

An Historical Sketch of the Nova Scotia
Baptist Association, delivered at the Jubilee
Celebration on Monday the 25th June, 1849.

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General Remarks.

OUR HISTORICAL SKETCH may be appropriately introduced by a few remarks upon Associations in general. They need not be limited to our own country, to our own Denomination, nor even to the history of the Church; but wherever we can trace the principle or the exercise of it, as indicating the will of God, and the law of creation, thither may we direct our attention.

And, first, we may remark, that the principle of Association pervades the universe. Whether we lift up our eyes to the heavens, or look abroad over the earth or the ocean, or descend into their hidden depths, we every where trace the operation of a law, which draws kindred existences together in the closest harmony—we see what God hath united and what man cannot separate—we trace the beauty, the utility and the power of union; uttering forth the glory of the Godhead, and urging onward the diffusion of happiness. What is heaven, but an Association of holy, happy, kindred spirits? What is hell, but an Association of sinners and sin, its misery deepened by the eternal exercise—or rather the eternal execution—of this violated law of