

MINUTES

OF THE

Archdeacon's House

NEW-BRUNSWICK

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT

SACKVILLE, N. B.

JULY 11th and 12th,

1831.

ACCOUNT OF THE CHECKERS.

SAINT JOHN :

M. E. — In the following statement the names of the churches and the names of the members are given. Those marked with () were not present. Churches which have no stated pastor are distinguished by a —. From churches thus marked () no information was received this session.
1831.

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MINUTES, &c.

SACKVILLE, MONDAY, JULY 11, 1831.

1st. Introductory Sermon, by Elder JOSEPH CRANDALL, from Matt. xxiv. 14,—“And this Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.” After which a Collection was taken for Domestic Missionary purposes, amounting to £10 : 11 : 7.

2d. The Messengers having taken their seats, chose

Elder JOSEPH CRANDALL, *Moderator.*
 “ WILLIAM SEARS, *Clerk.*
 “ DAVID CRANDALL, *Assistant Clerk.*

3d. Voted, That Elders ROBERT DAVIS, and HEZEKIAH HULL, take a 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.

ACCOUNT OF

CHURCHES.

Fredericton,.....	
Canning,.....	
St. John,.....	
†Prince William,	
†1st Wakefield,	
Norton,.....	
†Nashwalk,.....	
Salisbury,.....	
Sackville,.....	
†Miramichi,.....	
†Madankisway,...	
†Douglas,.....	
†Oromocto,.....	
†Saint George,...	
Hillsborough,....	
†2d Wakefield,...	
†Woodstock,....	
New Canaan,.....	
Hopewell,.....	
†Cardigan,.....	
Springfield,.....	
†Saint Martins,...	
1st Hampton,.....	
2d Hampton,.....	
Wickham,.....	
Sussex Vale,.....	
Dorchester,.....	

ACCOUNT OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGRS.	Added		Dismissed by letters of commendation	Excluded	Died	Total Number of Members.
		restored	By Baptism by Letters				
Fredericton,.....	{ Charles Shaw, Holland Esty, }		6		4	1	61
Canning,.....	{ JOHN MARSTERS,* F. W. MILES,* }		9	6		1	156
† St. John,.....			14	8	6	2	137
† Prince William, † 1st Wakefield,							64 28
Norton,.....	{ FRANCIS PICKLE, } { David Jones, }	2	3	2			44
† Nashwalk,.....							21
Salisbury,.....	{ JOSEPH CRANDALL, Charles Jones, Robert Smith, jun. William Kay, Robert Hopper, James Crandall, }				2		81
Sackville,.....	{ CHARLES TUPPER, William Reid, sen. John Anderson, jun. Eliphlet Read, JAMES TOWZER,* }	4	7	2	2	1	69
† Miramichi,.....							80
† Madamkaway,...							23
† Douglas,.....							32
† Oromocto,.....							27
† Saint George,...							14
Hillsborough,.....	{ Patrick Duffey, } { Michael Steves, } { William Cantle, }		2				66
† 2d Wakefield,...							12
† Woodstock,.....							15
New Canaan,.....	{ Daniel Perry, }	6	3	2	1		50
Hopewell,.....	{ Samuel West, } { Nicholas Pearse, }		3		2		70
† Cardigan,.....							41
Springfield,.....	{ James E. Davis, } { James Beard, }		4		1		45
† Saint Martins,...							119
1st Hampton,.....	{ FRANCIS PICKLE, } { James Bleakney, }	2	4	2	4		37
2d Hampton,.....	{ DAVID CRANDALL, } { Jesse Tabor, }	1	2	1			40
Wickham,.....	{ BENJAMIN COY,* }		2				30
Sussex Vale,.....	{ TITUS STONE, } { Isaac Cleaveland, } { David Stone, }		4		1		24
Dorchester,.....	{ WILLIAM SEARS, } { Mariner Lamb, } { Gideon Smith, } { Rufus Cole, }	2	2				26

11, 1831.

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ACCOUNT OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS.	Added.				Total number of Members.
		By Letter.	By Baptism.	Dismissed by letters of excommunication.	Died.	
†Rushagornish,...	_____					23
Buctouche,.....	{ Ira Hicks, }					23
Monckton.....	{ Andrew Steves, } { Thomas Prince, } { Peter Mills, }					59
†Ludlow,.....	_____					22
King's Clear,.....	_____					18
		7,196	14	13	20	8,157

5th. Resolved, That Elders HARRIS HARDING, CHARLES TUPPER, ROBERT DAVIS, WILLIAM SEARS, and DAVID CRANDALL, be appointed a Committee to inspect the Circular and Corresponding Letters.

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

7th. Voted, That the Correspondence be continued with Sister Associations in the State of Maine and Nova Scotia, by Minutes and Messengers.

8th. Voted, That Elder WILLIAM SEARS be our Messenger to Sister Association in Nova Scotia, and that the sum of £4 be given to defray his expences, and in case of failure that he appoint a substitute.

9th. Voted, That the Association be held at Fredericton, on the third Monday after the 20th June, 1832.

10th. Voted, That Elder WILLIAM SEARS preach the Introductory Sermon next year. In case of failure, Elder DAVID CRANDALL.

11th. Voted, That Elder JOSEPH CRANDALL write the Circular, and Elder TITUS STONE the Corresponding Letter.

12th. Voted, That Brother JAMES HOLMAN superintend the printing of the Minutes, and that 600 copies be printed.

13th. Voted, That a day of Fasting and Prayer be recommended to be observed on the 1st day of January, 1832; as also the Monthly Missionary Prayer Meetings.

14th. 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.

15th. Voted, That our General Meeting be held at the Baptist Meeting-House, in Springfield, the 1st Saturday in October next. The Ministering Brethren are particularly invited to attend.

16th. Voted, That the rules of the Nova-Scotia Baptist Association be accepted and observed hereafter.

17th. After morning, 10 o'clock
Prayer Meeting
18th. Read JOHN MARSTER, WILLIAM SEARS
Met according to
Preaching at
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DALL, from Re
19th. Voted, to the Church their hospitality
20th. That of the Female

THE NEW-BRUNSWICK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
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17th. After Prayer by the Moderator, adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

Tuesday, July 12.

Prayer Meeting at 5 o'clock this morning.

18th. Read and accepted the Circular Letter, prepared by Elder JOHN MARSTERS, and Corresponding Letter, prepared by Elder WILLIAM SEARS.

Met according to adjournment.

Preaching at 10 o'clock, by Elder FRANCIS PICKLE, from John xix. chap. last clause of 6th verse. As also Elder DAVID CRANDALL, from Rev. v. chap. 17th verse.

19th. Voted, That the cordial thanks of this Association be given to the Church of Christ and benevolent friends in Sackville, for their hospitality and kindness during the present Session.

20th. That the Association gratefully acknowledge the exertions of the Female Mite Society in the City of St. John.

—o—o—o—
CIRCULAR LETTER.
 —o—o—o—

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

BELOVED BRETHREN IN THE LORD:

At our last Anniversary we addressed you upon the important subject of Church Discipline, the observance of which is absolutely necessary to maintain the order and purity of the Church of Christ. As our object in addressing you in these our annual Epistles, is, that you may be benefited, and our Heavenly Father glorified, we would affectionately ask, how far have you been benefited by our addresses? Have you read them with attention? Have you compared them with the infallible standard, and, so far as you have found them to accord with it, have you invariably put in practice the advice contained in them? If so, we have cause to rejoice that we have not contributed our mite in vain. But, if on the other hand, you have treated them with indifference and neglect; if you have suffered them to be lost from your houses and from your memories, however humble may have been our attempts, your treatment of them has certainly been improper. But, brethren, we hope better things of you, though we fear that in some instances reproof is but too needful. We will, however, continue our feeble efforts to stir you up to more zealous and unceasing diligence in the good cause of our blessed Redeemer.

True zeal in the heart of a Christian originates in supreme love to God, and is accompanied with unfeigned love to all mankind. It is that heavenly flame which puts in motion every faculty of the mind, and embraces every opportunity of doing good. Our blessed Redeemer possessed this heaven-born grace in perfection. From him the primitive Churches caught the sacred flame; and may not we also light our lamp at the same golden Altar, whose

Total number of Members.	Died	Excluded	Dismissed by letters of commendation.
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CHARLES TUPPER, DALL, be ap- corresponding

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blaze can never be extinguished? We are well aware that there are many in our Churches at this day that are crying, "O my leanness! my leanness!" and, "O that it were with me as in months past!" and we know not how to address them better than in the language of the poet,

"Were half the breath thus vainly spent,
To Heaven in supplication sent,
Your cheerful songs would oft'ner be,
'Hear what the Lord has done for me.'"

Remember, brethren, *he that knew his master's will, and did it not, shall be beaten with many stripes.* The assurance of faith is only attained to by the obedience of faith; and if our conduct is at variance with our profession, we cannot reasonably expect the smiles of Heaven.

Never did the world present a more inviting field for labor, than at this day; nor was there ever less excuse for slothfulness. We are surrounded by benevolent and useful institutions, which invite us to lend our aid; and are we not greatly deficient in the discharge of our duty, in not aiding these institutions, by contributing of our substance, according to our ability, and assisting them with our prayers, our influence, and our example? If our consciences answer in the affirmative, let us no longer ask the question why our Churches languish, and our souls pine away with drought; it is because the sin of covetousness lies at our door. How long shall our hearts remain callous, and our hands so fast shut that we cannot open them, when we hear the pathetic addresses of the devoted Missionary, calling upon us, as men and as Christians, to sacrifice a little of our affluence to that sacred cause for which they are themselves forsaking their friends and country, and devoting their time and talents, their bodies and their souls, with the hope of being instrumental in emancipating immortal souls from under the tyrannical yoke of ignorance, superstition, and idolatry?

The Bible Society also claims our attention. These two institutions, like the two wings of the angel whom the Revelator saw flying through the midst of heaven, have been for many years bearing upon their pinions, against the adverse winds of earth and hell, the everlasting Gospel to preach to them that dwell upon the earth: and if our dead souls have been quickened into spiritual life through its saving influence—if we have tasted its ravishing sweetness—ought we not individually, and as a body, to arise and fan the heavenly breeze until that faithful witness be accomplished, and the many millions of our fellow immortals who have never so much as heard the name of Jesus, be made acquainted with the Saviour of sinners, and be saved from the wrath to come? These are matters of too great importance to be neglected by the people of God.

There is another subject to which we would invite your attention, in which the Church of Christ is deeply interested, and consequently in the encouragement of which every member ought to be zealously engaged: we mean the support of the Gospel Ministry, which is so prominent in the word of God, and is one of the principal means which Heaven has ordained for the salvation of

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sinners, the building up of the Church of Christ on earth, and the fitting of them for the Church triumphant. The Apostle Paul says, (1 Thes. v. 12, 13.) *And we beseech, brethren, to know them who labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake.* To know them is to be familiar with them, so as to know their personal wants and relieve them, to know their afflictions and sympathize with them, to know them in their office and respect them. Yea, they should *esteem them highly—very highly*—in love for their work's sake. To a Gospel Minister living among such a people, nothing is too hard for him to undertake for their welfare: he is ready by day or by night to do them good, and earnestly desires, with all the tender feeling and solicitude of a faithful shepherd, their spiritual and eternal welfare. But how sickening, how heart-appalling to the gospel labourer, is the opposite line of conduct! While he is exhausting his bodily powers and employing the abilities which God has given him to the utmost, to promote the best interest of Zion, he finds his communications disregarded, the appointments of the Church slighted, the house of God forsaken, and himself and his family totally neglected; and finally is forced to fly from the tongue of calumny and reproach, to seek for refuge in some more peaceful region of God's vineyard. *These things ought not so to be:* and if upon close examination we find ourselves worthy of blame, let us set about a speedy reformation, and endeavour after a closer walk with God, and peradventure he will return and leave a blessing behind him.

Again, Tract Societies have been productive of much good. These are, perhaps, as well calculated, by their little messengers of peace, to benefit every department of society, as any other institution. Let one of these societies be formed in every Church; let a constant supply of tracts be kept on hand, and let such as can pay for them pay, and to such as cannot let them be lent (one or two at a time), and if they cannot read them, let persons go to their houses and read to them, by prayer and supplication commending them to the mercy of Him whose blessings can make the most humble means effectual. Toward those, also, who will not buy them let the same method be pursued as with such as cannot. Who can tell what beneficial results may flow from such a mode of procedure?

By thus entering with efficiency into the principles of these several institutions, we shall obtain much satisfaction to our own minds, our vacant time will be usefully filled up, the temptations of Satan will be repulsed, and we shall find subjects for profitable conversation at our social interviews; and the young and rising generation, instead of being brought up to perpetuate a course of vain and idle conversation, will be led, it may be hoped, by our pious example, to form consistent ideas of the principles of religion, and to pursue a consistent course of conduct. It is lamentable to hear professed members of Christ's mystical body frequently, on social occasions, occupy two or three hours in conversing upon the failings of their fellow-members, instead of improving these opportunities for the glory of their Divine Master, the improvement of their own minds, and the salvation of precious souls.

The Christian, however, is not confined to any definite number of institutions; but is bound by the principles of that holy religion which he professes, to aid, by his influence and example, every institution which has for its object the best interest of mankind. Such an one we have in the Temperance Society: and what man, what Christian, can refuse to lend his aid to banish from society the most demoralizing practice that ever stained the annals of the Church, or filled the world with crime? The Christian has no question to settle respecting his duty, for that was settled at his baptism, when by putting on Christ he professedly became a follower of Him who spent his life in doing good; and it is our duty to imitate Him, not as far as we feel a desire only, but as far as a gracious Providence has put it in the compass of our power. "Occupy till I come" is the command of Jesus, the Captain of our salvation, to all his spiritual household; and as all our work and warfare is of a

spiritual nature, we should be careful to have our minds deeply affected with a sense of the love of God to us sinners: thus our minds will become spiritual, obedience delightful, and our Christian character will appear in its true light and colour. Do we not pray continually, "Thy Kingdom come"? and shall we demonstrate that our profession is only in words, by refusing to advance that Kingdom when opportunity presents itself, and the means are at hand, and thus draw down upon our heads the just displeasure of our heavenly Father? And very dark must be the moral sight of that man who does not discover it already begun. Will not the Lord visit us for these things? and will he not be avenged on such a nation as this? He will: do we not see to what a moral waste much of the Zion of our God is already reduced in this Province? What jars, contentions, and divisions are we feeling? And if some of our Churches have escaped these, are not others greatly distressed with immorality and the almost total indifference of many of their members to even the externals of religion? And if these things are not sufficient to awaken us, let us look at our ministerial department. Who can contrast its former with its present state, and not feel that a sad "Ichabod" is inscribed upon it? Where is N.? where is H.? where is I.? where are S., M., T., D., &c. &c.? and of the few that remain, some are already on the wing, and others, worn out with the perverseness and almost entire neglect of their people, are beginning to feel that the place is too strait for them. This is no picture of the imagination; it is an awful reality: and although we do not wish to terrify you, we feel it our duty to address you in the voice of warning, and to remind you of the instability of all earthly things, and to say unto you, in the language of Him who knew what was in man, *Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth.* The season is fast approaching,—fast as the wings of time can bear it,—when we must bid a final adieu to all we now call our own. In that solemn and trying moment, it will not repent us to have done a little for our Redeemer and our Judge.

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CORRESPONDING LETTER.

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

BELoved BRETHREN :

With a degree of heart-felt pleasure and satisfaction of mind, we again address our respected correspondents from the place of our general convention, and inform them, concerning the repeated tokens of Divine favour, that a covenant God has been pleased to confer upon and continue unto us. The Great Head of the Church, in covenant love, has granted us the inestimable blessings of peace, harmony, and prosperity; which have constrained us to exclaim,

Such gracious blessings from above
Encompass us around!

Still we have not the satisfaction of affording our Correspondents the pleasing intelligence of so many revivals, in our Churches, as at some other times; the blessed Lord, however, has been graciously pleased to add to our churches a number, which we trust are plants of his right hand's planting.

We anticipated more pleasure from the expectation of receiving Messengers and Minutes from the District of Maine, by which our hearts had heretofore been refreshed, than we have enjoyed in consequence of their failure.

We have however been gladdened by the countenance and labours of our Brethren from Nova-Scotia.

And now Brethren, very pleasant has been our present Session, we have been highly favoured with the sensible presence of the Great Head of the

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Minute Money

Aug. 27th, from
Frederic
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Church. May our Brethren share abundantly in the same, to the joy and rejoicing of their precious souls.—AMEN.

Account of Money Collected at the Association.

Public Collection.....	£10	11	7
Minute Money from the Church at Norton.....	0	4	0
Salisbury.....	0	5	0
Sackville.....	0	9	1½
Hillsborough.....	1	0	0
New Canaan.....	0	6	0
Hopewell.....	0	19	0
Springfield.....	0	6	0
1st Hampton.....	0	10	0
2d Hampton.....	0	8	0
Wickham.....	1	0	3
Dorchester.....	0	8	0
Buctouche.....	0	5	0
King's Clear.....	0	7	6
A Friend.....	0	3	10½
Aug. 27th, from 1st Hampton Church by J. Smith, Jr.....	1	1	0½
Fredericton Church Minute Money.....	0	10	6
St. John Church Minute Money.....	1	5	0
	£19	10	7½

The above money is applied to Missionary purposes in the Province; and when it is considered, that 16 only out of 32 Churches, have hereby contributed any thing toward the fund, how limited must necessarily be the field of labour the ensuing year. It is earnestly hoped that the Churches will come forward, and on receipt of these Minutes immediately make such efforts as their situation will allow to recruit the funds.

DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

During the past year, several of our Ministering Brethren have labored under appointments from the Board. Elder JOSEPH CRANDALL'S Journal contains an epitome of fourteen weeks labor under their sanction; during part of which time he labored in the settlements of New Canaan, and Butternut Ridge, preaching the word of life. He describes the people there as listening with attention and solemnity to the word, and expresses a hope that his labor was not in vain in the Lord. Elder CRANDALL also spent some time in visiting that part of the Province above Fredericton, to the upper part of Wakefield, and often during his tour preached the Gospel to a very destitute people, whom he describes as truly needing the zealous and faithful labors of the servants of Christ. He left these people with much reluctance, promising again, (if life and health were preserved,) to visit them.

Elder S. BANCROFT, has, under the direction of the Board, recently labored seven weeks, part of which time he spent in Wakefield, Belisle, the head of Long Reach, and St. Martins. The former place he describes also as truly needing missionary exertion—the Baptist Church there being in a very low state of religious feeling. At the Long Reach and adjacent settlements, he observes, an extensive field is opened for the preaching of the Gospel, in order to put a stop to the progress of error which seems to prevail. At St. Martin's he expresses a hope that his labors were blessed. Elder B. during his tour appears to have experienced the presence of God in his own soul. Elder R. DAVIS has also spent some weeks under the direction of the Board, but as his

Journal is not yet received, we cannot give even an outline of his labor. It is gratifying to the friends of the Redeemer to observe in almost every place an attention to the word, and we have only, Dear Brethren, to unite ardent prayer to God, with benevolent exertion, and more laborers we are persuaded, would be found in the vineyard of Christ.

The following is the amount of money collected by those who have labored under the sanction of the Board this year, viz:—

By Elder Crandall at Waterbury.....	£1 0 0	
At Settlements above Frederickton.....	1 0 1	
At New Canaan and Butternut Ridge.....	3 16 8	
		5 16 9
By Elder Bancroft at Wakefield.....	1 2 6	
Belisle.....	1 0 0	
St. Martin's.....	1 14 0	
		3 16 6
By Elder Davis at North Branch, Oromocto..	1 6 4½	
South Branch ditto.....	1 12 5	
At a Funeral Sermon preached at —.....	5 0	
At Burton.....	1 2 3	
At Lincoln.....	1 5 6½	
At Maugerville.....	0 9 10	
At Sheffield.....	0 15 0	
At Gary Settlement.....	0 10 0	
		7 6 5
Total,		£16 19 8