

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

HALDIMAND REGULAR BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD

HALDIMAND.

On the 26th, 27th and 28th days of June, 1857

TOGETHER WITH

THE CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS

AND

CIRCULAR LETTER.

PORT HOPE:

PRINTED AT "THE GUIDE OFFICE" BY FURBY AND CREA

1857.



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CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. This Association shall be called the Haldimand Regular Baptist Association."

ART. II. This Association shall be composed of such Churches as embrace in substance the following doctrines.

The being and unity of God—^{odly} the existence of Three Equal Persons in the Godhead—^{divin} Inspiration of the Old and New Testaments, as the complete and infallible rule of faith and practice. The personality and work of the Holy Spirit in the conversion and sanctification of the sinner—the depravity and just condemnation of all mankind, by the fall of our first parents. Election by grace, according to the foreknowledge of God—the proper Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ—the all-sufficiency of the atonement—perseverance of the Saints—the immersion of believers, in the name of the Trinity, the only Christian Baptism—the Lord's Supper, a privilege of baptized believers regularly admitted into fellowship in our Churches—the resurrection of the body and general judgment—the final happiness of the saints, and misery of the wicked alike interminable—the obligation of every intelligent creature to love God supremely—to believe what God says, and to practice what God commands—and the religious observance of the first day of the week.

ART. III. The object of this association shall be to promote by correspondence and personal intercourse—unity of faith and practice, fellowship, cordiality of feeling, and union of effort in promoting the interests of the Churches, and the furtherance of the cause of Christ throughout the world.

ART. IV. This Association shall recognize the power and

independence of the Churches, and in no case exercise any authority or jurisdiction over them. Nevertheless, it shall have a right to drop from its connection any Church which, in the opinion of the Association, may have essentially departed from the faith, either in principle or practice.

ART. V. The Meetings of the Association shall be holden annually, at such place as the body may direct, to be held on the 4th Friday in June, at 10 o'clock, A.M., by the representatives, which are not to exceed three from each Church of 30 Members, and an additional delegate for every 40 additional members.

ART. VI. The Churches composing this Association are required to send letters to all its meetings, addressed to the Association, expressing the names of their messengers and the state of the Churches, with their alterations and present numbers.

ART. VII. Churches shall be received into this Association by letter, setting forth their desire to be admitted; their faith, order, and willingness to conform to the rules of this Association; and on satisfaction and reception, the moderator shall give the messenger the right hand of fellowship.

ART. VIII. Any Church connected with this Association that shall neglect to make an Annual Report for two successive years, shall be visited by a Committee of this Association, to inquire into the cause; and if the same neglect be repeated the third year, they may be dropped from the minutes.

ART. IX. This Constitution shall be read by the Moderator of the Session immediately after the choice of the Clerk.

ART. X. No alteration shall be made in the Constitution of this Association, without one year's notice of the said attention, and by a vote of two thirds of the members.

BY-LAWS.

1. Immediately after the delivery of the Introductory Sermon, it shall be the duty of the Minister that preached,

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to call the Association to order for the election of a Moderator; after which the Moderator shall preside, and a Clerk shall be chosen.

2. After the choice of the Moderator and Clerk, a Prudential Committee of five shall be chosen to arrange the business of the Association.

3. The letters from the Churches shall be read; then the other business as it may be presented.

4. Visiting Brethren from Churches of the same faith and order may next be invited to a seat, and debate on all subjects, but vote on none.

5. Every speaker shall rise and address the Moderator; and every person belonging to the body shall have the liberty of moving or seconding any motion, or of speaking on any subject regularly laid before the body, without any interruption, except he depart from the subject, or some explanation be necessary to a right understanding of it.

6. The Moderator shall have the same right to speak as any other member, provided the chair be filled.

7. No subject shall be discussed until seconded: if not seconded it shall be considered as lost.

8. No one shall speak more than twice on one subject without special leave from the Moderator.

9. All personal reflections shall be particularly avoided in the deliberations of this body.

10. Meetings shall ever be opened and closed with prayer.

11. The questions of order shall be decided by the Moderator.

12. These By-laws shall be read distinctly from the chair immediately after the election of the officers of each session, and the reading of the Constitution.

13. A Corresponding Secretary shall be elected once in four years, whose duty it shall be to receive and preserve its papers, and conduct the written correspondence of this body.

14. No motion made and lost shall be recorded in the Minutes.

MINUTES.

The 39th Anniversary of the HALDIMAND REGULAR BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, was held on the 26th, 27th and 28th of June, 1857, with the Church in Haldimand.

1. Rev. A. W. Fyfe preached the Introductory Sermon, from 1st Cor. iii, 6: after which Bro. Fyfe was chosen Moderator, and H. Lloyd, Clerk.

2. The Constitution and By Laws were then read.

3. Elders Lacey and Wait, with Deacons Chard, Hay and Doolittle, of Whitby, were appointed a Prudential Committee.

4. Letters from the Churches were read. (See Digest of Letters.

5. Adjourned to meet at 2½ o'clock P. M. Prayer by Rev. D. McPhail.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. G. P. Frize.

1. Visiting brethren invited to a seat with us.

Rev. D. McPhail and Rev. J. Dempey were delegates from Ottawa Association; Rev. Mr. Hamilton, Johnstown; Rev. S. S. Day and Dea. W. Winter, from Grand River North, and Niagara; Rev. S. S. Day from Grand River South.

2. Reading letters from Churches was resumed.

3. Letters from the Church in Claremont and the Church in Cobourg, requesting admission into the Association, were read. Their requests were referred to a Committee. Elders Gearey, Waite and Hurlbutt, with Deacons Clarke and J. B. Miller, were said committee.

4. It was resolved that Rev. Wm. Lacey's expenses as our delegate to Ottawa Association, be paid. A collection amounting to \$4.02 was taken up. On motion the Churches were recommended to send money in the following proportion, for defraying the expenses of our delegates:—Each

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Church, of 50 Members and under, \$100 ; over 50 and not over 100, \$200 ; over 100, \$300 ; to be forwarded by their Messengers.

5. The Committee on the applications from Claremont and Cobourg, reported in favor of their reception. Report received and adopted, and the right hand of fellowship was given their representatives by the Moderator.

6. *Committee on Resolutions*—Revs. R. A. Fyfe, H. Lloyd and W. Lacey were appointed said committee.

7. *Committee on Circular Letter*—Revs. Gearey, Wright and Lacey were appointed.

8. *Delegates to other Associations*—Elder H. Lloyd was appointed delegate to the Western and Grand River South Associations ;

Rev. R. A. Fyfe to the Niagara Association.

“ S. S. Day to the Johnstown “

Elders Fyfe and Lloyd, with Dea.

W. Winter, Ottawa “

9. *Resolved*, That we request the Western Association to appoint their Annual Meeting one week earlier, in order that there might be no collision in the time of meeting of the Associations.

10. *Printing the Minutes*.—Moved that minutes be entrusted to the Clerk for publication and distribution. Also that a correct copy of the Constitution and By-Laws and Standing Resolutions* be inserted. Also that a digest of the letters be appended.

11. *Next Annual Meeting*.—Moved that the 40th Anniversary of this Association, be held with the Baptist Church in Port Hope. That Rev. W. Lacey preach introductory sermon, Rev. D. Waite his alternate. That Rev. R. A. Fyfe write the Circular Letter, H. Lloyd his alternate.

Adjourned to meet for business, on Saturday, at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock A. M. Prayer by Rev. D. Waite.

An hour of fraternal conference and prayer was spent in the Chapel in the evening, at which our souls were greatly refreshed.

—* The standing resolutions did not come to hand in time to be inserted.

Saturday, 27th June, 1857.

MORNING SESSION.

Met at 9 A. M. Moderator in the chair. Prayer by Eld. W. Lacey.

1. Circular Letter. Committee reported in favor of receiving it. Report Accepted. The letter was read and ordered to be inserted in the minutes.

2. The Report of Committee on resolutions was received. The resolutions were discussed seriatim.

(No. I.) REGARDING A SUMMARY.

Resolved, That the Superintendent of Printing the Minutes be instructed to make out, at the conclusion, a summary, showing the increase or decrease of the Churches during the past year. Also, the actual number of laboring Ministers and Licentiates in the Association, and the number of Churches without Pastors.

(No. II.) THE MISSIONARY CONVENTION.

Resolved, That in view of the extent and destitution of the field embraced by this Association, we solemnly pledge ourselves before God, to aid the Canada Baptist Missionary Convention, in its work of assisting feeble Churches, and in sending Missionaries to the destitute.

Business was then postponed for Religious Worship. Eld. H. Lloyd preached from Luke xiv. 23. After which the Rev. S. S. Day presented the claims of Foreign Missions.— A collection was taken up amounting to \$22.88.

Business was resumed.

3. On recommendation of Prudential Committee, Deacon W. Winter presented the claims of Widows and Orphans of deceased Ministers of our denomination on the Churches for their support.

On motion it was resolved that five members of this body be deputed to meet with delegates from other Associations, at Boston, C. W., on the 3rd Wednesday of July, to mature plans for the accomplishment of this object.

Delegation appointed as follows:—Elders Fyfe and Lloyd, Deacon Ephraim Doolittle, and Bros. J. W. Cryderman and P. Randall.

On motion the Association adjourned for one hour. Prayer by Deacon Chas. Burrow.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Moderator in the Chair. Prayer by Elder H. Lloyd.

1. The report of Committee on Resolutions was then resumed.

(No. III.) "THE CANADIAN LITERARY INSTITUTE."

Resolved, That we have heard with unfeigned pleasure, that "The Canadian Literary Institute," recently commenced at Woodstock, under the direction of our denomination, is progressing favorably; that it promises to be an important tie, binding Baptists more closely together throughout the Province. We therefore pledge to this enterprise our pecuniary and moral support.

(No. IV.) INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

We would again renew our solemn and united pledge against the use of, and traffic in intoxicating liquors, deeming it the duty of all Christians, to discountenance both the use and the sale of spirits, and of the Legislature to enact laws which shall sustain the moral convictions of abstainers rather than the appetites and avarice of drinkers and spirit dealers.

(No. V.) SLAVERY.

We as an Association again record our abhorrence of the whole system of human slavery, and claim, both in our principles and practice on this question, perfect sympathy with those noble Baptists who were mainly instrumental in procuring the liberation of the slaves in the British West Indies.

(No. VI.) FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We as an Association regard the work of foreign Missions as highly important, demanding our warm co-operation and support.

We regard with especial interest the labors of Missionaries in Burmah, Hindostan, and the East Indies generally, and feel ourselves called to the work of assisting the Foreign Missionary Union in sustaining Missionaries in the East.

(No. vii.) "THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER."

We again recommend "the Christian Messenger" to our brethren of the several Churches. It is our denominational paper, and should be amply sustained. We advise every family to subscribe for it.

(No. viii.) LABOURERS FOR THE HARVEST.

Resolved.—That this Association recommend the several Churches to set apart and devote the first Lord's day in August to earnest prayer to God for that great and essential gift, *devoted talent*, and that all the ministers preach on appropriate subjects for that special object.

On motion it was Resolved that our hearty thanks are tendered to the brethren and friends of Haldimand for their generous hospitality.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet with the Port Hope Church on the 4th Friday of June, 1858, at 10, a.m.

R. A. FYFE,

Moderator.

H. LLOYD,

Clerk.

Immediately after the business of the Association was closed, Rev. Jas. Dempsey, of St. Andrews, Canada East, preached.

The following is the order of the religious services on the Lord's Day :—

A Prayer meeting was held at 9. A. M. Public worship commenced at 10½ A. M. Rev. D. McPhail, of Osgood, preached from Matt. 13., 3, 9, after which the claims of the Missionary Convention were presented, and a collection taken up, amounting to \$30, 50c. S. S. Day preached in the afternoon from 2 Cor. 5, 19. In the evening Rev. D. McPhail preached from Zach. 13, 7.

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STATISTICS.

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CHURCHES, CLERKS AND POST OFFICES:	MINISTERS AND LICENTIATES.	MESSENGERS.	Baptized	Rec. by Letter "Experience"	Restored	Died.	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Dropped	Total.
1st TORONTO (col'd).	<i>D. Hollins.</i>	<i>D. Hollins and Deacon J. M. Tinsley</i>	29	12	4	1	28	3	110	
R. C. Thomas	Rev. R. A. FYFE, Rev. A. LONG- MER, J. SIMMONS, W. WEBBROOK.	Rev. R. A. FYFE and Deacon B. Clarke.	20	29			14	10	290	
Geo. Longman	Rev. A. ANDERSON.	Deacons J. Hamilton and J. B. Miller.	11		1	1	1		50	
1st MARKHAM,	Rev. JAS. HAMMETT.								42	
2nd MARKHAM,	Rev. D. WRIGHT.	Rev. D. WRIGHT.	1			2			10	
W. Ratcliffe, Stouffville P. O.	Rev. A. ANDERSON.	Deacon Turner and J. Burke.	3	3	2	1	6		81	
E. WILLIMBURY.		<i>J. Gold.</i>		3		1	4		37	
Wm. Miller, Newland P. O....	<i>J. Gold.</i>								16	
PICKERING.	Rev. J. HOLMAN.	Deacon Elisha Doolittle.				1	3		31	
Geo. Strachan, Brougham P. O.	Rev. W. HURLBUTT.	Rev. W. HURLBUTT, & W. McIndoo.	1		1					
TOWN OF WHITBY.	Rev's. W. LACEY & D. WAIT.	Revs. W. LACEY, D. WAIT, Dea. A. H. Bradley, Dea. J. Merrell, & J. Holman.	14	3		3	7		155	
Wm S. Robinson,.....		Brs. John Turner, and S. Faulkner.					1		55	
WHITBY, 6th con.		Rev. Wm. GEAREY, and Brn. Matthias Ross and Wm. Peck.	1	4				2	25	
E. Doolittle, Columbus P. O.	Rev. Wm. GEARY.									
D. Honeywell, Brooklin, C. W.										
REACH,										
D. HONEYWELL, Brooklin, C. W.										
HALDIMAND										
Platt Hinman, Wicklow P. O.										
SIDNEY.										
R. Ward, Smithville P. O.....										
THURLOW.										
Matthias Ross, Belleville P. O.										

RAWDON. Deacons W. Chord and L. Mack. 2 5 1 6 27

Platt Hinman, Wicklow P. O.	Rev. Wm. GEARY.	1	4	3	1	2	26
R. Ward, Smithville P. O.	Rev. Wm. GEAREY, and Bro. Matthias Ross and Wm. Peck.	1	4	3	1	2	26
Matthias Ross, Belleville P. O.		1	4	3	1	2	26

PHIL WARDON.	Deacons W. Chord and L. Mack,	2	5	1	6	27
Philo White, Sterling P. O.	Elder H. LLOYD, Deacon M. Hay,	1	9	1	65	
PORT HOPE.	Bro. Peter Randall and R. Webster.	1	9	1	65	
Morice Bay,	Deacon Robert Graham.	1	9	1	65	
PETERBOROUGH.	Eld. H. LLOYD, Deacons Charles	4	1	2	25	
Wm. Graham,	Barrow and Wm. McKague.	4	1	2	25	
COBBOURG.	Bro. J. Wixon, Jr., and A. Avery.	1	1	1	25	
Edward Williams,		1	1	1	25	
CLAREMONT.		1	1	1	25	
J. Wixon, Jr.,		1	1	1	25	

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Added to the Churches during the year:—	Loss in Membership during the year:—
Baptized	Removed by Death
Received by Letter	Dismissed by Letter
Received by Experience	Excluded
Restored	Dropped
Total	Total
Increase during the year	No. of Acting Ministers
Two Churches added	No. of Licentiates
Entire gain	No. of Churches without Pastors

DIGEST OF LETTERS.

1st CHURCH, TORONTO, (Coloured.)

We feel deeply grateful to our Heavenly Father for the blessings of His saving Grace. His Spirit has visited us, and many precious souls have been added to our number. Trials and perplexities we have had, still we believe brotherly love and unity abounds. The Gospel has been regularly preached and the Lord's Supper administered. The interest of the Sabbath School continues. Brethren pray for us.

BOND STREET TORONTO.

Although not wholly exempt from trials, we have much to be thankful for. We trust our trials have been over-ruled for good. Death has not entered our ranks. God is granting us peace and harmony. We have been enabled to contribute more largely than for several years. Our Sabbath School is prosperous. Many have been converted: a large part from the Sabbath School. The younger members have a mind to work for mutual improvement—religious visiting, and Tract distribution.

1st MARKHAM CHURCH.

We entered upon the past year with lonely and dispirited hearts. The labors of Rev. A. Anderson who became our pastor shortly after the year commenced, have been blessed. Six times we have visited the baptismal waters; our prayers are still to the head of the Church for His Spirit's Influence. Pray for us.

2nd MARKHAM CHURCH.

We lament to say that we are in a decreasing, divided state. Eld. James Hammett still labors amongst us. May the Lord bless his labors. The Branch in King numbers 11 members.

EAST GWILLIMBURY.

We are few and feeble. We have more than once passed through the stormy waters, like a ship nearly foundered amid the tumultuous waves. The sea is now calm, we have peace in our borders. Eld. D. Wright labors amongst us, our congregation is increasing, and if some contiguous sister Church were to co-operate with us, we could together support our pastor. Newmarket, or 2nd Markham, are the nearest. A wide field surrounds us. Brethren pray for us.

PICKERING.

Death has not invaded our ranks during the year. Rev. A. Anderson preaches the word to us, and we have seen some added to the Church. May grace rest upon the Churches.

WHITBY.

We have sustained a heavy blow in the removal by death, of our venerable brother, Deacon Jabez Hall; also in the removal of our Pastor, Rev. J. Gerrie, to another field of labor.

WHITBY, 6th CONGESSION.

We would like to speak of our large additions of members but this is not the case; from a healthy active Church, death and removal have greatly reduced us. Rev. J. Holman preaches stately in our midst.

REACH.

The Congregations at our eight preaching stations are pretty good. We have a Sabbath School in the Meeting House. Death has removed one of our number, and two have united with us.

HALDIMAND.

We welcome you to our Meeting House and to our homes, and will strive to make you comfortable and happy while you stay with us. There is a want of spirituality amongst us. We do not feel as we ought for sinners. The Gospel has been stately preached, but we have not prayed for its

success as we ought. Some who walked disorderly had to be excluded. Death has not diminished our numbers. Ten precious souls have professed faith in Christ at one of our out stations.

SIDNEY.

Amid many discouragements we are endeavoring to hold on our way. We keep up our meetings and sometimes enjoy small manifestations of the Divine presence. Brethren pray for us.

THURLOW.

Nothing of a very extraordinary character has taken place amongst us during the past two years. Elder. Win. Gearey preaches every alternate Sabbath. Most of our members are quite aged. In making a new Church book, we found many names of persons, whose present residence is unknown, in the old books which we dropped.

RAWDON.

We have nothing of a very cheering character to report. We have dropped six who moved away some time ago without letters. We look by faith to the great head of the Church, that he may still support, defend, and bless us in time to come. We ask an interest in your prayers.

PORT HOPE.

During the past year the presence of the Lord has been with us, and sinners have been converted to him. Our Sunday School continues in a prosperous state; number on the roll, 170; average attendance, 110; number of teachers, 20. Five of the scholars have been added to the Church during the year.

PETERBOROUGH.

We are destitute of a Pastor at present, but we meet regularly for religious worship. A large field surrounds us. We ask your prayers that we may obtain an under-shepherd whose labors may be blessed in the conversion of sinners and the strengthening of the people of God.

CLAREMONT.

We have not heretofore been connected with the regular Baptists of Canada, but after a careful examination of their doctrines and practice we find them identical with our own;

and knowing the benefits of Union, we request to be received into the Association.

COBOURG.

A twelve month ago, and we were scattered and unknown to one another, but through the mercy of God, we have been brought together, first as a branch of Port Hope Church, and a few months afterwards were recognized as a Regular Baptist Church. We are few, and have not a settled Pastor. Brother Lloyd, the Pastor of Port Hope Church, comes down regularly on the Sabbath afternoons and preaches to us. We are making efforts to obtain a house of worship. Pray for us in this important town.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

To the Churches composing the Haldimand Baptist Association.

DEAR BRETHREN:—Through the kind Providence of God your messengers are permitted to greet one another on the occasion of our thirty-ninth Anniversary, and as heretofore we send you our Annual Epistle.

From some knowledge of the extent and wants of the field embraced within the Association we would seek to stimulate our hearts and yours to more vigorous efforts for building the wall over against our own homes, for organizing Churches, and sustaining laborers, and thus disseminating the principles of truth among the thousands at our own doors who are yet in darkness, and causing our brethren of other denominations to see and know what is the order of Christ's house in its primitive simplicity.

The Haldimand Association embraces a wide extent of territory, containing a population of about 400,000 inhabitants—two fifths of the entire population of Upper Canada.—But of this number, according to our last Statistics, we have not 1000 members connected with our Association—not one

in four hundred is a member with us. Of course, if we reckon the number who worship with us, but are not in actual membership, the numbers would be increased.

An average of the membership of the Churches would give a Church of sixty members in every 25,000 of the population, but they are not nigh so well scattered as that; over one-third of the whole membership being in Toronto City, and over one-fourth of the remainder in the Township of Haldimand, leaving thirteen small Churches with an aggregate membership of four hundred among a population of 350,000.

This portion of the Province has its share of growing towns, which must necessarily exert a great influence on the country around, but we would direct your serious attention to the fact that we are losing almost the whole of them. Oshawa, Bowmanville, Newcastle, Millbrook, Lindsay, Colborne, Belleville, and a great many smaller villages are without even a nucleus of a Church. Is it from supineness, fear, or positive weakness, that we go not up to possess the goodly land?

We would also call your notice to the lack of pastors. Elders Snyder and Gerrie have seen it their duty to go to another field, leaving a little band behind. The brethren in Peterboro', Whitby, Sidney, Huntingdon, and other places look for an under-shepherd, and there are none to go to them.

Such facts as these are not pleasant to dwell upon, but it is necessary that we should regard them, and make resolutions such as become us under the circumstances. What shall we do? Shall we become discouraged because of the difficulties and desert the ship? No! *This we must not do.* Shall we retrench? little as we are doing now, shall we seek to do less? The case is very far from being desperate. The cloud does seem dark when looked up to from the valley, but ascend the mountain, and faith will show you that Christ our Sun gives brightness to the upper side. The ground for our encouragement is, that we have truth on our side. We believe that Baptist order and Baptist doctrine are more scriptural than any other. We have embraced them because we love our Saviour. If this foundation were removed then would we be weak indeed. But it is not removed, Christ's

example and commission are on our side. The practice of the Apostles and Evangelists is on our side, and so far as we can say, this in truth so far we have the head of the Church with us.

With so great a field around us, with so very few to engage in the work, we would encourage our hearts and yours, to diligence by the cheering assurance that Christ is not against us, but for us. It only remains to consider what is best to be done, for we take it for granted that every true hearted christian amongst us desires to do something.

I. Let us pray heartily and earnestly, not only in general for the spread of the truth throughout the world, but in particular that here, at our own doors—here where we have scarcely gained a footing, the cause may advance. If it be wrong to pray for the spread of Baptist principles, then it is wrong to cherish them; but since they are New Testament principles, let us habitually pray that others may see what Christ commands them to do, and be disposed to yield a ready obedience to all his requirements. We cannot hope that God will spread the truth by miraculous agency: he employs men as his instruments, and therefore let us pray for laborers—laborers for this wide field where we have only one minister to every 50,000 of the population—where thousands have never seen one Scriptural Baptism.—Pray in secret for this; pray in your families; pray in prayer meetings; pray for laborers as you perceive the destitution while journeying, or think of it at your homes. Our Saviour enjoins this duty upon us, and do not our hearts and consciences accord in telling us that we must be more prayerful as a denomination before we can hope for a larger measure of prosperity?

Allow us affectionately to suggest the propriety of having special seasons of prayer for this object, when, with united heart we may mourn over the desolations of Zion, and with the Psalmist exclaim, "Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion!" (Ps. 14.)

II. Let us look around us for the laborers. We cannot expect that in answer to our petitions the Lord will send laborers down from heaven for us. He will raise them up, and we are to seek them out. Let us expect to find them

among the young converts, and do not discourage a hopeful young christian from the work, because you have known him from infancy, but rather place encouragements in his way, believing that the Lord will answer your prayers, even in your midst. Let us act as though we believed our petitions would be answered. Many petitions are formally offered at the throne of grace when answers are not even desired; many more are sincerely and earnestly desired which are not expected and waited for. Let us pray and seek answers to our petitions in our midst and round about us.

III. Since the Convention is a home society organized with express reference to the wants of the field, we would recommend to the Churches that they should each become auxiliary to the Convention, by organizing with Treasurer, Secretary and Collectors, that stated meetings should be held, at which information would be received, and thus the interest in the Missionary effort kept alive. We must not stop with prayer for laborers—we must seek them; we must not stop with obtaining laborers—we must support them; in order to support them, systematic efforts must be resorted to; by a spasmodic effort a Missionary may be sustained for a few months, and if the fit does not come on again, he may starve the rest of the year. Such system as we require for supporting our brethren in Missionary labor, can only be effectually carried out by general union among the Churches. The Churches of our Association are neither numerous, wealthy, nor large enough to form an independent society, and wherefore should they? when we have a Home Missionary Society? Come, brethren, let us all rally round the Convention; let us pray for it; let us give into its treasury; let us expect assistance from it in sustaining men.

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith from God the Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.” Eph. 6: 10, 23 24.