

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION
OF THE
AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
OF
NOVA SCOTIA.

Held with the Hammond Plains Church on Saturday,
Tuesday, Sept. 3rd, 5th and 6th, 1881.

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NOVA SCOTIA PRINTING COMPANY.
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RULES OF ORDER.

- I.—The following Rules shall be read by the Secretary at the commencement of each Annual Session of the Association.
- II.—At the commencement of each Session the minutes of the preceding one shall be read and approved, and of the last before the final adjournment.
- III.—Each meeting of business shall be commenced and closed with prayer.
- IV.—At each Annual Meeting the letters from Churches shall be handed to the Clerk, after which the roll of delegates shall be formed and brought before the notice of the Moderator.
- V. From this list the officers of the Association shall be formed.
- VI.—The first letter read shall be from the senior Church, and next accordingly.
- VII.—No subject shall be discussed without a motion first made and seconded, and no person shall be allowed to speak on any subject more than twice, unless by consent of the Association, and must at all times address the Chairman first.
- VIII.—Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the minutes except ordered by the Association.
- IX.—All resolutions shall be presented in writing.
- X.—The Committee of Arrangements shall, in addition to the Order of business, provide, recommend and devise means and plans for the promotion of the Association.
- XI.—When any Church is received in the Association, the Chairman will give to the Pastor of said Church the Right hand of Fellowship.
- XII.—No delegate shall leave the Association while in Session without permission of the same.

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MINUTES.

FIRST SESSION.

Hammond Plains,
Saturday, Sept. 3rd, 1881. }

THE AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION assembled at 3 o'clock P. M., in its Twenty-Eighth Annual Session.

The Rev. A. Bailey, Assistant Moderator, called the Association to order, by singing the 11th hymn, "Come to the House of Prayer"; and reading the 55th Psalm, by Rev. H. H. Johnson. Prayer was offered by Rev. Nathaniel Drayton.

The Moderator delivered an address of welcome to the brethren present, he being the pastor of said church.

DELEGATES.

- Halifax*—Revs. Henry H. Johnson, A. Bailey; Deacons C. F. Biddle, R. Simons; Brethren Wm. Johnson, Jos. Flint, P. McKerrow.
Preston 1st—Rev. George Carvery, Deacon Wm. Carvery.
" *2nd*—Deacon Joseph Smith.
" *3rd*—Rev. George Neal, Deacon Thomas Crawley, Bro. John Williams.
Hammond Plains—Rev. A. Bailey, Deacon Wm. Wilson, Bros. David Anderson and A. Emmerson.
Beech Hill—Rev. A. Bailey.
Cornwallis—Rev. John A. Smith.
Campbell Road—Rev. Edward Dixon, Deacon James Brown, Bro. William Howe.
Digby Joggins—Rev. Nathaniel Drayton.

Invited to a seat in the Association: Bros. Aaron Buttler, Thos. Langford, G. Ackerson, C. Roane.

The officers for the ensuing year were then elected:

MODERATOR.....	REV. HENRY H. JOHNSON.
ASSISTANT.....	GEORGE R. NEAL.
SECRETARY.....	P. E. MCKERROW.
ASSISTANT.....	A. EMMERSON.
TREASURER.....	C. F. BIDDLE.

The following Committees were appointed :—

To Examine Letters—Bros. A. Emmerson, R. Simons and P. E. McKerrow.

To Read Letters—Bros. A. Emmerson and P. E. McKerrow.

Committee of Arrangements—Revs. A. Bailey, G. Carvery ; Deacon William Wilson.

Committee on Finance—Revs. H. H. Johnson, A. Bailey ; Bros. C. F. Biddle and P. E. McKerrow.

Committee on Temperance—Rev. N. Drayton, Bros. A. Emmerson and P. E. McKerrow.

Committee of Arrangements, after retiring, reported as follows :—

Morning Prayer Meeting at 9 o'clock.

Preaching at 11 A. M., Rev. G. R. Neal.

3 P. M., by Rev. John A. Smith.

3 P. M., by Rev. George Carvery, in the Upper Church.

7 P. M., by Rev. H. H. Johnson.

7 P. M., by Rev. N. Drayton, in the Upper Church.

The Committee of Arrangements also recommended that a collection be taken at all the meetings, to assist in defraying the expenses of the Association, and appointed Deacons Wilson, Biddle, and Bros. David Anderson and Emmerson, as collectors.

They further recommended the various hours for meeting :—

Morning Session, from 9.30 to 1 o'clock.

Afternoon Session, from 2.30 to 5 o'clock.

Evening, for Preaching and Service of Song.

And the introductory be preached at 11 A. M. Monday.

Adjourned, by prayer from Rev. A. Bailey ; Benediction by the Moderator.

SABBATH SERVICES.

9 A. M.—Prayer meeting, attended by a goodly number.

11 A. M.—Preaching, by Rev. G. R. Neal, from Ecclesiastes ix., 14-15—"There was a little city, and few men in it ; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks. Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city ; yet no man remembered that same poor man." Sang hymns 1047 and 887. Closing prayer by Bro. Charles Roane, Licen. Collection taken, \$1.21.

3 P. M.—Preaching, by Rev. John A. Smith; from 1st Sam., xvii., 45—“Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield; but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts.” Prayer by the preacher. Closing hymn 47, in the Supplement. Collection taken, \$7.67.

7 P. M.—Preaching, by Rev. H. H. Johnson, from 1st Thessalonians, v., 25—“Brethren, pray for us.” Closing prayer by Rev. Edward Dixon. Collection taken, \$5.08.

Upper Church Services.—3 P. M.—Preaching, at the Upper Church, by Rev. G. Carvery, from Revelations xxi., 10—“And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the Holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.” After which Revs. A. Bailey, W. Lucas, and Bro. C. Roane commented, liberty having been granted from the pulpit. Prayer by Bro. C. Roane.

7 P. M.—Preaching, by Rev. N. Drayton, from Psalm xx., part of the 5th and 7th verses—“We will rejoice in thy salvation”; “Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.” Prayer by Bro. C. Roane.

SECOND SESSION.

Monday Morning, Sept. 5th, 1881.

9.30 A. M. The Moderator, Rev. H. H. Johnson, opened the meeting, by singing hymn 1047, “Awake, ye Saints, and raise your eyes.” Read God’s Word, from Heb. iii. Prayer by Rev. G. Carvery.

The Roll of Delegates was called; absentees noted and fined.

The Moderator called for the reading of the Minutes of the previous Session, which were read and approved. The names of the officers elect for the ensuing year were also announced.

The letters from the various Churches were handed in to the committee set apart to examine them, who retired with them; and after due examination returned, and stated their willingness to report, the first thing after the opening of the afternoon session.

The Moderator having a few moments at his command previous to the sermon being preached at 11 o’clock, granted

permission to any and all who had a word of praise for his *Master*. The various brethren took part—Rev. John A. Smith, Bros. Benjamin David, T. Crawley, John Williams, T. Langford, J. Flint, E. Flint, C. Roane, D. Goffigan and Alfred Jenkins, all of whom spoke well regarding God's blessing to them.

At 11 A. M. Rev. Edward Dixon preached the introductory sermon, from Jeremiah xii., 5—"Then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?" At the close of the sermon, a Service of Song was commenced, which lasted for half an hour, when were sung some of those soul-stirring hymns, which arouse the spiritual feeling and animate the silent life of those that are cold and luke-warm, such as, "What a friend we have in Jesus," "Come, 'Thou fount of every blessing," "Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb." Thus, when adversity has dried up the springs of earthly comfort and hope, God's great streams of salvation and love flow freshest and fullest, to gladden the hearts of His redeemed ones!

Collection taken, \$5.23.

Adjourned; prayer and Benediction from the Moderator.

Afternoon Session.

2.30 P. M., Session opened by singing hymn 1068, "Blest be the tie that binds." Prayer offered by Bro. William Johnson.

Minutes of previous Session read and approved.

Letters from the several Churches of the Association were then read.

Invitations from the Cornwallis and Third Preston Churches were extended to hold the Association (D. V.) in 1882. This caused a spirited discussion, and after due deliberation, the vote was taken, and resulted in favor of the Third Preston Church.

In consequence of Rev. Wilton R. Boone severing his connection with this Association, he having been appointed last year to write the Circular Letter, we were without one this year. The Secretary having in his possession a paper based on the educational progress of the race in the United States, promised to insert, in lieu of the Circular Letter, portions of it that would be interesting and valuable to all.

MISSIONARY WORK.

Report of the Brethren appointed to do missionary work during the year :—

Rev. John A. Smith visited Campbell Road Church five times; received in cash, 50c.; at each service had fair attendance. Visited Halifax once; no collection. First Preston once; received 25c. Third Preston once; received 69c. Port LaTour, preached twenty sermons; received \$3. Birch Town, preached nine sermons; received 50c. Gypson Woods, preached eight sermons; received \$1.38. Pine Grove, preached eight sermons; received \$4.40. Liverpool, preached four sermons; received \$2. Married two couples during the year. The Rev. gentleman said that many of the churches he visited were in very poor circumstances, both spiritually and financially.

Rev. N. Drayton reported as follows :—Made three hundred visits; preached two hundred and seventy-five sermons; attended sixteen funerals; married four couples; offered twenty children; baptized fifteen persons; organized one Sabbath-school, with forty children; and received cash, in all, \$78.50. Trusting that the labor he performed will be blest from above.

Bro. C. Roane, Licen., reports having visited Third Preston Church four times; Campbell Road, four times; Beech Hill, once; Hammond Plains, once.

Rev. E. Dixon reports :—Preached at Halifax; received cash, \$4.50. Hammond Plains, visited twice, preached four sermons; received cash, \$2.40. Windsor Plains, preached four sermons; received cash, 36c. Third Preston, preached two sermons; received cash, 95c. Lucas Settlement, preached one sermon.

Bro. D. Goffigan reported :—Preached two sermons at Beech Hill; received cash, 46c. Campbell Road, preached once; received cash, 19c. Was unable to fill other appointments owing to ill health and other disappointments.

Bro. Thomas Jones, jr., Licen., reports :—Campbell Road, preached four sermons; received cash, 33c. Beech Hill, preached three sermons; received cash, 36c. Other appointments were not filled through mishaps.

Bro. Alfred Jenkins, Licen., reports :—Campbell Road, preached two sermons; received cash, 27c. He apologized for not being able to fill the appointments, but did his best under the adverse circumstances.

P. E. MCKERROW, *Sec'y.*

SUMMARY OF CHRISTIAN BELIEF.

I. THE SCRIPTURES.

We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction ; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter ; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us ; and therefore is and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

I. See 2 Tim. 3 : 16, 17 ; 2 Pet. 1 : 20, 21 ; Rom. 15 : 4 ; 1 Cor. 10 : 11 ; Ps. 119 : 97-105.

II. THE TRUE GOD.

That there is one, and only one, true and living God, whose name is JEHOVAH, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth ; inexpressibly glorious in holiness ; worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love ; revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost ; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

II. See Deut. 6 : 4 ; Isa. 44 : 24 ; Deut. 32 : 4 ; Ps. 36 : 5 ; 34 : 8 ; John 10 : 15, 30 : 1-13 ; Rom. 9 : 5 ; 1 Tim. 3 : 16 ; Rev. 1 : 8 ; John 14 : 26 ; 15 : 26 ; Acts 5 : 3, 4 ; 1 Cor. 3 : 16 ; 12 : 11 ; Matt. 28 : 19 ; Ps. 34 : 8.

III. THE FALL OF MAN.

That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state ; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but by choice ; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God ; and wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan and of their own sinful passions, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.

III. See Gen. 1 : 57 ; 28 : 31 ; Eccl. 7 : 29 ; Gen. 2 : 16, 17 ; 3 : 1, 6 ; Rom. 5 : 12 ; Eph. 2 : 3 ; Ezek. 18 : 19, 20 ; Rom. 6 : 18 ; Jer. 17 : 9, 10 ; 1 John 1 : 8.

IV. THE WAY OF SALVATION.

That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who took upon himself our nature, yet without sin ; honored the law by his personal

obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death ; being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven ; and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate and an all-sufficient Saviour.

IV. See John 1 : 14 ; Luke 1 : 25-35 ; Acts 14 : 12 ; Rom. 3 : 20-26 ; John 3 : 16.

V. JUSTIFICATION.

That the great Gospel blessings, which Christ of his fullness bestows on such as believe in him, is Justification ; that justification consists in the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness ; that it is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through his own redemption and righteousness ; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

V. See Rom. 5 : 8, 9 ; Acts 13 : 38, 39 ; Isa. 53 : 12 ; Rom. 3 : 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30 ; Rom. 4 : 5 ; 8 : 30 ; Gal. 2 : 16, 17 ; 3 : 24 ; 1 Cor. 6 : 11 ; Titus 2 : 7.

VI. THE FREENESS OF SALVATION.

That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel ; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith ; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ, which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.

VI. See Isa. 45 : 22 ; Rom. 10 : 11-13 ; Isa. 23 : 16 ; Isa. 55 : 1 ; John 4 : 10, 14 ; John 5 : 37, 38 ; Rev. 21 : 6 ; 22 : 17 ; John 5 : 40 ; 3 : 15-19, 39.

VII. GRACE IN REGENERATION.

That, in order to be saved, we must be regenerated or born again ; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel ; and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit which we bring forth to the glory of God.

VII. See John 3 : 3-8 ; Rom. 8 : 2, 3 ; Rom. 11 : 32-36 ; John 1 : 12, 13 ; Gal. 6 : 15 ; Eph. 1 : 1 ; John 5 : 24 ; Titus 3 : 5 ; 1 Peter 1 : 23 ; 2 John 2 : 29 ; 3 : 9 ; 6 : 18 ; James 1 : 26, 27.

VIII. REPENTANCE AND FAITH.

We believe that Repentance and Faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God, whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of Salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on Him alone as the only and all-sufficient Saviour.

VIII. See Mark 1: 15; Acts 15: 18; John 16: 8; Acts 2: 37, 38; Acts 14: 30, 31; Luke 18: 13; 15: 18-21; James 4: 7-10; Cor. 6: 11; Rom. 10: 12, 13; Ps. 2; Rom. 10: 9-11; Acts 3: 22, 23; Heb. 4: 14; Ps. 2: 6; Heb. 1: 8; 8: 25; 2 Tim. 1: 12.

IX. GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE.

That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe the Gospel; is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

IX. See Eph. 1: 4; Isa. 46: 10, 11; John 3: 6-8; 1: 12, 13; 1 Peter 1: 2; John 16: 19; 3: 18, 19; Acts 17: 30; Rev. 22: 17.

X. OF SANCTIFICATION.

We believe that Sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration; and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means—especially the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

X. See Thess. 4: 3; 1 Thess. 5: 23; 2 Cor. 7: 1; 13: 9; Epis. 1: 4; Prov. 4: 18; 2 Cor. 3: 18; Heb. 6: 1; 2 Pet. 1: 5-8; Phil. 3: 12-16; John 2: 26; Rom. 8: 5; John 3: 6; Phil. 1: 9-11; Ephes. 1: 13, 14; Phil. 2: 12, 13; Ephes. 4: 11, 12; 1 Peter 2: 2; 2 Peter 3: 18; 2 Cor. 13: 5; Luke 11: 35; 9: 23; Matt. 26: 41; Ephes. 6: 18; 4: 30.

XI. THE PERSEVERANCE OF SAINTS.

That such only are real believers as endure unto the end ; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors ; that a special Providence watches over their welfare ; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XI. See 1 Peter 1 : 5 ; John 10 : 27, 29 ; 1 John 2 : 19 ; Matt. 24 : 13.

XII. HARMONY OF THE LAW AND GOSPEL.

That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of moral government ; that it is holy, just and good ; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin ; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible Church.

XII. See Matt. 5 : 17, 18 ; Rom. 7 : 7, 12, 13, 13 ; 8 : 1-4 ; John 1 : 14 ; Rom. 3 : 19-26.

XIII. OF A GOSPEL CHURCH.

That a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel ; observing the ordinances of Christ ; governed by his laws ; and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his word ; that its only proper officers are Bishops or Pastors, and Deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the epistles of Timothy and Titus.

XIII. See Matt. 28 : 19 ; Mark 6 : 15, 16 ; Acts 2 : 28, 41, 42, 43, 45.

XIV. BAPTISM AND LORD'S SUPPER.

That Christian Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit ; to show forth, in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in a crucified, buried and risen Saviour, with its purifying power ; that it is pre-requisite to the privileges of a church relation, and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ ; preceded always by solemn self-examination.

XIV. See Matt. 3 : 6-17 ; 23 : 19, 20 ; Acts 8 : 12, 13, 26-40 ; Rom. 6 : 3-4 ; Col. 2 : 12 ; 1 Peter 3 : 20, 21 ; 2 : 9 ; Acts 2 : 37-42.

XV. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.

That the first day of the week is the Lord's day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and recreations; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public; and by preparation for that rest which remaineth for the people of God.

XV. See Mark 2: 28; John 20: 19, 26; 1 Cor. 16: 1, 2; Acts 20: 1, 7; Rev. 1: 10.

XVI. CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

That civil government is of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the Kings of the earth.

XVI. See Rom. 13: 1-4.

XVII. THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED.

That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are, in his sight, wicked, and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in this world and in the world to come.

XVII. See John 3: 1, 9; Matt. 16: 16-22.

XVIII. THE WORLD TO COME.

That the end of the world is approaching; that at the last day Christ will descend from Heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

XVIII. See 1 Thess. 4: 14-17; Rev. 20: 10-15; Rom. 2: 4-16; 2 Cor. 5: 20; 2 Peter 3: 7-14; John 5: 28, 29; Acts 17: 30, 31; John 8: 21, 24; Matt. 25: 31-46; John 14: 2, 3.

CHURCH COVENANT.

Having been, as we trust, brought by divine grace to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ, and to give up wholly to him, we do now solemnly and joyfully covenant with each other, to WALK TOGETHER IN HIM WITH BROTHERLY LOVE, to his glory, as our common Lord. We do, therefore, in his strength, engage :

That we will exercise a mutual care, as members one of another, to promote the growth of the whole body in Christian knowledge, holiness and comfort ; to the end that we may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God :

That to promote and secure this object, we will uphold the public worship of God, and the ordinances of his house ; and hold constant communion with each other therein ; that we will cheerfully contribute of our property for the support of the poor, and for the maintenance of a faithful evangelical ministry among us ; that, according to our ability and opportunities, we will, as faithful stewards of the Lord, do good to all men, especially in helping extend the Gospel in its purity and power to the whole human family :

That we will not omit closet and family religion at home, nor allow ourselves in the too common neglect of the great duty of religious training up of our children, and those under our care, with a view to the service of Christ and the enjoyment of Heaven :

That we will walk circumspectly in the world, that we may win their souls ; remembering that God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind, that we may be the light of the world, and the salt of the earth :

That we will exhort, and, if occasion should require, admonish one another, according to Matt xviii., in the spirit of meekness, considering ourselves, lest we also be tempted, and that as we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, and raised again, so there is on us special obligation henceforth to walk in newness of life.

And may the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the Sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work, to do his will ; working in us that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.—AMEN.

AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

THE AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION convened with the Hammonds Plains Church in its Twenty-eighth Annual Session at 3 o'clock, P. M., on Saturday, Sept. 3rd, 1881. After the usual devotional exercises the election of officers took place.

Rev. H. H. Johnston, pastor of Halifax Church elected Moderator.

P. E. McKerrow, Secretary.

C. F. Biddle, Treasurer.

The gathering was one of the largest ever witnessed, there being delegates from Digby, Weymouth and Cornwallis, Preston and Halifax. The weather was delightful. On Monday afternoon the subject of education was introduced by the Moderator in plain simple words, by saying that some Ministers taught that it was not necessary to be educated in order to be able to preach the Gospel, but merely open the mouth wide and God would fill it. The speaker admitted that God would assist, but while he admitted that fact, he believed that God would not do for man what man could do for himself (God works by means) man's extremity was God's opportunity.

He further stated from what he could ascertain that the doors of Acadia College were open to all, irrespective of race. This opportunity should now be embraced, it being a grand one. If this was done we would not have to send away to the United States for Ministers, but would have them to send there. He strongly urged the young men who were aiming for that exalted position, to get education in order that they might be able to fill their pulpits with credit to themselves, do honour to the cause of Christ, and arrest that progressive evil which predominates in our churches to-day.

The Rev. gentleman said, "Perhaps my advice to you may not be altogether new, but in any case it is a subject for thought, especially to those who are immediately connected with this association. There can be nothing more vital or important to the people of any community than that of having an educated minister in their midst, that is, educated in both head and heart."

He traced the lives of many colored men of distinction, whose earlier days did not show any greater signs of advancement than some of those who surrounded him. Yet by industry, energy and hard study, many of them have become eminent ministers, lawyers, politicians, musicians. Famous among these may be mentioned Professor Page of Brown University, Providence R. I., now Principal of Lincoln Institute mission. Professors Jones and Vassar, graduates from Madison University, now at the Richmond Institute, and the late Professor Gardner, of Georgia. Among the lawyers were Walker and Morris of Boston, and on the platform of the political arena are to be found Frederick Douglas, who has a world-wide reputation, Elliot, Revels, and the late Oscar I. Dunn, who had been Lieut. Governor of Louisiana previous to his death.

And in the musical world the colored race is to be found taking an active part. The talented Joseph White, a Cuban of no mean ability, who in 1863, on his return to Spain from America, played before the Countess de Montijo (mother of the Empress of France) and likewise before the Queen of Spain. Her Spanish Majesty presented him, the brilliant virtuoso, with a magnificent set of diamond studs, and created him Chevalier of the Order of Isabella the Catholic. After his return to France he performed at the Tuileries, in presence of their Majesties Napoleon and the Empress Eugenie, from whom he received the fullest congratulations.

He briefly touched on the work performed by the famous Jubilee singers of Fiske University. In the summer of 1874 they returned to Nashville, Tenn., having given two seasons of concerts in America, and one in Great Britain. The best evidence of the appreciative and enthusiastic welcome given them in both countries, is the fact that the net result for the University was over \$90,000. The problem of the little band of faithful teachers had been nobly and gloriously solved. And to-day on a beautiful commanding site of twenty acres with all the appliances of the best modern Colleges, stands a noble building, forever dedicated to learning and to Christianity.

The closing remarks of the Moderator were full of pathos. He thanked the brethren for giving him such kind attention, and said although he had digressed somewhat from his subject, yet it was necessary for him to do so, in order to let them know what progress the race had made in the few years of their liberty

from abject bondage, and hoped what he had said would be productive of much good.

He recommended the brethren to be consistent living Christians, as nothing would stand the test but what was genuine, as the world knew pretty well the ring of pure metal. If lights of the world, we should keep our lumps trimmed and brightly burning. With conscience satisfied that duty is properly performed, no consequences can harm us. A sense of duty pursues us ever. Like the *Deity* it is omnipresent with us in the dark as well as in the light.

With us in life they will be with us at its close; and in the scene of inconceivable solemnity which lies yet farther onward, we shall still find ourselves surrounded by the consciousness of duty, to pain us whenever it is violated, and to console us so far as God may have given us grace to perform it. Duty done will make the voice of conscience sweet as the harps of heaven to your souls. It will make the cup of life run over with blessing, it will snatch the crown of victory from the hand of the all-conquering Death, and make every path of life safe for your feet, and in the valley of the shadow of death you shall fear no evil.

At the close of his address complimentary resolutions were passed for the able effort, as well as the business like manner in which he conducted the affairs of the Association generally.

P. E. McK.

CHURCHES AND OFFICERS OF THE AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

MODERATORREV. HENRY H. JOHNSON.
 ASSISTANT.....REV. GEORGE NEAL.
 SECRETARY.....P. E. MCKERROW.
 TREASURER.....C. F. BIDDLE.

MINISTERS, LICENTIATES, DEACONS AND COUNCILLORS.

- HALIFAX**—Pastor—Rev. H. H. Johnson; Deacons—C. F. Biddle, D. Gross, R. Simons; Councillors—Wm. Johnson, S. Woods, R. White, P. E. McKerrrow; Doorkeeper—A. Brown; Clerk—D. E. Jacobs.
- HAMMOND PLAINS**—Pastor—Rev. A. Bailey; Licentiates—T. Jones, Jr., D. Goffigan, A. Jenkins; Deacons—G. David, Wm. Wilson; Councillors—D. Anderson, F. David, J. Manigo; Doorkeeper—J. Giggy; Assistant—A. David; Clerk—A. Emmerson.
- PRESTON, 1st**—Pastor—Rev. G. Carvery; Deacons—J. Brooks, William Carvery; Councillors—R. Kempt, Joseph Glasgow, S. Turner; Doorkeeper, G. Glasgow; Clerk—J. Evans.
- PRESTON, 2nd**—Pastor—Rev. A. Bailey; Licentiates, J. Downey, C. Roane; Deacons—Jos. Smith, John Colley; Councillors—J. Colley, D. Downey; Doorkeeper—David Smith; Clerk—T. Johnson.
- PRESTON, 3rd**—Pastor—Rev. Geo. R. Neal; Deacons—D. Brown, T. Crawley, Paul Crawley; J. Dillivay; Councillors—J. Thomson, R. Cooper, J. Williams; Doorkeeper and Sexton—D. Johnson; Clerk, J. Thomson.
- BEECH HILL**—Pastor—Rev. A. Bailey; Deacon—J. Hamilton; Councillor—Robert Hamilton.
- DIGBY**—Pastor—Rev. N. Drayton; Deacon—Peter Butler.
- CORNWALLIS**—Pastor—Rev. John A. Smith; Deacons—D. Taylor; Councillors—Peter Smith, J. Gibson, G. Ackerson.
- FALMOUTH**—Pastor—Rev. John A. Smith; Deacon—Benjamin Gray.
- CAMPBELL ROAD**—Without Pastor; Deacon—James Brown; Councillor—Wm. Howe.
- HORTON**—Without Pastor; Deacon—Dennis Doleman.
- DARTMOUTH**—Without Pastor.
- BEAR RIVER, BRIDGETOWN, WREYMOUTH, YARMOUTH**—Without Pastors.

STATISTICS

OF THE

AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

NAME OF CHURCH.	PASTOR'S NAME.	By Baptism.	By Letter.	Restored.	Removed.	Dismission.	Exclusion.	Expierience.	Died.	Members Non-Resident	Members Resident.	Total.
Halifax.....	H. H. Johnson.....	24	1	1	1	2	5	82	118	200		
Hammond Plains.....	A. Bailey.....			1		2						84
Preston (1st).....	G. Carvery.....	2				2						52
" (2nd).....	A. Bailey.....	1				3	4	1				50
" (3rd).....	G. Neal.....	5	1			3	10	2				85
Beech Hill.....	A. Bailey.....	5						1				10
Dartmouth.....	Without Pastor.....											
Campbell Road.....	" ".....											24
Cornwallis.....	J. A. Smith.....											16
Digby Joggins.....	N. Drayton.....											12
Bear River.....	".....											
Weymouth.....	".....											
Yarmouth.....	Without Pastor.....											
Liverpool.....	" ".....											
Bridgetown.....	" ".....											

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

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HALIFAX—Superintendent—P. E. McKerrow; Bible Class—Rev. H. H. Johnson, Pastor; Female Teachers—M. Thompson, Louisa Bailey, Eliza Roche, R. C. Thomas; Secy and Librarian—T. McDonald; Assistant—G. Lattimore; Treasurer—C. F. Biddle.

HAMMOND PLAINS—Superintendent—J. W. Skeritt.

PRESTON, 1st—Superintendent—Rev. George Carvery.

PRESTON, 2nd—Superintendent—Henry Joseph.

DIGBY JOGGINS—Superintendent—N. Drayton.

WEYMOUTH—Superintendent—N. Drayton.

1881.—Financial Account of the African Baptist Association.—1881.

<p>Sept.</p> <p>Cash Balance in hand</p> <p>Halifax Church Letter</p> <p> " Home Mission</p> <p>Hammond Plains Church Letter</p> <p> " Home Mission</p> <p>1st Preston Church Letter</p> <p> " Home Mission</p> <p>2nd " Letter</p> <p> " Home Mission</p> <p>3rd " Letter</p> <p> " Home Mission</p> <p>Beech Hill Church Letter</p> <p> " Home Mission</p> <p>Digby Church Letter</p> <p>Cornwallis "</p> <p>Campbell Road Church Letter</p> <p> " Home Mission</p> <p>Collections</p> <p> " Upper Church</p> <p>Fines from Delegates</p>	<p>\$24 00</p> <p>11 82</p> <p>1 00</p> <p>5 44</p> <p>2 00</p> <p>5 00</p> <p>2 00</p> <p>4 00</p> <p>1 15</p> <p>6 00</p> <p>00</p> <p>4 00</p> <p>60</p> <p>2 00</p> <p>2 00</p> <p>1 16</p> <p>1 00</p> <p>25 16</p> <p>1 09</p> <p>60</p>	<p>Sept. 3. Appropriation to Brethren—expenses. \$00 00</p> <p>Rev H. H. Johnson..... 10 00</p> <p> " A. Bailey..... 3 00</p> <p> " John A. Smith..... 3 00</p> <p> " George Neal..... 3 00</p> <p> " George Carvery..... 3 00</p> <p> " N. Drayton..... 1 00</p> <p> " E. Dixon..... 2 00</p> <p> " Bro. C. F. Biddle..... 50</p> <p> " G. Ackerson..... 75</p> <p> " Wm. Carvery..... 50</p> <p> " John Williams..... 2 00</p> <p> " Joseph Smith..... 50</p> <p> " T. Langford..... 1 00</p> <p> " Aaron Butler..... 1 00</p> <p> " Wm. Johnson..... 1 00</p> <p> " James Brown..... 50</p> <p> " Wm. Howe..... 75</p> <p> " Joseph Flint..... 75</p> <p> " Thos. Crawley..... 2 00</p> <p> " A. Emerson..... 1 00</p> <p> " Wm. Wilson..... 75</p> <p> " D. Anderson..... 6 00</p> <p> " J. Giggy..... 3 00</p> <p> " Secretary..... 20 00</p> <p> " for repairing carriage..... 29 02</p> <p> " Print'g minutes, stat'n'y, stamps.....</p> <p> " Cash balance in hand</p>	<p>\$100 02</p> <p>\$100 02</p>
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