

Constitution and Rules of Order.

ARTICLE 1.—This Association shall consist of Delegates, representing the Churches of which it is composed, each of whom shall be a member of one of those Churches, and shall be styled the "Western N. B. Baptist Association."

ARTICLE 2.—The objects of this Association shall be the collection of statistical and other information from the Churches, the cultivation of mutual acquaintance and fraternal union, the production of individual godliness, and the spiritual prosperity of the Churches; and, in the use of scriptural means the enlargement of the Redeemer's kingdom.

ARTICLE 3.—The Association shall meet annually at 2 o'clock, p. m., on the second Tuesday in July, at such place as they shall appoint; notice of which shall be given in the Minutes, and in the denominational paper. The meeting shall be opened with Social Conference; after which the officers and committees shall be appointed. Every meeting held by adjournment from time to time during the session of the Association, shall be opened and concluded by prayer.

ARTICLE 4.—Each Church shall have the privilege of sending one delegate or more; but no Church however numerous, shall be entitled to a greater number than five, in addition to their Pastor.

ARTICLE 5.—At each meeting of the Association, the Delegates shall deliver to the Clerk of the preceding year, immediately on their arrival, the Letters from the Churches; a list of the Delegates having been prepared by the Clerk, their names shall be called, and they shall take their places. The Moderator of the preceding year shall call the vote for a Moderator by ballot without nomination, and the person who shall be chosen by a majority of the members present, shall upon his acceptance lead the meeting to the choice of a Clerk. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside in all the transactions of the meeting, and maintain due order among the members. The Association shall appoint two Committees—one on arrangements, and one to nominate all other Committees. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a fair and impartial record of all the doings of the Association during the session and furnish a correct copy for the press.

ARTICLE 6.—It shall be the duty of each Church to send by its Messengers a letter to the Association, giving an account of its state, particularly of the addition and diminution within the last year; and generally of whatever relates to its peace and prosperity, together with the whole number of members in communion. It shall also forward money for the printing of the minutes.

ARTICLE 7.—When any Church shall desire admittance into this body, application must be made by letter, and satisfactory evidence furnished of their faith and order; this being done, and a vote of acceptance taken, the Moderator shall, on behalf of the Association, give to one of their Messengers (if any be present) the right hand of fellowship.

ARTICLE 8.—When a Church shall neglect to make any communication to the Association for three years successively, it shall be considered as having withdrawn from us, and shall be dropped from the Minutes, unless two or more members request its continuance, and shall engage to enquire into its standing, and report at the next meeting of the Association.