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MINUTES

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

**AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

OF

NOVA SCOTIA

HELD AT

Digby Joggings, Saturday, Sunday Monday, Tuesday,

September 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th, 1874.



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HALIFAX, N. S.,  
1874.

## MINUTES.

Minutes of the proceedings of the Seventh Annual Session of the AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION of Nova Scotia, held at Digby Joggings, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, September 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th, 1874.

### *SATURDAY, September 26th, 1874.*

Met at 3 o'clock, P. M., the Seventh Session of the African Baptist Association was called to order by the Moderator. Rev. R. Langford read Psalm xxvii., and spoke from the same, followed by Rev. A. Cogswell, Rev. H. Frances. Exhortations by a great many of the brethren.

### *SUNDAY, September 27th.*

Met at half past 10 o'clock, A. M. Preaching by Rev. George R. Neale from Acts iii. 6, followed by Bishop B. Smithers, and more of the brethren.

Met at 3 o'clock, P. M., in the open air. Preaching by the Rev. H. Frances from 2 Tim. iv. 1, followed by Bishop B. Smithers, and more of the brethren.

Met at 7 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by Rev. R. Langford from Ezekiel xxxiii. 6, followed by a great many of the Brethren. Our hearts were made glad for we found it as the gate of heaven to our souls. )

### *MONDAY, September 28th.*

Met at half past 9 o'clock, P. M., the Moderator called the Council to order, and read Psalm lxvi. Prayer was offered by Rev. R. Langford.

It was moved by Bishop B. Smithers, seconded by Rev. G. R. Neale, that Brethren S. Ford, and Butler take seats in counsel with us.

It was voted, That Rev. H. Frances be Moderator.

It was voted, That the Minutes of last year be read. The Minutes were read and approved.

It was moved by Brother J. Langford and seconded by Brother J. Smith that the Weymouth Church be called the Weymouth Falls Church, South Side. Adjourned.

Met at 11 o'clock, A. M. The Rev. R. Langford preached the Introductory Sermon from 1 Peter ii. 6, "Behold I lay in Zion a chief corner-stone, elect and precious, and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded", followed by the Rev. A. Cogswell and Bishop B. Smithers.

Met at 3 o'clock P. M. Preaching by Brother Stephen Ford from Matthew xvii. 29, followed by Bishop Smithers and Revds. G. R. Neale and H. Frances.

Met at 5 o'clock P. M. The Moderator called the Council to order. Bishop Smithers read the 25th Psalm. Prayer was offered by the Rev. G. R. Neale.

Voted, That Bishop B. Smithers and Rev. G. R. Neale superintend the printing of the Minutes.

Voted, That a Committee be appointed to examine the Letters from the various Churches.

It was moved by Brother J. Smith and seconded by Brother F. Ford that Rev. G. R. Neale and Brethren P. J. Hawkins and James Langford be the Committee to examine the letters and to read them. Adjourned.

Met at 7 o'clock P. M. Preaching by the Rev. R. Langford from Acts vii. 59, followed by all of the Ministering Brethren. Truly we felt the Lord in our midst.

**TUESDAY, September 29th.**

Met at 10 o'clock, A. M. The Moderator called the Council to order and read Psalm xxiii.

Prayer was offered by Brother Thomas Tines.

Moved by Brother J. Smith, seconded by Brother P. J. Hawkins that every member of the Churches pay into a fund monthly for the support of the Ministry.

It was voted, That every member put into the Church Fund six shillings and three pence a year for the support of the gospel.

Voted, That the Letters be read.

The Letters were read and approved.

Moved by Bishop B. Smithers, seconded by Rev. G. R. Neale, that the Association be held in Preston next year,

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1875, commencing on the last Saturday in September at the South Church.

It was voted, That Bishop B. Smithers preach the Introductory Sermon, and that the Rev. H. Frances be his alternate.

*Resolved*, That a vote of thanks be tendered to the friends of Digby Joggins for their hospitality and kindness.

*Resolved*, That a vote of thanks be tendered to the Congregation at large for their kind attention and good behaviour. Adjourned.

Met at 3 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by the Rev. G. R. Neale from St. Matthew v. 4, followed by Rev. H. Frances and Bishop B. Smithers.

Then the Ministers, Deacons and Councilmen formed in a ring, and the Doxology was sung. Prayer was offered by the Rev. R. Langford, and the Benediction was pronounced by Rev. G. R. Neale.

Then the Brethren separated to meet at Preston the last Saturday in September, 1875.

A request was made for us to visit more of the Churches.

**WEDNESDAY, September, 30th.**

We went to Weymouth Falls Church, 7 o'clock. Speaking by all the Ministering Brethren.

**SUNDAY, October 4th.**

Met at half past 10 o'clock, A. M. Preaching by Rev. G. R. Neale and Bishop B. Smithers.

Met at 3 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by Bishop B. Smithers, followed by Rev. G. R. Neale.

Met at 7 o'clock, P. M. Preaching by Rev. H. Langford, followed by Rev. H. Frances, and more of the brethren.

**WEDNESDAY, October 7th.**

Met at 7 o'clock. Preaching by Bishop B. Smithers.

**THURSDAY, October 8th.**

Met at 10 o'clock, A. M. Preaching by Rev. G. R. Neale, from Mark xvi. 15, 16.

Then we went to the water side, and the Bishop B. Smithers baptized one willing convert.

Met at 3 o'clock, P. M. The Lord's Supper was administered.

Met 7 o'clock P. M. Preaching by the Rev. H. Langford, followed by all of the brethren. Truly we felt the Lord in our midst.

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Came back to Digby.

**FRIDAY, October 9th.**

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Went to Bear River, 7 o'clock. Preaching by Bishop B. Smithers.

**SATURDAY, October 10th.**

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Met at half past 10 o'clock. Preaching by Bishop B. Smithers.

**SUNDAY, October 11th.**

At 3 o'clock we went to the water side, the Rev. H. France, baptized one willing convert, then the right hand of fellowship was given and the Lord's Supper was administered.

Met at 7 o'clock in Clements Settlement. Preaching by Bishop B. Smithers.

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**MONDAY, October 12th.**

Came to Granville Ferry where a business meeting was held.

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**TUESDAY, October 13th.**

Came to Bridgetown.

Met at 7 o'clock. Preaching by Bishop B. Smithers, followed by more of the Brethren.

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**WEDNESDAY, October 14th.**

Came on to Paradise.

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**THURSDAY, October 15th.**

Came on to Halifax well pleased with our journey. Thanks be to the Lord.

## STATISTICS.

### *State of the Churches—Increase and Decrease.*

CHURCHES.	Bapt'd.	Recv'd.	Exclu'd.	Rem'd.	Died.	Total.
Preston 1st, East.....	16	9	4	.....	2	89
Preston 2nd, South.....	37	4	2	.....	1	98
Preston 3rd, North.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Dartmouth.....	22	1	2	.....	.....	50
Campbell Road.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Granville Mountain.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	28
Bear River.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	26
Digby Joggins.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Weymouth Falls.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
Yarmouth.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	37
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>389</b>

Money Received by Letter.....\$24 04

Money by Contribution.....17 35

Total amount.....\$41 39

### Ministers, Licentiate, Deacons, and Counsellors.

**FIRST PRESTON, EAST.**—Rev. George R. Neale, Pastor; David Brown, William Deare, Thomas Crawley, John Dilway, Deacons; Peter Williams, Counsellor.

**SECOND PRESTON CHURCH, SOUTH.**—Bishop B. Smithers; C. Glasgow, Sampson Williams, Joseph Smith, Paul Crawley, Deacons; George Thomas, Joseph Glasgow, Samuel Clayton, Counsellors.

**THIRD PRESTON, NORTH.**—William Smith, Deacon; Rev. G. R. Neale, Pastor.

**DARTMOUTH CHURCH.**—Bishop B. Smithers; Thomas Tynes, Adam Green, Deacons; J. Tynes, Richard Tynes, C. Smith, Counsellors; Charles Roan, Licentiate; James Bowden, Clerk.

**CAMPBELL ROAD CHURCH.**—Bishop B. Smithers; Allen Dixon, Deacon.

**GRANVILLE MOUNTAIN CHURCH.**—Bishop B. Smithers; Edward Dixon, Isaac Middleton, Isaac Cuff, Charles Pomp, Deacons.

**BEAR RIVER CHURCH.**—Bishop B. Smithers; Isaac Johnson, F. Ford, Peter J. Hawkins, Deacons.

**DIGBY JOGGINS CHURCH.**—Bishop B. Smithers; Joseph Frances, Counsellor.

**WEYMOUTH FALLS CHURCH.**—Bishop B. Smithers, Rev. Henry Frances, Rev. R. Langford; James Langford, James Smith, Deacons; Edward Langford, Counsellor.

**YARMOUTH CHURCH.**—Bishop B. Smithers; George Dise, Licentiate; Silas Chandler, Anthony Berry, Deacons; William Crawford, Clerk.

**Ordained Ministers.**—Bishop Benson Smithers, Rev. George R. Neale, Rev. Henry Frances, Rev. Randolph Langford, Rev. James Edward Jackson.

## CIRCULAR LETTER.

THE CIRCULAR LETTER OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF  
THE AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION CONVENED AT  
DIGBY JOGGIN CHURCH, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1874.

*Dearly Beloved Brethren,—*

God our Heavenly Father through his great mercy has spared our lives through the past year and permitted us to meet again this year at our Annual Association. Who is like our God? Some have gone to rest, but thanks be to his Name many have been brought into the fold of God. Let us pray for more to be brought in. My brethren last year I recommended you to obedience I shall now try to recommend you to His help. Hear the word of the Lord The eternal God is thy Refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee and shall say destroy them, Happy art thou O Israel Who is like unto thee, O people saved by the Lord, the shield of thy help; and who is the sword, or thy excellency and thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee, and thou shalt tread upon their high places. Deut. xxxiii. 27, 29. "The God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah," Psalm xlvi. 11. "Thou art my help; and my deliverer make no tarrying O my God," Psalm lx. 17. "I will strengthen thee yea I will help thee, yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand saying unto thee fear not I will help thee, Fear not thou worm Jacob and ye men of Israel I will help thee saith the Lord and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel," Isaiah xli. 10, 13, 14. O Israel thou hast destroyed thyself but in me is thine help," Hosea xiii. 9. "If God be for us who can be against us." Romans viii. 31. We may boldly say the Lord is my helper and I will not fear what man can do unto me," Hebrews xiii. 6.

And now my brethren,

Great tribulation you shall meet,  
But soon shall walk the golden street;  
Though hell may rage and vent her spite,  
Yet Christ will save his hearts delight.

The grace of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen and Amen.

**REV. GEORGE RICHARD NEALE.**