

MINUTES

OF THE

TWELFTH SESSION

OF THE

Baptist Convention.

OF

NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK,

AND

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

HELD AT YARMOUTH, N. S.,

August 22, 24, & 25, 1857.



HALIFAX, N. S.

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1857.

Hon. Attorney C
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Rev. S. Robinson

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Rev. C. Tupper,
" A. S. Hunt
" W. Hall,
" D. Crandal
" J. Chase,
" N. Viditoe,
" J. Davis,
" T. Magee,
" A. Martell,
" J. Smith,
" J. Walker,
" J. Miller,

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 “ W. G. Parker,

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 Armstrong, Obed

Central Nova S

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C. Wyman, R. B.

Juvenile Mission

French Mission.

Liverpool Church

Milton U. Societ

First Horton.—

Third Horton.—

Chester.—Rev. J.

Nictaux.—Rev.

man, S. Wheelock

Lower Aylesford

Germain Street,

First St. George

Port Medway.—

Westport.—Rev.

New Tusket.—P.

Milton.—Stewart

MINUTES.

YARMOUTH, N. S., AUG. 22ND., 1857.

The Baptist Convention of Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, convened this day at the Baptist Meeting House, Yarmouth, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

DELEGATES PRESENT:

Acadia College and Nova Scotia Education Society.—Rev. J. M. Cramp.

Western Nova Scotia Association.—Revds. C. Randall, George Armstrong, Obed Parker, J. Stabbert.

Central Nova Scotia Association.—J. W. Barss, S. D. Lyons.

Eastern Nova Scotia Association.—W. H. Rogers.

CHURCHES AND UNION SOCIETIES.

First Yarmouth.—Deacons J. Durkee, C. Haley, E. Heustis, C. Wyman, R. Brown, W. Churchill.

Juvenile Missionary Society.—B. Brown.

French Mission.—Joseph Shaw.

Liverpool Church.—Rev. T. Higgins, T. R. Patillo.

Milton U. Society.—Rev. A. Martell.

First Horton.—Rev. S. W. DeBlois.

Third Horton.—Bro. Henry Strong.

Chester.—Rev. T. W. Crawley.

Nictaux.—Rev. W. G. Parker; Brethren A. Dodge, S. L. Chipman, S. Wheelock, A. Wheelock.

Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot.—Rev. C. Tupper, D.D.

Germain Street, St. John, N.B.—Rev. I. E. Bill.

First St. George and Upper Falls, N.B.—Rev. J. Davia.

Port Medway.—Rev. R. R. Philp.

Westport.—Rev. W. Caldwell.

New Tusket.—P. Nowlan.

Milton.—Stewart Freeman.

MEMBERS IN THEIR OWN RIGHT.

Revds. H. Angell, S. T. Rand, E. N. Harris, J. Chase, A. D. Thompson, Agent of Acadia College; Bro. A. H. Munro, Licentiate; Rev. T. Delong, Rev. W. Goucher, Rev. J. Miller.

INVITED:

Rev. D. C. Haynes, Agent Am. Pub. Society; Rev. J. J. Wolsey, Agent Am. & Foreign Bible Society; Bro. J. H. Saunders.

After prayer by the Rev. I. E. Bill, the Convention was called to order by the Rev. C. Tupper, D.D.

Revds. J. M. Cramp, J. Davis, G. Armstrong, were appointed a Committee to nominate officers for the ensuing year. Reported and report adopted. (See list of Officers.)

On motion of Rev. C. Tupper, Vice-President; Rev. I. E. Bill, Vice-President, was appointed to preside at this meeting.

The following Committees were then appointed by the Convention:—

On Sabbath arrangements.—Revds. H. Angell, J. A. Stubbert, and J. V. Tabor.

For the Committee of arrangements.—Revds. H. Angell, W. Parker, C. Randall, John Davis, Brethren Joseph Shaw, and W. Churchill.

Committee on the State of the Denomination.—Dr. Cramp, Dr. Tupper, Revds. A. D. Thomson, J. Davis, A. Martell, I. E. Bill, W. H. Rogers.

Committee on Foreign Missions.—Dr. Tupper, Rev. J. Davis, Deacon Dodge, G. Armstrong, A. Wheelock.

Voted: That the meetings of this Convention will commence at 10 A.M., 3 P.M., and 7½ P.M. Adjourn at 1 P.M. and 5½ P.M.

Report on Sabbath services, as follows, presented and adopted.

REPORT.

Yarmouth.—10½ A.M., Dr. Cramp. 6 P.M., Rev. I. E. Bill.

Ponds.—10½ A.M.; Rev. A. D. Thompson. 3½ P.M. Rev. G. Armstrong. 7 P.M., Rev. C. Randall.

Chebogue.—10½ A.M., Rev. A. Martell. 7 P.M., Rev. S. T. Rand.

Chegogan.—10½ A.M., Rev. S. T. Rand. 7 P.M., Rev. R. R. Phil.

Tusket.—10½ A.M., Rev. J. J. Wolsey.

Kirk.—10½ A.M., Rev. J. Davis. 2 P.M., Rev. T. Crawley.

*Tabernacle.—
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Salem.—10½
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Tabernacle.—10½ A.M., Dr. Tupper. 6 P.M., Rev. J. Davis.

Methodist House.—10½ A.M., Rev. E. N. Harris. 6 P.M., Rev. W. Caldwell.

Salem.—10½ A.M., Rev. D. C. Haynes.

District Hall.—3 P.M., Rev. E. N. Harris.

After a short season spent in devotional exercises, the Convention adjourned until Monday at 10 o'clock, A.M.

MONDAY, 10 o'clock, A.M.

The Convention Sermon was preached by the Rev. A. D. Thompson of New Brunswick, Agent for Acadia College, from Matt. xxv. 15.

After prayer by the Rev. A. Martell, the report of the Governors of Acadia College was read by the Secretary as follows :—

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF ACADIA COLLEGE.

Your Board have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the faithfulness, and efficiency, with which the labour of instruction has been conducted in the various departments of the Institution during the past year. In pursuance of a vote of this Board, a particular statement is presented herewith from the Officers of the Institution, as follows :—

Theological Institute.

During the past year ten students have been in attendance. The Junior class, after receiving instruction in biblical interpretation, entered on the study of theology, in which they are still engaged. The Senior class have completed the theological course, and proceeded in ecclesiastical history as far as A. D. 1688. Several of the Apostolical epistles have been read in the original Greek, for exegetical purposes. In Hebrew, the readings have been selected from the psalms, the prophet Isaiah, and the minor prophets. A course of lectures has been delivered on ministerial and pastoral duties.

Care has been taken to direct the students to the best works on the various subjects of study, both in the English and other languages.

Essays and Sermons have been prepared by all the students, and submitted for examination.

Most of the Students have been engaged, statedly or occasionally, in preaching, and their labors have been acceptable to the churches.

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first and third quarters, and the Georgics of Virgil, the second and fourth quarters, with a few pages of Livy. During most of the year they have had one recitation a day for five days in the week, in this department. During a part of the last quarter, a recitation in both Greek and Latin daily, four days in a week. They have also had an exercise in Greek or Latin composition on Saturday mornings throughout the year.

The Sophomore class have had one recitation a day in Greek or Latin, four days in a week through the year. They have read in Homer's Iliad, Livy, and Horace. They have also given special attention to various portions of the Greek Grammar. This class have had their recitations alternately in Latin and Greek, through the year, according to a previously established custom in the Institution.

The Junior class read the whole of the Alcestis of Euripides in the first quarter. Latin was assigned for the second quarter. On account of some delay in procuring text-books, the class was obliged to continue Livy for some time and consequently could give but a few weeks to the work designed for examination during this quarter, which was Cicero de Officiis. In the third quarter, they read about two-thirds of the Antigone of Sophocles, and in the fourth several of the Satires of Juvenal. This class have had one recitation a day for four days in the week, in this department, during the year.

As one student constituted the Senior class of last year, no separate exercise in the languages was assigned to him; but a part of the time he read with the Junior class.

The regular Instructor in this department was prevented by sickness from attending to his classes for about two weeks, near the close of the third quarter; but special instruction was provided for the lower classes during that time. It was not found convenient to make any provision for the Junior class.

It will not be out of place to state in addition to what has been given, that the standard for qualification for entering the college is too low both for the good of the student and the highest efficiency of the Institution. To remedy this, more attention should be given to the Common Schools and Academies in the Provinces. It may be added also, that much of the benefit of the College course is lost, by the practice of some to connect themselves with the Institution for only a few terms. In some cases this may be desirable, because it may be the best a young man can do. But the course of study is marked out to be pursued as a whole, and the relative influence of part upon part is nearly lost when a student feels at liberty to come and study one term or four as he pleases. It is next to impossible for any Institution to work out for itself a high character, in the midst of such irregularity. Public sentiment is the corrective of this wrong, and quite as

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much can be done to create this sentiment by the friends of the College abroad, as by the Professors in their official relations.

According to a previous custom, the Professor of the Classical department had charge also of the Rhetorical. This arrangement was not expected by the present incumbent, but he has given what attention he could to the Rhetorical department, rather than have it entirely neglected, as no provision was made for instruction in it by the Board. During the first half of the year the Sophomore class had a recitation in Blair's Rhetoric, four days in the week. They examined all of the didactic portion of the work. An original essay has been required from each member of the Sophomore and Junior classes once in four weeks. These essays have been read before the classes, and then examined privately by the Professor. Essays were required in the same manner from the members of the Freshman Class during the last quarter. It is desirable that some provision be made in order that this department may be given to another Professor, for the work in the classical department alone is very much more than is performed by one man in other institutions of a similar nature. By increasing the number of Professors, the thoroughness, efficiency, and usefulness of the College would be very much promoted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. W. SAWYER.

Acadia College, August 1st, 1857.

To the Rev. S. W. DeBlois, Recording Secretary.

DEAR SIR,—

The work accomplished in the Mathematical department during the last Collegiate year is as follows:

The First year class went in Algebra (Davies' Bourdon) from the fifth to the ninth chapters inclusive, and in Geometry, (Davies' Legendre) through the first four books, except the problems in the third and fourth, and the last twelve theorems in the fourth.

The Second year class, commencing near the middle of the fourth, completed the remaining five books in Geometry, except several theorems in the last books,—also, Davies' course of Plane Trigonometry, Mensuration of heights and distances, Analytical Plane and Spherical Trigonometry, and a course in Nautical Astronomy.

The third year class completed Loomis's course of Analytical Geometry, except a part of the section on the Hyperbola and two sections on the classification of Algebraic curves, and Transcendental curves,—also, the Differential Calculus (Loomis') as far as maxima and minima of functions, and in Natural Philosophy (Olmsted) the Mathematical elements of Mechanics.

Each of the above classes recited daily in Mathematics except on Saturdays, and the third year class had an exercise in Geology

once a week through
eight chapters of
Very respectfully

Acadia College

There have been
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Very respectfully submitted.

A. P. S. STUART.

Acadia College, Sept. 4th, 1857.

There have been in connection with the College the past year upwards of thirty students, most of whom were pursuing a full Collegiate course. It is expected that six will enter College at the commencement of the ensuing term.

The Anniversary was held this year on the 6th of June, in accordance with a previous arrangement, at the Baptist Meeting House, Wolfville, in the following order :

Prayer by the Rev. George Armstrong, A. M. Orations by the undergraduates as follows :

The Power of Truth.

HENRY VAUGHAN, St. John, N. B.

Judson compared to Xavier.

EDWARD M. SAUNDERS, Aylesford.

The Educational elements of Oratory.

ROBERT L. WEATHERBEE, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

The Imagination, its might and its marvels.

CHARLES H. COREY, New Caanan, N.B.

The Christian Hero in Africa.

ROBERT D. PORTER, Cornwallis.

CONFERRING OF DEGREES.

Mr. Thomas A. Higgins, A. B., received in course the degree of Master in Arts.

Mr. Robert D. Porter, who had fulfilled the prescribed term of study, received the degree of Bachelor in Arts.

The Chairman then announced that this Board had, by an unanimous vote, conferred the degree of Doctor in Divinity, upon the Rev. Charles Tupper of Aylesford, so long and so closely identified with our denominational interests, and our educational progress.

Mr. Higgins has accepted an invitation to the Pastorate of the Liverpool Church. Mr. Porter intends labouring for the present, an interesting field at Dartmouth, under the auspices of the Halifax County Home Missionary Society.

The recurrence of these Anniversaries, and the deep interest taken by the public generally, in their proceedings gives ground for hope, that our beloved Institutions, are fast taking hold upon the popular mind, and both directly, and indirectly, are exerting a wide influence in raising the general standard of mental culture.

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While giving utterance to its satisfaction at the thoroughness, zeal, and capability of the Professors, your Board cannot but regret that they are hampered, in some degree in their great work by hinderances, to some extent hitherto perhaps inevitable, but not at present insuperable.

One of these is the low state of the Library, alluded to by the Principal of the Theological Institute. This is a material obstacle in nearly all the departments of instruction. Your Board are gratified to learn that during the past year the number of volumes has been increased by the following contributions of valuable works :

	vols.
Purchased—by the DeWolf legacy	28
Presented—by Dr. Cramp	48
Professor Sawyer	4
J. C. Hume, Esqr. (Halifax.)	1
Smithsonian In., Washington, U.S.	1
U. S. Patent Office	1
Provincial Secretary	1
R. Noble, Esqr. (Halifax.)	1
Rev. T. S. Rand	1
American Bible Union	1
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And they would gratefully record their thanks, to the above Societies and individuals.

Another want which is felt to some extent, is that of the existence of a code of Statutes, and bye-laws, for the internal management of the Institution. To remedy this, a Committee was appointed to prepare such code and submit it for the approval of your Board.

Adverting to the Minutes of last Convention, the following resolution is noticed :

Resolved, That a Committee of six be appointed, to ascertain whether any improvement can be made, in the working of the government of the College.

Said Committee have not held any communication with your Board, but perhaps at this meeting they will be prepared with such valuable suggestions, as will materially advance the interests of the Institution.

Another great difficulty, is the fewness of instructors. In the Theological Institute one, and in the College proper two, addit

onal professor has not been solely because Teachers; but to do the work These and of tion in affirmi highest positio tution.

Your Board gratefully record their gratitude, to the our College. I enjoyed in the participated. A in the Academy nected therewith there are but two of religion.

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onal professors are imperatively needed. It is true the deficiency has not been felt to so great an extent, as it might have been, solely because of the selfsacrificing spirit manifested by all of the Teachers; but we cannot expect that one man will long continue to do the work of two, with health and vigor unimpaired.

These and other obstacles removed, your Board have no hesitation in affirming that Acadia College would occupy one of the highest positions in these Lower Provinces as a Literary Institution.

Your Board would again advert, with emotions of the deepest gratitude, to the religious element, so conspicuous in the history of our College. During the past year, a revival of religion was enjoyed in the neighbourhood, in which the Institutions largely participated. A number were awakened, and we trust, converted, in the Academy and College, and in the families of those connected therewith. At present, we have the happiness of knowing there are but two students in the College who are not professors of religion.

These revivals are the hope of our Churches—distinguished as they are by deep-toned feeling, by the absence of confusion and disorder, and by thorough heart searching truth. Your Board can point to many in our own, and other lands, who are holding forth the word of life, they themselves received within Acadia's halls.

Your Board would affectionately urge upon the Churches, prayer for Colleges, more especially, the observance of the last Thursday in February, consecrated by general consent to special effort and prayer on that behalf.

The Financial statement of the affairs of the Institution will be presented by the Treasurer.

An examination of this report will shew that your Board have been compelled to borrow, from the Endowment Fund the sum of \$500, to defray the necessary annual expenses of the College, and that unless some great effort is immediately made the very existence of our beloved Institution is imperilled.

We need two things:—

1st. That all outstanding notes, debts, and interest, be forthwith collected, and the principal invested, in large sums.

2nd. That the present endowment, be immediately raised to

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fifteen thousand pounds, with the idea of ultimately reaching twenty thousand.

It will be for this Convention to devise ways and means for the accomplishment of this object. *It can be done, Nova Scotia alone or New Brunswick alone could do it, if a spirit of large hearted liberality governed our churches.*

As affairs at present stand, the largest nett income we can expect is £480. The expenses every day accruing even now are over £900 per annum. It is evident, therefore, that things can not remain as they are, without placing the College in serious danger.

At the last Convention, your Board was directed to secure the services of an efficient Agent to accomplish the above objects.

The Treasurer undertook such an agency for a short time, at a most inclement season;—his success was not equal to the expectation raised, by his known efficiency in that capacity. The best agent could not succeed, if received with apathy by the Churches. The urgent pressure of private business, soon compelled him to relinquish his agency, and after much enquiry and effort, the valuable services of Rev. A. D. Thomson, of St. Andrews, N.B., were secured. Bro. Thomson has as yet scarcely commenced his work, and your Board are not able to judge of its probable results.

Finally, brethren, on your efforts, on your prayers, on your contributions, depends the prosperity of Acadia College. Will you aid her? or will you suffer "the child of Providence" to die for lack of nourishment? Will you suffer our College to deteriorate in any degree from her high position? *Men of Israel help*

STEPHEN W. DEBLOIS, Recording Sec'y.

As likewise, the Treasurer's report, which will be found at the close. After some conversation on the report, the Convention adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION, Monday, August 24, 1857.

Voted: That the report of the Governors of Acadia College, and the Treasurer's report be adopted and published in the Minutes as usual.

Voted: That this Convention, sensible of the responsibilities and difficult duties connected with the managemens,

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of the affairs of Acadia College, would take this opportunity of expressing their sense of obligation to the Governors for their unremitting and self-sacrificing efforts for the promotion of the interests of the College, and do hereby express their cordial approval of the measures which they have adopted during past years, for the efficiency of the Institution.

Report of the Committee on altering the Constitution of the Convention was presented, discussed, clause by clause, and adopted.

Convention adjourned.

In the evening an Educational meeting was held at which the following resolutions were passed unanimously:

1. *Resolved*, That the progress of Education in these Provinces for the last thirty years, is highly gratifying and encouraging, and that the efforts now employed by various denominations to secure an educated ministry, deserve to be sustained.

2. *Resolved*, That to relax exertion in favor of Acadia College would be a ruinous folly, which would involve us in disgrace, and also evince base ingratitude to Almighty God, whose blessing has so signally rested upon the institution.

3. *Resolved*, That the Board of Governors be encouraged to rely on the denomination for its sanction and support, with a view to the extension of the efficiency of the College, both in its literary and theological department.

TUESDAY, Aug. 25th, 10 o'clock, A.M.

A memorial was presented from the Estate of the late J. Ferguson, Esqr., being an appeal from the decision of the Governors of Acadia College, in reference to a note made in favor of Acadia College.

Voted: That the action of the Board of Governors be confirmed, and that the Secretary be instructed to communicate this decision to Mrs. Ferguson's Solicitor.

Resolved, That this Convention recommend the Governors of Acadia College, to raise the salary of the Principal of the Theological Institution to the sum of £250 per annum, forthwith; and to increase the efficiency of the Institution, by securing the services of a fourth Professor, as soon as the finances will admit.

Resolved, That while we feel it important to sustain Baptist publications generally, we regard it as peculiarly desirable, that the denomination should patronise our own Provincial publications, the "*Christian Messenger, Christian Visitor and Family*

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Casket,—the latter being a publication for the young, and the first of its kind published in the Lower Provinces.

Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Prayer by the Rev. J. Stubbert.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Whereas, It appears that the mutual relations of the Board of Foreign Missions, and the Convention should be defined,

Resolved, 1st. That it is competent for the Convention during its session to appropriate such portion of its funds for Foreign Missions to its rightful objects, as they may deem desirable, and that it is the duty of the Foreign Missionary Board, and its officers, to recognize and honor the votes of the Convention.

2nd. That in the recess the Board have the entire management of the enterprize, and that they report their proceedings from session to session to this Convention.

Report of Foreign Missionary Board.

Your Board have not learned that there is any Brother in these Provinces qualified and disposed to go forth as a Foreign Missionary in their service. They have, however, ascertained by correspondence, that there are native converts in Burmah adapted to the work, whose hearts burn with fervent desire to preach the gospel to their idolatrous countrymen; that the Rev A. R. R. Crawley, would gladly superintend their labours; and that the American Baptist Missionary Union, not having sufficient funds to support all the native preachers who might labor usefully, would readily acquiesce in an arrangement by which a number of them may be sustained from your Foreign Mission funds.

Under those circumstances it has been deemed highly desirable to engage immediately in active exertions to diffuse the gospel of Christ among the perishing heathen, through this channel. Your Board, therefore, having made the appropriations voted by the Convention, in order that no time may be lost, forthwith appropriated the sum of 200 dollars to enable their esteemed Brother Crawley to employ additional laborers, now ready, and impatient of delay, to enter immediately the extensive fields white to the harvest. This amount has been forwarded through the American Union, accompanied with a letter of instructions.

The Board respectfully recommend to the Convention, that further appropriations be made for the same object.

As the way is now open for the employment, at a very moderate expense, of zealous and efficient gospel labourers, prepared to engage at once in the vastly important work of preaching

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1. *Resolved*, That

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Christ to the perishing heathen, it is hoped that funds will be liberally furnished to aid in thus carrying into effect the divine Redeemer's last command, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES TUPPER, Chairman.

Report adopted.

Resolved, That the Board be located during the coming year at Tremont, Aylesford, and that the Board be as follows.—(See list of officers of Convention.)

Voted, That Mrs. Burpee receive the sum of £50 the current year.

Voted, That the resignation of J. W. Barss, Esq., as Treasurer, be accepted, and that he receive the thanks of the Convention for his services in that capacity.

Voted, that brother George Armstrong be Chairman; brother C. Tupper, D. D., be Secretary; and brother S. Wheelock be Treasurer of the Board.

Voted, that the Board be instructed to appropriate the sum of one hundred pounds, for the employment of native teachers in Burmah, under the direction of the Rev. A. R. R. Crawley.

Report of the Australian Mission Board as follows:—

At the Convention held in Brussel Street, St. John, Oct., 1854, it was resolved to establish and sustain a Mission in Australia. Two years passed, but no man deemed suitable for the field could be obtained for this service. At the meeting held in Portland, last September, Rev. Isaiah Wallace signified his desire to engage in this mission under the auspices of this Convention. His proposition was accepted, and the Board was instructed to make suitable provision for sending him to Australia with as much dispatch as circumstances would justify.

Immediately after the close of the Convention, a meeting of the Australian Board was called at the Baptist Parsonage, German Street, for the purpose of taking decided action. Members present Revds. C. Tupper, J. Spencer, George Armstrong, G. F. Miles, J. Francis, and I. E. Bill; Visiting brethren: Revds. Dr. Cramp, J. Chase, and S. Bancroft. Elder Tupper was appointed chairman, and Elder Armstrong, Secretary, *pro. tem.*: Whereupon the following action was taken.

1. *Resolved*, That Brother I. Wallace, having been accepted by the Baptist Convention of N. S., N.B. and P.E.I., as their missionary to Australia, be employed from three to six months in

visiting the Churches in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick for the purpose of presenting the object of the mission, and obtaining funds for its support; his salary as agent to commence from the time he enters upon his agency, and not to exceed £100 per ann.

2. *Resolved*, That as soon as the object of his agency be accomplished, Brother Wallace be instructed to proceed to his destined field of labor with the least possible delay.

3. *Resolved*, That Elder S. Robinson be appointed Chairman of the Board, and Elder I. E. Bill, Secretary, and A. McL. Seely, Treasurer.

As Elder J. Francis was contemplating a visit to England at that time, as agent for the "Bible Union," he was requested by the Board, to bring this Mission to the notice of the English Baptist F. M. Society, and request their co-operation.

In accordance with this action of the Board, the Missionary elect visited most of the Churches in Nova Scotia between Halifax and Yarmouth, had consulted with the Ministers, and presented the claims of the Mission to a number of meetings held in the respective districts through which he passed. His stay in each place being necessarily short he had but little opportunity for personal application, consequently the amount of money raised was small.

He returned from Nova Scotia, fully intending to visit the Churches in New Brunswick, in relation to the Mission; but as decided opposition to the action of the Convention began to manifest itself through the press and other mediums, he deemed it prudent to postpone further application to the Churches until the matter should be more fully matured. His reasons for the change in his course have been so fully given in the columns of the *Christian Messenger* and *Christian Visitor*, that it is not necessary for your Board to repeat them in this connexion.

The funds raised for the Mission, less the expenses incurred in the collection, are in the hands of the Treasurer, and amount to ———. This sum is subject to the order of the Board.

While your Board deeply regret their inability to carry out the intention of the last Convention, they are happy to know that the English Baptists are beginning to feel the magnitude and importance of this work. Arrangements are in progress to furnish a number of men for Australia. Rev. James Taylor, a minister of high standing having been deputed by the English brethren to Australia, went out with his family in the steamship *Great Britain*, and after a delightful passage of 61 days, arrived safely in Melbourne in April last, where he met with a most enthusiastic and joyful reception. Should his valuable life be spared, he will doubtless accomplish a great work for God and his cause in that rapidly growing country.

Under present circumstances your Board would suggest the

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NOVA SCOTIA :—
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NEW BRUNSWICK :—
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Totals, 224 C

propriety of depositing the money now in hand, in the Savings' Bank of St. John, where it will be receiving five per cent. interest, in the hope that the way may soon be opened in the providence of God, to apply it to the object for which it was given by the donors.

The demands of Australia as a field for Missionary enterprize, are increasing in urgency every hour. God grant that these demands may be met by a corresponding zeal and liberality on the part of His Church, and to his name shall be the glory.

I. E. BILL, Secretary.

Report adopted.

Voted, that the Board be re-appointed, with this exception: that J. Fisher be inserted on the list, in place of J. Francis, and E. Clay, M. D., in place of brother Crawley.

Brethren Stubbert, Martell, W. Parker and Munro were appointed a Committee to nominate a Board of Directors for this Convention. Committee reported (see list of officers). Report adopted.

Voted, that the Convention meet next year at Germain Street, Saint John, New Brunswick.

Voted, that brother deBlois preach the Convention sermon, and brother Chase be his alternate.

Voted, that the Minutes of the Convention be printed at the Christian Messenger Office, (1200 copies) under the direction of brethren Freeman and Selden.

THE STATE OF THE DENOMINATION.

Committee on the State of the Denomination reported, as follows.

Your Committee beg to report that they have examined the statistics furnished by the various Associations, which present the following results:—

NOVA SCOTIA:—

Western, 47 Churches.	340 Baptized.	5965 Members.
Central, 38 "	417 "	3613 "
Eastern, 48 "	117 "	2250 "
—133 "	—874 "	—11828

NEW BRUNSWICK:—

Eastern, 54	[Statistics not furnished. The	3502
Western, 37	returns of last year are given.]	2735
— 91		— 6237

Totals, 224 Churches, 18065 Members.

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Ten new Churches have been formed during the year. Eight of them are in Nova Scotia, viz.:—Third Horton, Waterville, Glenville, Jordan Bay, Kempt, Middlefield, Pubnico, and Sable River. Two in New Brunswick, viz.:—Springfield, and Elgin, Albert Co.

The following brethren have been ordained, viz :

Oct. 12, 1856.	Robert R. Philp, Margaree, C. B.
Jan. 13, 1857.	Thomas Locky, New Jerusalem, N. B.
March 18, 1857.	G. R. Campbell, Howard Settlement, N. B.
March 31, 1857.	Aaron Estey, No. 11, Maine, N. B.
June 24, 1857.	Thomas Keillor, Advocate Harbour, N. S.
Aug. 5, 1857.	James A. Moore, Port George, N. S.

New Meeting Houses have been erected at

Little Fork Bridge, N. S.	Upper Gage Town, N. B.
Canning, “	Springfield, “
Port Williams, “	Moncton, “
Bedeque, P. E. I.	Kingsclear, “

On these statements the Committee submit the following remarks:—

1. While there is abundant cause for thankfulness, in view of the numbers that have been baptized on a profession of faith during the year, the actual increase does not amount to three per cent, and that, your committee believe, will not satisfy the desires of the people of God. The triumphs of the gospel will be very slow, unless the rate of increase in the church becomes much larger.

2. The fewness of ministers is much to be deplored. There are 133 churches in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, but there are only 62 ordained ministers, and but 55 of them are actually engaged as pastors. In New Brunswick there are 93 churches, * ordained ministers, and * pastors. The necessary consequences are, that some churches are destitute of a stated ministry, and that in many instances two or three churches are under the care of a single pastor, who must find it difficult, if not impossible, to discharge all his duties in a satisfactory manner.

3. It is obviously the duty of the churches to encourage all young men who give evidence that they are called of God to preach the gospel, to afford them facilities for the exercise of their gifts, and to aid them while pursuing their studies for the ministry. And they should in all cases be advised to engage in such duties, not only because it is required by the advanced state of society, but also because the talents which the Lord has bestowed ought to receive the highest possible cultivation, and his service should be regarded as demanding the employment of his mind in its most thoroughly disciplined state.

* See note page 27.

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4. Let us all "continue instant in prayer" for the habitual enjoyment of the gracious influences of the Holy Spirit, by which both ministers and churches may be guided into truth, kept from error and evil, and caused to shine as lights in the world."

J. M. CRAMP, *Chairman.*

Report adopted.

Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION, 7 p. m.

Rev. Dr. Tupper in the chair. Prayer by brother Higgins.

Report on the State of Religion in the Churches of the Nova Scotia Central Association presented by Rev. S. W. deBlois—appointed by the Association, with Dr. Cramp, for that purpose.

Voted, That the report be adopted and published.

In the absence of any official report, Rev. J. V. Tabor, Clerk of the Western N. S. Association presented a statement of the religious state of that Association.

Addresses were then presented by the Brethren, on the following subjects:—

- Foreign Missions, - - - Rev. S. T. Rand.
- Australian Mission, - - - " I. E. Bill.
- American Baptist Publication Society, " E. C. Haynes, Agent.
- American and Foreign Bible Society, " J. J. Woolsey, "
- American Bible Union, - - - Bro. W. H. Rogers, "
- Claims of Seamen, - - - Rev. E. Harris.

Voted, That the Foreign Missionary Board be instructed to assume the support of a Colporteur, in the north of Europe through the American Baptist Publication Society; the expense not to exceed two hundred dollars per annum, provided that no funds shall be applied to this purpose, except as directed by the donors.

Voted, That this Convention has heard with pleasure the interesting statements made by brother Woolsey, Agent of the American and Foreign Bible Society, and brother W. H. Rogers, Agent of the American Bible Union, and should recommend the churches of the denomination, to contribute to the Institutions represented by these brethren, according to the views entertained by them of their respective claims upon the benevolence of the church of God.

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Voted, That the warmest thanks of this Convention are justly due, and are hereby presented to the first Yarmouth Church; to the friends of other denominations, especially to the ministers and people of those churches who have so kindly afforded to us the use of their places of worship on the Sabbath; and to the inhabitants of Yarmouth generally, for the hospitality and courteousness with which we have been entertained during our present session.

Adjourned to meet with the Germain Street Church, St. John, N. B., the Saturday after the 18th of August, 1858, at 2 o'clock, p. m.

[Signed.]

STEPHEN W. DEBLOIS, *Secretary for Nova Scotia.*
A. H. MUNRO, *Secretary for New Brunswick.*

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Statement of the Endowment Fund.

Notes of hand	-	-	£5309	3	9
Mortgage on Real Estate	-	-	1050	0	0
West Columbia stock	-	-	2800	0	0
Dr. Crawley's note,	-	-	500	0	0
Lands purchased,	-	-	175	0	0
Money at interest,	-	-	204	14	7
Back interest on notes and extra sub- scriptions.	-	-	500	0	0
					<u>10,538 18 4</u>
Real Estate.	-	-	-	-	3000 0 0

JOHN CHASE, *Treasurer.*

N. S. & N. B. Foreign Missionary Board in account with
J. W. BARSS.

1857.		DR.			
March 7	To remitted Am. Baptist Missionary Union per order of Board, \$200 at 4 per cent.		£52	0	0
June 22	Do. Do.		52	0	0
	To paid Mrs. Burpe, one year's allowance to 22nd. Septr. 1857.		80	0	0
Aug. 22	Balance in hand, carried down.		319	2	9
			<u>£503</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>

1856.		CR.			
Sept. 20	By balance		£433	19	4
1857.					
June 24	Central Association,		27	13	5
July 20	Western do.		22	10	0
Aug. 7	Granville Street Church, Halifax, Interest		4	0	0
			15	0	0
			<u>£503</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>
Aug. 22	By balance brought down.		£319	2	9

P. S. In the account published in the Minutes of the Convention
1856, p. 23rd. are the two additional items:—
Balance to new account, in hands of J. W. Nutting, Esqr. £35 2 11
Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society, 72 0 0

C. TUPPER, *Sec'y.*

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August, 1858,

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The Corporation of Acadia College in account with
J. CHASE, Treasurer.

1857.		DR.		
August.	To Balance due as per account rendered			
	September 20, 1856, - - -	£161	8	7
	To Paid Rev. Dr. Cramp, on acct. salary,	225	0	0
	“ Prof. Stewart 1 year’s salary to May			
	20, £250; Exchange, £7 10s.,	257	10	0
	“ Prof. Sawyer 1 year’s salary to June			
	1st, £250; Exchange, £7 10s.,	257	10	0
	“ Incidental Expenses, (Postage, &c.)	3	7	11
	“ Agent 12 months, - - -	15	12	6
	“ Expenses of Agent, - - -	2	0	1
	“ Discount on note £100, 4 months,	2	0	0
	“ Treasurer, on acct. salary, -	25	0	0
	“ Interest on Governors’ Note, -	1	4	0
	“ Expenses of Agent at Halifax, -	2	4	3
	“ Furniture, Wood, Repairs, &c.,	80	10	7
	“ Insurance on £2,500 $\frac{1}{4}$ year, -	18	15	0
		£1052	2	11

		CR.		
	By amount collected on Notes, principal,	£492	12	6
	Extra subscriptions, - - -	39	18	3
	Ministerial Education Fund, - -	56	5	0
	Interest on Mortgage, - - -	15	0	0
	“ Notes collected, - - -	224	2	10
	Rents collected, - - -	59	17	0
	Balance to new account,	164	7	4
		£1052	2	11

A. S. HUNT,
STEPHEN W. DEBLOIS, } *Financial Committee.*
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CONSTITUTION.

I. That the Convention be called "The Baptist Convention of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island," and shall consist of the Members and Delegates hereinafter specified.

II. That the objects of the Convention shall be, to maintain the following Institution, namely, Acadia College, and Foreign Missions; and to advance the interests of the Baptist Denomination generally, by devising and carrying out, as far as possible, such means as may by the Divine blessing, tend to promote its welfare.

It is earnestly recommended that at the Annual meetings of the Associations, brethren be appointed to furnish reports to the Convention on the state of Religion and the progress of the cause of God, within the limits of those Associations, respectively.

III. That the business of the Convention shall be conducted by a President, one or more Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, two Secretaries, (one residing in Nova Scotia and the other in New Brunswick), and a Board of Directors, consisting of twenty-five members, all of whom shall be members of Baptist Churches, in good standing, (in addition to Life Directors) to be chosen annually by the Convention. The Board to have the power to fill up any vacancies that may occur previous to the next meeting of the Convention.

IV. That every member of a Baptist Church, in good standing, who shall pay annually ten shillings or upwards, towards any of the objects embraced in the Union Societies, or into the funds of the Convention, and also every ordained Baptist Minister in the three Provinces, in good standing, shall be a member of the Convention; any person paying five pounds, or upwards, shall be a life member; and the payment of twenty pounds, or upwards, at one time, shall constitute a Life Director. Every Church connected with an Association, and contributing ten shillings towards any of the objects embraced in the Union Societies, shall be a member of this Convention, and be at liberty to send one Delegate to represent such Church, and if five pounds are collected, two Delegates. Every local Union Society collecting annually five pounds, or upwards, shall be a member of this Convention, and shall be at liberty to send two Delegates to represent them therein, and one Delegate for every additional five pounds collected; so as no Church or Union Society be at liberty to send more than five Delegates; and that each Association connected with the Convention be allowed to send five Delegates. The Missionary and Educational Boards shall also be at liberty to send one Delegate each.

Account with

£161	8	7
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May	257	10 0
June	257	10 0
July	3	7 11
Aug.	15	12 6
Sept.	2	0 1
Oct.	2	0 0
Nov.	25	0 0
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Jan.	2	4 3
Feb.	80	10 7
Mar.	18	15 0
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£1052	2	11

£492	12	6
39	18	3
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15	0	0
224	2	10
59	17	0
164	7	4
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£1052	2	11

Special Committee.

V. That all monies contributed by individuals for membership, or for the general purposes of the Convention, shall be appropriated, after the payment of incidental expenses, as the Convention shall direct, unless otherwise ordered by the donors.

VI. That the Board of Directors shall be empowered to meet quarterly or oftener for the despatch of business, at such place as the Convention shall from time to time appoint; nine members shall form a quorum. The Board shall also be empowered to convene special meetings of the Convention, whenever the same may be judged necessary by a majority of its members.

VII. That the Convention shall meet on the first Saturday after the 18th day of August, annually, at such place as shall be agreed on by the Body; when, in addition to the appointment of the Office-bearers and Board of Directors, and the transaction of such business as may be brought before the meeting in accordance with Article 2 of this Constitution, a Missionary Board or Boards shall be chosen, each consisting of fifteen members of the Convention, all of whom shall be members of Baptist Churches, in regular standing. These Boards shall hold their meetings at such place as the Convention shall annually appoint; at least one-third of the members of each Board shall reside in the place of meeting or in its vicinity; and five shall constitute a quorum.

The Convention shall also appoint, once in three years, Governors of Acadia College, in place of six who will then rotate out in rotation, in accordance with the Resolution passed by the Convention at its annual meeting in September, 1850, and in accordance with the Act 14 Vic. of the Legislature of Nova Scotia; Chap. 37.

VIII. That this Constitution may be altered or amended at any Annual Meeting of the Convention, by two-thirds of the members present.

RULES

RULE 1. All business shall be concluded with prayer.

RULE 2. Members invited to a session shall not vote on non-essentials without leave of absence.

RULE 3. No motion shall be made without leave of absence.

RULE 4. The minutes shall be publicly read.

RULE 5. No motion shall be made and seconded unless by a majority.

RULE 6. No motion shall be made unless by a majority.

RULE 7. Motions shall be decided by a majority.

RULE 8. The Minutes shall be read at the beginning of each session.

RULE 9. These Rules shall be read immediately after the opening prayer.

PLACE OF MEETING

The Western Association at Bridgetown, at 2 o'clock.
The Central Association at the Cornwallis Church at 11 o'clock.
The Eastern Association at Capetown, on the 1st.

The Western Association on the 1st.
The Eastern Association on the 1st.

This is a matter of much relation and had not come to the attention of the Convention.

RULES OF ORDER OF BAPTIST CONVENTION.

RULE 1. At every sitting business shall be opened and concluded with prayer.

RULE 2. Ministers and members of Churches, not Delegates, invited to a seat with us, may speak on all subjects under debate but vote on none.

RULE 3. No member of the Convention shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.

RULE 4. The names of Delegates leaving the Convention without permission of the Body before the conclusion of the business shall be publicly reported in the Minutes.

RULE 5. No subject shall be discussed without a motion first made and seconded.

RULE 6. No person shall speak oftener than twice on any motion unless by permission of the Body.

RULE 7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the Minutes except so ordered at the time.

RULE 8. The Moderator of the Convention shall nominate all committees, unless otherwise ordered by the Convention.

RULE 9. These Rules shall be distinctly read from the Chair immediately after the opening of the Convention.

NAME OF MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATIONS FOR 1858.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Western Association is appointed to meet with the Church at Bridgetown, at 2 o'clock, P. M. on the second Saturday in June.

The Central Association is appointed to meet with the second Cornwallis Church at Berwick, on the 3rd. Saturday in June.

The Eastern Association is appointed to meet with the Church at Antigonish, on the 1st. Saturday in July.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Western Association is appointed to meet with the Church at Antigonish on the 1st. Saturday, in September, 1858.

The Eastern Association is appointed to meet with the Church in Antigonish on the second Saturday in July, 1858.

It is a matter of much regret that the Minutes of the New Brunswick Associations had not come to hand at the time of publication.

The
Minutes
Churches

NOVA SCOTIA
Western
Central
Eastern

NEW BRUNSWICK
Eastern
Western

* Estimated

NOTICE.

The New Brunswick Statistics were not received till the Minutes were printed. The account of the "state of the Churches" will now stand thus:—

NOVA SCOTIA :—

Western Association,	47 Churches.	340 Baptisms.	5965 Members.
Central do.	38 "	417 "	3613 "
Eastern do.	48 "	117 "	2250* "
	—133 "	— 874 "	—11828 "

NEW BRUNSWICK :—

Eastern Association,	57 "	310 "	3728 "
Western do.	58 "	227 "	3420 "
	—115 "	— 537 "	— 7148 "
Totals,	248 "	1411 "	18976 "

* Estimated.