

faithful labours among them for several years past, in connection with the peculiar circumstances in which he was placed, would lead to a restoration of kind feelings, and induce them in future to cherish towards him that respect which is due to a christian minister.--- Whereupon it is Resolved that the Association do approve and adopt the above report.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Association be presented to the church at Wilmot and the congregation, and other benevolent friends, for their hospitality and kindness during this session, as also for their liberal contributions in aid of the different objects proposed on the present occasion.

Meeting concluded with prayer. At six o'clock brother Charles Randall preached.

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### CIRCULAR LETTER.

DEAR BRETHREN,

In our address this year, our object is to excite you to a more diligent study of the Bible. Many important duties are at the present time pressing upon us as a denomination, to the performance of which we wish affectionately to urge you; and we know of no more effectual means of doing this, than by prevailing upon you to study more thoroughly the word of God. It is the standard of christian duty, where we have "line upon line, precept upon precept," and where all who are desirous of being wholly devoted to the Lord, are "thoroughly furnished to every good work." It is matter of special thanksgiving to almighty God, that the Scriptures are of so easy access. Translated into our own tongue, and circulated so easily and cheaply as they now are, nothing can hinder them from entering the humblest dwelling or enlightening the feeblest intellect, where they are really desired. In the superstitious ignorance of the dark ages, when the Bible was kept from the multitude, and in the wretched condition of the heathen, we see the sad picture of what our own land would be were we deprived of the sacred book. But notwithstanding it is brought so very near us, we have reason to fear that the study of it is very much neglected. How many who live in countries denominated christian, are as ignorant of its contents as are the heathen themselves! How many professing christians have never read the whole of it! How few can be said, with the least propriety, to be well acquainted with it! How many are to be met with, who, by professing to be pious, declare that they esteem the word of God "more than their ordinary food," "sweeter than honey and the honey comb;" and yet have not the amount of one chapter treasured up in their memories; who cannot show with any distinctness what the Bible teaches on any one point of doctrine, duty, or experience; who cannot even find any number of passages which may be quoted in their hearing, without great difficulty; and who do not even know the names and order of the Books in the New Testament. Brethren, these facts are as humbling as they are melancholy and true. Such