

Resolved, That the following memorial of Christian esteem and respect be entered on the Minutes of this Association.

More than half a century has passed since Edward Manning with a few others, the ancient worthies of our early churches, was prominent in the formation of the Nova Scotia Baptist Association, and during all that period the forecasting judgment, the sound and elevated views of doctrinal truth and Christian freedom, the ardent and unwavering piety which had been distinguished elements on which the foundations of the Association were laid, were unceasingly exercised in preserving its purity, animating its zeal and extending its usefulness. The same sagacity that had aided in the formation and the effective and consistent operation of the Association through the infant and early stages of the denominational progress, at a later period when the number, intelligence, and influence of the body had by the blessing of God greatly increased, induced him to urge the division of the Association as calculated to impart increased energy and power to the administration of the affairs of the denomination.

He lived to see that change effected. His presence ratified the division of the body, and he who had entered Jordan almost alone then beheld three great bands that had come up from its banks. The last session of that Association which more than 50 years before he had assisted to organize, was sanctified by the holy breathings of his soul preparing for its departure, and was animated and instructed by his preaching on the theme that through life had given fervour to his public exercises, and which on that occasion—nearly the last of his pulpit ministrations—overcame in a wonderful manner the depression of disease and the debility of old age.

By the arrangement then made the first session of this division of the Association was appointed to be held in the midst of his own church. That arrangement we now consummate. But he is not with us. His work was done, and it has pleased his heavenly Father that his existence should close with the termination of that associated body with which his life and labours, his affections and energies had been so long identified.

Whilst submitting with humble resignation to the dispensation of our heavenly Father in the removal from among us of our departed father, brother, and friend,

The churches of this the Central Association feel it to be due to the memory of one who with untiring zeal and fidelity fed the flock of God in this place through a period of fifty years, to record their sentiments of his ministerial character and usefulness. Of him it may be truly said as of Barnabas of old that "he was a good man and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith, and that through his instrumentality much people have been added to the Lord."