

MINUTES
OF THE
SEVENTH SESSION
OF THE
Central Baptist Association
OF
NOVA SCOTIA,
HELD AT HANTSPORT,
Saturday, Monday, & Tuesday, June 30, 32, & 33, 1857.
TOGETHER WITH THE
CIRCULAR LETTER, &c.

HALIFAX, N. S.
PRINTED AT THE "CHRISTIAN MESSENGER" OFFICE.
1857.

MINUTES

SEVENTH SESSION

General Hospital Association

NOVA SCOTIA

HELD AT HALIFAX

Wednesday, Monday & Tuesday, June 30, 31, & 32, 1887

ORGANIZED BY THE

REGULAR MEETING, &c.

HALIFAX, N.S.

PRINTED AT THE "COMMERCIAL MESSENGER" OFFICE

1887

CE

Th
suan:
to ord
Aft
ed fro

Ayle
Craig,
Brid
Burt
Chester
John V
Corn
(licenti
Corn
Parker,
Corn
Samuel
Corn
Henry I
Halif
Johnsto
Halif
Baras,
Hamm
Hants
Holmes,

MINUTES

OF THE

CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

HANTSFORT, Saturday, June 30th, 1857.

The Association met with the Hantsport Church, pursuant to adjournment, at 2 o'clock, P. M.—and was called to order by Rev. James Parker, Moderator.

After singing and prayer, a list of Delegates was obtained from the letters as follows:

DELEGATES.

- Aylesford, Upper.*—Rev. Abraham Stronach; Deacons Wm. Creig, Oliver Cogswell, Wm. Graves, Samuel Marshall.
Bridgewater.—Rev. I. J. Skinner; Deacon B. W. C. Manning.
Burton Church.—Rev. Jacob Allan.
Chester.—Rev. T. W. Crawley; Deacon John Bezanson; Bro's. John Webber, Isaac Hume.
Cornwallis, First.—Rev. A. S. Hunt, Brethren Robert Porter, (licentiate), Joshua Ellis, Mahew Beckwith.
Cornwallis Second.—Rev. William Chipman; Deacon Abel Parker, David Lyons, I. Shaw.
Cornwallis, Third.—Rev. James Parker; Deacon Abel Strong, Samuel Sweet, E. Rockwell, S. Parish; Bro. Albert Porter, licen.
Cornwallis Fourth, Long Point.—Rev. D. Pineo; Deacon Henry Hall; Brethren — Brown, Wm. Cook, M. Messenger.
Halifax, 1st.—Rev. D. Freeman; Brethren S. Selden, J. W. Johnston, Jr.
Halifax 2nd, North.—Rev. S. N. Bentley; Brother J. W. Baras.
Hammond's Plains.—Rev. T. H. Porter.
Hantsport.—Rev. Wm. Burton, Rev. S. T. Rand; Brethren E. Holmes, W. Churchill, Edw. Davison, N. T. Harris.

4

Horton, First.—Rev. S. W. DeBlois, Rev. J. M. Cramp, D. D., Rev. J. Chase; Deacon M. Cleaveland; Brethren Edwin Johnson and — Hixon.

Horton, Second.—Deacons J. Eagles, Elisha Scovill, James Pick.

Horton, Third.—Deacons Henry Bishop, Wm. Davison, W. J. Higgins; Brethren James Reid, Henry Strong.

Kempt.—Rev. B. Vaughan; Br'n. Joseph Marsters, Jeremiah Macombe, Joseph Coldwell, James Marsters, M. McAllum.

Lunenburg.—Brethren David Shaw, (licentiate); Gideon Longille, Ezekiel Eizenhaur.

New Cornwall.—Brother John Spidall.

Newport.—Rev. George Dimock, Rev. J. Bancroft; Deacons Oliver Dimock, Thomas Sanford.

Preston.—Brethren General Saunders, George Carvery, William Smith, Wm. Carvery.

Rawdon.—Deacons Francis Parker, Wm. Casey, Wm. Dimock; Brethren C. Dimock, and Thomas Knowles.

Sackville.—Brethren Francis Webber, and C. Hefler.

Windsor.—Deacons Josiah Fuller, Thomas S. Bennett, James Mosher, Daniel Mosher, T. S. Harding.

MESSENGERS:

Western Association.—Rev. W. G. Parker.

Eastern Association.—Rev. D. W. C. Dimock. Also, the following visiting brethren who on being invited by the Association took their seats among the delegates, Rev. A. D. Thomson, Saint Andrews, N. B.; Rev. Hugh Ross, Gaelic Missionary; Rev. James Stevens, Rev. Wm. Hall, of Guysboro'; Rev. J. E. Balcom, Rev. J. M. Harris, of Seneca Association, Ithaca, N. Y.—agent of the American and Foreign Bible Society; Brother Eliphalet Reid, (Licentiate); Brother Thomas Higgins, (Licentiate); Bro. Wm. H. Rogers, agent American Bible Union; Brother John King of Onslow.

The Association proceeded to make choice of the Rev. J. M. Cramp, D. D., Moderator; Rev. S. W. DeBlois, Secretary; Rev. T. W. Crawley, Assistant Secretary; Rev. John Chase, Treasurer;—Revs. George Dimock, J. Stevens, and H. Ross,—were appointed a committee to examine the letters, and Rev. S. T. Rand, S. N. Bentley, and D. Freeman to read them.

The following brethren were appointed a Committee of Nomination:—Revs. John Chase, James Parker, T. H. Porter; Brethren J. W. Barss, and S. Selden.

The Letters from the Churches were then read, from which the statistics and other information were obtained.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	INCREASE.			DECREASE.				TOTAL.
	Baptized.	By Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Removed.	Excluded.	Died.	
1 Aylesford, Upper	12	6	0	1	0	0	0	110
2 Bridgewater,	8	0	0	4	0	0	1	63
3 Burton Church,	3	0	0	7	7	0	3	38
4 Chelsea,	0	0	0	4	0	2	1	75
5 Chester,	0	0	0	3	0	2	2	215
6 Cornwallis, First	65	5	1	1	0	10	3	316
7 Cornwallis, Second	10	3	1	6	0	3	4	329
8 Cornwallis, Third	26	4	1	2	0	4	3	263
9 Cornwallis, 4th, Long Point,	65	10	0	3	5	0	0	95
10 Dartmouth, (no letter),	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34
11 Falmouth, Upper	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	20
12 Halifax, Granville Street,	4	8	3	9	0	0	3	99
13 Halifax, North	42	15	0	14	0	1	2	180
14 Hammond's Plains, First,	32	7	13	1	0	5	1	80
15 do Plains, 2d. (no letter)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45
16 Hantsport,	8	4	1	0	0	3	2	179
17 Horton, First	30	5	3	62	14	6	3	212
18 Horton, Second	5	0	0	3	0	0	1	167
19 Horton, Third (new church)	56	14	0	0	0	0	0	115
20 Indian Harbor, (no letter)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	57
21 Jeddore,	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	81
22 Kempt,	3	1	0	1	3	0	2	75
23 LaHave,	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	31
24 Lawrencetown,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
25 Lunenburg, N. W.	1	1	0	7	6	1	0	92
26 Maitland, (no letter.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
27 New Germany,	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	14
28 New Cornwall,	0	4	1	0	0	0	1	55
29 Newport,	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	29
30 Preston,	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	116
31 Rawdon,	20	0	0	0	0	1	1	54
32 Sackville,	8	3	0	0	0	1	1	89
33 Sherbrooke, East	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	47
34 Sherbrooke, West	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	33
35 St. Margaret's Bay,	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	29
36 Tanook, (no letter)	11	1	2	0	1	0	1	70
37 Waterville, (Hants)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35
38 Windsor.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
	3	4	0	0	0	1	50	
417	111	28	125	43	31	44	3613	

The Third Horton Church, and the Church at Waterville, Hants County—both recently organized, having applied for admission into the Association, and the statements of their representatives being deemed satisfactory;—Rev. William Burton accordingly on behalf of the Waterville Church, and Deacon Henry Bishop on behalf of the third Horton Church,—respectively received the right hand of fellowship from the Moderator, in accordance with the vote of the Association.

Rev. Wm. Burton reported in reference to the Church at Dartmouth, and recommended that it be dropped from the Minutes.

Revs. D. Freeman, and S. Bentley requested its continuance, pledging themselves to examine into its condition, and report at the next meeting of the Association.

Dr. Cramp, Moderator, announced that, from the reports in the letters, it would be seen that four hundred and seventeen members, had been added to the Churches composing this Association the current year, by baptism—and requested Rev. A. D. Thompson to return thanks to Almighty God, for this signal manifestation of his favor.

Voted: That the Meetings of the Association be held at 10 A. M. and 3 P. M.—adjournments at 1 P. M. and 7 P. M.

Voted: That the afternoon of Monday be devoted to Domestic Missions. *Voted:* That the usual Prayer Meeting be held at 6 o'clock, A. M., during the session.

The Committee of Nomination reported. Report amended and adopted as follows:

COMMITTEES:

QUESTIONS IN LETTERS.—Rev. A. Stronach; Deacon Abel Strong
Rev. James Stevens, Rev. John Chase.

TO EXAMINE CIRCULAR LETTER.—Rev. S. N. Bentley; Brethren George Dimock, Wm. Davison.

BIBLE CAUSE.—Rev. James Parker, B. Vaughan, J. Marsters
Harris, A. D. Thompson; Brethren S. Selden, E. Holmes, W. H. Rogers, F. Parker, S. Sweet, James Pick.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.—Rev. J. E. Balcom; Brethren E. Reid, E. Reid, E. Hixon, G. B. Sanford, Wm. Carvery, Wm. Smith.

CHRISTIAN MESSENGER AND RELIGIOUS PUBLICATIONS.—Rev. W. Burton, Rev. D. Dimock, Rev. David Pineo, Rev. Wm. Chipman, Brethren H. Hall, J. Knowles, J. Mosher, J. Bazanson.

W
Da
S.
wel
Ha
H
Hal
Jac
Wm
O
Mess
Th
Albe
Dimo
Park
Ac
On
J. M.
preac
taken

Rev
John i
taken,
ation r
Com
adopted
Comm
We rec
ciation
at the M
Comm
by Breth
Thomson
The C
reported
with the
Adjourn

UNION SOCIETIES.—Brethren R. Porter, Rev. W. G. Parker, J. W. Johnston, Jr., Martin Cleaveland, Edward Rockwell, Edward Davison, Francis Webber, Joseph Marsters, Charles Brown,

EDUCATION.—Rev. Dr. Cramp, James Marsters, T. W. Crawley, S. N. Bentley, A. S. Hunt, J. Chase, S. W. Deblois, Olives Cogswell, Wm. Craig, Charles Heffer, Isaac Hume, J. W. Bars, T. S. Harding.

HOME MISSIONS.—Rev. A. S. Hunt, Rev. H. Ross, Rev. W. Hall, Rev. James Stevens, Rev. S. N. Bentley, Rev. T. H. Porter, Jacob Allen, N. T. Harris, Elisha Scofield, N. McAllum, S. Parish, Wm. Cook, General Saunders, Rev. D. Dimock.

OBSERVANCE OF SABBATH.—Rev. T. Porter, Wm. Graves, M. Messenger, G. Pentz, A. Loekhart, J. W. Johnston, Jr., C. Bacon.

TEMPERANCE.—(*Intoxicating drinks and Tobacco.*)—Brethren Albert Porter, Francis Parker, James Mosher, William Casey, C. Dimock, Rea. W. G. Parker, Rev. W. Hall, J. Eidler, Rev. James Parker, Rev. S. T. Rand.

Adjourned after Prayer.

On the ensuing Sabbath, Dr. Cramp, Rev. W. Hall, Rev. J. M. Harris, and other brethren at Hantsport and vicinity preached to crowded congregations.—Collections were also taken for Home Missions. (See Treasurer's account.)

MONDAY, June 27, 1857, 10 o'clock, A M

Rev. James Stevens preached the Introductory sermon, John iv. 36. The usual collection for Home Missions was taken, (see Treasurer's account). Afterwards the Association resumed its business.

Committee on *Christian Messenger*, reported. Report adopted. (See Appendix A.)

Committee on Questions in *Letters* reported, as follows: We recommend that the next meeting of the Central Association shall be held with the Second Cornwallis Church, at the Meeting House in Berwick. Report adopted.

Committee on Sabbath Schools reported. After remarks by Brethren Mosher, Freeman, Burton, J. M. Harris, Chase, Thomson, Hall, Bentley, Selden, Bancroft—Report adopted.

The Committee appointed to examine Circular Letter, reported. Circular Letter read, and ordered to be printed with the Minutes, as usual. (See Circular Letter).

Adjourned after prayer.

MONDAY, JUNE 23, 3 P. M.

Committee on the Observance of the Sabbath reported. After remarks by Brethren Chase, Porter, Hall, Rand, Thompson, Mosher, Balcom, Burton, James Parker, M. Beckwith, and others, the following Resolution was substituted for the Report:—

Whereas the Christian Sabbath is an institution connected with the right observance of which, are promises and blessings of incalculable importance, and in the disregard of its laws, we incur the just displeasure of its Benificent Founder. *Resolved*, That we affectionately urge all the Churches, and Ministers connected with this Association to aim at a higher and more holy consecration of the Lord's Day to sacred and divine purposes, and that the Ministers of our Churches be requested to preach on the subject at least once a year, and to maintain discipline in their Churches whenever they consider its important precepts violated.

Committee on Domestic Missions reported. (See Appendix E.)

After remarks by Brethren Chase, W. Parker, Rand, Freeman, Dimock, Hunt, Selden, James Parker, J. W. Barss, Hugh Ross,—report adopted.

Voted : That the Association adjourn, in order that the Domestic Missionary Society be formed, in accordance with said report.

Association resumed its business. Rev. David Freeman, was appointed to preach the Introductory sermon next year, and Rev. S. N. Bentley his alternate. Rev. Wm. Chipman was appointed to write the Circular Letter.

Revs. S. N. Bentley, and Wm. Burton, were appointed Delegates to the Eastern Association. To receive £2 10s. each for expenses.

Voted : That any other Brethren who attend the Eastern Association, represent us,

Voted : That Brethren Dr. Cramp, S. W. de Blois, and James Parker, be our Messengers to the Western Association.

Voted : That Brethren J. W. Johnston, Jr., M. Beckwith, J. W. Barss, S. Selden, D. Lyons, be Delegates to the Convention.

Voted : That the first Article of the Constitution be altered so as to read thus:

pe
Th
Mi
the
ren
sum
for
the
Ad

Vol
with
and
p
religion
limits

Resol
that mea
the Sabb
Rev. S. N
to act as
report the

Comm
H). Rep
Associat
(See Appe

"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, &c.

Committee on Bible Cause reported. Report adopted. (See Appendix F.)

Rev. J. M. Harris of Ithaca, N. Y., addressed the Association in behalf of the American and Foreign Bible Society.— Brother W. H. Rogers, in behalf of the Bible Union. Addresses were also made by Brethren W. Chipman, W. Burton and Jas. Parker. Adjourned after prayer.

TUESDAY, June 23rd, 1857

Association met at 11½ A. M.

Report of Committee on Education, adopted. (See Appendix G.)

Remarks were made by Revs. S. N. Bentley, Chase, Thomson, Hall, Ross, and Brother Selden. Voted, that the Minutes be printed at the Christian Messenger Office, with the least possible delay under the superintendence of Brethren Nutting and Selden, eight hundred copies. That the sum of £10. 10s. be allowed for the same. If not called for within a month after publication that they be sent to the several Churches by mail.

Adjourned after prayer.

TUESDAY, June 23rd 3 P. M.

Voted: That the Moderator and Secretary in accordance with the resolution of the Convention be instructed to prepare and present to the Convention an account of the state of religion and the progress of the cause of God within the limits of this Association.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Association it is desirable that measures be adopted for the improvement and extension of the Sabbath School enterprise, and that the Rev. D. Freeman, Rev. S. N. Bentley, and Brethren Mosher and Selden, be requested to act as a Committee for the furtherance of this object, and to report their proceedings at the next meeting of the Association.

Committee on Union Societies reported. (See Appendix H). Report amended and adopted. Association adjourned for Education Society to meet. (See Appendix I).

Association resumed its business.

Resolved, That this Association records its gratitude to God for the blessings attending the labors of our dear brother A. R. R. Crawley, and his fellow laborers, and would invite continued contributions to the Foreign Mission Fund.

Resolved, That this Association recommends to the prayer, consideration, and liberal pecuniary support of the members of our denomination, the Missions to the Acadian French and to the Gaelic population of Cape Breton. The success of the efforts thus made to rescue from the errors of the Roman Catholic Church so many of our fellow men demands our thankfulness.

Resolved, That Delegates from this Association to the Eastern and Western Associations be requested to present for the consideration of those bodies, the Constitution of the Nova Scotia Home Missionary Society, and invite their co-operation.

Committee on Temperance reported. (See Appendix K.)
Report adopted.

Voted: That the present Domestic Missionary Board continue in office until the first of July, at which period they pay over the balance of money in hand to the Treasurer of the new Society.

Voted: That the warmest thanks of this Association be hereby presented to the Baptist Congregation in Hantsport, together with the friends of other denominations for the kind and noble manner in which we have been entertained during our session. The Union Hymn was then sung, after which the Association adjourned to meet with the Second Cornwallis Church at Berwick, on the third Saturday, in June, 1853, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

[Signed]

J. M. CRAMP, Moderator.

STEPHEN W. DEBLOIS, Sec'y.

To
Dr.
T
mer
rest
belic
rest
to n
It
oblig
the v
the in
The
It is a
binati
"in C
whoev
duty o
not be
God is
its nece
less, in
christia
The

CIRCULAR LETTER.

To the Churches composing the Central Nova Scotia Baptist Association.

DEAR BRETHREN,

The year which has now closed has been distinguished by much mercy. In many of the churches an extraordinary blessing has rested on the preaching of the gospel, and great numbers have believed and turned to the Lord. Backsliders, too, have been restored, slumberers aroused, and languishing ones quickened into new life.

It is a fitting season, therefore, to call your attention to the obligations connected with church fellowship, and to point out the various methods by which individual believers may advance the interests of the churches to which they belong.

The Lord Jesus has established Christianity on a social basis. It is at once the religion of the individual heart and of holy combination. The former is necessary to the latter. We must be "in Christ" before we can lawfully belong to the church; and whoever is "in Christ" ought to join the church. Christian duty can be but partially discharged, and christian privilege cannot be half enjoyed, by the solitary believer. When the love of God is shed abroad in the heart the love of the brethren will be its necessary concomitant, and neither can be fully developed unless, in obedience to the Saviour's appointment, his servants form christian societies.

The first outpouring of the Spirit was characterised in this

manner. Those who believed "were together"; they "continued daily with one accord in the temple, and broke bread from house to house"; they were "of one heart and one soul." And as fast as men and women were converted they "assayed," like Saul, "to join themselves to the disciples." There was no neutrality in those days. The sect of the "borderers" had not come into existence.

The letters of the apostles furnish very express teachings on this subject. Christians are instructed to view church fellowship as connected with pleasures, rights, and obligations; the pleasures are to be enjoyed, the rights maintained, and the obligations fulfilled. These three things are inseparably joined together. We cannot experience the pleasures of the spiritual union unless we guard its rights from infringement, and conscientiously discharge our respective duties. In other words, it is with the church as it is with the individual believer; happiness is linked with obedience, and that obedience has respect to all the Lord's commandments. The Saviour has said, "If a man love me, he will keep my words; and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him."

We have obeyed the Master's orders. We have been baptized into "the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." We have become members of the church of God. We have entered into solemn contract with each other. What are its terms and conditions?

In the first place, we are bound to regular attendance at the meetings of the church for the worship of God and for purposes of church fellowship. This is so obvious that it cannot require explanation or enforcement. The society will fall to pieces if this duty be not constantly regarded. Its very existence depends on the punctual performance of the duty. Whenever the church meets, all its members are under obligation to be present, unless hindered by providential circumstances. The healthy state of the soul will appear in the effort to remove hindrances out of the way, that the path to the church may be open and unobstructed. Slight excuses for non-attendance will not be allowed to prevail. He who would encounter a storm in attending to his worldly business will not suffer a shower of rain to detain him from the house of the Lord.

We
tual ec
are men
to be
instruct
But this
minister
the mut
something
in which
members
feel for u
none but
motion an
separated to
the better
tribute in
thought a
materially
strong-hear
own arrang
body fitly j
joint supplie
of every par
itself in love
We may h
of the chur
knowledge of
ments of chri
selves. They
dangers will
away they wi
mal state. H
ren, impose th
most cases over
sent from their
are also imper
the exercise of
pel do not poss

We may remind you, in the second place, brethren, that mutual edification is the grand object of church fellowship. "Ye are members one of another." The ordinances of the gospel are to be regularly observed, and the advantages attendant on the instructions of a faithful ministry should be prized and improved. But this is not all. The blessings that would otherwise follow ministerial fidelity will be withheld or but partially realized if the mutual obligations of christians are neglected. We have something more to do than to fill our places and listen to sermons, in which some seem to think that the "whole duty" of church members is comprised. The minister cannot think for us—nor feel for us—nor act for us. We owe duties to one another which none but ourselves can discharge. Banded together for the promotion and increase of godliness, our several gifts are to be consecrated to the general good. The strong can support the weak, the better informed can instruct the ignorant, and all can contribute in some way to the profit of all. By free interchange of thought and brotherly conference on things divine, we may materially aid each other, and secure the advancement of a strong-hearted piety. This is no human theory. It is Christ's own arrangement. He is the Head, and from Him "the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

We may here make a special reference to the younger members of the churches. In seasons of revival many join us whose knowledge of the truth is very scanty, and in whom the rudiments of christian character are but just beginning to show themselves. They need careful training. Difficulties, doubts, and dangers will beset them. When the first fervours have passed away they will be in imminent peril of getting into a cold, formal state. How shall this be prevented? You must not, brethren, impose the duty exclusively on your Pastors. They are in most cases overtaken already, and compelled to be too long absent from their studies. But be that as it may, *your* exertions are also imperatively required, and you have opportunities for the exercise of christian influence which the ministers of the gospel do not possess; besides which, these objects of solicitude are

ever among you, and always within reach. Watch over them, we entreat you, with anxious care. Despise not the rude conception or the stammering tongue. Affect no surprise at their ignorance. Assist them in their inquiries after truth. Kindly remove stumbling-blocks. Bear with their weakness and mistakes. Imitate Him who did not "break the bruised reed nor quench the shoking flax."

In order to the accomplishment of these purposes, it is desirable that christians should frequently assemble for free conference and prayer. On such occasions the word of God may be jointly examined, interesting questions discussed, cases of conscience considered, and such assistance administered as will tend to enkindle holy emotions and confirm holy habits. Such meetings are indispensable whenever the pastor is necessarily absent on the Lord's day. They are also eminently conducive to the development of gifts for usefulness.

Thirdly, we have to request you to consider the importance of individual and united effort. Some persons greatly misunderstand the design of church union. They seem to think that it is being planted in a nursery ground, to be tended and taken care of. So it is; but that is not all the truth. The church is a school, in which all have something to learn. The church is a workshop, in which all have something to do. The church is an army, in which every soldier has his appropriate duty. The church is likened to a body, in which every member is of use. Spiritual health and prosperity can only be enjoyed when activity is the recognised order. We fear that in most of our churches a large amount of talent is suffered to run to waste. Christians whose energies might be usefully employed, under proper direction, content themselves with indolent occupancy of their places, and as a consequence fall into a state of spiritual lethargy and disease; while the hands of the pastors are enfeebled and their hearts distressed, for want of co-operation.

Brethren, "suffer the word of exhortation" in regard to this matter. Is there not much work yet to be done? Are there not many families in your neighbourhood which are still destitute of the saving knowledge of the truth? Are you not all acquainted with unconverted persons, who may be brought within the range of your religious influence? May not some of them be already

inquir
way o
plans
power
good a
fare if
christia
and all
opportu
There
proper
with the
Savior
that he
faithful,
The supp
paid (an
a duty,)
ing on th
church.
will be ea
bute, hone
prospered
Finally-
tion of ch
ber. If b
maintained
condition
may be tra
portance of
We should
the ardour
converts are
take a high
world's code
The law of
and the law
Let us see
require the

inquiring, and longing for a christian friend, to teach them the way of the Lord more perfectly? Is it not probable that many plans may yet be devised for the developement of the church's power and resources? Ought we not to be as desirous to do good as to get good? And would it not tend to the general welfare if at our church meetings there were not only expressions of christian feeling, but consultations respecting christian effort, and allotments of labour, suited to each one's qualifications and opportunities?

There is one department of christian effort to which it may be proper that we should refer more particularly. It is connected with the right use of property. When we gave ourselves to the Saviour we included in the surrender all we had and all that he should at any time entrust to us. He expects us to be faithful, and he will one day "take account of his servants." The support of the pastor liberally provided for and punctually paid (and liberality, be it remembered, is justice, and punctuality a duty,) together with the expense necessarily incurred in carrying on the worship of God constitute a standing demand in every church. These claims, and all other claims of the cause of God, will be easily met if every Christian man shall resolve to contribute, honestly, conscientiously, and proportionally, "as God has prospered him."

Finally—permit us to offer a remark or two on the preservation of church purity. This, too, is the concern of every member. If brotherly love be unbroken, and holy consistency be maintained, the church will be in a healthy state. A diseased condition results from failure in one or both respects, and that may be traced to previous personal declension. Hence the importance of unremitting effort for the attainment of fervid piety. We should jealously guard against whatever may tend to chill the ardour of the soul, or induce laxity of deportment. When converts are brought into the churches they should be taught to take a high stand from the beginning, utterly renouncing the world's code of morals, and the world's follies and frivolities. The law of love is to prevail among the members of the church, and the law of holiness in regard to "those that are without."

Let us see to it that we watch the commencement of strife, and require the application of our Lord's rule, Matth. 18. 15-17, in

all cases of personal offence. Let us recognise the duty of mutual caution and warning, and account that brother or sister our best friend, who faithfully points out a danger which we may not see, or reproves us for the evil, or the appearance of evil which it may be we have unconsciously indulged. Let us have confidence in one another, giving credit always for pure motives and good intentions. Let all men see and know that we have not only forsaken the vices of the world but its vanities, and that we are walking through it as "strangers and sojourners." Let our conduct as members of the church of Christ comport with the dignity of our calling, so that, wherever we are, and whatever engaged in, we may not forget that we profess to belong to God's "chosen generation"—his "royal priesthood"—his "holy nation"—his "peculiar people." And if there be any "root of bitterness," or disorderly behavior, or unholy deportment, let the rod of discipline be promptly applied, that the evil may be put away, and the righteousness of the christian profession indicated.

All this is demanded of us as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ. His word is the lawbook in the affairs of the church. No other standard can be set up. No other rule can be regarded. We are bound to observe all that it commands, and to abstain from all that it forbids. If, with stern and uncompromising fidelity, we do the Lord's will, and enforce obedience thereto in the churches, we shall enjoy a continued blessing, and many will say, "We will go with you, for we have heard that God is with you." May the Lord "make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

The
tion:
Resol
Christia
and in o
on the
to publi
mend in
our Chur

Your Com
That the
young. "
The earli
God, the m
and error a
The Sabb
adapted to
ever efficient
tion towards
taste for the
of bringing

APPENDIX.

(A)

REPORT ON THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

The Committee beg leave to recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Association continues to recommend the *Christian Messenger*, a religious paper, well and ably conducted, and in our opinion a most valuable source of general information, on the various subjects of Christian Literature, adapted alike to public life and private families. We would earnestly recommend increasing efforts, to give it a wider circulation among all our Churches and congregations.

Wm. BURTON, *Chairman*.

(C)

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools, report:—

That they consider religious training specially needful to the young. "That the soul be without knowledge, it is not good." The earlier the mind is brought to recognize accountability to God, the more strongly it is fortified against the attacks of vice and error and the more susceptible of spiritual influence.

The Sabbath School is acknowledged by all to be admirably adapted to impart religious instruction to the young, and, whenever efficiently conducted, is doing more than any other Institution towards creating and cultivating in the youthful mind a taste for the study of the Word of God, and has been the means of bringing many to the saving knowledge of Christ.

While we are pleased to hear by the letters from the Churches that they are interested in this cause, we fear that in too many instances those who should be personally engaged, are satisfied by knowing that there is a Sabbath School in operation, rather than by doing their duty towards it.

Your Committee would recommend the formation of Bible Classes, as extensively as practicable for the training of teachers, and that all those who teach, if possible, be Christians: Also, that the teachers be not satisfied with a mere formal discharge of their duties, but that they endeavour to impress the youthful mind with the reality of the truths taught.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. E. BALCOM, *Chairman.*

(E)

REPORT ON DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

That in view of the deep importance of this branch of Christian duty, some more effective plan of operation should be adopted than has hitherto been pursued—and learning further that the Eastern Association is anxiously desirous some more systematic and effective plan be secured, and believing that the consolidation of missionary operations in this province is very expedient,—your Committee therefore beg leave to recommend to this Association the formation of a general society under the following constitution:—

CONSTITUTION OF THE NOVA SCOTIA BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

I. This Society shall be called “The Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society.”

II. The object of this Society shall be the preaching of the Gospel throughout Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island, the assistance of feeble Churches, and the planting of new ones.

III. Any person may become a member of this Society by contributing five shillings and upwards annually, to its funds. Any person contributing five pounds at one time shall be a life member. Any person contributing twenty pounds at one time, or whose contributions shall amount to that sum, shall be a Life Director. Every Association or Auxiliary, which contributes annually to this Society, shall be entitled to be represented by one Delegate for every five pounds so contributed; and every Baptist Church contributing annually to the funds of the Society shall also have the privilege of sending a Delegate. Should the funds so contributed exceed five pounds, such Churches shall be entitled to send one Delegate for every five pounds contributed. *Provided:* That no Association, Auxiliary, or Church, shall be entitled to send more than five Delegates at one time.

The Com
That t
affairs m
a pure t
recommen
that obje
Your
is the hea

IV. The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Auditor, who shall be annually appointed by the Society from among its members.

V. The Society shall annually appoint a Board of Management, consisting of twenty-four members, seven of whom shall reside in the place designated from year to year as the location of the Board, or in its neighborhood, and seven shall constitute a quorum. The officers above named shall be *ex officio* members of the Board. The following shall be the duties of the Board, viz.:—To meet from time to time for the despatch of business, due notice of such meeting being given; to appoint Missionaries, and assign their respective spheres of labor; to expend the funds for the objects of the Society, provided that all amounts contributed for any specific purpose shall be faithfully applied, as far as possible, in accordance with the wishes of the donors; to employ agents for the collection of funds, and for the general advancement of the interests of the Society; and to furnish a report of the proceedings of the past year at the Annual meeting.

VI. Every Auxiliary Society which shall agree to commit all its funds to the direction of this Society, shall be entitled to receive Missionary labour in such field as it may designate, to an amount at least equal to its contribution; provided, that such designation be intimated at the time of payment.

VII. The members of Auxiliary Societies shall be members of this Society. Life Directors shall be entitled to attend and vote at meetings of the Board.

VIII. The Annual meeting of the Society shall be held at such time and place as shall be determined upon at a previous Annual meeting. At that meeting, the officers of the Society for the ensuing year shall be appointed, and such other business transacted as the members then present shall deem expedient.

IX. No alteration of this Constitution shall be made without an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present at an Annual meeting.

(F)

REPORT ON THE BIBLE CAUSE.

The Committee on the Bible Cause beg leave to report: That they consider no enterprize in the whole range of human affairs more momentous, than the giving the nations of the earth a pure translation of the Scriptures in their own tongue, and recommend liberal contributions towards the accomplishment of that object.

Your Committee consider that every Church member who is the head of a family should see that a copy of the Scriptures

is owned by each member of his family. They further think that each member of a Christian congregation should have a Bible in his possession.

Your Committee would also advise the members of our churches to encourage the use of their Bibles in the House of God, and by all other means to promote the study of the Sacred Volume.

JAMES PARKER, *Chairman.*

(G)

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

The Committee on Education beg to report that with regard to Horton Academy, there is no necessity for entering into detail, inasmuch as the state of that Institution will be fully brought before the Association at the Annual Meeting of the Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society. They will only express in few words the satisfaction with which they contemplate the growing efficiency of the Academy, and their gratitude for the manifestation of divine favor which has rested on it.

Acadia College, your committee are happy to say, continues to enjoy an encouraging degree of prosperity. Upwards of thirty students have been in attendance during the year. Nearly all of them professors of religion. In the revival which took place in the district in the early part of the year, they and many members of the Academy were greatly blessed. Their progress in the various branches of knowledge, as ascertained at the Quarterly Examinations, has been creditable and satisfactory. Your committee are informed that six or more will probably matriculate at the opening of next Term.

The Theological Institute has been attended by ten students. They were examined, at the close of last Term, in the presence of several ministering brethren, in Theology, Hebrew, and Ecclesiastical History. Their labours in the gospel, in connection with neighbouring churches, have proved very acceptable.

The new room appropriated to the Museum has been fitted up for the reception of the valuable collection of geological and mineral-ogical specimens possessed by the College, and the Philosophical apparatus. The expense has been partly met by private contributions, which it is hoped will ultimately prove adequate to the purpose. Although the Library has received some additions during the past year, it is still very inadequate to the wants of the College. The desirableness of enlarging it is commended to the special consideration of our wealthy brethren.

The Committee cannot but refer with much anxiety to the pecuniary affairs of the College, as set forth in the recent appeal of the Governors to the Denomination. They believe, however, that the Baptists of these Provinces are fully able to make that

liber
vanc
that
spon
Thom
Fer
receiv
mand
purpo
more
The
ment f
of mo
Scotia,
The
matter
and stin
tation v
zeal and

The Com
That t
Church n
operation
Your C
energetica
and recon
tions
The Com
their influ
as possible
All whic

The Annu
ion with the
Prayer by K
The account
received. T
The meeting

liberal provision for the wants of the Institution which the advanced state of knowledge requires; and they earnestly hope that the Churches composing this Association will generously respond to the application about to be made by the Rev. A. D. Thomson, recently appointed Agent of the College.

Female Education, your Committee regret to state, has not received that attention in Nova Scotia which its importance demands. An attempt made last year to form a Society for that purpose failed of success. But private enterprise may perhaps more effectually secure the object.

The Committee trust and believe that a well conducted establishment for the education of Females, comprising the improvements of modern times, and adapted to the social condition of Nova Scotia, will command a remunerative amount of patronage.

The Baptists of this Province have already done well in the matter of education. Other Denominations have been encouraged and stimulated by their success. Will they not sustain the reputation which they have won, and "abound more and more" in zeal and liberality? Respectfully submitted.

J. M. CRAMP, *Chairman.*

(H)

REPORT ON UNION SOCIETIES.

The Committee on Union Societies beg to report:

That they believe the best method in which the Christian Church may collect monies for carrying on and for extending its operations, is that taught in the inspired word:—1 Cor. xvi. 2.

Your Committee regard the Union Societies systematically and energetically worked, as capable of rendering essential service, and recommend that they be requested to continue their operations.

The Committee would also suggest that Pastors should lend their influence, that they may be made as extensive and as efficient as possible.

All which is respectfully submitted.

R. D. PORTER, *Chairman.*

(I)

MEETING OF EDUCATION SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting was held on the 23rd of June, in connexion with the Central Association. The President in the chair. Prayer by Rev. William Hall. Report read by the Secretary. The account also of the Treasurer was read. The Report was received. The officers of the preceeding year were re-appointed. The meeting adjourned.

A. S. HUNT, *Secretary.*

(K)

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The Committee on Temperance (*Intoxicating drinks and Tobacco*) report:—

That notwithstanding the discouraging circumstances connected with the dissemination of Temperance principles, notwithstanding our numerous petitions to the Legislature for the prohibition of the importation and sale of intoxicating liquors, have been in a great measure disregarded; notwithstanding the enemy has in some places stolen a march upon us, and is now doing his deadly work; we would recommend all the advocates for temperance reform to persevere with untiring zeal in their glorious enterprise: And if we cannot obtain a Prohibitory law to aid us in the work, let us endeavor by moral suasion, to induce the inebriate to renounce the poisonous cup, which carries in it the elements of death.

Your Committee strongly recommend to all Churches constituting this Associated Body, (who have not already done so) the formation of Temperance Societies in their own locality and under their control, and that their meetings be held statedly, either monthly or quarterly, as may be thought best; and that thereby the important subject may be more constantly before the public eye, and an influence enlisted to promote its great interests.

And as regards Tobacco, we rejoice to know that the time has now come when we are not afraid to assert that the use of Tobacco is an evil of no ordinary magnitude. Not only is it very injurious to both body and mind, but we believe it to be sinful and therefore, every Christian; and especially the Ministers of the gospel should on all occasions discountenance its use in every form. To substantiate our decision we offer the following considerations:

I. It is a great waste of time. It is said that the daily expenditure for cigars alone, in the city of New York, amounts to 1000 dollars—making £91,250 per annum. And it is estimated that our own denomination in this Province, spends annually between £2,000 and £3,000 for tobacco, is not such a worse than waste of money—a sin?

II. It is a waste of time. We believe that the average of Smokers spend one-twentieth of their precious time in sucking into their mouths the smoke of burning poison.

III. It is setting a bad example, which every Christian should be careful to avoid.

IV. It is a desecration of the body, the temple for the holy Spirit to dwell in, which should be preserved by temperate habits.

But we need not enumerate its evils. It is well known to be a narcotic which drains the purse, tends to indolence, and shortens life: then let us unite our forces in open hostility against our deadly foe. Respectfully submitted.

T. H. PORTER, *Chairman*.

Ayle
Brid
Burt
Chels
Chest
Cornv
do.
do.
do.
Falmo
do.
Halifa
do.
Hamm
Horton
do.
do.
Jeddo
Kemp
Lahave
Lawrenc
Long Poi
Lunenbu
do.
Margaret
New Corn
Newport
Preston,
Rawdon,
Windsor
Sherbrooke
Windsor,
Miss H. Fr
Collected at

* In add
French and

Infirm Mis
June 24, 18
Wolfville.

Account of Monies Received at the Central Association,
JUNE, 1857.

CHURCHES.	French Mission.	Education.	Ministerial Mission.	Home Mission.	Foreign Mission.	Ministers.	Infirm.	TOTAL.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aylesford, Upper,		0 12 6	1 5 0	0 10 0	0 5 0			2 12 6
Bridgewater, -		0 7 0	0 18 3	0 3 0	0 1 6			1 9 9
Burton, -		0 7 6	0 7 6	0 5 0	0 2 6			1 2 6
Chelsea, -			0 10 0					0 10 0
Chester, -								9 19 0
Cornwallis 1st,		2 0 0	4 10 0	2 18 0	0 11 0			13 8 4
do. 2nd,	1 15 7	1 5 8	3 3 7	1 2 0	0 7 0			
do. for Gaelic Miss.			4 19 3		0 9 3			11 13 4
do. 3rd,	3 10 0		7 5 0		0 15 3			11 10 3
Falmouth 1st, -	0 18 1	0 17 6	6 0 3	2 2 6	1 2 6			11 0 7
do. 2nd,		0 5 2	2 5 6	0 7 6	0 6 10			3 5 0
Halifax, Granville St.,	2 14 0	1 10 0	1 10 0	1 0 0	0 10 0			7 4 0
do. North,			2 3 1					2 3 1
Hammond's Plains 1st,		0 10 0	0 10 0		0 10 0			1 10 0
Horton 1st, -		4 0 0	18 12 4	7 10 0	1 10 0			31 12 4
do. 2nd, -		1 0 0	2 0 0	0 15 0	0 5 6			4 0 6
do. 3rd, -		1 0 0	5 0 0	1 0 0	0 10 0			7 10 0
Jeddore, -			1 2 6					1 2 6
Kempt, -			0 17 9	0 17 8				1 15 5
Lahave, -			1 0 0					1 0 0
Lawrencetown, -		0 6 8	0 6 8	0 3 4	0 1 8			1 0 0
Long Point, -			1 0 0					1 0 0
Lunenburg, -			3 0 0		0 8 1			4 8 1
do. for Gaelic Miss.			1 0 0					1 3 1
Margaret's Bay, -		0 5 0	0 11 3	0 5 0	0 1 10			2 0 0
New Cornwall, -		0 13 4	0 13 4	0 10 0	0 3 4			1 10 0
Newport, -		0 10 0	0 10 0	0 7 6	0 2 6			0 15 0
Preston, -		0 5 0	0 5 0	0 3 4	0 1 8			1 6 3
Rawdon, -		0 8 0	0 10 3	0 6 0	0 2 0			3 7 6
Windsor Road, -		1 0 0	0 10 0	1 7 6	0 10 0			1 7 0
Sherbrooke, East, -		0 8 0	0 11 0	0 6 0	0 2 0			8 5 4
Windsor, -			6 0 5	2 4 11				0 10 0
Miss H. Frail, -	0 10 0							10 0 0
Collected at Association,		10 0 0						
	9 7 8	18 19 4	93 9 9	24 5 11	8 19 5	161 1 4		

* In addition to this sum, forty pounds was paid to the Gaelic, French and Canadian Missions during the year.

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

June 24, 1857. Amount at Interest, - - -

£38 8 2

Wolfville.

JOHN CHASE, Treasurer.

Baptist Home Mission Board in acct. with J. CHASE, Treas.

1856.	DR.	
Aug. 16.	Paid C. H. Corey	£2 3 7
" "	S. Selden, printing Articles	1 16 8
Dec. 20.	Rev. R. Walker, 6 weeks, £12 0 0	
	Collected 1 2 0	
		10 18 0
	R. Philp, per Rev. N. Burton	5 0 0
" 31.	Rev. J. Miller, 6 weeks, £12 0 0	
	less Collections 2 10 6	
		9 9 6
"	Rev. D. Freeman, Delegation	3 0 0
1157.		
April 20.	Rev. J. Stevens, 5½ weeks, £11 0 0	
	Expenses 2 12 0	
		13 12 0
	less Collections 7 13 9	
		5 18 3
June 22	Jacob Allan	3 10 0
	Rev. J. Parker, Delegate	3 0 0
	Rev. Mr. Plumb	6 0 0
	Rev. S. N. Bentley	2 10 0
	Rev. W. Burton	2 10 0
	Printing Minutes	10 10 0
	Balance to new account	82 12 11
		£148 18 11
1856.	CR.	
June 30.	By balance per account rendered	£32 5 7
	Overcharge, paid R. Philp	2 0 0
July 7.	1st Cornwallis Church	5 0 0
Oct. 31.	Cash per C. H. Corey	0 6 3
Dec. 31.	Transfer, S. Selden	0 10 0
1857.		
June 22.	Am't. received from Central Association	93 9 9
	" " from do for Gaelic Mission,	5 19 8
	" " from do for French Mission,	9 7 8
		£148 18 11
By bal. payable to the Treasurer of the New Board.		£82 12 11

JOHN CHASE Treasurer.

Wolfville.

Baptist

1856

June 18

"

"

"

"

1857

July 2

3

21

Sep. 27

1856.

June 18

30

July 1

1857.

June 20 Pa

Ba

July 1 By ba

1857

June 20

By

June 23 Byam

Wolfville.

Baptist Ministerial Fund in account with J. CHASE, Treas.

1856.

Dr.

June 18	Paid Theo. Professor	
"	D. M. Welton	£40 0 0
"	C. H. Corey	5 0 0
"	Robert Philp	10 0 0
"	E. M. Sanders	5 0 0
	Balance to new account	5 0 0
		54 17 4

£119 17 4

Cr.

1857		
July 2	By balance in hand	
3	Amount from Chelsea Church	£22 11 6
21	" Eastern Association	0 6 8
Sep. 27	" Western Association	2 14 9
1856.		32 4 3
June 18	" DeWolfe Fund	20 0 0
30	" Central Association	25 17 8
July 1	" Western Association	15 2 6
	" 1st Cornwallis Church	1 0 0
		£119 17 4

£119 17 4

Dr.

1857.		
June 20	Paid C. H. Corey	£10 0 0
	E. M. Saunders	10 0 0
	Theo. Professor	56 5 0
	Balance in hands of Treasurer	2 0 8
		£78 5 8

£78 5 8

Cr.

July 1	By balance of old account	
1857		£54 17 4
June 20	Amount from DeWolfe Fund	23 8 4
		£78 5 8

£78 5 8

Balance brought down

June 23	By amount received from Central Association	£2 0 8
		18 19 4
		£21 0 0

£21 0 0

JOHN CHASE, Treasurer.

Wolfville.

Ministers in the Central Association.

Name.	Residence.	Date of Ordination.	Place of Ordination.
Rev. S. N. Bentley, A. M.	Halifax,	1851.	Liverpool, N.S.
" J. Bancroft.	Newport,	Mar. 8, 1849.	Rawdon.
" Wm. Burton.	Hantsport,		West Brook.
" J. M. Cramp, D. D.	Wolfville,	May 7, 1818.	London.
" Wm. Chipman.	Pleasant Valley,		
" J. Chase.	Wolfville,	1835.	Billtown.
" T. W. Crawley, A. M.	Chester,	May 13, 1856.	Chester.
" Geo. Dimock.	Newport,		Newport.
" S. W. deBlois, A. M.	Wolfville,	Feb. 26, 1854.	Chester,
" D. Freeman, A. M.	Halifax,	Aug. 1855.	Halifax.
" A. S. Hunt, A. M.	Cornwallis,	1845.	Dartmouth.
" Richard McLearn.	Dartmouth,		
" T. H. Porter.	Sackville,		
" D. Pineo.	Cornwallis, I/g. Pt.	Dec. 24, 1844.	
" James Parker.	do. Billtown.		
" A. W. Sawyer, A. M.	Wolfville.	1854.	Lawrence, U.S.
" I. J. Skinner, A. B.	Bridgewater,	Sep. 19, 1855.	Port Medway.
" A. Stronach.	Upper Aylesford.		
" J. Stevens.	Horton.		
" B. Taylor.	New Germany.		
" B. Vaughan.	Kempt.		Wolfville.
" R. Walker.		1856.	Cornwallis.

CONSTITUTION OF THE CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA.

ART. 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 preceeding year shall call for a vote for a Moderator, which vote shall be given by ballot; no brother shall be chosen Moderator two years in succession.—It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside in all the transactions, nominate Committees unless ordered by the Association, and maintain due order. A Secretary shall be chosen whose duty it shall be to record the transactions of the Association, and to furnish a correct copy of the same for the Press.

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 its additions and diminutions within the last year, and generally of whatsoever relates to its peace and prosperity.

ART. 6th.—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. 7th.—When any Church shall neglect to make communications 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. 8th.—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. 9th.—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. 10th.—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.

RULE 2nd.—Ministers and Members of Churches not Delegates invited to a seat with us, may speak on all subjects under consideration, but vote on none.

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 in 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.