

MINUTES

OF THE

NOVA-SCOTIA AND NEW-BRUNSWICK

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT

SAINTE JOHN, N. B.

JUNE 23d and 24th,

1819.

SAINT JOHN:

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WILLIAM-STREET.

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BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1819.

1st. Introductory Sermon by Elder J. DIMOCK, from 1st Peter, 2d chap. 4th verse.

2d. The Associated Ministers and Messengers took their seats, and the Messengers from Sister Associations were informed that they were considered as a part of this Council—They took their seats with us—We Prayed—then chose Elder E. MANNING, Moderator, Elder J. DIMOCK, Clerk, and brother J. M. WILMOT, Esq. Assistant Clerk.

3d. Read the Letters from the several Churches, and took the following account of Members added, dismissed, excluded and died the year past; and the present number in each Church.

N. B.—The names of ordained Ministers are in SMALL CAPITALS, licensed Preachers in *Italics*. The Ministers with this (*) were not present; Churches marked (†) we had no information from this session; vacant Churches distinguished by a ———.

Churches

Churches

Lower Granville
Upper Granville,

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.

Waterbury, N. B.
Prince William, N.
Wakefield, N. B. (†)
Madamkissway, N.
Sissiboo, N. S. (†)
Fredericton, N. B.

St. Martin's, N. B.
St. Mary's, N. B.
Horton, N. S.
River Philip, N. S.

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

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4th. Voted to
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Churches.	Elders and Messengers.	Added.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Total.
Lower Granville, N. S.	_____					40
Upper Granville, N. S.	THOMAS ANSLEY, William Marshal,	2	1			67
Cornwallis, N. S.	EDWARD MANNING,	12	2			120
Newport, N. S.	_____	2				72
Onslow, N. S.	_____	3	6		1	56
Clements, N. S. (†)	_____					68
Halifax, N. S.	JOHN BURTON,* JAMES MUNRO,	113			3	300
Amherst, N. S.	_____	3			1	19
Nictau, N. S.	T. H. CHIPMAN, Caleb Shafner,	4		4		108
Chester, N. S.	JOSEPH DIMOCK, Nicholas Floyd,	1				110
Lunenburg, N. S.	Robert Davis,*	4		1		35
St. John, N. B.	_____					
	John M. Wilmot, Esq. Thomas Harding, Esq.	16	3	1		56
Sackville, N. B.	_____				3	45
Salisbury, N. B.	JOSEPH CRANDAL, James Blakely,	1			1	84
	Titus Stone,					
Waterbury, N. B.	ELIJAH EASTERBROOKS,				4	26
Prince William, N. B. (†)	LUTHORP HAMMOND,*					60
Wakefield, N. B. (†)	_____					24
Madamkiway, N. B.	_____					23
Sissiboo, N. S. (†)	ENOCH TOWNER,					30
Fredericton, N. B.	_____					
	Jarvis Ring,					18
St. Martin's, N. B.	_____					27
St. Mary's, N. B.	_____	6				18
Horton, N. S.	T. S. HARDING,	5			4	52
River Philip, N. S.	CHARLES TUPPER, Timothy Weatherby,	24		1	1	43
Digby Neck, N. S.	PETER CRANDAL,*	64	C		1	113
Norton, N. B.	DAVID NUTTER.					6

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

4th. Voted to send a Ministering Brother to visit the Church at Springfield, and exhort them to come up to their duty and to fulfil Covenant engagements with this Association.

5th. That the Clerk shall write a Letter to Digby Neck, to inform them they were left out of our Minutes last year through mistake, and not with design.

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6th. Appointed Elders CRANDAL, ANSLEY, PILSBURY, DRINKWATER, and RIPLEY, to wait on Brother DAVID NUTTER, of Norton Church, and after consultation, report to us the propriety of ordaining him this session.

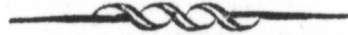
The committee above named, report they advise that the Ministers and Messengers meet brother NUTTER in the Vestry Room on Thursday morning, at 6 o'clock, to examine his christian experience, call to preach, (or lead to the Ministry) doctrinal views, his good report, &c.

7th. Read and accepted the Circular Letter, prepared by Elder T. GRIFFIN.

8th. Read and accepted the Corresponding Letter, prepared by Elder E. MANNING.

9th. Read the Corresponding Letter from Bowdoinham Association, Messenger, Elder ARTHUR DRINKWATER; and Lincoln Association, Messenger, Elder PHINEAS PILSBURY; Messenger from Cumberland Association, Elder THOMAS B. RIPLEY—the Minutes are expected.

Adjourned to 6 o'clock to-morrow morning. Prayer—Elder RIPLEY preached at 6 o'clock this evening, from "*Brethren pray for us.*"



THURSDAY, JUNE 24.

Met at 6 o'clock—After Prayer examined the Candidate, who gave the most satisfactory evidences of his call and qualifications for the Ministry. A particular glow of animation seemed to inspire every breast. Arranged the duties of the day—concluded with prayer. Adjourned until 10 o'clock, when there was a Missionary and Ordination Sermon preached from Psalm 68th, 11th verse, by Elder HARDING, who likewise asked some important questions before the public. Laying on of hands were performed by Elders CHIPMAN, MANNING, HARDING, ANSLEY, CRANDAL, DRINKWATER and DIMOCK. Consecrating Prayer, by Elder CHIPMAN. Charge, by Elder MANNING. Right Hand of Fellowship, by Elder DRINKWATER. Concluding Prayer, by Elder CRANDAL. Adjourned until 3 o'clock.

Met according to adjournment.

11th. Voted that the Association meet next year at Sackville, N. B. 10 o'clock, forenoon, on the first Wednesday after the 20th of June.

12th. That Elder CHIPMAN prepare the Circular Letter and Elder TUPPER the Corresponding Letter for next year, and Elder MANNING preach the Introductory Sermon.

13th. Appointed Elder MANNING our Messenger to Sister Associations, and that he receive £10 for his services and expenses.

14th. It is recommended to our Churches to observe the 25th day of December as a day of thanksgiving to the Lord for all his mercies; and the 1st day of the Year a day of fasting and prayer; and the evening of the first Monday in every Month as a season of special prayer for the success of the Gospel.

15th. Appointed brother JOHN M. WILMOT, Esq. to superintend the printing of the Minutes—600 copies to be printed.

16th. Re-elected the committee of last year to superintend the Missionary

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onary concerns, viz—Elders MANNING, HARDING, CHIPMAN, and brethren SIMON FITCH, Esq. D. LOCKHART, Esq. G. DIMOCK, W. CHIPMAN, and have added to the number in New-Brunswick, Elder EASTERBROOKS, brethren T. PETTINGELL, Esq. T. HARDING, Esq. WILLIAM WILMOT, Esq. JEREMIAH DRAKE, and J. RING, to act in conjunction with the Committee.

For Missionary purposes was received by the Committee—

Contributions at Chester,	£2 0 0
St. Martins,	3 1 10
Collection after a Sermon preached by Elder DRINK- WATER, on the evening of the 24th June, from Ezra, 1st chap. 3d and 5th verses,	9 15 11
From Mr. ALLAN YOUNG, at Windsor,	0 10 0
A Friend,	0 2 6
Female Mite Society at Chester,	10 15 4
Annapolis Upper Branch,	4 2 7½
Wilmot Branch,	12 3 7
River Philip,	3 15 0
Horton,	8 10 6
Cornwallis,	16 10 6
Nictau,	10 0 0
A number of Females at Amherst,	1 0 0

Our female friends generally accompanied their donations with the most affectionate Letters, in few words, wishing us prosperity—They have surely done worthily, and great, yea very great will be their reward.

17th. Voted the thanks of this Association to the Church and congregation meeting in this House, and all our benevolent friends in general in the City of St. John, for their benevolence, &c.

18th. Appointed Elders DIMOCK and NUTTER, and brother FLOYD to council and assist the brethren at St. Martins, as their case may require.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Printed in Boston every two months, an American Baptist Magazine, containing from 32 to 40 pages, price 7½ each, or 6s. per dozen. This Association recommend the above publication to all the friends of Zion that are able to get them, on account of the comforting and profitable matter they contain, both foreign and domestic, concerning all denominations in general, and our own in particular.

N. B.—Missionary appointments—

Elder JAMES MUNRO, 12 weeks to the eastward of Halifax.

Elder TUPPER, four weeks from Ramsbeg to the Bay de Vert, being part of both Provinces.

Elder CRANDAL, eight weeks among the destitute in New-Brunswick.

Elder EASTERBROOKS eight weeks among the destitute in ditto.

£12 to be placed in the hands of Elder J. BURTON, to be employed by brother BURTON, according to his discretion, in visiting the people of colour in the regions around him.

Our Missionaries are to receive 40s. per week and collect what they can for Missionary purposes, and their expences are to be defrayed by the Committee.

It is requested by this Association that all Churches who have not paid up their arrearages for printing the Minutes, will have them collected and forwarded to Brother Elder MANNING, Nova-Scotia, and JOHN M. WILMOT, Esq. St. John, N. B.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Ministers and Messengers of the Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick Baptist Association, convened at St. John, N. B. June 23 and 24, 1819, to the Churches they represent, send Christian salutation.

DEAR BRETHREN,

WE have now been favored with another meeting of a social nature, as the Representatives of the Churches we stand connected with, and as an Associate body; we need not assign any other reason for addressing a letter to you, than what Paul assigned in Cor. 7, 12, which is, *That our care for you in the sight of God may appear to you.* Were we not careful for your best interest, we should be every way unworthy of the offices we fill in the respective Churches, of the confidence you place in us, and of the characters we sustain, as Christians, fellow members with you, messengers of the Churches, and Ministers of Christ. Paul and Timothy, in the passage above noticed, considered themselves in the sight of God, while they cared for and addressed the Corinthians; and God is our record also. Dear Brethren, how much we long, labor and pray for your welfare; we are partakers in your joys and sorrows, and have much reason to be thankful for the Blessings granted you. Some of you are favored with Gospel Ministers and privileges, are blessed with unity, and are increasing in number; we would show our care for you, by exhorting you never to undervalue such mercies, let not the constant enjoyment of them diminish their value, and never may you experience *a famine of the word of the Lord.* Others of you have no Pastors and only the occasional Ministry of the word and ordinance of God's House; therefore from carefulness for your welfare, we exhort you, *not to forsake the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is,* but exhort one another daily, with your eyes fixed upon the termination of your privileges, the coming of the day of God, and the Gospel trumpet silenced by that of the Archangel.

Our care of you will appear, by our desire that you will endeavor to hold the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace, and walk together in love; there will be many attempts made, to sow discord and gender strife among you. Yea to make your *minds evil affected towards each other;* to separate and scatter you; and among yourselves, men may arise, speaking perverse things: roots of bitterness may spring up and trouble you. But you will do well to attend to such passages as these; *study the things that make for peace; and things whereby one may edify another; Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love her; for my brethren and companions sake I will say peace be within thee; I will prefer the peace of Zion above my chief good.* Mark those that make divisions, and have no fellowship with such men.

We are careful that your hearts may be established with grace; there are too many who are tossed to and fro with every wind of Doctrine, ever learning and never coming to the knowledge of *the truth.* We recommend stability in the Doctrines of Grace, and that are according to Godliness; those truths that equally maintain the honors of Grace and the interests of Holiness: for *by Grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves it is the gift of God,* not of works, lest any man should boast; for we are his workmanship created in Jesus Christ, unto *good works* which God hath before *ordained* that we should walk in them. Now he that establisheth us together with you is God; we hope you will be fervent with

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Our care for you will appear in our desires that you may be fruitful in every good word and work; we know the earth that bringeth not fruit is nigh unto cursing; the fruitless fig tree, when cursed, was soon dried up; and we fear there are too many professors of Christianity; if not in so awful a state, yet are no better than the barren fig tree, for whom the dresser prayed—*let it alone this year also, until I shall dig about it, and dung it, and if it bear fruit well, and if not, after that thou shalt cut it down.* We pray the word of Christ may dwell in you richly, that you may not be barren nor unfruitful; for herein is God glorified that ye bear much fruit, so shall ye be Christs disciples.

Our care also is, that you may be greatly increased in number; the Lord has others whom he must bring; Zion shall yet say, the place is too straight for us; he will gather others to her, besides those he has gathered—of the increase of the government and peace of our blessed Lord, there shall be no end. *He must increase*—This you believe but you want to see it accomplished; so do we. Let us then be active in attempting to diffuse the savor of the knowledge of Christ around us; and so to act, that others may be constrained to say, we will go with you for God is with you.

We are likewise concerned, that you may be individually favored with the gifts and graces of God's spirit, and that the great head of the Church may make it clear; there are some amongst you whom he designs for greater usefulness in his vineyard than ever he has honored any of us with. It is not a time for talents to be hid in a napkin, they should be tried by the Churches, and those who are found faithful and capable should be encouraged to come forth to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

In this day, when enthusiasm prevails on one hand, and cold speculation on the other, we want *burning and shining lights*, a combination of these excellencies is necessary from the consideration, that warmth without light soon becomes enthusiasm, and light without warmth mere speculation in religion.

We are careful that each of you, dear Brethren, fill the stations that God has assigned you, both in the Church and the world, so as to bring glory to his name, that you may know how you ought to behave yourselves in the house of God, and act accordingly. That as Husbands, Fathers and Masters, you may walk before God in your houses with perfect hearts, behaving yourselves wisely, and *that God may come unto you.* As Wives, Mothers, &c. you may prove yourselves the daughters of Sarah, *doing well.* As Children you may be obedient to your Parents which is right in the sight of the Lord; and as Domestics, you may shew all good fidelity adorning the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.

Our care for you leads us to pray you may enjoy much of the life and power of religion in your own souls: sweet fellowship with the Father and his Son Jesus Christ; the earnest of the spirit in your hearts; peace and joy in believing, and fellowship with the Saints; that the life you live in the flesh may be by the faith of the Son of God; that you may walk worthy of your high vocation; shine as lights in the world; find the Grace of God at all times sufficient for you; that his mercy and goodness may follow you all your days, and that you may dwell in the house of God forever.

Should

Should these things be regarded by you, and prayer answered for you, then will you be our joy here and crown of rejoicing in the great day of the Lord, to which we are all hastening. And now dear Brethren we commend you to God and the word of his grace; may you be kept from falling, and at last be presented faultless before the throne. *Amen.*

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick Association, to corresponding Associations, wish Grace, Mercy and Peace.

Dearly beloved Brethren in the Lord,

WE rejoice that Almighty God hath spared our lives, to see the return of another anniversary meeting of our Churches in an Association. We have cause to rejoice that though some branches of our body are called to mourn, and are in a languishing state, that the gracious Lord hath caused some mercy drops to fall on others of our little hills of Zion. We likewise congratulate our Sister Associations in the district of Maine, and the United States generally, that the gracious Lord hath from such small beginnings, and apparently weak means, in less than two centuries, sowed the seeds of Apostolical Truth in the continent of America; and after watering it for a time, hath raised up such a host of believers of different denominations, and of the baptised in particular, to shew forth his praise. That he hath given his spouse such a degree of health that she hath brought forth many sons, who no longer mumble the language of Ashdod, but speak the pure language of Canaan, in doctrine, salvation by grace, rich, free, and infinitely glorious!

As it respects order, taking their model from Christ and his Apostles, and willing to stand for the defence of the Gospel upon the walls of our American Zion; to run to and fro that knowledge may be increased; to go to St. Louis, on the banks of the Mississippi, in order to erect the standard of the cross among the sable sons of Afric, and the tawny natives of the Wood, or visit the scorching regions of the East, and lay siege to the savage idolators of Burmah. May God prosper that Mission! When we contemplate what God hath wrought in America, and what he hath put into the heart of his Zion there to do, for sending the Gospel through out the world so far as means are afforded. We cannot help exclaiming "what hath God wrought." Brethren go on and prosper—We are doing something likewise for the spread of the Redeemer's kingdom, as you will see by our Minutes.—We wish a continuance of your correspondence.—Our interview was pleasant—we hope profitable; and our joy was heightened by the arrival of your Messengers and Minutes. May you and increase with the increase of God, and be fitted with the peace of God which passeth all understanding, till we join with the Association above.

Signed in behalf of the Association,

EDWARD MANNING, *Moderator,*
JOSEPH DIMOCK, *Clerk.*