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**MINUTES**  
 OF THE  
**FOURTEENTH SESSION**  
 OF THE  
**AFRICAN**  
**BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**  
**OF NOVA SCOTIA.**

HELD AT BEAR RIVER CHURCH.

*On Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, September 28th, 30th,  
and October 1st. 1867*

ALSO THE  
**CIRCULAR LETTER.**

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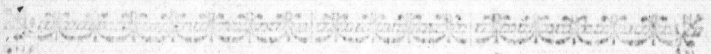
HALIFAX, N. S.

PRINTED BY W. CUNNABELL.

1867.



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1852  
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MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTEENTH SESSION

OF THE

AFRICAN

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

OF NOVA SCOTIA

Held at Bear River Church

On Sabbath Evening of 27th Nov. 1852

and closed on 1st Dec.

BY THE

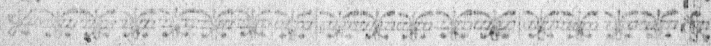
CIRCULAR LETTERS

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HADLEY, W. S.

PRINTED BY W. CURRIE

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MINUTES  
OF THE  
AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

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*Bear River, Saturday, Sept. 28th, 1867—2 o'clock*

The Association met, pursuant to adjournment, with the Bear River Church. After singing, prayer by the Rev. George Neal. The Rev. James Thomas read the 3rd chapter of Malachi, and lectured from the same. Several of the ministering brethren and others followed.

Sunday—Met at half-past 10 o'clock, a. m. The house being densely crowded, and about 300 outside who could not find entrance, a request was made to send a minister outside; the Rev. James Thomas consented to take the open air stand. Preaching in the house by the Rev. George R. Neal, from 18th chapter of Exodus, 11th verse; followed by Rev. Mr. Freeman, Brothers Jones and Hall. Open air preaching by Rev. James Thomas, from 11th chapter of Matthew, 1st verse; followed by Brothers J. E. Jackson, Francis and Wilmot.

3 o'clock, p. m.—In the house, preaching by Rev. Henry Jackson, from II Corinthians, 4th chapter, 6th verse; followed by Rev. Mr. Freeman and Brother Jones. Open air preaching by Rev. George R. Neal, from 3rd chapter Revelations, 21st verse; followed by Brothers Roan, Butler, David Dize, J. E. Jackson and Rev. James Thomas.

7 o'clock, p. m.—Preaching by the Rev. Mr. Freeman, from 12th chapter of Hebrews, 1st verse; followed by Rev. James Thomas.

Afterwards Brother James Edward Jackson was duly ordained as an Evangelist. The Candidate related his Christian experience and call to the Ministry to the entire satis-

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faction of the congregation. Questions were asked by the Rev. George R. Neal; Ordination Prayer by the Rev. Henry Jackson, and Charge given by the Rev. James Thomas. The ceremony was concluded by singing the 950th Hymn in the Psalmist.

Monday, 9 o'clock, a. m.—After singing, prayer by Rev. James Thomas.

Resolved, That the Rev. Henry Jackson be Chairman, and Brother James Johnson be Moderator.

Voted, That at 3 o'clock we have a closed door Meeting.

Moved and Seconded, That the Letters from the various Churches be read.

Resolved, That Brother John R. Thomas read the same. The Letters from the various Churches were then read, from which the following statistics were found:—

*State of the Churches. Increase and Decrease.*

Chnrches.	Baptized.	Rec'd.	Excluded.	Removed.	Died.	Total.
Halifax,	1	0	0	0	1	87
Hammond Plains,	0	2	2	0	2	56
1st Preston,	1	1	1	0	4	79
3d Preston, New Road,	0	0	0	3	1	19
Dartmouth,	0	0	2	0	0	11
Beech Hill,	1	0	0	0	0	7
Campbell Road,	0	0	6	0	0	8
Horton,	0	0	1	0	0	10
Corwallis,	0	0	0	0	0	21
Granville Mountain,	0	0	5	0	0	46
Bear River,	0	0	3	0	0	22
Digby Joggins,	0	0	1	0	0	16
Weymouth,	0	0	0	0	0	17
Yarmouth,	0	0	1	0	0	27
Liverpool,	0	0	0	0	0	17
	3	3	22	3	8	443

Request being made from the Hammond Plains Church for the Association to be held with them—

Resolved, That our next Association be held with the Hammond Plain Church, on the last Saturday in September, 1868, and that the Rev. George R. Neal preach the Introductory Sermon, and the Rev. J. Edward Jackson be his alternate.

Voted, That the Resolution of the Halifax Church, as regards Local Preachers, be approved, and that their Letters of Licence be renewed every three years.

Also Resolved, That if any Brother should lose his Licence, and he being worthy, he may by applying to the Secretary of the Association have a copy of the former.

Prayer by Brother Jones. Adjourned for 10 minutes.

Met at 11 o'clock, a. m.—The Rev. James Thomas preached the Introductory Sermon, from 68th Psalm, 31st verse: "Princes shall come out of Egypt; Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God."

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Freeman.

3 o'clock, p. m.—Ministers and Delegates met, pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. James Thomas.

Brother Smithers's case was brought before the Council, and after a considerable discussion some of the brethren said that they wished to withdraw themselves from the Association and follow Smithers, and gave in their names as follows—Isaac Middleton, Henry Francis, Frederick J. Ford, Isaac Cuff, Elias Marsh, Joseph Francis, John H. Cuff, Peter J. Hawkins, Isaac Johnson, Isaac Turner, and Israel Hawkins. Adjourned.

7 o'clock, p. m.—Preaching by Rev. J. E. Jackson, from 14th chapter of Matthew, 12th verse; followed by Rev. George R. Neal.

Tuesday.—At 9 o'clock, a. m. the Meeting was called to order by the Chairman. Prayer by Deacon Wilmot.

Resolved, That the Report from the Yarmouth Church,

brought by Brother David Dize, be received, and a delegation of Ministers be appointed to investigate matters concerning the difficulties of their Church.

Moved by Rev. George R. Neal, Seconded by Rev. Henry Jackson, That the Minutes of the Dartmouth and Halifax Churches, as regards Rev. Benson Smithers's case, be received, and that he be excluded from our Association.  
(Adopted.)

Further (It is the opinion of this Association, from the evidence adduced, that he, the said Rev. Benson Smithers, has been guilty of immoral conduct on several occasions; therefore his credentials from this body, authorizing him to perform the duties of a Clergyman, be annulled from this date.)

Moved by Thomas Jones, Seconded by Rev. J. E. Jackson, That the eleven members who gave in their names to follow Smithers be expelled, and their names be inserted in our Minutes. (Adopted.)

Resolved, That the Rev. James Thomas, Rev. G. R. Neal and John R. Thomas superintend the printing of the Minutes.

Voted, That John R. Thomas write the Circular Letter.  
Prayer by David Dize. Adjourned.

Met at 2 o'clock, p. m.—Meeting called to order by the Chairman. Financial affairs settled satisfactorily. Adjourned.

Met at 7 o'clock, p. m.—Preaching by Brother David Dize, from 14th chapter of John, 15th verse; followed by Brothers Wilmot, Roan, Jones, Butler, and all our ministering brethren. After which the Doxology was sung, and the congregation joined hands.

Prayer being offered up by the Rev. Henry Jackson, we separated to meet with the Hammond Plains Church on the last Saturday in September, 1868.

*Ministers, Licentiates, Deacons, Counsellors, &c.*

Halifax.—Rev. James Thomas; Deacons, William Barrett, Peter Brown, Charles Biddle; Counsellors, Daniel Gross, Joseph Cox; Door-keeper, John Spriggs; Secretary, John R. Thomas.

Hammond Plains.—Rev. James Thomas; Licentiate, Thomas Jones; Deacons, Gabriel David, Charles Giggy; Counsellors, Stephen Manigo, Frederick David; Door-keepers, William Wilson, Abram Johnson; Clerk, Daniel Goffican; Assistant Clerk, Alexander Emerson.

Preston 1st.—Rev. James Thomas, Rev. George R. Neal; Licentiates, Thomas Saunders, George Brown. John Collins; Deacons, James Slawter, David Brown, George Taylor, William Deer; Counsellors, Peter Williams, John Thompson; Door-keeper, John Brooks; Clerk, Joseph Evans.

Preston 3rd, New Road.—Rev. George R. Neal; Counsellor, William Smith.

Dartmouth.—Rev. James Thomas; Deacons, John Gerry, Charles Roan; Counsellor, Richard Tynes.

Beech Hill.—Rev. James Thomas; Deacon, Alexander Bailey; Counsellor, John R. Thomas.

Campbell Road.—Rev. James Thomas; Licentiates, Henry Bailey, Eppy Carvery; Deacon, Benjamin Fletcher.

Horton.—Rev. James Thomas; Deacons, Daniel Doleman, Dennis Doleman.

Cornwallis.—Rev. James Thomas; Deacon, Daniel Taylor; Counsellor, John Smith.

Granville Mountain.—Deacon, Edward Dixon.

Bear River.—Rev. Henry Jackson; Deacon, Jas. Johnson.

Digby Joggins.—Rev. Henry Jackson; Deacon, James Wilmot; Counsellors, William Harrison, Peter Butler.

Weymouth.—Rev. James Edward Jackson; Counsellor, James Lankford.

Yarmouth.—Rev. James Edward Jackson; Deacons, Silas Chandler, James Crawford; Counsellor, David Dize.

Liverpool.—Deacon, John Fells; Counsellors, James Wade, Robert Ely.



**SABBATH SCHOOL**—in connection with the Halifax Church, Cornwallis Street.—Superintendent, Charles Biddle; Assistant Superintendent, Peter E. Mackerrow; Treasurer, Alexander Bailey; Secretary, John R. Thomas.

**CIRCULAR LETTER.**

*DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,—*

Another year has passed and carried with it its thousands, some of whom we expect to meet on the fair plains of unclouded Glory, where the Lamb that is in the midst of the Throne shall feed them and lead them to fountains of living water, and God shall wipe all tears from their faces.

Dear Brethren,—Knowing that this world is not our home—for we are strangers and sojourners, as were our fathers—therefore we seek a Country which the world by nature know nothing about. For this end let us strive to let our light shine while in the world, that men may see our good works, and glorify our Father which is in Heaven. Then will the unthinking world take cognizance of us, and say—“Their Rock is not as our Rock”—“Their God is not as our God,” and with Baalam of old say—“Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his.”

I beseech you therefore Brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God; which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then, and then only, will we feel the rays of God's glory, shining forth from between the cherubims of His presence in our midst. Then a song of exultation will be sung, Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! it is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard—even Aaron's beard—that went down to the skirts

of his garment; as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the Mountains of Zion,—for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forevermore.

Now, the God of Peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work, to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ—to whom be glory for ever and ever—AMEN.

