

MINUTES

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

African Baptist Association,

OF

NOVA SCOTIA,

HELD AT

YARMOUTH, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday,

September 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th,

HALIFAX, N. S.

1878.

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89m

MINUTES.

Minutes of the proceedings of the Fifth Annual Session of the AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION of Nova Scotia, held at Yarmouth, on Saturday, September 27th, 1873. and the following days, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

SATURDAY, September 27th, 1873.

Met at 3 o'clock, P. M., the Sixth Session of the African Baptist Association, was called to order by the Chairman. After singing, prayer was offered by the Rev. H. Frances, Rev. Benson Smithers read Psalm xxxvii. and spoke from the same, followed by all the ministering brethren, and others. Truly we felt the Lord in our midst. Adjourned.

SUNDAY, September 28th.

Met at half past 10 o'clock, A. M. Preaching by the Rev. George R. Neale, from Mark xvi. 15, 16, followed by Rev. B. Smithers, Rev. R. Langford and Rev. H. Frances. Adjourned.

Met at 3 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by the Rev. Benson Smithers from Romans i. 16 verse, followed by Rev. H. Frances and the Rev. G. R. Neale. Adjourned.

Met at 7 o'clock. Preaching by the Rev. R. Langford from Ezekiel xxxiii. 6, followed Rev. H. Frances, Rev. G. R. Neale, and Rev. Benson Smithers, *Bishop*. Adjourned.

A request was made by the white friends for us to stop another Sabbath and have a field meeting, there being so many that they could not hear nor see the speakers, there were over fifteen hundred people, two hundred and ten carriages.

MONDAY, September 30th.

Met at 9 o'clock, A. M. The Rev. G. R. Neale read Psalm xix. Prayer was offered by Rev. R. Langford, the Chairman called the council to order.

Voted, that Rev. R. Langford be Moderator. The council proceeded to business.

Voted, That brother William Crawford be Clerk of the Yarmouth church. Adjourned.

Met at 11 o'clock, A. M., the Rev. George R. Neale preached the Introductory Sermon from Exodus xiv. 14, "The Lord shall fight for you and ye shall hold your peace." Exhortations by Rev. H. Frances, and Rev. R. Langford. Adjourned.

3 o'clock, P. M. Ministers and delegates met pursuant to adjournment, the Rev. H. Frances read Psalm xxvii. Prayer was offered by the Rev. R. Langford.

It was moved by Rev. G. R. Neale and seconded by Rev. B. Smithers that the minutes be read, this being done it was, Voted, That Brother George Crawford be sexton for Yarmouth Church. Voted, That Rev. H. Frances be Chairman.

It was moved by Brother J. Smith and seconded by the Rev. R. Langford that the Rev. Benson Smithers and Rev. George R. Neale, superintend the printing of the Minutes. Voted, That every church support its delegates to the Association. Voted, That the Rev. Benson Smithers be Bishop over all the African Churches. Voted, That brother George Crawford be treasurer of the Yarmouth Church. Voted, That brother James Thomson be nominated for a Deacon. Adjourned.

Met at 7 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by Rev. H. Frances from Jonah ii. 4, followed by Rev. R. Langford and others. Truly we felt glad to be there. Adjourned.

TU & S D A Y, September 30th.

Met at 10 o'clock, A. M. The Rev. B. Smithers read Psalm xxiii. Prayer was offered by the Rev. H. Frances. The Moderator called the Council to order.

Voted, That a committee be appointed to examine the letters from the various churches, and that Bishop B. Smithers, Rev. G. R. Neale and Brother William Crawford be the Committee.

Moved by Brother J. Smith, seconded by Brother George Dise that the letter be read. Voted, That Rev. G. R. Neale and brother William Crawford read them. The letters were read. Adjourned.

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Met at 3 o'clock, P. M. The Rev. G. R. Neale read Psalm xxviii. Prayer was offered by Rev. R. Langford.

Moved by the Rev. G. R. Neale seconded by Brother James Smith that the Association be held with the Digby Joggins Church the last Saturday in September 1874.

It was voted that the Rev. Randolph Langford preach the Introductory Sermon and that the Rev. Henry Frances be his alternate.

Voted, That Brother James Thomson be collector for Home Missions for Yarmouth Church. Adjourned.

Met at 7 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by the Rev. George R. Neale from Mark v. 4, followed by Bishop Smithers, Rev. H. Frances, Rev. R. Langford.

WEDNESDAY, October 1st.

Met at 7 o'clock. Preaching by Rev. Henry Frances. Exhortations by a great many of the brethren. Truly we had a happy time.

THURSDAY, October 2nd.

Met at 7 o'clock, P. M. Business meeting.

FRIDAY, October 3rd.

Met at 7 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by the Rev. R. Langford from Acts xxii. 10, followed by a great many of the brethren.

SATURDAY, October 4th.

Met at 7 o'clock Prayer meeting.

SUNDAY, October 5th.

Met at half past 10 o'clock, A. M., in the field. Preaching by Rev. R. Langford, followed by Rev. G. R. Neale and B. B. Smithers.

Met at 3 o'clock in the church. Preaching by the Rev. G. R. Neale from Acts xx. 32, followed by the Rev. H. Frances and the Rev. B. B. Smithers. Then Ministers and Delegates and Deacons joined hands and formed into a ring, the Doxology was sung. Prayer offered by Rev. R.

Langford, the benediction pronounced by Rev. G. R. Neale. Then the brethren separated to meet with the Digby Joggins Church next year, the last Saturday in September 1874.

We came on to Weymouth, and on Sunday, October the 12th, met at 11 o'clock, A. M. Preaching by the Rev. G. R. Neale from Isaiah lxiii 9, and Rev. B. B. Smithers.

Met at 3 o'clock. Preaching by Bishop Smithers followed by Rev. G. R. Neale.

Met at 7 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by Rev. H. Frances followed by Rev. R. Langford.

Monday, came to Digby at 7 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by Bishop Smithers followed by Rev. G. R. Neale.

Resolved, That our thanks be tendered to the white friends of Yarmouth for their liberal kindness in helping to build a church for the Africans to worship the Lord in, also for their kind attention and good behaviour. We hope the blessing of the Almighty God will be with them.

Resolved, That our thanks be tendered to brother Walker for giving his field and helping to fix it for the congregation to hear what the Lord our God might say.

Ministers, Licentiates, Deacons, and Counsellors.

FIRST PRESTON CHURCH, NORTH.—Rev. George R. Neale, Pastor; David Brown, William Deare, Thomas Crawley, Deacons; Peter Williams, Samuel Blue, Counsellors.

SECOND PRESTON CHURCH, SOUTH.—Rev. Bishop B. Smithers, C. Glasgow, Sampson Williams, J. Smith, Paul Crawley, Deacons; George Thomas, Henry Taylor, Fredrick Riley, Joseph Glasgow, Counsellors.

THIRD PRESTON CHURCH, NORTH.—Rev. George R. Neale, Pastor; William Smith, Deacon.

DARTMOUTH CHURCH.—Rev. Bishop B. Smithers; Thomas Tynes, Adam Green, Deacons; John Tynes, Richard Tynes, Charles Smith, Counsellors; James Bowden, Clerk; Charles Rohn, Licentiate.

CAMPBELL ROAD CHURCH.—Rev. Bishop B. Smithers; Edward Dixon, Licentiate; Allen Dixon, Deacon.

GRANVILLE MOUNTAIN CHURCH.—Rev. Bishop B. Smithers; Edward Dixon, Isaac Middleton, Isaac Cuff, Deacons; Charles Pomp.

BEAR RIVER CHURCH.—Rev. Bishop B. Smithers; Isaac Johnson, F. Ford, Peter J. Hawkins, Deacons; George Ringwood, Isaac Hawkins, Counsellors; Robert Johnston, Deacons.

DIGBY JOGGINS CHURCH.—Rev. Bishop B. Smithers; Joseph Francis, Counsellor; and nominated Deacon.

WEYMOUTH CHURCH.—Rev. Bishop B. Smithers; Rev. Henry Francis, Rev. R. Langford, Evangelist; James Smith, James Langford, Deacons; Edward Langford, Counsellor.

YARMOUTH CHURCH.—Rev. Bishop B. Smithers; George Dise, Licentiate; Silas Chandler, Anthony Berry, Deacons; William Crawford, Clerk; George Crawford, Treasurer and Sexton; James Thompson, Collector for Home Missions.

STATISTICS.

State of the Churches—Increase and Decrease.

CHURCHES.	Bapt'd.	Recv'd.	Exclu'd.	Rem'd.	Died.	Total.
Preston 1st, East.....	1	3	.....	1	70
Preston 2nd, South.....	2	.....	1	64
Preston 3rd, North.....	3	.....	1	13
Dartmouth.....	28
Campbell Road.....	11
Granville Mountain.....	39
Bear River.....	27
Digby Joggins.....	6
Weymouth.....	19
Yarmouth.....	1	.....	1	1	.....	38
Total.....	1	1	9	1	3	310