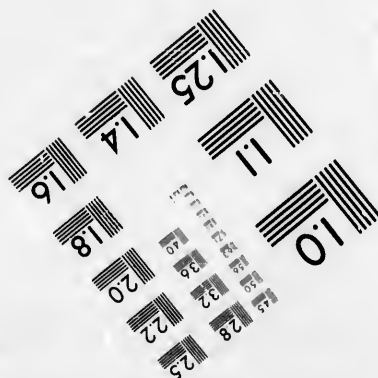
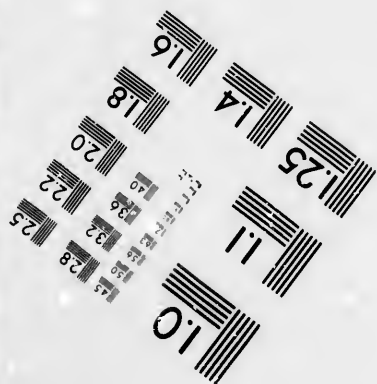
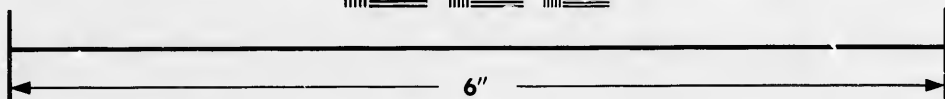
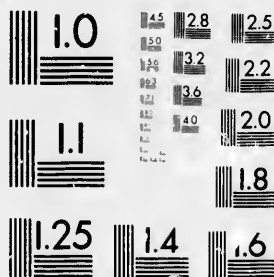


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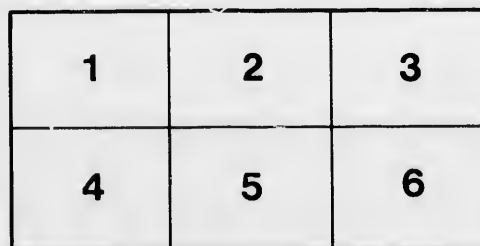
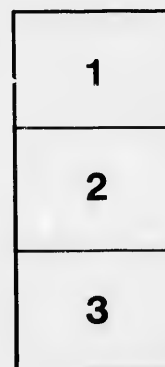
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Saturday, Monday :

THE C

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MINUTES
OF THE
SEVENTEENTH SESSION
OF THE
Central Baptist Association
OF
NOVA SCOTIA.

HELD AT CANNING,

Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, June 8th, 10th, and 11th, 1867

TOGETHER WITH

THE CIRCULAR LETTER, &c.



HALIFAX, N. S.
"CHRISTIAN MESSENGER" OFFICE.
1867.

THE CENT
adjournment
The Associ
Pryor, Moder
Welton.

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Aylesford, Upper
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Dartmouth,—Rev.
Falmouth,—Breth
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Hammond's Plains
Hantsport,—Rev. S
Davison, Edward Da
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Horton 1st,—Revds.
Cleaveland, W. Faulk
Horton 2nd,—Rev. E
J. Vaughan, M. A. Da
Horton 3rd,—Rev. S
Indian Harbour,—Re
New Germany,—Rev
Preston 1st,—Brother

Minutes.

CANNING, Saturday, June 8th. 1866.

THE CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION met pursuant to adjournment at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Association was called to order by the Rev. Dr. Pryor, Moderator of last year. Prayer by Rev. D. M. Welton.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

DELEGATES FROM THE CHURCHES.

- Aylesford, Upper*—Rev. J. L. Read, and Bro. William West.
Bridgewater,—Rev. S. March; Brethren W. J. Gates and B. W. C. Manning.
Chester,—Rev. I. J. Skinner.
Cornwallist 1st,—Rev. A. S. Hunt, Deacons J. Ells, H. K. Eaton, E. Harris, W. Thomas and T. Rand.
Cornwallis 2nd,—Rev. E. M. Saunders, Deacons J. Rand and T. H. Parker.
Cornwallis 3rd,—Rev. J. Parker, Deacons A. Strong, C. A. Parker, Brethren M. Kinsman and E. Parish.
Cornwallis 4th,—Rev. J. L. Read, Deacon G. Gould and Brother John Selfredgc.
Cornwallis 5th,—Rev. D. Freeman, Brethren Elijah West, Senr., D. Sanford, A. Ells. L. C. Woodworth and J. S. Witter.
Dartmouth,—Rev. A. F. Porter.
Falmouth,—Brethren W. Shaw, F. Kennedy and N. E. Davison.
Halifax 1st,—Deacons S. Selden and R. N. Beckwith, Brother T. H. Rand.
Halifax 2nd,—Rev. J. E. Goucher, Deacons Hon. J. McCully and D. Thompson.
Hammond's Plains 1st,—Rev. N. Baker.
Hammond's Plains 2nd,—Brother J. Crawley.
Hantsport,—Rev. S. T. Rand, J. W. Titus (Licentiate), Deacons Wm. Davison, Edward Davison, Brethren Garder Eaton, J. Porter and H. Reid.
Horton 1st,—Revs. S. W. deBlois, Dr. Cramp, J. Chase, Deacon M. Cleaveland, W. Faulkner and A. D. Bars, M. D.
Horton 2nd,—Rev. E. O. Read, Deacons J. Pick, R. Westcott, Brethren J. Vaughan, M. A. Davison and G. Eagles.
Horton 3rd,—Rev. S. B. Kempton and Brother Wm. Coldwell.
Indian Harbour,—Rev. R. R. Philp.
New Germany,—Rev. W. E. Hall, L. Durland, J. Mader and S. Mader.
Preston 1st,—Brother J. Crawley.

Rawdon,—Rev. J. Stevens.

Sackville,—Rev. R. R. Philp.

St. Margaret's Bay,—Brother F. Hubley.

Tancook,—Brother P. R. Foster, (Licentiate).

Windsor,—Rev. D. M. Welton.

Delegates from the Eastern Association,—Revds. D. W. C. Dimock, J. E. Balcom, E. N. Archibald.

Delegates from the Western Association,—Rev. R. S. Morton, L. B. Gates, G. Armstrong and W. G. Parker.

Invited,—Revds. E. A. Crawley, D. D., T. A. Higgins, J. Newcomb, W. Hall and N. H. Beckwith, Prof. James deMill, Bro. Kinsman Palmeter, Ellas Clem, Henry Hall, C. Hall, W. Roscoe, J. Eagles, Parker Christopher, James Christopher, W. Forsyth, F. Smith, D. Wood, James W. Johnston, F. W. Manning, C. Randal, M. Beckwith, A. A. Plneo, Brothers — Shaffner, — Bishop, J. W. Barss, E. M. King and Professor D. F. Higgins.

A ballot was taken, and the Rev. James Parker was chosen Moderator.

The Rev. E. O. Read was appointed Secretary, and the Rev. R. R. Philp, Assistant Secretary.

Bro. R. N. Beckwith was chosen Treasurer, and Bro. J. S. Witter, Assistant Treasurer.

Revds. S. B. Kempton, W. E. Hall, and S. W. deBlois, were appointed a Committee to examine the Letters.

Revds. Dr. Crawley, Dr. Cramp, and S. March, were appointed a Committee to read the Letters.

The following brethren were appointed a Committee of Nomination and Arrangements: Revds. D. Freeman, A. S. Hunt, S. W. deBlois, E. O. Read, S. B. Kempton, J. L. Read, D. M. Welton, Brethren J. S. Witter, R. Eaton, and M. Kinsman.

The reading of the Letters was commenced. The hour of adjournment having arrived

After prayer by Rev. S. W. deBlois, adjourned.

June 8th, Afternoon Session.

Prayer by Rev. J. E. Balcom. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Reading of the Letters resumed.

Voted, That this Association hold a private meeting to take into consideration what recommendation the Association will make in the case of Dr. Pryor and the Granville Street Church.

The Letters having been read, the following statistics were obtained.

1	Aylesford, U
2	Bridgewater (
3	Burton (No
4	Chelsea.....
5	Chester.....
6	Cornwallis 1st
7	Cornwallis 2nd
8	Cornwallis 3rd
9	Cornwallis 4th
10	Cornwallis 5th
11	Dartmouth.....
12	Falmouth.....
13	Halifax 1st.....
14	Halifax 2nd.....
15	Hammond's Pla
16	Hammond's Pla
17	Hantsport.....
18	Horton 1st.....
19	Horton 2nd.....
20	Horton 3rd.....
21	Indian Harbor (
22	Jeddore
23	Kempt.....
24	La Have (No Le
25	Lunenburg.....
26	Maitland (No Let
27	New Cornwall (No
28	New Germany.....
29	Newport East (No
30	Newport West.....
31	New Ross (No Lett
32	Preston 1st.....
33	Preston 2nd (No Le
34	Rawdon
35	Sackville
36	St. Margarets Bay.
37	Tancook.....
38	Walton.....
39	Waterville (No Lett
40	Windsor.....
41	Windsor Plains.....

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	INCREASE		DECREASE		TOTAL.
	By Baptism.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Died.	
1 Aylesford, Upper.....	29	6	2	1	262
2 Bridgewater (Revised,).....	12	4	3	1	123
3 Burton (No Letter).....	..	..	..	..	31
4 Chelsea.....	30	2	7	..	119
5 Chester.....	11	4	1	5	246
6 Cornwallis 1st.....	..	2	3	1	393
7 Cornwallis 2nd.....	24	2	1	4	417
8 Cornwallis 3rd.....	4	1	2	1	332
9 Cornwallis 4th.....	5	..	1	2	129
10 Cornwallis 5th.....	12	16	..	1	147
11 Dartmouth.....	..	..	..	1	27
12 Falmouth.....	13	..	1	..	69
13 Halifax 1st.....	..	5	2	3	173
14 Halifax 2nd.....	24	23	5	3	204
15 Hammond's Plains 1st.....	..	..	..	..	39
16 Hammond's Plains 2nd.....	..	2	..	2	54
17 Huntsport.....	30	4	1	4	292
18 Horton 1st.....	2	..	13	2	235
19 Horton 2nd.....	37	4	1	6	308
20 Horton 3rd.....	5	5	2	1	139
21 Indian Harbor (Corrected).....	28	..	..	1	96
22 Jeddore.....	2	..	1	23	85
23 Kempt.....	4	..	1	1	71
24 La Have (No Letter).....	..	..	..	..	41
25 Lunenburg.....	..	1	2	1	90
26 Maitland (No Letter).....	..	..	..	..	17
27 New Cornwall (No Letter).....	..	..	..	..	35
28 New Germany.....	14	5	3	1	156
29 Newport East (No Letter).....	..	..	..	..	87
30 Newport West.....	..	..	..	3	134
31 New Ross (No Letter).....	..	..	..	..	55
32 Preston 1st.....	..	..	..	..	23
33 Preston 2nd (No Letter).....	..	..	..	..	15
34 Rawdon.....	..	..	..	2	118
35 Sackville.....	..	..	4	1	26
36 St. Margarets Bay.....	1	3	10	9	103
37 Tancook.....	8	2	1	2	112
38 Walton.....	..	..	..	..	14
39 Waterville (No Letter).....	..	..	..	..	12
40 Windsor.....	2	1	2	2	137
41 Windsor Plains.....	..	..	..	1	33
	296	88	25	64	5199

The Committee of Arrangements appointed last year, presented their report.

The Committee on Nomination and Arrangements presented the following as their report :

COMMITTEES.

ON CIRCULAR LETTER.—Revds. J. L. Read, S. W. deBlois and D. M. Welton.

ON CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.—Revds. W. Hall, S. B. Kempton; Bro. A. D. Barss, M. D., Deacon R. Westcott, and O. H. Cogswell.

UNION SOCIETIES.—Revds. D. M. Welton, R. R. Philp; Deacons S. Selden, E. Harris, M. Cleaveland, J. Pick, G. Gould, D. Thompson, Wm. Coldwell, and E. West, Senr.

ON EDUCATION.—Revds. A. S. Hunt, E. M. Saunders, D. W. C. Dimock; H. K. Eaton, Hon. J. McCully, Prof. DeMill, D. R. Eaton, T. H. Rand, L. C. Woodworth.

ON MISSIONS.—Revds. Dr. Cramp, J. Chase, R. S. Morton, J. Stevens, W. E. Hall, J. E. Goucher, G. Armstrong, N. Baker; and Brethren R. N. Beckwith, M. Kinsman, W. Falkner, J. H. Barteaux, J. Selfredge, and Abraham Ells.

ON ORNITUARIES.—Revds. Dr. Crawley, Dr. Cramp, J. L. Read, J. Parker, and Bro. W. Shaw.

QUESTIONS IN LETTERS.—Revds. S. W. deBlois, I. J. Skinner, and J. E. Balcom; Deacons Wm. Thomas, C. D. Randall, D. Sanford, W. West, M. Beckwith, and J. Ells.

The Committee also recommended that prayer meetings be held in this house, at 6 o'clock, A. M., during the session.

That meetings for business commence at 10 o'clock, A. M., and at 2 o'clock, P. M. And adjourn at 12 ½ and 6 o'clock, P. M.

After prayer by Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, adjourned.

The Association met in private session, at 4 o'clock, P. M., according to resolution. After some discussion the following resolution was passed :

Resolved, That this Association recommend the Granville Street Church, to invite a Council, to be mutually chosen by Dr. Pryor, and the Church, to consider the charges that have been made against Dr. Pryor and the action of the Church thereon.

After prayer by Rev. E. M. Saunders, adjourned.

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Voted, That this Men
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Voted, That the Edit
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On the Lord's Day, June 9th, The Rev. Dr. Cramp preached at 11 o'clock, A. M. ; Rev. E. M. Saunders, at 3 P. M. ; and Rev. J. Stevens, at 7 P. M. Meetings were also held in the neighbouring places of worship, and sermons preached by members of the Association.

Monday, June 10th, Morning Session.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Crawley, from Matth. xvi. 6.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. Cramp.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Voted, That the Rev. D. M. Welton be requested to visit the Waterville Church, and report at next annual session of the Association.

The Committee on the Circular Letter, reported as follows :—Having carefully examined the Circular Letter, we heartily recommend that it be read.

After the reading of the Letter, it was

Voted, That it be printed in the Minutes of the Association, and that Brother Selden be requested to publish the same in the *Christian Messenger*.

Voted, That the Rev. Dr. Crawley be requested to furnish for publication, a copy of the able and instructive sermon just delivered, and that the Editor of the *Christian Messenger* be requested to publish the same in the columns of that paper.

Voted, That this evening be devoted to Missions, and that Rev. Dr. Cramp, S. Selden, and R. N. Beckwith, be a Committee to make arrangements for said meeting.

The Rev. Dr. Cramp presented a Memorial from the Sabbath School Convention.

Voted, That this Memorial be placed in the hands of the Committee of Arrangements.

The Committee on Benevolent Funds reported. Report adopted. (See Appendix A.)

Voted, That the Editor of the *Christian Messenger* be requested to publish this Report, in the columns of that periodical, as soon as possible.

The Committee on Questions on Letters reported. The Report was laid on the Table.

After prayer by Rev. W. Hall, adjourned.

June 10th, Afternoon Session.

Prayer by Rev. S. B. Kempton. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Voted, That 1,000 Copies of the Minutes be printed at the *Christian Messenger* Office, under the Superintendance of Brethren Selden, and Rev. R. R. Philp; and that 50 copies be reserved for the use of the Association at its next session, and that \$44, be paid Brother Selden for the same.

Voted, That Brethren J. W. Barss, S. Selden, Hon. J. McCully, R. N. Beckwith, and F. Webber, be delegates to the Convention.

Report on Questions on Letters taken up. After remarks by several of the Brethren, the Report was adopted. (See Appendix B.)

Voted, That a Committee be appointed to prepare an abstract of the Letters from the Churches read to this Association, and that the Editor of the *Christian Messenger* be requested to publish the same in the columns of that paper; the Revds. J. E. Goucher, R. R. Philp, and Brother S. Selden, be said Committee.

Resolved, That the Letters of the Churches to the Central Baptist Association of Nova Scotia, so far as the same can be recovered, with Letters to future Associations be carefully filed, and deposited in the Library of Acadia College, and that the Clerk of the Association be requested to attend to the duty.

Voted, That Brethren R. D. Eaton, Revds. E. M. Saunders, and D. Freeman, be a Committee to prepare for a Sabbath School meeting, on Tuesday afternoon.

The Report of the Committee to arrange business for the Association was taken up. Report adopted. (See Appendix C.)

Voted, That the Sabbath Schools in connection with the Churches of this Association be earnestly recommended and encouraged to send Letters, Delegates and Statistics to the Central Sabbath School Convention which meets in September, and endeavour to sustain said Convention with active co-operation and interest, and that the said Central Sabbath School Convention be requested to send a Report of their proceedings to this Association from year to year.

Voted, That Brother Freeman correspond with Churches relative to the place for holding the Association next year; and announce the results in the Minutes, or *Christian Messenger*.

Voted, That the Rev. S. March preach the Association Sermon next year. And that Rev. D. Freeman be his alternate.

Voted, That Rev. S. B. Kempton write the Circular Letter for the next year's session of this Association.

Voted, That the Rev. Mr. McBean have 15 minutes to present the claims of Colportage before the Association.

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Voted, That all Minis
S. Selden be Delegates to

The Rev. A. McBe
Colportage. After
passed:

June 10th, Evening Sitting.

Prayer by Rev. A. S. Hunt.

The Committee on Obituaries reported. Report adopted.
(See Appendix D.)

The Committee on Missions reported. Report adopted.
(See Appendix E.) This was followed by a Missionary Meeting. The following resolutions were adopted, after addresses by the brethren who presented them, as follows :

Moved by Rev. Dr. Cramp, seconded by Rev. W. G. Parker.

That the Foreign Missionary cause ought to be peculiarly dear to Baptists, since it was to a member of their body that the Christian Church was indebted for the revival of the Missionary spirit in modern times; and that the success which God has granted abundantly encourages continued effort.

Brother R. N. Beckwith read the Annual Report of the Home Missionary Board.

It was then moved, by Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, seconded by Rev. W. E. Hall, and sustained by Rev. E. N. Archibald :

That the Home Missionary enterprise, which has been remarkably blessed for many years past in this Province, deserves and demands much more liberal support than it at present receives; and that the numerous calls for labour, to which the Board is unable to respond, through want of funds, ought to be regarded as imposing solemn obligations on the Churches.

Moved by Rev. G. Armstrong, seconded and passed :

That the French Mission is an important instrument of usefulness, and should be sustained with persistent liberality.

Tuesday, June 11th, Morning Session.

Prayer by Rev. R. S. Morton. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The Committee on the *Christian Messenger* reported. After remarks by several of the brethren, the Report was adopted. (See Appendix F.)

Voted, That all Ministering brethren in this Association and Brother S. Selden be Delegates to the Eastern and Western Associations.

The Rev. A. McBean presented the claims of Missionary Colportage. After which the following resolution was passed :

Whereas, This Association having heard Rev. A. McBean on the subject of Union Missionary Colportage, and believing in the importance of such a work as an evangelizing agency for reaching the destitute families and neighbourhoods of our land, and supplying our whole population with a pure religious literature:

Resolved, That we do hereby express our cordial approval of the proposed formation of a society composed of Christians of the various evangelical churches for the purpose of prosecuting this work in our province.

On the subject of Temperance the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Association regard the activity of Temperance men, and the various organizations existing for the purpose of extending the principles of Total Abstinence from intoxicating drinks, as a favourable sign of the times. We believe that the traffic in strong drinks as beverages, is highly injurious to the interests of mankind and to the progress of Christian truth.

The letter from Jeddore was read containing a request for information. The following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That the Association cannot at present advise the Church at Jeddore to depart from the usual practice of the Baptist Denomination. The Association advise the Missionary Board to send a Missionary to the Brethren there in their necessity.

The Committee on Education reported. Remarks were made by T. H. Rand, Prof. Higgins, the Moderator, Revs. E. Freeman, and A. S. Hunt.

On motion after prayer by Rev. S. T. Rand, adjourned.

June 11th. Afternoon Session.

Prayer by Rev. J. Stevens.

Voted, That Brother David Thompson be the Auditor of the Association.

Voted, That the following be the 5th Rule of Order. "Brethren invited to a seat with us may speak on all subjects under consideration, but vote on none."

The Committee appointed last year to examine the Baptist Catechism reported. (See Appendix H.)

The Board of Infirm Ministers' Fund presented their accounts, which received the sanction of this Association.

Voted, That the Board of Infirm Ministers' Fund be the same as last year:—Revs. A. S. Hunt, D. Freeman, J. Parker, E. M. Saunders, and Brethren James Bligh, Mahew Beckwith and Rupert D. Eaton; and that Rupert D. Eaton, be the Treasurer.

The Report
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Higgins, Prof
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Voted, That th
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On motion,
Association adj
—, at 11 o'clock
1868.

Canning, June

The Report on Education was again taken up. After remarks by Revds. W. Hall, J. Chase, A. S. Hunt, T. A. Higgins, Prof. Higgins, S. T. Rand, E. M. Saunders, E. N. Archibald, T. H. Rand. The Report was adopted.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools reported. After being spoken to. The Report was adopted. (See Appendix J.)

Voted, That the cordial thanks of this Association be presented to the brethren and friends at Canning and neighbourhood, for their kindness and hospitality during the present session; and to the Trustees of the various Churches for their invitations to members of this Association to preach in their various places of worship on Lord's Day.

On motion, after prayer by Rev. James Parker, the Association adjourned, to meet with the Church at———, at 11 o'clock, A. M., on the second Saturday in June, 1868.

JAMES PARKER, *Moderator*.
 E. O. READ, }
 R. R. PHILP, } *Clerks*.

Canning, June 11th, 1867.

W. Gasper

Circular Letter.



SUPPORT OF THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY.

THE CIRCULAR LETTER TO THE CHURCHES COMPOSING
THE CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Dear Brethren,

A sense of delicacy often prevents the minister of the Gospel from explaining and inculcating in the Pulpit the duty of congregations to afford their pastors an adequate temporal support. The subject is fraught with deep interest, not only as being essential to the Pastors temporal comfort, but as affecting to a very great extent the prosperity of our churches. We therefore feel it our duty to make it the theme of our present Letter. We trust that you will not regard it as being too trivial and secular in its nature to be compatible with your spiritual prosperity.—When the work of the Christian Minister is viewed in the light of the Bible, as it must be—in order to properly understand what it involves, we cannot fail to perceive that its responsibilities take a much wider range than belong to any other calling.

The great peculiarity in the function of the Minister's work is that its responsibility attaches itself to eternity.—If a statesman fail in his administration it may ruin a kingdom. If a minister fail to do his work, it may ruin a soul, which is of more value than a world. Aside from the responsibilities connected with the ministry there is no class of professional men, it is presumed, in the Province, that would be willing to perform the same amount of physical

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and mental labor for the remuneration which ministers are receiving. The minister does not assume the responsibility, but necessity is laid upon him. He is called of God to the work, and should give himself wholly to it, and the onerous duties connected with it. Impelled from necessity he is willing to forego the advantages of wealth and worldly emoluments, for the sake of preaching the gospel to others. Were the Ministers of Christ at liberty to bow at the shrine of Mammon, and to lay their talents on his altar, no doubt many of them would display a shrewdness and adaptation to acquire wealth equal to that which is possessed by the most thrifty members of our Churches. Prohibited as they are, by virtue of their calling, from gathering by their own industry, to what source are they to look for a supply?—The Bible readily furnishes us with an answer, “The laborer is worthy of his hire.” When a Church calls a minister to labor with them they do it with the distinct understanding, yea more, with a solemn pledge given that he shall receive from them a remuneration which if not equivalent to his toils shall at least be equal to his necessities. The Church having thus voluntarily bound herself if not legally yet morally this should be regarded as tantamount to a legal claim, and hence to violate with impunity such an obligation is impossible, while the Church or any portion of its members have the ability to redeem the pledge. It evidently then becomes the duty of the Church to pay their Pastors according to agreement, whether expressed or implied, and to do it from the high obligation of moral and religious duty. That which a Church promises to pay their Pastor may be said to be a debt of honor due to God which he requires them to pay, and for the neglect of which he will not hold them guiltless. While the Minister is the servant of the Church he is in a higher sense a servant of God. He has called and qualified him to the work of instrumentally preparing a people to serve him in this life, and to enjoy him forever. And it

does appear to us that there is no liability which a Church can assume that should be met with greater promptness than the Pastor's salary. The reasons why are very cogent. He has no other source, as a general thing from which he can derive a supply for his daily wants. The Pastors of our Churches with few exceptions are poor men, and here we may be allowed to say, that, as a general thing, God does not call the sons of the rich to preach his gospel. There is not necessarily any disgrace connected with poverty but it is very oppressive and inconvenient, it disturbs our quiet and impedes our activity. And it may be presumed that there is no class of public men that feel all this more than ministers.

Dependent then as they generally are upon their salaries, which, if they were all promptly paid, are scarcely adequate to the necessities of their families, there are in addition the claims of benevolence to which they are expected to respond cheerfully and generously. The poor require their sympathy and aid. To feed the hungry and clothe the naked is a Christian virtue, and hospitality is an essential Scriptural qualification in a Minister. Unable to pay promptly for the *indispensables* of life he is compelled to buy on credit at a disadvantage, and this he does with faith in the fidelity of his Church. Failure on the part of the Church causes the Minister to fail; his credit suffers, his spirit is chafed and depressed, his thoughts trouble him, worldly cares press heavily upon him, and his energies wax feeble through the accumulating financial difficulties which he sees clustering around him. But however great may be the Minister's losses and trials under such circumstances, *he* is not the only loser. There is a reciprocity just here, the existence and extent of which the Church may not fully estimate. If one member suffer all suffer. If the head is affected the whole body must of necessity feel it. The Church loses infinitely more than she is aware of. She loses the full benefit of the

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Pastor's talents and powers of mind which it is her privilege to enjoy.

He cannot come before the people with matured thoughts and a mind laden with the rich gems drawn from God's word as he could under more favorable circumstances.— And is it a small loss to the Church that the Pastor's spiritual vision is beclouded, and his perceptions of Bible truths are meagre? If his faith in those great truths which he preaches is weak and trembling? If his hopes are low, and his mind desponding, and if his prayers and sermons lack that holy unction which is indispensable to the Christian's comfort all this and much more the Church may expect to lose if she fails in her duty towards her Pastor. Only reaping what she has sown, receiving in measure in religious joy and privilege according as she has measured to the man of God. It is no less true in spiritual than it is in temporal things "that he that soweth sparingly shall also reap sparingly." "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth and there is that withholdeth more than is meet but it tendeth to poverty." The philosophy of this mode of gathering is not rightly understood by the Church, and hence she is afraid to scatter lest she may fail to gather again. And is it not just possible that retributive justice is standing at this very time between neglected pastors and their people, between the Christian Church and a perishing world, intending to teach the Church the salutary truth that to withhold more than is meet tends to poverty. The Pastor gives the Church the best he has, or can gather under his circumstances, and the Church is satisfied with it. But just change his position, free him from worldly cares and embarrassments if he is laboring under them, give him an opportunity of enriching his mind with study and you will soon find your labor amply rewarded for all the care and attention you have given him.

Persons who do not care to sympathize with ministers ac-

cuse them of preaching for money. Such a charge is as unjust as it is untrue, "Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel," is the language of every man whom God calls to the work. Preach he must although it should entail upon him the deepest poverty. But we ask, is it fair, is it just, is it according to the Gospel, and in harmony with the genius of our holy religion to deprive a man of his just rights because he is not in a position to demand them or to avail himself of them? The Scriptures of Divine Truth herald forth no uncertain sound in reference to this point, "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn." "If we have sown unto you spiritual things is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?" "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they who preach the gospel shall live of the Gospel."

We plead for Christian ministers because they are God's servants; because of their comparatively helpless condition; because they are doing a work in the world, and for the world which no other order of men can do; and the world is under everlasting obligation to God for having established the Christian ministry in it. Churches of the living God, for the sake of the Great Master, and in his name, we ask you to care for his servants, and to esteem them very highly for their work's sake. Sympathize with them in their toils. Pray for them in their labors. Defend their reputation, for it is a tower of strength to them, and deal gently with them as the Servants of Christ, and he will reward you at his coming.

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Appendix.

(A)

BENEVOLENT FUNDS.

Report of Committee on Union Societies :

The Committee on Union Societies beg to report that, judging from the Letters, few churches in the Association, have, during the past year, contributed to our Denominational objects to the extent of their ability—that as a reason of this, they apprehend either that the scriptural duty of giving is not felt as it should be, or that no proper system has been devised for its expression:—that no system, in their opinion will be found to answer the desired end that does not rest on a well defined sense of Christian obligation, or that leaves the work of raising moneys to the last week before the meeting of the Association, and to the impulse of the hour:—hence, the great importance of ministers seasonably bringing this whole matter to the notice of their Churches, and of our S. Schools being indoctrinated in the principles, and initiated in the practice of Christian benevolence. As a good system of collecting funds for our benevolent objects, your committee would recommend that printed slips, properly headed, be prepared, and that in each church a committee be appointed to call on all the members of the Church and Congregation, asking them voluntarily to say what sums they will agree to pay, quarterly or half yearly, to the different objects named on these slips, and such sums having been entered under their respective heads and a slip left with each individual or family, as the case may require, that duplicate copies of these slips as thus filled up, be then placed in the hands of efficient collectors who shall, quarterly or half-yearly, at the regular time agreed upon, call upon the parties whose names they hold. In this way, your Committee believe that our missionary operations might be enlarged, and more adequately sustained, and Acadia College, in a few years handsomely endowed. Let

the Churches try the experiment, and under the divine blessing, success will follow.

Finally, your committee recommend that the heading—*Benevolent Funds*—be substituted for *Union Societies*.

D. M. WELTON, *Chairman*.

(B)

QUESTIONS IN LETTERS.

The Committee on Questions in Letters beg to report:

The only question before your Committee is one from Granville Street Church, Halifax, as follows:

In case a church member in good standing and living a christian life, but who being displeased with some act of the church, wishes to withdraw fellowship, is it right and proper to allow such withdrawal? Or, if not, what course should be adopted in reference to such member?

This question is somewhat ambiguous. It does not state whether the desired withdrawal is to another Baptist church; or to the world.

In the former instance each case requires to be judged by its own merits, as peculiar circumstances may materially affect the decision.

Generally great caution and tenderness should be exercised. If an improper motive be apparent, the request should be refused and endeavors used to bring the member to a proper state of mind.

But it should be remembered that individual church members have rights and consciences as well as majorities. If a member is conscientiously and honestly unwilling to sanction by his continuance in a Church an act which he considers wrong. If he is unwilling to be held responsible for that which he has strenuously opposed, it might be well to consider whether it would not be proper to grant him a letter of dismission to a church of like faith and order, with which he could act happily and harmoniously.

In the latter supposition, viz., that the member wishes to renounce Church fellowship altogether: we reply, that Baptist Churches know of no such usage; and the offend-

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ing member should be dealt with as for any other infringement of his covenant obligations.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

STEPHEN W. DEBLOIS, *Chairman.*

(C)

ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS.

Your Committee appointed to arrange a programme of the business of the Association beg leave to report:

That in our opinion the time hitherto occupied by the Association has been too limited, and should be extended at least throughout Wednesday.

As the Provincial Sabbath School Convention is so complicated in its structure, and, as we believe, unsuited to our circumstances, we recommend that it be superseded by simply making Sabbath Schools an important part of the business of the Association, until the facilities for travelling will warrant the establishment of a Sabbath School Association; and further: in order that there may be uniformity in the statistics of our Association, which shall include that of Sabbath Schools, we would recommend that a Committee be appointed who shall draw up a form of letter, to be printed, and a copy sent to each Church composing the Association; and this to be sent annually in time for the Churches to fill up the blanks.

We further recommend that the business of the Association be taken up as follows:

1. Saturday morning to organizing, and reading letters.
2. Afternoon to reading letters, and the remainder to devotional exercises.
3. Monday morning to Sermon and Circular Letter.
4. Afternoon to Home Missions.
5. Tuesday to Education and any unfinished general business.
6. Wednesday to miscellaneous business.
7. Evenings to be taken up by special appointments made from time to time by the Association.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES PARKER, *Chairman of Com.*

(D)

IN MEMORIAM.

The Committee on Obituary Notices report :

That during the year four deaths have occurred within the bounds of this Association that call for special remark.

The Rev. William Burton, so long and favorably known in our Churches, after a protracted and distressing illness, from which there seemed at times some hopes of recovery, at length sunk into the arms of death at the close of the past winter. He fell in the midst of a revival of religion extending over the whole extent of his charge in Hantsport and Falmouth, and is followed by but one sentiment of love and reverence for his distinguished worth. His mourning people remember with gratitude and deep regret his constant, untiring labors—his gentle and affectionate demeanor—and his earnest longing for the welfare of souls, and lament, as do we all, the loss of that remarkable talent and earnestness with which he was wont to exhibit, with an ability and originality peculiarly his own, the great prominent truths of the Gospel. The Committee recommend that the deep sympathy and condolence of this Association be tendered to the sorrowing family of our departed brother in their present affliction.

Three distinguished laymen and deacons have also fallen during the year. Elisha D. Harris, Esq., of Aylesford, has passed away, followed by the deep regret of his brethren, who, with a high appreciation of his general worth as a man and a Christian, recall to mind the admirable example he set for many years by his faithful attendance at all meetings of the Church when his health allowed it, and his readiness to promote the cause of God by his prayers and counsel.

The Church in Wolfville also has suffered a heavy loss in the death of its aged and venerable Deacon Simon Fitch, Esq. Crowned with the blessing of an honored old age reaching to the extent of nearly eighty-four years, our brother, somewhat suddenly at the last, fell asleep in Jesus during the spring just past. Highly distinguished was Deacon Fitch during the whole period of his Christian life for the faithful attendance on all meetings of the Church for

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worship or business, for his discreet counsel, and for the constancy and munificence of the aid he rendered, and the earnestness of the interest he ever evinced in all the benevolent labors of our Churches, and especially in the success and advancement of our Institutions of learning.

Samuel Sweet, Esq., deacon of the Third Cornwallis Church, has also been removed by death since our last meeting. He was a man of sincere and earnest piety, strongly attached to our denominational principles, and eminently serviceable, in various ways, to the Church to which he belonged.

To the families of these brethren the Committee recommend the Association to present the expression of their deep and sincere condolence.

E. A. CRAWLEY, *Chairman.*

(E)

MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions have no information to present, and do not think it necessary to employ argument or persuasion in reference to the cause. They take for granted the attachment of the brethren to the Missionary enterprise, and their determination to uphold it, in all its branches, at whatever cost may be scripturally required.

With regard to the Mission to the heathen, the Committee have to express their entire approval of the course adopted by the Board, the arrangement entered into with Brother A. A. R. Crawley is evidently the best that could be devised. The employment of native preachers, under his supervision, has proved happily conducive to the advancement of the Gospel and the welfare of the Churches. But your Committee are decidedly of opinion that our Denomination in this Province will not put forth its strength till we have a Missionary or Missionaries of our own in the field. Past disappointments have discouraged us; but it is still our privilege and duty to "pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into His harvest." It is not to be doubted that if suitable agents of our own could be

found the Association would cheerfully supply the requisite funds.

The state of the Home Mission will be brought before the Association in the Report of the Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society, and it is therefore unnecessary to dwell on that subject. It much to be regretted that the Society is so feebly sustained, and that in consequence many promising fields are left uncultivated. Even in Christianized Nova Scotia there are still barren spots and unevangelized districts from which the cry is heard, "Come over and help us."

Your Committee look upon the French Mission with deep interest, and rejoice in the measure of success already vouchsafed. The employment of an additional Missionary is greatly to be desired. Liberal contributions to that object will display the love and zeal of Baptist Protestantism.

All these Missions demand and deserve increased effort on the part of the Churches of this Association. A little economy and self-denial would enable numbers of Christians to render efficient support, and thereby to secure extended operations. There are very few of whom it can be said—of whom the Lord would say, "They have done what they could."

J. M. CRAMP, *Chairman.*

(F)

THE "CHRISTIAN MESSENGER."

The Committee on the *Christian Messenger* beg leave to report:

That they regard the Press as one of the most efficient agencies to mould the human mind, and to infuse into the masses of society all those principles and springs of action which operate upon public sentiment. If this will hold good in reference to the press generally, how much more important is the influence exerted by the religious organs of any country on its morals and its piety.

We regard the *Christian Messenger* as a faithful exponent of our principles as a denomination, and we would express

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our unqualified approbation in reference to the decision exhibited by its respected Editor in meeting all assailants upon our principles, and in enforcing with great promptitude and boldness the great principles which we believe. And knowing well the vast influence which a religious paper has on the expanding mind and increasing mental tastes of the present generation, we are anxious that our denominational paper should keep pace with the growing wants of the times. And lastly, we would urge upon our Churches, our community, and our families the necessity of liberally patronising and paying for a paper so richly fraught with blessings to our souls, and so conducive to the prosperity and spiritual vigor, the improvement of mind and spiritual culture of the great body of professing Christians to which we have the privilege to belong.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. HALL, *Convener.*

(G)

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

The Committee on Education report:

That they have reason to believe that the Institutions at Horton have, during the past year, made commendable progress in their important work. There have been in the College 34 students; at the recent anniversary 4 graduated. A larger class, than on any former year, will enter next term.

The whole aspect of College matters at the close of the year, made it evident, that in the various branches of study, a large amount of work had been accomplished.

This Committee is nevertheless assured, that efforts should be made by which the College should take a yet higher stand, and more effectually meet the educational wants of the times.

The Academy continues under the care of its experienced Principal, the Rev. Thomas A. Higgins. The attendance during the year was large, and instructions were given in all the branches usual in Higher Schools and Academies. A

Committee from the Board of Governors had an oversight of its operations and conducted the examination. The Committee highly approve of this arrangement, which, they learn, is to continue. The report of the Committee, referred to above, is most satisfactory, and encourage the belief that this part of our machinery has a perfection in advance of former years. It is hoped that every available facility will be supplied, by which the Principal and his associates, Messrs. Hill and Blair, may give their undivided energies for securing a yet higher position.

The Young Ladies' Seminary continues under the superintendence of Miss Emerson and associate teachers, whose devotedness and eminent success in the work demand our increased confidence.

The establishment of a School for young ladies is no longer an experiment. The only obstacle to a large and efficient Institution is the want of adequate premises, and it is hoped that the Denomination will awake to the importance of this, so that in a few years we shall have an edifice reflecting credit upon a people standing in the foremost rank of educational advancement.

We are assured that as a Denomination engaged in the work of education, we must advance, to stand still is to retrograde; for progress now most distinctly appears in the entire School system of this Province. Having assumed our stand, and reached our present position, let us aim to go forward, and by every suitable means sustain the well earned reputation of our Institutions at Horton.

Hitherto we believe, God has been with us, and we are encouraged in the long and deeply cherished conviction that the smiles of Divine approval will continue.

A. S. HUNT, *Chairman.*

(H)

THE BAPTIST CATECHISM."

The Committee appointed to examine the Catechism published by the American Baptist Publication Society, beg to report that they regard the answers given to the questions

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therein, as a general thing, too abstrusely worded, to make it a fit and proper Catechism for children. In a Scripture Catechism (which a Baptist Catechism should be) for children, the answers to the questions it appears to your Committee should be given in purely scriptural language, and, when possible, in language symbolically expressing the idea intended.

D. M. WELTON.

STATEMENT OF AMOUNTS contributed by the Churches for Benevolent Objects, June 1867.

CHURCHES	Rome Missions	Foreign Missions.	French Missions.	Acadia College.	Ministerial Education.	Infirm Ministers.	TOTALS.
Aylesford, Upper....	\$10 00	11 55	.....	6 07	.....	.....	27 62
Bridgewater.....	10 00	4 00	.....	8 00	.....	.....	22 00
Chelsea.....	2 75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 75
Chester.....	11 25	11 00	.....	.....	2 75	3 45	28 45
*Cornwallis, 1st.....	21 81	78 00	.....	25 00	4 12	3 87	132 81
Cornwallis, 2nd.....	15 39	16 75	13 64	13 00	.....	.....	58 78
Cornwallis, 3rd.....	12 62	7 32	3 20	.....	0 50	1 75	25 40
Cornwallis, 4th.....	1 25	3 78	1 00	.....	.....	1 00	7 03
Cornwallis, 5th.....	13 23	11 04	.....	6 70	1 25	2 00	34 22
Dartmouth.....	6 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6 50
Falmouth.....	10 00	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	20 00
†Halifax, 1st, \$2.50.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 50
Halifax, 2nd.....	40 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40 50
Hammonds Plains, 1st.....	8 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8 50
Hammonds Plains, 2d.....	4 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 00
Hantsport.....	5 85	0 87	1 50	.....	0 50	0 37	9 10
Horton, 1st.....	25 50	40 00	.....	.....	10 00	12 00	87 50
Horton, 2nd.....	11 00	.....	3 00	10 00	.....	.....	24 00
Horton, 3rd.....	6 00	2 00	1 00	8 00	0 50	0 50	18 00
Indian Harbor.....	6 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6 00
Jeddore.....	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 00
Kempt.....	6 50	6 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	13 00
Lunenburg.....	3 54	3 87	.....	10 00	0 97	2 75	21 13
New Germany.....	1 00	1 00	.....	7 11	.....	.....	9 11
Rawdon.....	2 00	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 00
Sackville.....	9 00	.....	2 50	.....	.....	.....	11 50
St. Margaret's Bay... ..	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00
Tancook.....	2 50	.....	.....	4 00	.....	.....	6 50
Windsor.....	40 31	18 92	4 75	.....	1 75	.....	65 73
Collections.....	33 91	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	33 91
Deduct for Minutes & Stationery \$2.50... ..	327 92	228 61	30 59	97 88	22 35	27 70	737 55
	21 75	14 37	2 25	.....	1 75	2 00	44 62
	306 17	214 24	28 34	97 88	20 60	25 70	592 93

* The amount contributed for Foreign Missions is for the purpose of sustaining in part a Native Teacher.

† The amounts for the Benevolent Objects are paid from the Granville Street Church to the Treasurers of the several Funds. The \$2.50 is for minutes.

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R. N. BECKWITH, Treasurer.

INFIRM MINISTER

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Cornwallis, June 1867.

INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND, in acct. with D. R. EATON,
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June 1.	By amount balance on hand as per acct. ren'd..	\$218 25	
" 20.	" " rec'd from N. T. Harris, (Treasurer of Association).....	27 25	
1867.			
June 1.	" amount interest on above '0 date.....	14 62	
	" 1 year's Interest on the Jacobs' Legacy, \$667 67 to Novr. 5, '66.....	40 06	
	" Interest on same to date.....	1 40	
			301 56

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1867.			
April 8.	To amount paid Rev. Dr. Tapper for Mrs. Walker.....	20 00	
May 3.	" " Rev. Wm. Burton's Widow.....	23 00	
" 17.	" " Rev. E. M. Saunders for Widow Palmer.....	20 00	
June 1.	" Interest on above.....	00 30	
	" Balance to new acct.....	241 28	
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1867.			
June 1.	By amount brought down.....	\$241 28	

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D. R. EATON, Treasurer.

Cornwallis, June 1867.

MINISTERS IN THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

NAMES.	Present Residence.	Date of Ordination.	Place of Ordination.
Rev. J. Bancroft.....	Newport East.....	Mar. 8, 1849	Rawdon.
" J.M.Cramp,D.D.	Wolfville.....	May 7, 1818	London, G. B.
" E.A.Crawley,DD	Wolfville.....		
" John Chase.....	Wolfville.....		1835 Billtown.
" S. W. deBlois...	Wolfville.....	Feb. 26, 1854	Chester.
" D. Freeman.....	Cannlug.....	Aug. —, 1855	Halifax.
" J.E.Goucher....	Halifax.....	Oct. 6, 1859	Gagetown,NB.
" T. A. Higgins....	Wolfville.....	Aug. 30, 1857	Liverpool.
" A. S. Hunt.....	Canard, Cornwallis	Nov. 10, 1844	Dartmouth.
" J. Parker,.....	Billtown, do.	May 19, 1842	UpperWilmot.
" S. T. Rand.....	Hantsport.....	Oct. 7, 1834	Cornwallis.
" E. O. Read.....	Gaspereaux.....	Jan. 8, 1858	Gaspereaux.
" J. L. Read.....	Upper Aylesford..	June 30, 1858	Hopewell,NB.
" E. M. Saunders.	West Cornwallis..	Dec. 15, 1856	W. Cornwallis.
" I. J. Skinner....	Chester.....	Sep. 19, 1858	Port Medway.
" J. Stevens.....	Rawdon.....	Aug. 4, 1830	Horton.
" A. Shields	Lunenburg, N. W.	July 18, 1852	Hantsport.
" B. Taylor.....	New Germany....	July 13, 1842	Chelsea.
" B. Vaughan.....	Kempt.....	May 4, 1842	Wolfville.
" D. M. Welton....	Windsor.....	Sep. 2, 1857	Windsor.
" John Pryor,D.D.	Halifax.....	June —, 1830	Providence,RI
" R. R. Philp....	Sackville.....	Oct. 12, 1856	Margarce,CB.
" D. G. Shaw.....	Falmouth.....	Jan. 24, 1860	Falmouth.
" D. Pineo.....	Long Point.....	Dec. 24, 1844	Greenwich.
" S. B. Kompton..	New Minas.....	Sep. 16, 1863	New Minas.
" S. Murch.....	Bridgewater.....	July 6, 1856	St Francis,NB.
" A. F. Porter.....	Halifax.....	July 19, 1858	Billtown.
" Geo. Weathers..	Newport.....	May 12, 1864	Newport.
" W. E. Hall.....	New Germany....	Sep. 23, 1864	New Germany

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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA.

ARTICLE 1st.—This Association shall consist of Delegates representing the Churches of which it is composed, each of whom shall be a member of one of those Churches, together with Delegates from Corresponding Associations, and such other brethren present as the Association may see fit to invite to sit in Council.

ART. 2nd.—The Association shall meet at such time and place as may be agreed upon by the body.

ART. 3rd.—Each Church shall have the privilege of sending one Delegate or more, but no Church shall be entitled to send more than five in addition to their Pastor.

ART. 4th.—At each meeting of the Association the Moderator of the preceding year shall preside till his successor is chosen. The choice of Moderator shall take place by ballot, as soon as a list of Delegates has been prepared, as hereinafter provided. No brother shall be chosen Moderator two years in succession. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside in all the transactions, maintain due order, and nominate Committees, unless otherwise ordered by the Association. A Secretary shall be chosen, whose duty it shall be to record the transactions of the Association, and to furnish a correct copy of the same for the press; he is also to remain in office till his successor is chosen.

ART. 5th.—It shall be the duty of each Church to send by its messengers a letter to the Association giving an account of its state, particularly of the additions and diminutions within the last year, and generally of whatsoever relates to its peace and prosperity.

ART. 6th.—At each Annual Meeting the letters from the Churches shall be first handed in, from which the Secretary shall immediately make out a list of Delegates. The election of Moderator and Secretary shall then take place, after which the letters shall be read. Committees nominated by the Moderator shall not consist of more than five brethren, of whom three shall constitute a quorum. When large Committees are judged desirable they shall be appointed by the Association, and two-thirds of the number appointed shall be competent to act.

ART. 6th.—When any Church shall desire admittance into this body, application must be made by letter, and satisfactory evidence furnished of its faith and order; this being done, and a vote of acceptance taken, the Moderator shall, in behalf of the Association, give to one of its messengers present the right-hand of fellowship.

ART. 8th.—When any Church shall neglect to make communication for three years successively it shall be considered as having withdrawn from us, and shall be dropped from the Minutes, 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.

ART. 9th.—Although as an Association all power over the Churches is disclaimed, so far as respects any interference with their independence and discipline; yet it is deemed a privilege belonging to the Association to judge for itself of the propriety of receiving or retaining any Church in its connexion.

ART. 10th.—The religious sentiments of this body are those expressed in the "Articles of the Faith and Practice of the Baptist Churches in Nova Scotia."

ART. 11th.—That the Moderator be authorized at any time during the year, to call a special meeting of the Association, in pursuance of a requisition signed by ten members thereof.

ART. 12th.—Alterations and amendments may be made to this Constitution by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any of its regular meetings.

RULES OF ORDER.

RULE 1st.—At every sitting, business shall be opened and closed with prayer; and immediately after the opening, the Minutes of the preceding meeting shall be read and corrected.

RULE 2nd.—No member of the Association shall leave the Session before the business is concluded, without permission of the Association.

RULE 3rd.—No subject shall be discussed without a motion first made and seconded.

RULE 4th.—No person shall speak oftener than twice on the same subject, unless by permission of the body.

RULE 5th.—Brethren invited to a seat with us may speak on all subjects under consideration, but vote on none.

RULE 6th.—All resolutions shall be presented in writing.

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

RULE 8th.—These Rules shall be distinctly read from the Chair at the opening of the Session.

☞ Since the first part of the Minutes was printed we are informed by the Rev. D. Freeman, to whom the matter was left, that: The Church at Gaspereaux, Horton, requests that the Association will meet with them next year.

OMISSION.—In the list of Delegates the name of Peter Corkum, Junr., from Chester was omitted.



