



MINUTES

OF THE

NINTH SESSION

OE THE

BAPTIST CONVENTION

OF

NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK,

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND,

HELD AT ST. JOHN, N. B., October 7th, 9th, and 10th.

ST. JOHN, N. B. PRINTED BY GEO. W. DAY, KING-STREET. 1854.

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MINUTES.

ST. JOHN, October 7, 1854.

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THE Baptist Convention of Nova, Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island convened to-day in the Baptist Chapel in Germain-street, City of St. John, at 2 o'clock, P. M. After a couple of hours spent in devotional exercises the meeting was called to order by the Rev. S. Robinson, the Moderator of last year.

The Convention proceeded to appoint Rev. A. D. Thomson, J. Francis, and W. A. Coleman a Committee to nominate Officers for the ensuing year. After having retired for a few minutes the Committee reported.

Rev. JOHN DAVIS, President, pro tem. Rev. I. E. BILL, Secretary for N. B. Rev. W. HALL, Secretary for N. S.

Rev. J. NEWCOMB, Assistant Secretary.

Report adopted. The following Brethren appeared as delegates and members of the Convention.

Western Association, N. B.-Rev. T. H. Porter, G. F. Miles, A. D. Thomson.

Eastern Association, N. B.-Rev. James Herrett, D. Crandal.

Western Association, Nova Scotia.—Rev. J. Davis, J. Goucher, O. Chute.

Education.—Rev. Dr. Crawley.

Foreign Missions.—Rev. E. A. Crawley

Domestic Missions, including the French and Gælic Missions.— Rev. O. Chute, and Brother Peter Knight, Rev. A, Martell, Agent of the Missionary Board of the Eastern Association, N. S.

CHURCHES.

Point de Bute.—Rev. J. Rowe.

Moncton.—Rev. James Newcomb, and Brother Joseph Crandal. 1st Sackville.—Rev. W. Coleman.

St. John, Brussels Street.—Rev. S. Robinson, Deacon S. Kinsman, Brethren Capt. Robinson, George Hay, Zebulon Estey, Jonathan Titus.

Germain Street.-Rev. I. E. Bill, Deacons A. McL. Seely, M. Francis, Brethren Asa Coy and John Fisher. Pictou.-Rev. William Hall. Salisbury.- Deacon Israel Steves, and Brother David Blakeney. Springfield.--Rev. D. Crandal, W. Jackson. St. John.-Rev. E. N. Harris, W. D. Fitch. 1st Yarmouth.-Rev. John Davis. 1st St. Andrews.-Rev. A. D. Thomson. St. John.-Rev. William Burton. Carleton.-Rev. John Francis. Sand Point.--Rev. G. Seely. 1st Wickham.-Rev. T. H. Porter. Canning.-Brother Jarvis Estabrooks. Buctouche.-Rev. D. McPhail. Nictaux, N. S.-Rev. Willard Parker. Amherst.-Rev. E. B. Demill. Portland.-Brethren Hoben and Alexander Sime. Hampton.-Rev. S. Bancroft, and Brother W. Snow. The following Committees were then appointed :---Committee on Education, general and Theological.-Dr. Crawley, Elders I. E. Bill, and James Newcomb. On Foreign Missions.-Elders I. E. Bill, W. Burton, J. Francis,

Dr. Crawley, Demill, Porter, E. N. Harris, A. D. Thomson, S. Robinson.
On the claims of Seamen.—Elders E. N. Harris, Martell, Rowe, Fitch, Francis, Jackson, and Captain Robinson.
Religious Publications and Colportage.—Elders Newcomb, Demill, Chute, Coleman, and Brethren Hoben and Estabrooks.

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Sabbath Schools.—Elders W. Hall, Herrett, and Brethren Knight and Blakeney.

Bible Cause.—Elders Harris, Robinson, Rowe, Thomson, and Brother Wills.

To prepare a Memorial on departed Ministers.—Elders Davis, Thomson, and Coleman.

On the state of the Denomination.-Elders I. E. Bill, A. Martell, and Chute.

On Domestic Missions including French and Galic.—Elders O. Chute, G. Miles, and P. Knight.

On Temperance, including the evils of Tobacco.-Elders Martell, Francis, and Burton.

On the observance of the Sabbath.—Elders Chute, Newcomb, and Crandal.

To Report where Convention shall be held next year, and preach the Introductory Sermon.—Elders Dr. Crawley, Coleman, and Thomson. Voted, That A. McL. Seely, Esq., be Treasurer of the Convention, pro tem. ely, M.

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Committee of arrangement reported.

Meeting of the Board of Governors of Acadia College at half-past seven o'clock, evening, and preaching at the same hour by Rev. D. McPhail.

PREACHING ON SABBATH MORNING. Brussels Street.-Rev. Dr. Crawley. Germain Street.-Rev. William Hall. Portland.—Rev. E. B. Demill. Carleton.—Rev. J. Davis. Sand Point.—Rev. J. Newcomb. Salem.—Rev. A. Martell. Meetings for united special prayer in the above-named places at half-past 9, A. M.

AFTERNOON AT THREE O'CLOCK. Bethel.-Rev. A. D. Thomson. Marine Hall.-Rev. W. Hall. Sand Point.-Rev. A. Martell.

EVENING.

Brussells Street.-Rev. J. Rowe. Germain Street.-Rev. George Miles. Portland.-Rev. J. Davis. Carleton.--Rev. William Coleman. Sand Point.--Rev. W. Jackson.

Adopted. The Convention adjourned until Monday at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Monday Morning, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Brother Davis. A sermon of profound thought and great beauty from John xvii : 15.

Prayer by Dr. Crawley.

The Meeting was called to order when the subject of Education was introduced. Moderator took the Chair.

The Report of the Governors of Acadia College was now read by Dr. Crawley.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

In presenting a statement of their proceedings during the past year, the Board of Governors are gratified in being able to report that Acadia College enjoys an encouraging degree of prosperity. The various courses of instruction have been attended, wholly or partially, by thirty-two Students. Twenty-four are still in the Institution, eleven of whom entered by matriculation at the commencement of the present Term. One half of the entire number are candidates for the ministry, and ten of them are now receiving instruction in the Theological Institute. Mr. David Mc-Keen, who left at the close of the last Term,, was ordained pastor of the Church at Maccan, N. S., on the 13th of September. Several of the Theological Students embrace opportunities of preaching the Gospel in different parts of the District, and their labours are very acceptable.

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The earnest desire of the Board of Instruction to give to the Department of Natural Science, a high position has been abundantly met in the course of the last year. Professor Stuart has had a large and highly interesting class in Chemistry as well as classes in Algebra and Geometry.

The usual classes in the classical languages have been well attended under the President, who has also had a small class in Hebrew; and under the instruction of the Principal of the Theological Institute as Professor of Political Economy and of History,—classes in these departments have been well attended; and the Quarterly Examinations have been entirely satisfactory. At the anniversary, on the 23d of June last, Mr. T. A. Higgins, who had attended all the prescribed College courses, and undergone a full examination, was admitted to the degree of B. A. The public exercises of that day were conducted in the following order :—

PRAYER, MUSIC,

REV. T. S. HARDING. Wilmot. "Lo the Lord Jehovah liveth."

COMPOSITION BY UNDER-GRADUATES.

The relation of Language to Thought,

ALFRED CHIPMAN, West Cornwallis. Obligations of the Men of the 19th Century,

The true history of the Church, ISAIAH WALLACE, Coverdale, N. B. MUSIC, "Pilgrim Fathers."

Luther in the Wartburg, Moral Power of kindness, The hope of Missions, MUSIC, DAVID MCKEEN, Mabou, C. B. J. JUDSON SKINNER, West Cornwallis. ROBERT PHILP, Halifax. "Tell us of thy God."

The relation of the Natural Sciences to Human Progress,

THOMAS PATILLO, Liverpool. The Divine Mission of Poetry, A Voice from the Pyramids, MUSIC, THOMAS PATILLO, Liverpool. DANIEL M. WELTON, Aylesford. THOMAS A. HIGGINS, Rawdon. "Eternal Mansions."

DEGREES CONFERRED.

Addresses by various gentlemen.

MUSIC, BENEDICTION.

The National Anthem.

In order to provide accommodation for an increased number of Students, it has been found necessary to finish the interior of the College building.— In the portion of the building thus completed, two large rooms are appropriated to the Library and Museum, one is used as a Class Room, and sixteen are occupied as studies or sleeping apartments. The expenditure iucurred in effecting these and sundry other desirable improvements and alterations amounts to about £577. An appeal has been made to the Churches in behalf of this object, and the sum of about £280 has been

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The endowment Fund has been increased by about £3000 since the last Annual Meeting, for the larger portion of which sum the College is indebted to the strenuous exertions of the Rev. John Francis; Mr. Wallace, and Mr. Stephen Deblois having also rendered good service. It is so desirable to raise the whole sum to £15,000, and ultimately to £20,000, on the completion of which last-mentioned amount the Scholarships may be made partially available for the Academies at Horton and Fredericton, that the Governors earnestly recommend the adoption of measures to secure the accomplishment of the object.

An arrangement has been entered into whereby the College Building and other property heretofore held by the Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society are to be transferred to the Corporation of Acadia College. The terms of the transfer are to the following effect :---

I. That the Governors of Acadia College pay the mortgage and bond held by the Hon. E. Collins, so as to relieve the property, and the Executive Committee of the Education Society of their liabilities. The Governors receiving in return the whole property with the reservations and other conditions hereafter stated, and the rents thus accruing.

II. Upon the mortgage being paid, then the Executive Committee to deed the property to the Corporation of Acadia College, to be held solely for the purpose of a seat of learning connected therewith.

III. The property being conveyed to Acadia College, the Governors to give a lease to the Education Society, of the Academy Hall and two recitation rooms adjoining, so long as they may be required for an Academical School, free of rent, reserving however, the occasional use of the Hall for the College as heretofore usual.

IV. The Corporation of Acadia College to give a lease to he Education Society of the premises occupied and required by the Principal of the Academy at the annual rent of $\pounds 20$, the sum now paid by the occupant of said property.

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V. The Governors to give a lease of the premises now occupied as a boarding house, except the students dining-room, as well as the rooms in the rear of the original Academy building used as studies and lodging rooms, on the understanding that the Executive Committee shall from time to time decide whether rent shall be paid therefor, by the steward or other occupants, rents if given being payable to Acadia College.

VI. In case the Education Society wish to build new buildings, ample grounds to be provided for that purpose adjoining the Boarding House, or on the south side of the highway or in both places if needful free of charge under a perpetual lease.

VII. Should Acadia College in its future progress require all the buildings now on the property for the purpose of extended operation, in giving College instruction, then the Education Society to yield them all up after a suitable time allowed for removal, upon receiving an equivalent to enable them to put up new buildings, and in case of disagreement as to the amount to be paid for such transfer, the same to be decided by reference to parties mutually chosen.

VIII. In consideration of all the rents transferred, the buildings now on the property or hereafter to be erected by the Board of Governors, to be kept in repair and insured against fire, at the expense of the College.

IX. Should the Education Society hereafter decide not to continue the Academy, or High School, then they are to yield up the rooms and property, leases of which are now reserved, to the College free of further charge. But should the College at any subsequent period be discontinued, then the whole property again to revert to the Education Society, if they

wish it. They resuming therewith the liabilities with which the property is now charged or to the same extent.

This arrangement was confirmed by the Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society at its last Annual Meeting. The Governors feel assured that it will be fully approved by the Convention.

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The Faculty of the College have had under their consideration the desirableness of publishing an Annual Catalogue, comprising a list of the Students, a brief sketch of the course of study, in both departments, and other useful information. It is now nearly ready, and will be shortly issued.

Mr. Peto's donation of books for the Library has been received. It consists of the Encyclopædia Brittannia, in twenty-one volumes, 4to, and one hundred and sixty-five other volumes of great value, in various branches of literature. At the same time, fifteen volumes were received from E. B. Underhill, Esq., one of the Secretaries of the Baptist Missionary Society, nineteen volumes (comprising the Periodical accounts, Annual Reports, and the Missionary Herald) from the above-mentioned Society, and a copy of "Poli Synopsis" from Mr. R. S. Foster, of Cambridge, England. Other friends, it is hoped, will favor the Institution in a similar manner.

Grateful for the good success which it has pleased God to grant to Acadia College, the Governors are anxious to take advantage of the favorable state of affairs, and to render the College still more attractive and useful, by the establishment of additional Professorships. As this can only be accomplished by the increase of the Endowment, they trust that the efforts of the friends of education will be continued, with growing energy, till the desired object is secured.

They ask also, with much solicitude, for the fervent supplications of

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prayerful men on behalf of the Institution—that the blessing of the Lord may rest upon it—that it may be a nursery of godliness—and that it may be the means of sending forth many effective labourers into the field—men "able to teach others," and "patterns of good works."

On motion of Rev. I. E. Bill, seconded by the Rev. Samuel Robinson.

Resolved, That the Report now read be received, adopted, and printed in the Minutes of this Convention.

The seconder of the Resolution delivered an interesting speech on the favourable aspects of the College, congratulating the Convention on the success which has marked the Endowment Fund for the College, and was followed by the President of the College.

Moved and seconded that this Convention adjourn to meet at three o'clock, when the subject of Education will be resumed.

Prayer by Brother Jackson.

Afternoon Session.

Prayer by Rev. W. Burton.

Moved by Mr. Burton, seconded by Brother Kinnear, that the Introductory Sermon preached by the Moderator be printed in our Religious papers, the Christian Messenger and Visitor.

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The business of Education was resumed, when the following Resolutions were submitted :

Resolved, That this Convention sanction and adopt the measure of raising the Endowment Fund of the College to £20,000, so as to give all donors of £100 the privilege of free tuition, either in the Academies at Fredericton or Horton, as well as in the College, within the limits and in manner as already commenced under the authority of the Convention last year; and feel themselves called upon to take the most strenuous and immediate means to complete that plan by raising the fund to the proposed amount.

Resolved, That in view of the urgent necessity for the continuance of an agency for the completion of the Endowment Fund, the Convention earnestly request brethren the Rev. J. Francis and A. D. Thomp on, if it can possibly be made consistent with their other duties, to undertake such agency, and to labour together or otherwise as they shall judge expedient, for the purpose of raising the amount to £20,000 at the earliest possible period and on the plan already presented to the public.

Whereas, The rents of the property, now to be transferred to

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) meet be rethe College, cannot be reasonably expected to be much if at all more than sufficient to cover the interest of the debt assumed, together with the insurance of the buildings, and it is obviously necessary that there should be provided adequate means to keep in constant and perfect repair the extensive buildings on the College premises at Horton.

Resolved, That immediate endeavours are needed for the formation of such a fund.

Remarks by Brethren Robinson, Bill, Francis, Burton, and Thomson. Resolutions adopted.

Resolved, That this Convention recommend the establishment of a Female Seminary in St. John or its invirons, to meet the urgent claims of female education in these Provinces. And that the following brethren be a Committee to take this matter in charge and to devise means for its erection as soon as possible :---A. McL. Seely, Thomas McHenry, N. S. Demill, John F. Masters, Richard Titus, David Roberts, A. Sime, John Christopher, Deacon Sharp.

Resolved, That the accounts be submitted to the Auditor to report upon.

Moved and seconded that the Convention adjourn. Prayer by Dr. Crawley.

Evening Session, half-past 7.

Singing and Prayer by Brother Willard Parker.

In the absence of the Secretary of the Foreign Missionary Board, (Brother Hunt,) Dr. Crawley submitted the Report.

REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSIONARY BOARD.

A few sentences will suffice to lay before the Convention the business of the Foreign Missionary Board for the year now about to expire.

At the last meeting of this Convention letters from Brother A. Crawley were read, expressing his desire to dissolve his connexion with this Board. The separation took place, and Brother Crawley, being recommended to the American Foreign Missionary Union, was accepted by that Board, and sent forth to his long desired field of labour, and is now we trust in distant Burmah, preparing to preach the word of life in the language of the untutored heathen.

After the above named separation, we were without a missionary in prospect, and hence our efforts were necessarily restricted to such measures as would keep alive in our Churches, the missionary spirit, and if possible, induce some one moved by the spirit of Christ to offer himself to the Board for Foreign Missionary service. At a meeting held in June, the Board seemed impressed with a strong desire that active operations in the missionary field should again commence, and sent forth to the Churches of this Convention a request that if any young brother felt his heart drawn to this work, he would communicate the same to the Board, and receive such aid and encouragement as would enable him to accomplish his desire.

As yet there has been no response. The Board nevertheless hope that the missionary spirit yet lives in the Churches, and that some of our young men, even now, are revolving in their minds this glorious work, and will soon come forth responding to the call and to the claims of the heathen.

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This Board would again affectionately urge the consideration of this subject upon the Ministers and Churches.

At the last meeting of this Convention the sum of $\pounds 80$ per annum was voted to Mrs. Burpe—this of course continues—and is the only money responsibility now to be met. The sum of $\pounds 75$ was voted to the American Foreign Missionary Union, and remitted. On this sum three persons are entitled to life membership in the American Missionary Union. The Convention will make the selection.

The accompanying Treasurers account shows a balance on hand of £655 2s. 10d., a sum quite adequate to the commencement of vigorous operation.

The Board trusts that this Convention will at its present Session devise such plans for future effort, as will enable the Board to resume a work ever dear to the Church of Christ, and which must result in success at home and abroad. We are impressed with the assurance, that we have men and means, which only await judicious arrangements for coming forth in cheerful compliance with the call of Providence. We trust Divine wisdom will prompt the brethren to such measures as shall bring out from our living Churches the material for healthful and enlarged exertions in some heathen land, that our pledge long since made to the heathen world may be redeemed and God's name glorified.

A. S. HUNT, Secretary Foreign Missionary Board.

Moved by Brother Burton, and seconded by Brother Jackson, that the report be received and adopted, and printed in the Minutes of the Convention. The Rev. I. E. Bill then submitted the following Report on Foreign Missions, which was subsequently unanimously adopted.

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1. Resolved, That this Convention record its deep and unabated interest in the great work of Christian Missions, as an instrumentality of Divine appointment, to execute the designs of mercy in the redemption of the world.

2. Resolved, That we offer devout thanksgiving to Almighty God, for his merciful guardianship over the lives of our esteemed Brother E. A. Crawley and wife, amid the peril of the deep, and for their safe arrival in the land which they have chosen, as the field of their future labours. That we tender to them our deepest sympathy in the engagements, trials and responsibilities of the missionary life, and that we pledge ourselves to offer fervent prayer to Heaven for their personal happiness and success in the noble cause to which they have devoted their lives.

3. Resolved, That the sum of \$600 be appropriated this year from the Foreign Mission Fund, to the American Baptist Union for the support of Brother E. A. Crawley.

4. Resolved, That while this Convention cheerfully contribute, under present circumstances, to the funds of the "American Baptist Union," they nevertheless feel that the interests of the cause both at home and abroad, render it highly important, that the Baptists of these Provinces should maintain separate and independent action in the cause of Christian Missions.

5. Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention, Australia, from the boundless resources of its wealth, the rapid increase of its population, the demoralizing influences which pervade that rising country, together with its proximity to the numerous and populous Islands of the Pacific, and the vast empires of China and of India, presents to the church of God a most inviting field for missionary enterprise, and that the Baptists of these provinces are loudly called upon in the providence of God to establish a mission in that distant Isle of the Sea.

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Several addresses were given of great interest on the subject of Missions by Rev. Dr. Crawley, Rev. I. E. Bill, Hall, Thomson, and Mackay.

Moved by Brother Robinson that we adjourn until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Singing and Prayer by Brother Goucher.

Tnesday Morning, half-past 9.

Prayer by Brother Porter.

The Report on Religious Publications and Colportage was then read, and is as follows :---

Your Committee being fully convinced of the value and great importance of the Christian Visitor and Messenger, as a means of diffusing useful knowledge among all our Churches, inasmuch as their prosperity is so closely identified with, and influenced by these periodicals; we feel that a debt of gratitude is due to our highly esteemed Editors for the able, judicious and efficient manner in which they have discharged their onerous duties, and your Committee strongly recommend to all our ministering brethren, agents, and friends, to make use of every suitable effort to enlarge the lists of subscribers throughout the denomination and the public at large, that the worthy Editors may be encouraged to make use of every means in their power to make these periodicals, in every respect, what the times demand. Your Committee heartily approve of the system of Colportage, as being an efficient auxiliary to the great moral enterprise of saving precious souls. It has been a useful instrument in building up the Redeemer's kingdom, amidst the most powerful opposition. We rejoice in the success that has attended the indefatigable exertions of Brother Thorpe in this department of christian enterprise, and we heartily desire to co-operate with him in rendering every assistance. All of which is respectfully submitted. J. NEWCOMBE, CHAIRMAN.

Report adopted.

Remarks were made by Brothers Francis, Hall, and Robinson.

The following Resolution was then passed :

Whereas twenty-five pounds constitute a Life Member of the American Baptist Missionary Union; and whereas this Convention has given two hundred and twenty pounds to that Society in the last year and the present year—

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Therefore, Recolved, That Dr. Cramp, William Burton, Charles Tupper, John Shaw, William Chipman, I. E. Bill, David Crandal, A. D. Thomson, and Samuel Bancroft constitute such members.

The Report on Temperance and Tobacco was then read, and is as follows :---

Your Committee beg to allude with pleasure to the many advancing steps made in the cause of Temperance. The examples of its success are great and multiplied. In view of past prosperity in this department of christian philanthropy, your Committee would call upon the public at large to become more earnest and energetic, as well as more hopeful in the good cause. Your Committee would respectfully, yet earnestly suggest, if any of the members of our Churches use spirituous liquors in their social gatherings, domestic circles, and family festivals, that they identify themselves with the temperance reform, which is the cause of humanity—the cause of God. Your Committee would further call upon all our ministers and leading men, with renewed solicitude, to concentrate all their influence, and energetically wield all the power they can unitedly command, against that great foe of our race, and bane of the best interests of man, the hydra-headed monster intemperance

Moreover, your Committee recommend that more energetic measures be adopted to secure a temperance representation in our Legislative Assemblies, after the dissolution of the existing houses. We say, ask not whether a man is Whig or Tory, Greek or Jew; but is he a supporter of the Temortance useful ty is so el that ıble, juonerous istering enlarge it large, eans in e times ortage, ng preeemer's success this dete with mitted. MAN.

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perance Cause? Does he go for the Maine Law from principle? If he does, give him your suffrages. Some say, the Colonies are not prepared for so siringent a measure as the Prohibitory Law; but we believe the Law will prepare its own way, and conquer. We *must* have the Maine Law. We therefore call upon all the lovers of this Cause, to dispose of their political franchise, in a way beneficial to the Temperance Reform.

As regards the subject of Tobacco, your Committee beg to report, that they believe the use of Tobacco to be very injurious to the health, wasteful of time and money, offensive to society, pernicious in the most of its influence, and very humiliating to the retailer and consumer.

Your Committee wish to record the fact that, a reformation is beginning in this quarter. Several of our leading men have abandoned it, and the few remaining, live under constant conviction, and will soon assert their rights and proclaim themselves *free*.

We glory in reform, and hope yet to be able to proclaim throughout the Land that the Baptist Ministry is free from the noxious weed; that Baptists, *all*, have turned away from so loathsome and revolting a habit. All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. MARTELL, CHAIRMAN.

At the hour of 11, A. M., the Convention adjourned to hear a discourse from the Rev. George Armstrong of Bridgetown, from Micah vi : 2.

The Moderater resumed the Chair. Discussion on Foreign Missions resumed. Adjourned to meet at **3**.

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Afternoon Session.

The Hon. W. B. Kinnear in the Chair.

Resolved, That the Convention take place at Liverpool, and that Brother Robinson preach the Introductory Sermon, and that Brother Spurden be his alternate.

The subject of the Australian Mission resumed, and the following Resolutions unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That this Convention deem it to be its duty to establish and sustain a Mission in Australia, and that a Board be created to take this subject into consideration; and to look out for a suitable Missionary or Missionaries, and to take measures to raise funds for this object, and put it into immediate execution.

Resolved, Further, that Brethren I. E. Bill, S. Robinson, W. Burton, Charles Tupper, George Armstrong, S. N. Bently, J. Francis, Stephen Gerow, J. Davis, E. A. Crawley, D. D., W. Parker, A. Martell, R. S. Morton, G. Sealy, N. S. Demill, E. N. Harris, A. McL. Seely, G. F. Miles, and D. Crandal be said board, and that the Board be located in St. John, five of whom shall form a quorum.

The following Report on the Bible Cause was then read and adopted :---

The Committee to whom was referred the Word of God submit the following Report. That this Convention look upon the Bible as the substratum of the Church of Christ, and the messenger of health, comfort and salvation to his beloved every where—that it is worthy of companionship with the angel who bears the everlasting gospel to all nations; and that it is (accompanied by the Holy Spirit,) able to make men wise unto salvation. Hence, we rejoice, that it has been given to so many millions, and that measures are now being evolved by which to send it faithfully translated to every nation and people throughout the world.

Therefore Resolved, That this Convention recommend the duty of consecrating ourselves afresh to the work of sustaining and distributing the word of life.

E. N. HARRIS, CHAIRMAN.

Remarks were made by Rev. E. N. Harris and Robinson.

Resolved, That Bro. Bill superintend the printing of the Minutes of Convention, and that he draw on the funds of the Convention for that purpose; and that the Treasurer of the F. M. B. in N. S. be instructed to pay the Editors of the *Christian Messenger* balance due to them for printing the Minutes of last year. Also that 1000 copies be printed for circulation.

Report on Sabbath Schools was received and adopted.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools report. Your Committee submit the following as their Report on Sabbath Schools-Your Committee feel grateful to God for the growing prosperity of our Sabbath Schools among our Churches. These nurseries of the Church have been in a great many instances successful to the conversion of the youth of our land. But, we feel, notwithstanding those favorable indications there is a great deficiency in the Sabbath School department. No influences are so powerful as are those wielded by Pastors and Deacons, and where those influences are brought to bear on Sabbath Schools, great good is the result. Your Committee would recommend that our Ministers and leading members exercise a watchful superintendence in Sabbath School instruction, and that due care be taken that suitable books be provided for the children in connection with such Schools. Your Committee would also recommend Bible classes and catechetical instruction. Training is necessary for religious progression, and it is necessary that for the prosperity of a future generation, systematic habits of training should be adopted. All of which is respectfully submitted.

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WILLIAM HALL, CHAIRMAN.

Resolved, That the Convention desire to record with thankfulness and satisfaction the kind interest which Messrs. Peto, Underhill, and Foster, have taken in the Education cause of these Provinces as connected with our Denomination, by their munificient donations of Books to Acadia College; and further that the Secretary forward a copy of this resolution to those brethren.

Adjourned to meet in Germain-street at ½ post 7 p. M.

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Evening Session.

The meeting opened with prayer, and the following Report on French Missions was read by Bro. Knight :

The Committee on Home Missions report as follows-

That the Domestic field of Christian Iabour, from its amplitude and importance, demands our concentrated and most energetic efforts. From the vouchsafement of divine favour manifested in the past, in connection with our labors in this large field, we are emboldened to take courage and press onward in the future.

A new impulse is given to our energies, and a new demand to our efforts, in the earnest claims and solemn calls of the Roman Catholic population of these Provinces, especially the Galic population of Cape Breton, and the Acadian French of both these Provinces. In Nova Scotia, there are not less than 20 thousand French, and in New-Brunswick there are 35 thousand whose souls need to be enlightened by wisdom from on high.

In these different fields labourers are now going forth, scattering abroad the seeds of truth, and their labours, though, as yet, but initiatory, have not proved in vain in the Lord.

Your Committee would urge to continued and increased efforts in sustaining these Missions, that they may be instrumental in causing the wilderness and the solitary place to rejoice and blossom as the rose.

Your Committee would further suggest the propriety, nay, the great importance of some judicious and efficient means of diffusing abroad information with reference to the claims of these fields, and of our efforts therein.

Finally brethren, let us concentrate our efforts to send up unceasingly our prayers, that it may please our heavenly Father to shed abundant blessing upon us in our humble endeavors, and hasten the day when the man of sin shall cease his fearful, fatal sway over these unhappy, deluded people, and thus gather a revenue of glory to his eternal name. All of which is respectfully submitted. O. CHUTE, CHAIEMAN.

A large congregation was deeply interested in hearing of the rise and progress of the French Mission from Brethren Knight, Chute, and Miles.

Report adopted.

The following Report on the claims of Seamen was read by Bro. E. N. Harris, and ably supported by himself and Captain Robinson.

The Committee to whom was referred the claims of Seamen, report-

That this Convention feel that the claims of Seamen, though last on the list of those for whom Zion deeply feels and prays, should have been first, as their exposures and perils, their importance to Church and State, and their numbers abundantly show. But their *conversion* to the Lord Jesus, waving all other considerations, cannot be too greatly magnified, as it is of inexpressible importance, not only to themselves, but to the cause of Missions throughout the world.

Hence, we recommend with deep and stirring feeling to one aud all, who claim to have the spirit of Christ, to aid the "Seamen's Friend Society."

Moreover, we rejoice in the establishment of a "Seamen's Home" in this growing city, and in the very encouraging workings of that Institution,

which commends itself to the prayers, sympathies and support of the friends of virtue, of progress, and of religion.

E. N. HARRIS, CHAIRMAN.

Report adopted.

The Committee on the State of the Churches submit the following statement:

The number of members embraced by the five Associations connected with the Convention stood last year as follows :

Western	Association,	N. S.	 	 	 	 	5454
Central	Do.	Do.	 	 	 	 	3183
Eastern	Do.	Do.	 	 	 	 	230C
Eastern	Do. N. 1	B	 	 	 	 	2841
Western	Do. Do.		 	 	 	 	2802

REVIVALS have been enjoyed in the course of the year by the Churches at Wallace Road, Goose River, Pugwash, Little River, Leicester, Isaac's Harbour, and Wentworth. Eastern Association, N. S .--- By Upper Aylesford, Horton, Second Indian Harbour. Central Association, N. S .-By Argyle, Brookfield, 1st Digby Neck, 1st Hillsburgh, Greenfield, Liverpool, Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot, Milton, Nictaux, Parker's Cove, 2d Yarmouth, and Wilmot. Western Association, N. S .- By Salisbury, 2d Wickham, Harvey, and Sussex. Eastern Association, N. B.-By Woodstock, Douglas, Simonds, and Jacksontown. Western Association, N. B. The Church at Nictaux added 125 by baptism-the largest number added by any one Church. Nearly one-half of the Churches in New-Brunswick, and probably onethird of the Churches in Nova-Scotia are without pastoral oversight. This fact calls loudly for searching enquiry and for earnest prayer on the part of all concerned, that the Lord of the harvest would greatly increase the number of faithful laborers in his vineyard. The Missionary contributions of the Churches evince, on the part of many of them, a lively interest in spreading the blessings of salvation not only among the destitute in the home field, but in lands far away. The largest sum given by any one Church for Home Missions was contributed by the Church in Germain Street, viz: £112.

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The Educational progress of the denomination is highly satisfactory, as will be seen by reference to the reports of the Seminaries of Fredericton and Wolfville as published in the Minutes of the Associations, and by the report of Acadia College as presented to the Convention.

The endowment for the College is steadily progressing, and there is every reason to hope that the debt which has so long encumbered the Fredericton Institution will soon be liquidated.

The increase in the circulation of the periodicals of the body, and the large number of Books that have been circulated during the year by Colporteurs and others engaged in this work, exhibit a healthful taste amongst our people for a religious literature. Too much cannot be done to foster this send othe R cord and this T this Live o'clo growing thirst for religious intelligence. It may justly be regarded as amongst the most favorable signs of the times.

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I. E. BILL, CHAIRMAN.

REPORT ON DECEASED BRETHREN.

During the past year the venerable Father Harris Harding has been translated to his heavenly repose. He died last March in his ninety-third year. His history and successes are well known, and will be hereafter particularized in distinct memorials. Our Provinces owe a deep debt of gratitude to God for his bestowment upon them of men like our deceased father, and his contemporaries, now all but past away. We Baptists own them as our Fathers in God—we enter into their labours—we receive answers to their prayers. May God give us grace to follow them so far as they followed Christ—to take up the work where they have left it—and then permit us to participate in their rewards!

About the time of our last gathering Brother Christopher H. Chute, licensed to preach by the Church at Bridgetown, N. S., was taken away at the age of forty-five years. For some twenty years he had known the Lord; and was greatly blessed in his efforts to bring others to the knowledge-of his name.

Brother Silas H. Viditoe has also been removed, after a short but useful career. He laboured in the pastorate, first at Maccan, and then at Hammond's Plains, N. S.

Whose removal, in like manner, will come to be recorded at our next annual meeting?

J. DAVIS, CHAIRMAN.

Resolved, That though it is obviously desirable in the establishment of a Foreign Mission, that at least two Brethren should go together, yet, if the Board can obtain the services of only one suitable man at a time, in the opinion of this Convention it is proper to send him forth without delay, in the hope of being enabled to dend others ere long to join him in the work. *Resolved*, That the members of this Convention present their cordial thanks to the Churches of Brussels and Germain Streets, and to the citizens of St. John generally, for the kind hospitality and Christian courtesy which they have received from them during this session.

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The Doxology was then supg, and the Convention adjourned this harmonious Session to meet with the Baptist Church in Liverpool, N. S., the 3rd Saturday in September, 1855, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

> I. E. BILL, Secretary for N. B. WILLIAM HALL, Secretary for N. S.

1853		-DR	Pri		nal	True	10.00	~
	ToCo	h noid Dr. Crampin full for acones		inci	par.	Inc	911	U
sept. 20.		sh paid Dr. Cramp in full for agency per orders of Governors,	£142	14	2			
		Messrs. Johnston & Higgins,						
		Provisional Professors,				50	0	0
		Estate late Prof. Chipman, bal-	2.5			00		
		ance of Salary, &c.				130	6	3
Nov. 1.		For Thomas W. Rand's mort-					- C	
			250	0	0			
					1			
		Dr. Crawley,				10	0	0
	6.6	Rev. S. DeBlois on acct. agency,	9	12	4	1.11	1	
Dec. 12.	6.6	For Dr. Cramp's Mortgage this						
- 100 A		date,	300	0	0			
" 20.	64	Dr. Cramp, 2nd quarters' salary,						
		this date,				56	5	0
854 20.	66	Dr. Cramp expenses postage, &c.,						
		on account of Endowment,	1	18	5			
an. 24.	4.6	Rev. G. S. DeBlois in full of						
		agency and expenses,	14	11	7			
Feb. 1.	4.4	Rev. J. Wallace, do. do.,	3	2	11			
lar. 20.	5.6	Dr. Cramp, Salary £56 5s., Post-						
		age 9s.,	0	9	0	56	5	0
April 8.	6.6	Dr. Crawley for money advanced						
с		for apparatus,				51	10	0
June 7.	-6.4	Dr. Crawley to invest per order						
		SPA SET F F SPA AS CHIEF	2606	0	0			
11 9.	6.6	Rev. J. Francis in full for agency,	110					
		£95 16s., expenses, £21 0s 6gd	, 116	10	03			
" 9.	4.4	and the state of t		13	2			
·· 20.	6.6	Dr. Cramp, salary £56-5s., Post-	0		0	50		~
2012		age 4s. 3d.,		2	3	00	5	0
uly 17.	4.5-	Rev. M. Ross, agency £5, Ex-		0	01			
		penses, &c., £1 3s. 91d.,		0	91			
ug. 25.		CProf. Stewart, 2 qrs. salary, £125,						
		For Premium being payable in				128	2	6
		(U. S. Currency, £3 2s. 6d.,				7 40	14	
		For College Seal and Certificate	17	15	0			
	64	of Scholarships,		10	Ő.			
ept. 20.	64. 64	Bowes' bill for Printing, Dr. Cramp, salary to date £56 5s.	60 Sd	* *	~			
		Postages 6s. 44d.	0	6	41	56	5	0
	66.		0	~	-3	00	~	~
		Treasurer's expenses, Postages, Registrations, Stationery, &c.	2	10	2			
Th.	halan	ce carried to credit of new account,		9				
1.0	o natati	of carries to create of new accounty						-
		£	3894	17	94	594	18	9
1854.				1010.00	-	Bearbum		-
	To Pat	ance duc Treasurer on Income,			3	£86 1	5	91

1853 Sept. 1

> 1854 Sept. :

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	Acadia College in account with Treasurer.	e	
1853	-CR Principal.	Incom	ë.
Sept. 20.	By balance of Endowment account in N. S., reported in minutes, £1544 10 1 By balance Acadia College account,		
1854	per Convention minutes,	$12 \ 13$	01
Sept. 20.	By Cash received in payment of En- dowment Notes in N. S. during year, 1246 4 10 By Cash from subscribers to new En-		
	dowment in N. S., 1063 10 3		
	By Cash from Mr. Seely, N. B., 40 12 7		
	Interest from Endowment subscri- bers, N. S., Do. Do. Do. N. B., By balance carried to credit new acct.	$\begin{array}{cccc} 337 & 6 \\ 158 & 3 \\ 86 & 15 \end{array}$	9 2 94
	£3894 17 9½	594 18	9
1854 Sept. 20.	By Balance due College on Principal, £399 9 11 E. E. S. FITCH, M. D.,	Treasure	penanero

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1843	Dr	In	con	ne.	Prin	ncip	al.	
Dec. 8,	To Cash for Wm. B. Kinnear's Mortgage							
	on freehold in Kings' County, N. B., dated 18th Octoper, 1853,				200	0	0	
	To Cash for M. Lawrence's Mortgage on				2000	0		
1054	freehold in this City, dated 29th No-							
	vember, 1854.	2.1	10	0	600	0	0	
23.	To Cash paid Dr. Fitch, order, To Cash paid J. Wallace, agency,	51	10	0	7	12	11	
Apr. 29.	To Cash paid R. Thomson, A. M., do.,				. 4	43	10	
May 6.	To Cash paid for Draft remitted to Dr. F.	· .						
11	for £75 at 1 per cent. discount,	74	-5	0		~		
26.	To Cash paid I. E. Bill for Telegraph, To Cash paid Dr. Fitch order to J. Francis,				40	8 12	0	
1201	To Cash paid for Draft on Boston for \$3,-				20	1.4	4	
	200 at 1 per cent. premium, remitted to							
Turno 15	Dr. Crawley to invest in the U. States,				804	0	0	
Sept. 9.	To Cash paid A. D. Thomson, agency, To Cash paid Dr. Fitch in Draft on Boston				0	0	0	
	\$123 56 at 1 per cent. premium, being							
	balance of Income account to date,	31	0	11				
	To balance of Principal carried down,				39	18	5	
		158	15	11	1702	5	0	

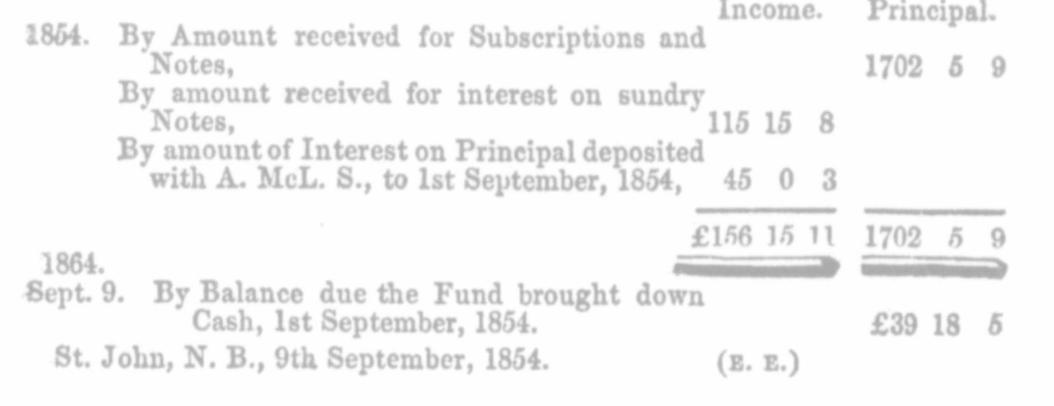
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1854 Sept.

> 1853 Sept. Oct.

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Statement of Endowment Fund.

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Notes in hands of N. S. Treasurer, Cash invested and on hand by ditto, Notes in hands of N. B. Treasurer, Cash invested and on hand by ditto,	$3555 \\ 2198$	9 5	11 6
St. John, N. B., September 9, 1854.	11864	2	2

Aug.

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McL	Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick Foreign Missionary Board in Acct. Current with J. W. Barss, Treasurer.
ncipal.	1854DRSept. 20.To paid Mr. Burpe F. allowance to date,£800" Printing Minutes, Convention 1853,120
0 0	" Bill connected with Mr. Burpe's ill- ness in India, 3 14 0
0 0	"Remitted Am. Bapt. Mis. Union, per vote of Board, \$300, 75 7 6 Paid Postage to date, 0 2 7
$\begin{array}{ccc}12&11\\43&10\end{array}$	To Balance on Hand, viz. :N. S. Demill, E. N. B.,£172411J. W. Nutting, Esq., Halifax,55211Bap. Education Society, Nova Scotia,7200
8 0 12 7	Bap. Education Society, Nova Scotia, 72 0 0 J. W. Barrs, Treasurer, 355 15 0 655 2 10
ч.	£826 6 11
0 0	1853. Sept. 22. By Balance per Acct. published, £638 16 0 Oct. 14. Received from Treasurer Eas-
	tern Association of N. S., 33 15 7
18 5	1854. June — Received from Treasurer Wes- tern Association, £53 4 4
5 9	tern Association, Received from Central, do., '' Eastern, '' 26 15 10
cipal.	" from Mrs. Harris, Horton, 0 1 6 " Miss J. Dickie, Cornwallis, 0 10 0
	THE VERSE VERSE 1010 HITTED INTELLED

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Aug. 26. Estate late John Rittie, Onslow, per his Bro. S. Rittie, 7 10 0 ----- 119 6 11 New-Brunswick. Rec. from Collection St. John, " Union Society, $\begin{smallmatrix}1&4&0\\10&8&2\end{smallmatrix}$ $11 \ 12 \ 2$ prostation of the second Interest on money in N. S. Demill's hands, Do. in Treasurer's hands, 10 6 3 12 10 0 22 16 3 dina di ____£826 6 11 E. E. J. W. BARSS, TREASURER. Wolfville, 22d September, 1854.

APPENDIX.

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CONSTITUTION, &c.

I. That the Convention be called "The Baptist Convention of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island," and shall consist of the Members and Delegates hereinafter specified.

II. That the objects of the Convention shall be, to advance the interests of the Baptist Denomination, and of the cause of God, generally; to maintain the following religious, educational, and charitable Institutions—namely, Foreign Missions, Domestic Missions, Acadia College, and the Fund for Superannuated Ministers; to procure correct information relative to the Baptist Body, and to advise and carry out such measures as may, with the Divine blessing, tend to promote its welfare.

To aid the Convention in procuring statistical information, it is hoped that the several Associations in the Provinces will obtain from the Churches connected with them the requisite statements, and report the same annually to the Convention and will concur with the Convention in all such measures as they judge advisable. III. That the business of the Convention shall be conducted by a President, one or more Vice Presidents, one or more Secretaries, two Treasurers, (one residing in Nova Scotia and the other in New Brunswick,) an Auditor, and a Board of Directors, consisting of twenty-five members, all of whom shall be members of Baptist Churches, in good standing, in addition to Life Directors, to be chosen annually by the Convention. The Board to have power to fill up any vacancies that may occur previous to the next meeting of the Convention. IV. That every member of a Baptist Church, in good standing, who shall pay annually ten shillings and upwards, towards any of the objects embraced by the Union Societies, or into the funds of the Convention, and also every ordained Baptist Minister in the three Provinces, in good standing, shall be a member of the Convention; any person paying five-pounds, or upwards, shall be a Life Member; and the payment of twenty pounds, or upwards, at one time shall constitute a Life Director. Every Church connected with an Association, and contributing annually ten shillings to the fund of a Union Society, shall be a member of this Convention, and be at liberty to send one Delegate to represent such Church, and if five pounds are collected, two Delegates. Every Local Union Society collecting annually five pounds, or upwards, shall be a member of this Convention, and shall be at liberty to send two Delegates to represent them therein, and one Delegate for every

additional five pounds collected; so as no Church or Local Union Society be at liberty to send more than five Delegates; and that each Association connected with the Convention be allowed to send five Delegates. Every Missionary and Educational Board shall also be at liberty to send one Delegate.

V. The fill monies contributed by individuals for membership, or for the general purposes of the Convention, after the payment of incidental expenses, shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Convention in the Province in which they shall have been contributed, and shall be by him appropriated in accordance with the existing regulations of the Union Societies in the Province; and that all monies collected by the Local Union Societies, or by the General Unions of such Societies, shall be paid to the respective Provincial Treasurers of the Convention, to be appropriated for such of the above great objects, and in such proportions, as the several Union Societies shall direct.

VI. That any individual paying into the funds of the Convention more than the sum required to constitute membership, will be at liberty to direct the application of the surplus to the objects contemplated by the Union Societies, or to any one or more of them separately.

VII. That the Board shall meet quarterly, or oftener for the despatch of business, at such place as the Convention shall from time to time appoint; nine members shall form a quorum.

VIII. That the Convention shall meet on the third Saturday in September, annually, at such place as shall be agreed on by the Body; when, in addition to the Office bearers and Board of Convention, the following Boards shall be chosen, viz: a Board of fifteen members for Foreign Missionary and Bible cause, and a Board of fifteen members to take charge of and direct the funds for superannuated ministers and their families; all of which Boards shall consist of members of Baptist Churches, in regular standing. These Boards shall hold their meetings at such places as the Convention shall annually appoint. At least one third of the members of these Boards, and of all Boards connected with the Convention, to reside within the vicinity of the places named for their meetings. The Convention shall also appoint, once in three years, six Governors of Acadia College, in place of six who will then go out in rotation, in accordance with the Resolution passed by this Convention, at its Annual Meeting in September, 1850, and in accordance with the Act 14 Vic. of the Legislature of Nova Scotia; Chap. 37. IX. That the Boards appointed annually by the respective Associations for Domestic Missions in each Province constitute a General Board of the Convention, to take charge of the objects of Domestic Missions under their direction, for purposes of advice and suggestion.

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X. That the Boards established for the promotion of the objects contemplated by the Union Societies, shall be requested to furnish

nding, any of nds of in the cona Life at one nected to the on, and and if Union l be a id two every the Secretary of the Convention with a full report of their proceedings annually. Such reports to be presented to the Secretary of the Convention at least one month before its meeting.

XI. That this Constitution may be altered or amended at any Annual Meeting of the Convention, by two thirds of the members present.

RULES OF ORDER OF BAPTIST CONVENTION.

RULE 1. At every sitting, business shall be opened and concluded with prayer.

RULE 2. Ministers and members of Churches, not Delegates, invited to a seat with us, may speak on all subjects under debate, but vote on none.

RULE 3. No member of the Convention shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.

RULE 4. The names of Delegates leaving the Convention without permission of the Body before the conclusion of its business shall be publicly reported in the Minutes.

RULE 5. No subject shall be discussed without a motion first made and seconded.

RULE 6. No person shall speak oftener than twice on any motion, unless by permission of the Body.

RULE 7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the Minutes except so ordered at the time.

RULE 8. The Moderator of the Convention shall nominate all

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Committees, unless otherwise ordered by the Convention.

RULE 9. These rules shall be distinctly read from the Chair immediately after the Convention shall have organized.

NEW BRUNSWICK BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY.

Elder Joseph Crandal, President; Elders Samuel Robinson and A. D. Thompson, and Honble. W. B. Kinnear, Vice Presidents; Solomon Hersey. Esq., Treasurer; Elder I. E. Bill and Asa Coy, Esq., Secretaries; Elder Charles Spurden, Principal; Mr. A. H. Munro, Assistant Teacher. Every Minister of the Denomination is a Member of the Board of Directors. Elder Charles Spurden, Messrs. Samuel W. Babbit, W. S. Estey, William Sewell, Thomas Stewart, and J. F. Gale, Managing Committee, for the ensuing year.

NOVA SCOTIA BAPTIST EDUACTION SOCIETY.

Rev. T. S. Harding, President; Rev. W. Chipman, Vice President; Rev. E. A. Crawley, D.D., Rev. Wm. Chipman, Rev. I. E. Bill, Rev. Wm. Burton, Rev. Charles Tupper, Rev. J. M. Cramp, D. D., Hon. J. W. Johnston, C. R. Bill, Jas. W. Nutting, Wm. Johnson, Simon Fitch, Lewis Johnson, M.D., J. R. Fitch, M.D., and John W. Barss, Esqrs., Executive Committee: Rev. A. S. Hunt, Secretary; Rev. John Chase, Treasurer.

OFFICERS FOR 1854-5.

PRESIDENT-Rev. Theodore S. Harding.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

Hon. J. W. Johnston, Rev. J. Crandall, Rev. C. Tupper, " W. B. Kinnear, " S. Robinson, " W. Chipman,

AUDITOR--J. W. Barss, Esq.

SECRETARIES-Rev. I. E. Bill, and William Hall.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS, ACADIA COLLEGE.

Hon. J. W. Johnston, Rev. Charles Tupper, Caleb R. Bill, " W. B. Kinnear, " A. S. Hunt, William Stone, " G. F. Miles, Simon Fitch, M. D., Rev. I. E. Bill, James W. Nutting, " Wm. Burton, James R. Fitch, M. D., " S. Robinson, John W. Barss, Nathan S. Demill, " Charles Spurden, Stewart Freeman, Alex. McL. Seely. Ex-officio Governors-Revds. E. A. Crawley, D.D., and J. M. Cramp, D.D.

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