

MINUTES.

FIRST SESSION.

Hammond's Plains, Sept. 7th, 1895

THE African Baptist Association convened at 5 p. m., in its Forty-Second Annual Session. REV. F. R. LANGFORD, Moderator, in the chair. Devotional exercises were engaged in, the roll of churches were called, the list of delegates prepared, and the officers chosen for the year.

Moderator REV. E. DICKSON.
Assistant REV. J. A. SMITH.
Secretary-Treasurer P. E. MCKERROW.
Assistant T. LANGFORD.
Treasurer (interim) R. J. WHITE.

On motion of the Secretary, Rule 5 was waived to admit Rev. Jackson and Bro. W. Johnson on the list of voters. Several visiting brethren were invited to a seat in council.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED FOR 1895-96.

- On Arrangements*.—Revs. E. Dixon, F. R. Langford, J. E. Jackson, J. A. Smith; Bro. Borden.
- On Letters*.—Bros. A. Emmerson, W. Johnson, Joseph Smith, P. E. McKerrrow.
- On Ministerial Education*.—Revs. F. A. Langford, E. Dixon, and Bro. Emmerson.
- On Sabbath Schools*.—Deacons J. Glasgow, Joseph Flint, M. Barnes.
- On State of Denomination*.—Rev. Smith; Bros. W. Johnson, R. J. White.
- On Missions*.—Revs. J. E. Jackson, Smith and Borden.
- On Temperance*.—Deacons Williams, Barnes, and Flint.
- On Obituary*.—Deacons W. Riley, T. Langford, E. Flint.
- On Finance*.—Deacons A. Emmerson, W. Johnson; Rev. F. R. Langford.

Committee on Arrangements recommended preaching in both churches all day on Sabbath, provided the use of the upper church could be obtained. Also, prayer-meeting every morning during the Sessions, at 9, to last one hour. That the Association Sermon be preached on Monday, at 11 a. m.; at 7 p. m. the services to be on Mission Work. On Tuesday evening, preaching mingled with temperance. An application was made for the ordination of Bro. Jacob Flint as an evangelist, but after mature deliberation it was resolved to postpone the same indefinitely until fuller endorsement be given by the Church; this was agreeable to the aspirant, After which the Session closed with prayer by the Moderator.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

Sunday, 11 a. m.—Preaching by Bro. James Borden from: Acts 7th: 10 v. The sermon was spoken to by Rev. F. R. Langford in words suitable to the text chosen,—“Ye men of Galilee why stand ye gazing up into Heaven.” The thoughts adduced were plain and practical, and well received by the large audience present. At the close prayer was offered by Rev. J. A. Smith; Benediction by Rev. F. R. Langford.

3 p. m.—Preaching by Rev. J. E. Jackson from Deut 33rd: 27 v.—“The eternal God is my refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.” This being the Jubilee Year of the Church, it was considered a suitable subject for the occasion. The preacher, in his arguments, showed that the Church for fifty years had been steadily increasing, both spiritually and temporally. Many of the old veterans had come from the house of bondage to one of freedom, and happily enjoyed the change, nearly all of whom are in the land of eternal bliss, and to-day we extol their memories for the good done in their day. And to you I now speak, who have lived until now without Christ, without a hope in Jesus. Let this season of jubilation witness the dedication of yourselves to God! and thank Him for His goodness toward you. Think how basely wicked will be your ingratitude if you remain a stranger from His courts. Acquaint yourselves with God. Be reconciled to Him through the blood of Jesus.

3 p. m.—Preaching in the Temperance Hall by Bro. Joseph Flint, from 18th chapter of St Luke, 38th verse, followed by Rev. F. R. Langford. Prayer offered by Bro. Jacob Flint. A good audience was in attendance, and a profitable hour spent. Benediction by Bro. James Borden.

7 p. m.—Preaching at the church by Rev. J. A. Smith, from 1 Kings 18: 21,—“If the Lord be God follow Him.” The preacher portrayed the condition of things between Israel and the Prophet Elijah. The overtures he made to Israel and their surroundings, and the wrong choice accepted by them proved their everlasting overthrow. The discourse was listened to with rapt attention. Prayer offered by the preacher. At the close of the service a real jubilee shout was engaged into, when many tears were shed. The meeting closed at a late hour.

7 p. m.—Preaching at the Hall by Bro. Jacob Flint, from 2 Cor 5 : 3—“If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked.” The building was well filled with an eager crowd who listened to the preacher’s address with much interest; who closed his sermon with a powerful prayer. Benediction by Bro. James Downey.

SECOND SESSION.

Monday forenoon, Sept. 9th, 11 a. m.

Associational Sermon preached by Rev. J. E. Jackson, from Gen 37 : 16,—“And he said, I seek my brother: tell me, I pray thee, where they feed their flocks” The subject was treated in the preacher’s usual vigorous style, followed by Rev. F. R. Langford, who assisted in driving home the truths presented by the previous speaker. When accompanied by the powerful prayer offered by the last speaker, it is hoped that some real good will be the result of this and all the sermons preached during the Sessions. Benediction by Rev. Smith.

THIRD SESSION.

Monday afternoon, 2.30 p. m.

Opened with prayer by Rev. Smith. Minutes of previous Session read and approved. Reading of letters resumed by the chairman, Bro. Emmerson, who stated that there was quite a falling-off in the membership in the various churches, which was a serious consideration that required attention from the individual members as well as pastors. A falling off in the contributions from the churches as well; this he urged the Moderator to look deeply into, and to urge upon the delegates on their return to commence work at once to revive the churches, as many of the fields were white—all it needed was the sickle. The report was received, and letters were laid on the table for discussion.

The Secretary read the annual report from the various churches which was received, and spoken to by Revs. Jackson, Smith, Langford, and Dea. Emmerson. Session closed with prayer by Bro. James Downey.

FOURTH SESSION.

Monday evening.

Devotional exercises entered into by Bro. James Downey; Scripture read from Luke 16 : 19, who commented on the same, followed by Rev. E. Smith; Bro. Jacob Flint. The narrative was that of the rich man and Lazarus. By the arguments presented it was clearly shown that more money was spent by the rich for sports and revelry than for mission work, which was never intended by the Redeemer of the world, to waste the resources of the world, and allow the poor

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heaven to die in ignorance of the saving help that is in Christ Jesus our Saviour. Good singing interspersed the speaking, which added much to the enlivening of the meeting. Session closed with prayer and Doxology.

FIFTH SESSION.

Tuesday forenoon, Sept. 10th., 10 a. m.

Opened with prayer by Bro. Jacob Flint. Minutes of previous Session read and approved. In reply to an inquiry from the Halifax Church relative to Bro. Joseph Flint's licence, that it is rather strange that he should be elected a delegate, and still held as though censured without proper cause. The act was un-Christian and unworthy of recording. An invitation from the Halifax and Preston East Churches for the Association next year. A committee was appointed to locate the same, when it was given in favour of Preston, who have not had it for thirteen years. After some further discussion the Session closed with prayer by the Moderator.

SIXTH SESSION.

Tuesday afternoon, 2.30 p. m.

Opened with prayer by Bro. Keiling. Minutes of previous Session read and approved. The matter of the Fundy Section Church was brought up for discussion, relative to the changing of the church name to that of Granville Ferry. The matter was handed to a committee, who, after due deliberation, thought it unwise to change the present name, inasmuch as the greater bulk of its members lived at the Ferry, when said committee reported accordingly. Bro. Benson Clements laid a charge against Bro. Philip Hamilton, blaming him for obstructing the work in the church in trying to assume to the pastorate against the wishes of the best thinking portion of the people of the church, and threatening the members with a law suit for no just cause. On motion, it was resolved that the Secretary write to the church at Bridgetown, Rev. F. M. Young, pastor, requesting his intervention in the matter. Rev. Langford, who was somewhat acquainted with the subject, spoke on the same. The case was well ventilated, after which the Committee on Ministerial Education and Obituary reported, spoken to by Revs. Jackson, Langford and Smith, after which Session closed with prayer by Rev. Langford.

SEVENTH SESSION.

Tuesday evening, 7.30 p. m.

Opened with prayer by Bro. Joseph Flint. Bro. Keiling spoke from Amos 3: 12,—"Prepare to meet thy God," followed by Revs. Jackson and Langford, Bros. Joseph Flint and J. Jones. In this meeting much enthusiasm was manifested by the speakers, and a

precious time experienced by all present. The choir added much to the happiness of the meeting. The Session closed with the Benediction by the Moderator.

EIGHTH SESSION.

Wednesday forenoon, Sept. 11th, 10 a. m.

Opened with prayer by Rev. J. Smith. Minutes read and approved. Committee on Sabbath Schools reported, and spoken to by Rev. Jackson, and Dea. Emmerson and Bro. MacKerrow. Committee on Temperance reported, and spoken to by the Moderator and Rev. Langford, and Bro. Flint. Committee on State of Denomination reported; spoken to by Bro. W. Johnstone, Revs. Smith and Jackson. Voted that Rev. J. A. Smith preach the Association Sermon, Bro. James Borden alternate; that Rev. E. Dixon write the circular letter; the Secretary to attend to the printing of the minutes (350 copies). Votes of thanks were passed to the Moderator and Assistant for their prudent and impartial ruling; to the Railway authorities for kindness in passing delegates on their lines at reduced fares; to the kind friends of the Settlement for their open heartedness in attending to the needs of the delegates and visitors to the Association; and to the Secretaries for politeness shown to the Council and correctness of the minutes. After which the Session closed with the Benediction by the Moderator.

NINTH SESSION.

Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 11, 2 p. m.

Opened with prayer by Dea. Smith. Minutes read and approved. Committee on Missions reported; spoken by Revs. Langford and Jackson, and Dea. Johnson. The two Rev. Gentlemen spoke particularly of the claims of the Home Mission Board, whose burdens are great and needs correspondingly so, requiring all the help that can be given by every Church in the Convention, be it great or small, who requested in earnest appeal to the delegates to back it up in their respective churches on their return home—the duty of contributing to the Convention Board, through Bro. Cohoon, who will always acknowledge every cent sent him. Dea. Johnson also reported the needs of the Convention for the present year was \$90,000 for Home and Foreign Missions. Deas. Anderson, Emmerson, and Smith; Bros. Borden and Downey, supported the previous arguments with suitable language. The Committee on Finance reported which showed a large falling off in contributions from the Churches. The committee recommends that a general reform should be adopted to increase the funds, thereby enabling the Association to do greater work for her ministering brethren, inasmuch as each delegate has to be assisted to get home after the close of the Sessions. Deas. Glasgow and Williams, who were on their first delegation, expressed the gratifying pleasure it gave them to be present, to both see and hear for them-

selves the cordial manner in which the business was conducted, as it was in excess of their expectations, having been otherwise represented, and on their return would do all they could to promote the welfare of the Association, more especially having to meet with their Church in 1896.

Report of Rev. Jackson's Mission Work done in the Western Counties :—Preached six sermons at Greenville ; visited Weymouth, preached three sermons ; visited Digby, preached three sermons, visited several families ; visited Bridgetown, preached two sermons ; visited Granville Ferry, preached six sermons,—there I baptized five willing converts, held a conference meeting, and administered the Lord's Supper. To all of these places made family visits.

Report of Bro. Joseph Flint :—Visited Beech Hill three times, made three family visits ; visited Dartmouth seven times, made six family visits ; visited Preston twice, addressed four services, conducted two prayer meetings, visited twelve families ; visited Windsor Plains thrice, preached four times. The Poor Asylum thrice, and Hospital four times. In all my visits I was cordially treated and made welcome, and by God's aid I tried to tell the people to whom I exhorted the love of Jesus to dying humanity ; In so doing I felt that I discharged my duty towards my God, as my theme was always the same old story—"The blood of Jesus cleanseth from all sin."

The Moderator, in his closing remarks, said,—“Brethren, my views relative to mission work have been strengthened by the remarks and apparent determination on the part of the delegates in seeing their individual church doing its duty, which will only be realized at our next annual meeting. I am aware at such meetings as these we are fired with an amount of enthusiasm, but that alone will not effect much without putting it into effect, which I trust that each and every one who has the burden of souls at heart will do their part in that direction ; that is your duty you owe your God, your neighbour and yourself, and as we are now to separate—some who now stand in the ring of fellowship may never meet again with us in the flesh—we hope to meet in the sweet bye-and-bye, where parting is unknown. I bid you farewell in God's name.” The Session closed finally with the Benediction by the Moderator, to meet with the Preston East Church, 5th September, 1896, at 3 p. m.

REV. E. DIXON, *Moderator.*

REV. J. A. SMITH, *Assistant.*

BRO. P. E. MACKERROW, *Secretary.*

P. O. address, Box 305.

BRO. T. LANGFORD, *Assistant.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Humbly beg to say that every day it is plain to be seen, the absolute necessity of an educated ministry, which cannot be denied. Notwithstanding it must be admitted that much good has been done by men whose early education was very limited. Yet we are not willing to ridicule education, as we are commended by the wisest of all Scholars to get wisdom, knowledge and understanding, which in the broadest sense of the word means education. To the oldest ones of the ministerial staff, age debars them. But to the younger aspirants for pulpit honours we would with all of our hearts advise them to take a course of training in that direction, thereby enabling them to dig deep into the hidden mysteries of Godliness, bringing out of its rich treasury something edifying to the people and acceptable to God. To the churches, that they should lay a foundation to encourage young men to obtain an education, so that the years that might be turned to value be not wasted. At present the inducement offered for our educated young men is by far too slender, hence our neighbour across the border is benefited by our productions, and our churches suffer. We trust in the near future our churches will awake to a sense of their duty, and see to making provisions for their ministers, both in the spiritual and temporal requirements, as the needs of the minister of the Gospel are as great and demanding as those of his lay brethren. Respectfully submitted,

F. R. LANGFORD, *Chairman.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

On this important of all church work, beg to submit as we listen to the letters from the various churches, and see so poor a harvest for the Redeemer's Kingdom, causes us to shudder and say, Have they really done the best they could? Have we as ministers of the cross done our best in warning sinners of their approaching danger? Probably faithlessness on our part is one reason, and lukewarmness on the part of the churches is another which results into spiritual death, and the result is the sheepfold becomes broken and scattered, the wolves come in, and the sheep is destroyed. Who is to blame? All of us with one accord must answer, "I am"; if looking rightly. Any remedy? Yes. Have faith in Jesus, assume some responsibility, take God at His word. Four things to do "Watch ye"; "Stand fast in the faith"; "Quit you like men"; "Be strong." This is the work of the missionary. What is the work of the churches? Now concerning the collection for the saints or preachers, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God has prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come. Oh! brethren, take the Divine injunction home to your churches, and the poor minister will be induced to visit you more often, and scour the mission field for souls, and gather the wandering sheep back to the Master's fold. But to beg his way from home, and beg to get home, as has often been done, is hard and painful; let us commence the year to work with renewed zeal, trusting in Jesus for results.

J. E. JACKSON, *Chairman.*

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Notwithstanding the laws recently enacted in parliament, in both federal and local, which we presumably believe to be made in good faith, does not seem to lessen the crimes perpetrated by the user of the liquor cup, which we are sorry to say does not belong merely to non-members of churches, but follows and lurks after even the pillars of the church, and preachers of the Gospel. And never until we learn from the records of Heaven, will we know the consequences that flows from that fountain of iniquity that is supported by votes cast by persons who are members of the Church of God. And no heathen to day in India, Africa, or China, more degraded in the sight of God than the millions of men that the civilized world is nursing under the wicked influence of the liquor traffic.

Therefore be it resolved, that we as a body of Christians congregated to do business relative to His Kingdom, most heartily concur with every good movement for the suppression of so terrible an evil that destroys the faculties, enrages the appetite, inflames the passions, makes demons of men, our homes a hell, brings clouds of darkness over our vision, and robes us with a bright paraphernalia of disgusting warfare against church and home.

Further resolved, as Christian men and women who must shortly stand before the bar of God, and give an account for the deeds done in the body, do most sincerely act in sympathy with the Prohibition movement at any election when called upon for its support in suppressing the liquor traffic.

PETER WILLIAMS, *Chairman.*

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your Committee beg to report they regret very much to learn that there remains yet so many unworked schools in the churches, which sheds no ray of noon-day splendour upon them where schools are not held, and cannot find excuses high enough to hide themselves from blame, if the souls of the youth and children in their charge are lost through their wilful negligence. We do not for one moment say that all the young people become converted in the Sunday-school at once—not by any means. But we do say there is a greater probability of them being converted when or where schools are held than when there are no schools held in the churches of their homestead. Therefore we earnestly impose these important and solemn obligations on the delegates to use their endeavors in assisting in organizing schools, knowing as we do the good that flows from these nurseries of Heaven, and footstools of the mercy seat of Christ. And to those who are workers in the school we would say, work on, strive for souls while yet you may, win the young to Heaven and immortal glory, and your reward is certain, having been purchased by the blood of the Lamb.

JOHN GLASGOW, *Chairman.*

OBITUARY LIST.

HALIFAX --Sister Irene Flint.

DARTMOUTH.—Deacon A. Green.

PRESTON, EAST.—Brothers G. Thomas, R. Cooper, G. Slaughter,
D. Johnson, J. Williamson, James Williams, J. Johnson
Sisters J. Delivy, K. Williams, M. Carter.

ST. THOMAS.—Sisters H. Smith, S. Sparks.

DIGBY.—Sister Barton

HAMMOND PLAINS.—Bro. T. Jones

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

Your Committee, with much sorrow, beg to report that they thought they had reached the climax last year, when the list was so large, but they find the reaper still at work, and our death roll nearly as large as the last. But we find in the catalogue the majority are persons of very advanced years, some past 80; hence we feel that their years of usefulness was well spent in the cause of their Master, considering the length of time their names were recorded on the church books, many of whose lives were living saints. We now most cheerfully beg to say:

Whereas it has been in the great wisdom of Almighty God, to take from the homes of many useful members in the Church of God, that He will in his own good time supply the places of the departed ones with useful members and workers in His Vineyard, so that His cause might not suffer by the removals;

Therefore resolved, we, the Committee on behalf of the Churches, acknowledge the wisdom at all times of the doings of our Blessed Redeemer, and with humility bow at His Sovereign Will.

W. J. REILY, *Chairman.*

OFFICERS IN THE CHURCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

- HALIFAX.—*Parson*, Rev. J. E. Jackson; *Deacons*, C. F. Biddle, R. J. White, P. E. MacKerrow; *Licentiate*, Jacob Flint, James Saunders; *Treasurer*, T. P. Johnson; *Treasurer Ministerial Fund*, R. J. White; *Collectors*, D. Skinner, E. Flint, W. Carter, Joseph Saunders; *Doorkeeper*, James Mintas; *Sexton*, C. F. Biddle; *Clerk*, P. E. MacKerrow; *Pastor's Aid Society*, President, L. A. Bailey; Vice-President, M. E. MacKerrow; *Treasurer*, J. Cooper; Assistant Treasurer, M. Davis; Secretary, P. E. MacKerrow; Assistant Secretary, V. Ely; Directors, E. Lewis, M. Kelsie, S. Kellog, L. Ford; Marshalls, James and Joseph Saunders.
- DARTMOUTH.—*Parson*, Rev. James Borden; *Deacons*, J. Tynes, C. Smith, D. Lee, W. Reily, T. Tynes; *Councillors*, R. Tynes, Sr., A. Brown, J. Bauld, R. Tynes, Jr., R. C. Tynes, *Treasurer*, D. Lee; *Clerk*, F. J. Bauld.
- PRESTON EAST.—*Pastor*, Rev. E. Dixon; *Deacons*, T. Crawley, J. Glasgow, P. Williams; *Councillors*, J. Williams, W. Diggs, W. Brooks; *Sexton*, J. Thomas; *Doorkeeper*, W. Brooks; *Clerk*, J. M. Thomas. LAKE LOON DISTRICT: *Deacon*, John Wise; *Clerk*, W. Wise.
- ST. THOMAS.—*Pastors*, Rev. E. Dixon; *Deacons*, Joseph Smith, James Colly, W. Bundy, J. Bundy, H. Sparks; *Councillors*, D. Smith, G. Winder, J. Downey, J. Saunders; *Licentiate*, James Downey; *Sextons*, S. and M. Smith; *Clerk*, T. Johnson.
- CAMPBELL ROAD.—No Pastor; *Deacon*, James Brown; *Councillors*, W. Howe, A. Carvery; *Treasurer*, G. Husher; *Clerk*, James Brown.
- BEECH HILL.—No Pastor; *Deacon*, Joseph Hamilton; *Councillor*, R. Hamilton; *Clerk*, G. H. Brown.
- HAMMOND PLAINS.—*Pastor*, Rev. E. Dixon; *Deacons*, D. Anderson, R. David, A. Emmerson; *Councillors*, S. Anderson, P. Emmerson; *Doorkeeper*, A. David; *Sexton*, M. E. Henry; *Clerk*, A. Emmerson; *Licentiate*, James Jones
- FALMOUTH.—*Pastor*, Rev. J. A. Smith; *Deacon*, B. Gray; *Councillor*, B. Green; *Clerk*, R. Gray.
- CORNWALLIS.—No Pastor; *Deacons*, B. C. David, P. Smith, R. W. Ford; *Councillors*, J. Gibson, T. Powell; *Clerk*, B. C. David.

GRANVILLE FERRY.—Pastorless ; *Deacons*, C. Stevenson, C. Stevenson ; *Clerk*, G. Owens.

BRIDGETOWN.—Inglewood. *Deacon*, Isaacs Clements ; *Clerk*, Benson Clements.

DIGBY JOGGINS.—Pastorless ; *Deacons*, P. Butler, Joseph Francis ; *Councillor*, G. Barton ; *Clerk*, M. Miller.

BEAR RIVER.—Pastorless ; *Deacon*, Isaac Hawkins. No letter this year.

WEYMOUTH.—Pastorless ; *Deacons*, T. Langford, T. Tynes, M. Barnes ; *Assistant Clerk*, B. Crumwell ; *Secretary-Treasurer*, T. Langford.

GREENVILLE —*Pastor*, F. R. Langford ; *Deacons*, James Thomson, S. Chandler, W. Crawford ; *Councillors*, G. Crawford, R. Berry ; *Clerk*, W. Crawford.

MUSQUODOBOIT.—*Pastor*, Rev. E. Dixon ; *Deacon*, ——— ; *Clerk*, G. Smith.

LICENTIATES IN THE ASSOCIATION —Bros. James Downey, James Jones, Jacob Flint, James Saunders, Joseph Flint.

Brother James Borden ordained Pastor of Dartmouth Church, September 15th.

APPROPRIATIONS TO THE DELEGATES.

Rev. J. A. Smith, \$5.00 ; Rev. J. E. Jackson, \$8.00 ; Rev. F. R. Langford, \$8.00 ; T. Langford, \$6.00 ; R. J. White, \$2.00 ; Jacob Flint, \$2.00 ; Joseph Flint, \$2.00 ; E. Flint, \$2.00 ; James Borden, \$3.00 ; W. Reily, \$2.00 ; J. Glasgow, \$2.00 ; P. Williams, \$2.00 ; Joseph Smith, \$2.00 ; James Downey, \$1.50 ; W. Howe, \$1.00 ; John Keiling, \$1.25 ; A. Emmerson, \$2.00 ; J. T. Powell, \$1.00 ; G. Stevenson, \$2.00 ; C. Stevenson, \$2.00 ; B. Clements, \$1.00 ; M. Barnes, \$3.00 ; W. Johnson, \$2.00 ; Church Sexton, \$1.00 ; W. Johnston, to Convention, \$6.00 ; Rev. Langford, on Mission, \$6.00.

SABBATH SCHOOLS IN THE ASSOCIATION.

- HALIFAX.— *Superintendent*, J. Saunders; *Teachers*, Mrs. A. Knight, Mrs. E. Lewis, Mrs. V. Ely, Miss Davis, Miss Stewart, Miss MacKerrow, P. E. MacKerrow; *Secretary*, F. Symonds; *Librarian*, P. Cooper; *Treasurer*, J. Cooper; *Organist*, V. Ely. Scholars on roll, 60; average, 45.
- PRESTON, EAST.— *Superintendent*, G. H. Diggs; *Assistant*, P. Williams; *Teachers*, J. M. Thomas, J. Glasgow, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Neale, Mrs. Glasgow. On roll, 35; average, 30.
- ST. THOMAS.— *Superintendent*, Deacon Smith; *Teachers*, Mrs. Downey, Mrs. Johnson. On roll, 35; average, 30.
- BEECH HILL.— *Superintendent*, G. H. Brown; *Teacher*, Miss C. Williams. On roll, 25; average, 20.
- CAMPBELL ROAD.— *Superintendent*, Mr. Archibald; *Teachers*, Mrs. McDonald, Mrs. Johnson. On roll, 25; average, 20.
- HAMMOND PLAINS.— *Superintendent*, E. Wilson; *Teachers*, Miss Skerritt, Mrs. R. Marsman, Mrs. Johnson. On roll, 45; average, 35.
- CORNWALLIS.— *Superintendent*, S. Firman; *Teachers*, — — —. On roll, 30; average, 20.
- FALMOUTH.— *Superintendent*, Deacon Thomas.
- BRIDGETOWN.— Mrs. Mitchell. On roll, 25; average, 20.
- DIGBY.— *Superintendent*, W. Miller; *Teachers*, Mrs. Miller, Deacon Butler. On roll, 40; average, 30.
- WEYMOUTH.— *Superintendent*, T. Tynes; *Assistant*, T. Langford; *Teachers*, W. H. Langford, Miss J. Jarvis, Miss L. Langford, S. Langford; *Treasurer*, W. H. Langford; *Clerk*, Miss M. Black.
- GREENVILLE.— *Superintendent*, E. Wilson; *Teachers*, Miss Saunders, Miss Paton. On roll, 35; average, 50.
- DARTMOUTH, GRANVILLE FERRY, BEAR RIVER, MUSQUODOBOIT, report no schools.

1895.

Financial Account of the African Baptist Association.

1895.

Dr.		Cr.	
Halifax Church.....	\$12 25	Delegates expenses.....	\$ 75 75
St. Thomas Church.....	6 00	Convention aid.....	5 00
Campbell Road Church.....	3 00	Printing Minutes.....	20 00
Dartmouth.....	12 00	Moderator.....	10 00
Hammond Plains.....	9 00	Secretary.....	25 00
Beech Hill.....	1 50	Stationery and stamps.....	1 50
Bridgetown.....	2 00	Miscellaneous.....	25 00
Granville Ferry.....	5 95	Donation to Preston (East) church fund.....	4 00
Digby Joggins.....	5 75	Total balance, including Halifax Church loan.....	109 65
Weymouth.....	5 50		\$251 15
Greenville.....	3 00		
Musquodoboit.....	1 75		
Preston, East.....	8 00		
Falmouth.....	1 32		
Collections.....	51 98		
Halifax Church loan.....	86 49	Halifax Church loan.....	\$ 36 49
Old balance.....	82 38	Expenses for the Year.....	141 50
Interest.....	3 28		177 99
	\$251 15	Balance in Treasury.....	\$ 73 16

**STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES IN THE AFRICAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,
For the Year ending August 31st, 1885.**

NAME OF CHURCH.	MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHURCHES.										Financial Statement.					Other Monies raised.						
	Roll of Organization.	No. Reported Last Year.	Baptized.	On Experience.	Restored.	From Churches in Convention.	From Churches elsewhere.	Died.	Joined other Christian Conventions.	Joined Churches elsewhere.	Excluded.	Net increase.	Net decrease.	Non-resident Members.	Total No. Removed from the Roll.		No. Houses of Worship.	Total Value of Houses of Worship.	No. of Sitzings.	Value of Parsonage.	Money raised for Local Purposes.	Money raised for Demom. and natl Objects.
Halifax.....	1832	105	107						1						1	5000 00	5000 00	303	50000 00	\$ 1591 50	\$ 500 00	5 00
Barnmouth.....	1844	69	69							1	2					600 00	600 00	300	500 00	500 00	500 00	5 00
St. Thomas North.....	1856	71	65	5	8											500 00	500 00	300	300 00	500 00	500 00	5 00
Campbell Road.....	1848	31	31								6					400 00	400 00	150	300 00	300 00	300 00	20 00
Beech Hill.....	1857	9	9													400 00	400 00	200	300 00	300 00	300 00	20 00
Hammond Plains.....	1845	45	51						1		6					500 00	500 00	250	300 00	300 00	300 00	20 00
Falmouth.....	1877	0	17													300 00	300 00	150	300 00	300 00	300 00	20 00
Bridgetown.....	1853	16	16													500 00	500 00	300	500 00	500 00	500 00	20 00
Bear River.....	1853	38	33													500 00	500 00	300	500 00	500 00	500 00	20 00
Digby Joggins.....	1853	11	11						1							400 00	400 00	150	400 00	400 00	400 00	20 00
Granville Ferry.....	1838	44	39	5												400 00	400 00	200	400 00	400 00	400 00	20 00
Weymouth.....	1863	20	21						1							400 00	400 00	150	400 00	400 00	400 00	20 00
Greenville, Yar. Co.	1853	15	15													400 00	400 00	150	400 00	400 00	400 00	20 00
Musquodoboit Road.....	1880	14	10													400 00	400 00	200	400 00	400 00	400 00	20 00
Total		547	539	10	6	1	6	6	13	1	12	13	6	1	1	52000 00	52000 00	2000	22000 00	10000 00	1000 00	50 00

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

HALIFAX CHURCH.

Mr. Moderator, Brethren and Sisters,—Since we last met at our Annual Session, this Church has passed through one of its most trying ordeals. From her first organization to her present status, sixty-three years has she been battling against Satan, and never before has she waded and sunk so deep into a financial vortex that she could not extricate herself from her imperilled condition until now.

The first thirty years of her existence the edifice fell into decay, a call for help was made, her late Pastor, Rev. James Thomas, summoned the congregation together and showed them the necessity of repairing and enlarging the building to accommodate the increasing membership. He informed the members it was clearly to be understood that no mortgage was to be given, and if any one would advance the money he would be responsible for its repayment; an expenditure of over \$2,000 was put on the building, borne by the Rev. Gentleman and other branches of his family, as no others felt themselves able at the time; said amount was paid in due course. Shortly after a spirit of wicked envy arose among some disciplined members, who charged the pastor with misappropriation, when after the most scathing investigation nothing was proven against him.

A few years later further repairs were deemed necessary, and a vestry built by the same parties, and in neither case was the church mortgaged; the building committee simply acknowledged the various expenditures, and all quietness and harmony prevailed. To day a very different state of affairs exists. The building required repairs, means employed to collect funds for said repairs from a generous public, unwise legislation is introduced, the church falls back hundreds of dollars in debt to the minister for salary, a mortgage had to be effected to liquidate the liabilities, and now a burden of \$1,400 of a mortgage, besides current expenses, have to be borne by the members and congregation, which necessitates an individual responsibility in order to keep the edifice within our ownership. The building yet remains out of repairs, as funds that were collected for that purpose were unsatisfactorily appropriated, which has caused much discontent. The church has been pastorless some seven months; Brother Jacob Flint, a licentiate, with some outside aid, did good service in keeping the pulpit supplied.

During the year there has been no baptisms. Sister Irene Flint, whose sufferings were short, passed away peacefully in the arms of Jesus, in the presence of near relatives and friends. Statistics show a falling off of two in membership but it is hoped that the new year will be productive of great good—by procuring the services of a spiritually minded pastor much benefit will be derived. There are good workers in the church, but harmony is much needed to make it a success. May God grant His blessing on the efforts put forth.

DARTMOUTH CHURCH.

Pastorless; Brother James Borden supplying. During the year, there has been no special awakening; no baptisms; the work steadily moves

along. They have frequent visits from Dr. Kempton, Pastor Dixon, Brothers Jacob and Joseph Flint, all of whom have in their own sphere broken the bread of eternal life and told the same old story of Jesus and His love. The icy hand of death has grasped the channel, and in its embrace broken the link that binds member and church together. One death occurred during the year—Deacon Green, who for many years went in and out of the church, and in his day did good service to his brethren, has gone home to rest forever. The younger portion of the members are active and vigorous, and always on the alert to do some good for their Master in which His great name will be glorified. There has been no baptisms; no restorations; one death—last report 60, less one; total, 59.

PRESTON EAST, PARTRIDGE RIVER.

Pastor Dixon comes to this Assembly clothed with mourning, having lost some of his oldest and most respected members, many of whom had spent two thirds of their lifetime in the church, and whose record was that of living Christians who when called upon to give answer to the conscience within. Among them were Brother George Thomas, who for upwards of fifty years was a consistent member, who reared a large family of eight children, and lived to see the youngest become a member of the church previous to his death. When he could say in the twilight of his days, the Lord has been my help in every time of need. After a few days illness he bade the family a final farewell, when he took his departure to the regions of bliss. Brother Richard Cooper, a licentiate of long standing, who also dates his membership with the church some fifty years, was a man of great usefulness. During Father Neale's illness he filled the pulpit, and performed other duties incumbent upon him willingly without compensation. He was a neighbour of Brother Thomas; for many years they walked to church together, and but a few weeks were separated on earth, when they were united above to walk the golden streets of the New Jerusalem. Brother Williamson, another speaking brother, was called home shortly after Brother Cooper, was also a useful man in keeping the meetings agoing. Another aged Brother Williams, who became chilled by the cold on a frosty night while visiting a friend's house, and before he reached his home became a victim to the conqueror who lays a level with all distinctions. Hence we can see the grim monster death has been busily to work cutting down on the right and on the left. We regret we have no baptisms to record; restored, 3; excluded, 1; died, 10; last report 69, less 11, total 61. The church under the present pastorate is in a thriving condition, and has the united prayers, and the families of the bereaved ones our deepest sympathy. It was my agreeable pleasure to visit this church in June last, in company with Deacon Flint, who preached for them acceptably, and on Monday attended their monthly church meeting, in which Brother John Williams presided, and I do say that their business was conducted with such skill and ability, and Pastor Dixon is to be complimented with such a staff of officers, all things considered.

ST. THOMAS, PRESTON 2ND.

Rev. E. Dixon, Pastor. She makes her approach with rejoicing, having added to her roll five by baptism in August, who also united with the church. These best moments of God's blessings are, we believe, answers to prayers. The Bible abounds with examples—special prayers of individuals for temporal and spiritual blessings, for nations, for societies, and indeed for men in all circumstances in life; hence we esteem it not only a duty, but a great privilege, to approach the Saviour in that humble attitude. During the year: 5 baptized; restored, 3; died, 2; last report 65, less 3, total 71. In

connection with the church there is a thriving Sunday-school, under the supervision of Deacon Joseph Smith and Sister Downey, who does her work well, and we hope that their new additions to their roll of membership will be creditable to both church and self.

CAMPBELL ROAD.

This little Zion is a happy band of worshippers. Although pastorless they are not without preaching almost every Sunday. The district committee makes appointments from the Board, and it is nearly a training place for preachers. Brother Joseph Flint has his regular Sabbath to fill, and one from each of the other churches in the city takes his turn, so that every Sabbath in the month there is an appointment. I have also had that very agreeable delight in visiting this church in company with my Brother Flint, and spent a happy time. The people of the Settlement are of that sort who know how to entertain. Another reason why we are pleased to make frequent visits, as we descend from the Mount you gaze on those placid waters of Bedford Basin, and our thoughts are carried back to the place where we first received our baptismal rites, not for its saving efficacy, but the answer of a good conscience toward God, and incontrovertibly establish the truth. This church returns no baptisms, none restored, no deaths; last report 31, total 31. Deacon Brown takes the active lead in church work, supported by Brothers Howe and Carvery. In connection with the church is a thriving little Sunday-school, that if well nursed can be productive of great good. These brethren have also established a Lodge of I. O. G. T. Deacon Brown holds the key and sees the door properly guarded. The sisters of the church are nearly all officers in the lodge, and a real happy time may be realized in visiting them. The brethren from the city lodges render them valuable aid in all their deliberations, hence I consider her one of the most enviable little churches in the Association.

BEECH HILL.

Another little pastorless flock sends her usual greetings. It is to be regretted that for so long a time these silvery lakes, with their glass like surface, remain so long unrippled. The field is fairly well worked. Deacon Davies, of the Tabernacle, appointed by the District Board, has full control, and does his work well, and often with his devoted companion lend the helping hand in both spiritual and temporal things. This dear sister departed this life in August last. The friends of this church will miss her, but we trust that she is to-day occupying a very exalted place in glory. "For eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man the things that God hath prepared for them that love Him."

We have no baptisms to report; none restored; — died; last report —, total —. We hope some day in the near future that the fire of the Lord will bring back the captivity of His people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

HAMMOND PAINS.

This year of jubilee should mark one of the gladdest years in the history of the church. Fifty years ago she was organized by the Rev. Richard Preston, as her Pastor; Bros Deal, Whiley, G. David, William Marsman, as Deacons; T. Jones, and H. Whiley, as Elders. The members were William Days, S. Brown, P. Brown, F. Allison, S. Allison, P. Bailey, F. Brown, Mrs. Allison, B. Johnson, H. Johnson, Jane Johnson, Han. Johnson, J. Bristow, Pris. Reid, F. David, Cath. David, H. Hamilton, R. Steward, M. Manigo, C. Manigo, William Marsman, D. Goler, H. Bailey, H. Piles, Chas.

Giggie, Jane Giggie, D. Goffigan, C. Young, M. Ryan, with several well wishers. The church after its organization was placed in charge of an elder, whose duties devolved upon him the care of a pastor in his absence. Rev. Father Preston remained the pastor for twenty-nine years. During that period many souls were added to the church by baptism, and many have passed into eternity. Father Preston when on his mission in England to collect funds to build the church in the city, the emancipation of the British Isles had not been then accomplished, hence he was brought into close contact with some of the intellectual gladiators whom slavery ever had as her champions. Yet there he stood supported by Wilberforce, Clarkson, Buxton, Lushington, and O'Connell, who stood by him side by side, and gave him valuable assistance. On the platform he stood proud and defiant, pleading to God to soften the hearts of the British people for emancipation, as Demosthenes pleading for Athenian liberty, like Cicero thundering against the oppressor of Cicely, and O'Connell for the wrongs of Ireland. Father Preston knew as soon as liberty was granted by the British; very soon it would be gotten in America. He lived to hear the first trumpet sound a call to arms to put down the rebellion that arose in opposition to the friends of freedom, but died a few years before emancipation was definitely proclaimed. How truly did he build his hopes on the Rock of Ages, while he looked to eternity time has blest his labours, and to-day finds us commemorating the year of Jubilee. Looking back fifty years has our church work been a success. It has been said of some whose souls are so narrow, that their deeds of charity if piled together could be placed into the eye of a darning needle, what is the good of these Associations. I was told by a brother of the Central Association, that during the hours of prayer at one of their meetings, some half dozen souls were converted. Was not that worth meeting for? And to my own experience I have seen conversions at our own,—if we come in the right form of mind we will have them.

This year of Jubilee carries our thoughts back to a period of Christian faith and simplicity with which this present age compares unfavourably, and had not the Jubilee celebration been practised in years gone by, we doubt very much if it would ever have been instituted. How many years previous to the organization of this church was there a meeting house, few now living can tell, but it is credibly said that as far back as twenty-five years previous Father Burton, of Sacred memory, an Englishman and minister of the Gospel, was the first Apostle of Jesus Christ to these people, and throughout the province wherever they were located; he felt it a great duty devolved upon him, hence he established meeting houses for their worship. Many of the forefathers had fled from the house of bondage to a land of freedom who brought the old religion with them; to these persons he preached the unspeakable riches of God's mercy in an acceptable manner. We find in the memory of the Baptists, as far back as 1812, a church in the city composed chiefly of coloured persons, pastored by Father Burton, and we presume these smaller ones in the country were its branches. We also find as far back as 1790—just 105 years ago—a Mr. David George, a coloured preacher who came here from Virginia, preached in that church in Halifax, also at Preston and in Shelburne, where he experienced some trying times whilst telling to dying man the love of Jesus. He left here 103 years ago to go back to Africa to colonize and help Christianize that benighted land. Looking back on the years which have fled, the majority of those who filled the ranks of members, who were then young men and women, are now fathers and mothers, grandfathers and grandmothers, but none of the deacons or elders are left to commemorate this Jubilee year. We did hope to see Father Jones in the flesh, but he is not here for God took him home, after a

ripe old age. For the past fifty years this church has been continually labouring against Satan, for the overthrow of his kingdom. It has not been without interruption. In 1869, when a disruption broke out among the churches, this church stood firm as the Rock of Ages, with not one dissenting voice against her pastor, Rev. James Thomas, and to show her high appreciation of his services, carried the Association four times in ten years, viz., in 1871, 1873, 1877, 1881, and then again in 1888, a record of which no other church in the Association can boast.

This speaks volumes for the church and people—the former members of the church,—many of them were baptized by Fathers Burton and Preston. After Father Thomas took charge, he baptized in 1863, 25; in 1864, 3; in 1869, 24; in 1876, 14; in 1877, 1; which closed his earthly career with the church. Father Bailey took over the charge as pastor in 1879, and baptized in that year, 6; in 1883, 8; in 1884, 5; in 1885, 2. This closed Father Bailey's pastorate, when Pastor Dixon took over the charge, he in 1888 baptized 1; in 1890, 2; in 1893, 6. Pastor Dixon still labours with his people. For these figures I am indebted to your clerk, Brother Emmerson. This church is famous for her deep denominational devotion, as her purse is ever open to contribute little or much to the Master's cause. Her children are to be found nearly all over the world—this will show that she has not been asleep nor frozen up in the indulgence of religious idleness. One marked significance noticeable is the existing social relationship between the settlers generally in this community. Seldom is there any unpleasantness realized. In the best of well regulated families are to be found individuals whose dispositions are not of the most agreeable kind, and so in churches, and I am not saying too much when I say rarely is the strong arm of discipline exercised within her walls.

Besides Fathers Preston, Hamilton, Thomas, Bailey, Neale, Smithers, and Carvery, a large number of licentiates have also delivered messages in the name of the blessed Son of God, viz., Brothers Jones, Collins, Crawley, Williams, of Windsor Plains; Williams, and Williamson, of Preston. All these have gone home to rest with God, and joined the great jubilee above. In connection with this church there is a Lodge of I. O. G. T. This, as in all other sections of the country where lodges are so situated, has proven an immense harbinger to the church. We wish her God speed in her noble efforts, put forth for the spread of Messiah's Kingdom. During the year we have no baptisms to record, — restored, one died, five excluded; last report —, less —, total 45. We anticipate for this church a harvest to close up the Jubilee year, when the ransomed of the Lord will return with everlasting rejoicings. Delay to-day may harden your hearts, and seal your doom. "Come unto Me," says our dear Saviour, "and I will give you rest," in that land where the Lamb is the Light thereof. A thriving Sunday-school is in connection with the church. Brother E. Wilson is the superintendent, and by diligence on the part of the teachers much assistance can be given to the church.

Oh ye saints, arouse, be earnest,
Up and work while yet 'tis day,
Ere the night of death o'er take thee,
Strive for souls while still you may.

CORNWALLIS CHURCH.

Continues pastorless. The letter from the church is by no means cheering, and how can it be? No spiritual head to look to as their leader. When things appear gloomy, and the church frigid and cold, is not that the time for the members to rally one with the other? Gather strength from Jehovah, call upon Him as Azariah did, "Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah

and Benjamin, the Lord is with you while ye be with Him, and if ye seek Him he will be found of you." There has been no baptisms for quite a while, nor no restorations, none died during the year; last report 17 total standing. When we call, "Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, Thou that dwellest between the cherubims shine forth," and humble these people.

FALMOUTH CHURCH.

Pastor Rev J. A. Smith. This little Zion remaineth quiet; for quite a while there has been no change. Sorry are we to record the death of one dear Sister Gray, a most valuable help in church work, a mother in Israel. May the Lord send some other good sister to fill her place, as her absence must be felt very much indeed. May they learn to shout and make a noise unto the Lord, that the ransomed may return and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. None baptized, none restored, one died, total seven.

BRIDGETOWN.

One of Pastor Langford's charges comes to us with change. The brethren here have a fine church edifice, and with a little exertion on the part of the officers and members we imagine they could do a good work. During the year, none baptized, none restored, none died; last report 16, total —. Then let us recommend you to arise, cry out in the night: in the beginning of the watches pour out thine heart like water before the face of the Lord, who is able to save even unto the uttermost that call upon him.

GRANVILLE FERRY.

Pastorless, but quickly surging ahead, with their new church edifice, in which Deacon Charles Stevenson takes so much pride and pleasure. They are often visited by Pastors Jackson and Langford, and other pastors of the western churches in the vicinity, who render good assistance when invited by the brethren. During the year—baptized, 5; restored, none; died, none; last report, 39; total standing, 45. "Then fear not little flock, I have placed watchmen upon thy walls O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night; ye make mention of the Lord; keep not silence."

BEAR RIVER.

A once flourishing branch of the Lord's anointed. With no edifice of their own they cannot grow. What few of the old members are left from the tide of emigration to the United States are not sufficient to build a church of their own. "Brethren, seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is nigh; whereas thou hast been forsaken and hated so that no man went through thee, I will make thee an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations."

DIGBY CHURCH.

Sends greeting, Deacon Butler, who is as exemplary an officer as there is in the Association, guards carefully the doors of his church. The preaching services are well looked after; prayer meetings are well kept up. A live officer in any church is a blessing to it and the community in which he lives, but one that you are compelled to stick a pin into to see if any life remains, get rid of him quick. That old-fashioned songster of Israel said, "I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of the Lord than an indweller in tents of wickedness. A doorkeeper has to be an active person. An active officer in the brethren and creates a Christian jealousy such as God demands.

These brethren have had sermons from some of the best talent of the Association and denomination, and these ministers delight to preach to a live church. Sleepy hearers make the preacher sleepy, and then Satan finds the watchers asleep, takes them prisoners, and religious ruin is the result. During the year—none baptized, none restored, one died; last report, 22; total standing, 21. Last year this church made choice of Brother Francis as Deacon, whom we anticipated would be quite an assistant to Brother Butler. We are glad our hopes are fully realized. The church is in good working order, and we hope soon again to trouble the waters. "Revive thy work in the midst of the years; in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy."

WEYMOUTH BRIDGE.

Like Digby Joggins, is pastorless, but their meetings are well kept agoing with their staff of officers, who are drilled in the needs of church work. Deacon Langford, who is a well tried servant in the house of God, keeps his brethren abreast of the times. They have had no baptisms to report, none restored, one death, two removed; last report, 21. Much sickness prevailed during the year. Our dear old Sister Langford passed away, who for over a half century has been a member of the church, and whose house has been the home of many a weary traveller, whose hands were always open to dispense charity. She has passed the meridian of her day, and now quietly lies in the horizon of a well spent existence, with eager care and watchful eyes for the Master's arrival. God help us all to be in such a condition. "Be ye also ready." In connection with the church there is a flourishing Sunday school that is well looked after by Deacon Tynes and his staff of officers.

GREENVILLE, YARMOUTH COUNTY.

Pastor Langford's charge. We met with this church last year, and enjoyed a very refreshing Season with the Master. When we hope to have good news from that quarter. When the seed is planted and not nurtured it must wither and die. There are but few young persons in connection with this church, who are at home to assist the elder brethren in their work, many of whom are infirm and lame, hence not much can be expected from them. But we hope for the dear Lord and Master's sake that the incoming year will prove one of more spiritual success than the past. During the year—none baptised, none restored, none died; total, 15. In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

GUYSBORO ROAD CHURCH.

Another of Pastor Dixon's charges. They are well looked after. They chronicle — baptisms, — restored, — died; total, —. These brethren often experience a heavenly time when their pastor is with them. Their congregation at such seasons is well mixed with other denominations, who are drawn a great deal by the singing. A great preacher once said, Give me a singing church and you will find but little strife there, the noise of the singing drives the devil away. In years gone by, when Fathers Burton, Preston, Allen, Thomas, and Smithers visited these people, some great awakening would be the result of their visits. We hope in the near future to have an account from that church of a great revival in their midst, and that sinners find shelter under the covert of their wings.

In summing up the business of the year, we sincerely regret the seeming spiritual dearth that exists in the churches generally. It is never intended so to be. God's work should not be neglected, that secular employment should

be its rival. Secular work must have its place in the margins of understandings, but what if we neglect so great salvation and found submerged in the vortex of secular employment when the Master knocks at the door. Must I go, and empty handed. Can I meet the Saviour so—not one day of service give Him, lay no trophy at His feet? Brethren, is that to be said of us? We are faithless creatures, everyone of us. Afraid if we neglect our secular employments we will be ruined. The Apostle admonishes us: Diligent in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. If we are to have our hearts cleansed, our spirits revived, our nature renewed, it must come through faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God. What other name under heaven whereby we may be saved. Hume, the infidel, persuaded his saintly mother to give up her faith in Jesus, but when sorrow, trouble, and afflictions came upon her, hot and heavy, she found that with no faith in Jesus her comforts too had fled, and going to her infidel son she said: "My son, you have taken away my religion, now tell me something to comfort me." But, alas! he had no comfort to give his poor afflicted mother! How could he—to despise our dear Saviour, on whom our hopes of heaven depend. "Yes we may when we have no sins to wash away." Even then we would be ungrateful. We have only added by baptism during the year, 10; we have lost by death, 18, by removals, 1. Total, 556. So that it requires more earnest work to be done in all of the churches, and accept the injunction, "Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do, and we beseech you brethren to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you. And to esteem them very highly in love for their works sake. And be at peace among yourselves. Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feeble minded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance; for ye serve the Lord Christ.



RULES OF ORDER.

- I. The following rules shall be read by the Secretary at the commencement of each Annual Session of the Association.
- II. At the commencement of each Session the minutes of the preceding one shall be read and approved, and of the last before the final adjournment.
- III. Each meeting of business shall be commenced and closed with prayer.
- IV. At each Annual Meeting the letters from Churches shall be handed to the Clerk, after which the roll of delegates shall be formed and brought before the notice of the Moderator.
- V. From this list the officers of the Association shall be formed.
- VI. The first letter shall be read from the senior Church, and next accordingly.
- VII. No subject shall be discussed without a motion first made and seconded, and no person shall be allowed to speak on any subject more than twice unless by consent of the Association, and must at all times address the Chairman first.
- VIII. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the minutes except ordered by the Association.
- IX. All resolutions shall be presented in writing.
- X. The Committee of Arrangements shall, in addition to the Order of Business, provide, recommend and devise means and plans for the promotion of the Association.
- XI. When any Church is received in the Association, the Chairman will give the Pastor of said Church the right hand of Fellowship.
- XII. No delegates shall leave the Association while in Session without permission of the same.