

MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE

CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,
OF NOVA SCOTIA.

HELD AT CANAR, CORNWALLIS,
SATURDAY, MONDAY, AND TUESDAY,
21st, 23rd, and 24th June, 1851.

— o —
HALIFAX:

PRINTED AT THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER OFFICE.

—
MDCCCLI.

loypet cmc

Y 427

A 43

1851-1869

0.1

WES

This As
Delegates,
represent,
tions, and a
fit to invite

The Ass
agreed upon

Each Ch
or more, b
in addition

At each
ceding year
shall be giv
two years i
preside in
dered by th
shall be ch
of the Ass
press.

It shall b
a letter to
larly of its
generally o

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

WESTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

OF NOVA SCOTIA.

ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be composed of Ministers and other Delegates, who shall be members of the churches which they represent, together with Delegates from corresponding Associations, and such other brethren present as the Association shall see fit to invite to sit in Council.

ARTICLE II.

The Association shall meet at such time and place as may be agreed upon by the body.

ARTICLE III.

Each Church shall have the privilege of sending one Delegate or more, but no Church shall be entitled to send more than five in addition to their Pastor.

ARTICLE IV.

At each meeting of the Association the Moderator of the preceding year shall call for the vote for a Moderator, which vote shall be given by ballot: no brother shall be chosen Moderator two years in succession. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside in all the transactions, nominate Committees unless ordered by the Association, and maintain due order. A Secretary shall be chosen, whose duty it shall be to record the transactions of the Association, and furnish a correct copy of the same for the press.

ARTICLE V.

It shall be the duty of each Church to send by its Messengers a letter to the Association, giving an account of its state, particularly of its additions and diminutions within the last year, and generally of whatsoever relates to its peace and prosperity.

ARTICLE VI.

When any Church shall desire admittance into this body, application must be made by letter, and satisfactory evidence furnished of its faith and order: this being done, and a vote of acceptance taken, the Moderator shall, in behalf of the Association, give to one of its Messengers present the right hand of fellowship.

ARTICLE VII.

When any Church shall neglect to make communications for three years successively it shall be considered as having withdrawn from us, and shall be dropped from the minutes, unless two or more members shall request its continuance, and shall engage to enquire into its standing and report at the next meeting of the Association.

ARTICLE VIII.

Although, as an Association, all power over the churches is disclaimed, so far as respects any interference with their independence and discipline, yet it is deemed a privilege belonging to the Association for itself to judge of the propriety of receiving or retaining any Church in its connexion.

ARTICLE IX.

The religious sentiments of this Body are those expressed in "The Articles of the Faith and Practice of the Baptist Churches of Nova Scotia."

ARTICLE X.

Alterations or Amendments may be made to this Constitution by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any of its regular meetings.

RULES OF ORDER.

Rule 1.—At every sitting business shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Rule 2.—No member of the Association shall leave the session before the business is concluded, without permission of the Association.

Rule 3.—No subject shall be discussed without a motion, first made and seconded.

Rule 4.—No person shall speak oftener than twice on the same subject unless by permission of the Body.

Rule 5.—All resolutions shall be presented in writing.

Rule 6.—Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the Minutes except so ordered at the time.

Rule 7.—These Rules shall be distinctly read from the Chair at the opening of the session.

The Centra
June 21, 1851.

The Minister
Harding prayed
Moderator. T
was chosen Mo
W. Ackhurst,
W. Chipman w
and Rules of O
Rules of Order
the exception of

The names of
and received.
Western Associ
the Western No
Parker, Dickie,
herations.

The following
To Read the L
To Examine th
brother D. McPh

The letters fro
following list of
ing the state of th

MINUTES.

SATURDAY, June, 21, 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Central Association, convened at Canar, on Saturday, June 21, 1851.

The Ministers and Delegates being assembled, the Rev. T. S. Harding prayed, when the brethren proceeded to the choice of a Moderator. The Rev. T. S. Harding, pastor of Horton Church, was chosen Moderator; the Rev. W. Hall, Clerk; and brother W. Ackhurst, Assistant Clerk. Revds. Dr Cramp, Hall, Hunt, and W. Chipman were chosen a Committee to prepare a Constitution and Rules of Order, when a Constitution was adopted, and also Rules of Order similar to those of the Western Association, with the exception of a slight alteration in Article 1.

The names of Delegates from other Associations were then read and received. The Rev. E. Harris from the New Brunswick Western Association, the Rev. I. E. Bill, and A. Cogswell, from the Western Nova Scotia Association, and the Revds. S. Elder, Parker, Dickie, and Clay, were invited to sit with us in our deliberations.

The following Committees were then appointed:

To Read the Letters.—Revs. I. E. Bill, Millar, and E. Harris.

To Examine the Letters.—Revs. R. B. Dickie, W. Parker, and brother D. McPherson.

The letters from the Churches were then read, from which the following list of Delegates was obtained, and also the Table showing the state of the Churches.

LIST OF DELEGATES.

First Cornwallis,—Rev. A. S. HUNT, brethren T. Rand, M. Beckwith, and T. Elder.

Second Cornwallis,—Rev. W. CHIPMAN, brethren Parker, Lyons, White, and E. Strong.

Third Cornwallis,—Rev. A. STRONACH, Deacons C. R. Bill, A. Strong, brethren G. Cogswell, and North.

First Horton,—Revs. T. S. HARDING, CRAMP, CHASE, BURPE, D. HARRIS, J. Chipman, Deacons P. Strong, C. Randall, Sanford, Palmer, and S. Fitch.

Second Horton,—Rev. J. STEPHENS, and brother T. Reid.

Upper Aylesford,—Brethren E. Harris, and E. Parker.

North Halifax,—Rev. J. MILLAR, W. H. Coaldwell, Deacons McPherson and McLearn.

Second Falmouth,—No Delegate.

Granville Street,—Deacon Johnston, brethren Creed, and Ackhurst.

Windsor,—Rev. W. HALL.

Rawdon,—Deacon F. Parker, brother C. Burgess.

First Hammond Plains,—Rev. S. VIDTOE.

Second Hammond Plains,—Rev. S. VIDTOE.

Long Point,—Rev. W. CHIPMAN, brother O. Cogswell.

Newport,—Rev. G. DIMOCK.

Indian Harbour,—Rev. J. VIDTOE.

Preston Church,—Brother Crawley.

Margaret's Bay,—Rev. S. VIDTOE.

New Germany,—Brother Jacob Gates.

Kempt,—Brother Francis.

First Falmouth, or Hantsport,—Deacon Davison.

First Cornwallis
Second Cornwallis
Third Cornwallis
First Horton
Second Horton
Upper Aylesford
North Halifax
Bridgewater
West Sherbrooke
Lunenburg
Chester
First Falmouth
Second Falmouth
New Germany
Granville Street
Windsor
Rawdon
Windsor Road
Sherbrooke East
First Hammond Plains
Second Hammond Plains
Kempt
Long Point
Newport
Indian Harbour
Preston
Margaret's Bay
New Germany
Dartmouth
Jeddere
Lawrence Town
Burton Road
Lunenburg

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.

	INCREASE.			DECREASE.			Total.
	Restored.	By Baptism.	By Letter.	Removed.	Dismissed.	Died.	
First Cornwallis	1				1	3	328
Second Cornwallis		3			4	3	290
Third Cornwallis	2				3	2	297
First Horton	1	3			9	9	517
Second Horton					4	3	142
Upper Aylesford						1	66
North Halifax	8	7		5	6		114
Bridgewater	1			2	2	1	27
West Sherbrook							22
Lunenburg							64
Chester							278
First Falmouth	9			1		2	165
Second Falmouth							15
New Germany							24
Granville Street	1						161
Windsor	4	5	5	2	2	3	49
Rawdon	2	11		1	2		94
Windsor Road and Sackville							41
Sherbrook East							31
First Hammond Plains			3				43
Second Hammond Plains	9					3	47
Kempt	17	1				1	106
Long Point							29
Newport	2	9		12			119
Indian Harbour			2			3	26
Preston	3	1	2		1		132
Margarets Bay	1	5	1		3	4	72
New Germany	1			3			20
Dartmouth							34
Jeddere							31
Lawrence Town							14
Barton Road							24
Lunenburg	1			1			66
	877	50	13	28	34	39	549

Adjusted to meet for business on Monday at 10 o'clock A.M.

The churches from which no letters were received are returned as they stood last year, viz.: West Sherbrook, Lunenburg, Chester, Windsor Road and Sackville, and Sherbrook East.

The following Committees were then appointed:—

Committee of Arrangements.—Revs. A. S. Hunt, I. Chipman, and J. Stephens.

On Temperance.—Rev. R. B. Dickie, brethren E. Parker, E. Strong, Elder, and Ackhurst.

To Examine Circular Letter.—Revs. S. Elder, I. E. Bill.

On Bible Cause.—Rev. J. M. Cramp, Dr Sawers, Rev. J. Miller, brethren J. W. Barss, C. R. Bill.

On Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes.—Revs. T. H. Porter, D. Harris, W. Parker, and brethren T. White, M. Beckwith, and W. North.

On Christian Messenger.—Revs. J. M. Cramp, Burpe, Viditoe, E. Harris, and brother T. Rand.

On Home Missions.—Revs. W. Chipman, D. Harris, Miller, Dimock, Stronach, Coakwell, Clay, and brethren I. Chipman, McPherson, G. Cogswell, and T. Reid.

On Foreign Missions.—Revs. A. S. Hunt, Burpe, E. Harris, Stephens, S. Elder, and brethren Barss, Sawers, A. Parker, and Taylor.

On Union Societies.—Brethren Sawers, J. McLearn, O. Cogswell, J. Ells, D. Lyons, Angell, H. Eaton, C. R. Bill, and T. Reid.

Committee to ascertain where the Association will be holden next year.—Revs. T. Harding, Dimock, D. Harris, W. Chipman, and E. Stronach.

After the reading of the letters, Rev. J. Chase was appointed Treasurer.

Voted that a short period be spent in prayer to Almighty God for his blessing. The Revs. E. Harris, Burpe, J. M. Cramp, and A. Cogswell then engaged in prayer.

Adjourned to meet for business on Monday, at ten o'clock, A. M.

Introductory
sians i. 28: after
Missions in add

Prayer by Re

Continued th

Voted that br
tee to prepare a
E. Manning.

Voted that bro
seat with us.

Voted also, th
with us.

Voted that a C
lege, and that t
W. Chipman, Pro
Dr Cramp, W. Pa
and brother Barss

Voted that Dr C
Association.

Voted that Dr C
wick Association,
these Associations

Voted that he
Association, and t
brother Cramp's e
the Western New

Voted that broth
Nova Scotia Assoc

Voted that Rev.
Crawley, and broth
vention, from this

Voted that the
Association next ye
his alternate.

MONDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M.

Introductory Sermon by the Rev. T. S. Harding, from Colossians i. 28 : after which a collection was taken up in aid of Home Missions in addition to the collections of the preceding day.

Prayer by Rev. A. S. Hunt.

Continued the reading of the letters.

Voted that brethren J. W. Johnston and Sawers be a Committee to prepare a resolution in reference to the death of the Rev. E. Manning.

Voted that brother McLearn of Dartmouth, be invited to take a seat with us.

Voted also, that all brethren in good standing be invited to sit with us.

Voted that a Committee be appointed in reference to the College, and that the following brethren be that Committee: Rev. W. Chipman, Professor Chipman, Deacons Ellis, J. Johnston, Rev. Dr Cramp, W. Parker, E. Harris, Dr Sawers, Rev. R. McLearn, and brother Bars.

Voted that Dr Cramp be Messenger to the Eastern Nova Scotia Association.

Voted that Dr Cramp be Messenger to the Eastern New Brunswick Association, and that brother Burpe be also Messenger to these Associations.

Voted that he be appointed to the Western New Brunswick Association, and that brother Miller be his alternate; and that brother Cramp's expenses be paid; and also brother Burpe's to the Western New Brunswick Association.

Voted that brother Stephens be our Messenger to the Western Nova Scotia Association.

Voted that Rev. T. S. Harding, W. Chipman, G. Dimock, Dr Crawley, and brother J. W. Johnston, be Messengers to the Convention, from this Association.

Voted that the Introductory Sermon be preached at the Association next year by brother Hall, and that Dr Crawley be his alternate.

Voted that brother Hunt write the Circular Letter.
The Committee on the Christian Messenger reported the following Resolution:

REPORT.

The Committee on the Christian Messenger beg to Report:

That the Committee have heard with great pleasure of the increasing circulation of the Christian Messenger during the past year.

That viewing the Press as a most important instrument of usefulness, they regard a well sustained periodical as essential to the prosperity and extension of the Baptist Denomination in this Province; since, unless the proceedings of the various Educational and other Institutions are faithfully recorded, and their claims to support strenuously advocated, they will fail to receive the amount of patronage which they require, and will drag out a lingering existence, exerting but little influence in the community.— Equally desirable is it, in the opinion of the Committee, that the state of the Churches, and providential dispensations affecting their members, should be continually reported.

Your Committee rejoice, therefore, that in the pages of the Christian Messenger the above mentioned objects are from time to time presented to view. They consider the thanks of the Denomination due to the respected Editors for their able management of the paper, and the zeal with which they advocate all denominational interests, and they recommend the members of our Churches and Congregations to sustain them liberally by constant additions to the subscription list.

J. M. CRAMP,
Chairman.

Report adopted.

Adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock, p. m.

Prayer by the Moderator.

Met at 3 o'clock, p. m. Prayer by brother Hunt.

Voted that the Association be held next year, 1852, with the Church in Hants Port, and that brethren Churchill, W. Davison, and N. Harris, be a Committee to make arrangements for the Session.

The Committee
following Resolu

The Committee
of the Union S

That the Union
compleish the obje
support of Forei
Ministerial Educ
ters, by the unite
Sabbath Schools,
the Ministers and
requested to do ever
of this institution
the Baptist denom
All which is res

Report adopted.

The following R

Resolved,—That
Association be ret
the Union Society
them practically ef
Church and adopt
adapted to further
Adjourned to me

Prayer by Elder

Voted that Elder
eign Bible Society,
The Committee o
the following Resol

The Committee on the subject of Union Societies reported the following Resolution :

REPORT.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the subject of the Union Society, hereby Report :

That the Union Society is in their judgment well fitted to accomplish the objects for which it was instituted, namely, The support of Foreign and Domestic Missions, the promotion of Ministerial Education and the support of aged and infirm Ministers, by the united co-operation of Churches, Congregations, and Sabbath Schools, and would therefore earnestly recommend that the Ministers and Delegates composing this Association be requested to do every thing in their power to introduce the working of this institution into every Church, and every family composing the Baptist denomination.

All which is respectfully submitted,

A. F. SAWERS,

Chairman.

Report adopted.

The following Resolution was then adopted :

Resolved,—That the Ministers and Deacons of Churches of this Association be requested to use their best exertions to introduce the Union Society into their respective Churches and to render them practically efficient by eliciting the aid of the Sisters of the Church and adopting all such other means as may seem best adapted to further extend the influence of these Societies.

Adjourned to meet at half-past six o'clock.

MONDAY, half-past six o'clock, P. M.

Prayer by Elder J. Miller.

Voted that Elder J. J. Wolsey, Agent of the American and Foreign Bible Society, be invited to take a seat with us.

The Committee on the subject of Foreign Missions reported the following Resolution :

REPORT.

The Committee on Foreign Missions beg to Report :

Your Committee deeply impressed with the importance of continuing our efforts in behalf of the Heathen earnestly recommend that although in the providence of God our beloved Missionary has for a time only as we hope been obliged to relinquish the sphere of his labours, yet that the same means as hitherto used for the support of the Mission be continued, in the anticipation that ere long we shall be able to re-occupy the field and even under better auspices than before.

A. S. HUNT.

Chairman.

Several interesting addresses on the subject of Foreign Missions were delivered by brethren Burpe, Dickie, and Wolsey from the United States; also by the Venerable Moderator, who brought forward the most conclusive reasons that the Mission should be continued.

Report adopted. Adjourned to meet on Tuesday, at ten o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by the Moderator.

TUESDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M.

Met according to adjournment.

Prayer by Elder W. Parker.

Rev. E. Harris, Messenger from the New Brunswick Western Association, preached a Sermon from 2 Cor. v. "For the love of Christ constraineth us": when the business of the Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society was conducted, Rev. T. Harding in the chair.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Resolution in reference to the death of the late Rev. E. Manning, submitted the following :

The first session of the Central Association of Baptist Churches in Nova Scotia being marked by the absence from among the ministerial brethren of one whose life fills a distinguished page in the history of the Baptists of Nova Scotia, and whose works are inseparably interwoven with their rise and progress:

Resolved, That
respect be ent
More than 1
with a few oth
was prominent
cination, and d
sound and elev
the ardent and
elements on w
were unceasing
zeal and exten
aided in the fo
of the Associati
nominational p
telligence, and
greatly increas
cination as calcul
administration
He lived to a
division of the b
then beheld the
The last session
before he had a
breathings of hi
marred and instr
life had given fe
occasion—nearly
in a wonderful i
of old age.
By the arrang
of the Associatio
own church. T
is not with us.
venly Father tha
of that associated
sections and ener
Whilst submitti
of our heavenly F
parted father, bre
The churches
to the memory of
flock of God in th
cord their sentim
Of him it may be
good man and ful
his instrumentality

Resolved, That the following memorial of Christian esteem and respect be entered on the Minutes of this Association.

More than half a century has passed since Edward Manning with a few others, the ancient worthies of our early churches, was prominent in the formation of the Nova Scotia Baptist Association, and during all that period the forecasting judgment, the sound and elevated views of doctrinal truth and Christian freedom, the ardent and unwavering piety which had been distinguished elements on which the foundations of the Association were laid, were unceasingly exercised in preserving its purity, animating its zeal and extending its usefulness. The same sagacity that had aided in the formation and the effective and consistent operation of the Association through the infant and early stages of the denominational progress, at a later period when the number, intelligence, and influence of the body had by the blessing of God greatly increased, induced him to urge the division of the Association as calculated to impart increased energy and power to the administration of the affairs of the denomination.

He lived to see that change effected. His presence ratified the division of the body, and he who had entered Jordan almost alone then beheld three great bands that had come up from its banks. The last session of that Association which more than 50 years before he had assisted to organize, was sanctified by the holy breathings of his soul preparing for its departure, and was animated and instructed by his preaching on the theme that through life had given fervour to his public exercises, and which on that occasion—nearly the last of his pulpit ministrations—overcame in a wonderful manner the depression of disease and the debility of old age.

By the arrangement then made the first session of this division of the Association was appointed to be held in the midst of his own church. That arrangement we now consummate. But he is not with us. His work was done, and it has pleased his heavenly Father that his existence should close with the termination of that associated body with which his life and labours, his affections and energies had been so long identified.

Whilst submitting with humble resignation to the dispensation of our heavenly Father in the removal from among us of our departed father, brother, and friend,

The churches of this the Central Association feel it to be due to the memory of one who with untiring zeal and fidelity fed the flock of God in this place through a period of fifty years, to record their sentiments of his ministerial character and usefulness. Of him it may be truly said as of Barnabas of old that "he was a good man and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith, and that through his instrumentality much people have been added to the Lord."

The churches of this Association do tender their deep and heartfelt sympathy to the family and relatives of the deceased with whom in the midst of weeping they rejoice in the christian assurance that his spirit is now in happy communion with the innumerable company of the redeemed.

Professor Chipman, in the absence of J. W. Nutting, Esq., the Secretary, presented an abstract of the proceedings of the Education Society for the year.

Moved and seconded that the Report presented by Professor Chipman be adopted.

The Financial Agent, Rev. J. Chase, also gave a brief account of the financial affairs.

The following Resolutions were then passed:

1. *Resolved*, That the Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society in this their first annual meeting after a transfer of Acadia College to the Baptist Convention of the three Provinces, and at this the first session of the Central Association of Nova Scotia, desire as usual, to give expression to their views of the various necessities of the Education cause as it lies in their hands, and summon their renewed energies to the great work of diffusing knowledge through the instrumentalities which they have in charge, if possible with more determination than ever.

2. *Resolved*, That this Society are deeply impressed with the imperative obligations which rest upon all, by virtue of their constitution by the Creator, to acquire knowledge and mental cultivation, and with the consequent criminality of those who hold in light esteem their intellectual and moral character; that the providing of means of sound instruction for the whole population of a country, is a dictate alike of an elevated christianity and a lofty patriotism, and that all who have any just views of the capacity of the human soul, and the dignity of human nature, all lovers of Zion, and especially all heads of families and guardians of youth, are solemnly called upon before the Judge of the world to see to it, that their consciences are clear in this matter, before the great awards of eternity receive proclamation.

3. *Resolved*, That this Society retains all the regard which it has ever had for enlightened education in all its departments, collegiate, academical, or primary; that it still attaches a high importance to the relations which it has with the common school instruction of the country, and with academical training, and through both with the enlightenment of the mass; that it looks also with deep and powerful interest to its connection with the College, and through it, with more advanced learning and enlarged mental action.

4. *Resolved*, fore that the of the times, any length of cate its mind, forward with in which they to their schoo larged range and still more And further, expeance and community to er earnestness or activity for

5. *Resolved*, tion and pleas ring the past y term, by which hands of one p Committee for entire Boardi hours: this So contemplated i structors are r and further th confidence to b of things which Hart, late of W tant charge.

6. *Resolved*, pass without e parties to who Teachers Inst April for a per on practical e conducted on of the accompl Esq., were high of the Horton I around; and fu tion, their high intendance for tutes, and the e efficient Norma

4. *Resolved*, That this Society feel more deeply, than ever before that the onward march of the world, the great practical drift of the times, and the inevitable necessity that no country can for any length of time keep abreast of the age, which does not educate its mind, call upon them to shake off all slumber, to press forward with swifter speed in the career of public improvement in which they have been so long engaged, and to communicate to their school of instruction, however efficient now, a more enlarged range of teaching power than it has heretofore possessed, and still more imbued with ripe and varied scientific knowledge. And further, that these stirring necessities, calling for increased expence and increased energy, should awaken the whole Baptist community to renewed life, should summon every parent to greater earnestness, and every young man to personal improvement, or activity for the general good.

5. *Resolved*, That this Society contemplate with great satisfaction and pleasure an arrangement which has been gone into during the past year, and is to take effect at the opening of the next term, by which the entire charge of the Academy will be in the hands of one person as sole Principal, directly responsible to the Committee for his own and all subordinate instruction, for the entire Boarding Department, and for oversight out of School hours: this Society highly approves of the economy which is contemplated in that negotiation, by which the salaries of the instructors are made nearly altogether dependant upon tuition; and further the Society believe they can recommend with much confidence to the denomination and the public this new order of things which is presently to open, under the auspices of Mr. Hart, late of Wilmot, a gentleman well fitted for such an important charge.

6. *Resolved*, That this Society cannot allow this opportunity to pass without expressing their grateful acknowledgement to the parties to whom they are indebted, for the conducting of a Teachers Institute in the Academy Hall during the month of April for a period of one week, in which the lectures delivered on practical science and other subjects, and the discussions conducted on education questions, by and under the guidance of the accomplished Superintendent of Education J. W. Dawson, Esq., were highly conducive to the instruction of the members of the Horton Institutions, and advantageous to the community around; and further, your Society would express in this connection, their high sense of the value of an enlightened school superintendence for the Province, of Teachers' Associations and Institutes, and the extreme desirableness of the establishment of an efficient Normal School for Teachers.

7. *Resolved*, That this Society will hold its regular annual meeting with the Central Association, and they recommend other meetings to be as frequently held as possible in connection with the other Associations.

Adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock, by singing the Dextology.

TUESDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder W. Chapman.

After considerable discussion on the Financial Agency, it was

Resolved, That the Financial Committee be re-appointed, with the same power as before, in so far as relates to this Association; that Brother Chase be appointed Financial Agent to this Association, to act under the direction of the Financial Committee; and that it be referred to the Financial Committee to devise a plan for the general arrangement of the financial affairs of the Denomination, and to report the same at the meeting of the Convention in September next.

The Education Society then resumed its business, after which the following Report was adopted on Acadia College by the Association:

REPORT.

The Committee on Acadia College present the following report:

They congratulate the friends of the College on the successful effort which has been made for the payment of the debt.

The information they have received respecting the present state and prospects of the College, encourages them to hope that the number of students will soon be considerably increased, and that the Institution will command a growing increase of public confidence.

Your Committee has good reason to believe that the arrangements which have been recently made are satisfactory to the Denomination at large.

They learn that the Governors have in contemplation some important measures, which, when carried into effect, will tend materially to improve the internal management of the Institution, and render it more attractive to those who may be desirous of gaining instruction there. The wishes of the Governors cannot be fully realized, however, without incurring additional expenditure: but this, unless provided for from sources as yet unexplored,

will involve an
lieve, the denom
contemplated in
operation until
When this shall
be increased, a
tention to the Th
present circum

The Committe
gard of the mem
which is exerted
many of learning
ligion, and the
the advancement
less be duly weigh

Voted that the
place at Hantspe
and general meet
Associations.

The Association

The Committee

The Committee o

They view with
ance principles
short period they
The present stage
continued efforts

They would the
nisters of the gosp
withholding direct
men as de in any
Temperance refo

They would also
ters connected wit
congregations on t
All which is resp

Report adopted.

The Committee o
ing Resolution of th

will involve an increase of debt, to which, as your Committee believe, the denomination will be found irreconcilably averse. The contemplated improvements cannot, therefore, be brought into operation until an enlarged annual income shall be obtained. When this shall be accomplished, the number of Professors will be increased, and the President will be able to devote more attention to the Theological Department than is practicable under present circumstances.

The Committee commend these statements to the serious regard of the members of the Association. The powerful influence which is exerted on the community by a well conducted seminary of learning, especially when it is under the auspices of religion, and the desirableness of adapting all our Institutions to the advancement of the age, are considerations which will doubtless be duly weighed by liberal minded Baptists.

Voted that the annual meeting of the Education Society take place at Hantsport during the session of the next Association, and general meetings be holden with the Eastern and Western Associations.

The Association then resumed its business.

The Committee on Temperance reported.

REPORT.

The Committee on Temperance report as follows:

They view with great pleasure the rapid progress of Temperance principles throughout the country. Within a comparatively short period they have pervaded every department of society. The present stage of its progress demands decided, united, and continued efforts on the part of its friends.

They would therefore recommend to all christians, to all ministers of the gospel, and to all virtuous citizens the propriety of withholding directly or indirectly their influence from all such men as do in any way operate against the advancement of the Temperance reform.

They would also recommend that during the year the ministers connected with this body preach a sermon to their several congregations on the subject of Temperance.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT B. DICKIE,

Chairman.

Report adopted.

The Committee on Home Missions reported, when the following Resolution of the Western Association was adopted.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Committee it is expedient to establish local Domestic Missionary Boards in connection with each Association, such Boards to have under their management all Domestic Missionary efforts in their respective districts, and such Board to present to the Convention, annually, a report of its proceedings; it being understood that each Board shall assume its just proportion of any existing liabilities of the General Board, and be entitled to its share of any funds in the possession of that Board; and that it be recommended to this Association to establish a Local Board for the district comprised within its limits.

And also further

Resolved, That the meeting of the Missionary Board of this Association be holden at Wolfville.

Resolved, that in addition to a quorum of members to be chosen by this Association that each church shall have the privilege of choosing one of their number to be added to said quorum, such nomination to be made within three months, of which due notice be sent to the Clerk of the Association, and that the following brethren compose said quorum—Revs. A. S. Hunt, Hall, brethren C. R. Bill, W. Johnston, A. Parker, G. Cogswell, and Dr. Johnston.

Brother C. R. Bill was appointed Treasurer.

The Committee appointed to report on the Circular Letter reported.

Voted that the Circular Letter be received and inserted in the Minutes.

The Committee on the Bible Cause reported.

REPORT.

The Committee beg leave to report:

That this Association in its first session wish to renew the expressions of approbation which have heretofore been given of the sacred cause of distribution of the word of God, convinced that in the importance which is to be assigned to it as an instrumentality for the conversion of the world, it must ever hold a very high rank. This Association further feel disposed to renew the expression of the Nova Scotia Baptist Association of last year in favour of the operation of the American and Foreign Bible Society, and in agreement with this decision recommend our respected Brother J. J. Woolsey agent of the American Society to the churches composing this Association with the hopes that they may think proper to give effective assistance to the important cause which he advocates.

Report adopted.

Voted that
tian Messenger
The Comm
ed.

The Committe
That it is e
Schools are b
churches of
powerful auxi
stood and so h
that in the sy
with the Unio
simple in its m
powerful in its
morals, implan
on a system.

That your C
pastors of chu
important pri
their utmost to
every locality

That they co
every Sabbath
ings for the ex
bath lessons an
course one wit
to interest an
human intellec
until their scho
striving to outv
All of which

Report adopt
Voted that si
Messenger Off
printing of the

Voted to obs
miliation and p
day of thanksg

Voted that th
brethren and fr
the present sess

Voted that the Report on Education be inserted in the Christian Messenger.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes reported.

REPORT.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to report :
That it is extremely gratifying to them, to know that Sabbath Schools are becoming so generally established throughout the churches of our denomination and that their importance as powerful auxiliaries to the cause of religion is now so well understood and so highly appreciated. That your committee consider that in the system of Sabbath School instruction in connection with the Union Society lies a principle ordained of God at once simple in its nature, universal in its application, and irresistibly powerful in its effect,—even that of religion, benevolence and morals, implanted in the mind of the youth, and carried forward on a system.

That your Committee would most highly recommend that all pastors of churches should forcibly illustrate and inculcate this important principle in their respective congregations, and do their utmost to establish Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes in every locality where it may be practicable.

That they consider it extremely desirable that the Teachers of every Sabbath School and Bible class should have frequent meetings for the examination of the Scriptures in regard to their Sabbath lessons and for their general improvement by social intercourse one with the other, that they may be efficiently qualified to interest and instruct the pupils and to expand the buds of human intellect that they may flourish and blossom as the rose until their schools become as a well watered garden each blossom striving to outvie its fellow in brilliancy and beauty.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. H. PORTER,
Chairman.

Report adopted.

Voted that six hundred copies of the Minutes be printed in the Messenger Office, and that brother Ackhurst superintend the printing of the same.

Voted to observe the 1st day of January, 1852, as a day of humiliation and prayer, and the 25th day of December next as a day of thanksgiving.

Voted that the thanks of this Association be presented to the brethren and friends, of Cornwallis, for their hospitality during the present session.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Ministers and Messengers composing the Central Baptist Association of Nova Scotia, assembled at Cornwallis, to the Churches which they represent, send christian salutation :

DEAR BRETHREN :—

According to the usage of the Nova Scotia Baptist Association, which though nominally extinct, is really, we trust, endued with a three-fold existence, we address you this our first annual Epistle. We wish to direct your attention to the *Times and our duties in relation to them*. It is manifest that we live in portentous and critical times, and it becomes every friend of the truth to scan them with an observant eye and ponder them with deep and prayerful solicitude. Let a few of the characteristics of this eventful period be briefly pointed out.

The present times are distinguished by uncommon political agitation.

The whole civilized world is more or less in commotion; but France, Germany, and Italy, have been the most deeply affected. The people are uneasy and dissatisfied with their condition, and their rulers appear to be "at their wits' end," and know not how to calm the storm that perhaps their own folly or that of their subjects has raised.

The mere political aspect of the world, though in many respects interesting and important, seldom presents much that the christian can contemplate with unmixed satisfaction and hope. Still, however, when viewed in connexion with the all comprehending and all directing Providence of God it is fraught with instruction, and clearly indicates to the eye of faith that the footsteps of Jehovah are in the whirlwind, and that He is amid the troubled and mighty waters making a way for his people to pass on to the spiritual conquest of the world. Such we believe is peculiarly the case now. God is preparing the way for the march and progress of his gospel in the world. He is tearing down and overturning nations and systems that have been almost generally and intrinsically opposed to his kingdom. It is the duty of the whole christian church, in the spirit

of holy enterprize, to use the opportunity of the agitated and giving gospel of

Uncommon times. Perhaps of the sixteenth century of christianity a christian church

The Papacy its weakness and has been called throne is tottering extraordinary efforts fraternity to gain

Episcopal array no sparing means Their claim to the right of interpretation of the saving hands, have re-centred, and have testamentism to Rome the abettor of Pompey triumph of pure apostasy Baptists occupy contend with bold believe our principle this weapon, "the and aided and directed are able to contend aggression by war

Uncommon action Christianity. Pursued to the name in no stinted manner and from the of the stamp that reason, while the them; to harden is avowedly made millions; and advanced in life, are their own destruction unmask the bold;

of holy enterprize to seize upon and prudently, yet courageously use the opportunity that is now afforded them of presenting to the agitated and convulsed nations the peaceful, holy, and life-giving gospel of the Son of God.

Uncommon religious enquiry and agitation give character to our times. Perhaps at no period since the great European Reformation of the sixteenth century, has the religious world been so deeply and extensively agitated upon points that effect the vitality of christianity, the structure, organization, and discipline of a christian church, and also the terms of church membership.

The Papacy is moved to its depths and affords indications of its weakness and of its strength. The Papal Aggression, as it has been called, is a result and evidence of both. The papal throne is tottering in Italy; while in England and America extraordinary efforts are put forth by the Romish hierarchy and fraternity to gain the ascendancy.

Episcopal arrogance and Fusesyite heresies are producing, in no sparing measure, the fruits that might have been anticipated. Their claim to the apostolic succession, and to the exclusive right of interpreting the Divine oracles, together with their dogma of the saving efficacy of ordinances administered by priestly hands, have rent the English Ecclesiastical Establishment to its centre, and have driven or drawn many from the ranks of Protestantism to Rome. Episcopacy has in many instances become the abettor of Popery, and an obstruction to the spread and triumph of pure apostolic and untrammelled Christianity. The Baptists occupy a position from which they can most effectively contend with both Popery and Prelacy, built as we assuredly believe our principles are, upon the unerring word of God. With this weapon, "the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God," and aided and directed by the divine Teacher and Comforter, we are able to contend successfully against papal and every other aggression by which the kingdom of Immanuel is assailed.

Uncommon activity prevails too among the avowed enemies of Christianity. Publications characterized by deep and bitter hatred to the name of Christ, and to his followers are poured forth, in no stinted measure, and with amazing rapidity from the British and from the American press. The matter they contain is of the stamp that is adapted to pervert the understanding and reason, while the professed object is to enlighten and liberate them; to harden and blunt the conscience, while the attempt is avowedly made to quiet it. These productions are read by millions; and many an unwary youth as well as others more advanced in life, are, there is too much cause to fear, allured to their own destruction. If for nothing else than to confront and unmask the bold, adroit, plausible, and blasphemous assertions

of modern infidelity, an evangelical press ably conducted ought to be cheerfully and efficiently sustained by the church of Christ. Nova Scotia is in a great measure happily exempt from social and religious commotions of a very marked character. But even here the same causes which have elsewhere produced these results exist on a small scale, and operate, silently indeed, but not the less to be dreaded, watched, and counteracted. Great and persevering efforts are being made in North America and in our own Province too, by more than one religious denomination to attain the ascendancy over the public mind—an ascendancy that while it continued, would be the ascendancy of error over truth, of tyranny over freedom, of darkness over light, and of death over life. What are our duties in relation to the present crisis? We should certainly do something more than merely observe and theorize upon the astounding developments of these our days. We should prepare for the mighty contest between holiness and sin, truth and error, light and darkness, Christ and Antichrist, of which conflict they herald not only the approach, but its actual commencement. How shall we act our part with honour to our Lord, and with advantage to his cause and benefit to the souls of men?

To do this, we must by all means *hold fast the truth*. This is essential. The truth as it is in Jesus has a mighty power impressed upon it—indeed, it is the instrument of divine power to save from the error and corruption inherent in human nature. Every doctrine we profess, or that is propounded for our belief and action should be brought to the Bible, and be submitted to be tried according to the principles and decisions of this heavenly-appointed standard of faith and practice. Whatever cannot stand this test, let it fall; but whatever harmonizes with its spirit and teaching, let us hold fast, despite the reproaches and opposition which such a course may bring upon us from those who are wedded to a corrupt and nominal christianity, or from the avowed friends and abettors of infidelity. We should hold fast the truth, the whole of divine truth and nothing but the truth. It is a precious deposit, and the Church should guard it with godly jealousy.

We should also maintain and present the truth to our fellow-men. This is the most effectual way of advancing true and undefiled religion, as well as the readiest and surest method of demolishing error of whatever name or type. No better service can be done the church or the world, than can be effected by a faithful and uncompromising exhibition of gospel truth. All the grand, peculiar, and distinguishing doctrines of Christ and his cross should be prominently and repeatedly put forth and kept before the minds of the people. This may be done by various agencies

and we should
and genius of cl

It is of the fir
a sound, godly,
God may be fed
essential to the
Christ has made
pects, and if th
appointed mean
tions.

The next duty
field with pious,
hind the necessi
East and West t
feeble and disco
How few evange
tute parts of our
men to the Lam
world! When v
earnest for the s
now—who will
mighty"? "Ari

A sound, well-
to the propagatio
often been emplo
race; let it hence
to rescue it from
conveying the joy
ners. Let us ren
senger"—and en
truth and mercy.

We are especia
rect aggressions u
Christ leaves us i
in carrying forwa
the "strong holds

We should not
enemy of souls, t
which he is the fo
mises, presence, a
and obedient to
should go forward
principalities, agai
of this world, agai
is the duty of the

and we should employ them vigorously according to the spirit and genius of christianity.

It is of the first importance that the churches be supplied with a sound, godly, and Spirit-taught ministry, so that the children of God may be fed with "the sincere milk of the word." This is essential to the purity and power and prosperity of the church. Christ has made abundant provision for his people in these respects, and if the church is only faithful in the use of the divinely appointed means, great success will assuredly attend her operations.

The next duty in importance is to supply the Home Mission field with pious, energetic, gospel missionaries. We are far behind the necessities of our country and the times in this respect. East and West the cry is, "Come over and help us." But how feeble and discouraging the response on the part of the church! How few evangelic labourers go forth into the remote and destitute parts of our Province to call sinners to repentance, and point men to the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world! When will the church arise and pray and act more in earnest for the salvation of sinners? The trumpet is sounding now—who will "come to the help of the Lord against the mighty"? "Arise, shine, for thy light is come."

A sound, well-directed evangelical press is a mighty auxiliary to the propagation and spread of gospel truth. The press has too often been employed to convey moral poison to millions of our race; let it henceforth be the endeavour of the Christian Church to rescue it from this work of death and use it as the medium of conveying the joyful tidings of salvation to lost and perishing sinners. Let us remember our own periodical, the "Christian Messenger"—and endeavour to sustain it more fully in its mission of truth and mercy.

We are especially called upon at the present time to make direct aggressions upon the empire of sin and darkness. For this Christ leaves us in this world: that we may act as valiant soldiers in carrying forward the standard of the Cross, and in attacking the "strong holds" of sin and satan.

We should not wait for opportunities to advance upon the great enemy of souls, and upon those destructive systems of error of which he is the founder and director; but confiding in the promises, presence, and power of Christ, the captain of our salvation, and obedient to his never-to-be-forgotten commandments, we should go forward in his name and strength to fight "against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." This is the duty of the Church collectively and individually—it is our

duty; the necessities and movements of the times require it; Christ commands it; our own profession, position, and circumstances demand it, for we may assuredly believe that christian churches will henceforth have to fight for life, and those that cannot or will not fight the holy and self-denying battles of faith will die; nay, they are already dead.

We should not, however, precipitate ourselves unprepared into the contest. Let us look to ourselves: are our hearts filled with love to Christ and his truth—are we on solid ground,—and are we equipped with the spiritual and invulnerable armour that the gospel furnishes?

The churches should be fully alive to the position they occupy, and deeply feel its responsibilities. As Baptists we profess principles that free us from all state or human control in all that relates to religion or the conscience. We believe in the sufficiency of Divine Revelation as the only authoritative standard of faith and practice, and that whatever in religion is not sustained by its authority, or does not harmonize with its spirit, is anti-religious and anti-christian. We are under solemn obligation to maintain and communicate these important truths at the present period; for if correctly apprehended, they will help much to demolish a great and heterogeneous mass of traditional and human rubbish, by which Christianity has been disfigured and impeded, Christ dishonored, and precious souls ruined.

Let us ply our own principles vigorously and with perseverance. We have derived them from the Bible; we ought to have confidence in them.—under the gracious agency of the Divine Spirit, they are capable of effecting a mighty moral revolution in the history and condition of the Church and of the world.

Let holy living and holy doing be more and more conjoined and exhibited in connection with the holy and Divine doctrines we profess. Holiness as manifested and exemplified in the department of Christians and Christian Churches is destined to play a very important part in the contest that is now waging between truth and error. Without holiness we are weak and inefficient; but with the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, we are strong in the faith of Jesus, and are conscious of his presence.

The Nova Scotia Baptist Association, of which we had been members, and which so well and so nobly performed its part during the half century of its existence, is now divided into three Associations: but let us remember that they are no less one in aim, object and affection, and that the division was effected for the purpose of aiding the Churches to co-operate more effectively and thoroughly in all that relates to the advancement of the Redeemer's

kingdom. Let
faith and love, and

Above all let the
prayer to God, the
standard raised, and
and purified and
defected: "Not to
the Lord."

"Finally brethren
in peace, and the
Amen.

kingdom. Let there be no jealousy and no rivalry but that of faith and love, and Christian enterprise.

Above all let the churches be deeply and constantly engaged in prayer to God, that the Spirit may be poured from on high, and a standard raised against the enemy — that Zion may be enlarged and purified and preserved, and the projects of her adversaries be defeated: "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord."

"Finally brethren, farewell; be perfect, be of good comfort, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you."—
Amen.

The Articles and amended form approved by the Order were adopted by the action of both bodies

NAME OF CHURCH	B. CAUSE.		MIN. ED.		H. MISS.		YOR. MISS.		S. CAUSE.		TOTAL.
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
1. First Horton	2	2 0	4	11 10	1	13 6	0	9 8 1/2	1	0 0	9 17 1/2
2. Second Horton	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	0 17 1/2
3. Newport	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2 9 7
4. Upper Moleford	"	"	0	10 0	"	1 9 7	0	7 6	"	"	3 0 0
5. North Hallux	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 18 0
6. Borewater	"	"	0	14 6	"	19 4 1/2	0	3 6	1	0 0	3 18 0
7. North Sherbrook	"	"	"	"	"	"	1	0 7 1/2	"	"	3 18 0
8. Lidenburg	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	0 17 6
9. First Cornwallis	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	12 5 1 1/2
10. Second Cornwallis	"	"	2	19 1 1/2	"	3 19 9	6	10 4	1	0 0	7 10 1 1/2
11. Third Cornwallis	"	"	1	4 10 1/2	"	1 19 8 1/2	2	19 7 1/2	1	0 0	5 18 1
12. Chester	"	"	0	12 6	"	3 9 3 1/2	1	17 3 1/2	"	"	2 15 4
13. First Falmouth	"	"	0	7 6	"	1 9 "	1	11 "	"	"	3 11 10 1/2
14. Second Falmouth	"	"	0	11 3	"	1 9 "	1	4 6	"	"	0 11 1
15. New Germany	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
16. Granville Street	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
17. Windsor Road	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
18. Wincor Road	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
19. Rawdon	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
20. East Sherbrooke	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
21. First Hammond Plains	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
22. Second Hammond Plains	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
23. Kemp	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
24. Long Point	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
25. Preston	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
26. Margaret's Bay	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
27. Indian Harbour	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
Collection at Association	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3 8 0
	8	6 9	34	10 10 1/2	15	5 10	2	11 11 1/2	4	0 0	63 2 7

* See by Sabbath School Union Society.

JOHN CHASE, Treasurer Central Association.

[illegible]

NOTE.