

MINUTES  
OF THE  
SECOND SESSION  
OF THE  
WESTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
OF NOVA SCOTIA.

HELD AT MILTON, Q. CO.

SATURDAY, MONDAY, AND TUESDAY, 12TH, 14TH AND 15TH JUNE, 1852.

TOGETHER WITH THE

CIRCULAR LETTER, &c.

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HALIFAX, N. S.

PRINTED AT THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER OFFICE,

1852.

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## MINUTES.

MILTON, QU. CO., SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1852.

THE Western Baptist Association N. S. met with the First Liverpool Church, this day, at 2 P. M.

The Association having been called to order, Elder R. B. Dickey, the Moderator of last year, addressed the Throne of Grace, for Divine direction and influence;—after which Elder W. Burton of Yarmouth, was chosen Moderator, in the manner stated in the Constitution; Elder G. Armstrong, of Port Medway, Secretary; Brother J. E. Balcome, Assistant Secretary, and Brother J. Dewolfe, Treasurer.

The Constitution and Rules of Order were then read.

Messengers from Corresponding Associations and Visiting Ministers and Brethren in regular standing in their respective Churches and Associations were invited to sit with us in Council and participate in the deliberations. Elders T. Todd, of Woodstock, N. B., W. Hall, of Windsor, R. Morton, E. F. Foshay, Messenger from the N. B. Eastern Association and Brethren P. Shiels, and W. Goucher, Lic., and J. Mader, accordingly took their seats with the Association.

The following Committees were then appointed:—

To examine the *Letters from the Churches*.—Elders C. Randall, R. W. Cunningham, and J. Parker.

To read the *Letters*.—Elders S. N. Bentley, and W. Hall.

To examine and Report upon the *Circular Letter*.—Elders C. Tupper, and R. B. Dickey.

The letters from the Churches were now read, from which a list of Delegates was obtained, and also the statistics of the Churches which is subjoined.

## DELEGATES.

- Annapolis and Upper Granville.*—Elder J. RING, Deacon T. Rice, and Brethren J. Crabb, and W. Morse. *Argyle*, No letter.
- Barrington.*—A letter but no Delegate.
- Brier Island, or West Port.*—Elder P. F. MURRAY.
- Brookfield.*—Elder D. PARKER, Deacon P. F. Murray, and Brethren J. Douglas, W. Henry, senr., and L. Ledbetter.
- Clements.*—Elder A. COGSWELL, and Brother A. Morse.
- Chute's Cove.*—No letter.
- Digby.*—Elder R. W. CUNNINGHAM.
- Digby Joggin.*—Elder R. W. CUNNINGHAM.
- Dalhousie.*—No letter.
- First Yarmouth.*—Elder W. BURTON, and Brethren S. Brown, and J. Rogers.
- First Digby Neck.*—No letter.
- First Hillsborough.*—No letter.
- First Liverpool.*—R. B. DICKIE, S. Kempton, T. Ford, S. Freeman, and J. Ford.
- Greenfield and Chelsea.*—Elder J. A. STUBBERT, and Deacon R. Harlow.
- Lake George.*—Elder J. A. STUBBERT.
- Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot.*—Elder C. TUPPER, and Deacons Z. Roach, and S. Welton.
- Lower Granville.*—W. H. CALDWELL.
- Long Island.*—No letter.
- Nictaux.*—Elder J. PARK, S. Wheelock, S. I. Chipman, W. Morton, N. Parker, and C. Shaffner.
- New Albany.*—H. WHITMAN.
- New Tusket.*—Elder C. RANDALL.
- Port Medway.*—Elder G. ARMSTRONG, Deacons G. Manthorne, J. E. Balcome, Lie., and Brethren C. Atkins, and D. D. Nichols.
- Ragged Islands.*—No letter.
- Sable River.*—Elder T. DELONG.
- Second Digby Neck.*—No letter.
- Saint Mary's Bay.*—Elder C. RANDALL, and Brother W. John.
- Second Hillsborough.*—A letter but not a Delegate.
- Second Liverpool.*—Elder S. N. BENTLEY, Deacon G. Bill, and Brethren W. S. Jacobs, J. Dewolfe, and G. S. Parker.
- Second Yarmouth.*—Deacon J. Sanders, and J. Cann.
- Sissaboo.*—Elder C. RANDALL.
- Springfield.*—No letter.
- Third Yarmouth.*—Elder J. A. STUBBERT.
- Tusket River.*—A letter but no Delegate from this church.
- Wilmot.*—Elder N. VIDITO, and Brethren H. E. Fitch, and A. Longley.
- Wilmot Mountain.*—No letter.
- Beaver River.*—A letter,—the Delegate appointed not present.

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## STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	Restored.	By Baptism.	By Letter.	Removed.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Died.	Total.
Annapolis and Upper Granville.							3	188
Argyle.								35
Barrington								713
Brier Island, or West Port.	1	0	1	4		2	4	159
Brookfield.		3			1	1	1	196
Clements.						1	3	262
Chute's Cove.								72
Digby.			2					25
Digby Joggin.					3			40
Dalhousie.								37
First Yarmouth.		1	1		10	12	13	678
First Digby Neck.								185
First Hillsborough.								67
First Liverpool	1		2		5			138
Greenfield and Chelsea				9	137			46
Lake George.								67
Lower Aylesford.			17		4		3	224
Lower Granville.								150
Long Island.								213
Nictaux.			2		5	2	5	549
New Albany.	2	8		2	6		1	74
Port Medway.			1		6		2	69
Ragged Islands.								100
Sable River.					2			50
Second Digby Neck.								57
Saint Mary's Bay.		2			1			74
Second Hillsborough.				9		1	2	100
Second Liverpool.		2	13				2	60
Second Yarmouth.		2	1		4		2	316
Sissaboo.	7	49			1		1	102
Springfield.								29
Third Yarmouth.		17	6					75
Tusket River.							1	98
Wilmot.					18	5	10	352
Wilmot Mountain.		1						167
Beaver River.		27	1		3			80
New Tusket.		3	1				1	49
Total—	11	114	48	24	70	61	54	5,217

The subjoined Committees were then appointed:

*To report upon Questions proposed in the Letters*—Elders N Vidito, C Tupper, T DeLong, R W Cunningham, and Brethren S Brown and J Saunders.

*On Temperance*—Brethren W Morse, S Wheelock, L Ledbetter, and Elders T Todd, and G Armstrong.

*On Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes*—Elders R B Dickie, J Ring, and brethren C Bill, T Rice, S Brown, and W Morton.

*On the Christian Messenger*—Elders C Tupper, C Randall, R W Cunningham, and W Hall.

*On Domestic Missions*—Elders J Parker, A Cogswell, T DeLong, J Park, R Morton, and brethren J Crabbe, J Ells, T Ford, S Freeman, J Cann, and W John.

*Foreign Mission and Bible Cause*—Elder S N Bentley, Dr Cramp, Elders Todd, E F Foshay, P F Murray, W Hall, G Armstrong, C Randall, and brethren P Shiels, T Christopher, Z Roach, G S Starrit, A Morse, A Longley, S Wheelock, G Manthorne, and S Welton; to which were subsequently added on Monday—Elder A S Hunt, and brother J Ferguson.

*On Education Literary and Theological*—Dr Cramp, Elders R B Dickie, W Hall, N Vidito, P F Murray, G Armstrong, T Todd and Brethren J Douglas, W S Jacobs, W Henry, A Longley, H Fitch, D D Nichols, J Dewolfe, J Ells, S Kempton, and H Shoffner, to which were subsequently added on Monday, Elders J E Bill, A S Hunt, J Chase, R W Cunningham, W Burton, C Tupper, and brother J Ferguson.

*Acadian French Mission*—Elders C Randall, R W Cunningham, P F Murray, and brethren P Shiels, W Goucher, S Brown, and N Parker.

*On Union Societies*—Elders J Ring, J Park, and brethren G Manthorne, J E Balcombe, and W H Caldwell, Licents, C Bill, P F Murray, S Kempton, S L Chipman, and W Morton. Prayer by the Moderator. Adjourned until Monday, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Elder C Randall preached in the Evening at 7 o'clock, an interesting and solemn discourse from Luke xvii: 5, "Lord increase our faith."

Lord's Day, morning, Elder T Todd preached at Milton, Elder E F Foshay, in the afternoon, and Dr Cramp in the evening

These sermons were deeply interesting, and listened to with solemn attention. Dr Cramp's discourse had special reference to the afflictive and mysterious Providence by which Professor I Chipman, Rev E D Very, and the four students, Grant, Rand, Phelan, and King, were so awfully and suddenly removed from amongst us. His text was Ps. xlvi: 10—Be still and know that I am God."

Elder W Hall preached at the Baptist Chapel in Liverpool Town, in the morning, Elder N Vidito in the afternoon, and Elder A Cogswell in the evening.

In the Congregational Meeting House, kindly offered for the occasion, there was preaching in the afternoon by Elder A S Hunt, and in the evening, by Elder W Hall. Elder R W Cunningham preached in the evening at Brooklyn. Prayer Meetings were held every morning at 6 o'clock.

#### MONDAY, JUNE 14TH, 10 O'CLOCK.

Met pursuant to adjournment. After the usual preliminary services, Elder W Burton, preached the introductory Sermon, from 1 Cor. ii: 2.—"For I determined not to know anything among you save Jesus Christ and Him crucified." After which a collection was taken up for the Domestic Missions, in addition to those that were taken up for the same object on the previous day.

Dr Cramp, President of Acadia College, and Elder A S Hunt appeared as Delegates of the Board of Governors of Acadia College for N. S., as also did Elder I E Bill, as Delegate of that part of the Board resident in N.B., and was invited to a seat with the Association; as were also Brother J Ferguson one of the Editors of the *Christian Messenger*, and Elder R Burpe, late Missionary to Burmah, and Elder John Chase.

The *Christian Messenger Extra* giving a more particular account than had been previously received of the circumstances attending the catastrophe by which our beloved Brethren Professor Chipman, E D Very, Grant, King, Rand and Phelan were swept as in a moment into Eternity, was now read by Elder C Tupper, and produced deep and overpowering emotions in the meeting.

Dr Cramp and Elder R E Burpe were appointed to prepare a notice of Esteem, for these departed Brethren, and of condolence with the bereaved families, &c.

Voted that the next Session of the W B Association be held at West Port, Brier Island.

The Association is appointed to commence on the Second Saturday in June.

Brother J Parker was appointed to preach the introductory Sermon and Brother G Armstrong his alternate.

Brother R W Cunningham was appointed to write the Circular Letter.

The Circular Letter for this year was now read and ordered to be printed in the Minutes.

Prayer by Brother A S Hunt. Adjourned for an hour and a half.

AFTERNOON, 2½ O'CLOCK.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Brother J A Stubbart prayed. Brother Burton being engaged on Committee, Elder N Vidito, was appointed Moderator, *pro tem*.

The Committee on Questions reported as follows:—

#### REPORT.

The Committee on Questions beg leave to report, That they have considered the Question in the letter from the Wilmot Church, in reference to the appointment of a Treasurer for the superannuated Ministers Fund—and we recommend that this said fund be henceforth held under the control of this Association, and that the Convention be requested to refund to such Treasurer to be appointed, our proportion of the funds now in hand. All which is respectfully submitted.

N VIDITO,  
Chairman.

Report adopted.

S L Chipman, of Nictaux was accordingly appointed Treasurer of the Superannuated Ministers Fund contributed by this Association.

The following report on Temperance was presented.

#### REPORT.

The Committee on Temperance beg leave to report. It is in our view a matter of encouragement and thankfulness to God, that the cause of Total Abstinence is attracting

so much interest and attention as have during the past year been given to it. We recommend the measures of a Legislative character in contemplation by the friends of Teetotalism for the entire prohibition of the manufacture, sale and importation of intoxicating liquors, except for scientific purposes.

We beg to recommend to the churches the energetic and persevering use of all proper and laudible means to accomplish an end so desirable; and above all to endeavour to give to the Temperance movement the benefit and stability that religious influence and principle can alone confer.

All which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. MORSE,  
*Chairman.*

Reported adopted.

The Sabbath School and Bible Class committee reported as follows:

#### REPORT.

The Sabbath School and Bible Class Committee reported as follows:—

It affords them much pleasure to know the fact, that S. S. are in operation quite generally in our Churches. Their importance is being more fully understood, than has been the case hitherto. Yet your Committee press the magnitude of this institution more urgently upon the friends of the Redeemer, as also upon the attention of every friend of good order and of his country.

They would call attention especially to the necessity of putting forth in all our congregations, appropriate efforts to establish efficient Bible Classes.

They would further suggest the propriety of introducing periodicals adapted to the teachers and their classes. Also, the holding frequent meetings for the instruction of teachers and to give a correct view of the lessons to be taught before their classes. We think the practice of holding the monthly concert of prayer, in relation to conversion of the scholars is worthy of consideration.

We cannot close without urging the absolute necessity of keeping always on hand a large and well selected library.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. B. DICKIE,  
*Chairman.*

Adopted.

The Home Mission Committee report was read and adopted.

#### REPORT.

The Committee on Domestic Missions beg leave to report;

That your Committee regard the Home Missionary operations of the Baptists in this Province as being a work of the utmost importance, from a consideration of its adaption to meet the wants of the destitute of our own land by furnishing them with the means of Grace, and imparting sound religious instruction, and thus instrumentally winning souls to God. We can but acknowledge with hearts of devout gratitude the blessing of Almighty God which has heretofore attended the efforts of the Denomination in this department of Christian enterprise, but we must confess, that there is cause of deep self abasement, in view of the little efforts that have been put forth during the past year by the Churches composing this Association, towards holding forth the word of life to those who are in the region and shadow of death; and we do earnestly beseech all our Churches and congregations to use their efforts and enlarge their contributions to enable this Society to send forth Missionaries, who shall bear the glad tidings of salvation to those who are perishing, and your Committee would further recommend to those Churches who are blessed with the constant preaching of the Gospel the propriety of dispensing with the labours of their Pastors for a few weeks in each year, and at the same time supporting them while they go to preach to the destitute.

JAMES PARKER,  
Chairman.

Report on Union Societies was presented:

#### REPORT.

The committee on Union Societies beg leave to report.

That the Union Society has been in operation in our churches sufficiently long to establish itself,—that it is second to none as yet introduced, as a medium through which money may be obtained for carrying into effect the various benevolent objects in connection with the Denomination. It not only realizes more immediate funds than other modes hitherto adopted, but it systematizes our Financial arrangements and brings into operation the members of our churches.

Your committee would urge the necessity of making pastors and churches feel the great importance of doing, within themselves the business of working efficiently and permanently the Union Society.

If the business of collecting money be left to the efforts of Agents, and extra efforts arising from Quarterly Meetings, there will not be much permanent effect or durability. Agency and Quarterly Meetings are good in their places, but when the responsibility of the individual churches are thrown upon them their object is not accomplished. Let Pastors and their churches unite if thought proper, but, at the same time

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every pastor and church should feel their obligation to preach the gospel to every creature, and to secure the enlightenment of our entire race, as though they were alone in the business.

In conclusion we feel deeply impressed with the fact, that, inasmuch as the Union Society is the only mode of collecting money for the benevolent institutions among us, until some more operative plan shall be adopted by the churches, it is of the utmost importance to place them in a more efficient condition.

J. RING.

Chairman.

Adopted.

After prayer, adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock in the evening, Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by the Moderator.

Report of the Home Missionary Board was now read and adopted.

### REPORT

Report of the Board of the Domestic Mission of the Western Association.

It cannot be expected that the Board should have occasion at the close of the first year of its proceedings for extended remark in reference to its labours, as it is known that the funds placed at its disposal have been very limited.

Several of our Ministers have performed Missionary labour during the year, viz., Brother Armstrong 4 weeks in Cape Breton; Bro. Delong 5 weeks on the Southern Shore, from Jordan River West; Bro. Robert Morton 10 weeks in Dalhousie east and west, and western Sherbrook; Bro. Obediah Parker 3 weeks in the county of Lunenburg; and Bro. Harding Porter 3 weeks in the same region.

These Brethren have given reports of their labours in the *Messenger*, from which it appears, that they were cordially received in every place which they visited, that they were diligent in their work, and state the blessing of God in some good degree attended their administrations.

The time expended by these Missionaries amounted in the aggregate to 25 weeks. We should like to be able to state the number of meetings held by them, of Sabbath School and Temperance Societies formed, of Union Societies established, of Conversions that have occurred, and of the number of persons baptized, &c. But as our Brethren have not furnished the Board with a minute detail of the results of their labours, we are not prepared to do this. We would respectfully suggest that our Missionaries in future be required to do this, in order that the Board may be enabled to give full and correct statistical information in reference to its proceedings.

We believe that the county of Lunenburg presents an inviting field for Missionary labour, and that two Baptist Missionaries might be employed in that region with flattering prospects of success.

The Southern Shore west of Liverpool, affords abundant scope for the untiring exertion of at least one Missionary, and claims increased attention from the Board.

Dalhousie east and west, Sherbrook, Springfield, and adjacent neighborhoods, call loudly for increased Missionary supply.

The little Church at Dalhousie has lately been deprived by death of the valuable services of Brother George Harris, whose hospitality, christian charity, and entire devotedness to the cause of God, rendered him exceedingly useful in that section, and gave him a large place in the affections and confidence of the Missionaries who visited the settlement. We cannot but record our deep sympathy with the church in the loss which they have sustained by this bereavement.

The claims of Cape Breton must not be forgotten by our Western Churches. Nearly the whole Island may be regarded as presenting one vast field for Missionary care and toil. Our Brethren in the east are exerting themselves nobly to supply this destitution; but with all their efforts cannot half reach the necessities of the Island. How often do we hear from that section the earnest and touching appeal, Brethren "come over and help us."

We would suggest to the Churches that they prayerfully consider the urgent necessity for increased liberality on their part, that the Board may have the means of responding to the appeals for aid, and that they may send out faithful labourers into the vineyard.

#### The Acadian French department.

The board has had this new field under its special care. In accordance with the resolution adopted at Yarmouth at the Session of the Association last June, a correspondence was opened with the Rev. Obed Chute on the subject of this Mission, and enquiries made in respect to his willingness to engage in it should his services be wanted. Bro. Chute gave a prompt reply, in which he not only expressed a readiness, but a most anxious desire to be thus engaged.

On the 27th August a meeting of the Board was held at Nictaux, when Bro. Chute's reply was submitted, whereupon it was resolved to invite him to spend some weeks in Missionary labor with the French in the township of Clare, for the purpose of surveying the field and ascertaining as far as possible the prospects for continuous exertions amongst them. Bro. Chute complied with the invitation and spent the month of October in that section.

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His time was spent in visiting from house to house, in conversing, reading the Scriptures, and in praying with the people. Several families received him cordially, treated him kindly and listened to his instructions with much interest. He found that many of them were the subjects of earnest religious enquiry. He returned greatly encouraged to devote himself unreservedly to the Mission. But before entering permanently upon his work he felt that it would be necessary for him to spend some months with the Brethren at Grand Ligne in Canada for the purpose of perfecting himself in the French language, and of acquiring further information in respect to the workings of that interesting Mission, in order that he might be more fully prepared for the prosecution of his work.

In this opinion the Board fully concurred, and accordingly furnished Bro. Chute with £30 in money, and the needful letters of introduction and commendation to the Brethren in Canada. He went on at an inclement season of the year; but he was mercifully preserved, and received a christian greeting from our valued Brethren there. We doubt not his visit will furnish him with an amount of information that will be exceedingly useful in his future course. We learn that he is to return by the first of July, and that he wishes to enter at once upon his field of labour. May God in mercy open his way before him. We commend our esteemed Brother and this infant Mission to the warmest sympathies and most fervent prayers of our Churches.

The Acadian French are our neighbors, they are in our midst, and their social, moral, and religious condition calls loudly upon us to give them the word of life. Can we withhold it and be guiltless of their blood. The interests of time and the retribution of eternity, speak to us as with trumpet tongues, commanding us to go to these interesting people with the message of mercy in our Redeemer's name. What remains for us but to obey the mandate, trusting to the promise that "they who go forth weeping bearing precious seed, shall doubtless return again with rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them."

I. E. BILL,

*Secretary.*

The remaining part of the evening was occupied with the delivery of deeply interesting speeches, showing the necessity and importance of prosecuting with greatly increased energy and liberality the Home Missionary enterprise in the destitute parts of our Province.

The Domestic Missionary Board was re appointed with the exception of Elders I E Bill & R B Dickie, whose names are omitted

on account of removal. The Board consists of the following brethren:—Elders R W Cunningham, C Randall, C Tupper, J Parker, G Armstrong, W Burton, J Ring, J Reed, J C Morse, and T Delong, and Messrs N Corning, J Saunders, S Brown, E Kempton, D C Landers, S L Chipman, P Murray, E Dunn, J Locke, and T Tupper; to whom were now added, Dr Bent, E M Marshall, S Bacon, and Elders A Cogswell, and J B Cogswell; five of whom constitute a quorum. The Board is located for the present year at Digby. Prayer by bro Delong.

Adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 15th, 10 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment. No business was done this forenoon in consequence of the Committees being engaged in preparing Reports.

In the meantime religious services were attended to and a sermon preached by bro W H Coldwell, Lic., and accompanied by warm exhortations from other brethren. Adjourned till 2 o'clock.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, 2 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment: Prayer by bro C Randall.

On motion of bro J Parker, the following Resolution was passed.

*Resolved*, That the Association recommend to the Churches to furnish in their letters a statement of all sums contributed by them for religious and other purposes, including in addition to the contributions made through the Union Societies, the cost of erecting and repairing Meeting Houses, the sums paid for the support of Ministers, donations for Educational purposes, &c.

The Report on the Christian Messenger was read and adopted.

REPORT.

The Committee on the Christian Messenger, beg leave to report:

That they perceive with much pleasure the increasing interest evinced in the success of this excellent periodical, not only in communications to the Editors, but also in a number of the letters addressed to this Association, which very properly express strong approbation of it, and earnest desire for its more widely extended circulation. As the Editors, after having so reduced

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the price as to put this highly useful paper within the reach of all families in ordinary circumstances, have now generously proposed to enlarge it greatly without advancing the price, and as a considerably increased list of subscribers is indispensably necessary to enable them to sustain it in this improved form, in which its value will be greatly enhanced, and as its success is intimately connected with all the vital interests of the denomination, your Committee deem it desirable to urge affectionately, that individual, united, and energetic efforts be immediately put forth, to aid our worthy Editors, in all possible ways, in the continuance, and extended usefulness, of their invaluable services. All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES TUPPER,  
*Chairman.*

Elder C Randall was appointed Delegate to the Central Association and one pound was voted to be paid him for this service.

Elder C Tupper was appointed Delegate to the Eastern Association of N S and to the Eastern Association of N B, and £2 10s. were allowed him for these services.

Elder G Armstrong was appointed delegate to the Western Association of N B and also Delegate to the Convention—for which services he is allowed £5.

In addition to bro Armstrong the following Delegates to the Convention were appointed—Elders C Tupper, J Parker and J Park, and £2 10s. voted to each of the three last named brethren to pay their expenses.

Voted that 800 copies of the Minutes be printed at the Christian Messenger Office, and that £8 be allowed for this purpose; and that bro. Ackhurst of Halifax, be requested to superintend the printing of them.

By vote of the Association it is recommended that the Pastors preach a sermon in relation to the Acadian French Mission, and that a collection be taken up for the same on the first Lord's day in September.

The following Report on Education was read and adopted.

#### REPORT.

##### EDUCATION LITERARY AND THEOLOGICAL.

The Committee on Education, Literary and Theological, beg to report as follows:

The information communicated to them has been varied and interesting.

They learn that Horton Academy has been efficiently conducted during the past year by Mr J S Hart, assisted by Mr H Johnston. The attendance has not been as large as usual, owing most probably, to the influence of other Educational establishments, which have sprung up in various parts of the Province. The proficiency of the pupils, as indicated by the half-yearly examination, has been gratifying and satisfactory. Your Committee ask for this Institution the more extensive patronage of the denomination at large. They also express their opinion that the number of instructors might be advantageously increased, in order to render the Academy more generally attractive.

With reference to the College, your Committee have examined the Report of the studies of the past year, and the account of the recent Anniversary, published in the *Christian Messenger*, and they are happy in being able to state that the Institution appears to have been well managed.

They observe that the Theological Department has not received the attention which is desirable, owing to the necessary employment of the President as Classical Professor. This is an evil which demands correction, and your Committee hope that measures will be speedily adopted to supply the deficiency.

The Committee have read certain resolutions respecting the Endowment of the College, passed at a meeting held at Wolfville on the 29th of December last. They concur in those resolutions, being convinced that the endowment is necessary to the preservation and extension of the College, and that the sum required, £10,000, can be easily raised, on the plan proposed, by the Baptists of these Provinces. The following extracts from the resolutions referred to may be fitly embodied in this report:—

“That this meeting cannot but acknowledge, with profound gratitude, the goodness of God toward the Institutions of learning founded by the Baptists in these Provinces, from which many and great advantages have been derived by numbers of individuals, of various ranks and professions—more particularly towards Acadia College, in which, raised as it was in faith and prayer, and therefore associated with hallowed recollections, the future minister and the future missionary have pursued their studies, and prepared for the work of the Lord.

“That whereas, in order to secure efficient Collegiate instruction, a division of labour is absolutely necessary, so that each Professor may be limited, as nearly as possible, to one branch of tuition, it is much to be regretted that there are now but two Professors at Acadia College, and it is greatly to be desired that the number should be increased, at the earliest possible period.

“That however desirable it may be, for various reasons to

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obtain support for the College by Annual Subscriptions, it has been found by experience that the funds derived from that source are precarious and insufficient, and that the uncertainty of collection, and consequent irregularity in the receipts, produce manifest inconveniences, which are seriously detrimental to the successful working of the Institution; while it is manifest, that the enlarged income required for an increased number of Professors cannot be reasonably looked for without a change in the pecuniary arrangement.

"That in order to place the College on a permanent foundation by procuring an adequate amount of annual support, it is desirable to raise the sum of not less than £10,000 for an Endowment, to be vested in approved securities; the interest of which, £600 per annum, together with tuition fees, the proceeds of the Union Societies, applicable to Theological Education, and any voluntary subscriptions which may continue to be realized, will suffice to provide for the appointment of a suitable number of Professors."

It is manifest, from the statements laid before your Committee, that either the College must now be raised to its proper position, by means of an endowment, or its very existence will be endangered. The crisis of its fate has arrived: it remains for the Baptists of the Provinces to form their decision, favourable or adverse, and to announce it to the world. Your Committee venture to predict the character of that decision. They cannot bring themselves to believe that Acadia College will be given up. They cannot bring themselves to believe that Baptists will show such indifference to intellectual cultivation and such disregard of their own true interests as to suffer an Institution of so much value and promise to fall into decay and ruin.

The loss which has been sustained by the recent death of Professor Chipman will occasion profound grief throughout the Denomination. The Committee earnestly hope that this overwhelming distress will be sanctified to many souls, and that in answer to the prayers of God's people guidance will be afforded in the adoption of measures calculated to promote the prosperity of the Institution.

The Committee recommend that the following resolution be passed:—

That, regarding the maintenance and extension of our educational arrangements as vitally connected with the welfare of the Denomination, the Churches composing this Association be recommended to encourage the plan proposed for the Endowment of Acadia College, and to aid it by liberal subscriptions, thereby testifying to all men the high value set upon education and an educated ministry by the Baptists of these Provinces.

The following document in relation to the late sad bereavement with which we as a denomination, and especially the families more intimately concerned, have been visited, was presented by the Rev Dr Cramp.

Intelligence being communicated to the Association that on Monday the 7th inst., the Rev. E. D. Very and Professor Chipman, together with four of the Students of Acadia College, viz: Messrs. R. Rand, Anthony E. Phalen, W. Henry King, and William E. Grant, were drowned by the upsetting of a boat in which they were returning from an excursion to Cape Blomidon:

*Resolved*.—1. That the members of this Association have heard with profound grief of the sudden removal of their beloved brethren from time to eternity. They regard this event as an inscrutable dispensation of Divine Providence, calling for deep humiliation before God, and they earnestly pray that by the sanctifying grace of the Holy Spirit it may be overruled for good to the Churches, by exciting that solemn feeling and leading to that course of devout action which shall indicate a revived state of religion.

2. That on this sad occasion it behoves us to bear testimony to the manifold excellencies of the departed, moral and religious, and their admirable adaptation to the important posts which they filled. Eminently gifted for their duties, they laboured with unremitting zeal for the promotion of our denominational interests, and gained high and deserved reputation among us. Their memory will be long held in honour throughout the Denomination.

3. That deploring the untimely death of the students above referred to, young men of great worth and promise, this meeting deem it especially incumbent on them to remind the churches of the important duty of praying for the out pouring of the Spirit, so that there may be a continued succession, in increasing numbers, of faithful men, able to teach others.

4. That the Clerk of the Association be directed to transmit to Mrs. Very and to the Rev. W. Chipman a copy of the preceding Resolutions, and to assure them of our sympathy and condolence under the heavy loss which they have respectively sustained.

Prayer was now offered by the Moderator, that our Heavenly Father would sanctify, sustain and comfort by his abundant grace, the families and friends so deeply and suddenly afflicted, and that to us as a denomination this mysterious Providence may result in leading us to strict self-examination, deep humility, ca-

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tire devotedness to Christ and unceasing efforts for the glory of God and the salvation of perishing sinners.

Adjourned till 8 o'clock, P M.

TUESDAY EVENING, 8 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Bro A S Hunt prayed. The Foreign Missionary Report was now read and adopted as it is here given.

#### REPORT.

The Committee on the *Foreign Mission and Bible Cause*, submit the following resolutions:—

1. That it be recommended to the *Convention* to take measures for reducing the expences now charged on the *Foreign Mission fund*, and also for raising a *Special Fund* for the support of returned Missionaries.

2. That it be recommended to the *Convention* to send *two* Missionaries to the *Foreign field*, so soon as men suited to the service and approved by the *Denomination* can be obtained.

3. Your Committee recommend that more active efforts be made to circulate the word of God faithfully translated, in all languages throughout the world.

In behalf of the Committee,

S. N. BENTLEY,

Chairman.

The evening was principally occupied with discussions and addresses upon the deeply interesting and commanding object of preaching according to Christ's direction, his Gospel among the poor and perishing Heathen. The touching address of our Missionary, dear brother Burpe, met a response in many a heart in the meeting.

The following vote was passed in relation to the *Acadian French Mission*, namely:—That our *Delegates* to the *Central and Eastern Associations of N S* be instructed to bring the *Acadia French Mission* to the special notice of those bodies in order to obtain their aid and co-operation with us in this Mission.

The following vote of thanks was now passed.

*Resolved*, That the warmest thanks of this Association be now tendered to the *Baptist Church and Congregation at Milton*, and also to the inhabitants generally, for the kindness and hospitality with which we have been entertained during the present Session.

After prayers and singing the *Union Hymn*, the Association adjourned to meet (D V) with the *Baptist Church at West Port, Brier Island*, at 2 o'clock, P M., on the *Second Saturday* in June 1853.

## C I R C U L A R   L E T T E R .

*The Ministers and Messengers composing the Western Baptist Association of Nova Scotia, to the Churches which they represent :*

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,—

In presenting you with this our annual epistle, as we earnestly desire your salvation and furtherance in the doctrines of the gospel of Christ, we would urge upon you the importance of an uncompromising adherence to the truths of God as revealed to us in his most holy word. And we would offer a few reasons why we should contend for the truth.

First, it is through its instrumentality that we have been converted to God. It is the good seed which has fallen into our hearts, planted there by the hand of the Eternal Spirit, and under his superintendance has produced in us a deep conviction of sin, discovering to us the purity of God's law and leading us to Jesus Christ for salvation and eternal life. Let us ever keep in mind that it is only through the truth or the pure doctrines of the gospel contained in the Scriptures that any in either christian or heathen lands are ever brought to renounce sin or idolatry and yield up their hearts to God. This is evident from the fact that the Pagan does not forsake his idols until the truths of the gospel reach him, either from the voice of the living messenger, or he is enabled to read in his own tongue of the wonderful love of God. Truth has reached our hearts and made us free, and we have rejoiced in that freedom and shall we not ever love, admire, and defend the instrumentality by which we have been released from spiritual bondage, and brought into union with Jesus Christ, and made the happy partakers of all the benefits resulting from his life of suffering and death of shame.

Another reason why we should contend for the truth is, that by it the Holy Spirit moulds and shapes the Christian character. Christ prayed that the church might be sanctified through the truth. "The entrance of thy word giveth light." The Spirit of God in the sanctification of the believer always operates upon the heart in perfect harmony with the written word, nor will he move us to the doing of any work, to the receiving of any doctrine, or to the performance of any ordinance that is not sanctioned by the Scriptures of truth. However venerable that doctrine may appear from its antiquity, or however popular that ordinance may have become through its long continued use if

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they agree not with the Scriptures the receiving or performing of them can do nothing towards the perfection of the Christian character, because they are not of God. If it be a fact that an experimental knowledge of Divine truth constitutes us christians, then it follows that just in proportion as we are acquainted with and love and do the truth, will our growth in grace be promoted. It is sometimes said by persons who profess great christian charity, that they do not care what sentiments a person holds so long as he is converted. But, brethren such expressions are erroneous, for as it is by the truth that we are brought to believe in Christ, so it is by believing and doing the truth that we grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.—Poison may be administered to a child along with wholesome food without at once destroying animal life. He may continue to feel to think and act, but his constitution is gradually broken up, his health is impaired, and although he may live to be a man in years, he is only a dwarf in strength, and consequently he cannot be as happy or as useful as he otherwise would have been. The foregoing may serve to illustrate the condition of one who has received truth enough into his heart to produce a change, to make him alive unto God, but subsequently he drinks of the streams of error, he listens to false teachers, he receives false doctrines, and substitutes the commandments of men for the word of God, he becomes weak, his moral strength is gone, and his influence for good in the cause of God is scarcely felt; and instead of attaining to the perfect stature of a man in Christ he is but a babe. The soul wants food and God has made ample provision for it in his gospel, and has wisely adapted it to our moral condition, and the christian living on that word can say with David "How sweet are thy words unto my taste, yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth."

But not only are we called upon to defend the truth from a consideration of our individual happiness and well-being, but to consider that there are strong obligations resting upon us as a denomination of Christians.

God has committed to us his word. He has made the church the repository of his truth, and shall we be unfaithful to the high and holy trust committed to our charge? Shall any consideration of personal regard, of self interest, of love to friends or fear of enemies, or desire to win the smiles of the great lead us to betray the truth? If we conceal or mutilate the truth for the sake of pleasing man, or if a misguided zeal leads us to believe that by so doing we can more easily gain access to the hearts and pockets of the world around us, and thus be more instrumental in advancing the Redeemer's kingdom in the world, we may rest assured that however pure our motives are, and

anxious we may be to do good to our fellow men, we are but pursuing a policy that is wicked, nor can we expect the blessing of heaven to rest upon our labours. Truth is the word of the Spirit, and that holy weapon is committed to the safe keeping of the Christian church, and with it God has designed to root up and exterminate error; the withering blighting influence of which is doing its work of death in various forms and in every clime beneath the sun. Yes, this is the mighty instrument, the sovereign remedy that must be applied to the world before the curse can be removed. To suppose that we are going to enlarge the borders of Zion and enjoy prosperity, and possess health and vigour as a denomination by veiling the truth or turning aside a little, just a little, modify and fix it so as not to give offence is as unphilosophical as to expect to invigorate a diseased body by amputating a sound limb. What! spread truth abroad in the world by covering it, hide it, take from it its edge in order that it may be seen and felt and do its work more effectually among the sons of earth, No. But we must exhibit it in all its purity, in its own native loveliness and simple majesty, speak it as God hath spoken it and not as man's wisdom teaches or expediency suggests. We are sometimes asked by those who differ from us to extend our charity by admitting that their doctrine or manner of administering ordinances may be scriptural, and because we cannot make the concession we are charged with bigotry. But brethren it is no part of charity, it belongs not to its nature to sanction error, and we are not under the necessity of asking the same favour, since our principles are strictly scriptural, and we have our Saviour for a guide whose example we know it to be our duty to follow in all things who though his nature is love, when on earth never cast the mantle of charity over false doctrines, but always denounced them and cautioned his disciples against receiving them. We make no pretensions to apostolic succession, nor yet at any time in our history have we ever attempted to embellish Christianity by manufacturing for it an exterior in order to make it more attractive, neither do we go to the fathers who lived in the early ages of the church for doctrine or form of church government, nor yet call we any man master on earth; we recognize no visible head but we look to Jesus Christ alone as the great Law-giver and head of his Church. We do not hesitate to express our full and firm persuasion, though with all kindness towards others, that there is no other denomination that so correctly and strictly holds all the doctrines and ordinances of the gospel in their primitive purity; and to this and this alone do we attribute our success in having won souls to God and in gaining the prominent position which we now occupy. Yes here

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lies the secret and we fearlessly proclaim it upon the housetops. Our fathers in the ministry, the most of whom are gone to their rest, and their names are embalmed in the hearts of our churches (peace be to their memory) they in years past and gone preached and practiced according to the Bible. Yes they preached not only from the pulpit but from the water, in the parlor and in the hut, amidst opposition of no ordinary character, but God was with them. Yes brethren, recollection carries some of us back to those eventful days in our history, and memory loves to dwell upon those sacred scenes which now arise vividly to the mind and kindle within us holy emotions. When a Chipman, a Munro, a Dimock, an Ainsley, the Mannings and the Hardings and others, stood in our Jordans in imitation of him whose name it is our honour to bear, and with arms extended and countenances glowing with heavenly love as they proclaimed to the listening thousands, that they were following in the footsteps of Christ and were doing the will of God, and their words like fire carried conviction to the hearts of multitudes. It is important for us to know where our great strength lies and guard it well for be assured the enemy will rob us if he can. And if we depart from those cardinal doctrines, some of which have ever distinguished us from other portions of the Christian church, we shall be like Sampson when shorn of his strength, a sport and derision to our enemies, and above all we shall incur the displeasure of God. Let us then make no compromise, retract no step which we have taken in the right direction, but continue to hold on our way girding on the whole armour of God; until the battle is ended and truth gains a glorious triumph over all opposition and error, then shall we receive from the King of Kings a crown which shall never fade away as a reward of faithfulness in our Master's cause.

*Money collected for the Western Baptist Association for 1851-2.*

Clements Church, Home Mission £1 14; Micmac do. £1; French do. £1 10s; 1st Yarmouth, Minis. Ed. 2 17 7½; H Miss 4 17 5; F Miss. 3 4 3½; Infirm Mins 13 2½; Ann Sub. to N S B Ed So. £10; 2nd do. Minis. Ed. 17s 6d; H Miss 3 3 6; F Miss. 3 4 3½; Inf. 5s 6d; Mic Miss £1; 3rd do. H Miss 18s 6d; Wilmot, Minis Ed £2; H Miss £5; F do. 4 6 10; Inf £1; West Port, Minis Ed 1 10 3½; H Miss 3 19 4½; F do 1 19 1½; Inf 17s 5½d; Albany, H Miss 14s 4½d; For do 1s 3d; Mic do 5s 3d; F do. 4s 9d; St Mary's, Minis Ed 4s; H Miss £1; F do 16s 6d; Tusket, Minis Ed 4s 3d; H Miss 1 8 9; F do 13s; Inf 3s; Ann. Sub to N S B Ed So £1; Brookfeld, Minis Ed. £3; H Miss 6 13 11; F do 13 7; Inf £1; Mic. 2s 6d; Lower Aylesford and Up Wilmot, Minis Ed 4 3 2; H Miss 8 2 7; F do. 15 15 1; Inf 1 3 2; F do 3s 9d; Ann Sub to N S B Ed So £1; Pt. Medway, Minis Ed 6s 3d; H Miss £2 13; F do 2 18 3; Inf do 16s; Bible 18s 6d; F Miss 8s; Ann Sub to N S B Ed So £1; Lake George, H Miss 7s 6d; Bridgetown, H Miss 11 9 4; Lower Granville, Minis. Ed £1

4s; H Miss 6 12 6; F do 12s 6; 1st Liverpool, Minis Ed £3; H Miss £7; F do £3; Inf do £2; Bible £2; F do 17s; Ann Sub to N S B Ed So 5f 10s; 2nd do Minis Ed 4 3 1; H Miss 8 2 9; For do 1 6 8; Inf do 2f 8s; Bible 1f 17s; F do 1 12 7½; Ann Sub to N S B Ed So 6 11 0s; Joggins, Minis Ed 4s; H Miss 1 8 10; For do 10s 1½d; Inf 2s 4½d; 2nd Hillsboro, Minis Ed 12s; H Miss 19s 9½d; For do 14s 7½d Inf 6s; Sub 1½; Sissbo, Ed 6s; H 1f 7s For do 8s 3d; Inf 4s; New Tusket, Minis Ed 3s 6d; H Miss 113 2½; For do 17s; Don. Mr J G Banks For Miss 3½; R J Ryerson, Micmac Miss. 10s; Friend. Inf Miss 2s 6d; Mic. 2s 6d; French do 2s 6d; Mr T R Patillo, H Miss 1½; L M (Milton) For Miss 1 11 0s; Collected at the Association, H Miss 10i 2s 8d; Total—Minis Ed £24 15 8; H Miss £90 9 0½; For Miss £46 0 4½; Inf Miss 111 0 2½; Bible 4f 15 4d; Mic Miss 3f 0 3; French do 4f 18 7; Ann Sub to N S B Ed So 27f.—Total £211 19 8.

JAMES DEWOLF,

Treasurer West. Bap. Ass.

Liverpool, N. S., June 15, 1852.

*The Western N S Baptist Missionary Board in account current with*

*D C Landers.*

1851		DR	
June 18	To paid Elder J Stubbard,		£ 4 10 0
	paid Rev I E Bill 60s, 2 books 2s 7d		3 2 7
August	paid brother R Morton, 3 orders		13 12 6
Nov 20	paid Rev G Armstrong, per order		6 0 0
1852			
Feb 3	paid Elder C Parker, per order		2 6 10½
	balance in hand		10 0 0
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			£39 11 11½
1851		CR	
June 20	By cash from W Churchill, per Elder I E Bill		£21 7 6
Aug 12	Nictaux Union Society		12 0 0
Nov 10	Elder C Tupper		2 10 0
1852			
Jan 30	Elder C Tupper		3 6 5½
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			£39 11 11½

*The Acadian French Mission in account current with D C Landers*

1851		DR	
Nov 11	To paid balance brother Chute's bill		£1 6 0
Dec 19	Cash forwarded brother Chute		30 0 0
	Postage and registering letters		0 1 6
	Balance		8 9 5
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			£39 16 11
1851		CR	
Nov 17	By cash from Nictaux Union Society		£ 2 19 10½
Dec 6	from brother Churchill		8 0 0
	bro Churchill wrongly credited to M Board		10 12 1
	Rev J Cunningham		2 0 0
	Elder J C Morse		8 5 0
1852	Elder C Tupper		2 2 10½
Jan 30	Elder C Tupper (Yarmouth)		5 0 0
March 20	L Freeman, per E Grimes		0 17 0
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			£39 16 11