

CONSTITUTION OF THE WESTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA.

ART. 1.—This body shall be called the Western Baptist Association.

2.—It shall be composed [of delegates appointed by the Churches of which they are members, together with delegates from Corresponding Associations. Each Church connected with the Association shall have the privilege of sending one delegate or more, but no Church shall be entitled to send more than five in addition to its pastor.

3.—The objects of the Association shall be, the collection of statistical and other information from the churches; the cultivation of mutual acquaintance and fraternal union; the promotion of individual godliness and the spiritual prosperity of the Churches; and, in the use of scriptural means, the enlargement of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

4.—The Association shall meet annually on the second Saturday in June, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at such place as it may appoint, and the services shall be commenced with public worship. Should the interests of the body seem to demand it, a special meeting may be held at any time intervening, a requisition therefor being made by five of the churches through their pastors.

5.—The officers of the Association shall be a Moderator, a Clerk, and a Treasurer, all of whom shall continue in office until the election of their successors.

The Moderator shall preside in all the meetings; nominate all committees of not more than three, unless otherwise provided for; take the direction of all the religious services, and call special meetings pursuant to requisition.

The Clerk shall record all the transactions and prepare the Minutes for publication.

The Treasurer shall receive all monies and other property contributed for any of the purposes of the Association and dispose of the same according to the will of the donors, or, when the will of the donors is not expressed, according to the votes of the Association.

6.—Each church connected with the Association shall send annually a letter, containing an account of its history during the year preceding, specifying the number added by baptism, by letter, and by restoration; the number removed by dismissal, by exclusion, and by death; and the whole number then in fellowship. If any church shall neglect, for three successive years, to send such a letter, it shall be considered as having withdrawn from the Association, unless two or more members shall request its continuance, and shall engage to enquire into its standing and report at the next meeting of the Association.

7.—The Association may receive any church which shall apply for admission by sending a letter and delegates, and shall give satisfactory evidence as to its faith and order.

8.—The Association shall not, in any case, interfere with the internal concerns of the churches, but it may dissolve its connection with any church which, after proper examination, shall be judged by the Association to have departed essentially from the Baptist faith and practice.

9.—The religious sentiments of this Association are those expressed in the "Declaration of Faith and Practice of the Baptist Churches in Nova Scotia."

10.—This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two thirds of the number present at any annual meeting.