

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
FREE CHRISTIAN BAPTISTS

OF
NOVA-SCOTIA,

HELD AT BARRINGTON, SHELBURNE COUNTY,

September 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th, 1864.

YARMOUTH, N. S.:
R. HUNTINGTON, PRINTER:
1864.

TW

GE

F

H

Sept

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
FREE CHRISTIAN BAPTISTS

OF
NOVA-SCOTIA,

HELD AT BARRINGTON, SHELBURNE COUNTY,

September 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th, 1864.

YARMOUTH, N. S.:
R. HUNTINGTON, PRINTER.
1864.

A
286 M
Af M

At 2
convene
Intro
interest
well as
from wh
of God.

At 7
Elder
heard w
On S
Barring
Brunsw
At 3 o
after w
ing seas
evening

On M
this me
Church
send for
On M
to leav
Tuesda
commen
were o
of the

On a
Mission
but bel
subscri
some f
send h
ready
prosper

DEVOTIONAL.

BARRINGTON, September 17th, 1864.

At 2 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, the Social Conference was convened. Meeting opened in the usual order.

Introductory remarks by Elder Knowles. This meeting was very interesting, because of the good part taken by the ministering, as well as many of the lay brethren and sisters. It was evident from what was said, that all desired to see the revival of the work of God.

At 7 o'clock in the evening a large congregation assembled. Elder Parsons, from New Brunswick, preached. The word was heard with marked attention, and great solemnity prevailed.

On Sunday morning, at half-past 10 o'clock, preaching at the Barrington Island Meeting-house, by Elder Downey, from New Brunswick: at the same hour, at Bear Point, by Elder Parsons. At 3 o'clock, at Island Meeting-house, Elder Noble preached; after which a communion season was enjoyed. This was a refreshing season to the dear people of the Lord. At 7 o'clock in the evening, Elder Parsons preached to a large congregation.

On Monday, at 2 o'clock, Reporting Meeting was convened. At this meeting much interest was manifested that the wants of the Churches should be met, and that the Lord of the harvest would send forth faithful laborers into his vineyard.

On Monday evening Elder Parsons preached again, as he expected to leave on Tuesday. Elder Downey remained, and preached on Tuesday evening. The interest which had been awakened at the commencement of these meetings increased, insomuch that many were converted and baptised, to the great joy and encouragement of the Church.

MISSIONARY.

On account of the Revival interest enjoyed, we did not have our Missionary Meeting on Tuesday evening, as we thought of doing; but before the religious services took up a collection, and solicited subscriptions, that we might replenish our fund. So there are some funds on hand, and quite an amount subscribed that we may send help among the churches. Several of our good brethren were ready to show by their liberality, the deep interest they feel in our prosperity as a denomination:

CONFERENCE BUSINESS.

Met on Monday, Sept. 19th, at 9 o'clock, A. M., pursuant to appointment, for the transaction of business. Opened by singing and prayer. Deacon Joseph Durkee, Assistant Moderator, in the chair. Secretary present.

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR.

Moderator — Deacon Joseph Durkee.
Assistant Moderator — Elder Charles Knowles.
Secretary — Jacob I. Porter.
Assistant Secretary — Elder W. C. Weston.
Treasurer — Elder W. C. Weston.

COMMITTEES.

Resolved, That Brothers A. Robbins, G. W. Perry, and Elder J. T. Parsons, be a Committee to bear decision of Conference to F. W. Baptist Committee. [For decision of Conference see Appendix A.]

Resolved, That Elder Knowles and Parsons, and Brother G. W. Perry, be a Committee to report on the first subject referred by the last Quarterly Conference.

Resolved, That Elders Noble, Downey, and West, be a Committee to report on the two last subjects referred by the last Quarterly meeting.

Resolved, That G. W. Perry, J. W. Sims, and Elder E. Sullivan, be a Committee to report on letters.

Resolved, That Elders Downey, Noble, and Knowles, be a Committee to report on Missions.

Resolved, That Elders Parsons, Stokes, and West, be a Committee to report on Sabbath Schools.

Resolved, That J. W. Sims, C. Cushing, and Elder A. Swim, be a Committee to report on Temperance.

Resolved, That Deacon Solomon Kendrick, and Elders Knowles and Downey, be a Committee on the Incorporation of the Conference.

The Conference adjourned until Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock.

TUESDAY, Sept. 20th.

Conference met pursuant to appointment. Opened in usual order. Officers present.

Resolved, That the report of Committee on the supporting of disaffected Ministers be received. (See Appendix B.)

Resolved, That the report of Committee on Licentiates, or Brother Hodges' case, be received. (See Appendix C.)

Reso.
 dix D.)
 Reso.
 Appent
 Reso
 limited
 sion wi
 Reso
 Report
 Reso
 Leonar
 Report
 Reso
 Church
 Reso
 Church
 Reso
 Church
 Reso
 Port N
 Reso
 Yearly
 Reso
 ference
 Reso
 Reso
 and W
 Reso
 ringto
 Confe
 Reso

Wh
 of the
 unity
 an ex
 That v
 ently,
 The
 the F.
 You
 sayin
 nation

Resolved, That the report on Missions be received. (See Appendix D.)

Resolved, That the report on Temperance be received. (See Appendix E.)

Resolved, That that this Conference retain its power to give a limited or unlimited licence, by dropping the subject under discussion without further action.

Resolved, That the report on Incorporation be received. (See Report marked F.)

Resolved, That Elder Knowles, T. W. Wilson, G. W. Perry, Leonard Weston, and Joseph Durkee, be a Committee to carry out Report marked F.

Resolved, That the First Quarterly Meeting be held with the Church at Lower Argyle.

Resolved, That the Second Quarterly Meeting be held with the Church at Session Hill, on the 3rd Saturday in February, 1865.

Resolved, That the Third Quarterly Meeting be held with the Church at Kemptville, on the 3d Saturday in June, 1865.

Resolved, That the Yearly Meeting be held with the Church at Port Medway, on the 3d Saturday in September, 1865.

Resolved, That Elder Sullivan be Delegate to the New Brunswick Yearly Conference, and that Jacob I. Porter be his substitute.

Resolved, That the sum of twenty dollars be paid from the Conference fund to defray expenses of Delegates.

Resolved, That the Second Kemptville Church be received.

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to prepare the Minutes, and W. C. Weston to get them printed.

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be given to the friends in Barington for the kind manner in which they have entertained this Conference.

Resolved, That we adjourn until the next Quarterly Meeting.

APPENDIX.

[A.]

Whereas, a Committee has been appointed by the Quarterly Meeting of the F. W. Baptists, to confer with this Conference in reference to unity of action; and *whereas* one of the members of that Committee is an excluded member from this Conference: *Therefore Resolved*, That while we are disposed to confer with them, we cannot do so consistently, unless that person be excluded from that committee.

The following is the report of Committee after having waited upon the F. W. B. Committee:—

Your Committee report that the above Committee decline Conference, saying, as Elder Oram is a member in good standing in their denomination, they cannot dismiss him from the Committee.

(Signed by the Committee.)

[B.]

Your Committee appointed to report on disaffected members, beg leave to submit the following :—We think that the members of Churches ought to submit to the action of General Conference, and not recognise as preachers these whom the Conference has excluded from their communion, yet because it is so easy for people to conscientiously differ, on these things, we recommend that Churches use great care and prudence, and strive to keep united, and use every proper means to win back to their fellowship any who shall have wandered from what we here recommend.

[Signed by the Committee.]

[C.]

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the case of Brother Hodges, submit the following report :—

We find by enquiring that he is not a member of any Church of this denomination, and are therefore unprepared to recommend any action in his case, further than that he be requested to unite with some one of our Churches, preparatory to application for licence from this Conference.

[Signed by the Committee.]

[D.]

Your Committee on Home and Foreign Missions submit the following :

We find nothing has been done during the last year in the Home Mission work. Your Committee are deeply impressed that never in the history of our denomination was it more necessary for this Conference to turn its attention to this important sphere of Christian labor than at the present time.

Your Committee are also deeply impressed with the importance of us as a denomination identifying ourselves with the Foreign Mission enterprise. True, we cannot do much : our numbers are small, and our means limited ; yet if we can do no more, we can at least exhibit our sympathy for and co-operation with those noble devoted servants of God, who with faith and practice identical with our own, have unfurled the Gospel banner amid the darkness and superstition of our own India.

We would therefore recommend our brethren to co-operate with and contribute to the funds of the New Brunswick Free Christian Baptist Auxiliary Foreign Mission Society, which co-operates with our Free Will Baptist brethren who have already established a Mission in Orissa. And we furthermore recommend that contributions be solicited in this Conference to aid in sending the Gospel to those benighted heathen who claim, with us, the protection of England's flag, and acknowledge the authority of the same Sovereign.

[Signed.]

CHARLES KNOWLES,
J. NOBLE,
W. DOWNEY.

[E.]

Your Committee on Temperance beg to report, that we rejoice to know that as a denomination, we stand pledged to the principles of Total Abstinence from the use of all intoxicating beverages ; and that our ministers are all advocates of the Temperance principles. It is unnecessary for your Committee at this stage in the history of Temperance to recommend its utility or excellence. We believe it is rarely that any

Church can prosper to any extent, or fulfil its mission of labor in the world, without the extension of Temperance. And in order for Temperance to prosper, it requires the help of God's ministers. We recommend that the ministers, and Church members, of our denomination, unitedly continue, and even extend their efforts to stay this torrent of iniquity.

[Signed by the Committee.]

[F.]

Your Committee appointed to report on the Incorporation of the F. C. Baptist denomination, submit the following :

We recommend that this Conference appoint a Committee to prepare rules of Incorporation, and ascertain the probable expense, and present the same to the next General Conference for its action.

[Signed by the Committee.]

[G.]

The Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to submit the following report :

As far as your Committee have been able to learn from the Statistics of the Churches, the number of their Scholars in connection with them at present, is about twelve hundred. Some may perhaps think this a large number—but your Committee are of opinion, that should we as Elders, and Church members, make all that earnest effort we should in the establishment of Schools where they do not exist, as well as adding to the numbers of those already established, our record for the current year may double that of the past.

Your Committee are of the opinion that Sabbath Schools properly conducted are a nursery of the Church, and many of the brightest ornaments in our Churches received their first religious impressions from instructions received in Sabbath School. We therefore cannot be too earnest, in urging upon parents the importance of using their parental authority in bringing their children to the Sabbath School, that in their youthful days they may be indoctrinated with the principles of our holy Christianity, and receive that instruction that will develop their loyalty to the interests of our denomination.

And in the acknowledged dearth of spiritual laborers in the vineyard of God, would especially recommend that prayer be made to Almighty God, that from the members of our Sabbath Schools, he would raise up and qualify such as would be efficient standard bearers in his cause, in bearing the glad tidings of salvation to the destitute portions of our Province.

Respectfully submitted.

J. T. PARSONS.
HENRY A. STOKES.
S. K. WEST.

STATISTICS OF THE DENOMINATION.

| CHURCHES. | Dismissed. | ADDED | | Died. | Total Number. | Sabbath Schools | No. of Scholars |
|---|------------|-------------|------------|-------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | By Baptism. | By Letter. | | | | |
| Barrington, | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 207 | 3 | 170 |
| Shag Harbor, | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 40 | 1 | 69 |
| Strawberry Point and Pubnico, | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 105 | 1 | 50 |
| First Kemptville, | 6 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 169 | 3 | 115 |
| Second Kemptville, | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| Chebogue, | 3 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 255 | 5 | 210 |
| Cranberry Head, | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 133 | 1 | 60 |
| Session Hill, | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Beaver River and Cedar Lake, | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 163 | 2 | 120 |
| Hall's Harbor, | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 140 | 1 | 50 |
| Scott's Bay and North Mountain, | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 49 | 1 | 40 |
| Harmony and Brookfield, | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 98 | 1 | 60 |
| Port Medway, | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 140 | 2 | 65 |
| Port Mouton, | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 1 | 35 |
| Cape Island, | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 84 | 0 | 0 |
| Lake George and Deerfield, | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 32 | 0 | 0 |
| Mount Denson, | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 0 |
| Wood's Harbor, | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 1 | 30 |
| Second Argyle, | 1 | 19 | 0 | 3 | 76 | 1 | 81 |
| Tusket, | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 53 | 1 | 50 |
| Canning, | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 112 | 0 | 0 |
| | 16 | 39 | 4 | 21 | 1992 | 25 | 1205 |

STATISTICS OF THE F. C. BAPTIST DENOMINATION IN
NEW BRUNSWICK.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Total Number of Communicants, | 8,700 |
| " " Churches, | 88 |
| " " Ordained Ministers, | 30 |
| " " Licentiates, | 7 |
| " " Sabbath Schools, | 56 |
| No. of Members added during the year, | 550 |