

MINUTES

OF THE

NOVA-SCOTIA AND NEW-BRUNSWICK

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT

ONSLOW, N. S.

JUNE 27th, 28th,

1821.

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SAINT JOHN :

PRINTED BY HENRY CHUBB, PRINCE WILLIAM-STREET.

MINUTES, &c.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27th, 1821.

1st. Introductory Sermon by ELDER WILLIAM ELDER, from the 14th Chap. of Mark, and part of the 8th verse, "She hath done what she could."

2d. The Associated Ministers and Messengers took their seats; Prayer by ELDER MUNRO, chose ELDER E MANNING, Moderator, ELDER W. ELDER, Clerk, BROTHER W. Chipman, Assistant Clerk. The Messengers from Sister Associations took their seats with us.

3. Read the Letters from the several Churches.

N. B. The names of ordained Ministers are in small CAPITALS; licenced Preachers in *Italics*. The Ministers names with this * were not present; Churches marked thus † we have had no information from this Session; vacant Churches are distinguished by a ———.

Church

Lower Granville
Upper Granville
mot, N. S.
Cornwallis, N. S.

Newport, N. S.

Onslow, N. S.

Clements, N. S.
Halifax, N. S.
Amherst, N. S.

Nictau, N. S.
Chester, N. S.

Lunenburg, N. S.
St. John, N. B.
Sackville, N. B.
Salisbury, N. B.
Waterborough, N. S.
Prince Williams, N. S.
Wakefield, N. B.
Madamkesway, N. S.
Sissiboo, N. S. †
Fredericton, N. S.

St. Mary, N. B.
St. Martins, N. B.
Horton, N. S.
River Philip, and
West Chester,

Digby Neck, N. S.
Norton, N. B.
Windsor, N. S.

Miramichi, N. B.
Annapolis, N. S.
Hopewell, N. B.

Churches.	Elders and Messengers.	Added	Dismissed	Excluded	Died	Total
Lower Granville, N. S.	THOMAS ANSLEY,					40
Upper Granville and Wil- mot, N. S.						78
Cornwallis, N. S.	EDWARD MANNING, William Chipman,	5	2		3	124
Newport, N. S.	GEORGE DIMOCK, James Anthony, Benjamin Sanford, Alexander Gordon,	20		5	1	81
Onslow, N. S.	JAMES MUNRO, Thomas Lynds, John Lynds, David Cutten, James Linten,	2	2	3	2	39
Clements, N. S.						36
Halifax, N. S.	Richard Preston,					300
Amherst, N. S.	SAMUEL M CULLY, Thomas S. Black, Philip Freeman,	2	5	1		14
Nictau, N. S.	T. H. CHIPMAN,*	1			1	114
Chester, N. S.	JOSEPH DIMOCK, John Pezanson,	1	3	2	2	167
Lunenburg, N. S.	ROBERT DAVIS,	5	5	1	1	35
St. John, N. B.	RICHARD SCOTT,*	6	2	4		59
Sackville, N. B.	William Tingly,					41
Salsbury, N. B.	JOSEPH CRANDAL,				2	82
Waterborough, N. B.	David Curry,					26
Prince William, N. B.†	L. HAMMOND,*					60
Wakefield, N. B.		19				36
Madamkesway, N. B.†			6	1		23
Sissiboo, N. S.†	ENOCH TOWNER,*					30
Frederickton, N. B.	T. S HARDING, David James,	20		1		45
St. Mary, N. B.		10			1	27
St. Martins, N: B						54
Horton, N. S.						61
River Philip, and } West Chester, } N. S.	DAVID HARRIS, CHARLES TUPPER, Jonathan Wetherby, William Wetherby,	4				44
Digby Neck, N. S.	Nathaniel Web,	3		3	1	120
Norton, N. B.	PETER CRANDAL,*	1	1			19
Windsor, N. S.	Fancis Pickle, DAVID NUTTER, John Fox, Joseph Davison,	4	2	1		26
Miramichi, N. B.		7				10
Annapolis, N. S.	WILLIAM ELDER,					12
Hopewell, N. B.	NATHAN CLEVELAND,					24

From Corresponding Associations, received as follows :

Associations,	Messengers,	Minutes,
Lincoln,	ELDER SMITH,	Minutes.
Boudeham,	ELDER CHAPEN,	Minutes expected.
Cumberland,		Minutes.

4th. Voted, that a Committee be appointed to enquire into the propriety of a request from the Church of Chester, for the Ordination of Brother RICHARDSON, and that ELDERS E. MANNING, CHAPEN, J. S. HARDING, J. DIMOCK, J. CRANDAL, G. DIMOCK and MUNRO, be the Committee, and that they report thereon.

5th. ELDER CHAPIN to preach a Missionary Sermon to-morrow, meeting to commence at 10 o'clock, A. M.

6th. ELDER SMITH to preach this evening at 6 o'clock.

7th. Prayer Meeting to-morrow morning at 6 o'clock.

Adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28.

Prayer Meeting agreeable to appointment. Pursuant to adjournment Sermon by Brother CHAPIN, from 132d Psalm, first clause, 15th verse. "I will abundantly bless her provision," which excited much interest.

The Committee appointed yesterday, report as follows, viz. In answer to a clause in the Letter from the Church of Chester, the Committee are of opinion, that the Ordination of Brother RICHARDSON, under existing circumstances would be premature, they think that the Church in Chester would be justifiable in receiving him to full Communion, and regularly Licence him to exercise his Gifts, and when they obtain the necessary information concerning his character, experience, doctrinal views, and qualifications generally, that they may proceed to Ordination, and that it be recommended to the Churches in this connection to pay particular attention to Brother RICHARDSON.

8th. A verbal request by Brother NUTTER, was made for the admission of a Church at the Ragged Islands, but on mature consideration for want of a letter from them, and more particular knowledge of their Belief, Doctrine, &c. voted in the negative for the present.

9th. A request from individuals at the Five Islands in Parrsborough, expressing a Macedonian Cry "come over and help us," and one of the number being present, in a solemn and affecting manner, stated their peculiar need, &c. Their case was duly considered, and voted that the Committee for Missionary purposes afford them aid.

10th. A request from the Newport Church that the Articles of Faith and Practice with the Covenant, be printed; was considered. Voted to refer the same to the different Churches until another season.

11th. Agreeable to a request from the Mite Society at Windsor, that the names of the Missionaries for the present year, be inserted in the Minutes.

12th. That the Circular Letter prepared by ELDER NUTTER, be received,

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13h. That the Corresponding Letter prepared by ELDER J. DIMOCK, be received.

14th. That the Association be held at Horton, N. S. next year, and that it be on the first Monday after the 20th June, instead of the first Wednesday as heretofore.

15th. That ELDER W. ELDER be our Messenger to Sister Associations—and receive the usual compensation.

16th. That the 25th day of December be observed as a day of thanksgiving.

17th. That the 2d day of January be observed as a day of Fasting and Prayer, for the spread of the Gospel in Heathen Lands.

18th. That the same Committee for Missionary exertions be continued.

19th. That ELDER T. S. HARDING preach the introductory Sermon the ensuing year.

20th. That ELDER GEORGE DIMOCK write the Circular Letter.

21st. That ELDER THOMAS ANSLEY, write the Corresponding Letter.

22d. That a Vote of thanks be inserted in the Minutes to the different Mite Societies, and others, for their liberality, and particular attention to the Missionary cause. And that it be recommended to all the Churches in our connection to imitate such laudable examples; and that each Minister in the Association use their utmost endeavours to aid their Glorious cause.

23d. At the request of a number of Brethren from New-Brunswick, it was unanimously agreed, that this Association be divided, and that the line which separates New Brunswick from Nova Scotia, be the dividing line.

24h. That ELDER D. HARRIS be Treasurer for the ensuing year, that the New Brunswick Baptist Association meet on the 1st Monday in July 1822.

25th. That ELDER E. MANNING and ELDER W. ELDER be our Messengers to the New Brunswick Baptist Association.

26th. That ELDER R. SCOTT, of St. John, N. B. Superintend the Printing the Minutes, and that 700 copies be printed.

27th. That the sum of *Four Pounds* be paid by our Treasurer to each of the Messengers to the New Brunswick Association for the year 1822.

28th. A vote of thanks to the Church and Congregation attending this Association, for their kindness and hospitality during this Session.

The Society have employed the following Brethren as Missionaries the past year, viz: Rev. JOHN BURTON, Halifax, 10 weeks, for which he has received

Rev. ROBERT DAVIS, 10 weeks, discount of one week, and to Acct. of Monies received in aid of the Mission cause	£10 0 0
Rev. DAVID NUTTER, 12 weeks	18 0 0
He received from benevolent friends in aid of the Mission cause and accounted for it	24 0 0
Rev. T. S. HARDING, 5 weeks	5 2 0
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	10 0 0

29th. N. B. Agreeable to a Vote (which was not inserted in its proper place) that some extracts from the Missionaries Journal should be annexed to these Minutes; but as the Journals were very extensive and

the whole particularly interesting, it would be difficult to make any selections from them to do them justice, otherwise than merely saying, that Brother NUTTER (being rather more explicit in his Journal) travelled 700 miles, preached about 70 times, and baptized 26 persons. Brother DAVIS' travels were something similar, and we trust productive of much usefulness.—Brother J. BURTON has also laboured extensively amongst the people of Colour on the Halifax road, Hammond Plains, &c. &c. and we hope his labour of love have been blessed to many poor sinners.—On the whole there appears to be loud calls for Missionaries labours, and many effectual doors opened, and many precious souls hungering and thirsting for the bread and waters of eternal life.

Brother T. S. HARDING was also employed on a Missionary Tour in the Province of New Brunswick, but not having had any extracts from his Journal, we can only add that from Letters received, we are led to believe that his labours have been extensively blessed.

We are happy to add that we received during the Association, information of the collection of £11. 17 0½ from the Mite Society of St. John, N. B. paid in the hands of our Treasurer J. M. WILMOT, Esq. and did also receive at the association in aid of the Missions—

By the hands of Rev. T. ANSLY,	£1	9	3
Ditto, Rev. J. DIMOCK.		1	10 0
Mite Society Windsor, by the hands of Rev. D. NUTTER,	6	7	0
Ditto, Norton, do. Brother F. PICKLE,	3	4	0
Ditto, from Mrs. MARY CHIPMAN,		0	10 0
Ditto, from Mrs. J. MUNRO,		0	5 0
And the liberal Collection at the close of the Mission } Sermon of	9	1	8½
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	£22	6	11½

We have abundant cause to bless God that our present funds will enable us to send Missionaries to many destitute places the present year; with the glad tidings of Salvation through a Redeemer.

The business of the Association being gone through, the Rev. S. CHAPIN, of North Yarmouth, State of Maine, addressed the Association and the Ministering Brethren in particular, in a very interesting and affectionate manner, which made a deep impression on the minds of all present, and we trust will be remembered with sentiments of gratitude to God for the labours of love of this the servant of the Lord Jesus, and his young and affectionate companion, ELDER SMITH.

This interesting Session closed with much unanimity of sentiment and cordiality of affection.

The Minister
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CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Ministers and Messengers of the Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick Baptist Association, to the Churches they represent, wish Mercy and Peace from God the Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, who is our hope.

BELOVED BRETHREN,

AS those who are set for the defence of the Gospel and the Gospel church, we wish connected with its prosperity to seek your best interest, as well in our own united council as in our private study. The intercourse of christians, united as they are by bonds of tender and holy fellowship, can never fail to be a source of peculiar enjoyment. And if we have felt this pleasure during the present meeting, we owe it to that grace which stamps something of the image of God on every heart which it renews: for "God is love;" and "by this we know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren;" and wherever this love is exercised, there concord is maintained, and there, peace is felt. But whatever may be the pleasure attending these annual seasons of friendly and religious associations, this pleasure is not unmingled with pain; since at every such anniversary some ungrateful tidings must reach the ear. The cause of God will be seen to ebb as well as to flow: if on one side it present an appearance of life, activity and vigour; from another quarter we are compelled to hear the language of complaint—complaint, called forth by denunciation in principle, or inconsistency in the practice, of the professed disciples of Christ. A short interval is sufficient to furnish reports the most gloomy, as well as the most cheering; death is suffered to make inroads among the flock of Christ; the grand enemy sows discord in the Church below: and there are too often those, disaffected to pure Gospel discipline, "it must needs be that offences come, but woe to that man by whom they come." That you dear Brethren, may not be instrumental of increasing these trials. We recommend to you,

1st. Stability in the doctrines of grace. If you are unestablished in the doctrines of the Gospel, you will be exposed to the assaults of every intruder; and carried about by the cunning craft, and artful insinuations of men, who lie in wait to deceive. We recommend therefore as the best antidote, a studious and prayerful attention to the scriptures which your Heavenly Father has given, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in

righteousness; that the Man of God may be perfect, and thoroughly furnished unto all good works, and although it cannot be reconciled to man's wisdom, it is agreeable notwithstanding to the Christians experience: for instance the electing, everlasting love of God; you look back to the rock from whence you were hewn; and the hole of the pit, from whence you were digged; and you see that your salvation originated in the divine purpose; and that he who chose you out of the world, gave you eternal life: so as they are chosen out of the world; it is in fulfilment of God's gracious design that any sinner is led to embrace the Saviour; for he has said that "no man can come unto me, except the Father who hath sent me draw him." He does not say no man can merit the favour of God, no man can change his own heart; but, no man can come unto me; these texts would not stand in agreement with man's power and free will, which would be to suppose life in the soul already, and consequently they could live without him: and we must particularly notice, that previous to the quickening power of the Holy Spirit, man is dead in trespasses and sins: and nothing could render the work of the Spirit necessary, but the want of native purity, and the greatness of our depravity. It would be trifling to dwell so long on this subject, if it was not rendered necessary by the strained, unscriptural, and incautious phraseology, adopted by those who advocate the notion of Free Will: you then see the necessity of being established in the doctrine of Grace; that man's pride may be humbled, and God glorified as all and in all.

2d. We recommend personal holiness, as a necessary consequence of free grace: and as requisite to the peace, and prosperity of the Church: the first of these propositions is abundantly proved. "They are called with an holy calling: the Grace of God teacheth us to deny ungodliness, and worldly lusts; and to live Soberly, Righteously, and Godly, in this present evil world. The Saviour's work of redemption; and the Spirit's work in bringing home the purchased sheep: and their obedience to the Shepherd's voice, are all connected; and centre in the everlasting love of God," they shall be called the Holy people, the redeemed of the Lord, and thou shalt be called sought out; a city not forsaken, ISA. 62. 12. Be careful then to covet things that are honest, lovely, and of good report; in particular

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we must watch over sinful self; hence our Lord so often insists on the necessity of self denial: and every one who believes his words, should keep a jealous eye on this radical corruption of our nature. Self-righteousness, self-sufficiency, self-indulgence, and self-will; must be denied, and that constantly. That it is necessary to the prosperity of the Church of Christ, is evident, for except the lives of professors correspond with the truths they profess; none can be expected to turn from their evil ways. We do not consider how much influence our conduct has on those about us. When they see our good works they will glorify our Father, who is in Heaven. Our conduct will also affect the internal peace of the Church: when its Members walk disorderly or conform to the world: how it affects the minds of their Brethren; not only the Minister, but all who feel the welfare of Zion at heart, will feel how painful the discharge of those duties are which relate to the misconduct of professors. See to it dear Brethren; that you practice holiness, temperance, piety, meekness, humility, veracity, honesty, and kindness; if these things be in you and abound, they make you that you shall neither be barren, nor unfruitful, in the knowledge of our Lord, and Saviour Jesus Christ.—Again,

3d. We recommend, a faithful discharge of all these duties, which devolve on you as Church Members. They will call your presence to the house of God, not only when his word is preached, but for social prayer, and christian conference, also to take an active part in the management of the affairs of the Church; and to contribute for those expenses which are needful for the relief of the poor; the support of the Minister, and other necessary charges of the Church: you must also exhort one another, warn the unruly, comfort the feeble minded, support the weak, and sharply rebuke the contentious and disaffected: but see that you are actuated by proper motives, and the spirit of Christ; that you may seek the good of each individual, and the glory of God. But respecting personal injuries, you must bear with one another, and forgive one another, as God for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you, and surely a pardoned sinner, must admit there is in his case, a close connection between being forgiven, and exercising the same happy disposition: it is the Christians nature, to "be merciful as his Father who is in Heaven, is merciful." Indeed it would betray our want of

candour, if while we see in ourselves so much need of a candid construction from our Brethren, that they may entertain a good opinion of us; and yet allow ourselves to make the worst of all their mistakes and imperfections. Can you remember how frankly your great creditor forgave you all that debt which you owed him: and then with a heart full of gratitude to the Redeemer; lay hands on a fellow servant, and demand restitution. We do not wish you to wink at sins, but as individuals, we wish you to encourage that temper which esteemeth others, better than ourselves.

But again. There is another duty you owe as those who are blest with; and interested in; the Gospel of Christ. That is, that you would not forget those who are destitute of the blessings you enjoy: there are many settlements in Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick, whose inhabitants are perishing for lack of knowledge: and although it may need a little of your worldly substance, to supply them with the preached word; yet that is the least you can bestow: and be assured, that you cannot apply it in this way, but it will yield you an abundant crop; for "the blessing of him that was ready to perish will come upon you." You have done something in this way already, and we beg you not to be weary in well doing: you pray that his Kingdom may come; you call the gifts and send them forth to preach that Kingdom: but you must be like the zealous Jews in the days of Nehemiah: say "arise for this matter belongeth unto thee; we also will be with thee; be of good courage and do it," your Missionaries have often brought us good tidings that even their enemies became subject to them through the word of God's grace. And if we could think you needed any excitement in this particular, we would remind you of the many happy effects, which have crowned Missionary exertions; we would invite you to consider the desolate state of our fellow men on the Northern and Southern shores; you may view the lonely and scanty dwellings in the wilderness, and you would see the joy and delight beaming in the countenance of its wretched inhabitants at the sight of a Missionary: you should see the tear of gratitude at parting; and hear their earnest request, do come and see us again; do tell the association, we can never thank them enough for sending the Gospel amongst us. Dear Brethren, we invite you to come and share a part in this glorious triumph, for

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we are sure of victory, since we have more than human efforts to encourage us ; yes we have the promise of a never failing God ; that the Kingdom given to his Son, shall break in pieces and consume all other Kingdoms ; and the christian must not sheath his sword nor slacken his exertions until the battle is won : not until all the habitations of cruelty are thoroughly cleansed ; and all who hold the form, shall possess the power of Godliness ; not until the glittering Pagados shall crumble to dust ; and the golden feet be shod with the preparation of Gospel of peace ; not until all the idolatrous monuments shall be supplanted by the standard of the cross ; and the chaunting of their devotees die away before the Christian hymn of praise.* Until these great promises be accomplished, be not weary in well doing. And the God of love, and peace, be with you ; and give you access to the tree of life ; and an entrance through the Gate into the City. Amen.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Ministers and Messengers composing the Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick Baptist Association, to Corresponding Associations, wishing every Heavenly Benediction.

DEAR BRETHREN,

THROUGH the gracious auspices we are once more met in Association, to congratulate each other in the prospect of Immanuel's Empire spreading until it cover the extensive plains, mountains and vales, the rugged shore or barren waste, the fertile country and populous cities, we rejoice in the progress that is made in this glorious cause by the united efforts of the Lord's people in different parts of the world, while the United-States with a laudable zeal, have visited their destitute neighbours and Foreign lands with the good news of salvation. We have endeavoured

also to visit the destitute in our region, and trust it has not been in vain, indeed the success has far exceeded our expectation, and it is evident that Zions King is prospering his work in general among us in divers places, the spirit of the Lord has been poured out from on high. We are glad on the arrival of your Messengers and Minutes, and wish a continuance of your valuable correspondence, we rejoice to hear the Watchmen of Zion from your land, to lift up their voice among us, may the Lord reward them for their labours of love.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Association,

EDWARD MANNING, MODERATOR.
WILLIAM ELDER, CLERK.
WILLIAM CHIPMAN, ASSISTANT CLERK.