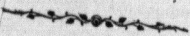


MINUTES
OF THE
NINTH SESSION
OF THE
Central Baptist Association

OF
Nova Scotia,
HELD AT HALIFAX,
Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, June 18, 20, & 21, 1859.
TOGETHER WITH THE
CIRCULAR LETTER, &c.



HALIFAX, N. S.
PRINTED AT THE "CHRISTIAN MESSENGER" OFFICE.
1859.

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MINUTES
OF THE
CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

HALIFAX, GRANVILLE STREET, June 18, 1859.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment at 2 o'clock,
* P. M.

Meeting was called to order by Rev. J. Parker, the Moderator of last year.

After singing, united with Rev. Dr. Cramp in prayer. The following were chosen officers:—Rev. S. W. deDlois, *Moderator*; (by ballot) Rev. R. D. Porter, *Clerk*; Bro. C. H. Corey, *Assistant Clerk*; Rev. J. Chase, *Treasurer*.

The following Committees were appointed:

To EXAMINE THE LETTERS:—Brethren W. Chipman, W. G. Parker and Dr. Tupper.

To READ THE LETTERS:—Brethren Dr. Cramp, E. M. Saunders and J. Spencer.

Of NOMINATION AND ARRANGEMENTS:—Brethren J. W. Bars, J. W. Nutting, S. Selden, Rev'ds. W. H. Humphrey, S. N. Bentley, J. Parker and J. Stevens.

Letters from Churches were read, from which the following list of Delegates was obtained.

LIST OF DELEGATES.

Bridgewater:—Rev. I. J. Skinner; Brethren R. West and B. W. C. Manning.

Burton:—Rev. Jacob Allen.

Chelsea:—Rev. I. J. Skinner.

Chester:—Rev. J. C. Hurd; Brethren G. Eisenhaur and D. Hume.

Cornwallis 1st:—Rev. A. S. Hunt; Brethren I. Rand and M. Beckwith.

Cornwallis 2nd:—Revs W. Chipman and E. M. Saunders; Brethren W. Skinner, D. Lyons and Aug. A. Pineo.

Cornwallis 3rd:—Rev. James Parker and Brother S. Sweet.

Cornwallis 4th:—Brethren W. H. DeWolf, (Licentiate,) and W. E. Hall.

Dartmouth:—Revs R. D. Porter and R. McLearn; Brethren F. Bacon and H. Tufts.

Falmouth:—Brethren D. G. Shaw, (Licentiate,) and Lewis Payzant.

Halifax 1st:—Rev. W. H. Humphrey; Brethren J. W. Nutting, J. W. Johnston, G. J. Creed, John Whitman and S. Selden.

Halifax 2nd:—Rev. S. N. Bentley; Brethren W. J. Wiswell, J. Cribby and J. W. Barsz.

Hantsport:—Rev. W. Barton.

Horton 1st:—Revs S. W. deBlois, Dr. Cramp and J. Chase; Brethren S. Fitch, D. F. Higgins, (Licentiate,) and J. W. Hartt.

Horton 2nd:—Rev. E. O. Read; Brethren J. Payzant and E. Read.

Horton 3rd:—Rev. T. W. Crawley.

Indian Harbor:—Brethren James Lantz, G. Richardson and J. Covey.

Jeddore:—Brother C. H. Corey, (Licentiate).

Kempt:—Brother James Marsters.

Lukenburg:—Brethren G. Longille and John Andrews.

New Cornwall:—Brethren C. Spidle and D. Spidle.

New Germany:—Brother John Mader.

Preston:—Brethren Eppy Carvery and G. Carvery, (Licentiates).

Rawdon:—Rev. James Stevens; Brethren T. Knowles and J. McLearn.

Sackville:—Brethren F. Webber and Charles Hefler.

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

Windsor:—Brethren D. Mosher and W. Robinson.

Windsor Plains:—Brother David Williams, (Licentiate).

DELEGATES FROM OTHER ASSOCIATIONS.

Western:—Revs G. Armstrong, A. M., A. H. Munro, C. Tupper, D. D., W. G. Parker, R. R. Philp, A. B., James Spencer, H. Angell, and W. Hobbs, M. D.

Eastern:—Rev. D. W. C. Dimock.

INVITED.

Rev. D. Freeman, A. M.; Brethren A. Parker, (Licentiate), Ezra Layton, S. Freeman, A. Chipman, M. A., (Licentiate), John Moser, A. B., (Licentiate), and H. R. Cunningham.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	Increase.			Decrease.			Total.
	By Baptism.	By Letter &c.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Discontinued.	
1 Aylesford, Upper,	60	17	7	7	0	0	.86
2 Bridgewater,	21	4	0	2	0	0	119
3 Burton,	0	0	0	0	0	0	38
4 Chelsea,	4	0	0	1	0	2	90
5 Chester,	11	2	1	1	0	1	217
6 Cornwallis 1st,	3	7	0	8	0	0	321
7 Cornwallis 2nd,	115	23	3	9	0	1	469
8 Cornwallis 3rd,	26	8	0	6	0	8	354
9 Cornwallis 4th,	0	1	0	2	1	0	96
10 Dartmouth,	5	2	0	0	0	1	48
11 Falmouth,	2	2	0	0	0	1	49
12 Halifax 1st,	4	5	0	2	0	1	3
13 Halifax 2nd,	2	0	0	7	31	0	4
14 Hammonds Plains 1st, (No Letter.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	164
15 Hammonds Plains 2nd, (No Letter.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	79
16 Hantsport,	0	0	0	0	0	0	44
17 Horton 1st,	10	7	2	1	0	6	1
18 Horton 2nd,	6	2	0	14	13	2	1
19 Horton 3rd,	62	4	2	5	0	4	1
20 Indian Harbor,	6	4	0	0	0	2	3
21 Jeddore,	0	0	0	0	0	0	51
22 Kempt,	0	0	0	0	0	0	92
23 LaHave,	16	0	0	0	0	2	80
24 Lunenburg,	9	2	2	1	0	3	4
25 New Cornwall,	6	0	2	0	0	0	40
26 New Germany,	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
27 Preston,	0	0	0	0	0	0	40
28 Rawdon,	2	0	0	2	0	3	0
29 Sackville,	18	0	4	0	0	0	1
30 Sherbrook East,	6	4	2	0	0	4	3
31 Sherbrook West,	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
32 St. Margaret's Bay,	7	0	0	1	0	0	0
33 Tanook,	8	0	1	1	0	0	1
34 Waterville, (No Letter.)	5	0	0	2	0	0	0
35 Windsor,	0	0	0	0	0	1	34
36 Windsor Plains,	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
	35	5	1	2	0	0	123
	1	0	0	0	0	1	15
	450	99	27	73	45	31	4076

The Committee of Nomination and Arrangements reported, submitting the names of the following brethren to constitute the usual Committees.

COMMITTEES.

ON QUESTIONS IN LETTERS :—

Brethren R. McLearn, J. Stevens W. H. Humphrey, W. G. Parker and J. W. Nutting.

TO EXAMINE CIRCULAR LETTER :—

Brethren S. Selden, W. Chipman and S. Fitch.

ON BIBLE CAUSE :—

Brethren S. N. Bentley, James Parker, G. Armstrong, Daniel Mosher and D. Shaw.

ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE :—

Brethren A. H. Munro, A. Parker, W. H. DeWolf, W. J. Wiswell, and Jacob Allen.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS :—

Brethren H. Angell, D. Hume, W. Skinner, W. Robinson, G. J. Creed, John McLearn, D. W. C. Dimock, and A. Chipman.

ON THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER :—

Brethren Dr. Tupper, R. R. Philp, John Whitman, J. Mader, John King, and Ezra Layton.

ON UNION SOCIETIES :—

Brethren D. Freeman, W. Hobbs, T. Knowles, F. Bacon, and John Cribby.

ON EDUCATION :—

Brethren Dr. Cramp, A. S. Hunt, John Chase, James Parker, D. Freeman, S. N. Bentley, I. J. Skinner, J. W. Barss, J. W. Johnston and J. W. Hart.

ON TEMPERANCE :—

Brethren J. C. Hurd, Aug. A. Pineo, S. Sweet, G. Eisenhaur, W. G. Hall, and E. Carvery.

ON MISSIONS, (*Home and Foreign.*) :—

Brethren T. W. Crawley, W. Burton, G. Armstrong, Dr. Tupper, S. N. Bentley, R. McLearn, and D. W. C. Dimock.

The Committee of Nominations and Arrangements reporting, also recommended the following arrangements :

That morning prayer meetings be held, as usual at 6½ o'clock, in the vestries of the Granville Street Chapel and the North Baptist Chapel, on each day of the Association.

That the morning sessions of each day commence at 10 o'clock and adjourn at 1 o'clock, A. M.; and that the afternoon sessions commence at 3 and adjourn at 6 o'clock, P. M.

That a public Missionary meeting be held on Monday evening at 7½ o'clock, and that the Committee on Missions be requested to prepare Resolutions and secure speakers for the occasion.

That Rev. J. M. Cramp, D. D., preach the Annual Sermon the present session,—the appointed preacher, Rev. D. M. Welton, being absent, and his alternate failing to supply.

Report adopted, and the above committees and arrangements authorized.

Letter from the Young Mens' Christian Association was read, tendering to the members of the Central Baptist Association, during their stay in the city, the free use of their Library and Rooms.

Prayer by Rev. A. H. Munroe. Adjourned.

On Sabbath, services were held in the several Baptist places of worship in Halifax and Dartmouth, and these places were kindly put at the disposal of the Association.

MONDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. W. Chipman.

The Annual Sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Cramp, from Rev. vi. 11.

Voted, That the thanks of the Association be tendered to Dr. Cramp for the sermon just preached by him, and that he be requested to furnish a copy for publication in the *Christian Messenger*.

Additional letters read.

Committee on Bible Cause reported. (See Appendix A.)

Accepted.

Committee on Memorial to Publishers of *Freeman*, newspaper, reported. Report accepted and committee discharged.

Committee on Questions in Letters reported. Accepted. (See Appendix B.)

Prayer. Adjourned.

MONDAY, 4 o'clock, P. M.

Prayer by Rev. James Parker.

Voted, That Brethren S. N. Bentley, W. H. Humphrey and S. W. de Blois be delegates to the Eastern Association.

Voted, That two Pounds and Ten Shillings be appropriated to paying the travelling expenses of the first named delegate, Brother S. N. Bentley, to the Eastern Association.

Voted, That Brother Dr. Cramp be a delegate to the Western Association on the ensuing year.

Voted, That the sum of Three Pounds be allowed for paying Dr. Cramp's expenses.

Voted, That other Associations, visited by members of this, be hereby requested to regard such visitors as delegates from this Association.

Voted, That eight hundred copies of the Minutes of Association be printed at the *Christian Messenger* Office, under the superintendence of Brethren Nutting and Selden; and that the sum of £10 be allowed for printing.

Voted, That after paying the expenses of the Association, the balance of monies received be placed in the hands of the Treasurers of the different societies embraced in its appropriation.

The Committee on Questions in Letters submitted the following :

Resolved, That the Association be held on the third Saturday in June, as usual, until further consideration on the subject of a change.

Adopted.

Committee on Sabbath Observance reported. Accepted. (See Appendix C.)

Committee on Circular Letter reported. Accepted. (See Appendix D.)

Circular Letter read. (See Circular Letter.)

The following Resolution was submitted by Rev. R. McLearn, viz :

Resolved, That it is highly expedient that every church keep sacredly, in the hands of their Pastor or Clerk, a Registry of all Births, Marriages, and Deaths occurring in the congregation : And that in order to securing uniformity, a printed form be supplied and adopted.

Addresses on the subject were made by Brethren Dr. Cramp and J. W. Johnston. Adopted.

Dr. Cramp submitted the following :

Resolved, That a petition from the Association, praying for a general Registration of Births, Marriages, and Deaths in this Province, be prepared and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, on behalf of the Association, to be presented at the next session of the Legislature.

Adopted.

Committee on Sabbath Schools reported. After addresses made by Brethren S. Selden, D. Freeman, J. W. Johnston, C. H. Corey, Dr. Cramp, &c. Report adopted. (See Appendix E.)

Brother S. Selden submitted the following Resolution.

Resolved, That the following brethren be a Committee to carry into effect the clause of the S. School Report, respecting a S. School Convention, viz: Brethren S. W. deBlois, D. M. Welton, S. N. Bentley, D. W. C. Dimock and W. H. Humphrey.

Voted, That Brethren J. W. Nutting, J. W. Johnston, S. Selden, D. Mosher and S. Sweet be delegates from this Association to the Convention.

Prayer by Rev. D. W. C. Dimock.

Adjourned, to meet at half past 7 o'clock,—the session to be devoted to the consideration of the cause of Missions.

EVENING SESSION.

Singing, and prayer by Rev. D. Freeman.

After an introductory address by the Moderator the Committee on Home and Foreign Missions reported. Accepted. (See Appendix F.)

In accordance with the recommendation of the Committee on Missions, the report of the Secretary of the Home Mission Board was ordered to be read.

After the reading of the report, resolutions framed in Committee, as follows, were spoken to.

Moved by Rev. Dr. Tupper, Seconded by Rev. W. H. Humphrey.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Association, the employment of native preachers in Burmah, under the superintendence of the Rev. A. R. R. Crawley, is a judicious measure which is evidently adapted, with the divine blessing, to effect much good.

Adopted.

Moved by Rev. H. Angell, Seconded by Rev. W. H. Hobbs.

Resolved, That the known usefulness of the labors of Moung Thet Nan, one of these native preachers converted through the instrumentality of our late beloved Brother Burpe, affords great encouragement to efforts in the cause of Foreign Missions.

Adopted.

Moved by Rev. G. Armstrong, Seconded by Rev. W. Burton.

Resolved, That in view of the pecuniary aid rendered to the Home Missionary cause by many friends during the last Winter and Spring, and of the signal prosperity of the year, this Association records its fervent gratitude to God and is encouraged to hope for still greater results.

Adopted.

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

Resolved, That in view of the great spiritual destitution still existing in many parts of our country, and the smallness of the amount contributed by the greater number of the churches for Home Missionary purposes, amounting in some instances to an almost entire neglect, and this too by some of those more wealthy,—there is cause for deep humiliation, as well as for earnest prayer, that greater energy and liberality characterize our efforts in the future.

Adopted.

A Collection was taken for Home Missionary purposes.

Singing. Adjourned.

TUESDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. C. Hurd.

Committee on *Christian Messenger* reported. After addresses by Brethren Dr. Tupper, J. W. Barss, W. Burton and J. Chase, report accepted. (See Appendix G.)

The Committee on Temperance reported. Accepted. (See Appendix H.)

The following Resolution was submitted by Rev. Dr. Cramp.

Resolved, That a petition be prepared praying for the enactment of a Prohibitory Liquor Law, subject to the vote of the people thereon: that it be signed by the Moderator and Secretary on behalf of the Association, and presented at the next meeting of the Legislature.

Addresses by Brethren Dr. Cramp, Dr. Tupper, J. C. Hurd, G. Armstrong, J. W. Barss, J. W. Johnston, &c. Adopted.

The Committee on Education reported. Accepted. (See Appendix I.)

Voted, That the Association adjourn to allow a session of the Education Society.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Education Society having adjourned, the Association resumed its business.

In compliance with the request of the Moderator, Rev. D. Freeman, College Agent, gave a statement of his labors and the results.

The Committee on Union Societies reported. Accepted. (See Appendix K.)

The Committee appointed by Association of last year, to visit and advise with the church at Newport, reported. Accepted. (See Appendix M.)

A desultory discussion took place on the subject of the difficulties in the church at Newport, in which deep sympathy with our brethren of that church was expressed, and earnest efforts made to induce truer sentiments and better action.

The following Resolution was submitted by Bro. R. McLearn.

Whereas, The Domestic Missionary Board found it necessary to remunerate its Secretary for the past year with a moderate salary,

Therefore Resolved, That this Association recommend the Society to sanction that action,—also, to authorize the continued remuneration of its Secretary, and that Twenty-five Pounds be the salary.

Adopted.

The following Resolution was submitted by Rev. Dr. Cramp.

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be tendered to the Young Men's Christian Association for placing at the disposal of this Association the free use of their Library and Rooms.

Voted, That the thanks of this Association be presented to the members of the church and congregation at Granville Street and other friends for their kindness and hospitality during the present session.

Prayer by Rev. W. Burton.

Adjourned to meet with the Windsor Church on the third Saturday in June 1860, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

STEPHEN W. DEBLOIS, *Moderator*.
R. D. PORTER, *Clerk*.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

THE CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION IN NOVA SCOTIA, TO THE
SEVERAL CHURCHES WHICH IT COMPRISES.

Dear Brethren,

In the providence of God, the time has come for our gathering together, by which we are refreshed in the renewal of christian affection with so large a portion of the Ministers and Messengers of the Churches, and, which also supplies an opportunity for our annual address to the churches.

We beg leave to direct your attention to the duty of a *regular attendance on the public worship of God*, and the administration of the word and ordinances of the Gospel. We are aware that we cannot too earnestly enjoin upon you the more private duties of Religion, especially family worship, together with the reading and study of the word of God; but notwithstanding the punctual performance of these in the most faithful manner and spirit in which they can be effected, together with all the real amount of spiritual good arising out of their faithful performance, both to the individual, the churches, and the world, they can never be offered with the hope of acceptance with God when performed with a view of lessening the obligation to the performance of the more public duty.

We shall first endeavour to show that God has commanded the public worship of his church. In evidence of this our only authority is the Word of God and the example of the early christians. Under the Law of Moses God united public wor-

ship with the keeping of the Sabbath, in these striking words :—
 “Ye shall keep my Sabbaths, and reverence my Sanctuary :
 I am the Lord.”

In the epistle to the Heb., x. 24-35,—we have a very comprehensive command for this duty. “And let us consider one another, to provoke unto love and to good works : not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is ; but exhorting one another ; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.” God has enjoined public worship ; and made it an essential duty of a Christian church. Reason and experience both confirm us in the belief of its great usefulness, in promoting the highest good of *man* and the glory of God.

God's designs and commands are in striking harmony in all his works ; but especially so in his plan of Christianity ; to effect a part of these great designs was the command given for public worship. The apostles were impressed with this design ; and therefore hastened to disencumber themselves from other claims ; saying : “But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and the ministry of the word” ; hence it was suggested that “He gave some Pastors and Teachers” “for the perfecting of the saints till we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.”

This part of our subject we presume is pretty generally understood. We therefore pass on to notice in the second place, the effects arising from the neglect of this duty on the part of the church, on the service of the pulpit, on the church and congregation at large.

All great undertakings among men lead bystanders to look for results commensurate with the effort employed to produce them, which, when effected amply illustrate the utility of the enterprise. Religion is capable of supplying the most extensive illustrations of its great usefulness in “souls renewed and sins forgiven.” The Bible is just a declaration that God has employed on the scheme of religion, his unsearchable riches

of wisdom and knowledge. By means of his people he gives evidence to the world of his being, goodness, and love, "Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, that I am God." "Ye are the light of the world and the salt of the earth,"—"That ye should be for salvation unto the ends of the earth." The purpose of God in the institution, and establishment of public worship will be easily perceived.

Remember therefore, Dear Brethren, that wherein any of you are living in the neglect of this duty, you are throwing in the way of your Pastor serious hindrances to his success in the public ministry of the Gospel. If he be intent on, and devoted in the spirit of his holy work, he will have given himself up to prayer and the study of the Word, that he might come to you as a cloud full of rain; but should he find your seat vacant from Sabbath to Sabbath, his hands will hang down, and his heart will be discouraged, his energies will flag, his services will be meagre and uninteresting; in short he will be compelled to take the oversight with grief and not with joy, and that will be unprofitable for you. Remember that your pastor has a constitution like other men, and may be easily disturbed. Pascal says: "man is very weak: why does that able philosopher wander in his theories?—a sand-fly is buzzing in his ear." Every care should be taken on your part to aid your minister in his work. You and your families, as far as may be, should be present in season; and your presence should be a guarantee for the uninterrupted of the services. The humble and unsuspecting christian minister, witnessing your absence from time to time, would be ready to trace its cause to a want on his part rather than on yours. Such impression would be likely to follow him into his study and preparation for public service, and would not fail to neutralize the best energies of his heart, and seriously embarrass his ablest powers to feed the Church of God, and to win souls to Christ. Other members, too, would probably be led by your example, till the cause might become deserted, and sink into decay. It should always be borne in

mind that the church is a society for mutual edification, for the discipline of its members, and the advancement of the kingdom of Christ on earth. Every member should supply his place in strengthening the general Cause : but all may fail unless each one perseveres in the practice and spirit of the duties of the Gospel. Fervent love to God and the brethren always inclines the soul to a cheerful compliance with christian duty.

But there is one other case which we will name. It is the effect produced by your absence, not only on the pulpit service, and on the church, but on the unconverted portion of the congregation. By you the utility of the Christian Religion is to be illustrated and confirmed, certain traits of character, evinced by you, become witnesses for God before the world that he is their author, "By this shall all men know that you are my disciples." Religion exemplified by you in spirit and practice, will be one of the most powerful auxiliaries to the preached word, to convince the understanding and reach the conscience with the force of truth. But should you neglect to obey the commands of God in regard to the public duties of religion, your pastor would be unable to appeal to you to enforce the claims of religion on his fellow men, as he could not say of you, "ye are our epistles read and known of all men,"—neither could he add "from you sounded out the word of the Lord, not only in all Macedonia and Asia, so that your faith to God-ward is spread abroad, that we need not to say anything, for they themselves know what manner of entering in we had unto you, how that ye were turned from dumb idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from Heaven, even Jesus who delivered us from the wrath to come." The unconverted expect more from you than they do from themselves ; yes, ye yourselves expect more, and God requires more, seeing he has connected his own glory with you, "That you should be to the praise of his glory who first trusted in Christ." Let, then, your light shine before men "that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

Neglect of the worship of God, seldom arises from a view of avoiding pharisaical conformity to form and usage ; on the contrary, it is indicative of a sad and lamentable want of the enjoyment of true piety at home. The Bible uniformly teaches that where true godliness lives in the heart, its constant aspirations are to the sanctuary of God. Its loudest exclamations are, "I love the place where thine honor dwelleth," "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the House of the Lord." "One day in thy courts is better than a thousand," "Why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions." Then dear Brethren, go ye up to the worship of God, whither the tribes of the Lord go up. Gladden by your presence the soul of your pastors, that they may be able to say, "now we live if you stand fast in Christ."

Dear Brethren, one and all, as you value the peace of God in your own souls, and regard the interest of God's cause on earth, be watchful, be sober, be vigilant, always abounding in the work of the Lord. Let the love of an agonizing Saviour constrain you to duty. Let the horrors of that eternal darkness and despair which await the finally impenitent move one and all of you, that ye come to the help of the Lord—to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

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APPENDIX.

(A)

REPORT ON THE BIBLE CAUSE.

Your Committee believe that the great business of Christians is to circulate and proclaim the word of God throughout the world. The Bible should find a welcome and a home in our hearts, in our closets and families, in our pulpits, in our schools and higher seminaries of learning. It gives us principles, precepts, and examples. We should hail it as our lamp in life, our comfort in death and our guide to heaven.

Let it speak in all tongues, in all climes, to all tribes and kindreds of men. Let it go to the Esquimaux of the North, to the Red man of the forest, to the half civilized inhabitants of South America, to the Isles of the Sea,—to the African, the Siberian, the Chinaman and the Japanese,—to Burmah and the millions of Hindoostan, as well as to the hostile legions on the battle fields of Europe.

Let it banish the idols of the world, displace the Shasters, the Koran, the Breviary and the teachings of Confucius, and take precedence of the prayer-book and the catechism.

Your Committee rejoice that the work of faithfully translating, printing and circulating the Holy Scriptures is being prosecuted so earnestly and extensively.

We recommend to the prayers and pecuniary support of the churches, the American Bible Union and the American and Foreign Bible Society, as well as the other agencies best adapted to further the great work. May the "word of the Lord run very swiftly" into all the earth.

In behalf of the Committee.

S. N. BENTLEY, *Chairman.*

REPORT ON QUESTIONS IN LETTERS.

That whereas the Church in West Sherbrook, wishes, on account of locality, to join the Western association, they are at liberty to carry out their wishes not as a precedent for other churches but from the peculiar circumstances of the case, and be considered dismissed from this Association when they are admitted into the Western.

That the Association be held next year with the Church at Windsor.

That whereas a majority of the churches have requested that the Association be held on Wednesday, subject to the will and action of this meeting, the committee therefore refer the question to the deliberate discussion and decision of the associated body.

The Committee on Questions in Letters further report, that a second letter from a body claiming to be the church of Newport, recommend that said letter be read in conjunction with a report of a Committee from the Association. The Committee further report, that until the Newport Church becomes harmonious they recommend that the present letters and delegates and future communications be not received; all efforts on the part of councils having proved unavailing.

RICHARD MCLEARN, *Chairman.*

REPORT ON THE OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH.

The Committee on the observance of the Lord's-day, beg leave to report that they regard the Sabbath as an institution divine in its origin, and sacred in its claims; designed by Infinite Wisdom and goodness to promote the glory of God and the present welfare and eternal felicity of man. Its proper observance is a subject of the deepest interest and importance, regarded in either its spiritual or secular aspects, as a religious or social question.

While your Committee remember that the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath, and while they entertain no doubt that the Great Creator appointed a day of rest, not merely as a commemoration of the past or type of the future,

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far less as an arbitrary and irksome restraint, but as a blessing and comfort to man, they are as fully convinced that the original law of the Sabbath, as explained by our Saviour, is still binding, and that every departure from it must be attended with evil effects to the individual or society.

They would therefore very earnestly and affectionately urge their brethren in Christ to aim at a holy and enlightened consecration of the day to its appropriately sacred purposes, and by precept and example encourage all within the range of their influence, to avoid in every possible way the desecration of its precious solemnity.

Respectfully submitted.

A. H. MUNRO, *Chairman.*

(D)

REPORT ON CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Committee appointed to examine the Circular Letter beg leave to report that they have performed that service, and recommend that it be read before the Association by the Moderator, in the absence of the writer, and that it be published in the Minutes of the Association.

S. SELDEN, *Chairman.*

(E)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report as follows: That they regard the Sabbath School as a very important and encouraging sphere for Christian exertion and usefulness. Since its first establishment, multitudes through its instrumentality, have been converted to God, many of whom have been eminently successful as ministers and missionaries of the Cross.

We rejoice to learn that many of the churches have one, or more Schools in efficient operation, yet we fear that these institutions are not as highly prized, as liberally sustained, or as efficiently conducted as they ought to be.

We would suggest to the pastors the importance of visiting the schools as often as practicable, of preaching an occasional

discourse especially adapted to the children, of giving addresses to the teachers upon the nature of their work, and the best methods of performing it, and also of forming Bible Classes, in which they may prepare the younger members of the churches for future usefulness in this department of christian effort.

We would further recommend special seasons for prayer for the Sabbath School, the formation of Sewing Circles for clothing the destitute, and bringing them to the school, and also of Juvenile Missionary Societies for the purpose of fostering a Missionary spirit in the minds of the young. We would earnestly recommend to the members of the churches who are parents and guardians of the young, to give these institutions their hearty support, and in every way possible, encourage and co-operate with the teachers in their work of faith and labour of love.

Finally, we would recommend that a Sabbath School Convention be formed within the bounds of this and the Eastern Association, in the hope that the Western Association at its next session will unite in this measure to which they are hereby invited, and then form a S. S. Convention for the Province.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY ANGELL, *Chairman.*

(F)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee of Foreign Missions beg to report : That a letter from Brother Arthur R. R. Crawley, of Henthada, dated Oct. 16th, 1858, furnishes a very satisfactory account of the expenditure of the sum of \$200, entrusted to him for the support of native preachers in Burmah. With it he had secured the services of three efficient laborers, for nearly a year, namely, Ko Oung Ban, Moug Shway Long, and Mong Thet Nan.

This letter also acknowledges the receipt of a second remittance, of \$400, and states that "the cause of its retention has been explained by the Foreign Secretary," who says, "It has hitherto been the custom to retain any donations which might be received *after* the appropriations for the current year had been made out, to be entered into the Schedule for the

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ensuing year; but this custom is now to cease, and any donations received shall hereafter be forwarded to their destination at once."

As Brother Crawley has under his eye other faithful and zealous Burman converts, who ardently desire to be employed in preaching the gospel to their perishing fellow countrymen, several of them are undoubtedly now engaged in this good work, in connection with those already named, and with them sustained by funds from the Provinces.

The Board, at its meeting on the 30th day of November, without intending to censure the Executive Committee of the Baptist Missionary Union, judged it advisable to make a direct remittance of \$400 to Brother Crawley, as being a more expeditious course. This sum, with \$100 to aid in supporting a Female School, was remitted, through the kindness of Brother J. W. Barss, about the middle of December last.

As Sister Crawley has been obliged to return to America for a time to recruit her health, and consequently the opening of the School must be postponed, the money remitted may be appropriated to the support of native preachers, and an equal sum retained till the School shall be commenced.

Brother Crawley continues to give very favorable accounts of the diligence and usefulness of his assistants. The pleasing and interesting letter written by Moungh Shway Long, in which he expresses a lively sense of the grace of God exercised towards him, a grateful appreciation of the kindness of his brethren in these Provinces, with an ardent desire for the conversion of the benighted Burmans, is doubtless distinct in the recollection of many. Let us remember his request, "Every time you pray to God, put me in, and pray for me also."

The last Report contained a statement of the cheering fact, that Moungh Thet Nan, an intelligent and faithful native missionary, converted through the labors of our late beloved Brother Burpe, was stationed at Donabew. Rev. Mr. Douglass, of the Bassein Mission, on a visit to this Station, says, (Macedonian, May 1859,) "Brother Crawley has located a Burman preacher here; and there is now a little church organized, composed of a few Burmans, and about twenty Pwo Karen converts who live in the city. They assembled at two o'clock this afternoon (Nov. 26th,) and after a short sermon, we had a season of conference and prayer. The members have a good degree of intelligence, and appear very well."

We need not wonder, therefore, that our esteemed Superintendent, in his last letter to the Secretary, dated Feb. 21st continues to entreat that funds may still be furnished from these Provinces to enable him to employ native preachers in Burmah. Will not all who love the Saviour, and desire to see his Kingdom extended by the conversion of the perishing heathen, cheerfully contribute to the promotion of this successful "labor of love"?

And in regard to Home Missions, your Committee learn that the whole number of Missionaries employed by the Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society, during the last year, is 21; that about five years and forty weeks labor of one man, has been performed; that about 1200 sermons have been preached and 213 baptisms reported; that the income of the Society up to the 1st June, was about £568,—and that certain accounts amounting to £40 or upwards, remained unpaid at that date.

Your Committee in view of these facts record their grateful thanksgivings to God for the success of our Home Missions during the year, and commend the object anew to the churches.

We recommend that an extract from the annual report of the Society, be read in the meeting of this evening.

T. W. CRAWLEY, *Chairman.*

(G)

REPORT ON THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

The Committee on the *Christian Messenger*, beg leave to report that the extensive circulation of a religious periodical, ably and judiciously conducted, is of incalculable value. Your Committee, therefore, regarding the *Christian Messenger* as such, deem it highly desirable and important, that the valuable matter contained in its weekly issues should be disseminated much more widely than it is at present. In order to this, general, energetic, and persevering efforts are requisite. If every friend of the Paper would do his or her utmost to obtain additional subscribers, the list might soon be greatly enlarged. By this means the worthy Proprietor, whose serious losses in connection with the publication, still press heavily upon him, would be greatly aided and cheered, and every family into which this excellent periodical might be introduced, would be

much benefitted. In order, however, that both parties may be profited, every subscriber should pay with punctuality, and read with attention.

Your Committee would also respectfully request all who can aid in enriching the pages of the *Christian Messenger*—and the number is not small—to afford assistance by furnishing communications on various subjects, accounts of revivals, and other interesting and useful intelligence.

CHARLES TUPPER, *Chairman*.

(H)

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The Committee on Temperance beg leave to report, as follows :—

They regard with much satisfaction the steady and increasing success of the Temperance enterprise during the past year. While many of our churches have been active in promoting the cause, the various temperance organizations have also performed their part nobly ; their united efforts have been put forth with encouraging success, and a large increase both in numbers and strength has been realized during the year.

True, we have experienced some reverses ; we have had much to try our patience, and put our confidence to the test ; nor has all this arisen from the malice of avowed enemies, but from the conduct of some of our friends, who in the heat of political strife have sacrificed principle to party spirit.

We have much pleasure in recording our highest approval of the zeal and faithfulness of our friends in general, who, under all circumstances, in evil as well as good report, have conducted themselves with uncompromising fidelity, of which, the results of their indefatigable labours, afford the most satisfactory demonstrations.

But while they rejoice in the triumphs achieved through the prolific agency of moral suasion, your committee are still of opinion that intemperance will never cease to desolate our land till checked by the strong arm of legal Prohibition.

To obtain so desirable a measure as speedily as possible, your committee earnestly recommend the employment of every available means to bring the subject fairly before the minds of the people, and urge it upon their consideration, and thus by constant agitation prepare them to enforce, in a manner not to

be misunderstood, their demand upon our legislators for a sound prohibitory Law. Then, and not till then will society be rid of the moral pestilence intemperance, and the triumphs of our cause be complete.

Respectfully submitted.

J. C. HURD, *Chairman.*

(I)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Denomination may be congratulated on the success which has attended their efforts in the cause of Education during the last twenty-one years. It should be regarded as a favourable interposition of Providence, demanding thanksgiving to God, and devout obedience to the manifestation of his will, as thus indicated. Duty and interest combine to urge the Baptists of this Province to continued exertion in this cause. Next to the influence of piety in forming the character and shaping the course of a people, is the influence of education. The religious Denomination that neglects or undervalues the blessing adopts a narrow-minded and self-destructive policy.

The Committee refrain from entering into details respecting the Academy, as the state of that Institution will be reported at the annual meeting of the Education Society, now about to be held. They will only observe that the number of pupils would be greatly increased if the Denomination generally would yield the patronage and support which the Institution deserves.

Acadia College lives and prospers, notwithstanding the indifference of some and the open or conceded opposition of others. During the year that has just closed, twenty-five students have enjoyed the benefits of instruction there. Four of them graduated at the recent anniversary.

In the Theological Institute, Lectures have been delivered in Theology and Ecclesiastical History, Hebrew has been taught, and appropriate exercises performed. Eleven students have given their attendance.

With a view to make more full provision for the various wants of the youthful population, an English Course has been arranged by the Faculty, to which the attention of young men who are desirous of mental improvement is especially invited.

Your Committee are deeply impressed with the necessity of strenuous effort in order to secure funds adequate to the estab-

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lishment of additional Professorships, and the consequent elevation of the character of the College.

The Rev. D. Freeman has prosecuted his agency for the College with encouraging success. Believing that the resources of the Denomination are amply sufficient for the maintenance of the Institution on an enlarged scale, the Committee trust that the Agent's appeals will be responded to with hearty benevolence.

The Committee conclude by expressing their conviction of the desirableness of systematic arrangements for the assistance of young men, while pursuing their studies. This is a very important object, and it ought to receive immediate and serious consideration.

J. M. CRAMP, *Chairman.*

(K)

COMMITTEE ON UNION SOCIETIES.

The Committee on Union Societies beg leave to report, that systematic benevolence is much needed among our churches. "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him"—is the injunction of the Holy Spirit. We believe it is one design of the Union Society to secure this systematic effort in sustaining the objects committed to our hands. We contribute to ministerial education to do our part in providing the human agency in the work of God. Then we contribute to the funds of the mission for his support, and to the Bible Cause, to place the only efficient instrument for saving souls in his hand. Then when the laborer has done his work, we swell the fund for superannuated ministers to make the promise sure, "I have never seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread." Thus if the design of the Union Society could be realized, one would not be burdened and another eased, neither would any one good object be sustained at the expense of another.

We would recommend our churches and ministers to begin this work early in the year and not to leave it till the close. What would we think of the Farmer going forth to sow when his neighbors are reaping, or of the Fisherman setting his net when the season for it had passed, or of the hireling who sleeps the livelong day, and awakening to his labor at sun-down. Yet we fear that many churches leave the work of the Union

Society till the last month in the year. What wonder that large churches send a mere pittance to the treasury of God? We believe if the work were begun with the year much more would be done. Brethren begin early, and work while the day lasts.

From the principle of beginning early in the year we would also infer that of beginning early in life, and recommend that by every possible means the young of our churches and congregations be early trained to habits of christian benevolence.

D. FREEMAN, *Chairman.*

(M)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO
VISIT THE NEWPORT CHURCH.

Your Committee met the Newport Church on the 21st of July last. The result of their deliberations is contained in the following resolutions :

" 1. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Council the state of the Church at Newport is so distressing that immediate and decisive action is required in order to restore union, and save the Church from disorganization and destruction.

" 2. *Resolved*, That the Council record it as their deliberate judgment that the peace and prosperity of the Church demand the resignation of both Pastors, in order that the Church may then unite in the choice of another Pastor, and proceed henceforth in harmony.

" 3. *Resolved*, That with these views the Council refrain from entering into any investigation of existing difficulties, which they recommend all parties to bury in everlasting oblivion."

Elder Dimock signified his willingness to comply with the advice of the Committee ; but Elder Bancroft declined compliance, unless certain charges which had been brought against him were withdrawn. It was remarked that if all parties agreed to bury their differences "in everlasting oblivion," no charges would exist. This, however, was not accepted as a satisfactory solution of the difficulty, and on a division the Church decided on non-compliance with the advice given ; the numbers being, *nine* for compliance, *eleven* against it.

Soon after Elder Dimock discontinued preaching at Newport, his place being partly supplied by Elder Stevens of Rawdon, and partly by Students from Acadia College.

Another attempt to restore union in the Church was made last week by several members of the Committee, who visited Newce for that purpose. After enquiring into the existing

state of affairs, they presented for consideration the following document, the members of the Churches having been invited to meet them :

"Whereas the advice given by the Council to the Church at Newport at a meeting held July 21, 1858, has not been carried into effect, both Pastors still retaining their official connection with the Church, although Elder Dimock has for some months past discontinued preaching :—

"And whereas, a difficulty was raised on the part of Elder Bancroft's friends, arising from the fact that certain charges had been alleged against him, the withdrawal of which charges was essential to his honourable resignation :—

"And whereas difference of opinion exists with regard to said charges, some considering them as important and well substantiated, and others looking upon them as unimportant or not sustained :—

"And whereas, it is exceedingly desirable that all obstacles in the way of the union of the Church should be removed :—

"Therefore Resolved—That it be recommended to the parties concerned to proceed no further with said charges, and that they be considered on all sides as withdrawn :—

"That the above recommendation be conditional on the resignation of both pastors, and the discontinuance of their labours, so that on its taking effect the Church may be restored to union, and a new pastor chosen by the united body :—

"That all parties be affectionately entreated to comply with the advice now tendered, in order that harmony may be restored, and that the church at Newport may again enjoy, by God's blessing, peace and prosperity.

(Signed) J. M. CRAMP, *Chairman*.
WILLIAM BURTON.
JAMES PARKER.
GEORGE ARMSTRONG.

Certain brethren present, including those who had preferred charges against Elder Bancroft, responded in the following form :—

"We the undersigned agree to comply with the advice above given.

(Signed) JOSEPH DIMOCK.
WILLIAM H. KNOWLES.
EDWARD DIMOCK.
HENRY WALLY.
GEORGE K. KNOWLES.
JOHN DIMOCK.
THOMAS MACUMBER.

Newport, June 16th, 1859.

The Committee regret to inform the Association that the rejection of the advice by Elder Bancroft and his friends, has disappointed their hopes. They cannot but apprehend disastrous consequences to the church at Newport.

Halifax, June 21, 1859.

J. M. CRAMP, *Chairman*.

**Account of Monies received at the Central Association,
HALIFAX, JUNE, 1859.**

CHURCHES.	Ministerial Education.	Home Mission.	Foreign Mission.	Ministers.	Infra	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aylesford, Upper, -	0 0 0	2 5 0	3 0 0	0 0 0	5 5 0	
Bridgewater, -	1 2 0	2 8 4	2 6 3	0 6 9	6 3 4	
Burton, -	0 5 0	0 15 0	0 6 0	0 0 0	1 6 0	
Chester, -	0 0 0	1 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 0 0	
Cornwallis 1st., -	3 18 3	8 1 4	1 16 9	0 5 6	14 1 10	
do. 2nd, -	4 0 0	8 0 0	3 15 0	0 4 2	15 19 2	
do. 3rd, -	0 0 0	1 13 9	1 10 0	0 0 0	*3 8 9	
Falmouth, -	0 0 0	4 0 0	1 8 9	0 0 0	5 8 9	
Halifax, 1st, Granville St.	0 0 0	12 10 10	0 0 0	0 0 0	12 10 0	
do. 2nd, North End,	0 0 0	1 10 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 10 0	
Hantsport, -	0 15 9	5 0 0	2 14 3	0 0 0	8 10 0	
Horton 1st, -	3 10 0	5 0 0	7 14 5	0 9 0	16 13 5	
do. 2nd, -	1 2 9	3 0 0	2 0 0	0 0 0	6 2 9	
do. 3rd, -	0 0 0	1 15 0	1 0 10	0 0 0	2 15 10	
Indian Harbor, -	0 0 6	0 7 6	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 7 6	
Jeddore, -	0 0 0	0 12 6	0 12 6	0 0 0	1 5 0	
LaHave, -	0 0 0	0 7 6	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 7 6	
Lunenburg, N. W., -	0 0 0	2 12 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 12 0	
New Germany, -	0 0 0	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 0 0	0 12 0	
Preston, -	0 0 0	0 12 6	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 12 6	
Rawdon, -	0 0 0	1 0 0	0 12 6	0 0 0	1 12 6	
Sackville, -	0 0 0	2 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 0 0	
Sherbrooke West, -	0 0 0	0 15 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 15 0	
St. Margaret's Bay, -	0 0 0	0 10 4	0 10 0	0 0 0	1 0 4	
New Cornwall, -	0 0 0	1 0 0	0 10 0	0 0 0	1 10 0	
Windsor, -	0 0 0	5 1 10	3 7 6	0 0 0	8 9 4	
Windsor Plains, -	0 0 0	0 11 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 11 0	
Collection at Association,	0 0 0	16 4 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	16 4 0	
J. W. Bars, -	0 0 0	2 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 0 0	
Rev. David Shaw, -	0 0 0	0 5 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 5 0	
John Rand, -	0 0 0	0 5 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 5 0	
	14 13 9	91 9 5	33 10 9	1 5 5	141 0 6	

* Including 5s. for French Mission.

JOHN CHASE, Treasurer.

*Baptist Ministerial Education Fund in account with J.
CHASE, Treasurer.*

1859.		DR.	£	s.	d.
June	To amount paid	D. F. Higgins	5	0	0
	"	J. F. Kempton	5	0	0
	"	W. P. Freeman	5	0	0
	"	towards salary of			
	Theological Prof. of Acadia College		15	0	0
	Balance to new account		27	12	2
			£57	12	2

1858.		CR.	£	s.	d.
July	By Balance as per account rendered		28	6	0½
10.	Cash per Eastern Association		0	12	4½
June 29.	" Western		14	0	0
	" Central		14	13	9
			£57	12	2
By Balance new account			£27	12	2

JNO. CHASE, Treasurer.

*Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society in account with J.
CHASE, Treasurer.*

1859.		DR.	£	s.	d.
	To paid J. W. Hartt's salary		125	0	0
	" Matron		2	10	0
	" for Philosophical Apparatus, Case &c.,		89	15	1
	" Incidentals, (Postage, &c.)		0	2	7
	Balance to new account,		79	15	0½
			£297	2	8½

1858.		CR.	£	s.	d.
July 1.	By Balance old account,		47	2	8½
1859.					
July 1.	1 years Provincial allowance,		250	0	0
			£297	2	8½
By Balance new account,			£80	5	0½

JOHN CHASE, Treasurer.

Infirm Ministers' Fund, in account with J. CHASE, Treasurer.

1858.	Dr.	£	s.	d.
July	To account at interest	50	0	0
	“ Balance to new account	6	19	8
		<u>£56 19 8</u>		
	Cr.	£	s.	d.
	By Balance per account rendered	52	14	3
	One year's interest received	3	0	0
1859.				
June.	Amount from Central Association	1	5	5
		<u>£56 19 8</u>		
	By Balance new account	£6	19	8
		<u>£6 19 8</u>		

JNO. CHASE, *Treasurer.*

MINISTERS IN THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

Names.	Residence.	Date of Ordination.	Place of Ordination.
Rev. S. N. Bentley,	Halifax.	Nov. 23, 1851.	Liverpool, N.S.
“ Wm. Burton.	Hantsport.	July 20, 1828.	West Brook.
“ John Chase.	Wolfville.	—, 1835.	Billtown.
“ W. Chipman.	Pleasant Valley.	Mar. 19, 1829.	Pleasant Valley.
“ J. M. Cramp, D. D.	Wolfville.	May 7, 1818.	London, G.B.
“ T. W. Crawley,	New Minas.	May 13, 1856.	Chester.
“ S. W. deBlois,	Wolfville.	Feb. 26, 1854.	Chester.
“ D. Freeman,	Travelling Agent.	Aug. — 1855.	Halifax.
“ W. H. Humphrey,	Halifax.	Mar. 1, 1854.	Richmond, Me.
“ A. S. Hunt,	Cornwallis.	Nov. 10, 1844.	Dartmouth.
“ J. C. Hurd.	Chester.		
“ R. McLearn.	Dartmouth.	Mar. 10, 1828.	Rawdon.
“ James Parker.	Billtown, Cornwallis.		
“ D. Penco.	Long Point, do.	Dec. 24, 1844.	
“ T. H. Porter.	Sackville.	Nov. 13, 1833.	Billtown.
“ R. D. Porter,	Dartmouth.	Sept 17, 1857.	Dartmouth.
“ S. T. Rand.	Hantsport.	Oct 7, 1834.	Cornwallis.
“ E. O. Read.	Gaspereaux.		Gaspereaux.
“ James Read.	Upper Aylesford.		Up. Aylesford.
“ E. M. Saunders,	West Cornwallis.		W. Cornwallis.
“ A. W. Sawyer,	Wolfville.	—, 1854.	Lawrence, U.S.
“ I. J. Skinner,	Bridgewater.	Sep. 19, 1855.	
“ J. Stevens.	Rawdon.		
“ A. Stronach.	Aylesford.		
“ B. Taylor.	New Germany.	July 13, 1842.	Chelsea.
“ B. Vaughan.	Kempt.	—, 1856.	Wolfville.
“ R. Walker.			LP. Cornwallis.
“ D. M. Welton,	Windsor.		Windsor.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA.

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

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

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

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

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

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

ART. 7th.—When any Church shall desire admittance into this body, application must be made by letter, and satisfactory evidence furnished of its faith and order: this being done, and a vote of acceptance taken, the Moderator shall, in behalf of the Association, give to one of its Messengers present the right-hand of fellowship.

ART. 8th.—When any Church shall neglect to make communication for three years successively it shall be considered as having withdrawn from us, and shall be dropped from the Minutes, unless two or more members shall request its continuance and shall engage to enquire into its standing and report at the next meeting of the Association.

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

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

ART. 11th.—Alterations or amendments may be made to this Constitution by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any of its regular meetings.

RULES OF ORDER.

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

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

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

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

RULE 5th.—All resolutions shall be presented in writing.

RULE 6th.—Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the Minutes, except so ordered at the time.

RULE 7th.—These Rules shall be distinctly read from the Chair at the opening of the Session.