

**West Lake Treasurer's Book**  
**Half Yearly Meeting**  
**1830 - 1847**

Archives: Box 24-7, file 18

This book is held by the Canadian Quaker Archives and Library in Newmarket, Ontario.

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The transcription was coordinated by Jane Zavitz Bond, archivist for Canada Yearly Meeting, and fully transcribed by Sheila Havard and prepared for posting by Randy Saylor. The text was transcribed as written. Transcriber notes are in square brackets. The book has not been proof read.

West Lake was established in 1803 as a Preparative meeting under Adolphustown Monthly Meeting. West Lake first built a meeting house on "Bowerman Hill" just west of Bloomfield. Due to growth, in 1817 a new and larger meeting house was built in eastern Bloomfield on the site of the current Bethany Christian Reformed Church. The old burial ground survives south of the road across from this meeting site. In 1821, West Lake was established as the Monthly Meeting and Adolphustown became a Preparative meeting. Subordinate meetings were Green Point, Ameliasburgh, Haldimand and Cold Creek.

This Treasurer's book was for the Orthodox Quakers to keep a record of finances associated with the Canada Half Yearly Meeting after the 1828 separation. Part of the book deals with payments for the deaths expenses of Thomas and Martha Linvill who were influential in the Yonge St Orthodox meeting. The last section deals with legal matters regarding trustees and ownership of religious land and buildings.

Researchers are requested to cite the transcription when incorporating passages excerpted from this transcription. Please note that CFHA welcomes written comment, submissions and research related to the Canadian Quaker experience and legacy for publication consideration in The Meetinghouse newsletter or the Canadian Quaker History Journal. Please contact [chair@cfha.info](mailto:chair@cfha.info) for additional details and see also the submission guidelines provided on the CFHA website.

[Page 1 - Box 24-7 – File # 18] [18a]

Quotas to support a [illegible] 1830 Ct the Half years meeting [76 x 6y]

£ s d [11] 9th mo by Cash Recd of John Palmer for West Lake [?] 14 [40] [11] 10th mo by Cash  
of Samuel Baker 4 9 4 by Cash of Samuel Taylor for Pelham 1 0 0

[11] 1831 by Cash of Saml Taylor for Do 2 0 0

2<sup>nd</sup> mo by Cash from West Lake [11] by Asa Randall 12 9 6[1/2] [11] by Cash recd from Yonge  
Street 17 0 0 [11] 8<sup>th</sup> mo 29<sup>th</sup>

by Cash Recd of Samuel Taylor for Pelham 2 0 0

The above sums carried to Book B 39 13 3 Book B 13 10 4[1/2]

Balance in favour of the meeting £26 2 10[1/2]

Carried forward

£ s d 1830 Dt

the Half years meeting 26 x [cur y]

[11] 2<sup>nd</sup> mo To expences of part of the Committee on business to York 10 0

1831 [11] 1st mo To expences of part of the Committee on business 1 5 2 [11] 2nd mo To Cash  
paid Attorney 6 0 0 [11] To expences on Committee on business 0 [3] 9[1/2] 8<sup>th</sup> mo 26<sup>th</sup>

To cash paid Henry Widdifield - Attorney Generals fee 5 0 0

9<sup>th</sup> mo To [illegible] Letter from

Samuel [illegible] including a document

(in 1831) [11] from the [illegible] each meeting in

London [illegible] 7 2 To [illegible] an answer to said Letter 11 To [illegible] Letter to [Silas  
Cornell]

requesting his care in forwarding [Plan] of the trial in London of [illegible] 11 [10<sup>th</sup> mo] To  
postage on a Letter from [illegible] [Forster] with a minute of the [11] yearly meeting of London  
in 1831 11

11th mo To postage on a Letter from one of the committee concerning the property case  
[illegible] 9

13 10 4

5th [mo] To postage on a Letter from one of the property committee [illegible]

the case 9

1832 Cash Received

Quota for yearly meeting [Stock] [To x]

[illegible] From Yonge Street 4 0 8 [illegible] [illegible] Do [illegible] 4 0 8 8 0 16 [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] people From Yonge Street 12 0 0 7 14 41/2 [Illegible] Letter  
[illegible] [30 8 9] Do [illegible] Norwich 1 7 5 16 0 £10 11 2 Recd Pelham to yearly meeting  
[Stock]

Tor Boarding school from Yonge Street 2.9 5 16 0 Do from Norwich 2 s [ill] 3 2 0

[illegible] Pelham and to yearly meeting

[Stock] 6 0 added for [illegible] people from [illegible] 38.5

5th month 1832 forwarded [illegible] Quota of yearly mtg [Stock] 12 0 0

and the other sums above Making in all 49 Dollars 94 Cents 11th mo To postage on a Letter  
from England

concerning Banks sent 2/8 by [illegible]

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Dt the Half years meeting [Halifax Coy]

1832 [3 mo] To postage on a letter to Samuel Parsons on property business 11 [4 mo 4] To  
postage on a letter from S Parsons 11 6 mo To postage on a letter from [illegible] 9

[11] of the Committee on the property [illegible] [11] To postage on a letter [illegible] said  
Committee 9 [11] To postage on a letter from England

[11] concerning Books sent 2 8

1833 8 mo To freight cartage & storage on Books received from England 3 3 5

Carried to Book B

1832 Balance brought forward 26 2 10 [11] from Yonge Street 1 14 0 from Norwich 1 2 0 from  
Pelham 5 0

[11] from Norwich monthly meeting on the property concern 4 16 0 9 mo Do Do 1 sovereign 1 3  
4 [11] from Do toward Pickering meeting house 2 10 0

Carried to Book B

*[18b]*

[Money] [cut off] Thomas Linvills Will

**£ s d**

1847 9 month 17th paid to Eliane [illegible] [Gorham] two pounds nineteen s ten pence 2 19 10 1849  
[9th] mo 9th Received of Amos Tool when dew six pound five shillings 6 5 0 1852 [3] mo 3 A Recept of  
Elizah Heacock 20 0 0 1854 11 mo 28 A Recept of Martha Hand Joel Hollinshead 20 0 0 1854 12 mo  
paid ten shillings for riting a release for the [illegible] [lageteers] 1855 first mo 6th Thomas [Gosford]  
brought an [acoumpt] aganst the Estate to balance his note of 18 & [illegible] 7 1/2 18 0 7 1/2

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**£ s d**

8th 17th to two pound one shilling for time and Expences for attending to 2 1 0

Thomas Linvill's Will 9th mo 13th to one pound ten shillings for prasens and Clark and [Excens] Changes 1 10 0 23rd 23rd [illegible] five pound in Cash 5 0 0 9 29th To three pound five Shillings paid to [Chuct] and Blake 3 5 0 9 29 to two pound five Shillings for time and Expences 2 5 0 10 mo 9th by Cash four pound ten shillings 4 10 0 10 mo 11th to seven an sixpence for Memoarel to the will and a half to [illegible] 0 7 6 11 ml 19th to fifteen shillings for going to tronto to take the probate to 15 0 20 to ten shillings for [Regerston] the Memoarel 0 10 0

1842 1st mo 5th to ten shillings for going and taking the Probate to the Bank 0 10 10th mo 24th by one pound ten shillings in Cash 1 10 -

10 0 0

10th month

28th paid to Samuel E Phillip ten shillings 0 10 [1844] 9 1 Paid for printing advertisement 7 6 4 for [praising] and attending to the affairs 15 0

[ill] [10] [3]

Pay [cheque] [Mr.] Eleazar Lewis [Jr]

Newmarket

[18f] Thomas Linvill accounts

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1841

[illegible] 8 mo 17th to two pound one shilling for time and Expences 2 1 1 9 mo 23th by Cash five pound. Carried back to page No. 1 5 0 0 [illegible] to ten sillings for inventory [Bo] 0 10 0

[5 1] 29th to [two] pound paid to [Chuct] and Blake 3 5 0 29 to two pound four and Eight pence 2 4 8 Elijah [Heacock] 7 day of 11 month 1837 Martha Hollingshead 29 of 8 month 1833 Edward Heacock 7 of 10 month 1836 [Jared] Heacock 24 of 6 month 1838

Thomas Linvill accounts

[Stamp]: NEWMARKET

5 P 17 1866

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18b] 1847 8 24 Paid for coffin for Martha Linvill 1 11 0

for digging grave for Martha Linvill 6 3 9 11 Paid the Auctioneer 1 5 0 for clarking and my time 12 6 9  
11 by cash 1 3 10 9 11th Thomas [illegible] to 14 1/2 yards of Cloth [illegible] 4 10 7 1/2 1848 2 mo 22nd  
paid to JD Phillips 1 13 0 1849 joint stock Bank 10 mo 23rd stag fare and other Exspences for attending  
to the farmers 0 17 6 10 mo 23 I obtained at the sam tim ninteen pound 2s 6 19 2 6 1849 [illegible] month  
6th A Receipt of Levi and Mary Heacock 22 0 0 1850 third mo 6th A Receipt of Mary and Thomas Webb  
20 0 0 1850 third mo 6th A Receipt of Albert Webb 20 0 0 1850 third mo 6th A Receipt of Thomas Linvill  
Webb 20 0 0 [1849] third mo 13th A Receipt of Eli [James] for seventeen shillings and 7 [illegible] 0 17 7  
[1848] fifth mo 11th paid to Joseph Gibson fifteen Shillings and sixpence 15 6  
29 9 8

*[Page 6 - Box 24-7 – File # 18] [18c]*

Not having seen any of the Deeds mentiond in the accompanying abstract from the Registry, I  
can only to take it for granted that what appears in the Memorials is all that is said in the several  
deeds, respecting the trusts & without seeing the deeds, I can not speak with certainty

Supposing that nothing more is said in the deeds respecting the trusts than is contained in the  
Memorials – then I think that with regard to No. 1 - the Statute passed last [illegible] for enabling  
religious societies to hold lands, has no effect upon the title to this land - It is conveyed to  
trustees in fee simple, without any provision for a discension of trustees except by the natural  
descent to the hier of the survivor.

[All] the present trustees are devized as joint tenants, & each has an equal interest – the last  
trustee will hold the estate and it will descend to his hier - unless the [illegible] trustees should  
join, (which they ought to do) in making

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*[Note: This page appears to be a duplicate of the previous one.]*

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a conveyance to trustees, with a provision for appointing Successors by the Society – such a  
conveyance would be effectual under the new Statute.

As to No. 2

I think if any of the trustees has seceded from this Society, they should appoint others in their  
room – an equal number – I would recommend it to be done in writing, and after the regular  
manner of transacting business by the Society at their monthly meeting observing all the usual  
form.

No. 4 stands on precisely the same footing.

No 3 and No. 5 are not on so favourable a footing the future appointment of trustees

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not being so clearly provided for – I think however that by implication it will be understood that the Successors are to be appointed as the first trustees were which I suppose was at the Monthly meeting, & I would recommend the same course to be pursued.

As to No. 6 – I would advise the appointment of trustees to fill the vacancies of those who had seceded from the Society as in the other cases.

[A.B. Robinson]

*[Page 10 - Box 24-7 – File # 18] [18c]*

Opinion of the Attorney General Respecting the Titles for the lands and premises within the Compass of Yonge Street Monthly Meeting

*[Page 11 - Box 24-7 – File # 18] [18d]*

There are many difficulties which present themselves in the way of establishing the right of the Society of Quakers to their property from the want of a Court of Chancery, by whom the trustee [cant] be controlled or compelled to act – At present however it appears important to establish the rights of the present [illegible] to the name of the Society of Quakers, to the name of the Society which is equally claimed by the Seceder, and which of course to a very great extent will settle the whole question – With a view to this point only – I am of opinion that it would be adviseable to institute an action to try the right to the premises described as No. 2 – or No. 4 – these being on a precisely similar footing – In recommending this course, I wish to be distinctly understood as assuming that an appointment of a similar number of trustees to those who have joined the Seceders, has taken place according according to the regular mode of proceeding of the Society and proper vouchers of such appointment kept, as also that those trustees who seceded have in like manner been discharged from their trust and declared to be no longer members of the society – The evidence which will be required to sustain such action must of course be matter of future consideration when the Society have made up their mind whether they will commence an action or not.

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Opinion for Society of friends by [Wm Draper]

*[Page 13 - Box 24-7 – File # 18] [18e]*

An act for the relief of religious Societies therein named [Passed March 25th 1828]

Whereas religious societies of various denominations of Christians find difficulty in securing the title of land requisite for the site of a Church, meeting houses, or Chapel, or burying ground, for want of a corporate capacity to take and hold the same in perpetual succession; and hold the same in perpetual succession; be it therefore enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the legislative council and assembly of the Province of Upper Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an act passed in the Parliament of Great Britain, entitled "An act to repeal certain parts of an act passed in the fourteenth year of his Majesty's reign, entitled An act for making more effectual provision for the government of the province of Quebec, in North America, and to make further provision for the government of the said province [illegible] and by the authority of the same, That whenever any religious congregation or society of Presbyterians, Lutherans, Calvinists, Methodists, Congregationalists, Independents, Anabaptists, Quakers, Menonists, Tunkers, or Moravians, shall have occasion to take a Conveyance of land for any of the uses aforesaid, 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 land requisite for all or any of the purposes aforesaid 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 or actions in law or equity for the protection thereof, and of their right thereto.

2nd And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That there shall not be held in trust for for the purposes aforesaid more than five acres of Land for any one congregation.

3d And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that such Trustees shall within twelve months after the execution of such deed, cause the same to be registered in the office of the register in the county in which the land lies.

4<sup>th</sup> And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that all conveyances made before the passing of this act, for all or any of the purposes aforesaid, shall be good and valid in law, in like manner as if the same had been made after the passing of this act, and subject to the provisions of this act; provided such conveyance shall have been already registered, or shall be hereafter registered as aforesaid, within twelve months after the passing of this act.

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Act of Parliament concerning Titles for Land for the use of Religious Societies