

weeks at Shediac, Richibucto, and Buctouche; Elder Lothrop Hammond three weeks at Lake George and adjacent settlements; and Elder William Johnson four weeks at St. George and St. Patrick's.

6th. *Voted*, That the Board meet in St. John, at the Vestry of the Baptist Meeting House, on the second Wednesday in January next, at 6 o'clock in the evening.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Elders and Messengers of the New Brunswick Baptist Association, convened at Hillsborough.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,

Being greatly concerned for the prosperity of our Lord's Kingdom in the world, we cheerfully embrace the present opportunity to address you.

Through the tender care of our indulgent Father, we have been permitted to enjoy another Anniversary. We trust our souls have been refreshed while we have sat together in this heavenly place. We feel it to be our duty to discharge a debt of gratitude we owe to you, our Brethren in Christ, in addressing you by this our Annual Epistle; in which your Ministers and servants in the Lord for Jesus sake, call your attention to the following subjects, viz.—*A firm and settled belief of the pure doctrine, and a regard to the righteous commands of God, as they are revealed to us in the Oracles of divine truth.* Without these you cannot grow in grace, nor be honored of God, to advance his declarative glory on earth.

The Bible contains the first principles, and the foundation of true religion; therefore it should be, by prayer, carefully examined, and well understood. It embodies a copious fund of evangelic truth; and, when its parts are harmoniously united, makes the most complete body of doctrine we can possibly have, and reveals that path of holy practice which none of the Princes of this world could find out, for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. Here is the field wherein lies hid the *pearl of great price*. Whoever finds this treasure is rich indeed, and in possession of that which is more precious than fine gold, yea, than the golden wedge of Ophir.

Beloved, the Scripture is the grand storehouse of Christian knowledge; and the Holy Spirit, as a Divine Interpreter, brings out of this sacred repository things new and old.—Though abused by some, it never fails to influence the heart and life of those on whose minds the Spirit operates. Thus

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