

MINUTES
OF THE
NOVA-SCOTIA
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT
ONSLow, COLCHESTER COUNTY,

On the 21st, 22d, and 23rd June, 1841.

TOGETHER WITH
The Circular Letter, Missionary Notices, &c.

HALIFAX:
PRINTED AT THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER OFFICE.

1841.

THE
OF THE
NOVA SCOTIA
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Introduction.

A Collection was made on the preceding Session.

Rev. J. Pryor and Brother V. L. C. Tupper, were appointed to examine them.

The following reports were made to the Association on the subject—viz: Chase.

Rev. Jos. Crandall of the New Brunswick.

The Letters from the Minutes taken.

MINUTES, &c.

MONDAY, June 21st, 1841.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by the Rev. William Burton.

A Collection was taken in aid of Missions, in addition to one taken on the preceding Sabbath.

Rev. J. Pryor was appointed Moderator ; Rev. W. Chipman, Clerk ; and Brother V. L. Chipman, Assistant Clerk ; Rev. E. A. Crawley and C. Tupper, were appointed to read the letters from the Churches to the Association ; and Rev. J. Chase, S. T. Rand, and T. H. Porter, to examine them.

The following persons were appointed to consider any proposals to the Association, which might be made in the Letters, and report thereon—viz : Rev. J. Dimock, C. Tupper, G. Dimock, and J. Chase.

Rev. Jos. Crandall was requested to take a seat as Messenger from the New Brunswick Association.

The Letters from the Churches were then read, and the following Minutes taken.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

[The names of ordained Ministers are in SMALL CAPITALS ; those of Licentiates in *Italics* ; Ministers not present are marked with an asterisk* ; Churches from which no information was received marked thus † ; and vacant Churches distinguished by a dash — .

N. B.—Churches from which no information was received are returned as they stood last year.

CHURCHES.	MINISTERS AND MESSENGERS.	ADDED.		Removed, Dismissed,	Excluded,	Died,	Total,
		Restored,	By Letter, By Baptism,				
Annapolis and Upper Granville, † Lower Granville, Wilmot,	JOHN CHASE Obed. Chute, * JOSHUA B. COGSWELL, NAT. VIDITOE, Caleb Marshall,		1 2		1	4	155
Newport,	GEORGE DIMOCK, Stephen Dimock, JOHN MANN, Deacons Linton, Cutten, Page, Upham,	1	27 2		1 1	1	168
Onslow,			6 1	2 2			295
1st Clements,	* ISRAEL POTTER, * ISRAEL POTTER, JUN.	1	2	1	4	2	187
Lunenburg	JOS. DIMOCK,			1		1	28
Nictaux,	NAT. VIDITOE, * Henry Saunders,		9		3	1	432
† 1st Digby Neck, River Philip,	JNO. E. COGSWELL, Dea. Tim. Weatherbe				2 2	1	47
Horton,	T. S. HARDING JOHN PRYOR, E. A. CRAWLEY, DAVID HARRIS, JAMES STEVENS, R. E. BURPE, Dea. Witter, I. L. Chipman, E. MANNING, E. A. CRAWLEY, Dea. H. Chipman, Jno. Marsters,	82	5	3			4560
1st Cornwallis,	† Sam. Cox, Well. Loomer, T. Rand, J S Rand, W Hall	3		5			232

131

13:100

24

CHURCHES

- Windsor,
Rawdon,
- Upper Granville
- Parrsboro'
- Chester,
- Amherst,
- Port Medway,
Sissiboo,
2nd Cornwallis,
- 1st Yarmouth,
- Waterford,
- † 1st Halifax,
1st Aylesford,
- New Albany,
Liverpool,
Brookfield,
† Tryon & Bedeque,
Sydney,
2nd Clements,
- † Little Forks,
† Brier Island,
† Ragged Islands,
† Falmouth
Westchester,
- † Guysboro'
Granville-Street,
- † Mabou,
† Tracadie,
Windsor Road,

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

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1 4 2 187

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3 4 560

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CHURCHES.	MINISTERS AND MESSENGERS.	ADDED.					Total,
		Restored, By Baptism,	By Letter,	Removed,	Dismissed,	Excluded, Died,	
Windsor, Rawdon,	T. H. PORTER, Dea. Whitear,	3	13	2	1	1	53
Upper Granville Mt.	*R. CUNNINGHAM,				1	1	44
Parrsboro'	Dea. E. Taylor, Jos. DIMOCK,						108
Chester,	D. W. C. Dimock, Li.	1	2	3	1	1	29
Amherst,	*SAM. McCULLEY, CHARLES TUPPER, Dea E B Cutten,				1	1	173
Fort Medway, Sissiboo,	CHARLES RANDALL	1			2	2	26
2nd Cornwallis,	WM. CHIPMAN, Dea. A. Parker,	1				1	36
	D. Pineo, Licentiate			7	23	2	1235
1st Yarmouth,	J. J. Van Buren, *HARRIS HARDING,	1	6	1	1	3	2368
Waterford,	WM. BURTON, *MAYNARD PARKER, Jno. Bigelow,	1	2	10	6	1	46
†1st Halifax, 1st Aylesford,	*EZEK. MARSTERS, Willard Parker, Lic.	2	3		4	2	284
New Albany,	S. T. RAND,			1			42
Liverpool, Brookfield,	THOS. DELONG,	6	9			1	110
†Tryon & Bedeque, Sydney, 2nd Clements,				3			81
	B. Taylor,	1	5				55
†Little Forks, †Brier Island, †Ragged Islands, †Falmouth Westchester,				1	3		24
	*EB. STRONACH, JAMES STEVENS,						64
	Samuel Webb,	1	2		2	1	38
†Guysboro' Granville-Street,	*H. HULL, * D. N. SHELDON, Dea. J. W. Nutting,						105
		12	8	4		1	134
†Mabou, †Tracadie, Windsor Road,	T. H. PORTER,	2			3		36
				3			31

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STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	MINISTERS AND MESSENGERS.	ADDED.		Removed, Dismissed,	Excluded,	Died,	Total,
		By Baptism, Restored,	By Letter,				
Sherbrooke, *Baddeck, Stewiacke,	S. B. Archibald, Noah Bentley, Jas. Newcomb, Lic. Jos. Sibley, James Stevens,	7					28
Margaret's Bay, Economy	— Soley, — Faulkner,	19	2			2	32
Jeddore, Three Rivers, East Point, Canso, 3rd Cornwallis,	* JOHN SHAW, * JOHN SHAW, A. STRONACH, Dea. A. Strong,	333 126	3				30 79 84 10
Wilmot Mountain, Tusket & Argyle,	* R. CUNNINGHAM, * JAMES LENT, W. M. BURTON,	25	3		2	3	78 106
† Wellington, Springfield, Dalhousie, † Margaree, 2nd Yarmouth, Long Island,	* A. V. DIMOCK, WELL'N JACKSON,	2 2					37 17 29 38 39
† Charlotte Town, 2nd Aylesford,	* EBEN. STRONACH, Dea. Obed. Parker, Jas. Parker, Licen.			3		2	13 60
† Bridgewater, † 2nd Digby Neck, † Bay of Islands, † Indian Harbour, Advocate Harbour, † Barrington, Digby,	CHARLES RANDALL, William Henry,	2			1		14 40 17 14 15 8 7
2d Hammond Plains, Preston, Wallace River,	* MAYNARD PARKER, Jas. Higgins, Wm. Smith, J. Meirs,						33 181 22

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 Total Ministers 2406
 Total Messengers 3594

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 Missions, to-morrow

Digby, 2nd Hammond Plains, Preston, and Wallace River Churches, were added this year—the Rev. Charles Randall receiving the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the first, William Henry for the second, Rev. T. H. Porter for the third, and James Higgins in behalf of the fourth.

† Baddeck and Little Forks churches are now to be omitted, on account of the removal of the members thereof.

‡ Instead of 1st Halifax, which is now to be discontinued, 2nd Hammond Plains and Preston, are entered on the Minutes.

The Clerk has occasion to repeat the suggestion of last year, that the minutes of a church should always be appended to their letter, distinct from other matter, and in the form and order of the printed Minutes, as thereby much inconvenience and liability to error would be avoided.

The letters are this year conformed to in preparing the Minutes, though they have some variation from those of the previous year. It is particularly requested that the letters may be correct for the time to come.

It is very desirable that the number and names of the Licentiates of each church, should always be forwarded in the letters to the Association.

Several of the Churches not having corresponded with the Association for some years past, it may be necessary here to remind them of this omission, that such churches may take care to forward letters the next year, otherwise they will be subjected, under a Resolution of the body, to the discontinuance of their membership.

It would hardly appear reasonable, except under very extraordinary circumstances, that churches which forward no money should request to be furnished with copies of the Minutes—and yet such requests are not unfrequently received.

Adjourned.

Monday. 4 O'Clock.

Met according to appointment—Prayer by the Moderator.

Resolved, That brethren Ferguson and Nutting examine the Circular Letter, and direct the same to be printed.

Resolved, That bro. Nutting superintend the printing of the Minutes, and that the Clerk ascertain the number required, by reference to the Letters.

Resolved, To Print 1000 copies of the articles of faith and practice of the churches composing this Association, and apportion them as above, with a reservation by the Clerk of 100 or more, for the use of Missionaries, &c.

Resolved, That Rev. Charles Tupper be our Messenger to the New Brunswick Association, and receive from the Missionary fund, £3 for such services.

Resolved, That the churches in connexion with this Association be recommended to take collections, with as little delay as possible, in behalf of Bro. R. W. Cunningham, who is still, in the Providence of God, prevented by bodily indisposition from resuming his pastoral labours.

Resolved, That the Rev. Joseph Dimock be appointed to write the Circular letter for the ensuing year.

Resolved, That Bro. I. L. Chipman be appointed, in the absence of the Treasurer, to receive the contributions of the churches for Home Missions, to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

Dismissed,	Excluded,	Died,	Total,
			28
			37
			14
		2	32
			30
			79
1	1		84
			10
2	3	2	302
			78
			106
			37
			17
			29
			38
2	1	3	339
		1	38
			13
3		2	60
			14
			40
			17
			14
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			7
			38
			191
			22

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488

Resolved, That our correspondence with the Baptist Churches in the State of Maine be resumed, and that a Messenger be appointed to visit the State Convention, and as many of the Maine Associations as convenient.

Resolved, that the Rev. N. Viditoe be nominated as the Messenger for the present year.

The Committee to whom such letters were referred as contained questions from the churches, reported as follows :

1st. In reply to the inquiry from the Church at Grand Manan, the Committee recommend that said Church be advised to unite with the N. Brunswick Baptist Association, from the consideration of their being located within the limits of that body—and at the same time, that they be assured that such recommendation of the N. S. Baptist Association arises from no want of regard to them as a Christian Church, but on the contrary, that this Association will ever be ready to afford all the assistance in their power towards the promotion of their spiritual interests.

2nd. The Committee recommend that the next meeting of the Association be held with the 2nd Cornwallis Church, to commence as usual on the 1st Monday after the 20th of June, at 10 o'clock, and that the yearly meeting be held in Horton on the first Saturday after the 20th of September next.

Resolved, That the above recommendations of the Committee be adopted.

The vote in reference to the place of meeting of the next Association, having been subsequently rescinded, it was finally

Resolved, That the Association should be held the next year in the new Meeting-house at Wilmot, with the Nictaux church, at the time above mentioned—and that the yearly meeting should be held with the 1st Cornwallis Church, on the 20th September next. Also, that a similar meeting be held at Pugwash at the same time.

Resolved, That the Rev. Wm. Chipman be appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next meeting of the Association, and, in case of failure the Rev. John Chase.

Resolved, That an Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, on his assuming the government of the Province, and that such address be signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

Resolved, That the Rev. E. A. Crawley, Rev. John Pryor, and Bro. Jas. W. Johnston, be a Committee to prepare such Address.

Resolved, That the Gentlemen composing the aforesaid Committee, with brethren W. Johnston, and A. M. Upham, be a Committee to present said Address to his Excellency.

Resolved, That Rev. J. Pryor be requested to preach the sermon in behalf of the N. S. S. Union, to-morrow forenoon,—Rev. I. E. Bill, who had previously been appointed, not being present at this Association.

Resolved, That Brethren J. W. Nutting and J. Ferguson, be appointed to open a correspondence with the London Baptist Colonial Society, on the general interests of the Baptist Denomination in Nova Scotia,—and also with the Secretary of the Baptist Book and Tract Society, and with such other Gentlemen, friends of Religion and Education, resident in Great Britain, as they shall deem advisable, in behalf of this Association; and, that the pressing necessities of many of the

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Sabbath Schools established in connection with Baptist Churches in remote parts of this Province, be brought to the notice of our brethren in England, in the hope that gratuitous supplies of books, &c. &c. may be obtained for their use.

This Association being deeply convinced that the use of, and traffic in, intoxicating liquors, have been, and will be, if continued, the fruitful source of misery to their fellow men, as well as a means of obstructing the progress of the Redeemer's kingdom on earth, it is therefore

Resolved, That the Ministers and Messengers of the Baptist Churches in Nova Scotia, now convened in their yearly Association, do hereby solemnly, and in the fear and love of God, recommend to all members of the Churches connected with their body, to abstain, if they have not already done so, from the use of, as a beverage, and traffic in, intoxicating liquor; and to do all that is within their power, for the furtherance of the cause of Temperance, a cause which this Association deeply feels to be one which is closely connected with the advancement of the cause of Christ on earth.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Association be presented to the Female Baptist Missionary Mite Societies of the Province, for the liberal aid they have afforded the cause of Missions; and that this Association recommend that similar Societies be formed in connexion with our churches in all parts of the Province.

Resolved, That the monthly Concert of Prayer for the heathen be recommended to be observed by the churches, and that a collection be taken at all such meetings in aid of the Missionary fund.

Resolved, That the present Missionary Board be continued, and that the Rev. Jos. Dimock and Rev. Chas. Tupper be added thereto.

Resolved, That the subject of Missions be resumed to-morrow, immediately after the business of the Education Society shall be closed.

Resolved, That Rev. S. T. Rand be requested to preach to-morrow forenoon at 10 o'clock. Prayer. Adjourned.

Tuesday Morning, 10 o'clock.

Preaching by Rev. S. T. Rand.

The meeting of the Education Society then took place.

Prayer by Rev. E. Manning, the President, who took the chair.

The Report having been presented and read by Bro. J. W. Nutting, the Secretary, the following Resolutions were unanimously passed:

1. *Resolved*, That the Report of the Executive Committee, now read, be received and adopted;—and that this Society view with feelings of high satisfaction the success which has attended the labours of the Committee during the past year: that they feel greatly encouraged in the prospects of success which are opening upon the College and Academy, in the general and increasing favour with which those Institutions are beginning to be viewed, not only by our own, but by other denominations also,—in the large share of patronage and support granted them by the Legislature,—and especially in the increase of students at the College and pupils in the Academy from various parts of this Province, and from abroad, and in view of the progress which they are making under the indefatigable labours of the Professors and Teachers; and that this Society consider the above circumstances to afford them the most ample encouragement to press forward with renewed vigour in the important duties assigned them by the Providence of God.

2. *Resolved*, That this Society esteem it their indispensable duty thus publicly to record their thanks to God for the large measure of success, as above referred to, which has attended the exertions of the Society, its Directors and Committee, during the past year, and that it is their trust that an increased sense of the Divine favour on the part of its friends and supporters, may warrant the hope of a still more copious blessing being poured out on their determined perseverance in this good work. That this Society have on several former occasions had great reason to bless God for the happy spiritual influence which he has seen fit to bestow on the religious instruction and example with which the youth at the Institutions have been favoured, but that at the present moment their feelings are more deeply called forth, and their gratitude more eminently due to Him, for the extensive outpouring of his Holy Spirit which has taken place during the present year, and whereby a large number of the members of the College and Academy have been, as they trust, awakened to a sense of their eternal interests, and savingly converted to God.

3. *Resolved*, That the grateful thanks of this Society are due to the different Branches of the Legislature, and more especially to those members who so forcibly and successfully advocated their cause, for the favourable consideration which was given in the last Session to the claims of this Society; and they cannot but feel that so strong and distinct a recognition of the merits of their Institutions at Horton, as is conveyed by making such liberal grants of money, impose upon this Society a powerful additional duty, to come forward and manifest to the community at large that they are ready and willing to do their own part in sustaining them.

4. *Resolved*, That it is now absolutely necessary to obtain, by means of contributions from the friends of the Institutions, an amount sufficiently large in order to carry out the several objects referred to in the Report of the Executive Committee, which has been now read and adopted by the Society. That the only means of effecting objects so indispensable is by active and well conducted agencies, to be commenced as soon as possible, and to be carried throughout every part of the Province, and by which there is every reasonable ground to believe that the Baptist Denomination, and other friends of Education, will be induced to contribute liberally towards sustaining with efficiency Institutions which are peculiarly their own; which Providence has committed to their charge under so many interesting and encouraging circumstances, and which nothing but the most culpable dereliction of duty could now cause them to abandon, or suffer to languish for want of proper support.

5. Whereas, it is now necessary that such Agencies should be constituted to solicit subscriptions in different parts of the Province; *Resolved*, That the Rev. William Chipman, Charles Tupper, Nathaniel Viditoe, and Silas T. Rand, be requested to become Agents for the above purposes, and that they enter on the execution of such duty with the least possible delay. And whereas, it is especially necessary to enlarge considerably the Buildings appropriated to the Institutions at Horton, *Resolved*, that the Agents take such means as may be most effectual to raise the sum of £1500 for the erection of such Buildings, and for meeting the current annual expenses, with the understanding that no buildings will be commenced except according as suf-

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efficient sums are actually collected; and that in addition thereto, they endeavour to obtain as many subscriptions of twenty shillings per annum as possible, for three or more years, which shall constitute the subscribers regular members of the Education Society, under the act of Incorporation, and also that the former recommendation of the Baptist Association, of obtaining from each church member a contribution of at least *two shillings and sixpence*, be carried into effect as far as possible.

6. Whereas, it is highly desirable and necessary that the influence of Christian ministers should be obtained in support of objects which are so nearly connected with, and have hitherto contributed so greatly towards the furtherance of the Gospel of Christ,—*It is Resolved*, That the respective ministers of the Gospel of the Baptist denomination be respectfully and urgently requested to afford to the Agents of the Society their countenance, and to co-operate with them to the utmost of their power, in effecting the important objects with which they are charged. Prayer: Adjourned.

TUESDAY Afternoon, 4 o'clock.

Met according to appointment. Prayer.

Resolved, That a Committee of the N. S. B. Miss. Board be appointed in conjunction with one from the Mis. Board in N. Brunswick, to make immediate arrangements relative to the establishment of a mission in some heathen land, and to make inquiries with regard to the most eligible field of labour for our missionaries, and that the Committee be instructed to select another Missionary to accompany Bro. R. E. Burpe, and to obtain funds for their support.

Resolved, That Brethren Tupper, Crawley, and Nutting be such Committee.

Several animated addresses were delivered on the subject of the Foreign Missionary enterprise, and a deep interest on the subject of missions was felt by all present.

An exhibition of the idol Gaudama, which was presented to the audience, excited the most thrilling interest. This idol was obtained by the Rev. Mr. Malcom during his late visit to Burmah, and brought by that gentleman to the United States of America, from whence it was brought to this country. This idol had been actually an object of adoration by Heathen worshippers.

Whereas, it is a matter of the utmost importance to the future prosperity of the Churches of Christ in this Province, and the salvation of souls, that every possible assistance and encouragement should be afforded to young men who have been called of God to preach the Gospel, and whose qualifications in this respect have received the approbation of their brethren; and whereas, those who possess the most promising gifts are very frequently those who need most to be cherished and brought forward,—*It is therefore Resolved*, That a Circular be drawn up and addressed to the Churches, and published in the Christian Messenger, affectionately calling on the churches to use their best endeavours to call forth and encourage any of their young brethren whom they may believe to be solemnly impressed with the duty of preaching Christ to their perishing fellow sinners, to improve their gifts, and also to consider the responsibility resting on the Churches of God to contribute liberally towards assisting such young brethren to prepare for the

great work to which they are called, either in fulfilling the duties of Pastors of churches, or preaching the Gospel to the destitute among ourselves, or in going forth as Missionaries to foreign lands. And that it be recommended to the respective churches to offer up their fervent prayer to God, that he would send forth labourers into the harvest, and also pour out a spirit of prayer and of liberality on the churches of our land, that they may be alive and active in coming up to their duty in this important matter.

Resolved, That the Rev. John Pryor, Rev. E. A. Crawley, and brother I. L. Chipman, be a Committee to prepare the Address.

The affairs of the *Christian Messenger* were then brought under consideration, and the following Resolutions passed.

Whereas a very large sum remains due from the subscribers to the *Christian Messenger*, which it has now become necessary should be collected without further delay, in order to enable the Missionary Board to discharge the claims of the Publisher for printing the paper.

Resolved, That immediate application be made on behalf of the Society, to such of the subscribers as are in arrears for their subscription, to discharge the balances respectively due from each, without delay.

Resolved, That the Rev. Mr. Tupper be appointed to visit the Province of New Brunswick,—and the Rev. Mr. Chase, the Province of Nova Scotia, in order to carry out the objects of the foregoing Resolution.

That, although the *Christian Messenger* is now conducted on the individual responsibility of the Editors, and solely as a private concern of their own, yet this Association consider its continuance and increased circulation, as the organ of the Denomination, of great importance in furthering their efforts for carrying forward the Educational, Missionary, and other important objects, in which they are engaged, as well as a vehicle of sound religious and general knowledge, to the churches and community generally. It is therefore

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to the Ministers and Members of churches, as well as to all the friends of the cause of truth, in connection with the Denomination, to use every effort in their power to promote the increased circulation of the paper.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Missionary Board, be hereby instructed to press on the attention of such of the Ministers as are about to engage in the service of the Board, the duty of recommending, on all suitable occasions, the *Christian Messenger*, as a periodical deserving of the support not only of members of Baptist churches and congregations, but of the Christian public at large,—and of using all means in their power to secure for it an increased and more extensive circulation.

Whereas, the Editors of the Paper, under a Resolution passed at a former Association, were entitled to receive the sum of £100 yearly, as a remuneration for their labour in conducting the paper—but, as it is much to be feared that great difficulty will arise in collecting the sum necessary to meet the payment of the balance due the publisher, in consequence of the great disadvantages under which the undertaking has been continued, as well as the heavy losses incurred in numerous instances, from persons to whom the paper was sent, either denying

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that they ever consented to become subscribers, or being unable to pay for it; and whereas, the Editors under these considerations have relinquished all claim on the Society for such allowance,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to the Editors for their labor, thus gratuitously afforded the Denomination, for the last four years,—as well as the expression of their entire satisfaction with the manner in which it has heretofore, and still continues to be conducted.

Resolved, That our *Messenger* to the New Brunswick Association, be requested to bring to the notice of that body, the deep interest felt by their brethren of Nova Scotia, in reference to the support of this periodical; and to urge upon them the propriety of adopting the necessary means in their Province to advance the interests of a publication equally adapted as in our own, to advance the cause of religion and morality, and to promote the various objects, for the support of which, they are with ourselves mutually striving, and in which both have a common interest.

Resolved, That the several New Brunswick Missionary Boards, be also requested to afford such aid from their funds, as they consistently can, to the Rev. Mr. Tupper, our Agent, in behalf of the *Christian Messenger*, as well as to press on the notice of such of their churches as may be favored with his ministerial labours, while in the prosecution of his agency, the duty of contributing towards defraying the expenses of his mission, as largely as possible.

Prayer. Adjourned.

Wednesday morning, 10 o'clock.

Met according to appointment.

A Sermon was preached by the Rev. John Pryor, chiefly addressed to the young, and in behalf of the S. S. Union.

The Report of the N. S. S. S. Union was presented and read by the Secretary, whereupon it was *Resolved*, That the report now read be adopted and published in the *Christian Messenger*.

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this Union be offered to bro. David Dimock, for his active and successful services as the Agent of the S. S. Union during the past year, and that this meeting are fully sensible that the labours of bro. Dimock have been highly useful to the Society, and useful to the cause of religion; and although they are deeply sensible of the difficulties connected with such an agency, they trust that he will be induced to continue his services, as the most serious loss must be sustained by the Union, should he now discontinue his labours in its behalf.

Resolved, That Sabbath Schools connected with this Union alone, shall receive books from its Depository at cost and charges; and that this resolution shall be in amendment of one originally passed, which extends this privilege to all.

Resolved, That the Pastors, Deacons, and leading members of our churches, in every part of the country, be requested to give all the assistance in their power to the agents employed for the accomplishment of the various and most important objects of this Association, and the different societies and Boards connected therewith, as it is well known that such influence is one of the greatest means of securing the successful prosecution of these objects.

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to those young men, whether connected with our churches and congregations or with other denominations, who feel desirous of instruction, to attend the Institutions at Horton, for the purpose of receiving such amount of education as may fully qualify them for the purposes of conducting the schools in various parts of the Province; as the necessity of fit Teachers, both for the Grammar and every class of Common Schools, is hourly becoming more urgent throughout all parts of the country, and many applications have been lately made at the Institutions, which they have been unable to meet.

Resolved, That the sincere and grateful thanks of this Association be given to the Baptist church and congregation at Onslow, and to the inhabitants of Onslow and Truro generally, for their kind attention to the members of this Association, and also for their very liberal contributions to missionary purposes; and they earnestly pray that the choicest blessings of God's Providence and grace may rest on every individual of this community.

The Session was closed with Prayer by the Rev. T. S. Harding.

CIRCULAR LETTER

OF THE MINISTERS AND MESSENGERS OF THE NOVA SCOTIA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, TO THE CHURCHES WHICH THEY REPRESENT.

Beloved Brethren,

THE season having again returned which affords us the privilege of addressing you in this our annual epistle, after much deliberation, in the fear of God, from many appropriate subjects we have selected one, which, for the present occasion, appears to us the most important—the *claims of Education*. And although on this subject you have already had "line upon line, and precept upon precept," until indeed we sometimes fear that your patience may be well nigh exhausted, still, being persuaded that many influences are constantly exerted to counteract our endeavours, and fearing that salutary impressions already made might be obliterated, and thus our past efforts prove unavailing,—we are constrained "to stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance."

The present, you are aware, is an age in which, compared with ages past, knowledge is increasing with rapid growth, dispensing its blessings with liberal hand, to all ranks and grades of society; and although we admit that in its train some things may be detected inimical to human happiness, who that possesses an enlightened and sanctified heart, expanded by Christian benevolence, does not rejoice in the present march of human intellect? What, beloved brethren, would be the miserable condition of the world had knowledge long since been suppressed? Must we, to resolve this enquiry, cross the mighty deep, and explore the vast continents of the East, where ignorance is personified, where tyranny and oppression reign, where innocence is esteemed criminal, where superstition is, and idolatry, and horrid cruelty? But if unable to penetrate those remote regions, shall we enquire into the degraded condition of the unlettered, friendless, homeless, thoughtless Indians of this

Continent? Should we, if we could, neither hear nor see, the springs of knowledge, before the traces of their memory, in a vicious, than that

If, then, such is the condition of education presents long since established the sacred Scriptures that all men should promote human knowledge, professions of universal claims of education is preferable to knowledge, idolatry is preferable that hell is preferable such conclusions, the natural consequence, universal, it would not

Education, however, Colonies are being created by those who are children; and if they will seek them at the altars of the Roman gods, the state of the youth they have arranged in the colonies, and that flourish established in the colonies, commend the Catholic religion—and whilst we are the strongest influence under their control, bitterly lament the state they do, superior light and intellectual fire, activated by other hands, a body of Protestants, distinguish themselves, blessing which human beings and resources, should any of us, brethren, this, the events which are to come; and if, as a body, we fold our arms, sleep in dust, may law be enforced on a society, especially at the time, which, especially at the time, founded, may we not be adapted as far as time

Continent? Shall we not rather enquire how deplorable our own condition, if we could neither read the word of God, nor possess it—if we could neither hear the gospel of Jesus Christ, nor cherish the blissful hope of endless life? But if knowledge were now suppressed, and if the springs of knowledge were now dried up, would not our offspring, even before the traces of their enlightened progenitors should be erased from their memory, lapse into a condition more dark, and wretched, and vicious, than that of our Indians?

If, then, such is the condition of unenlightened man—if such would be the condition of all men, (and who can say that it would not) surely education presents to us the strongest claims. And as there is a principle, long since established by heathen philosophy, which is proclaimed in the sacred Scriptures, and sanctioned by the authority of conscience, that all men should, as far as possible, alleviate human misery, and promote human happiness; how shall we, dear brethren, with our loud professions of universal benevolence, excuse ourselves if we neglect the claims of education? By such neglect we virtually say that ignorance is preferable to knowledge, that savage life is preferable to civilized, that idolatry is preferable to Christianity, that vice is preferable to virtue, that hell is preferable to heaven. And although we should shudder at such conclusions, considered in the abstract, they are notwithstanding the natural consequences of such neglect; and if that neglect were universal, it would unavoidably lead to such fearful consequences.

Education, however, will not be neglected. Its claims even in these Colonies are being acknowledged, and its advantages are being appreciated by those who will secure them for themselves and for their children; and if they cannot obtain them at one place, most assuredly they will seek them at another. Who with indifference can behold the exertions of the Roman Catholics to adapt a popular course of instruction to the state of the youth in these Colonies? Doubtless the system which they have arranged in the Capital, will be extended throughout the country; and that flourishing schools for girls as well as boys will soon be established in the most eligible situations. Now whilst we sincerely commend the Catholics for their becoming zeal in such a noble enterprise—and whilst we should not blame them to use, openly and candidly, the strongest influence of which they are capable, to bring every youth under their controul; still we should, until the hour of our death, most bitterly lament the apathy and indifference of Protestants, professing as they do, superior light and knowledge, if they should abandon the moral and intellectual field, extending so widely to their view, to be cultivated by other hands. And why, brethren, should not we, a numerous body of Protestants, possessing a moderate share of wealth and influence, distinguish ourselves by affording to youth the richest temporal blessing which human nature is capable to enjoy? By what law, civil or sacred, are we exonerated from contributing in proportion to our numbers and resources, to augment and perpetuate that invaluable blessing? Should any of us, brethren, behold with indifference, at such a period as this, the events which are transpiring, we shall doubtless have our reward; and if, as a body of Christians, (should we indeed be allowed the name), we fold our arms in supineness, we, or our dear children after we sleep in dust, may lament our apathy, when grief will be unavailing.

We pass on from those general claims, which might with equal propriety be enforced on all men, to consider the more immediate claims which, especially at this time, are made on each one of us. At Horton is founded, may we not say by the hand of God, a Seminary of learning, adapted as far as time and circumstances will permit, to the wants of our

youth. That Institution, which a few years ago commenced its operations in a contracted room of an old dilapidated barn house, with a single preceptor and a few children, has become, not only a flourishing Academy with competent instructors, but has really gained the respectable standing of a chartered College, sustained by excellent Professors, with a promising train of diligent students. This Institution, like a flourishing tree, planted by a skilful hand, near a living stream, has taken deep root, and has spread its branches widely, beneath which many are enjoying a healthful shade, and are plucking precious fruit. Under the religious influence exerted at that Institution, in conjunction with the pious efforts of the Church of God in that place, one happy revival of religion has succeeded another, until, glory to God in the highest, the names and numbers of the hopeful converts can no longer be told. Those converts, wherever their lot may be cast, will doubtless be instrumental in the conversion of others, who, in their turn, will recommend religion to ages yet unborn. And as the gentle rivulet, issuing from the mountain top, is augmented by tributary streams to a mighty torrent, carrying onward every obstruction in its rapid progress to the ocean; so the salutary influence of that Institution may be augmented tenfold in revolving years, from generation to generation, until the heavens be no more. But whilst we raise our hearts to God, and offer the tribute which gratitude demands; and whilst we congratulate ourselves for having accomplished even more than we anticipated, let us not, in the overflowing of our joy, forget that the tree which has been planted and watered with prayers and tears and many contributions, still requires cultivation, or the chilling winds of adversity, if they do not eradicate it, may at least retard its growth, and render it less productive. In the promotion of education, as well as every other good work, perseverance is essentially requisite. If, through any tardiness on our part; or if from any rash and unguarded step, we should fall from the eminence to which we have attained, let us most assuredly know, that fall would involve us in consequences most fearful. Not only should we fall under the infamy of violating our pledges to the public, in failing to accomplish what we had undertaken—not only should we deprive this dark portion of the globe of one essential source of light,—but whilst we should expose ourselves to perpetual degradation, we should envelope our offspring in an impenetrable cloud of darkness. From other hands they would be doomed to receive laws, which would be rigidly enforced by those whose religious, moral, and political principles they might detest. Their spiritual guides, though indeed possessing real piety, would be compelled to retire from many a field of usefulness, and from every sphere of influence, to give place to others, who, though profound in human attainments, might be far less worthy of the sacred office. Deprive us of that Seminary now when the rest of mankind are regarding the claims of education—when our youth are ambitious of improvement—when our schools are desolate for want of teachers—when men of erudition are required in so many departments—when you yourselves are asking for an educated ministry—when millions of Heathens are calling for missionaries; and you thereby deprive us of the very life-blood of our denominational existence. Whither, then, O whither should we go; and to whom on earth should we look? Deprive us of that Institution, and you destroy the very fountain whence must proceed those invigorating streams for which you are loudly pleading. And strange as it may appear to every person of reflection, there are to be found amongst us those who are so inconsistent as to demand well qualified teachers for their children, and who approve of an educated ministry, and who prefer enlightened legislators, but who

have not the slightest advantages are to be masters of Pharaoh refused to furnish straw are our enemies, w Egypt, will scarce themselves. Those cruel obtaining knowledge temptible denomination deprived of our Sem shall have scattered Surely then, beloved come by such a hand fined to gain such ad tion to our ability, a the first place, it has Institution, similar in pletely identified with afford us delight, nor place, it claims our pr monstrations that God besides knowing the o mplished, we have must be sustained by y and endowments. Th the Institution exists out, if we are rightly mply by tuition fees; moderate appropriation rous in high places; tributions. It is very d em, which may be pur sences of the establishm expence per year, from ven recommended as th ful sum; which appropr whilst the more wealthy required to advance m should not such a syste measure be more equita ness. How without syst ense revenues? Are y is essential to church n ately a pauper, pay ann al fund of their Society minister, and their subs on of meeting houses, t and to every other moral which money is required. demands a reasonable pro previously disposed by th tely required for usefuln red brethren, devolves wards, of sustaining at t idigent circumstances, w throughout our own land, young men are requir ving the requisite inte

have not the slightest concern for the Seminary whence these very advantages are to be obtained. They truly resemble the hard-hearted taskmasters of Pharaoh, who, whilst they required the full tale of brick, refused to furnish straw to burn them with. And still more oppressive are our enemies, who, demanding from us more than did the officers of Egypt, will scarcely permit us to go abroad and gather stubble for ourselves. Those cruel agents would deprive us of all our resources for obtaining knowledge, then reproach us with being an ignorant and contemptible denomination. But we devoutly hope that we never shall be deprived of our Seminary, until the illustrious day of millennial glory shall have scattered the mists of our spiritual horizon.

Surely then, beloved brethren, such an Institution, established we presume by such a hand, exerting such an influence, and apparently destined to gain such achievements, has claims from each of us in proportion to our ability, and as often as they are reasonably presented. In the first place, it has claims on our sympathies. The interests of the Institution, similar indeed to those of our own family, should be so completely identified with ourselves, that its prosperity should never fail to afford us delight, nor its adversity to occasion regret. In the second place, it claims our prayers. Already we have had the strongest demonstrations that God has heard and answered prayer for its prosperity; besides knowing the obstacles to be surmounted, and the end to be accomplished, we have confidence in God alone, and that confidence must be sustained by your prayers. Again, it claims our contributions and endowments. These claims will never become null and void whilst the Institution exists and prospers. Such a Seminary as we require is not, if we are rightly informed, sustained in any part of the world, simply by tuition fees; and as we receive from the public funds but a moderate appropriation, which may soon be wrested from us by the vicissitudes in high places; we must therefore depend mainly on private contributions. It is very desirable that you should adopt some regular system, which may be pursued from year to year, to meet the current expenses of the establishment. An annual offering of two shillings and fourpence per year, from every member of our churches, has repeatedly been recommended as the most expedient method of realizing the needful sum; which appropriation surely could not be oppressive to any; whilst the more wealthy part of the denomination might occasionally be required to advance more liberally for extraordinary purposes. Why should not such a system be adopted by all our churches? Could any measure be more equitable and reasonable? System is essential to success. How without system could the Wesleyans raise annually such immense revenues? Are you not aware that, according to their discipline, it is essential to church membership that every person who is not absolutely a pauper, pay annually eight shillings and fourpence to the general fund of their Society, besides voluntary subscriptions to their own minister, and their subscription to foreign missions, and to the erection of meeting houses, to the building and furnishing of mission houses, and to every other moral and religious establishment amongst them, for which money is required. In addition to these claims, the Institution demands a reasonable proportion of our youth. Some whose hearts are previously disposed by the Holy Spirit to the sacred ministry, are absolutely required for usefulness in the Church of God. And on you, beloved brethren, devolves the duty, and for you await the honourable rewards, of sustaining at the Seminary such deserving young men, in diligent circumstances, who may hereafter proclaim the gospel of peace throughout our own land, and even far hence amongst the heathen. Many young men are required to be qualified for Schoolmasters, who, receiving the requisite intellectual and moral training, may convey the

richest blessings to our youth in the remotest parts of the Province. Others are required to be educated for the commonwealth. The day is fast approaching when every responsible situation, available to influence or profit, will be occupied by men of knowledge and science, of whom we claim to educate at Horton a fair proportion.

Finally, we most earnestly entreat you, as churches and as individuals, to concur with your pastors and with your brethren who have embarked in the cause of literature, by sustaining and effecting, as far as God has given you ability, the resolutions of your delegates in Association. Your well known energy, your faithfulness, your liberality, unparalleled indeed in this Province, encourages the hope that you will supply what is imperiously demanded for present emergencies.

In conclusion, we most solemnly assure you that our single motive in recommending so strongly this subject to your notice, is the interest we feel in the happiness of mankind, but especially of you and your children. May the Infinite Jehovah, who is the only source of light and knowledge, take both you and us under his protection; and having directed us through all the changes of life by his unerring counsel, may he finally bring us all to his everlasting kingdom.

RE
" JAM

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1840					
June 21	Elder C. Tupp r's to P. E. Island, 7 weeks,	£10	10	0	
	Westbro'k, Parrsboro, &c. 8 weeks,	12	0	0	
	Five Islands and Economy, 1 week,	1	10	0	
	Expenses,	0	13	6	
			24	13	6
	Rec. in aid, P E Island,	17	2	2	
	do Westbrook, Parrsboro, &c.	4	6	10	
	do Five Islands & Economy,	0	19	8	
			8	8	
	Eld. Jos. Dimock, in part his tour to Antigonish, &c.				Bal. 2 4 10
	J. W. Nutting, on acct. printing Min. & Articles of churches,				3 0 0
	To balance in hands of the Treasurer,				17 0 0
					246 18 10
					11 3 11

Cr.					
1140					
July 25	By bal. in Treasurer's hands, as stated in acct. rendered,	£174	6	7	d.
July 30	Cash from Elder Manning, his tour to Rawdon and Halifax Road, over the sum allowed,	0	17	2	
	Cash from Deacon A. Parker,	1	0	0	
1841	Do from Annapolis and Granville church,	4	8	0	
June	Dalhousie, do	1	0	0	
	Port Medway, do	2	0	0	
	Wilton Mount, do	1	2	6	
	1st Yarmouth, do	3	8	3	
	do Ladies Mite Society,	6	16	3	
	Newport Church, do	0	15	3	
	do Ladies Mite Society,	2	8	4	
	Economy Church, do	1	2	6	
	Westchester do	0	8	4	
	Falmouth do	0	15	0	
	do Ladies Mite Society,	1	10	6	
	do Hammond Plains, do	0	10	6	
	do Windsor Road, do	0	6	9	
	do Horton, do	4	0	0	
	do do Ladies Mite Society,	23	4	0	
	Rawdon church, do	1	3	3	
	River Philip do	1	0	0	
	Mr. George Harris, do	1	0	0	
	Windsor Church, do	2	4	0	
	1st Clements do	1	10	4	
	Sissiboo do	2	0	7	
	From the last yearly meeting,	3	10	0	
	Digby church for Minutes,	0	2	9	
	Antigonish do	1	0	0	
	Merrigomish, Mr. McEwing,	1	0	0	
	Amherst Mite Society,	2	7	10	
	Onslow church, for Minutes, &c.	1	10	0	
	do Ladies Mite Society,	7	7	1	
	Chester Church, do	3	8	9	
	do Ladies Mite Society,	5	3	10	
	Lunenburg Church, do	0	10	6	
	Margaret's Bay do	1	10	0	
	Hillsborough do for Minutes,	0	3	1	
	Pugwash do do	0	3	1	
	New Albany do	1	2	8	
	2d Aylesford do	2	0	0	
	Ladies Mite Society,	0	16	6	
	Brookfield church, do	1	5	0	
	Parrsborough do	0	8	2	

Bal. 1 8 1
 Bal. 2 1 6
 Bal. 6 13 9
 Bal. 4 5 0
 Bal. 3 13 3
 Bal. 9 1 2
 5 0 0
 Bal. 8 14 8
 Bal. 3 10
 Bal. 14 7
 Bal. 3 5

Cr. *The Bapt. Asso. in Aect. with W. A. Chipman, Tr.*

1841			
June	Cash from Stewiacke church,		2 10 0
	Collections at the Association in Onslow and Truro,		17 10 0
	From last year's yearly meeting, Amherst,		4 13 6 1/2
	Hon. J. W. Johnston, sub. to Miss. fund,		10 0 0
	Preston church,		3 0 0
	1st Cornwallis do		3 19 8
	2d Cornwallis do		5 0 0
	Nictaux do		8 10 9
	3d Cornwallis do	2 17 0 1/2	3 2 0
	Mr. Theo. Kinsman,	0 5 0	
			331 3 11

ERRORS EXCEPTED,

July 8, 1841.

W. A. CHIPMAN, Tr.

The Margaret's Bay Letter states that 30s. has been sent, which, however, the Treasurer has not received.

A small contribution from the 2nd Hammond Plains branch of the 1st Halifax church, will be acknowledged in the Minutes for next year.

The sum of Seven pounds has been contributed by the Granville-St. Church, Halifax, subsequently to the making up of the Treasurer's acct.

NOVA-SCOTIA SABBATH SCHOOL UNION.

Rev. I. E. Bill, *President.*

Rev. J. Robinson, } *Vice Presidents.*

Rev. W. Chipman, }

Rev. J. Stephens, Rev. J. Pryor, Rev. J. Chase, } *Committee.*

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I. L. Chipman, *Secretary.*

John Scott, *Depositary.*

ERRATA.—In Circular Letter, page 16, 2nd line, for "barn house" read "farm house."

1 10 0	Onslow church for Minutes, &c.
7 7 1	do Ladies Mite Society
3 8 9	do do
8 12 7	do do
6 10 6	do do
1 10 0	do do
0 3 14	do do
0 3 14	do do
1 2 8	do do
0 16 6	do do
1 4 0	do do
0 8 0	do do