

# MINUTES

OF THE

NOVA-SCOTIA

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT YARMOUTH,

ON

MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, 26th, 27th & 28th June,

1837.

—•••••—  
TOGETHER WITH THEIR

*Circular Letter, Missionary Notices, &c. &c.*

~~~~~◆◆◆~~~~~  
HALIFAX :

PRINTED BY JAMES SPIKE—OFFICE, GRANVILLE-STREET.

1837.

MINUTES

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## MINUTES, &c.



MONDAY, JUNE 26th, 1837.

THE introductory Sermon was preached by Elder THEODORE S. HARDING, from Colossians i. 28.—“*Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man, perfect in Christ Jesus.*”

A collection in aid of Missions was taken on the Sabbath preceding, and also on Monday amounting to £11 5 2.

At the commencement of business prayer was offered by Elder T. S. HARDING, after which, in the absence of Elder MUNRO the Moderator of the preceding year, the former Clerk, Elder W. CHIPMAN officiated in stead, pro tem.

Elder CHARLES TUPPER was then appointed Moderator; Elder WILLIAM CHIPMAN, Clerk, and J. W. NUTTING, Esq. Assistant Clerk. Elders McLEARN and I. E. BILL, were appointed to read the letters; and Brethren JOSEPH DIMOCK, MAJOR CHIPMAN, THEODORE S. HARDING, J. W. NUTTING, WILLIAM CHIPMAN, J. VAN BUREN, NATHANIEL VIDITOE, EDWARD MANNING, JOSEPH CRANDALL, RICHARD CUNNINGHAM, RICHARD McLEARN, I. E. BILL, and JOHN CHASE, were chosen a committee to examine Letters, Petitions, Reports, &c. and to Report thereon to the Association.

Elders ADAM WILSON, from the Baptist Convention of Maine, U. S. and JOSEPH CRANDALL, from the New Brunswick Association, were requested to take a seat with the Association.

Meeting Adjourned until 3 o'clock.

Meeting opened by prayer by the Moderator. The Letters from the Churches were called for and read. The Messengers being seated, the following Minutes were taken.



STATE OF THE CHURCHES.



[The names of ordained Ministers are in SMALL CAPITALS ; Those of Licentiates in *Italics* ; Ministers not present marked with an Asterisk\* ; Churches from which no information was received marked † ; and vacant Churches are distinguished by a dash (—) Churches from which no information was received are returned as they stood last year.]

| CHURCHES.                                                 | MINISTERS<br>AND<br>MESSENGERS. | ADDED.     |            |             | Dismissed . . . | Excluded . . . | Died . . . . . | Total . . . . . |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
|                                                           |                                 | Restored . | By Baptism | By Letter . |                 |                |                |                 |
| Annapolis and }<br>Upper Granville }<br>Lower Granville } | R. CUNNINGHAM -                 |            | 2          |             |                 | 2              | 118            |                 |
|                                                           | <i>Dea. Major Chipman</i> -     |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
|                                                           | J. B. COGSWELL -                |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
| Wilmot - - -                                              | James Delap - -                 |            |            | 1           |                 |                | 103            |                 |
|                                                           | <i>John Woodworth</i> -         |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
|                                                           | NATHANIEL VIDITOE               |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
| 1st. Cornwallis -                                         | Abner Saunders -                | 1          | 12         |             |                 | 4              | 233            |                 |
|                                                           | Ambrose Pool - -                |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
|                                                           | EDWARD MANNING                  |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
| Newport - - -                                             | *JOHN COGSWELL -                |            |            |             |                 | 6              | 271            |                 |
|                                                           | *DAVID HARRIS -                 |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
|                                                           | * <i>Thomas Rand</i> - -        |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
| 1st. Clements -                                           | *GEORGE DIMOCK -                | 1          | 4          |             |                 |                | 110            |                 |
|                                                           | *ISRAEL POTTER -                | 7          | 6          | 2           |                 | 1              | 162            |                 |
| Onslow - - -                                              | Israel Potter, Junr. }          |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
|                                                           | *JAMES MUNRO - -                |            | 5          |             |                 | 1              | 100            |                 |
| Lunenburg - -                                             |                                 |            |            |             |                 |                | 84             |                 |
| Nictaux - - -                                             | I. E. BILL - - -                |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
|                                                           | <i>Dea. Shaffner</i> - -        |            | 23         |             |                 | 3              | 400            |                 |
|                                                           | " Taylor - - -                  |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
| Digby Neck -                                              | *PETER CRANDALL -               |            | 13         |             | 51              | 1              | 52             |                 |
| †River Philip -                                           |                                 |            |            |             |                 |                | 33             |                 |
| Horton - - -                                              | T. S. HARDING -                 |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
|                                                           | *JOHN PRYOR - - -               |            | 112        | 8           |                 | 4              | 367            |                 |
|                                                           | <i>Isaac Chipman</i> - -        |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
| Windsor - - -                                             | RICHARD McLEARN -               |            | 15         | 1           |                 | 1              | 42             |                 |
| Rawdon - - -                                              | *JOHN DOYLE - - -               |            |            |             |                 |                | 45             |                 |
| †Upper Granville }                                        |                                 |            |            |             |                 |                |                |                 |
| Mountain - }                                              | * <i>Obadiah Saunders</i> }     |            |            |             |                 |                | 122            |                 |

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1st. Halifax  
†Waterford  
Aylesford  
New Albany



STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

| CHURCHES.        | MINISTERS<br>AND<br>MESSENGERS.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | ADDED.   |            |           | Dismissed | Excluded | Died | Total |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|------|-------|
|                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Restored | By Baptism | By Letter |           |          |      |       |
| Parrsborough -   | SILAS T. RAND - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |          | 1          |           |           | 1        | 28   |       |
| †Hammond's Plain |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |          |            |           |           |          | 23   |       |
| Chester - - -    | JOSEPH DIMOCK - - -<br>*JAMES SKERRY - - -<br>*David Dimock - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                 |          | 1          |           | 1         | 3        | 222  |       |
| Amherst - - -    | *SAMUEL McCULLEY<br>CHARLES TUPPER - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |          |            |           | 3         |          | 26   |       |
| Antigonish - - - | *JOHN WHIDDEN - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |          |            |           | 2         | 1        | 29   |       |
| Port Medway -    | HARDING PORTER - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 2        | 13         | 3         | 1         | 1        | 42   |       |
| Sissiboo - - -   | CHARLES RANDALL<br>Reuben Hankinson<br>Jared Crane - - -<br>John Brown - - -                                                                                                                                                                                      |          |            |           |           | 2        | 115  |       |
| †2nd. Halifax -  | WILLIAM CHIPMAN                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |          |            |           |           |          | 54   |       |
| 2nd. Cornwallis  | J. J. Van Buren - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |          | 5          |           | 1         | 3        | 184  |       |
| 1st. Yarmouth -  | HARRIS HARDING - - -<br>WILLIAM BURTON - - -<br>Dea. Z. Chipman - - -<br>" John Crosby - - -<br>" Joseph Robins - - -<br>" Amos Baker - - -<br>" Ezra Churchill - - -<br>John Durkie - - -<br>Thomas Crosby - - -<br>Edward Huestis - - -<br>Abraham Kellam - - - |          | 5          | 2         | 145       | 7        | 5    | 300   |
| 1st. Halifax - - | *JOHN BURTON - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |          | 4          |           |           | 2        | 130  |       |
| †Waterford - -   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |          |            |           |           |          | 52   |       |
| Aylesford - - -  | *EZEKIEL MARSTERS<br>Dea. Sydney Welton<br>William Graves - - -<br>Samuel Spinney - - -                                                                                                                                                                           |          | 38         | 4         | 36        | 1        | 2    | 205   |
| New Albany - -   | THOMAS DELONG - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 3        | 1          |           | 1         | 1        | 49   |       |

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|           | 6         |          |      | 271   |
|           |           |          |      | 110   |
| 2         | 1         | 1        |      | 162   |
|           | 1         | 1        |      | 109   |
|           |           |          |      | 84    |
|           |           | 3        |      | 400   |
|           | 51        |          | 1    | 52    |
|           |           |          |      | 33    |
| 8         | 4         |          | 4    | 367   |
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|           |           |          |      | 45    |
|           |           |          |      | 122   |

## STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

| CHURCHES.                           | MINISTERS<br>AND<br>MESSENGERS.               | ADDED.   |            |           | Dismissed | Excluded | Died | Total |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|------|-------|
|                                     |                                               | Restored | By Baptism | By Letter |           |          |      |       |
| Liverpool - -                       | Whitman Freeman -                             |          | 3          | 1         | 2         | 1        | 2    | 95    |
| Brookfield - -                      | Elisha Freeman -                              |          |            |           |           |          | 4    | 68    |
| †Tryon & Bedeque<br>Sydney, C. B. - |                                               |          |            |           |           |          |      | 59    |
|                                     | <i>Philemon D. Lavers</i>                     |          |            |           |           |          |      |       |
|                                     | *George Armstrong -                           | 1        | 2          |           |           |          | 1    | 19    |
|                                     | * — Stubbard -                                |          |            |           |           |          |      |       |
| 2nd. Clements *                     | HENRY SAUNDERS -                              |          | 32         | 3         |           |          |      | 60    |
|                                     | Israel Rice - - -                             |          |            |           |           |          |      |       |
| †Little Forks -                     |                                               |          |            |           |           |          |      | 21    |
| Ragged Island -                     |                                               |          |            |           | 1         |          |      | 108   |
| Bryer Island -                      | WELLINGTON JACKSON }<br>Dea. A. Coggins -     | 1        | 3          | 1         | 2         |          |      | 35    |
| Falmouth - -                        |                                               |          | 2          | 2         | 2         | 1        | 3    | 81    |
| †Westchester -                      |                                               |          |            |           |           |          |      | 12    |
| †Guysborough -                      | *HEZEKIAH HULL -                              |          |            |           |           |          |      | 43    |
| Granville Street }<br>Halifax - - } | *E. A. CRAWLEY - }<br>Dea. J. W. Nutting }    |          | 16         |           | 16        | 1        | 3    | 126   |
| Mabou - - -                         |                                               |          |            |           |           |          | 1    | 10    |
| †Tracadie - -                       |                                               |          |            |           |           |          |      | 27    |
| †Windsor Road                       |                                               |          |            |           |           |          |      | 35    |
| †Sherbrook -                        |                                               |          |            |           |           |          |      | 24    |
| Baddeck - -                         | * — McQUILLAN }<br><i>Philemon Lavers</i> - } |          | 2          |           |           | 1        | 1    | 13    |
| Stewiacke - -                       | *GEORGE RICHARDSON                            |          | 1          |           |           | 1        |      | 25    |
| St. Margaret's }<br>Bay - - }       |                                               |          |            |           | 3         | 1        |      | 16    |
| †Economy - -                        |                                               |          |            |           |           |          |      | 12    |
| Jeddore - - -                       |                                               |          | 5          |           |           | 1        |      | 32    |
| Three Rivers, }<br>P. E. Island }   | *JOHN SHAW - - -                              | 1        | 6          |           | 5         |          |      | 36    |
| East Point - -                      | *JOHN SHAW - - -                              | 1        | 18         | 1         | 1         | 2        |      | 57    |
| †Canso - - -                        |                                               |          |            |           |           |          |      | 10    |
| 3rd. Cornwallis                     | ABRAHAM STRONACH -                            | 1        | 2          | 2         | 2         | 3        | 1    | 167   |
| Wilmot Mountain                     | JOHN CHASE - - -                              |          |            |           |           |          |      | 78    |

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STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

| CHURCHES.         | MINISTERS<br>AND<br>MESSENGERS. |            |           | ADDED.   |            |           | Dismissed | Excluded | Died | Total |
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|                   | Restored                        | By Baptism | By Letter | Restored | By Baptism | By Letter |           |          |      |       |
| Tusket & Argyle † | James Lent - - -                |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      | 95    |
|                   | Dea. John Gavil - - -           |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      |       |
|                   | J. H. Frost - - -               | 2          | 5         | 26       |            |           |           |          |      | 68    |
| Wellington - - -  | MAYNARD PARKER -                |            | 31        |          |            |           | 1         | 3        |      | 59    |
| Springfield - - - | THOMAS DELONG -                 |            |           |          |            |           | 2         |          |      | 19    |
| Dalhousie - - -   | THOMAS DELONG -                 |            | 4         | 1        |            |           |           |          |      | 60    |
| Margaree - - -    | Philemon D. Lavers              |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      | 21    |
| 2nd. Yarmouth -   | HARRIS HARDING -                |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      | 108   |
|                   | Dea. Jon. Raymond               |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      | 35    |
|                   | " John Patten -                 |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      | 81    |
|                   | " William Crosby                |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      | 12    |
|                   | " John Sanders -                |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      | 43    |
| Long Island -     | WELLINGTON JACKSON              |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      | 126   |
| Charlotte Town, ) | INGRAM E. BILL -                |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      | 10    |
| P. E. Island )    | WILLIAM CHIPMAN -               |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      | 27    |
|                   |                                 |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      | 35    |
|                   |                                 |            |           |          |            |           |           |          |      | 24    |
|                   |                                 | 18         | 393       | 60       | 290        | 41        | 38        | 53       | 28   |       |

☞ The last Four Churches were added this year, and the persons who represented them, received the right hand of Fellowship from the Moderator, in behalf of the Association.

\* This Church having been considered to have lost its visibility, eight of the number assembled to renew covenant and revive the Church, and Seventeen others afterwards united with them. Of the remaining Twenty-four, as reported by the last Minutes, we have no account. We make this statement to account for the fact that an addition of Thirty-five makes no larger increase.

† This Church is now designated by the name of Tusket and Argyle, the Argyle Church, not previously in union with the Association, having merged in that at Tusket. This addition of 26 does not properly belong to any column in our Minutes.



**From Corresponding Associations,**

*Received as follows :*

MESSENGERS.

Maine Convention, - - - ADAM WILSON.  
New-Brunswick, - - - JOSEPH CRANDALL.

Elders Anthony Dimock and Ebenezer Stronach, were invited to take a seat with us.

Brother Amos Baker was appointed to receive the Missionary money, in absence of the Treasurer.

Meeting adjourned till Tuesday morning.

In the Evening, Elder Adam Wilson preached on Matt. vii. 24. "*Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock.*"

Preaching on Tuesday Morning by Elder Manning, from 2 Tim. iv. 7. A collection of £6 2 10, was taken, to assist in building a Baptist Meeting House at Margaree, to which Mr. Stephen Chipman afterwards added £1.

The business of the Association was then resumed. The Report of the Education Society was read by J. W. Nutting, in the absence of the Secretary, and was received.

It stated that the Institution at Horton had enjoyed a good share of public patronage, and increased prosperity, during the year. That there were 26 Boarders, and nearly the same number who resided or boarded in the neighbourhood, attending the Seminary. That about £1,600, was the amount now due upon the Institution. That the Northern Baptist Education Society in Massachusetts had offered to support five young men at the Seminary to be Educated for the Ministry, which had been thankfully accepted, and four of the Scholarships filled up. That the Rev. Richard McLearn the Agent of the Society and other zealous friends had nearly succeeded in raising an amount sufficient to discharge the debts. That the Rev. John Pryor, the Principal, with Mr. Charles Randall his Assistant, continued to devote themselves with unabated zeal to the interests of the Institution. The report contained much other interesting matter, and suggested the necessity of placing the Academy upon a more effective and respectable footing as a Collegiate Institution.

Brother McLearn then stated to the Meeting that he had obtained about £1,400 towards defraying the debts of the Society, and that £200 more were required. The sum of £50 was then subscribed among several individuals in aid of the object.

It was then voted,—That the officers of the Education Society be continued as heretofore.

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*Voted.*—That the Managing Committee be requested to obtain as soon as convenient, an additional Professor for the Horton Institution in compliance with the resolution passed at the last Association.

*Voted.*—That for the purpose of collecting the monies already subscribed, and of completing the Subscription, Brother McLearn be requested to continue his agency; and if possible, obtain also a sum sufficient to procure a Philosophical Apparatus.

Whereas, Brother Crawley refused any compensation for his time and labour, while on his Agency in England, in behalf of the Education Society, and also debited himself in the Report of the Society, with the sum of £200 with Interest, from the time of his return to Nova-Scotia, being so much of the whole sum collected by him, including his passage to and from England. And whereas the Education Society cannot possibly feel themselves justified in retaining said sum, actually expended by Brother Crawley in their service. It is Resolved unanimately, that the said sum of £200 and the Interest thereon, be remitted by the Society, to Brother Crawley.

Adjourned till half past four o'clock.

Prayer by the Moderator, and Business resumed according to appointment.

The Circular Letter was read and adopted.

*Voted.*—That Brother I. E. Bill prepare the Circular for next year.

*Voted.*—That Brother Nutting superintend the printing of the Minutes, and that 1500 copies be printed.

*Voted.*—That Brother Manning be our Messenger to the New Brunswick Association, and that he receive £5 for his services.

Whereas, it appears from the reports of Missionaries, that there are increasing claims for the Gospel in many parts of the Province, especially on the Eastern and Northern Shores, in Cape Breton, and Prince Edward Island, and that the utmost efforts that can be made by our Missionary Board would still be totally inadequate to supply the many pressing calls for Missionary labour.— And whereas, it is highly desirable that renewed vigor should be given to all our Missionary operations;

It is therefore Resolved,—That this Association do earnestly recommend to all Ministers and Churches throughout the Province, a greater degree of attention to this most important subject, and that they adopt such measures as may be most effectual for increasing funds for Domestic Missions.

*Voted.*—That the Missionary Board do hereafter, hold one of their meetings, at 10 o'clock, on Saturday morning before the meeting of the Association.

*Voted.*—That the thanks of the Association be presented to the Nictaux Church, for their voluntary resolution to support a Mis-



sionary on Prince Edward's Island for one year, and that other Churches be earnestly requested to imitate their laudable example.

The Report of the select Committee on Letters, Petitions, Reports, &c. was read, and adopted. They report as follows, viz.

1st. In reply to the questions from Sissiboo they report, that it is improper for a Minister to be ordained over one Church, while he is the member of another; and that all members of Churches whether Ministers or others, removing from one Church to another, should, to be consistent, take a dismission from the former, and join the latter.

2nd. In reply to the Letter from the Church at Lunenburg—they report, that they regret that any difficulties should have arisen in the Church; and as they request counsel, the Committee recommend a Council to visit them, and that Brethren William Chipman, Joseph Dimock, Ingram E. Bill, Nathaniel Viditoe, and Harding Porter, be a Committee to afford them needful advice.

3rd. Having received Letters from two bodies of professors of religion, which compose the Rawdon Church, both of which Letters state, that a part of said Church has departed from the principles by which Baptist Churches should be governed, the Committee therefore recommend, that a Committee be appointed to afford advice and assistance, to that part of said Church which retains their former principles; and that Brethren T. S. Harding, George Dimock, James Munro, and Richard McLearn be the Committee.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Preaching at 6 o'clock this evening by Brother S. T. Rand, from Dan. xii. 3.

Having met according to Adjournment, prayer was offered by Brother T. S. Harding.

*Voted.*—That the Annual Meeting this year, be held at Liverpool, on the first Sabbath after the 20th of September; and that a similar Meeting be held at Amherst on the first Sabbath in October.

*Voted.*—That the Monthly Concert of Prayer, for the Heathen, be recommended, to be observed in the several Churches.

*Voted.*—That this Association hold its next session in the Baptist Meeting House in Chester, on the first Monday, after the 20th of June, 1833, and that Brother William Chipman preach the introductory Sermon, and in case of failure Brother E. A. Crawley.

*Voted.*—That the remarks formerly made in the Minutes, with reference to the state of the Churches, be hereafter published in the Christian Messenger.

Whereas, Sabbath Schools must be considered as taking a highly important part in the conversion of the world; for the purpose of making them more efficient in this Province:

*Resolved.*—That this Association resolve itself into a Sabbath

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School Union, and that Brethren J. E. Bill, Richard McLearn, John Pryor, T. S. Harding, and William Chipman, be a Committee, more fully to organize such Union, and that they report at the next Association, with reference to its formation and management.

*Resolved.*—That the Churches composing this Association, be earnestly requested to form and sustain Sabbath Schools, and for the purpose of making them more useful, and of promoting the cause generally, obtain Libraries for the use of said Schools, and in their Letters to the Association, give the necessary information respecting the number of Scholars, and Teachers, the size of the Library, the number of Conversions, &c. &c.

*Resolved.*—That members of Churches, and all others, in this and the Sister Province, who are in arrears, as Subscribers to the Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick Baptist Missionary Magazine, be urgently requested to pay up such arrears to the respective Agents with as little delay as possible, as any deficiency, after payment of the amount now due for its publication is payable out of the Missionary funds, and any overplus is applicable to, and greatly needed for the support of Domestic Missions.

*Resolved.*—That this Association do highly approve of the publication of the Christian Messenger, and do adopt the paper as the organ of the Baptist Denomination in this Province, for the furtherance of the cause of Domestic and Foreign Missions, and for such other purposes as may be required; and that the Ministering Brethren and Members of all our Churches, be requested to use their best endeavours to encourage the circulation of the Paper, and ensure the payment of subscriptions; and that any loss or deficiency that may ultimately arise, be chargeable on the Missionary funds of the Association; and in order to prevent any loss that may accrue to the Missionary Board therefrom, that a number of persons be procured to pledge themselves to the Board in the Sum of £5 each for two years, from the first day of January next—to guarantee the Sum of not less than £250, if required, for the support of the paper; the accounts of the paper to be rendered to the Missionary Board at the end of each year, and in case it is found by them not to sustain itself, that they be authorized to discontinue the publication thereof.

*Resolved also,* that the Brethren who at present conduct the Christian Messenger, be requested to act as a Committee for managing the publication thereof, and that they be authorized to appropriate out of the proceeds of the paper, the Sum of £100 per annum, as a remuneration for Editing the same, and that the overplus of such proceeds, if any, be at the disposal of the Missionary Board, for the benefit of Missions.

*Resolved.*—That the Missionary Board be requested to instruct their Missionaries, on their respective tours, to use their best

efforts to promote the circulation of the Messenger, and to act as Agents to that effect, in the collection of Subscriptions, or in any other way that may be most conducive to the success of the paper.

Adjourned for an hour.

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by the Moderator.

The Select Committee on Letters, Petitions, Reports, &c. having fully and maturely examined and considered the Report made by the Committee sent by the Association at the previous session, to investigate the difficulties of the Aylesford Church, and other reports and matters connected therewith, made their Report.

Whereupon it was Resolved, that, Whereas from the report of the Committee sent to enquire into the difficulties of Aylesford Church and from other circumstances, this Association is compelled to believe the charges preferred against Elder Marsters, on the oaths of two individuals, to be substantially correct; this Association view such conduct as highly reprehensible in any person, especially in a Christian Minister, and that it should meet the marked disapprobation of the denomination with which he is connected, and that they do not recognise him as a Minister of the Gospel in regular standing, until he shall make a full and frank acknowledgment of his transgressions and manifest repentance for the same before the whole Association, and unless such confessions be made at the next session, we shall be compelled, however painful, to withdraw from him the hand of Christian Fellowship.

*Resolved.*—That we recommend a Committee to visit a company of Brethren dismissed from the Aylesford Church, to judge of the expediency of organizing them into a Church, and if worthy, to give them the hand of fellowship, and that the following Brethren attend to the business—T. S. Harding, Richard Cunningham, Nathaniel Viditoe, and Major Chipman.

*Voted.*—That thanks be presented to the Church of Yarmouth, —the Congregation, and other Benevolent Friends, for their hospitality and kindness during this session, as also for their various liberal contributions for religious purposes.

Meeting concluded by prayer.

At 6 o'clock Brother McLearn preached from Job vii. 20,

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## CIRCULAR LETTER.



DEAR BRETHREN,

WHEN a Circular Letter only a few years ago was first addressed to the little Sisterhood of Baptist Churches in this Province, our numbers were few, and many were the discouragements which we had to encounter : and few were the Heralds of the Cross, who were instrumental in bringing souls to the knowledge of the truth and in the establishment of those Churches of which the Association was then formed. During all that period we had no organized Missionary Society in operation—no systematic combination of effort in extending the interests of the Redeemer's Kingdom—no Religious Newspaper in circulation—and no Institution of Learning, where our youth, and especially those whom the Holy Spirit might be preparing for the Ministry, could embrace the privilege of obtaining academical cultivation ; and the most sanguine then could not have anticipated that in so brief a space of time as that which has elapsed, since the formation of our Association, such a happy change could have taken place in our prospects as a body of professed believers. Without pretending to enter into a minute recapitulation of our present prosperity, we would advert to the numerous revivals of religion in various parts of the Province, by which our denomination has been especially distinguished, as well as to the consequent increase of Baptist Churches, which have been established in almost every section of this growing Colony. Our prospects are brightening ; and new channels of Religious and Missionary enterprize and benevolence, are opening around us ; and we rejoice that you have manifested a disposition to avail yourselves of the favourable facilities you possess, for the promotion of Evangelical Religion. To the praise of divine mercy be it spoken, our Missionaries are visiting the spiritually destitute, in many of the most remote parts of our country, and successfully preaching "the Word of Life"—we have a Seminary, not inferior in reputation and usefulness to any in the Province—we have a Religious Newspaper, the Evangelical character of which has a tendency to imprint such religious information and instruction, as is adapted to our present prosperous circumstances—and we have other institutions of a subordinate character, which are directed to the same object—the increase and extension of Bible Religion.



In forming and sustaining these means of advancing the cause of Christ, your Christian liberality has largely contributed, and some of you have made laudable, pecuniary, and personal sacrifices : but these have been made for Him who sacrificed Himself for the Salvation of a lost world ; and if on a review of the past, regret has been felt, it has been because it has not been in your power to be more extensively useful in those labors of love, in which you have been piously engaged. But, dear Brethren, unless these means are still supported by a corresponding spirit of self-denial, liberality and enterprize—those institutions will loose their efficiency ; or the Lord will commit their instrumental support into the hands of others, more deserving of the honor of being “ workers together with Him.”

While we are employed in adopting and sustaining measures for upholding those Religious Institutions, to which we have briefly alluded, we should remember that unless *we*, as a Denomination, cultivate that sanctifying spirit of personal piety in our hearts, which leads to constant self-examination and prayerful communion with God, the practice of liberality, and all other external duties will be unavailing ; for though we may give all our substance, and devote every hour of our lives to the promotion of such means, as are adapted to the advancement of Religion and Morality, yet if our affections are not spiritually set upon the Cross of the Redeemer—if our hearts are not expanding with spiritual love and zeal, we shall be but barren fig trees in the garden of the Lord. If we expect to bear fruit to the praise of divine grace, we must be living branches of the living vine. Our blessed Saviour has told us : “ I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman,—Every branch in me that beareth not fruit, he taketh away ; and every branch that beareth fruit he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.” While we remember the gloomy seasons of declension that have characterized by-gone ages of the Church, and bear in mind the wiles of the tempter, and the exceeding deceitfulness of the human heart, have we not reason to “ watch and pray ;” to “ have our loins girt about with truth,” and to strive for that constant intercourse with the mercy-seat, which fills the hearts of genuine believers with living faith, and all the graces of the Holy Spirit ? If dear Brethren, ye would be “ the temple of God,” do not forget that the spirit of God *must* dwell in you. In order to prosper in the divine life, and to cultivate an ardent, devotional spirit of living piety in our hearts, we must search the scriptures daily, and be familiar with those great and sublime doctrines by which our creed is distinguished ; which when the Church has been prospering in all ages, have been the principal topics of pulpit discussion ; and which have at all times, inspired with holy zeal the regenerated subjects of Christ’s Militant Kingdom. The meagre yet delusive speculations of many professed Divines of the present age, have, it is

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to be feared, an insinuating tendency to lead their hearers and readers from the consideration of the depravity of human nature, the way of redemption through the atonement of the law-fulfilling Redeemer—the necessity of being born again—justification by faith, repentance and other doctrines of a kindred character and tendency. Let us then, Brethren, that we may be “lights in the world,” seek a prayerful acquaintance with all those divine doctrines and holy precepts, which the Book of God teaches. These are the only legitimate sources of deep Evangelical piety in the soul; and without this description of piety, neither we, nor any other denomination of Christians can prosper.

While our numbers have, within a few years increased, has there, we would ask, been a corresponding amount of vital Religion in our hearts? Are our young Ministers more zealous than their venerable predecessors in the sacred office? Are they inspired with a greater share of holy zeal, and a greater willingness to encounter hardship and reproach for Christ's sake? Are they more fervent in seeking by prayer the truth as it is in Jesus, from the Bible? Are the lay members of the Churches more conversant with the Scriptures than were their Fathers thirty years ago? Is their piety of a deeper character? Have they less worldly conformity? Are they verging nearer that standard of christian excellence, which was so conspicuous in the days of Primitive Christianity?

Without pretending to answer these enquiries, we would exhort you to remember that our opportunities for the enjoyment of Spiritual privileges, and for doing good in the cause of God are vastly increased, and that our Divine Master will require of us a corresponding amount of genuine religion in our hearts, and of active devotedness to his service. Our denomination in this Province is every year becoming more numerous. We have now upwards of five thousand members in our Churches, and perhaps eight times that number, who are sentimentally Baptists, and belong to our congregations.

If every member belonging to our Communion, is living in the enjoyment of his exalted privileges, we have in connection with us, more than one thousand family altars, upon which the sacrifice of a “broken and contrite heart” is daily offered to God; and we have more than five thousand sacred retreats, where penitential hearts daily confess their sins, and through the merits of the Saviour implore forgiveness.

What might not such a host, by the divine blessing, accomplish in the service of Christ? Let me turn to the “Acts of the Apostles,” and there learn how a few despised Disciples, in the midst of persecution—without the agency of the Printing Press—without Religious Tracts or Newspapers, and when Commerce was in its infancy, within the brief space of less than half a century,



proclaimed the Gospel throughout the whole Roman Empire (which was then spread over nearly the whole of Europe, and the most enlightened parts of Asia, and Africa.) Had we, Brethren, the same measure of vital piety in our hearts, we should have the same disposition to devote our time, our talents, and worldly possessions, and even our blood, to advance and extend the blessings of the Cross to our fellow creatures. We should not then think of accumulating wealth, unless with an intention of rendering it subservient to the interests of Religion, by offering it up upon the holy altar of christian benevolence. It is manifest that even the Baptists in this little Province, were they imbued with the spirit of primitive christianity, might, by the sustaining power of divine grace, extend the blessing of "pure and undefiled Religion," farther than did the Disciples, in the first age of the Christian Church, during the same space of time. A thousand facilities are *now* enjoyed in the service of the Redeemer, that were not enjoyed *then*. How necessary is it *that our hearts be right!* for then all our movements in life would be *rightly directed*. Our affections must become ardently, habitually, unalterably bound to the Cross of Christ, before we shall feel our responsibility to Jehovah, and like the Primitive Saints, aim at the evangelization of the *whole* world. We can only arrive at such an elevated standard of christian love by constant prayer, and by communion with the word of God, and with God himself.

That, dear Brethren, there may be an approximation in the spiritual character of our piety, to that of those who were converted by the preaching of the Apostles, let us eschew worldly conformity. In the social circle, we should make redeeming love the principal topic of conversation. In the manner of our dress we should not be swayed by the vanity, and capricious taste of the infidels of Paris. We should remember that we are not of this world; and that it is therefore our duty to be plain in our apparel. What sums that belong to the treasury of the Lord, do professing christians annually squander away to gratify their vanity? Costly furniture, splendid equipages, and extravagant dress are not characteristic of christian sincerity. In our pecuniary transactions with our fellow men, let us be *honest* and *punctual*; and let not a spirit of covetousness betray us into extortion, or any other unjustifiable mode of acquiring the perishable riches of this world. In short, let us endeavour habitually to live in obedience to the commands of God; and then even the enemies of the Cross will acknowledge you to be "a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people," that "shew forth the praises of Him who hath called us out of darkness into his marvellous light."

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Rev. Edward  
" Theodor  
" William  
" David F  
" James M  
" John Pr  
" I. E. Bi  
" William

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Rev. E.



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**Dr. The Baptist Association in Account with**

|       |                                                                                                                | £    | s.   | d.   |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| 1836. |                                                                                                                |      |      |      |
| Sept. | To the Balance paid for Printing and packing the Minutes to send to the Churches - - - - -                     | 5    | 5    | 0    |
|       | To Paid Elder McDonald, tour in P. E. Island, 13 weeks, at 30s. - - - - - £19 10 0                             |      |      |      |
|       | Expences, Passage, &c. 3 2 6                                                                                   |      |      |      |
|       |                                                                                                                | 22   | 12   | 6    |
|       | Received in aid - - - 7 4 8                                                                                    | Bal. | 15   | 7 10 |
| Oct.  | Do. Elder Jos. Dimock, tour to Margaret's Bay, and to Aylesford - - - - - 6 13 10                              |      |      |      |
|       | Received in aid at Margaret's Bay 30s. Aylesford 23s. 10d. - - - - - 2 13 10                                   | Bal. | 4    | 0 0  |
|       | Do. Elder George Dimock, tour 3 weeks to Shubencadie and Petit, &c. &c. - 4 10 0                               |      |      |      |
|       | Received in aid - - - 2 13 0                                                                                   | Bal. | 1    | 17 0 |
| Nov.  | Do. Elder David Harris, tour to Canso, Margaret's Bay, Hammond's Plain, and Preston, &c. 14 weeks - - - 21 0 0 |      |      |      |
|       | Expences, &c. - - - 2 3 7½                                                                                     |      |      |      |
|       |                                                                                                                | 23   | 3 7½ |      |
|       | Received in aid - - - 9 1 2½                                                                                   | Bal. | 14   | 2 5  |
| Decr. | Do. Elder James Skerry, tour to Margaret's Bay, Hammond's Plain, &c. 6 weeks - 9 0 0                           |      |      |      |
|       | Received in aid - - - 0 17 6                                                                                   | Bal. | 8    | 2 6  |
| 1837. |                                                                                                                |      |      |      |
| Jany. | Do. Elder James Munro, tour to P. E. Island, 8 weeks - 12 0 0                                                  |      |      |      |
|       | Expences, Passage, &c. 2 15 3                                                                                  |      |      |      |
|       |                                                                                                                | 14   | 15 3 |      |
|       | Received in aid - 1 7 3                                                                                        | Bal. | 13   | 8 0  |
|       | To amount carried over, - - -                                                                                  |      | 62   | 2 9  |

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June



Account with

William Allen Chipman, Treasurer.

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| Bal. | 15 | 7  | 10 |
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| Bal. | 14 | 2  | 5  |
| Bal. | 8  | 2  | 6  |
| Bal. | 13 | 8  | 0  |
|      | 62 | 2  | 9  |

| 1836.   |                                                          |    |    | £   | s.  | d.     |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------|----|----|-----|-----|--------|
| July    | By Balance in hands of Treasurer, as per acct. rendered, |    |    | 103 | 13  | 7½     |
| " 30    | By Cash from Annapolis and Upper Granville Church,       |    |    |     |     |        |
|         | Do. Lower Granville do.                                  | £2 | 11 | 8   |     |        |
|         | Do. New Albany, Dalhousie and Springfield, do.           | 3  | 2  | 2   | 6   | 13 11½ |
|         | Do. the yearly Meeting Granville -                       | 1  | 0  | 1½  |     |        |
| Oct. 8  | Do. Samuel Kinsman, by Rev. Wm. Chipman                  |    |    |     | 5   | 0 6    |
| Nov. 30 | Do. Liverpool Church, Missionary & Minutes               |    |    |     | 1   | 0 0    |
| 1837.   | Do. Port Medway do. do. do.                              |    |    |     | 1   | 0 0    |
| June    | Do. Parrsborough do. do. do.                             |    |    |     | 2   | 0 1½   |
|         | Do. Wilmot do. do. do.                                   |    |    |     | 0   | 5 6    |
|         | Do. Newport do. do. do.                                  |    |    |     | 2   | 15 2   |
|         | Do. Rawdon do. do. do.                                   |    |    |     | 1   | 6 0    |
|         | Do. 2d. Clements do. do. do.                             |    |    |     | 0   | 8 9    |
|         | Do. Amherst do. do. do.                                  |    |    |     | 3   | 0 0    |
|         | Do. Tuskent & Argyle do. do. do.                         |    |    |     | 1   | 14 8   |
|         | Do. Bryer Island do. do. do.                             |    |    |     | 0   | 15 0   |
|         | Do. Lunenburg do. do. do.                                |    |    |     | 0   | 16 8   |
|         | Do. Wellington do. do. do.                               |    |    |     | 0   | 16 0   |
|         | Do. 2d. Yarmouth do. do. do.                             |    |    |     | 0   | 2 4½   |
|         | Do. New Albany do. do. do.                               |    |    |     | 2   | 3 1    |
|         | Do. Dalhousie do. do. do.                                |    |    |     | 1   | 9 10½  |
|         | Do. 3d. Cornwallis do. do. do.                           |    |    |     | 0   | 9 3    |
|         | Do. Aylesford do. do. do.                                |    |    |     | 2   | 17 2½  |
|         | Do. Brookfield do. do. do.                               |    |    |     | 0   | 15 0   |
|         | Do. 1st. Yarmouth do. do. do.                            |    |    |     | 1   | 0 0    |
|         | Do. last year - £2 6 8                                   |    |    |     | 2   | 19 2   |
|         | Do. this year - 0 12 6                                   |    |    |     |     |        |
|         | Do. Nictaux do. do. do.                                  |    |    |     | 2   | 2 5½   |
|         | Do. Ragged Island do. do. do.                            |    |    |     | 1   | 0 0    |
|         | Do. Sissiboo do. do. do.                                 |    |    |     | 1   | 17 6   |
|         | Do. 1st. Clements do. do. do.                            |    |    |     | 1   | 2 6    |
|         | Do. Lower Granville do. do. do.                          |    |    |     | 4   | 16 7   |
|         | Do. Digby Neck do. do. do.                               |    |    |     | 1   | 0 7    |
|         | Do. Annapolis and Upper Granville Church do. do. £2 2 7½ |    |    |     | 5   | 0 0    |
|         | Do. Mite Society - 2 17 4½                               |    |    |     |     |        |
|         | Amount carried over,                                     |    |    |     | 160 | 1 6½   |





*William Allen Chipman, Treasurer.*

Cr.

1837.

June

|                                                                                             | £     | s. | d. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
| By amount brought over, - -                                                                 | 160   | 1  | 6½ |
| By Cash from Wilmot Mountain Church, for }<br>Missionary & Minutes -                        | 0     | 15 | 0  |
| Do. 1st. Halifax do. do. do.                                                                | 1     | 5  | 0  |
| Do. Chester do. do. do.                                                                     | 3     | 0  | 6  |
| Do. Falmouth do. do. do.                                                                    | 1     | 19 | 2  |
| Do. Windsor do. do. do.                                                                     | 1     | 15 | 0  |
| Do. 1st. Cornwallis do. do. do.                                                             |       |    |    |
| by hand of Mr. Beckwith, 10s. }<br>do. Wm. A. Chipman, 5s. }<br>do. W. J. Skinner, 1s.3d. } | 0     | 16 | 3  |
| Do. 2d. Cornwallis do. do. do.                                                              | 3     | 5  | 6  |
| Do. Horton do. do. do. }<br>Collections - £ 4 1 2 }<br>Mite Society - 13 8 1 }              | 17    | 9  | 3  |
| Do. Stewiack do. do. do.                                                                    | 0     | 18 | 8½ |
| Do. Society at Aylesford do. do.                                                            | 0     | 8  | 1½ |
| Do. Coloured People at Preston - - -                                                        | 0     | 12 | 6  |
| Do. Catharine Roast - - -                                                                   | 0     | 5  | 0  |
| Do. Collections at the Association }<br>Yarmouth - - - }                                    | 11    | 2  | 9  |
| Do. Granville-Street Church - - -                                                           | 6     | 0  | 0  |
| Do. The Solicitor General - - -                                                             | 5     | 0  | 0  |
| Do. St. Margaret's Bay Church, (paid }<br>Rev. Mr. Crawley) - - - }                         | 1     | 3  | 9  |
| Do. Antigonish Church, (paid Mr. J. }<br>Ferguson) - - - }                                  | 1     | 5  | 0  |
| Do. Jeddore Church (not received.)                                                          | 1     | 7  | 0  |
|                                                                                             | <hr/> |    |    |
|                                                                                             | £218  | 11 | 7½ |

(Errors excepted.)

WILLIAM ALLEN CHIPMAN, Treasurer.

CORNWALLIS, N. S. July, 1837.

*Note.* The full detail of the proceedings of the Association which appeared in the *Christian Messenger*, and which must probably have fallen under the notice of most of the Members of our Churches, has precluded our inserting such general remarks in the Minutes, as has been usual for some time past. By a Note of the Association also, extracts of the letters from the Churches are to be published in the *Messenger*, and will appear from time to time in that Paper.

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It appears from the Minutes, that there are belonging to the Association 63 Churches, and 37 Ordained Ministers.  
The number of Licentiates is not exactly known.