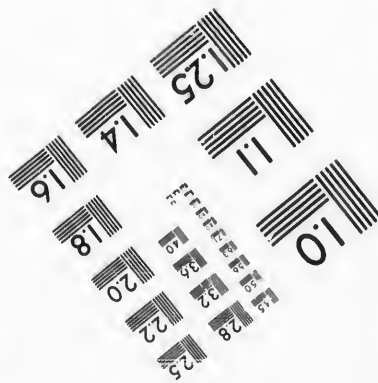
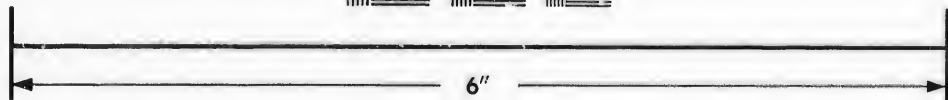
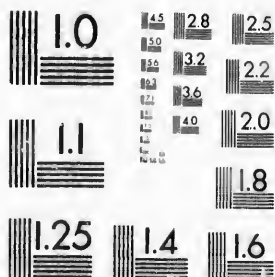


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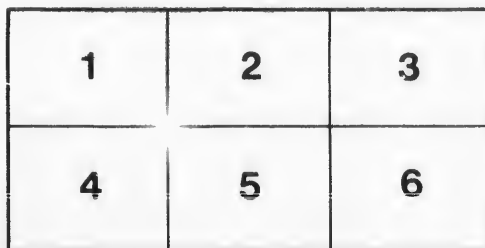
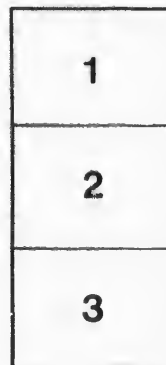
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ARTICLES  
OF  
FAITH AND PRACTICE  
OF THE  
REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCH  
IN  
WELLAND, C. W.

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The following are the Articles of Faith and Practice held by the Regular Baptist Church in Welland— and by all Regular Baptist Churches, both in Canada, and in the United States:

ARTICLE I.

That there is but one God, who is a spirit, infinite, eternal, unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth.—John iv. 24; Job xi. 7, 8, 9; Psalm xc. 2; James i. 17; Exodus iii. 14; Psalm cxlvii. 5; Revelations iv. 8; Revelations xv. 4; Exodus xxxiv. 6.

ARTICLE II.

There are Three that bear record in Heaven:—The FATHER, the SON, or WORD, and HOLY SPIRIT,—and these Three are one God.—Genesis i. 26; iii. 22; xi. 6, 7; Isaiah vi. 8; 2nd Corinthians xiii. 14; Matthew xxviii. 19; 1st John, v. 7.

ARTICLE III.

CHRIST is Jehovah, the Mighty God, and really Man, united in one—the Root and the Offspring of David.—Revelations i. 8; xxii. 13; Isaiah ix. 6; 1st John v. 20.

## ARTICLE IV.

God's purposes are eternal, His providence is universal, so that no event ever did or will take place contrary to the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God; yet He is not the actor or doer of sin; neither does He tempt or compel men to sin, but His eternal purposes are perfectly consistent with the voluntary agency and accountability of His creatures.—Ephesians i. 11; Hebrews vi. 17, 18; Romans xi. 33; James i. 13, 17; 1st John i. 5.

## ARTICLE V.

God has revealed to us His character and will, in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament, which contain a perfect and sufficient rule of our duty to God and Man, and by which we must be tried at the Day of Judgment.—2d Peter i. 20, 21; 2d Timothy iii. 16, 17; Isaiah viii. 20; John viii. 31; Proverbs xiii. 13; Deuteronomy iv. 2.

## ARTICLE VI.

God made all things for His own pleasure, to display His own Glory, and He exercises a righteous government over His own Works.—Isaiah xli. 9, 11; Psalm xxxiii. 11; Daniel iv. 35; Job ix. 12; Ephesians i. 11; Revelations iv. 11.

## ARTICLE VII.

God made Man upright, in His own image, after his own likeness, and placed him in a state of trial.—Genesis i. 26, 27—v. 12; Ecclesiastes i. 29; Genesis xii. 15, 16, 17.

## ARTICLE VIII.

Our first Parents sinned and fell from that holy and happy state, wherein they were created, and in consequence of the fall, all mankind are, by nature, in a state of total enmity against God, so that while unregenerate, they neither please nor enjoy Him, but are under the curse of His holy law, deserving His wrath for their own sinfulness.—Isaiah xliii. 27; Psalm xlix. 12; 1st Corinthians xv. 22; Genesis 8 iii., 24; Psalm ciii. 2, 3; Romans iii. 9, 19; Romans v. 12, 19; Romans viii. 7, 8; Isaiah i. 5, 6; Romans vii. 14, 18, 24.

## ARTICLE IX.

God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, who, by his own obedience, death, and resurrection, has magnified the Divine Law, and opened the way for the honorable exercise of mercy, so that whosoever be-

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lieveth on Him should not perish, but have Everlasting Life.—John iii. 16  
36; Isaiah xliii. 21; John xix. 30; Romans iii. 25, 26.

#### ARTICLE X.

Every one who lives under the light of the Gospel is under obligation to repent and believe immediately; and the only obstacle which keeps the sinner from believing is his own sensual disposition or will.—Mark i. 19; Luke xxiv. 47; Acts xvii. 17, 30; Acts iii. 19; Luke xiii. 3; John v. 40; John iii. 19.

#### ARTICLE XI.

Such is the criminal disposition of all, by nature, that no one will believe or receive Christ until regenerated by the special operation of the Holy Spirit.—John vi. 44, 65; Ephesians ii. 8.

#### ARTICLE XII.

God hath chosen a particular number in Christ before the foundation of the World, who in time, are called with an holy calling, not according to their works, but according to His own purpose and grace; and His electing love is so far from hindering the salvation of sinners, that it is the only reason why any are brought cordially to embrace the Gospel.—Ephesians i. 4, 9, 11; 1st Peter i. 2; 2d Thes. ii. 13; 1st Thes. v. 9, 10; Titus ii. 14; Romans viii. 30; Ephesians i. 5; Jeremiah xxxi. 31.

#### ARTICLE XIII.

All who are renewed by the Holy Ghost are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.—Romans viii. 31, 39; 1st Peter i. v; Ephesians ii. 1, 10; Psalm cx. 3; Philip ii. 13; John x. 27, 30; 2 Tim. i. 9.

#### ARTICLE XIV.

This life is our only state of trial; immediately after death the righteous will be present with the Lord in Heaven, and the wicked will be in a state of misery and despair.—Hebrews ix. 27; Luke xiv. 22, 23; Isaiah lvii. 21; Revelations xiv. 13; Proverbs x. 23; Psalm i. 6.

#### ARTICLE XV.

At the end of the World there will be a resurrection of the bodies, both of the just and unjust, when all the Human Race must stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ, who will receive the righteous into Life Eternal

but will sentence the wicked to endless punishment, in banishment from the presence of God, and from the glory of His power for ever and ever.—John v. 28, 29; 1st Thes. iv. 16; Acts xvii. 31; 2d Corinthians v. 10; Matthew xxv. 31, 34; Second Thes. i. 7, 8, 9.

## PART SECOND.

### ARTICLE I.

A Christian Church is composed of visible saints, who covenant with each other, to walk together, according to the rules of the Gospel.—Acts ii. 41, 42; 1st Corinthians, i. 2, 1st Corinthians xii. 12, 13; 1st Thes. v. 14; Philemon i. 27; Timothy iii. 15.

### ARTICLE II.

Christ has instituted Water Baptism and the Lord's Supper to be observed by His followers to the end of the world, and they ought to be administered by those only who are in good standing, and have themselves been buried in Baptism, and regularly set apart to the work of the Gospel Ministry.—Matthew xxviii. 19; Mark xvi. 15, 16; Ephesians i. 9, 19; John iii. 23; Acts viii. 36, 39; Romans i. 4; 1st Corinthians x. 2; Galatians iii. 27; 1st Corinthians xv. 29; Matthew xxvi. 26; Matthew xxvii. 28; Mark xiv. 22, 24; Luke xxii. 19, 20; 1st Corinthians xi. 23, 26,

### ARTICLE III.

Those who profess faith in Christ, and give evidence of true piety, are the only proper subjects of Baptism, and immersion in the name of the FATHER, of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST, as a figure or symbol of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ and his members, is the only scriptural mode of Baptism.—Matthew iii. 7, 8, 10, 12; Mark i. 1, 15; Luke viii. 29; Mark xvi. 15, 16; Acts ii. 37, 41; Acts viii. 37, 39, 12; Acts xvi. 14, 15, 29, 24; Ephesians iv. 4, 5.

### ARTICLE IV.

The Lord's Supper is a figurative representation of the sufferings of Christ, in having his body broken, and his blood shed for us, and an emblem of our feeding on Him by faith.—Matthew xxvi. 26, 27; 1st Corinthians x. 16, 17, 21; 1st Corinthians xi. 23, 26; John vi. 48, 50, 51.

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## ARTICLE V.

Water Baptism on Gospel evidence of repentance and faith, and a circum-spect life, are necessary qualifications for church membership, and communion at the Lord's table.—Ephesians v. 11; 2d Thes. iii. 6; Acts ii. 42, 46.

## ARTICLE VI.

Every church has a right to discipline her own members, and by the voice of a majority of the brethren, to exclude members who cannot be reclaimed.—Romans xvi. 17; Acts xvi. 15; Galatians vi. 1; Corinthians ii. 15; James v. 19, 20; 2d Thes. iii. 14, 15.

## ARTICLE VII.

Before an individual brings a complaint to the church against any of its members, he ought to take the first and second steps, according to the 18th chapter of St. Matthew.—Matthew xviii. 15, 16, 17; Luke xvii. 3, 4.

## ARTICLE VIII.

Public offences ought to be publicly confessed.—Titus iii. 10; 2d John 10th verse; 1st Timothy i. 20; 1st Timothy v. 19, 20, 21; Galatians ii. 11, 14; 1st Corinthians vi. 18.

## ARTICLE IX.

Church members are forbidden to sue each other in the law in any ordinary case.—1st Corinthians v. 1, 8.

## ARTICLE X.

Ministers and Deacons are officers, ordained by the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery. Ministers, who are called *Bishops, Pastors, Elders, &c.* ought to give themselves to the work of the Ministry to study, and teaching publicly, and from house to house. Deacons should serve tables and attend to all the temporal concerns of the church; and other members having gifts, ought to improve them in subjection to the judgment of their brethren.—1st Timothy iii. 2, 6; 1st Timothy iv. 13, 16; 1st Corinthians iv. 1, 2, 5, 6; Matthew xxviii. 19; Acts xx. 7, 27; 1st Timothy v. 17; Acts ii. 46; Titus i. 12; Timothy iii. 8; Acts vi. 1, 6; Acts xiii. 3; Romans xii. 6, 7, 8.

## ARTICLE XI.

Every church, for the support of the Gospel Ministry, and other necessary

charges among them, ought to contribute of their substance, according to each one's ability, that there may be an equality; and the church has a right to judge of the ability of each member, and ought to deal with those as covetous who neglect this duty.—1st Corinthians ix. 6, 14; 1st Timothy v. 17, 18; Galatians vi. 6, 7; Matthew x. 10; 2d Corinthians ix. 7; Prov. xi. 25; 2d Corinthians viii. 12, 14; 1st Corinthians v. 11.

#### ARTICLE XII.

It is our duty to give alms, especially to help the needy members of the church, yet not excluding application to that provision made by laws for the relief of the poor.—Galatians vi. 10; 1st John iii. 17; James ii. 14, 17.

#### ARTICLE XIII.

The first day of the week is, by way of eminence, styled the Lord's Day, and the whole day ought to be devoted to the public and private duties of religion, by assembling for public worship, and attending to divine things at home; abstaining from labor, walking abroad to view fields or crops, visiting, worldly conversation, reading such books and papers as are not religious, and from all other worldly employment, except works of necessity and mercy.—Exodus xx. 8, 9; Isaiah lviii. 13; Acts xx. 7; 1st Corinthians xvi. 2; Revelations i. 10; Matthew xii. 12.

#### ARTICLE XIV.

Both secret and family prayer is a duty. Those who are the heads of families, ought daily to have the scriptures read in the hearing of those under their care, and to talk to them of divine things, and to pray with them, both night and morning, every day, so long as they have strength and opportunity; to see that they attend public worship, and to endeavor to restrain them from gaming, balls, and vicious courses; and heads of families who neglect this duty or any of them, ought to be called to an account by the church.—1st Timothy ii. 8; Matthew vi. 6; 1st Peter iii. 7; Daniel vi. 10; Ephesians vi. 18; Jeremiah x. 26; Joshua xxiv. 15; Psalm lv. 16, 17.

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