

1878

MINUTES

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

AFRICAN **B**BAPTIST **A**SSOCIATION

OF

NOVA SCOTIA,

HELD WITH THE

Digby Joggings Church, Annapolis County,

*Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday,
Sept. 28th, 29th, 30th, October 1st, and 2nd, 1878.*

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HALIFAX, N. S.

1878.

MINUTES.

Minutes of the Proceedings of the African Baptist Association of Nova Scotia, held with the Digby Joggings Church, County of Annapolis, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, September 28th, 29th, 30th, October 1st and 2nd, 1878.

Saturday, Sept. 28th, 1878.

Met at 3 o'clock, P. M., with the Digby Joggings Church, in the 11th Session of the African Baptist Association of Nova Scotia. The Rev. Randolph Langford, read Psalm cxviii Prayer was offered The brethren spoke returning thanks to the Lord for sparing them to meet again in yearly conference and also of their hopes and their determination to follow the Lord. Truly we had a good time. Adjourned.

Sunday, Sept. 29th.

Met at 10 o'clock, A. M. It was arranged to have the preaching in the open field the Church being two small. The Rev. Nathaniel Drayton preached from St. Luke xiv. 23, followed by Rev. R. Langford. Adjourned.

Met at 3 o'clock, P. M. Preaching again in the open air by the Rev. G. R. Neale from Isaiah lxiii. 9, followed by the Bishop. Adjourned.

Met at 7 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by Rev. John D. Eaton in the Church from Rev. v. 17, followed by the Bishop. Exhortations by more of the brethren. Truly we had a good and happy time. Adjourned.

Monday, Sept. 30th.

Met at 9 o'clock, A. M. Rev. G. R. Neale read Psalm ix. Prayer was offered by Deacon Charles Pomp, the Council was called to order by the Bishop.

It was moved by Rev. G. R. Neale, and seconded by Brother George Barton, that Rev. R. Langford be Moderator for this year.

It was moved by the Bishop, seconded by Rev. G. R. Neale, that Rev. John Eaton, and Rev. Nathaniel Drayton take seats in Council with us.

It was voted that Brother Timothy Pleasant be assistant Secretary for this year, Rev. G. R. Neale was re-elected Secretary.

Moved by Rev. G. R. Neale, and seconded by James Smith, that a list of the delegates be made out which was done as follows :

DELEGATES.

First Preston, North—Rev. G. R. Neal.

Second Preston, South—No letter.

Dartmouth—The Bishop.

Campbell Road—The Bishop.

Inglewood—Rev. R. Langford.

Granville Ferry—Deacon Charles Pomp.

Bear River—P. J. Hawkins.

Digby Joggins—Charles Francis.

Weymouth Falls—Deacon Thomas Langford.

Yarmouth, Greenville—Rev. H. Francis.

Adjourned.

Met at 11 o'clock, A. M. The Rev. Randolph Langford preached the Introductory Sermon from 1 Sam xvii. 37; David said moreover the Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine, followed by Rev. J. D. Eaton. Adjourned.

Met at 3 o'clock, P. M. Moderator called the Council to order and read Psalm xi., and offered prayer. The Minutes of the Session were read and approved.

It was voted that the Minutes of last year be read, they were accordingly read, and a debate took place concerning the churches not making up the five dollars a year for the Bishop to visit them. Many of the brethren took part.

It was then voted that all the churches be strictly enforced to make up the sum of three dollars and give it to the treasurer.

It was voted that any member refusing or neglecting to contribute shall be dealt with.

It was voted that Brother James Smith be the central treasurer all the rest to send the money to him and he to write to the Bishop.

It was moved by Rev. G. R. Neale, and seconded by Brother James Smith, that a Committee be appointed to examine the Letters from the various Churches and to read them.

It was voted Rev. G. R. Neale, Brethren T. Pleasant, P. J. Hawkins, and Thomas Langford be the Committee. Adjourned.

Met at 7 o'clock, P. M., at the Hill Grove Church, to which our white Brethren had given us an invitation. They made us welcome. Preaching by Rev. John D. Eaton from Joshua vi. 5. Exhortations by all the ministering Brethren. Adjourned.

Tuesday, October 1st.

Met at 9 o'clock, A. M., the Moderator called the Council to order and read Psalm xxiv. Prayer was offered by Rev. N. Drayton. The Minutes of last Session read and approved.

It was voted that Rev. George R. Neale and the Bishop superintend the printing of the Minutes.

It was voted that Rev. G. R. Neale write the Circular Letter, the Committee reported they were ready to read the Letters, the Letters was read and were satisfactory. Adjourned.

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Met at 3 o'clock, P. M., the Moderator called the Council to order and read Solomon Song viii. Prayer was offered by Rev. H. Frances, the Minutes of last Session read and approved. A request was brought in to the Council by the Rev. R. Langford from the Rev. N. Drayton that he wished to unite and join our Association.

It was voted to hear him on Wednesday. A request was brought in from Granville Mountain Church for the Association to be held with them next year.

It was voted that the Association be held with the Granville Mountain Church next year, on the last Saturday in September, 1879. Adjourned.

Met at 7 o'clock, P. M., at the Hill Grove Church. Preaching by Rev. N. Drayton from Joshua i. 5. Exhortations by all the ministering brethren. We were glad and happy to have the Rev. Brother Parker with us, and take part in speaking with us. We felt the Lord was in our midst. Adjourned.

Wednesday, October 2nd.

Met at 9 o'clock, A. M., the Moderator called the Council to order and read the first Psalm. Prayer was offered by the Rev. J. D. Eaton. The Minutes of last Session were read and approved.

It was voted that Rev. Henry Francis preached the Introductory Sermon next year, 1879.

It was voted that the Bishop be his alternate.

It was voted to hear Brother N. Drayton. Brother Drayton came in and related his Christian experience and his hope in the Lord, and of his baptism in South Carolina, and told of his traveling and of uniting with the Wesleyan Methodist Episcopal Church at Camden, S. C. there being no Baptist Church there, and of his ordination, handing to us his certificate telling of his desire to join our body, the African Baptist Association of Nova Scotia. He then went out and there was short discussion. He was afterwards called in and the Bishop asked him his belief of the Bible, of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost, and of baptism and many more questions which he answered satisfactorily.

It was voted to receive him. He was received. The Bishop gave the charge to the minister, and Rev. R. Langford, the charge to the Churches as evangelist Baptist minister. The right hand of fellowship was given by all the ministering Brethren. Adjourned.

Met at 3 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by the Rev. H. Francis from Luke xix. 5, followed by more of the Brethren. Then the ministers and deacons and delegates formed into a ring, hand in hand, the Bishop delivered an affecting address, the Doxology was sung. Prayer by the Moderator. It was

Resolved.—That a vote of thanks be tendered to the friends of Digby Joggins for their hospitality and kindness to the delegates and strangers.

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be tendered to the white friends in Digby and in the Joggin for their kindness and for their attention and good behaviour. We hope the Lord will bless them.

The benediction pronounced by Rev. R. Langford, the brethren separated to meet with the Granville Mountain Church on the last Saturday in September, 1879.

Wednesday, met at 7 o'clock, P. M., at the Hill Grove Church. Preaching by the Rev. Nathaniel Drayton from Mark xvi. 16. Exhortations by all the ministering brethren.

Thursday, Oct 3rd, the Bishop and Rev. G. R. Neale went on to Weymouth Falls. Friday night, October 4th, met at 7 o'clock, with the Weymouth Falls Church. Preaching by the Bishop from Romans viii. 35. Exhortation by Rev. G. Neale and more of the brethren.

Sunday, Oct. 6th, met at halfpast 10 o'clock, A. M. Preaching by Rev. G. R. Neale from Hebrews iv. 9. Exhortation by the Bishop. Met at 3 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by the Rev. Henry Frances from Psalm xxvii. 13. Exhortation by Rev. Mr. Langford. Met at 7 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by the Bishop from Daniel iii. 17. Exhortation by Rev. G. R. Neale and more of the brethren.

Thursday, Oct. 10th, went on to Yarmouth. Sunday, October 13th. Met at Greenville Church. 3 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by Rev. G. R. Neale from 1 John iii. 1, followed by Rev. E. Jackson. Met at 7 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by Rev. G. R. Neale from Rev. i. 7. Exhortations by Rev. N. Gough, Rev. E. Jackson returned back to Weymouth, and on Sunday, Oct 20, met three times with the Weymouth Falls Church. Left on Tuesday, came to Digby, met with the Digby Joggings Church at 7 o'clock, preaching by the Bishop. Then the ordination of brother John Butler took place, who was set apart for a deacon for the Digby Joggings Church. Wednesday Oct. 23rd, left, came to Generals Bridge, and on Thursday and Friday nights, at 7 o'clock, we preached to them, left on Saturday. Came to Inglewood had conference on Saturday night. On Sunday, Oct. 27th, preached three times to them. On Monday Oct. 28th, came on to Paradise, Rev. G. R. Neale left for Halifax. The Bishop left on Thursday Oct. 31st and arrived safe.

Circular Letter.

OF THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,
CONVENED AT DIGBY JOGGINGS CHURCH THIS YEAR OF OUR LORD, 1878,
SEPTEMBER 28th.

Dearly Beloved Brethren,—

God, our Heavenly Father, has spared our lives and permitted us to meet again this year at our annual Association, and we had a great deal to be thankful to the Lord for. We were glad and happy to meet some of our brethren whom we had never seen before—our Brother John D. Eaton, from St John's N. B., and our Brother Nathaniel Drayton, from Camden, S. C., and to hear them both tell and speak the same good old story of the Cross.

We felt glad and happy to have so many of our white friends with us, and for their good behaviour, and we feel thankful to them for opening their church at Hillsgrove, Digby Joggings, and inviting us in and making us welcome. We hope and pray that the Lord will bless them for their kindness and hospitality, and we hope and pray that the Lord will bless their church.

We also felt glad to have two more ordained young men in the vineyard to proclaim the good news of salvation. We rejoiced for the progress of the Temperance Cause. We felt rejoiced that in all of our meetings we never saw an intoxicated man, or smelt it. To God the Lord be all the glory.

My brethren, last year I tried to recommend you to perseverance, I shall now try to recommend you to patience and submission. Let us hear the words of Jesus Christ, "It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord," "It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth," "He sitteth alone and keepeth silence because he hath borne it him: he putteth his mouth in the dust if so be there may be hope for the Lord will not cast off for ever," Lam. iii. 26, 29, 31. "Cast not away your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward; for ye have need of patience, that after ye have done the will of God ye might receive the promise, for yet a little while and he that shall come will come and will not tarry," Hebrews vi. 12. "That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises," Hebrews vi. 12. "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations, knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience," "But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing," "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation, for when he is tried he shall receive

the crown of life which the Lord hath promised to them that love him." James i. 2, 4, 12. "We glory in tribulation, knowing that tribulation worketh patience and patience experience, and experience hope," Romans v. 3, 4. "The hope of the righteous shall be gladness," Prov. x. 28. "Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that ye may be exalted in due time," 1 Peter v. 6. "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and he shall lift you up," James iv. 10. "Be patient, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord," "Behold the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruits of the earth and hath long patience for it until he receive the early and the latter rain," "Be also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh," "Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy," James v. 7, 8, 11.

And now, my dear brethren, let us take from the Psalmist the 1105th:—

"Sweet is the thought, the promise sweet,
That friends, long severed friends, shall meet;
That kindred souls on earth disjoined
Shall meet, from earthly dross refined,
Their mortal cares and sorrows o'er,
And mingle hearts to part no more.
But we have brighter hopes, we know;
Short is this pilgrimage of woe.
We know that our Redeemer lives,
We trust the promises he gives,
And yart in hope to meet above
Where all is joy and all is love.

The grace of the Lord be with you all. Amen.

REV. GEORGE R. NEALE,

Secretary.

STATISTICS.

State of the Churches—Increase and Decrease.

CHURCHES.	Baptized.	Received.	Excluded.	Removed.	Died.	TOTAL.
Preston 1st, North		6	14		1	53
Preston 2nd, South			28			38
Dartmouth						45
Campbell Road						4
Inglewood	7					19
Granville Ferry			2			54
Bear River					1	22
Digby Joggins	2					16
Weymouth Falls	2	1		1	1	33
Yarmouth	1					28
Total	12	7	44	1	3	312

Churches, Ministers, Licentiates, Deacons, and Counsellors.

FIRST PRESTON, NORTH.—Rev. George R. Neale, Pastor; Deacons David Brown, Thomas Crawley, John Dilver; Counsellors Peter Williams, John Thompson, Junr.

SECOND PRESTON, SOUTH.—The Bishop; Deacons and Counsellors, George Thomas, James Johnston, William Sparks, John Sparks, Peter Williams.

DARTMOUTH.—The Bishop; Deacons Adam Green, Thomas Tynes, Jacob Flint; Counsellors Richard Tynes, John Tynes, George Tynes, James Bauld.

CAMPBELL ROAD.—The Bishop; Rev. Edward Dixon, Evangelist.

GRANVILLE FERRY.—The Bishop; Deacons Isaac Cuff, Charles Pomp, George Pomp.

IGLEWOOD.—The Bishop; Deacons Isaac Middleton, Edward Dixon.

BEAR RIVER.—The Bishop; Deacons Isaac Johnston, Peter J. Hawkins, F. Ford.

DIGBY JOGGINS.—The Bishop; Deacons John Butler; Counsellors Joseph Frances, Charles Frances.

WEYMOUTH FALLS.—The Bishop; Rev. Henry Frances; Rev. Randolph Langford, Evangelist; Deacons James Langford, James Smith, Thomas Langford; Counsellor Edward Langford.

YARMOUTH.—The Bishop; Rev. James E. Jackson, Rev. Nathaniel Gough, Evangelist; Deacons Silas Chandler, Anthony Berry, James Thompson; George Dise, Licentiate.

Second Preston,—Rev. Benson Smithers, Bishop.

First Preston,—Rev. George R. Neale, Pastor.

Weymouth Falls,—Rev. Henry Frances, Evangelist.

Weymouth Falls,—Rev. Randolph Langford, Evangelist.

Yarmouth,—Rev. James Edward Jackson, Evangelist.

Yarmouth,—Rev. Nathaniel Gough, Evangelist.

Campbell Road,—Rev. Edward Dixon, Evangelist, travelling; Rev. Nathaniel Drayton, Evangelist.

Licentiates,—Preston, Charles Rone; Yarmouth, George Dise; Dartmouth, James Bowden.