inclination, of every Wesleyan Methodist in England, as well as in Canada, and of every contributor and friend to Wesleyan Missions, to inquire whether there are facts in Canada which justify such a course of proceeding on the part of the Wesleyan Missionary Committee in London; and whether Wesleyan Mission Funds may not be more appropriately expended, and Wesleyan missionaries more usefully employed, than in turning the province of Upper Canada, (already sufficiently divided into parties) into a field of unhallowed rivalry and unreasonable contention. We invite such an inquiry, and we refer the inquirer to the following pages for the requisite information. In the perusal of them he will find that the Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada enjoys the fullest approbation and confidence of Her Majesty's popular and able Representative in that country, while it preaches and enforces the doctrines and discipline of Wesleyan Methodism; and that the ground assumed by the London Wesleyan Committee does not involve any doctrines or principles contained in Mr. Wesley's four volumes of sermons, or notes on the New Testament, not any great principle of Methodist discipline, nor rule of Christian faith and practice, but the intolerance of party feeling, matters of shillings and pence, doubtful questions of human expediency, and assumptions of prerogative and power, as novel as they are unjust and inexpedient.

*London, August 29, 1840.*



ENGLISH WESLEYAN CONFERENCE  
AND CANADA.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE IN LONDON.

*Resolutions of a Committee appointed by the British Conference of 1839, to decide finally in all Matters relating to the Union existing between the British Conference and the Upper Canada Conference, and to the Indian Missions in Upper Canada, 77, Hatton Garden, Wednesday, 29th of April, 1840.*

THE Committee having before them various documents showing that some of the pledges given at the last Canadian Conference have not been fulfilled, especially in the conduct of the Rev. Egerton Ryerson, in the management of the Christian Guardian ;—and also, a letter from Mr. Under-Secretary Vernon Smith, addressed to Dr. Alder, stating that a representation had been received from Mr. Ryerson, urging the claim of the Upper Canada Conference, to the exclusive management of the yearly grant received by the Wesleyan Missionary Society,—which letter was accompanied by a despatch from the Governor General of Canada on the subject, and inclosing a copy of Mr. Ryerson's letter to his Excellency, have come to the following resolutions :—

I. That just grounds of complaint exist against the Rev. Egerton Ryerson, particularly on the following points :—

1. That Mr. Ryerson, as it appears to the Committee, in his recent communications with the Governor General, and on other occasions, has virtually and practically superseded the Rev. Jos. Stinson, the regularly appointed President of the Upper Canada

Conference, and therefore the official Agent and Representative of the Wesleyan body in Upper Canada, during the interim of its sittings;—and has thus acted with great and culpable irregularity.

2. That in the judgment of this Committee Mr. Ryerson has discovered an utter want of ingenuousness and integrity in thus attempting to gain the possession, on behalf of the Canadian Conference, in whole or in part, of the grant made by the crown to the Wesleyan Missionary Society, and that he has in this matter committed a flagrant violation of the obligations arising from the union between the two Conferences.

3. That the Christian Guardian, of which Mr. Ryerson is the editor, instead of being conducted according to express stipulation and promise made to Dr. Alder, and the direction of the Canada Conference, as a religious paper, has become more than ever a political and party organ, and that Mr. Ryerson's attempted defence of its proceedings, by an allusion to the alleged official authority of the Watchman newspaper, in England, is founded in a gross misrepresentation of facts, in as much as the British Conference has no political or religious organ whatever but its own recognised periodicals, and has none, but the proprietors and editors of the Watchman, not one of whom is a minister, are responsible for its contents.

II. That the Committee are far from implicating the whole or any part of the members of the Upper Canada Conference, in these unjustifiable proceedings of Mr. Ryerson, and cannot but hope that they will utterly repudiate them at their next annual sitting, and mark the sense which they entertain of such a dishonest attempt to deprive the Wesleyan Missionary Committee of their just and righteous claims, on the plighted faith of the British crown and government, by partial, clandestine, and unauthorised representation, in such manner as the nature of the case requires; and that they will place the Christian Guardian, if it must be continued as a newspaper at all, in such hands as will at least secure the fulfilment of the oft-repeated promise, that it shall be exclusively a *religious publication*. The Committee are the more encouraged to hope that the Conference will adopt this course, from the report of Dr. Alder, that various members of that body had expressed to him the deepest grief at the political course pursued by Mr. Ryerson, in conducting the Christian

Guardian, and their earnest desire to maintain unimpaired, on just and proper principles, the union which now exists between the two Conferences.

III. If, however, this reasonable expectation should be disappointed, and a majority of the Canada Conference at their next sitting, should be found to support and encourage such proceedings as those of which the Committee complain, it will be their painful duty to recommend to the next British Conference, to dissolve the union which at present subsists between the two Connexions, and to adopt such measures for the maintenance and extension of the Indian missions in Upper Canada, as may appear to be necessary.

IV. That the Committee are deeply sensible of the injury to the cause of God and to the interests of the province which may be anticipated from a dissolution of the union, and are anxious, if possible, to prevent their occurrence; of which anxiety the British Conference have given repeated proof, by the deputations they have sent to Canada, and the other measures they have adopted. If, therefore, the Canadian Conference should deem it to be its duty to send a representation to the next British Conference, for the purpose of offering any explanations, or of making proposals with a view to perpetuating the union; or should that be found impracticable, for the purpose of making such arrangements, as may prevent unseemly and unchristian collisions between members of the two divisions of the same great family, the Committee assure the Canadian Conference, that such representation will be received with cordial affection by the British Conference, and that every attention will be paid to his statements and representations.

V. That whatever may be the result of these affairs, the Committee take it for granted that no objection or opposition will be offered to the Wesleyan Missionary Committee retaining its direction of the Indian missions in Upper Canada,—missions which they were instrumental in saving from ruin, and on which they have expended so large a proportion of their attention and of their funds: but should any objection or opposition be offered from any quarter to their doing so, the Committee, in virtue of the power vested in them by the British Conference, recommend and direct, that under no circumstances shall any one