

**MINUTES**

OF THE

*Present to read  
Certificate and  
Return to  
Cameron*

**NEW-BRUNSWICK**

**BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,**

HELD AT

**FREDERICTON, N. B.**

JULY 9th and 10th,

**1832.**



**SAINT JOHN :**

PRINTED BY DONALD A. CAMERON, AT THE OFFICE OF THE WEEKLY  
OBSERVER, WEST SIDE OF THE MARKET-SQUARE.

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**1832.**

## MINUTES, &c.

FREDERICTON, MONDAY, JULY 9, 1832.

1st. Introductory Sermon, by Elder WILLIAM SEARS, from Luke xxiv. 30,—“ And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands and blessed them.” After which a Collection was taken for Domestic Missionary purposes, amounting to £9 : 5 : 4½.

2d. The Messengers having taken their seats, chose

Elder JOHN MASTERS, *Moderator.*

„ THOMAS MAGEE, *Clerk.*

Brother WILLIAM H. NEEDHAM, *Assistant Clerk.*

3d. Voted, That Elder DAVID HARRIS, Messenger from the Nova Scotia Association, take his seat with us.

4th. Read the Letters from the several Churches.

### ACCOUNT OF THE CHURCHES.

N. B.—In the following Statement, the names of Ordained Ministers are in SMALL CAPITALS ; Licenced Preachers in *Italics* ; those marked thus (\*) were not present. Churches which have no stated Pastor, are distinguished by a —. From Churches thus marked (†) no information was received this Session.

ACCOU

CHURCH

Fredericton,...

Canning, .....

Saint John,....

Prince William

1st Wakefield,...

Norton,.....

Nashwalk, .....

Salisbury,.....

Sackville, .....

Miramichi,.....

† Madamkisway

Douglas,.....

† Oromocto,....

Saint George,...

Hillsborough, ...

2d Wakefield, ...

Woodstock,.....

New Canaan,...

† Hopewell, ....

Cardigan, .....

Springfield,.....

† Saint Martins,

1st Hampton, ...

2d Hampton,.....

† Wickham,.....

Sussex Vale,.....

Dorchester,.....

Rushagornish, ...

† Buctouche, ....

† Monckton,.....

† Lullow,.....

Blissfield, }

Miramichi, }

King's Clear,.....

Saint David's,....

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ACCOUNT OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS.	ADDED.			Discharged by letters of commendation.	Died.	Total number of Members.		
		Restored.	By Letters.	By Baptism.					
Frederickton,.....	Jarvis Ring, Asa Coy, John T. Smith, William S. Estey, William H. Needham,	1	1		2	4	57		
Canning,.....	JOHN MASTERS, John Curry, Jarvis Estabrooks, Reuben Hoben,			2			158		
Saint John,.....	Thomas Pettingell, Henry Blakslee, John Hartt,	1	7		2	4	2	140	
Prince William,....	LOTRIP HAMMOND, Thomas Saunders,		26		1	1		81	
1st Wakefield,.....								28	
Norton,.....	SAMUEL BANCROFT,	2	3		13			36	
Nashwalk,.....	Hezekiah Estabrooks, Fletcher,		1	5	2	4		19	
Salisbury,.....	JOSEPH CRANDALL, ROBERT DAVIES,				4		2	75	
Sackville,.....	Joseph Reid, Frederick Sears,	15	2				1	85	
Miramichi,.....	JAMES TOWZER, Stephen Peabody,	5	7	4	21	4		63	
† Madamkisway,...								23	
Douglas,.....	John Yerna,			8	5		1	18	
† Oromocto,.....								27	
Saint George,.....	Robinson, Seely, Hawkins,	1	40		1	1		71	
Hillsborough,.....	Patrick Duffey,		3					75	
2d Wakefield,.....								12	
Woodstock,.....								15	
New Canaan,.....	John Reid,	2						52	
† Hopewell,.....								70	
Cardigan,.....	David Michael, Thomas Davies, William Davies,	2	11		1			50	
Springfield,.....	DAVID CRANDALL,		1			1		44	
† Saint Martins,...								119	
1st Hampton,.....	James Bleakney, John M'Creedy, DAVID CRANDALL,		1					37	
2d Hampton,.....		1				1		40	
† Wickham,.....								30	
Sussex Vale,.....	TITUS STONE,	1	2					27	
Dorchester,.....	WILLIAM SEARS,		8					34	
Rushagornish,.....	David Phillips,		1		1			23	
† Buctouche,.....								28	
† Monckton,.....								59	
† Lullov,.....								22	
Blissfield, } Miramichi, }	THOMAS MAGEE, Nathaniel Moore,	13	6		3			39	
King's Clear,.....	Aaron Hartt, Jonathan Smith, William Estey,		1	2		1		16	
Saint David's,.....	Robinson,	7	10		1			16	
		26	42	132	23	46	19	16	1692

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5th. Resolved, that the Saint David's Church be received into the Association.

Adjourned one hour.

Met according to adjournment.

6th. Voted, That the Baptist Missionary Board for the present year, stand as before.

7th. The Circular Letter read and accepted.

8th. Voted, That the Correspondence with the Sister Associations in the States, be continued by Minutes and not by Messengers.

9th. Voted, That Elder DAVID CRANDALL be our Messenger to Sister Association in Nova Scotia, and that the sum of £3 be given to defray his expenses, and in case of failure that he appoint a substitute.

10th. Voted, That the Association be held at Saint George's, in Magaguadavic, on the third Monday after the 20th June, 1833.

11th. Voted, That Elder SAMUEL BANCROFT preach the Introductory Sermon next year. In case of failure, Elder JOHN MASTERS.

12th. Voted, That Elder THOMAS MAGEE write the Circular, and Elder JAMES TOWZER the Corresponding Letter.

13th. Voted, That Brother PETTINGELL superintend the printing of the Minutes, and that 600 copies be printed.

14th. Voted, That a day of Fasting and Prayer be recommended to be observed on the 1st day of January, 1833; as also the Monthly Missionary Prayer Meetings.

15th. Voted, That the business of printing the Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick Baptist Missionary Magazine, in Halifax, Nova-Scotia, be referred to the Baptist Missionary Board in St. John, New-Brunswick.

16th. Voted, That our General Meeting be held at the Baptist Meeting House, in Northesk, Miramichi, the 3d Saturday after the 20th September next.

17th. Recommended that the Minutes be sent to the different Collectors.

18th. After Prayer by the Moderator, adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

•••••  
Tuesday, July 10.

Prayer Meeting at 6 o'clock this morning.

Preaching at 10 o'clock by Elder DAVID HARRIS, from 2 Cor. iii. chap. 12th verse.

19th. Voted, That the thanks of this Association be given to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, for his kindness shewn to the Baptist Missionaries in Burmah, and that Brother WILLIAM H. NEEDHAM and Brother JOHN T. SMITH, be appointed to prepare and present an Address to His Excellency, relative thereto.

20th. Corresponding Letter read and accepted.

21st. Voted, That the cordial thanks of this Association be

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given to the Church of Christ and benevolent friends in Fredericton, for their hospitality and kindness during the present Session.

22d. That the Association gratefully acknowledge the exertions of the Fredericton, Rushigornish, and Waterborough Female Mite Society.

23d. Voted, That the Covenant and Articles of the Baptist Church, be printed in the Minutes of this Association for the present year, 1832.

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### CIRCULAR LETTER.

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THE NEW-BRUNSWICK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, convened at Fredericton, to the Churches they represent, send Christian Salutation.

DEARLY BELOVED IN THE LORD :

Our merciful Saviour, having preserved our lives, and permitted us to meet again, we address you in our annual Epistle, and be assured we feel moved to this duty from an awful apprehension of our high responsibility to God, and to you; and so much the more as we see the Day approaching; being aware, that all things here must be dissolved, and the eternal states of all men unalterably fixed.

But who among us is sufficient for those things? Our blessed Lord has said, "without me ye can do nothing;" yet through him we can do all things. We therefore in his all-worthy and most blessed name address you on the subject of practical Religion, or being in actual readiness to meet the Lord at his coming.

And first we must say, that our hearts have been much grieved to see into what a cold and scattered state many of our Churches have fallen. Doubtless there must be some powerful cause to produce such sad and shameful effects. We are bound to believe, from the Lord's word, that, when professing Christians live in the commission of known sin, or in the neglect of God's commands, that they are either deceived characters, or they are grieving the holy spirit of God. Our Lord saith, "If any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him." We think that the words of the Apostle may be in season at this time: 2 Cor. xiii. 5, "Examine yourselves whether you be in the faith, &c."

We think, Brethren, that in order to our progress in the Divine life, a knowledge of the doctrines of Grace is essentially necessary; and as "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God," it is important that the Gospel should be preached fully in all the Churches. For the want of this, we have reason to fear, that, as satan entered into Eden, so, the same subtle old serpent has cast a flood of errors out of his mouth to the great annoyance of the poor Church of Christ in this province. We have to regret, that in some parts, almost every thing wild and enthusiastic is be-

lieved and extolled as the great power of God, and alas! many who professed to be friends and advocates for the doctrines of the Cross, are giving awful proofs that the secrets of the Lord were not revealed to them, neither have they seen his covenant. These calamities call loudly on every true child of God to be on the alert, and lift up their prayers to God for the remnant that is left; and first, let all who believe the truth be careful to maintain a constant and prayerful reading of the Lord's Word. Surely this is the safest and best means to establish the mind in the truth. Let every member in all our Churches feel themselves personally concerned. Let all gifted Brethren be careful to improve their gifts, and give encouragement to young men, members of the Churches, who have acceptable gifts, and are sound in the Faith.

We are aware that there is danger in looking too high, and despising the day of small things. Some think that none can profit the Churches but those who are tall in science, having attained to the arts of the learned. Others are, perhaps, too fond of remaining in ignorance, and not anxious to enjoy the means of information. These things ought not to be. Let the learned be encouraged, and their instructions be listened to with due attention, and their doctrine brought to the Law and the Testimony. And let not the unlearned, who are humble and pious, desiring to receive, as well as to give instruction, be overlooked, or treated with neglect, lest their hearts be grieved, and the Lord be displeased. Some of us can look back to the days, when a few unlettered men, unsupported by funds collected for religious purposes; unprotected by human power, travelled through winter's cold and summer's heat, through these Provinces, for the good of souls; the glory of God being their object. Their countenances bore a pale and solemn aspect: their business was to preach Jesus Christ and him crucified: their prayers were solemn appeals to Heaven for the justness of their cause, and the sincerity of their hearts: their sermons were solemn addresses to the consciences of perishing sinners, giving a Scriptural description of the character of fallen man, shewing the purity of the Divine Law, and how amply honoured and fulfilled by the Lord Jesus Christ: their ministry the Lord was pleased to own and bless abundantly, and not a few of the seals of their ministry yet remain to bless their memory, but many are fallen asleep in Jesus. We might name an Alline, a Chipman, a Manning, an Easterbrooks, an Ennis, and an Ainsley, who are all men to be wondered at; and though they are dead, they yet live in the grateful remembrance of many of the Lord's children. Under the ministry of these dear servants of God and others, our Churches were organized and established; our Articles of Faith framed, and our Associations annually held, to the great joy of our hearts. For a number of years we have walked together in love and union, and the Churches have been edified and built up in their most holy Faith. But as our blessed Lord hath informed us, "In the world ye shall have tribulation," so it hath come to pass. The enemy hath come in like a flood, and an out-

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ery is raised against the doctrine of Predestination, and man's free will is exalted to the Throne, in the place of the Omnipotent Spirit, who only can prepare the heart to receive the ingrafted Word of Life. Thus many who were weak and unstable are turned aside, and have forsaken the good old way. Yet we trust, dear Brethren, that a goodly number still remain steadfast in the faith of the Gospel, and retain an holy reverence for the precious mystery of godliness, believing that the doctrine of Predestination is too solemn to be jeered at, and too solid to be removed by artful and designing men. "Behold ye despisers and wonder!" Most sublimely does the Apostle Paul handle this part of the blessed Gospel. Ephes. i. chap. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved." Here observe, "Having Predestinated,"—there is the act—"The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,"—there is the agent—"Predestinated us,"—there are the subjects—"By our Lord Jesus Christ,"—there is the medium through which the act passes from the agent to the subject—"To the adoption of children,"—there is the relationship formed—"Who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings,"—there is the inheritance conferred—"In heavenly places,"—there is our residence—"In Christ,"—there is our centre and perfection—"To the praise of the glory of his grace,"—there is the end—"We have redemption through his blood,"—there is the means—"According to the good pleasure of his will,"—there is the cause. The Apostle goes on and says, "Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence." It appears, God is the author; Holy men the subjects; Christ the centre and medium; His will the cause; and glory the end. This is the doctrine that is represented as coming from hell and leading men there. O what shall be done unto thee thou false tongue! sharp arrows of the Almighty shall pierce thee with coals of juniper. Beloved, what shall we say to these things? They are worthy of our best affections, our obedience, and our confidence; they are worthy suffering the reproaches of an ungodly world for, and the loss of all things here. Having these, we have all that is worth possessing.

But let none be deceived, supposing that an outward belief of any part of Gospel truth will fit them for the service of God on earth, or the glory of heaven. We must prove our knowledge of Divine truth by our love to its author; and the evidences of true love to God is in loving all parts of truth, and proving by our walk and conversation that we do not extol, or dwell upon one part of it, and pass over and neglect another. We think the clearest evidence of a true faith in Christ is in the manifestation of our know-

ledge of the revealed will of God in his Word, which calls on all his children to come out from the world, (that is, by giving up all for Christ,) renouncing our own righteousness, and forsaking our sins, watching unto prayer, and giving all diligence to make known the excellency of the Christian Religion.

Whatever our circumstances in life may be, strive to have the glory of God always the first object in our view; then, whatever we do, we shall have an eye to his glory. We shall find it to his glory to maintain a steady course of Prayer and reading the Holy Scriptures. We shall feel pleasure in recommending Religion to our families by giving them to understand by our firmness and constant love to Christ, that he is in our hearts, that his love dwells in us, and that we do esteem him as the chiefest among ten thousand and altogether lovely. Our love to the Bible will appear when we peruse and practice it daily, and the dignity of the Christian Religion shine so conspicuously, that it will astonish infidels and cause even devils to flee before us. If the Word of Life be truly in our hearts, we shall have such discoveries by faith, of the pardon of our sins by the blood of Christ, and of justification by his righteousness, that it will be our highest delight to do his commandments. Our love to the saints will be greatly increased, and our hearts and hands will be opened. We shall endeavour to have the Churches supplied with faithful Ministers, and try to increase the means for doing good to our poor perishing fellow-men by promoting Bible and Missionary Societies; Tract and Temperance Societies—all which are admirably calculated to do good.

And now, Dear Brethren, as we must close our Epistle, let us remember that the coming of the Lord draws nigh. Great and marvellous things have already taken place, and greater may be expected. The angel has flown in the midst of Heaven, and the everlasting Gospel is publishing to all nations. In some parts the Lord is doing wonders in the conversion of sinners. In some of the Churches of the saints, there is a great increase of numbers and much holy zeal and love. The Lord's people are becoming a mighty Host, and in their testimonies are terrible as an army with banners. In other places awful judgments have taken place, which have swept thousands upon thousands suddenly into eternity. The Cholera Morbus, that angel of death, armed with invincible power, proves his commission to be from on high. The elements of death, wind, fire, and water, with the quaking of the earth, are all responding to the predictions of Him whose words are more firm than the pillars of heaven.

Dear Brethren, seeing we look for such things to visit us in this highly favoured land, as well as other parts of the earth, what manner of persons ought we to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for, and hastening to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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## CORRESPONDING LETTER.

THE NEW-BRUNSWICK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, to Sister Associations, with whom they Correspond.

## BELOVED BRETHREN :

The revolving year has presented another opportunity for the Ministers and Messengers of the Churches to assemble, and hold their Anniversary Meeting. The season has been interesting and agreeable. We desire to inform you of the repeated tokens of Divine favour that the blessed God has been pleased to confer upon us. He, the Almighty, whose we are, hath bestowed upon us peace and harmony, those inestimable blessings that none but God can give; and still we anticipate better days. The spirit of Religious feeling appears to be raised, and God's dear Children, some of them at least, appear to be burthen bearers, and God declares that when Zion travails she shall bring forth.

Your Messenger from the sister Province, has gladdened our hearts; your Ministers afford us great pleasure; and Brethren, we esteem your Correspondence as a favour from God. Our present Session has been very pleasant, and we pray God that he may bless you and us and all the Zion of God with everlasting blessings. AMEN.

## MONEY COLLECTED AT THE ASSOCIATION.

Public Collection, .....	£9	6	4½	
Minute Money from the Church at				
Fredericton, .....	£0	10	0	
Rushigornish, .....	0	7	10	
Douglas, St. ....	0	4	0	
Blissfield, .....	0	7	6	
Salisbury, .....	0	7	6	
Miramichi, .....	0	10	0	
New Canaan, .....	0	13	6	
Moncton, .....	0	5	0	
Hillsborough, .....	0	5	0	
Dorchester, .....	0	5	0	
Sackville, .....	0	10	0	
Sussex Vale, .....	0	11	0	
1st Hampton, .....	1	8	6	
Waterborough, .....	0	6	0	
Prince William, .....	1	0	0	
Cardigan, .....	0	15	0	
From J. Read, .....	0	6	6	
St. John, .....	1	11	1	
		10	2	11
From the Fredericton Mite Society, .....	2	0	0	
... Waterborough ditto, .....	1	10	0	
... Rushigornish ditto, .....	1	5	0	
... Springfield Domestic Missionary Society, .....	1	13	0	
... Hillsborough ditto ditto, .....	0	12	6	
Collected	£26	6	9½	
at Fredericton for printing the Articles with the Minutes,	2	0	0	
	£28	8	9½	

The Board recommend the adoption of the following short Rules, for the purpose of more efficiently carrying into effect their contemplated measures, in addition to the Annual Sermon and Collection recommended in the attached Circular.

## RULES

FOR THE

### BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Society will be composed of those persons who shall place their names hereto as Subscribers, and contribute a penny a week or upwards, which shall be paid to the Treasurer Monthly or Quarterly, on any of the evenings of the Monthly Missionary Prayer Meetings.

The Money, when collected, to be forwarded to the Secretary of the Missionary Board at St. John, half-yearly, and to be by them disposed of, in payment of one or more established travelling Missionaries throughout the Province, agreeably to the annexed Circular.

The Society shall choose a Treasurer, who shall also be Secretary, and two Collectors, one a Brother, the other a Sister of the Church, whose duty it shall be to collect all dues unpaid at the Monthly or Quarterly Meetings, and pay the same over to the Treasurer.

*To the several BAPTIST CHURCHES throughout the Province :*

DEAR BRETHREN :

The Missionary Board have been guilty of great remissness for the past year or two, in attending to the important subject of presenting the glad tidings of the Gospel to the destitute parts of the Province, and having the remote Churches to be visited ; but they are fully aware that true repentance can only be genuine in so far as it causes a change of conduct, and therefore they have determined on adopting a vigorous and systematic plan of Missionary exertions for the future, which, by the blessing of God, and the cordial, earnest, and persevering co-operation of the Churches in the Province, they hope to be productive of permanent good to the Saviour's kingdom and the souls of men.

It is their intention to procure and keep a Baptist Missionary of as suitable qualifications for so general and diversified a work as can be obtained, whose duty it shall be constantly to travel throughout all parts of the Province, visiting principally the poorest, the most destitute, and the most remote places, where the light of the blessed Gospel of Peace has never shone, as well as where it has but faintly glimmered,—where Churches have been formed and remain without a Pastor and scattered or divided, to point them to the great Shepherd of the whole flock, and gather them to his fold and heal their divisions,—and not to omit calling on the most flourishing Churches, and endeavoring by soundness in doctrine, holiness of life, unwearied exertion in preaching and

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exhorting, and the meekness and gentleness of Christ, to recommend himself to the consciences and the hearts of all, and to preserve among them all the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. The Board look forward with joy and satisfaction to the prospect held out to them by Elder JOHN MARSTERS, at present of the Canning Church, that he may find it to be his duty to accept of their invitation to become their regular Missionary, and he has promised to give an answer in two months from the present time. In case he cannot come forward to this most important work, the Board will endeavour to procure a suitable and constant supply, and should the Churches be liberal in their exertions, perhaps they may have it in their power to keep two employed in this way. From the Quarterly Reports of our Missionary, remitted to the Board, information will be communicated of the result of his travels, and an annual Report of his labours forwarded to the Association, together with a Statement of the Funds, &c. &c. The Board have heard with deep regret that the neglect of the education, the morals, and the habits of the children, even of members of the Baptist Churches, has been so general as to excite surprise and sorrow wherever it has been observed, and such as to occasion the most lasting injury to that cause which they consider the cause of God; while, therefore, they trust that for the future the Young may be brought up in "the nurture and admonition of the Lord," they will not fail to counsel their Missionary to "reprove, rebuke, and warn" with regard to this most essential matter.

As funds must be obtained equivalent to the wants of the Board, and as the supply of Missionaries must ever be in proportion to the amount of these, the Board seriously and earnestly call on all the Churches, including the Congregations, to form themselves into Domestic Missionary Societies, or have subscriptions taken up, or adopt such other method as may be thought most advisable to procure and send to the Board in St. John, the necessary permanent fund for these purposes, and the Church in that City will not be found backward in aiding this good cause. The several Pastors of the Churches are also respectfully and affectionately entreated to lend their aid in preaching an Annual Missionary Sermon, and in all proper ways countenancing this plan of the Board. Aware that a considerable sum might be raised in the Province, from the Baptist Churches, and persons friendly to the denomination, by small subscriptions, say from a penny a week upwards, the Board most strongly urge upon the Churches the necessity of such systematic exertions, as without it the present plan cannot be supported. And may the God of Peace give it success for the accomplishment of his own righteous and adorable purpose.

We are, Dear Brethren,

Yours in the Lord.

Signed on behalf of the Board,

JAMES HOLMAN, *Secretary.*

P. S.—All Communications to be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. JAMES HOLMAN, St. John, N. B.

**A DECLARATION**  
OF THE  
**FAITH, PRACTICE, AND COVENANT**  
OF THE  
**CHURCHES OF CHRIST,**  
COMPOSING THE  
**NEW-BRUNSWICK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.**

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*Article 1.* We believe that there is but one only living and true God, who is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth: Deut. 6, 4; John 4, 24; Psal. 90, 2; Jer. 10, 10; Isa. 6, 3; Exod. 34, 6, 7.

2. That there are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, who are but one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory: 1 John 5, 7; Acts 5, 3, 4.

3. That the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, are the Word of God, in which he hath given us our only rule of faith and practice: Acts 20, 32; 2 Tim. 3, 15—17.

4. That God, who is infinite in knowledge, and perfectly views all things from the beginning to the end, hath foreordained that whatsoever comes to pass, either by his order or permission, shall work for the eternal glory of his great name: Acts 15, 18; Rom. 9, 17—23; Acts 2, 23; Psal. 76, 10.

5. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that in them are; and he upholds and governs all things by the word of his power: Exod. 20, 11; Heb. 1, 3; Dan. 4, 35.

6. That God made man in his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness; and made with him a covenant of life, the condition of which was perfect obedience: Gen. 1, 26, 27; Gen. 2, 16, 17; Gal. 3, 10.

7. Man being left to himself, soon fell from that happy and glorious estate, in which he was made, by eating the forbidden fruit, by which he brought himself and all his posterity into a state of death: Gen. 3, 6; Rom. 5, 12—19.

8. Man being thus dead, his help and recovery are wholly in and from God: Hos. 13, 9; Eph. 2, 8; John 6, 44.

9. We believe that God the Father hath chosen a great multitude of the human family, which no man can number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, and gave them to his Son in the covenant of his grace, that he might redeem them from

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all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works, which is the only foundation of salvation for lost and helpless sinners. And thereby the ministers of the Lord are encouraged to preach the gospel to every rational creature, because, the purposes of God, and the infinite value of Christ's atonement, secures the increase and establishment of Christ's kingdom, so, that the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever: Rom. 8, 29, 30; Eph. 1, 4, 5; John 6, 37—39; Rev. 7, 9; Tit. 2, 14; Mark, 15, 16; 2 Tim. 2, 19; Mat. 13, 33; Rev. 11, 15.

10. Jesus, the eternal Son of God, hath come, and taken on him our nature, and in that nature hath yielded a perfect obedience to the law which we have transgressed, and suffered death for our sins, and hath brought in a complete and everlasting righteousness, and hath risen and ascended to the right hand of God, and ever liveth to make intercession for us: Heb. 10, 5—10; Dan. 9, 24; Heb. 7, 25.

11. The Holy Ghost, and he only can and doth make particular application of the benefits of the atonement made by Christ to every elect soul: John 3, 5—8; John 16, 7—15.

12. The Spirit of God applies the benefits of this atonement, by convincing us of our sinful, lost, and miserable condition; and then discovering the glorious Saviour, as he is exhibited in the gospel, in his suitableness and sufficiency, and enabling us to embrace him with our whole souls, by which he is made unto us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption: John 16, 8; 1 Cor. 1, 30.

13. The life of religion consists in the knowledge of God, and conformity with him in the inward man, which necessarily produceth an external conformity to his commands, and brings us to live in obedience to his holy will in all our ways, and in our several places and relations: John 17, 3; Mat. 23, 26; Eph. 2, 10.

14. True believers being united to Jesus Christ, shall never perish, but live and reign with him for ever. They have communion with God, and by his Spirit they are united with each other, and have communion one with another, whereby they are made partakers of each other's gifts and graces: John 3, 15, 16, and 10, 28; Rom. 8, 17; Rev. 3, 21; 1 John 1, 3; Rom. 1, 11; Phil. 1, 7.

15. We believe that the first day of the week, commonly called the Lord's day, is the Christian Sabbath: Mat. 28, 1—6; John 20, 19; Rev. 1, 10; Heb. 4, 8—10.

16. That God hath appointed the ordinance of civil government for defending the poor as well as the rich, in their civil rights, without infringing upon the consciences of any, or attempting to dictate or govern in the worship of the eternal God, which belongs only to Jesus Christ the great law-giver and head of his Church: Rom. 13, 1—4; 1 Pet. 2, 13—15; Luke 22, 25, 26; Isa. 33, 20—22; Eph. 1, 22.

17. We believe that there will be a general resurrection both of the just and unjust, and that God hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness, by Jesus Christ, and will

reward every man according to his works; when the wicked shall be sent away into everlasting punishment, and the righteous received into life eternal: John 5, 28, 29; Rom. 2, 16; Mat. 16, 27, and 25, 46.

## PART THE SECOND.

### *Concerning a visible Church of Christ, and its Discipline.*

1. We believe that a particular visible Church of Christ, is a number of saints and people, by mutual acquaintance and communion, voluntarily and understandingly covenanting and embodying together, for upholding and promoting the worship and service of God, to show forth his declarative glory, and for their own edification: 1 Pet. 2, 5; 1 Cor. 1, 2; Acts 2, 42, 47.

2. That Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Christ, to be continued until his second coming, and that the former is requisite to the latter, that is to say, that those are to be admitted into the communion of the church, and to partake of all its ordinances and privileges, who upon profession of their faith have been baptized by immersion, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Mat. 28, 19, 20; 1 Cor. 11, 23—26; Acts 2, 41, 42, and 9, 18—26, and 8, 12, 36, 39; Mat. 3, 6—16; Rom. 6, 4; Col. 2, 12; John 3, 23; John 1, 9, 10; Acts 8, 36—39.

3. Since none but true believers can rightly partake of the ordinances, therefore the door of the church should be carefully kept against all such who cannot give scriptural evidence of their union with Christ: 1 Cor. 11, 27, 29; Mat. 7, 6, 15—20; Ezek. 44, 7, 9; Isai. 26, 2; 1 Pet. 2, 5.

4. A church thus gathered, hath power to choose, and by elders to ordain those officers that Christ hath appointed in his church, viz. Bishops or elders, and deacons: and also to depose such officers who walk contrary to the rules of the gospel; and to discipline their members, though in some such cases it may be convenient and profitable to request the advice of neighbouring churches of Christ: Acts 1, 21—26, and 6, 3—6; Num. 8, 10; Mat. 18, 15—18; Acts 15.

5. A bishop or elder hath no more power to decide any case or controversy in the church, than any private brother; yet they, having superior gifts for teaching and ruling, ought to exercise and improve the same for the benefit of the church; and the church ought to be subjected to the gifts bestowed on the minister from the Lord, while he is rightly administering in his place, whose place it is to lead in the actings of the church, and to administer the ordinances of the gospel, and devote himself to the work of teaching, warning, rebuking and exhorting the people publicly, and from house to house: Mat. 20, 25—29; 1 Peter 5, 3; Mat. 28, 19, 20; Acts 20, 20, 28, 31.

6. The deacon's office or work is to take care of the poor, and to have the oversight of the temporal affairs of the church, and to minister at the Lord's table: Acts 6, 1—5; 1 Tim. 3, 8—14.

7. Every believer is commanded to be faithful to improve every

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gift and talent which is bestowed on him ; in order to which, there ought to be such a gospel freedom that the church may know where every particular gift is, that it may be improved in its proper place, and to its right end, viz. the glory of God and the good of his people ; and the church ought to be subject to such improvements : 1 Peter 4, 10, 11, and 5, 5 ; 1 Tim. 4, 14 ; 1 Cor. 12 and 14 chapters.

8. That there is a mutual obligation between minister and people. One to administer in things religious and spiritual, according to the gifts God has given. The church to communicate of their temporal or worldly substance for his comfort and support, and that by an equality, as nearly as can be ascertained, that one may not be burthened and another eased. But this is not to be effected by force or compulsion, or by the sword of civil power ; but is to be a free-will offering agreeably to the scripture of truth. And every member deficient in this matter ought to be disciplined by gospel rule, as for any other breach of covenant, or neglect of performing christian duty : 2 Cor. 8, 12—14 ; Luke 10, 7 ; Rom. 15, 27 ; 1 Cor. 9.

#### THE COVENANT.

WE do now, in the presence of the great, all-seeing and most glorious God, and before angels and men, give up ourselves to the Lord JEHOVAH, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, and acknowledge him this day to be our God, our Father, our Saviour, and our Leader, and receive him as our portion for ever.

We give up ourselves to the Lord Jesus Christ, and engage to adhere to him as the head of his people in the covenant of grace, and rely on him as our Prophet, Priest, and King, to bring us to eternal blessedness.

We acknowledge our everlasting and indispensable obligations to glorify God, by living a holy, righteous, and godly life, in this present world, in all our several places and relations ; and we engage, by the assistance of the Divine Spirit, to improve our time, strength, talents, and advantages to his glory and the good of our fellow-men ; promising, by divine help, to walk in our houses as becomes those professing godliness, and to maintain the worship of God in our families, and to train up those under our care in the ways of religion and virtue.

We also give up ourselves to one another in covenant, promising to conduct ourselves towards each other as brethren in Christ, watching over one another in the love of God, (*reproving, rebuking, and admonishing one another for good as occasion may require ; and if we at any time know that any of the members of the church are guilty of immoral conduct, that we will not expose them by tattling it to others, but will faithfully labour with them, according to the direction of our Lord : Mat. 18, 15—17, that sin may be put away from among us, and that iniquity may not be harboured in the church*) and to watch not only against the most gross evils, but also against all foolish talking and jesting, which are not convenient ; vain disputing about words and things, which gender strife ;

disregarding promises, and not fulfilling engagements; tattling and backbiting, spending time idly at taverns, or elsewhere, and vain and unnecessary conversation on the Lord's day, and whatsoever else that is contrary to sound doctrine, according to the glorious gospel of Christ; promising to hold communion together in the worship of God, and in the ordinances and discipline of his church, according as we are or shall be guided by the Spirit of God in his word; expecting that he will yet further and more gloriously open his word and the mysteries of his kingdom: applying to the blood of the everlasting covenant for the pardon of our many errors, and praying the Lord would prepare and strengthen us for every good work to do his will, working in us that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. AMEN.

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