

CONSTITUTION

E. S. Eastern Baptist Association.

ARTICLE 1st.—This body shall be called the Eastern Baptist Association of Nova Scotia, and shall consist of Delegates representing the Churches of which it is composed, each of whom shall be a member of one of those churches, together with Delegates from Corresponding Associations, not exceeding five from any one Association; and such others as may, by the Association, be invited to sit in Council; none but delegates being entitled to vote, and such only as represent churches being eligible to office, or to vote for officers.

ART 2nd.—Each church connected with the body may send five Delegates besides its Pastor.

ART 3rd.—The object of this Association being the cultivation of Christian Union, the promotion of individual godliness, and by mutual consultation, to seek, in the use of Scriptural measures, the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom—it disclaims all authority over churches, and shall in no case interfere with their internal concerns, or their entire scriptural independency. Yet it may dissolve its connection with any church that, upon sufficient examination, shall be judged by the Association to have departed essentially from Scripture principles or Baptist faith and practice.

ART. 4th.—This Association shall meet at such time and place as it may appoint, and the meetings shall be opened with devotional exercises.

ART. 5th.—The Officers of the Association shall be—A Moderator, who shall preside at all the meetings, nominate all the Committees not otherwise provided for, and perform all the duties naturally connected with such office; a Clerk who shall keep a record of all the business transacted, prepare the Minutes for the press, and attend to their distribution; and a Treasurer, who shall receive all the moneys contributed for the purposes of the Association, and dispose of them according to its direction. All the officers shall remain in office until their successors are chosen.

ART. 6th.—The religious sentiments of this body are those expressed in the "Articles of the Faith and Practice of the Baptist Churches in Nova Scotia."

ART. 7th.—The Association may receive any Church which, by letter, shall apply for admission, and shall give satisfactory evidence of its faith and order, in agreement with the religious sentiments of this body; and each Church belonging to this body shall send annually a letter, containing an account of its history for the year preceding, particularly of its additions and diminutions, with its number then in fellowship,—also, money to assist in publishing the Minutes. Any Church that for three successive years omits sending any Letter, Delegates, or money, shall be considered withdrawn from the Association, and shall be discontinued from the Minutes, unless sufficient reason may appear to account for the omission, or provided it may appear desirable to make some inquiry, by committee or otherwise, and report at the next meeting of the Association.

ART. 8th.—This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members at any annual meeting of the Association.