

*W Chipman*

**MINUT**

OF THE

**NEW-BRUNSWICK**

**BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,**

HELD AT

**NORTON,**

*On the 5th and 6th of July,*

**1830.**



**SAINT JOHN:**

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1830.

MINUTES, &c.

NORTON, MONDAY, JULY 5, 1830.

1st. Introductory Sermon, by Elder JOSEPH CRANDALL, from Rev. ii. chap. part of verse 17th,—“ He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.” After which a Collection was taken for Domestic Missionary purposes, amounting to £12.

2d. The Messengers having taken their seats, chose

Elder F. W. MILES, Moderator.
Brother THOMAS H. BLACK, Clerk.

3d. Read the Letters from the several Churches and Mite Societies.

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.

ACCOUNT OF

CHURCHES.

Fredericton, ...

Canning, .....

St. 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, .

ACCOUNT OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS.	Added.		Dismissed by letters of excommunication	Excluded	Died	Total Number of Members.
		Restored	By Baptism By Letters				
Fredericton, ...	{ ROBERT DAVIS, Wm. S. Esty, Jarvis Ring, Charles Shaw, } .....		326		5		63
Canning, .....	{ JOHN MARSTERS, Wm. Alerton, John Estabrooks, } .. 1		32		3		154
St. John, .....	{ F. W. MILES, Thos. Pettingell, Jacob Sherwood, Joshua Bunting, J. M. Wilmot, } ..		317		2	3	142
Prince William, †Hst Wakefield,	{ Thos. Saunders, Simon Esty, } .....		7		2	2	64 28
Norton, .....	{ FRANCIS PICKLE, Enoch Groom, Jesse Raymond, David Jones, } .. 1		4		1	1	40
†Nashwalk, ....	_____						21
Salisbury, .....	{ JOSEPH CRANDALL, H. Steves, Robt. Smith, Ralph Colpitt, } ..		4		11		83
Sackville, .....	{ C. TUPPER, † James Anderson, Amos Anderson, } .. 1	1	1	1	2		62
†Miramichi, .....	_____						80
†Madamkiskey,	_____						23
Douglas, .....	_____		14				32
†Oromocto, ....	_____						27
†Saint George, ..	_____						14
Hillsborough, ..	{ Matthias Steves, H. Steves, Joseph Steves, } .....	1			2		64
†2d Wakefield, .	_____						12
†Woodstock, ...	_____						15
†New Canaan, ..	_____						46
Hopewell, .....	James Sheppard		7		1	7	69
†Cardigan, .....	_____						41
Springfield, ....	{ James E. Davis, Peter Sprague, } .....		1		1	1	42
†Saint Martins, .	_____						119

† Resident in Nova-Scotia.

1830.

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ACCOUNT OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS.	Added.			Dismissed by Letters of commendation,	Excluded	Died	Total Number of Members.
		Restored	By Letter	By Baptism				
1st Hampton, ..	{ John M'Cready, Joseph Pickle, Arthur Slader, }	5	3	13		1	37	
2d Hampton,	{ A. Fowler, J. Tabor, }						38	
Wickham, .....	{ B. Coy, J. C. Skinner, E. Briggs, }			3			28	
Sussex Vale, ...	{ Wm. Clark, TITUS STONE, Isaac Cleveland, }			6			21	
Dorchester, ....	{ Di Stone, W. SEARS, }						21	
Rushagornish, .	{ M. Lamb, }						23	
Buctouche, .....	Sol. Smith .....				8	3	23	
Monckton, .....	{ W. COLPITT, And. Stives, P. Mills, }					1	60	
Ludlow, Miram.	T. Prince,						22	
King's Clear, ..	A. Hart .....						18	
		9	10	134	9	12	32	515

N. B.—The last named Church was added this Session.

4th. Resolved, That Elders J. CRANDALL, DAVIS, J. MARSTERS, and TUPPER, be appointed a Committee to inspect the Circular and Corresponding Letter.

5th. After Prayer by the Moderator, adjourned till 4 o'clock.

6th. Met, pursuant to adjournment, Elder C. TUPPER preached from Rev. ii. ch. last clause 17 v.

7th. Adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, JULY 6.

Prayer Meeting at 5 o'clock in the morning.

At 10 o'clock, Elder EZEK. MARSTERS preached from 2 Cor. xiii. chap. 11th verse.

8th. After Prayer by the Moderator, attended to business.

9th. Read and accepted the Circular Letter.

10th. Voted, That Brother MILES prepare the Corresponding Letter.

11th. Resolved, That the Missionary Committee for the present year, stand as before.

12th. Voted, associations in the  
13th. Appoin the State of Ma his expenses.— stitute.

14th. Appoin ciation in Nova- expences. In c

15th. Voted, Monday after 20

16th. Voted, Sermon. In cas

17th. Voted, Elder W. SEARS.

18th. That th of the Female M

19th. Voted, Minutes—and th

discretion.

20th. Voted, T to be observed on

Missionary Pray

21st. Voted, T Magazine of Nov

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We also request t Amherst, (N. S.)

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P. S.—The Ge first Saturday in

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DEARLY BELOVED

Church Discipli

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1. The Glory God is dishonoure given to the advers

Total Number of Members.	Died.	Excluded
37	1	
38		
28		
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23		
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22		
18		

12th. Voted, That Correspondence be continued with Sister Associations in the State of Maine and Nova-Scotia.

13th. Appointed Elder MILES, Messenger to Sister Associations in the State of Maine, and that the sum of £10 be given him to defray his expences.—In case of failure, it is voted, that he appoint a substitute.

14th. Appointed Elder J. CRANDALL, Messenger to Sister Association in Nova-Scotia, and that £4 5s. be given him to defray his expences. In case of failure, to appoint a substitute.

15th. Voted, That the Association be held at Sackville, the third Monday after 20th June, 1831.

16th. Voted, That Elder F. W. MILES preach the Introductory Sermon. In case of failure, Elder J. MARSTERS.

17th. Voted, That Elder J. MARSTERS write the Circular, and Elder W. SEARS, the Corresponding Letter.

18th. That this Association gratefully acknowledge the exertions of the Female Mite Societies throughout the Province.

19th. Voted, that Brother MILES superintend the printing of the Minutes—and that the number of copies to be printed be left to his discretion.

20th. Voted, That a day of Fasting and Prayer be recommended to be observed on the 1st day of January, 1831; as also the Monthly Missionary Prayer Meetings.

21st. Voted, That as we highly approve of the Baptist Missionary Magazine of Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick, we strongly recommend to all the members of our churches, not only to take it themselves, but also to use their influence to promote its circulation.—

We also request that they will communicate to Elder C. TUPPER, of Amherst, (N. S.) or Elder F. W. MILES, of St. John, (N. B.) brief statements relative to the gathering, formation, progress, and present state of the Baptist Churches in this Province; in order that an historical account of them may be inserted in the Magazine.

P. S.—The General Meeting will be held at St. Martins, on the first Saturday in October next; and the Ministering Brethren are particularly invited to attend.



**CIRCULAR LETTER.**

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*THE NEW-BRUNSWICK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION to the Churches of which it is composed, sendeth Christian Salutation.*

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHERN:

Church Discipline is the subject to which we would, at this time, call your attention. In the exercise of this duty, four objects should be kept in view, viz:—

1. *The Glory of God.* Where church discipline is neglected, God is dishonoured, his authority is disregarded, and occasion is given to the adversary to speak reproachfully. In reference to the



neglect of duty, and the commission of crime, among the Jews who professed a strict adherence to the Divine Law, the inspired writer says, "*The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you.*" Rom. ii. 24. In like manner, the Apostle enjoins upon believers to avoid improprieties of conduct, *that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed*; and again, *that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.* See 1 Tim. vi. 1. and Tit. ii. 10. In a word, the same Apostle enforces Gospel discipline by observing to his brethren, *Ye are not your own, for ye are bought with a price; therefore, says he, glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.* 1 Cor. vi. 19, 20. Compare the two preceding chapters.

2. *The good of the offender.* Discipline is sometimes delayed professedly out of tenderness and kindness to the delinquent. This proceeds, however, from an erroneous view of the subject. Delay usually tends to embolden and harden the transgressor; and of course does him the most serious injury. Paul expressly enjoined the exclusion of an offender, *that the spirit might be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.* 1 Cor. v. 5, 13. Accordingly, we find that when this course was adopted, it produced a salutary effect; for the man, who had been previously hardened in his wickedness, was brought to repentance, and happily restored to the bosom of the church. See 2 Cor. ii. 4—8.

3. *The prosperity of the Church.* While variance, immorality, or error, is tolerated in a Church, it cannot prosper. Fellowship is unavoidably interrupted, the members generally are grieved and disheartened, and the Divine approbation and blessing cannot be reasonably expected. It is in reference to the injurious effects resulting to a church from the neglect of discipline, that the Apostle says, *Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven.* 1 Cor. v. 6, 7.

4. *The benefit of the unconverted.* The prevalence of disorders in the churches of CHRIST, has a natural tendency to strengthen the hands of the wicked in their evil courses, and to bind them in the fetters of unbelief. On the other hand, when the professed people of God, under the exercise of wholesome discipline, pursue a scriptural and christian line of conduct, they *shine as lights in the world*, and others are led by the influence of the Divine Spirit, to *see and fear and trust in the Lord.* See Phil. ii. 15. and Ps. xl. 3.

If then, the exercise of church discipline is intimately connected with objects of great moment, it behoves us to inquire with seriousness, on what occasions, and in what manner, it is to be exercised.

1. *Private offences are subjects of discipline.* They should invariably be adjusted according to the exact letter of the law given by CHRIST, Mat. xviii. 15—17. *Moreover if thy brother shall trespass, against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the Church: but if he neglect to hear the Church, let him be unto thee as an heathen*

*man and a Publican* from a member of the two preceding churches, he becomes his contempt of among all the churches. If the he is dissatisfied their members of other churches

2. *Immorality* indiscretion, private the duty of Pastors admonish one another 19, 20. In cases *Them that sin reb* 20. But notorious lers, drunkards, ex *Therefore, says P* person. 1 Cor. v. restored again to f

3. *Erroneous se* opinion on specul perfectly compatil made a matter of when a man broad mental doctrine o if he persist, let h *the first and secon* to the judaizing to full justification by *were even cut off w*

Finally, brethren to be very careful gently, by maintain *to keep the unity of* tious never to say o cially against the p How painful and o labouring to the utn to be censured and fulness, and, of co James, *how great a* dently speaks to yo means, mention the

Take good heed len into sin, confes (acknowledged) and mild and yet promp

*man and a Publican.* No Church should ever receive a complaint from a member who considers himself aggrieved, till he has taken the two preceding steps. Indeed, if he neglects either of these measures, he becomes subject himself to the censure of the Church, for his contempt of the Saviour's authority. As general harmony among all the churches is highly desirable, the same course ought to be pursued in case of a variance between members of different churches. If the first steps do not avail, the complainant must bring the matter before the church to which the brother with whom he is dissatisfied belongs: and the churches are bound to see that their members conduct in a christian manner toward their brethren of other churches as well as toward those of their own.

2. *Immorality must not be suffered in a Church.* In some cases of indiscretion, private admonition may be sufficient. It is not only the duty of Pastors, but also of church-members generally, to admonish one another. See Col. III. 16, Heb. III. 13, and James v. 19, 20. In cases of greater faults, a public rebuke is necessary: *Them that sin rebuke before all, that others may fear.* 1 Tim. v. 20. But notorious transgressors, or such as unchaste persons, railers, drunkards, extortioners, &c. ought to be immediately excluded. *Therefore, says Paul, put away from among yourselves that wicked person.* 1 Cor. v. 11, 13. If they manifest penitence, let them be restored again to fellowship.

3. *Erroneous sentiments are not to be tolerated.* A diversity of opinion on speculative points, or matters merely circumstantial, is perfectly compatible with christian charity, and ought not to be made a matter of censure; as appears plain from Rom. xiv. But when a man broaches, or embraces, errors subversive of any fundamental doctrine of Christianity, let him be admonished once, and if he persist, let him be excluded. *A man that is a heretic, after the first and second admonition, reject.* Titus III. 10. In reference to the judaizing teachers, who subverted the doctrine of a free and full justification by faith in CHRIST, the Apostle says, *I would they were even cut off which trouble you.* Gal. v. 12.

Finally, brethren, *suffer the word of exhortation.* We entreat you to be very careful neither to give nor to take offence. Labour diligently, by maintaining communion with God and with one another, to *keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.* Be very cautious never to say one word against a brother or sister. Guard especially against the pernicious practice of censuring your Ministers. How painful and disheartening must it be to them, when they are labouring to the utmost of their ability to promote your best interests, to be censured and blamed by you. How destructive to *their usefulness, and, of course, to your spiritual welfare!* Behold, says James, *how great a matter a little fire kindleth!* If any one imprudently speaks to you against another, rebuke the reviler, and, by no means, mention the matter again.

Take good heed that you *depart from iniquity.* If you have fallen into sin, confess it (a public transgression should be publicly acknowledged) and forsake it. When others transgress, labour, by mild and yet prompt and decisive measures, to reclaim them. If



these do not avail, but the cause of CHRIST is suffering, report them to the Church, and let them be excommunicated. Embrace and retain the truth, in simplicity and love. Do not indulge in vain speculations, nor be ambitious to find out something new. *Search the Scriptures* diligently and prayerfully; and believe and practice according to their plain dictates.

May it please GOD to influence and enable you, by his holy Spirit, to pursue that course, in regard to church discipline, and every christian duty which will promote His glory, the good of offenders, the prosperity of the Churches, and the salvation of souls, for JESUS' sake, Amen.



### CORRESPONDING LETTER.

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*The NEW-BRUNSWICK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION to Sister Associations with whom they correspond.*

BELOVED BRETHREN :

We rejoice at the opportunity again afforded us of bearing testimony to the faithfulness of our covenant God; and of expressing the unfeigned gratitude of our hearts for the blessings of peace, harmony, and prosperity, which the Great Head of the Church continues to bestow upon many of our Churches, and the sweet manifestation of His presence, which we have enjoyed during another of our Anniversary Meetings. At the same time it is our painful duty to acknowledge, with you, that our Churches are living far below their exalted privileges—that revivals and reformatations are less frequent and encouraging than formerly—and that clouds and darkness surround the throne of the Eternal.

With much pleasure we have received the Messengers and Minutes of our Corresponding Sister Associations; and it is our earnest wish, that the pleasing intelligence communicated by them may be the means of awakening in our Churches a more deep and abiding concern for the extensive spread of the *glorious gospel of the blessed God*, and the advancement of the Kingdom of the MESSIAH. Every returning Anniversary serves to increase the conviction of our minds, that in proportion to the interest we take in the Church of God, in general, will be the blessings bestowed on our own souls; and that, as a Denomination, unless we are influenced by *unity of purpose and unity of exertion*, we cannot hope to prosper. Receive, therefore, this epistle from our hands, as a token of the unfeigned love of our hearts, and the deep interest we take in the prosperity of the cause of the blessed REDEEMER among you; and may grace, mercy, and peace be multiplied, through our LORD JESUS CHRIST, to whom, and to the FATHER and HOLY SPIRIT, be undivided praise, world without end. Amen.

F. W. MILES, *Moderator.*

THOMAS H. BLACK, *Clerk.*