

Our English brethren responded to the call, took our brother Preston by the hand, and collected as much as would build us a comfortable Chapel; and by request of the church, our brother was Ordained in London, G. B. and came out here as pastor of the African Baptist Church in Halifax, and the suburbs of the City, which place he filled till the day of his death. Eight years ago, by request of his brethren living in the different Townships and counties of this province, he felt it his duty to organize them into an Associated Body, and to be called the African Baptist Association. All the Churches mourn his loss; but their loss has been his eternal gain. Our brother was endued with noble gifts, and as a public orator, could command the attention of his audience,—his voice would act as a charm upon their ears. There was a dark cloud of sorrow hovered over the churches on the 16th of July 1861, when they heard that our brother was not, for God had took him, and very many of the members wept aloud and cried, My father, My father,—but he has gone, the crown is put on, let us fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life.—But my brethren, this is not all, before our minutes go to press, on the 19th of November the death of our Rev. and much beloved brother John Hamilton, was announced; our brother was an African man, stolen from Africa, sold in America, as you would sell a horse, for the harness, or an ox for the yoke. But that God, who rules Nations and governs Empires, made away for his escape; and at the time of the American war, he was one amongst the many, that was brought to a free soil: He was called by grace out of darkness, translated into the Kingdom of God's dear son. It was not long before the brethren perceived that he had a gift to preach; he was advised to go into the work and although our brother never went far from Hammond Plains, to labour, in word and doctrine, yet he was found to be eminently useful amongst his own flock, which he became pastor of for some years before his death. Our brother was firm in the doctrines of free and sovereign grace, and stood firm as a rock to the last; our brother was a sterling man, nothing was ever known to be brought against him, since he united with the church; he died as he lived, Preaching to the last minute. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints. Princes shall come out of Egypt and Ethiopia