

The Pittman

MINUTES

OF THE

NEW-BRUNSWICK

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD IN THE CITY OF

SAINT JOHN, N. B.

JULY 7th and 8th,

1834.

ST. JOHN:

**PRINTED BY DONALD A. CAMERON, OBSERVER OFFICE,
MARKET-SQUARE.**

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1834.

MINUTES, &c.

ST. JOHN, MONDAY, JULY 7, 1834.

The Session of this Association was opened, pursuant to the appointment of last year, by the Introductory Sermon of Elder S. ROBINSON, from John xv. 9. Our brother made a successful attempt to exhibit the Sovereignty of God's Grace, in connection with the precepts of his will.

The Messengers having taken their seats, chose
Elder F. W. MILES, *Moderator.*
.. T. CURTIS, *Clerk,*
Bro. J. HOLMAN, *Assistant.*

Read the Letters from the several Churches.

Received from Sister Associations in Nova Scotia and the State of Maine, Elders E. MANNING and H. KENDAL.

ACCOUNT OF THE CHURCHES.

In the following Statement, the names of Ordained Ministers are in SMALL CAPITALS; Licenced Preachers in *Italics*; those marked thus (*) were not present. Churches which have no stated Pastor, are distinguished by —. From Churches thus marked (†) no information was received this Session.

ACCOU

CHURCH

Frederickton,

Canning,.....

St. John,.....

Prince William

Norton,.....

Salisbury,.....

Sackville,.....

St. George,...

Hillsborough,

New Canaan,

Springfield,.....

1st Hampton,...

2d Hampton,...

Wickham,.....

Rushagornish,...

Dorchester,.....

King's Clear,...

St. David's,.....

Hopewell,.....

† Nashwalk,.....

† Miramichi,.....

† Madamkisway,

† Douglas,.....

ACCOUNT OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS.	ADDED.		Dismissed by letters of commendation.	Excluded.	Died.	Total number of Members.	
		Restored.	By Letter.					
Fredericton,.....	F. W. MILES, Jarvis Ring, John T. Smith, Richard E. Burpe, Wm. S. Estey.	5	4	4	2		71	
Canning,.....	John Estabrooks, Reuben Cowperthwaite, Charles Estabrooks.						100	
St. John,.....	THOMAS CURTIS, J. M. Wilmot, Zebulon Estey, James Holman.	1	1	11	8	3	113	
Prince William,....	LOTHROP HAMMOND, THOMAS SAUNDERS, Solomon Parent.	2		3	10	4	2	81
Norton,.....	SAMUEL BANCROFT, Ezra Frost.					2	1	19
Salisbury,.....	*J. CRANDALL, By Letter.	1	12					87
Sackville,.....	ROBERT DAVIS, Agreen Tingley, Frederick Sears.	1	4		2			68
St. George,.....	SAMUEL ROBINSON, Phile Seely, Charles Brackgay.	5	57	3		1		215
Hillsborough,.....	WM. SEARS, Isaac Gross, Matthias Steeves, William Gross.		2		1			75
New Canaan,.....	*CHARLES LEWIS, William Carey.	1	3	53		1		102
Springfield,.....	SAMUEL BANCROFT, SAMUEL BANCROFT,				2	2		38
1st Hampton,.....	John M'Creedy, Joseph Pickle, Jacob Sherwood.	1	5					57
2d Hampton,.....	DAVID CRANDALL, Jesse Tabor.	2	2	8	2	1		39
Wickham,.....	Joseph Skinner, James Ackerley,		2					19
Rushagornish,.....	Zopher Phillips.				5			18
Dorchester,.....	WILLIAM SEARS.				2	2		30
King's Clear,.....	Archelaus Hammond, Aaron Harts.							38
St. David's,.....	THOMAS MAGEE.							16
Hopewell,.....	JAMES STEVENS.							16
†Nashwalk,.....		2		1				72
†Miramichi,.....	*JAMES TOZER.							19
†Madamkisway,.....								63
†Douglas,.....								23
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ACCOUNT OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS.	Added.			Dismissed by letters of commendation.	Excluded.	Died.	Total number of Members.
		By Letter,.....	By Baptism,....	Restored,.....				
+ Oromocto,.....	_____						27	
+ Cardigan,.....	_____						42	
+ Woodstock,.....	_____						15	
+ St. Martin's,.....	_____						119	
+ Sussex Vale,.....	TITUS STONE,						27	
+ Buctouche,.....	_____						23	
+ Moncton,.....	_____						23	
+ Ludlow & Blissfield,	_____						41	

NEW CHURCHES ADDED THIS SESSION.

Brighton, late 1st } Wakefield, }	GILBERT SPURR.						17		
Jackson Town, late } 2d Wakefield, }	Stephen Corey. THOMAS MAGEE,						21		
St. Stephen's,.....	Adam Duncan Thompson,	}					69		
	Joseph Garcelar,								
	Wm. Eary.								
Grand Lake, formerly of Canning,	Michael Doyle,	}					52		
	Arthur Branscombe,								
	James Butler.								
2d Springfield,.....	JAMES BLAKENEY, George Clark.						15		
Andover,.....	LOTHROP HAMMOND.						22		
Greenwich,.....	JAMES BLAKENEY, Benjamin Elston.						8		
African Church, King's Clear.	LOTHROP HAMMOND.						18		
		3	20	154	11	32	27	13	1940

It is to be regretted that so many of our Churches should from year to year fail in forwarding any statement concerning their situation. We would urgently request that this observation be attended to by the Churches the next Session.



Adjourned until 3 o'clock.

Met according to adjournment.

Voted, That Bro. S. ROBINSON be our Messenger to the Sister Association of Nova Scotia, and that £4 be allowed to him for travelling expenses.

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That Bro. JOHN MARSTERS be our Messenger to the Associations in the State of Maine, and that £10 be allowed for travelling expenses.

That the Association be held in Prince William next year, on the 3d Monday after the 20th June.

That Bro. S. BANCROFT preach the Introductory Sermon, and in case of failure, Bro. MARSTERS.

That Bro. SEARS write the Circular Letter for next year.

That One Thousand Copies of the Minutes be printed, and that the Clerk be requested to superintend the printing.

That a Day of Humiliation, Fasting, and Prayer, be observed on the 1st day of January, 1835.

That the General Meeting be held at Wakefield, in Bro. SPURD'S Meeting-house, on the 2d Saturday in September.

A Committee was appointed to recommend the best plan for promoting the Baptist Domestic Mission of New-Brunswick.

In the evening at 7 o'clock, the Association and Baptist Congregation jointly held a Public Meeting, which was well attended, with a view to awakening a more general attention to the subject of Missions; when on motion of W. B. KINNEAR, Esq., seconded by Rev. S. ROBINSON, it was

Resolved, That it is imperative upon us, as Christians and Christian Ministers, to make increased exertions for the Diffusion of the Knowledge of Christ by Domestic and Foreign Missions, and for the cultivation in all our public and private circles of the Missionary spirit of our times.

On motion of the Rev. J. MARSTERS, seconded by the Rev. H. KENDAL,—

That it is most desirable that the Monthly Missionary Prayer Meetings, so commonly observed in Europe and America, i. e. on the First *Monday Evening* in every Month, should be universally adopted in the Churches of this Province.

Total number of Members.	27
Died,	42
Excluded,	15
Dismissed by letters	119
	27
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On motion of the Rev. T. CURTIS, seconded by Mr. HOLMAN,—

That our Ministering Brethren be respectfully requested to endeavour to furnish the Churches at such Meetings, with a digested account of the progress of CHRIST'S cause in the world and the history of existing Missions.

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TUESDAY, JULY 8.

Preaching at 10 o'clock by Bro. W. SEARS. Text, Rom. III. 24 ;—after which resumed business.

The Church at Sackville having requested this Association to investigate the long-standing differences between Elder ROBERT DAVIS and the Nova Scotia Association, which had resulted in the withdrawal of the fellowship of those Brethren from Bro. Davis ; and to adopt such measures thereon as wisdom should dictate ; a Committee, yesterday appointed, now advised that this Association invite their Nova Scotia Brethren to appoint three of their Members to meet three Brethren of this Association, to heal, if possible, this breach. But Bro. Davis, after much discussion, was unwilling to submit his case to Brethren to be chosen by this Association,—on which it was

Resolved, That Bro. Davis having refused to commit his cause into the hands of his Brethren, we now dismiss the subject of his differences with the Nova Scotia Association ; that Bro. Davis be admonished to reconcile himself to his Nova Scotia Brethren ; and that until he do this, he cannot be considered as entitled to the fellowship of this Association.

The Committee of the Domestic Mission made a Report on the most eligible plan for conducting its operations. It chiefly recommended the formation of a double Board of Management, of which nine should be Members of the Saint John, and nine of the Fredericton Church. The Report being adopted, the following were the Members appointed :—

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Resolved, T

BOARD AT SAINT JOHN :

T. Pettingell,
J. M. Wilmot,
James Holman,
B. Gale,
W. B. Kinnear,

Z. Estev,
C. Everitt,
G. A. Garrison,
Asa Blakslee,

HENRY BLAKSLEE, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

BOARD AT FREDERICTON :

I. Ring,
Amasa Coy,
W. Wilmct,
A. Hart,
W. S. Estey,

Asa Coy,
J. T. Smith,
W. Estey,
Z. Gable,

Secretary and Treasurer.

With the Pastors of each Church, *ex. officio.*

Resolved, That the various benevolent objects and Institutions with which this Association is connected, embrace the Temperance cause,—that of Sabbath Schools,—and the advancement of every species of Knowledge and Education among the different ranks of our community; and that we feel it highly important that the Churches of our denomination be impressed with the duty of taking a prominent part in these Institutions.

That the Assistant Clerk, Bro. JAMES HOLMAN, be requested to procure a Book for the purpose of entering up the Records of the *New-Brunswick Baptist Association* since its commencement.

That it be recommended to the Churches, not to receive any Minister, who is not in fellowship with some Calvinistic Baptist Church or Association.

Adjourned at half-past 4 until 7 o'clock.

Preaching at 7, by Bro. KENDAL. Text, Ps. LI. 12.

Bro. MILES read from the Pulpit the Circular Letter, which was adopted.

After which the Board of the Baptist Education Society

Resolved, That the Committee of Management,

having reported that the ground at Maugerville was not suitable for the erection of the Seminary, the Committee be instructed to erect the same at Fredericton.

Resolved further, That the Baptist Ministers in the Province be requested to take up Subscriptions in support of the said Seminary, and collect, or appoint other suitable persons to collect the same, together with the amount already subscribed.

DIGEST OF THE LETTERS.

Fredericton.—This Church has obtained, in Bro. MILES, a Pastor whom they regard with great affection. They instituted a Sabbath School in 1829, which is increasing. Number of Children, 80 to 90. They are cordially engaged in support of the Baptist Education Society, which has determined to erect the Seminary there.

Canning.—At present without a Pastor, and in a scattered state.

St. John.—Unsettled with regard to a Pastor.—They have dismissed more Members than they have received during the last year, but the congregation has increased.

Prince William.—At present in rather a low state, but united.

Norton.—A small scattered Church.

Salisbury.—This Church has had a partial revival this last year; received 12 by baptism.

Sackville.—Writes with pious feeling, but has added only 5 this year.

St. George.—This Church has rapidly increased under the labours of Bro. ROBINSON. They have four Sabbath Schools in connexion with the Society; are erecting three new Chapels, and appear to be the most flourishing community in the Province.

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Hillsborough.—Has made but little progress this last year, but appearances are favourable.

New Canaan.—In a very prosperous state. They have added 53 by Baptism this last year.

Springfield.—Complains of division and declension.

1st Hampton.—Slowly reviving.

2d Hampton.—A small but united people.

Wickham.—Also a small but lively Church.

Rushagornish.—Without a Minister, and in a low state.

Dorchester.—Complains of Religion as at quite a low ebb.

King's Clear.—No pastor. United but not increasing.

St. David's.—Has had some refreshing seasons.

Hopewell.—Preserves its ground, and finds much reason to approve the Temperance cause.

[The state of the new Churches will be seen from the Table. No comparative remarks can be made on them.]

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THE CIRCULAR LETTER

Or the Association having been mislaid, by some accident, since it was read and approved, the Brethren entrusted with the superintendence of the Minutes can only remind the Churches of the important SUBJECT of that Letter, —*The Prayer of Faith*. They will not attempt to enter directly upon the subject, particularly after the recent discussion of it by the Moderator; but subjoin, at his request, a few collateral thoughts which their recollections of the Letter and the preparing these Minutes for press, have combined to supply.

What is Individual Prayer without Watchfulness?—Mockery of the Most High God, and injurious to our individual religion. Prayer is only effectual when it is fervent, but it may be fervent where it is not effectual or finally availing—just because our fervor was that of mere natural feeling, inadequately or altogether unsustained by the truth of *Divine Teaching*. Effectual, fervent Prayer is neither God's will nor man's will, disjoined from each other. God's will is, promise or prophecy; man's will, rebellion often, presumption always, independently considered. Prayer is the will of God that has become the will of man: God's revealed will made our determinate desire and will, and breathing forth, under the dictate and guidance of the Holy Spirit, from an ardent, believing heart. Can any man have such a will, breathe *honestly* forth this ardor of personal desire, and LEAVE IT at the footstool of God, without further concerning himself as to its actual accomplishment? No. Moreover he cannot assume the attitude, fall in with the sensations, and adopt the ordinary Scripture language of prayer; he cannot be wrought up to the common standard of religious feeling in prayer (low enough it may be granted) and exercise afterwards no watchfulness; not in his subsequent conduct *act* as a waiting, earnest supplicant, until he receive the desired blessings—without vital injury to his religion. His scripture words and phrases become *cant*, his useless feelings fanaticism of a very baneful character, and *Fruitless Prayer*, after a time, like the fig-tree the benevolent Saviour cursed for our instruction, —*no fruit grows on it thenceforth for ever!*

And, *What is Social or Public Prayer without Social and Public Watchfulness?*—Hypocrisy; socially and publicly speaking and teaching falsehoods in the Divine name. How severe the language of our Lord with regard to those who could predict with confidence the changes of so uncertain a thing as the weather, and yet "could not discern" the signs of their own time or generation. He does not hesitate to brand such a state of mind as sour with the very leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees. In social or public Prayer we must have distinct perceptions of God's revealed will, and cordially embrace it. To the amount of these perceptions we pray, and profess to pray for the coming of His kingdom, and other, if there be other, glorious objects.—Now what we would impress is,—just so far as we have this knowledge, or teaching and embrace of the Divine will, necessary—we have the Grace of Prayer, and no further: and, whether in any particular case we have not presumed beyond that teaching, can only be decided by the issue. *If we receive NOT*, we are infallibly assured, *we have asked amiss*; aside from the mark of God's will. At the best we spoke unadvisedly, and the warmer, the worse. How important that reflections like these should be borne home with the Brethren, with respect to all the great subjects agitated, and blessings prayed for at the Association!

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Have we been taught of God the spirit-stirring character of our times ; and his will respecting his servants and his household in such times ?—Which do we better know, the state of the crops or the state of the Churches ? The whiteness of the fields to the forthcoming harvest of the Province, or the ripeness of the world for the sickle of the Gospel Ministry ? Let us conscientiously review all our public invocations of the heart-searching God on these themes, of late, with Matt. xvi. 1—12 before us. As Ministers and Churches, we teach individual and younger Christians *the truth* of the doctrine and efficacy of Prayer when they find us wary in asking, watchful that we receive, and economical in improving, all our spiritual blessings. We attempt to teach *falsehoods* to them and all men, in the Divine name, when we call them around us to pray for a kingdom of light and righteousness, in an ignorant, unrighteous, or careless spirit. We teach them that in such a spirit we have fellowship with God, which we have not ; that we are walking in the light when we are walking in darkness ; and that we have hope in God, where we can have none. The Lord make all the Churches to know that *He searcheth the reins and hearts !*

ACCOUNT OF MONEY RECEIVED AT THE ASSOCIATION.

Frederickton Church,.....	£0 15 0
Wickham do.	1 0 0
New Canaan do.	0 6 10
King's Clear do.	0 10 0
Andover do.	0 10 0
Hillsborough do.	0 15 0
African do. (King's Clear,).....	0 2 9
Prince William do.	1 0 0
2d Springfield do.	0 14 7
Dorchester do.	0 5 0
Hepewell do.	0 13 7
Canning do.	0 15 0
Greenwich do.	0 5 3
Norton do.	0 1 8
2d Hampton do.	0 2 0
St. Stephen's Mite Society,.....	1 10 0
Norton Mite Society,.....	0 2 0
	£9 8 8
Deduct for bad money, &c. &c.	0 4 7
	£9 4 1

1831.

July 12.—To paid Elder Crandall, Messenger to Association in Nova Scotia,	£4 5 0
Aug. 31.—To paid Elder Ansley, Missionary services at Saint Andrews, at twice,	£5 15 3
To paid Widow Ansley, balance due the late Elder Ansley, 3 4 9	3 4 9
Sept. 10.—To paid Elder Bancroft, Missionary services at Long Reach,	9 0 0
Oct. 10.—To paid D. A. Cameron, printing 600 copies Minutes Association,	6 0 0
27.—To paid Elder Bancroft at various times for Missionary labour,	4 7 0
To paid Elder Crandall, Missionary labour,	10 10 0
Balance due,	2 6 4
	49 18 3
	£96 7 1

1832.

June.—To paid Elder Sears, Messenger to Nova Scotia,	£4 0 0
Oct.—To paid Elder John Marsters on account Missionary services,	15 1 3
27.—To paid D. A. Cameron, printing 600 copies of Minutes,	5 7 6
To paid ditto, printing 200 copies Address to Baptist Churches,	0 15 0
1833 } To paid Elder Magee, Missionary services at Miramichi,	8 16 11
Mar. 15. } Balance due,	58 6 11
	£92 7 7

1833.

August.—To paid D. A. Cameron, printing 1000 copies Minutes Association, £7 5 0	£7 5 0
To paid Elder J. Marsters for Missionary services from 19th Aug. 1832, to 19th Aug. 1833,	£36 0 3
Less charged in Account, October, 1832,	15 1 3
To paid Elder J. Marsters for services in the County of Charlotte, 4 weeks,	40 18 9
To paid Elder Samuel Robinson, Messenger to the Associations in Maine,	8 0 0
To paid Elder Thomas Magee, for Missionary services in the County of Charlotte, and expenses,	10 0 0
To paid Elder D. Crandall, 6 weeks Missionary services at Wakefield,	16 6 0
To paid Elder D. Crandall, Messenger to Nova Scotia Association,	9 0 0
Balance due,	3 0 0
	10 15 11
	£105 5 8

1831.

June 30.—By Balance in Treasurer's hands to date,	£54 7 5
July 23.—Amount received at Association at Sackville,	15 17 2
Aug. 26.—Amount received from Fredericton Church, do.	0 10 6
" " " " " " " " " " " "	1 1 0
Amount Collected by Elder Bancroft, at Long Reach, do.	1 9 0
" " " " " " " " " " " "	1 10 6
Amount received from St. John Church, Minute money,	1 1 6
" " " " " " " " " " " "	2 6 4
" " " " " " " " " " " "	1 0 2
Amount Collected by Elder Thomas Ansley, at St. Andrews,	4 8 3
£86 7 1	£86 7 1

1832.

June 30.—By Balance in Treasurer's hands to date,	£49 18 3
July.—Amount received of Thomas Pettingsell, proceeds of Colicthons at Association,	27 11 9
Amount received of St. John Church Minute money,	1 11 1
Amount Collected by Elder J. Marsters, viz. :—From the Canning Church, 2l. 5s. 3d.—Maugerville Collection, 2l. 17s. 2d.—Fredericton do. 2l. 10s.—King's Clear do. 1l.—Prince William do. 15s.—Individual donations, 9s. 4d.—Bear Island collection, 1l. 0s. 5d.—St. John collection, 3l. 6s. 4d.—Bear	13 6 6
£92 7 7	£92 7 7

1833.

June 30.—By Balance in Treasurer's hands,	£58 6 11
July.—Amount received at Association,	10 2 1
Received of St. John Penny a week Society's,	16 12 6
Received from Elder Magee, collected on a Missionary tour to St. George's,	8 8 0
Received from Elder D. Crandall, collected at Wakefield,	3 0 0
Received from Elder Marsters, Collection, Temseg, 1l. 2s. 2d.—Grand Lake, 13s. 5d.—St. Martin's, 1l. 3s.—Ditto, 2l. 1s. 9d.—Small donations, 3s. 1d.	5 3 5
Received from ditto, collection at	3 12 9
£105 5 8	£105 5 8

1834.

June 30.—By Balance due in Treasurer's hands,	£10 15 11
	£10 15 11

HENRY BLAKSLIE, TREASURER.