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MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Free Baptist Conference
OF NOVA SCOTIA,
HELD AT
CENTREVILLE, CAPE SABLE ISLAND,
September 11-15, 1890.

WITH APPENDICES:

- A. RELIGIOUS SERVICES.
- B. SPECIAL SESSIONS; GLENWOOD, CANNING.
- C. ELDERS' CONFERENCE.
- D. EDUCATION SOCIETY.
- E. HOME MISSION SOCIETY.
- F. FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY.
- G. TEMPERANCE REPORT.
- H. SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.
- I. MINISTERIAL AID REPORT.
- J. FINANCIAL STATEMENT.
- K. CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT.

**AND A MANUAL OF FREE BAPTIST LAWS, USAGES,
AND FORMS.**

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Cor.-Secretary, REV. D. T. PORTER.	Treasurer, REV. W. C. WESTON.
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YARMOUTH, N. S.

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1890.

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HON. A. GAYTON, Auditor.

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JUDAH CROWELL, RUFUS CROWELL.

MINUTES.

The Twenty-fifth Annual Session of the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia was held with the Free Baptist Church, Centreville, Shelburne Co., N. S., beginning at 10 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 11, 1890, the Moderator, Rev. W. C. Weston in the chair.

After singing a hymn, the Conference was led in prayer by the Rev. W. J. Twort.

The following members of Conference were present:

ELDERS.

W. O. WESTON,
W. M. KNOLLIN,
S. K. WEST,
WM. MILLAR,
J. W. FREEMAN,
G. E. STURGIS,

EDWIN CROWELL,
D. T. PORTER,
C. F. COOPER,
A. G. JONES,
E. W. REEDER,
J. L. SMITH.

LICENTIATES.

JAS. W. SMITH,
GEO. A. DOWNEY,
G. F. FRANCIS,

DEACONS.

SETH SMITH,
H. D. TREFFY,
ALBERT GAYTON,
ALBERT COOK,
J. C. ATKINSON.

R. H. CROWELL,
MORRIS FORBES,
THOMAS KINNEY,
R. A. SIMS,
WM. WILSON.

DELEGATES.

PARKER SMITH,
WALLACE CUNNINGHAM,
D. K. CROWELL,
WM. BRITTAIN,
JOHN L. NICKERSON,
CYRUS NICKERSON,
JOHN G. NICKERSON,
FOSTER CROSBY,
ABRAHAM ROSS,
ISAAC PORTER,
JETHRO SMITH,
DAVID G. DALEY,
JOHN HAYS,
PRINCE W. PENNEY.

Total, fifty-three.

B. F. KENNEY,
GEORGE GOODWIN,
JOSIAH ELLIS,
WM. HURLBERT,
JAS. McGRAY,
IDA M. FREEMAN,
SYLVANUS RICKER,
L. D. FLOYD,
JOSEPH NICKERSON,
LEMUEL TINKHAM,
HANNAH HOPKINS,
ADOLPHUS CORNING,
THOMAS BROWN,
THOMAS CURRIE.

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There present also Rev. W. J. Twort, delegate from the Mass. Association, and Rev. E. W. Porter, a visitor from the Rhode Island Association.

These brethren were by motion invited to the privilege of the Conference subject to its rules.

The letter of Rev. J. L. Smith from the Massachusetts Association was read, and

Resolved, That he be received to membership.

The Constitution and By-laws were then read; also, the minutes of the session in June, at Canning, which were confirmed.

Resolved, That we have open nomination of officers for the Conference.

Resolved, That Bros. D. T. Porter and G. A. Downey be the tellers.

The election of Officers resulted as follows:

Moderator	REV. J. W. FREEMAN.
Asst. Moderator	REV. J. L. SMITH.
Clerk	REV. EDWIN CROWELL.
Corresp'dg Secretary	REV. D. T. PORTER.
Treasurer	REV. W. C. WESTON.
Auditor	HON. A. GAYTON.

A partial report of the Executive of Conference was adopted, appointing as

Prudential Committee:

REV. D. T. PORTER, REV. S. K. WEST, REV. WM. MILLAR.

Nominating Committee:

REV. J. W. FREEMAN, JAS. W. SMITH, R. A. SIMS, GEO. A. DOWNEY,
REV. W. C. WESTON, J. C. ATKINSON, H. D. TREFRY.

And recommending : That the Executives of the Societies of this Conference be requested to report this year and annually on the public questions kindred to each of them, but usually assigned to committees, viz. :

The Temperance League, on Temperance.

Education Society, on Education.

S. S. Convention, on S. Schools and Sabbath Observance.

Ministerial Relief, on Obituary.

Adjourned until 2 p.m.

Conference resumed at 2 p.m., with prayer by Rev. William Knollin.

The Corresponding Secretary then read his annual report. See appendix K.

Resolved, To refer the report of the Corresponding Secretary to a committee on the state of the denomination.

Resolved, That Bros. G. A. Downey, G. E. Sturgis and William Millar be a Committee on the State of the Denomination.

The Corresponding Delegate to the Mass. Association, Rev. William Knollin, gave an interesting account of his visit to our brethren there. He had had a warm reception, and found that in the centres of culture emotional religion was still in vogue.

Rev. J. W. Freeman, who attended the Annual F. C. B. Conference, at Hampstead, N. B., last October, spoke of the harmony which prevailed in their deliberations, and of the Divine presence in all their meetings. They are encouraged by many young men coming into their ministry.

His written report was accepted.

Rev. W. J. Twort dwelt upon his English nativity and love for the British flag and institutions. He rejoiced, also,

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in the kindred relations through a common Saviour. His association appreciated their correspondence with us, and sought a continuation of it.

Rev. E. W. Porter, though not a delegate, felt at home with us. He referred to his earlier life and his interest in our prosperity. The tide of travel and communication was opening Nova Scotia to an era of prosperity and the spiritual opportunities were grand ones. He spoke especially of the work done at Ocean Park by the Free Baptists.

Rev. M. P. Orser and Rev. Mr. Turner, of the Free Baptists of Maine, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, spoke of their mission here, and asked permission to present the matter at another hour.

The report of the Prudential committee, commending the letter of Rev. G. M. Wilson, giving excuse for non-attendance, was adopted.

Resolved, To have a social meeting this evening, the Moderator presiding.

Resolved, That hereafter the election of Officers of this Conference be the order of business on the Saturday of the Annual Session at 10 a.m.; and that the Treasurer's report precede the Election of Officers.

Various communications having been considered by the Prudential committee, they reported the advisability of considering some of these in committee of the whole, as they contained charges against a member of the Conference. Others were read, and the letter of the Beaver River church, being one of them, was referred to the General Pastorate committee.

Resolved, To amend the report of the Prudential committee by appointing a committee of seven to prepare the matters therein referred to for the consideration of the

Conference. The report was adopted as amended; and brethren S. K. West, J. L. Smith, D. T. Porter, R. A. Sims, Albert Cook, Morris Forbes and Wm. Wilson were appointed as the Committee of Seven.

Resolved, To hold the public meeting of the Foreign Missionary Society at 7.30 p.m., Friday.

Adjourned until 9 a.m. Friday.

Conference opened Friday morning by singing and prayer. The roll was called and minutes of previous day read and confirmed.

Resolved, That all persons having accounts with this Conference, present them as soon as possible.

Resolved, To pay the bill of expenses of the corresponding delegate to the Mass. Association, \$11.80.

Resolved, That the Nominating committee be instructed to name the Treasurer of this Conference as the Treasurer of each of the various societies of this Conference.

The Secretary of the Home Mission Society then read the report of that society with financial statement.

See appendix E.

Adjourned until 2 p.m.

Conference resumed at 2 p.m. Roll called. Minutes of previous session read and confirmed.

A communication from the Elders' Conference was read and referred to the Committee of Seven.

The following resolution introduced at the session of last June, was adopted:—

In view of the prominence of women in all departments of Christian work, we strongly recommend their appointment as delegates to this Conference.

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Resolved, That for this year, the names of contributors to the Conference Fund be omitted; and in place thereof the manual be printed and that the Clerk prepare the Manual.

Resolved, That the officers of the churches be instructed to collect the Conference dues in the month of January.

Resolved, To go into Committee of the whole, to consider the report of the Committee of Seven. 3 p.m. Friday.

The committee rose at 10-30 a.m. Saturday, and reported progress. The difficulties having been adjusted by the parties interested, the basis of settlement was accepted by a unanimous vote, and

Resolved, That the papers on the table containing the charges be destroyed.

Rev. A. G. Jones made a statement of the condition and prospects of the Halifax F. B. church, and appealed for council and help in securing a new church building.

Resolved, That the Moderator appoint a committee to confer with Bros. Jones and Wilson of Halifax.

Edwin Crowell, Wm. Millar and Adolphus Corning were appointed.

Bro. G. F. Francis was appointed as assistant clerk, *pro tem*.

Resolved, That the public meeting of the Education Society be this evening.

Adjourned until 8.30 a.m. Monday.

Conference resumed work at 8-30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 15. The Moderator in the chair. Minutes of previous session read and confirmed.

The Rev. M. P. Orser, of the Free Baptists of N. B., Maine and N. S., addressed the Conference requesting the Conference to establish a correspondence by delegation with that body, with a view to closer relations in the future.

Moved and seconded, to grant their request.

Moved and seconded, to refer the whole matter to the Executive of Conference. Carried.

Resolved, To adopt the report of the Nominating committee appointing the Executives of the Conference, the Home Mission, Foreign Mission, Educational and Ministerial Relief Societies, the Temperance League and S. S. Convention. See pp. 4,5. Also the corresponding delegates as follows:

To the F. C. B. Conference of New Brunswick: Rev. Wm. Miller; substitute, Rev. F. W. Reeder.

To the Maine State F. B. Association: Rev. D. T. Porter; substitute, Rev. G. M. Wilson.

To the Mass. F. B. Association: Rev. C. F. Cooper; substitute, Rev. E. Crowell.

To preach the annual sermon, 1891: Rev. J. L. Smith; substitute, Rev. D. T. Porter.

The general Pastorate committee wish to report that they have recommended to the parties interested that the Chebogue church become a part of Pastorate No. 5;

That the Tusket church be a part of Pastorate No. 8;

And that the Session Hill church be a part of Pastorate No. 7, with a view to the easier supply of those pulpits, and the increased usefulness of our pastors. We seek the confirmation by the Conference of this arrangement upon the termination of the present pastoral engagements in those churches.

E. CROWELL,

Chairman of Committee.

Resolved, That the Sunday collections be handed to the Treasurer to be divided equally between the Home Missions, Foreign Missions and Education Societies.

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Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be paid from the Conference Fund to the Clerk for his services for the ensuing year.

Resolved, To consider the Home Mission Report. The following plan proposed by the Home Mission Board was unanimously adopted, viz. :

- i. That the Conference seek to raise this year the amount of \$300 required by the Home Mission Board.
- ii. That the pastor, deacons and, at least, two sisters appointed for the purpose by each church, be in each church a committee to raise an amount equal to 10 cents per member for the whole membership of said church for the Home Mission Funds.
- iii. That the Home Mission Secretary may designate to to each committee the time when such funds should be collected.

The Home Mission report was then adopted.

Rev. Wm. Millar then read the Obituary report.

Since God in His Providence has seen fit to remove from our midst, the Rev. ALBERT SWIM, after a long and useful life in his Master's service, we would extend to the bereaved family our heart-felt sympathy, and thank God for such a life, believing that our loss is his eternal gain.

Deacon B. B. Woodworth who met so often in our yearly gatherings has been called away to his eternal reward. The church at Canning has been deprived in his death of a leading spirit, who shared the burdens of his brethren, and was constantly, actively engaged in the Master's cause.

Deacon James Spinney, of Lower Argyle, passed away to his heavenly home during the past year. He was a man of noble Christian character, and active in religious affairs until laid aside by old age and infirmity. He found the Saviour to be very precious to him in life and he died in the faith.

WM. MILLAR.
W. C. WESTON.

On motion, the Obituary report was adopted.

The committee appointed to confer with the brethren of the Halifax Free Baptist church recommended: "That Rev. A. G. Jones receive authority and letters to enable him to solicit pledges toward the construction of a place of worship for the Free Baptists of Halifax; it being understood that no collection of pledges is to be made until the subscriptions for that purpose in Halifax city shall have reached the amount of one thousand dollars, and the subscriptions from other parties in this Province a like amount.

EDWIN CROWELL,
For Committee.

This report was adopted.

Rev. D. T. Porter took the opportunity to speak of the plans of the F. B. Church at Advocate in building operations and his request was referred to the Executive of conference.

Resolved, To thank the Rev. E. Crowell for the Annual Sermon on Sunday morning.

Resolved, That 2,000 copies of Minutes be printed; and that the matter of binding and advertisements be left to the Clerk.

Resolved, That the Pastors advise the Clerk within 20 days how many bound copies of the Manual are necessary.

The committee to secure funds for a monument to the late Rev. J. I. Porter reported progress, and on motion, the committee was continued for further work.

Rev. D. T. Porter presented resolutions on the denominational literature; and after considerable discussion in which special reference was made to the value of the S. S. Times in its own department the resolutions passed unanimously.

Resolved, That the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia express its approval of the "Morning Star," "Religious Intelligencer," and "Missionary Helper," and recommend them as worthy of the favor and patronage of our people.

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We, also, recommend the Sabbath School publications of the Free Baptist Printing establishment, in Boston, for use in the Sabbath Schools of our denomination.

The "Juvenile Temperance Band" is an organization for the promotion of Temperance, Virtue, and good order among the children and youth. We hope that the attention of our churches may be directed to this Society, and that efforts be made to secure its organization.

D. T. PORTER,

For Committee.

The following deliverance of the committee on the state of the denomination, to whom the report of the Corresponding Secretary had been referred, was read and adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATE OF THE DENOMINATION.

We regard with much satisfaction the favorable report of our Corresponding Secretary. We would call especial attention to the need of still greater interest in S. School and A. C. F. work.

Signed on behalf of committee.

GEO. A. DOWNEY.

Resolved, That the Clerk of Conference be authorized to answer the letter received from the Vermont Yearly Meeting concerning the dismissal of Rev. S. N. Rcyal from this Conference.

D. T. PORTER,

For Prudential Committee.

Resolved, To accept the invitation of the delegates of the Beaver River church, to convene with them in next Annual Session.

Rev. J. L. Smith extended greetings and invitations of Lower Argyle church, if it should be necessary to have a special meeting in December.

Resolved, That the Clerk correspond with the churches of Queens county regarding a June Session of the Conference in that county.

A vote of hearty thanks was passed to Rev. Messrs. Twort and E. W. Porter for their efficient services during the Conference; also to the church and community for their hospitality and the choir for its valued assistance.

Resolved, That this evening we hold a Gospel Temperance meeting, conducted by Rev. W. M. Knollin, and that the Temperance report be read there. See Appendix G.

The Executive of Conference brought in the following resolutions upon matters referred to them:

a *Resolved*, That we are happy to learn that there is a prospect of securing the services of the Rev. E. W. Porter for the Beaver River pastorate; and that we recommend the Home Mission Board to appropriate one hundred dollars to supplement the amount which that pastorate may be able to raise for current expenses the coming year. Adopted.

b WHEREAS Rev. M. P. Orser, of the Free Baptists of N. B., Maine and N. S., has made a visit to this Conference, seeking correspondence by delegation, with a view to more intimate relations in the future;

THEREFORE *RESOLVED*, That there are circumstances in the history of our denomination which make it expedient to defer any correspondence by delegation for the present; while at the same time we are free to encourage any offers from their membership, who are resident in this Province; looking to their incorporation into the churches of the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia. Adopted.

Resolved, That we are gratified to hear of the progress in the Advocate F. B. Church and their intention to build a suitable place of worship, and will heartily commend any efforts that may be put forth to collect funds from the people of our churches for that purpose.

Moved and seconded to collect funds for the Harbor shall receive the report be endorsed by the report

appendix H.

Resolved, That the committee to visit the grave of the founder of Conference for that purpose

In answer to the absence of the by our usages, any of its members be the pastor of

Resolved, That A. Downey; to Smith; and to Francis, on commission one of our churches E. S. Parker, and Mission Board

Resolved, That authority to confer with the licentiates who at what time a

Resolved, That failing for two membership in

Resolved, That The Executive correspondence to a committee

Moved and seconded, that whoever shall be authorized to collect funds for the proposed new church at Advocate Harbor shall receive credentials from the church which shall be endorsed by the Clerk of Conference. Passed.

The report on S. Schools was read and adopted. See appendix H.

Resolved, That all the ministers of this Conference be a committee to secure funds for a monument for Father Swim's grave, and to hand over the proceeds to the Treasurer of Conference to be conveyed to the family of Father Swim for that purpose.

In answer to certain questions the chair decided that in the absence of the officers of the church having precedence by our usages, or their refusal to act, the church may appoint any of its members to the chair; also, that a licentiate may be the pastor of a church.

Resolved, To renew the license to preach of Bro. George A. Downey; to renew the license to preach of Bro. James W. Smith; and to renew the license to preach of Bro. G. F. Francis, on condition of his transferring his membership to one of our churches; to renew the license to preach of Bro. E. S. Parker, and that these brethren be referred to the Home Mission Board for service.

Resolved, That the Executive of Conference have authority to consider and effect the ordination of any of our licentiates who may receive a call to any of our pastorates at what time and place may be most convenient.

Resolved, That our licentiates report yearly, and that failing for two years they shall thereby have lost their membership in this Conference.

Resolved, That Art. IX of our Constitution be repealed. The Executive of Conference having reported certain correspondence regarding pastoral relations, it was referred to a committee for a fuller report at next meeting.

The committee appointed were brethren E. Crowell, W. C. Weston and Wm. Millar.

Resolved to adjourn to the call of the Executive.

EDWIN CROWELL.

Clerk.

P.S.—The reports of the Educational and Ministerial Relief and Aid Societies were not presented to the Conference.

E. C.

Appendix "A."

DEVOTIONAL.

A welcome meeting was held on Wednesday evening. Pastor Reeder and Deacon Seth Smith spoke for the church and community, extending warm greetings which were reciprocated by several members of the Conference.

Saturday afternoon was a meeting of great power and interest. The common testimony was one of gladness:

"My soul doth magnify the Lord; and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour."

On Sunday, at 10-30 a.m., after a refreshing social and prayer service, the Rev. E. Crowell preached the annual sermon. Text: MARK xiii, 34.

The best human work is done by the aid of organization. The analogy holds good for the Church of Christ. From Pentecost to Patmos there is a natural development of church organization under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

i The Use of Organization.

- a Self protection.
- b Growth.
- c Effective service.

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Kirk—Rev. W.

South Side—Rev

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The Lord's s

afternoon sermon

- ii *The Work of a Christian Church.*
 - a The ingathering of sinners.
 - b The incorporation of converts into churches for edification.
 - c The maintenance of purity in the church by Scriptural discipline.
- iii "To Each One His Work," emphasizes individual responsibility in all these forms of work. A failure in this respect opened the way for the Papacy, and is the danger of a Congregational polity now. Free Baptist polity stands or falls with this principle.

The church at work must follow the time-honored principle of *division of labor*, and as in Nehemiah's time "have a mind to work."

- iv *The openings for Free Baptists* to work for Christ in harmony with this principle.
- v *The Great Incentive.* The Lord is coming and will reward everyone according to his work.

Other services connected with the Conference were:

- Centreville—Rev. E. W. Porter, 3 p.m.
Rev. W. J. Twort, 7 p.m.
- Clark's Harbor—Rev. E. W. Porter, 10 a.m.
Rev. A. G. Jones, 7 p.m.
- Newellton—Rev. W. J. Twort, 10 a.m.
Rev. James W. Smith, 7 p.m.
- Kirk—Rev. W. M. Knollin, 7 p.m.
- South Side—Rev. G. A. Downey, 7 p.m.
- Temple, Barrington—Rev. C. F. Cooper, 7 p.m.

The Lord's Supper was administered at the close of the afternoon sermon.

Monday evening a Gospel Temperance meeting conducted by Rev. W. M. Knollin, was happily concluded by administering the Temperance pledge to a score of young people.

Although the weather was not stormy during the session, yet its threatening aspect prevented many in the neighborhood from attending.

E. C.

Appendix "B."

FREE BAPTIST CONFERENCE OF NOVA SCOTIA. ADJOURNED MEETING.

After due notice given by the Executive, the General Conference met in business session, at Glenwood, N. S., on Monday, November 4th, 1889, at 9 a.m. Twenty-two members of Conference present, the Moderator, Rev. W. C. Weston, in the chair. R. A. Sims, Esq., was appointed Assistant Moderator *pro tem*. The minutes, of Monday, September 16th, were read and approved. After a season of prayer, the report of the committee on Aménuments was read and adopted.

By this vote the constitution of the F. B. Conference of Nova Scotia was changed to read thus :

ARTICLE II. This Conference shall consist of its own Elders and Licentiates, and Deacons and Delegates from the several churches of which it is composed. Each church shall have one delegate for every fifty members, but any church shall have one delegate, though its membership be not fifty.

ARTICLE III. The officers of this Conference shall be a Moderator and Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Auditor, all to be chosen annually.

ARTICLE IV. Any church which holds the doctrines and agrees to conform to the usages of the Free Baptist denomination, may at any time, on application, by a vote of the Conference, become a member thereof.

ARTICLE V. Substitute the word churches for the phrase Quarterly Meetings.

ARTICLE VI. The annual sessions of this Conference shall be held on the second Thursday in September, commencing at 10 o'clock a.m., at which time it shall be the duty of the churches of which the Conference is composed to represent themselves by delegates and report their standing prospects and statistics by letter; and at which time the Conference shall transact such business, not repugnant to this constitution nor to the usages of the denomination as in their judgment may forward the cause of Christ, and the interests of the churches within the limits of the Conference.

BY-LAW X was also amended by adding "The Corresponding Secretary shall receive the reports from the various churches, and report to the Conference on the first day of its Annual Session.

And also the Act of Incorporation.

Preamble, Clause II.

Instead of "Quarterly meetings of the said church" substitute, "Churches of the said Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia."

Moved and seconded, That in future the usual committees on Sabbath Schools and Temperance be omitted, and that the officers of the S. S. Convention and Temperance League respectfully be requested to present reports at the Annual Conference thoroughly treating these important topics. Passed.

A committee of three—Rev. E. Crowell, Rev. W. C. Weston and Brother R. H. Crowell were appointed to prepare a manual, containing our treatise of faith, etc., and to report next session.

Rev. J. W. Freeman was elected as Corresponding Secretary. The books of the Y. and S. Quarterly Meeting with \$10.37, the funds in hand, were handed over by Rev. J. W. Freeman, the Q. M. Clerk, and a vote of thanks was given him for his services.

Resolved, That the bill of the delegate to the F. C. B. Conference, amounting to \$10.00, be paid.

Resolved, That we hold a session in Kings Co. next June; the Executive to choose time and place.

The report of Rev. S. K. West, delegate to the Maine Central Yearly Meeting, was received. Ordered that his bill of expenses be paid.

Resolved, That Rev. J. W. Freeman and Hon. A. Gayton be a committee to get 500 forms for Church Reports.

After recognition of the kindness of the church, community and choir, the Conference adjourned according to a previous resolution.

The Saturday afternoon Conference, the Home Mission Meeting the same evening, preaching services of Sunday and of Monday evening were all interesting and helpful.

EDWIN CROWELL,

Clerk.

N. S. FREE BAPTIST CONFERENCE, JUNE 7, 1890.

The Conference held a session at Canning, Kings Co., N. S. at 10 a.m. The Moderator, Rev. W. C. Weston, called the Conference to order and Rev. S. K. West offered prayer. Sixteen responded to the roll-call. Members present during the session were:—ELDERS, W. C. Weston, S. K. West, J. W. Freeman, E. Crowell, D. T. Porter, G. M. Wilson. LICENTIATE, G. Downey. DEACONS, Leander Cox, Z. West, F. H. P. Lewis, J. Lockhart and George A. Cox. DELEGATES, James T. Spicer, R. W. Spicer, J. T. Whitney, Caleb Cook, Adolphus Corning, B. L. Akerly and Welner Cox.—19.

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Rev. S. K. West, was elected Asst. Moderator, pro. tem. Rev. J. L. Smith of Mass. Assoc. was invited to sit with the Conference. The Constitution and By-laws were read and minutes of the last session at Genwood, read and confirmed.

The Report of the Exec. Com. was read appointing as PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE—Rev. S. K. West, Adolphus Corning and Leander Cox. PUBLIC QUESTIONS—J. W. Freeman, G. A. Downey, and Z. West.

Rev. J. L. Smith spoke by request, of his relations to the church and Mass. Association, and, after some discussion it was

Resolved, That a Committee be chosen to consider Art. IX of Constitution and report; E. Crowell, S. K. West, and J. W. Freeman were appointed.

Committee on Public Questions reported, appointing on TEMPERANCE—D. T. Porter, J. L. Smith, and F. H. P. Dewis. S. SCHOOLS,—G. M. Wilson, Fred Whitney and Jas. T. Spicer.

The Prudential Committee reported, laying on the table certain correspondence.

1. Credentials of Rev. F. W. Reeder from Ohio and Pa. Yearly Meeting, which being read, it was

Resolved, That we receive Rev. F. W. Reeder to membership in this Conference.

2. A letter from Hon. A. Gayton showing that the Act of Incorporation did not refer to Quarterly Meetings at all.

3. Letters from Centreville and Hall's Harbor churches. Moved and Seconded that the latter lie on the table.

Adjourned by motion until the close of the religious Conference.

Business was resumed at 5 p. m., the Moderator in the chair. Minutes of previous session confirmed. The letter of Hall's Harbor church was then considered, referring to their recent revival and the subsequent visit of Mr. Burr "in the name of a Free Baptist minister who had brought an ill feeling and perplexity upon a great many of our people, by linking in with preachers of a foreign doctrine." It was

"Resolved, That the Report from Hall's Harbor church be received, and that we take the occasion to caution our churches to satisfy themselves of the evangelical character and standing of visiting ministers before admitting them to our pulpits."

Adjourned to meet at call of chair. Benediction by Rev. G. M. Wilson.

Conference convened Monday, June 9th, at 8.30 a.m. Minutes of last session read and confirmed. After roll call, Rev. Henry Hart, of F. C. B. Conference and Rev. Joseph Cox of Holland Purchase Y. M., New York being present, received, by vote, the privileges of the Conference.

The reasons for non-attendance of brethren Cooper, Knollin, Reeder and Jones were stated by the Clerk and accepted by the Conference as sufficient.

Rev. D. T. Porter was added to the Committee on Public Questions. This committee then reported recommending,

1. Committee on State of Denomination, E. Crowell, D. T. Porter and Rev. G. A. Downey.

2. On Obituary, S. K. West, J. L. Smith and G. M. Wilson.

3. This Resolution: "In view of the prominence of women in all departments of Christian work, we strongly recommend their appointment as delegates to the Conference."

The first and second sections passed, and, after discussion, it was voted that the third clause lie on the table until the annual meeting. The report on the State of the Denomination was then read, adopted and referred to the Pastorate committee.

The following report was submitted:

"Your committee on the state of the denomination wish to report a gratifying condition of things in general. Thirty churches have pastoral care. Seven are without, but four of these, in Kings Co. are now enjoying the H. M. work of Elder Freeman.

The Seaside Hill and Chebogue churches have been deprived of pastoral care by means of the recent action of the Yarmouth church in making independent pastoral engagements.

Harmony church is without a pastor.

From all quarters there come accounts of revivals and ingatherings; and we are pleased to believe that the cause is prosperous and that our numbers have been augmented considerably by the gracious work of God in our churches, especially at Clark's Harbor and Hall's Harbor. At Central Argyle and Advocate Harbor, the construction of new houses of worship has been begun, with promise of speedy completion.

A. C. F. We learn that a few societies of this fast growing organization have been formed among our churches. This fact and the success attending them should encourage the early formation of others in all the churches of our denomination. Further, we recommend that samples of all papers, pamphlets, &c., published in the interest of the A. C. F. Society be secured for distribution among the young.

Resolved That J. A. Kinney's bill of \$4.50 for box for Clerk be paid.

Resolved, That we accept the invitation of Bro. Reeder to hold the annual session at Centreville, Cape Island.

Resolved, That the Clerk write a letter of condolence to the family of the late Elder Albert Swim.

The committee on the manual reported progress. A vote of thanks was passed to the Canning church and choir for entertainment; to the railway and steamship companies for reductions and to Deacon Cox and others for free conveyance.

Bro. Hart was invited to give an address at the meeting Monday afternoon.

Adjournment.

E. CROWELL.

Clerk.

Appendix "C."

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Elders' Conference of the Free Baptists of Nova Scotia, held in the Centerville, F. B. Church, Sept. 10, 1890, beginning at 2.30 p.m.

A hymn was sung, after which, Rev. E. W. Porter, of the R. I. Association, offered prayer, Geo. A. Downey was elected Secretary, *pro tem*.

There were present the following elders: Revs. W. C. Weston, E. Crowell, G. E. Sturgis, S. K. West, W. M. Knollin, Wm. Millar, J. W. Freeman, F. W. Reeder, C. F. Cooper, A. G. Jones and Licentiate G. A. Downey.

Rev. S. K. West was elected President, Rev. Wm. Millar, Vice-President, and G. A. Downey, Secretary, for next year. The visiting brethren, Rev. E. W. Porter, W. J. Twort and J. L. Smith were invited to seats.

The brethren were found to be in harmony with Free Baptist doctrines, and, with few exceptions, in fellowship with one another.

All the differences were satisfactorily settled and fellowship restored.

Resolved to adjourn to the call of the chair.

GEO. A. DOWNEY,
Secretary.

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*Appendix "D."***EDUCATION SOCIETY.**

Report of Meeting of Education Society, held in Centreville Church, Cape Island, September 12th, 1890.

The President, the Rev. Wm. Knollin occupied the Chair. After the singing of a hymn the Rev. A. Jones offered prayer. The Secretary and Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Speeches, which were listened to with great interest, were made by Mr. Francis, of New Brunswick, Mr. Geo. Downey, Miss Amelia Porter, The Revs. C. T. Cooper, E. Porter, of Blackstone, Mass., and W. J. Twort, the delegate from the Massachusetts Free Baptist Association.

At intervals several pieces of music were rendered by the choir.

The meeting was largely attended and enthusiastic throughout. The speeches were excellent and the collection amounted to over 16 dollars.

After the collection, the President gave a humorous and impressive address.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

There is not much to report this year. Help has been given to our two young men at Lewiston School. I hope greater things will be done in future. There is need of much larger funds. Our students have to struggle hard to escape pecuniary embarrassment, and this while they are preparing for greater work in the ministry. Many of them make great sacrifices to qualify themselves to preach the Gospel. Surely they will not plead in vain to their brethren for help.

With a view to obtain larger funds, I make the following suggestions:

1. That there be an annual collection in all our churches in behalf of this Society.

2. That an Education Committee be appointed in each church to enlist the sympathies of the congregations in this work and induce them to contribute to the Society.

By these means we should be able to give our students more abundant help. We should rejoice their hearts and save them from much anxiety.

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto me."

C. T. COOPER,
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT, 1890.

Balance from last year	\$22 27	1889.		1890.		
Sept. Subscription from				March.	Remittance to	
Rev. E. Crowell	2 63				E. S. Parker	\$15 00
Collected at Conference	12 00				Remittance to	
July. Collected at F. B. Pic-nic, Yar. Co.	7 00				J. W. Smith	15 00
Sept. 29. Collected at Yarmouth church	7 00					
Collected at Plymouth church	1 32					
Subscriptions:						
Mrs. Rufus Crowell	1 00					
Paul E. Crowell	1 00					
H. D. Trefry	50					
Jas. Hart Trefry	1 00					
R. H. Crowell	50					
Rev. E. Crowell	1 00					
Mrs. Jos. Durkee	1 00					
Collection at Bar- ington church						
Thanksgiving Day	2 27					
By Rev. W. C. Weston	18 33				Balance in hand	\$48 82
						\$78 82
						<u>\$78 82</u>

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Appendix "E."

HOME MISSION SOCIETY REPORTS.

The work of denominational Home Missions is of that nature which loses nothing by just comparison with any other branch of Christian activity.

The fostering and development of churches in communities where population is increasing and the facilities of communication are assured, is the duty of the Christian church as pre-empting such ground against the dominion of the devil. The sympathies and convictions which lead godly people in such communities to seek the co-operation of a particular denomination in sustaining the means of grace may be regarded as a specific and divine call upon such a denomination for aid.

Having accepted such a mission and directed the evangelizing forces into such fields of work, it is still more necessary to continue the operations and to hold the fort. Good church generalship will not permit a recall of these forces while the destiny of souls depends on the continuance of the mission. The argument of St. Paul (i Cor. xii,) regarding the care of the weaker members of the body and the mutual dependence of all parts of the organization, is a beautiful illustration from nature, and is especially applicable to the Home Mission interests.

The needs of our brethren in sustaining the divinely appointed preaching of the Word; our need of intimate acquaintance with them in order that we may know Jesus the better; the prospects that the work may become strong and pay their debts gratefully to others as Paul did his to the Greeks and Barbarians in Christ's stead; all these urge the intelligent Christian to engage even at self-sacrifice in such blessed work.

The attempts of the F. B. H. M. Society in this respect are now to be given. Your board considered a claim from the church at Riverdale which is weak financially, but affords a hopeful young community to the worker. Here much increase of contribution or permanent membership can hardly be expected, as the youth go from home quite early in life.

We also engaged the services of Rev. J. W. Freeman as a Home Missionary, leaving him as President of the Board much discretionary power as to place of labor. He

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spent a month at Kemptville in the last of 1889, and a large part of the present year in Kings Co. doing very effective work as indicated by God's favor in the conversion of souls and the invigoration of the churches. His accounts have in part appeared in the "Religious Intelligencer."

The Yarmouth church having assumed independent pastoral relations, has urged no claim for Home Mission funds since the spring of this year.

Our interest in the work of Brother D. T. Porter and the churches under his care has been shown by continuing the grant to them.

A guarantee was given to Brother Downey, laboring at Port Mouton, for his salary there, which was redeemed by the Port Mouton church, without calling on our society.

Beaver River pastorate was considered as historic ground where the local efforts made to retain Brother Wilson must be supplemented to the extent of our power, and so sixty dollars was voted to assist them, of which fifty-five have been paid. How much that grant was appreciated may be seen both in the letter of Beaver River church and reports of work done in that pastorate.

Regarding the work of Brother Freeman who spent one month in Kemptville, and six months in Kings county, the accounts will show that the board has appropriated about one hundred dollars to supplement the amount received by him on his field of operation, at a salary of five hundred dollars per annum. For this amount we have drawn on our capital account.

The other appropriations amount to about one hundred and twenty-five dollars, which represents the amount raised from churches which have not participated in the grants.

The board, to do effective work, needs more money; and an authorized, systematic appeal to our churches, would doubtless double the amount of present income, and prove a great blessing to our cause. We call upon all pastors and churches to respond in individual and united work to this end.

EDWIN CROWELL,
Secretary.

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FREE BAPTIST HOME MISSION BOARD.

1889.		Dr.		
Sept. 18.	Balance	\$537 66
	Kemptonville Pastor, \$5.99 and \$4	9 99
	Halls Harbor	.....	.....	75 10
	Chipmans Brook	.....	.....	1 49
May	Pubnico Head	.....	.....	1 94
	Glenwood	.....	.....	1 32
	Canning	.....	.....	5 99
May 1.	First Barrington	.....	.....	1 05
	First Barrington	.....	.....	12 54
	Glenwood	.....	.....	7 71
	Mrs. Jos. Durkee	.....	.....	1 00
	6. Interest on deposit in Bank of N. S.	.....	.....	12 36
	Shag Harbor collection	.....	.....	1 50
	W. S. Porter...	.....	.....	2 00
	Plymouth collection	.....	.....	4 00
	Kemptonville collection	.....	.....	6 00
	Yearly Conference, 1889	.....	.....	7 75
	Mrs. L. C. Marshall	.....	.....	2 00
	Collection Canning	.....	.....	3 06
	" Port Medway	.....	.....	2 00
	" Port Mouton	.....	.....	1 46
	" East Port Medway	.....	.....	1 52
	Woman's Missionary Society, Clarks Harbor	.....	.....	10 00
Aug.	Cash at Halls Harbor	.....	.....	67 47
	Canning	.....	.....	12 31
	Black Rock	.....	.....	4 39
	Avonport	.....	.....	1 63
	Mrs. Whitney	.....	.....	2 00
				\$797 24
1889.		CONTRA.		
Dec.	By Rev. S. K. West for Riverdale	.....	.....	\$5 00
	Rev. W. M. Knollin for Riverdale	.....	.....	10 00
1890.				
Feb.	Yarmouth Church	.....	.....	25 00
Apr.	Rev. J. W. Freeman	.....	.....	76 50
	J. W. Freeman, sundries	.....	.....	14 30
May	Rev. J. W. Freeman	.....	.....	30 00
	Advocate Pastorate	.....	.....	25 00
	Beaver River	.....	.....	25 00
Aug.	Beaver River	.....	.....	30 00
	Expenses	.....	.....	31
Dec.	J. W. Freeman	.....	.....	5 99
1890.				
Aug.	J. W. Freeman	.....	.....	87 80
Sept. 13.	J. W. Freeman	.....	.....	30 00
	J. W. Freeman	.....	.....	30 26
				\$395 25
By Balance on hand.....				401 99
				\$797 24

Appendix "F."

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE F. B. FOREIGN MISSION
SOCIETY.

RECEIPTS.

DISTRICT No. 1.

Harmony Society	"	"	"	\$8 00
Children's Band for native teachers	"	"	"	25 00
Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Cushing	"	"	"	50 00
				<u>\$83 00</u>

No. 2.

Port Medway Church	"	"	"	\$2 10
East Port Medway	"	"	"	1 05
				<u>\$3 15</u>

No. 3.

Hartley Cox	"	"	"	\$5 00
Mrs. Edward Cox	"	"	"	1 00
Miss Dora Cox	"	"	"	1 00
Ashley Cox	"	"	"	36
Mrs. Ann Steele of Halls Harbor	"	"	"	1 00
Mrs. S. E. Marshall, Paradise	"	"	"	2 00
				<u>\$10 36</u>

No. 4.

Barrington Society	"	"	"	\$26 02
Barrington Sabbath School	"	"	"	4 00
Port La Tour	"	"	"	19 77
Port La Tour S. School	"	"	"	4 12
Mrs. Ross Hammond, Lockeport	"	"	"	5 00
Glenwood	"	"	"	24 36
Central Argyle	"	"	"	6 50
Lower Argyle	"	"	"	9 27
Mrs. Leonard Weston, for native teachers	"	"	"	10 00
Friend, for native teachers	"	"	"	5 00
West Pubnico S. School	"	"	"	5 08
East Pubnico	"	"	"	14 00
Shag Harbor	"	"	"	3 25
Rev. Mr. Millar	"	"	"	1 25
Collection Barrington Church	"	"	"	5 25
" Oak Park	"	"	"	2 16
Oak Park S. School	"	"	"	1 07
				<u>\$146 10</u>

Sept. 19. R

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No. 5.

Yarmouth Society					\$23 75
" Juvenile Society	"	"	"	"	8 60
Tusket: Mrs. John Blauvelt	"	"	"	"	2 00
Carleton Society	"	"	"	"	10 00
Brooklyn S. S. Band	"	"	"	"	3 74
Miss M. S. Oram	"	"	"	"	2 00
Plymouth Society	"	"	"	"	7 82
Kemptonville	"	"	"	"	10 70
" Band Willing Workers	"	"	"	"	11 00
Little River	"	"	"	"	7 90
Beaver River	"	"	"	"	9 00
Mrs. Joseph Durkee	"	"	"	"	1 00
Mrs. Joseph Porter	"	"	"	"	2 00
					<u>\$99 51</u>

No. 6.

Clarks Harbor Society	"	"	"	"	\$20 00
Centreville, C. S. J.	"	"	"	"	15 00
					<u>\$35 00</u>
Collection Conference	"	"	"	"	\$10 00
Mrs. M. H. Scott	"	"	"	"	1 00
Miss H. W. Scott	"	"	"	"	1 00
Sabbath Collection Cornwallis	"	"	"	"	3 06
Collection Cornwallis, Monday evening	"	"	"	"	7 75
Rev. G. Downey	"	"	"	"	1 00
Mrs. J. W. Freeman	"	"	"	"	1 00
					<u>\$24 81</u>
Total	"	"	"	"	<u>\$401 93</u>

\$83 00

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EXPENDITURE.

Sept. 19. Remittance to Rev. A. Given, Sec. F. B. F. M. Society					
Mrs. Burkholder's Salary and Native teachers	"	"	"	"	\$400 90
Cost of Remittance	"	"	"	"	1 03
					<u>\$401 93</u>

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The Annual Meeting of the Foreign Mission Society was held on Friday evening. Rev. C. F. Cooper presided.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. E. W. Porter.

Miss Eudora Hilton made a very interesting and instructive address. Having read her report she spoke of the need of more systematic organization, and the importance of giving more time and money. She also referred to the educative value of mission work; to our personal responsibility; to the need of prayer and greater enthusiasm; and concluded by inviting all to come to Christ and take part in this important work.

The new constitution which had been prepared was presented to the meeting, and after some discussion, was adopted.

Officers were appointed for the ensuing year. The treasurer, Mrs. R. H. Crowell, made her report, which was adopted.

Rev. Mr. Twort made some interesting remarks.

Amount of collection and pledges \$16.00.

The meeting was very interesting and profitable.

D. T. PORTER,

Recording Secretary.

Appendix "G."

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Again, with pleasure, we note that our record on the Temperance question is an honorable one. "Members of F. B. churches *covenant*, not only to be total abstainers, but to promote, by every means in their power, prohibition of the drink traffic. The action of this Conference has always been uncompromising in its opposition to the drink trade and earnest in its urging upon members of the denomination to vote as they pray."

Temperance workers in all departments of the work, in which our members have a full share, can report progress. In spite of all the opposition and misconstruction to which our members have been subjected, still our temperance laws

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remain on our statute books to restrict the traffic, educate the people and encourage the workers to press towards complete and effective prohibition.

Especially should ministers and church officers be prominent in temperance work. As has been said by one, the name of Intemperance is Legion. It destroys the individual, soul and body, and blights the community. Its very aim and purpose is to destroy. Now, as all the moral interests of the individual and community are under the special care of the ministers and his church officers, certainly the local temperance societies should never have to complain that the work of these divine agents has been unfaithfully done. And not only through the local societies may these agents work, but much can be done by bringing to the notice of the people and emphasizing, by every means in their power, the temperance notes and items which are so frequently and, in many cases, so regularly appearing in our religious and secular papers.

Furthermore, not only Free Baptists but Christians everywhere should better appreciate the importance of securing men of sound temperance principles as legislators. It cannot be expected that drinking men, or men who assume temperance principles for the sake of votes, will make laws to suppress the traffic in strong drink.

But, above all, should we as Free Baptists see to it that *children* shall be rightly and faithfully instructed in regard to intemperance. Much can be done through faithful work in the home, not only by conscientiously avoiding to prescribe intoxicating drinks as medicine except by the advice of an honorable physician to bridge over a crisis, but also, by instilling into the young mind an abhorrence for the very name of alcohol. Again, greater and still greater efforts should be made to secure temperance instruction in the common schools of our Province. Let us as Christians make haste to erase from the minds of our boys and girls the idea that somehow it is a manly or smart thing to drink and get drunk. This may be effectually accomplished when we teach them just what it means to take alcohol, the intoxicating principle of all strong drinks, into the system. Tell, explain, and illustrate to them the effect upon the muscles, the diges-

tion, the circulation and the working capacity of the body. Show them how it paralyzes the nervous system, weakens the will, and exposes its victim to temptation and disease. Let us aim to secure, at an early date, temperance instruction in all schools for scholars of every grade. In the State of Maine much good has been done in this way. Again, temperance lessons are too often entirely omitted in the Sabbath Schools. Here is an opportunity for Free Baptists to set a better example. Much can be done for the children, also, through juvenile temperance organizations. We here take the opportunity of recommending to our churches the forming of the society called the *Juvenile Temperance Band*, among our young people. The Ritual of this society was prepared by Rev. E. W. Porter, now of the R. I. Association. Another means of instilling into the minds of the children and youth temperance principles is, temperance literature, which is so plentiful and cheap at the present day. Greater effort should be made in this direction.

In closing, let us remark, that Christians everywhere are too selfish. We forget that we are not to live unto ourselves, but "unto Him who died for us and rose again." When we do this, the temperance cause shall receive the attention its importance demands.

G. A. DOWNEY.

Appendix "H."

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.

The human soul! How utterly incomprehensible! Its worth can only be realized when we attempt to answer the startling question of Him who came to save the lost. "What shall it profit the man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul;" and yet the truth is forced home upon our hearts that each little one by whom we are surrounded possesses this treasure, vast in its possibilities, its responsibilities, and eternal existence.

The use of the Sunday School as a means of winning the world for Christ, as well as in laying the foundation for the

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highest christian character in individual lives cannot be over-estimated.

Could the faith of the good Robert Raikes have foreseen the progress and extent of this work begun by him in such a humble way, surely the heart of the good man would have rejoiced that he should be the founder of an institution which was destined to be such a mighty factor in christianizing the human race.

Christ said to His disciples, "Search the scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life and these are they which testify of me," and every christian knows that the highest success in the christian life depends largely upon a proper understanding of our relations to God and of His will concerning us; and these can only be attained by the study of His word.

Then, too, it is important that religious teaching should be begun early in life, as the young are more susceptible to the impress of truth, and before the heart has been hardened and the judgment perverted by a life of sin. And even mature minds and hearts, softened and governed by God's love, cannot afford to lose the great blessing to be derived by becoming more familiar with the teaching of the good book and by coming in contact with and cultivating an interest in the spiritual welfare of those outside their own home circles.

Were parents everywhere as earnest and attentive concerning the spiritual needs of their children as they should be, the Sunday School would perhaps not be such a necessity as it is; since unfortunately this is not the case, it becomes the duty of every person be he christian or otherwise, who desires the elevation of humanity (which can only be attained by the building up of the Redeemer's kingdom) to be engaged in this good work and seeking by importunate prayer and persistent effort to lead the young to Jesus, the children's best friend. Indeed we fail to see how any christian can be clear who refuses or wilfully neglects to find his or her place in this work, in which all, regardless of age or ability, may labor for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

As to the best methods to be used in the work of the school we advise First that *the Bible find a more prominent place in its exercises.*

While we appreciate the assistance rendered by the various Lesson Helps available, especially our own Star

Quarterly, yet we fear that the tendency is to use these to the neglect of the Bible, which cannot possibly result in the progress desired, as that can only be attained by studying different portions of God's word in connection with each other and by encouraging and cultivating habits of searching at the fountain head of truth for those gems, not rare it is true, but of priceless value to the believing heart.

Second only to giving the word of God the first place in our work, is the *matter of prayer* for, and a deep interest in, the welfare of our scholars. We must learn to love them; not only those who are naturally lovable and attentive to us, but as well those who are wayward and careless.

This can only be attained by keeping our own hearts filled with the spirit of the Blessed Saviour; and by continually seeking to realize that God is no respecter of persons, and that His grace is able to make all what he desires them to be.

We need above all to have *great faith in God and His promises*, and to remember that our "labor cannot be in vain in the Lord."

Respectfully submitted,

B. C. SIMS,
Secretary.

Appendix "I."

MINISTERIAL AID SOCIETY.

To the Free Baptist Conference.

Dear Brethren,

Another year has rolled away, and I have to report once more to Yearly Conference the Ministers' Relief Society. Our Financial report is not as large as it might have been—owing to a call that a number of the Elders made on Elder Swim, when they paid to him their annual dues, which appeared in last year's report.

Hoping that God will continue to bless the labors of this Society I am,

Yours Respectfully,

CALEB COOK,
Secretary.

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1890
Sept

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

1890.

Sept. 17.	Balance	\$501 04
	Conference Collection	7 75
	Glenwood	"	...	...	...	1 98
	Rev. E. Crowell, dues.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00
	" G. M. Wilson, dues	...	...	...	...	1 00
	Yarmouth Church	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 28
	Sanford and Short Beach	...	...	...	...	3 00
	Rockingham	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00
	Lower Pubnico Church	...	...	...	...	2 56
	Interest on Mortgage.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15 00
	Shag Harbor Church	...	...	...	...	3 00
	Second Barrington	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 60

1890.

Sept.	Mrs. Joseph Durkee	1 00
	Rev. W. C. Weston	1 00
	" E. Crowell	1 00
						<hr/> \$548 21

1889.

PAID.

Dec. 8.	Rev. A. Swim	5 00
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1890.

Jan.	Rev. A. Swim	5 00
	Mrs. A. Swim	4 60
	" " "	3 00
	" " "	5 28
	Balance	525 33

\$548 21

1890.

Oct. 1.	Balance on hand	\$525 33
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NOTE.—At a meeting of the Executive held in Yarmouth, Feb. 7, 1890, it was resolved to send a request to all the F. B. churches in the Province to take a collection toward paying Elder Swim's funeral expenses.

C. COOK,

Cook,
Secretary.

Appendix "J."

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE FREE BAPTIST CON
FERENCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

1889.					...	\$130 83	
Oct. 1	To balance on hand	...	...	...		10 40	
Nov. 4.	Yarmouth and Shelburne Quarterly Meeting	...	...	...		2 80	
	Tasket church dues	...	...	...
1890.						2 15	
Sept.	Dues, Chebogue Point Church	...	...	...		6 17	
"	" Sanford church	.....	.....	.....		25	
"	" Mrs. M. H. Scott	...	...	...		10	
"	" Miss H. W. Scott	.....	.....	.....		5 40	
"	" Hall's Harbor church	...	...	...		1 00	
"	" Avon Port	.....	.....	.....		1 00	
"	" Black Rock	...	...	...		6 74	
"	" Port Medway	.....	.....	.....		2 45	
"	" East Medway	...	...	...		5 04	
"	" Port Mouton	.....	.....	.....		25	
"	" Mrs. Joseph Kendrick	...	...	...		9 00	
"	" Yarmouth church	.....	.....	.....		3 35	
"	" Beaver River church	...	...	...		8 80	
"	" Shag Harbor	.....	.....	.....		16 95	
"	" 1st Barrington	...	...	...		5 50	
"	" Port LaTour	.....	.....	.....		8 25	
"	" Halifax	...	...	...		3 60	
"	" 1st Barrington	.....	.....	.....		3 87	
"	" Bear Point	...	...	...		3 14	
"	" Canning	.....	.....	.....		9 00	
"	" 2nd Argyle	...	...	...		8 03	
"	" East Pubnico	.....	.....	.....		4 78	
"	" Pubnico Head	...	...	...		2 72	
"	" Plymouth	.....	.....	.....		17 90	
"	" Lower Argyle	...	...	...		4 25	
"	" Clarks Harbor	.....	.....	.....		2 50	
"	" Rockville	...	...	...		9 59	
"	" Centreville	.....	.....	.....		10 57	
	To amount from Kempt	...	...	...		4 60	
"	" Little River	.....	.....	.....		7 20	
"	" Caledonia	...	...	...		2 34	
"	" Brooklyn	.....	.....	.....		70	
"	" Forest Glen	...	...	...		2 85	
"	" Cheogoggin		9 67	
"	" Beaver River		25	
"	" Mrs. Ross Hammond		75	
"	" Maurice Forbes			
						\$354 74	

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Nov. 4.

By expenses delegate M. C. Y. M.

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" Barnes & Co., printing Minutes	\$15 00
" Expenses	56 50
" Distributing	1 02
" Box for Clerk	3 10
" Stationery and stamps	4 50
" Interest—Halifax church	3 00
" Seal	84 00
1890.	8 00

1890.

" Blank Church Reports—Carey	2 00
" Delegate to Mass. Association	11 80
" Postage and Envelopes	19
1889. " Delegate F. C. B. Conference	10 00
1890. " Clerk Preparing Minutes	25 00
Balance	110 63

\$334 74

1890.

Sept. 18. To Balance

" Advocate Church	\$110 63
.....	7 40

REV. A. W. WESTON,

Treasurer.

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... \$130 83
 10 40
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 9 00
 3 35
 8 80
 16 95
 5 50
 8 25
 3 60
 3 87
 3 14
 9 00
 8 03
 4 78
 2 72
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 4 60
 7 20
 2 34
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 2 85
 9 67
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Appendix "K."

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT OF THE F. B. CHURCHES
OF NOVA SCOTIA, SEPT., 1890.**

You are aware that, one year ago, a vote was passed by the F. B. Conference of Nova Scotia to do away with the Quarterly Meeting system, and to have Conferences instead thereof. It was also agreed that a Corresponding Secretary, appointed by this body, should gather reports from our various churches and report to this Conference. Your Secretary, having gained all the information possible, is now permitted to bring in this report.

We do well to be truly and devoutly thankful to our Heavenly Father, that He has so graciously brought us through the conflicts and trials of another year. Can we not discern the guiding hand of Him who has, with such infinite wisdom and great kindness, led us in all the years of the past? Let us be well assured that God has planted us, not simply to take up space among other bodies, but to grow and thrive and honor His name. There are years when apparently but little advancement is made. At other times rapid strides are made in the way of success. It is not only for us to seek, but we may also know when we have the Divine approval.

"Sow Thy seed; be never weary,
Nor let fears Thy mind employ;
Be the prospect ne'er so dreary,
Thou may'st reap the fruits of joy."

Pastorate No. 1, including First Barrington and Port La Tour churches, and their branches, Oak Park, Villagedale, etc. Rev. Edwin Crowell is pastor. He is earnestly engaged and faithfully working in the interests of the churches for God. At Port La Tour the interest is good, and there are ever to be found a loyal and God-fearing people. Barrington sustains its good record in upholding the hands of the pastor, and the financial and other interests. Bro. Crowell also preaches at Oak Park and Villagedale, with much acceptance. There is nothing, so far as we have learned, to mar their peace and prosperity. Three have been added to the Barrington church by baptism.

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Pastorate No. 2, including Centreville and Clarks Harbor churches and preaching stations at Newellton, South Side, Stoney Island. Rev. F. W. Reeder having received a call, came to this Pastorate last December, and since that time has been their Pastor. He has been, and is still, earnestly and zealously laboring on this Island. Last winter special meetings being held, great good was done. Twelve were added to the Clarks Harbor church by baptism. Rev. George Sturgis, M.D., is also deeply interested in Christian work, and is Superintendent of a flourishing Sabbath school, connected with the church at the Harbor. The interest at Centreville is encouraging. At Newellton, the people have erected a new Meeting house. Upon the whole the cause of God is being built up on this Pastorate. That God may greatly bless minister and people is our prayer.

Pastorate No. 3, including Second Barrington, Bear Point, Shag Harbor and Woods Harbor churches. Pastor, Rev. Wm. Miller, is still engaged with the people of these churches. Regular services are held in Barrington Centre, and good is being done. Bear Point Church has suffered loss by the death of faithful workers, but they are not discouraged. At Shag Harbor the interest is good. At Woods Harbor the usual church work is being performed with a good prospect. It is well known that Bro. Miller is wide awake in attending to duty's call. All things considered, the outlook is favorable.

Pastorate No. 4, including Upper and Lower Pubnico, First and Second Argyle Churches. Rev. J. W. Freeman closed four years' pastoral labor with these churches, last January. Rev. J. L. Smith having received a call, accepted, and came to them in March last. We believe that through the providence of God our Brother has been directed back to his native Province. His ministrations to the people of his charge are highly appreciated. One was baptized, last November, in Lower Pubnico. At Central Argyle a new Meeting House is being erected. It is the intention to have it finished this fall. When it is finished there will be four good Meeting Houses on the Pastorate. It is to be regretted that on account of the unsatisfactory ownership of the Pubnico

Head House of worship it remains unrepaired. At First and Second Argyle Churches, prosperity is quite apparent.

Pastorate No. 5, including Tusket, Riverdale, Plymouth, Little River, and Brooklyn Churches. Rev. W. M. Knollin is Pastor. He preaches in all the places named on this Pastorate. At Tusket the conference and social meetings are not regularly kept up, but the preaching services are well attended and the harmony of the church members is good. A Sabbath School has been started with a library of seventy volumes, besides singing books, etc. Plymouth is doing very well. Last winter, in revival meetings, three were received into the church by baptism. Little River has suffered loss by death and removals, but those remaining for the most part are faithful members. One has been received into this church by baptism. The interest in the Brooklyn church is not so good. Riverdale has complied with the offer of the Home Mission Society and now has regular preaching. Bro. Knollin has labored for some years with churches of the Pastorate. May the Lord greatly bless him and all concerned.

Pastorate No. 6, including Yarmouth, Chebogue, and Session Hill churches. Rev. C. F. Cooper continued in pastoral relations with all these churches until last April. Since that time, Yarmouth church, having become strong enough financially has undertaken the support of a pastor alone. Bro. Cooper still remains in Yarmouth and is zealously administering to them the word of life. The interest is good. Five received by letter. Considering the location of this last named church, it is very important to this denomination. Let us all pray that God will greatly bless minister and people here. Bro. G. Wilson has preached some at Session Hill, Chebogue has been without regular preaching since April. Doubtless these last named churches will be placed in other pastorates.

Pastorate No. 7, including Beaver River and Sanford churches, and their branches; Cedar Lake and Short Beach. Rev. G. M. Wilson has had the pastoral charge of these churches. He has performed faithful work on this pastorate, the result of which will we trust, be reaped in the near future. Bro. Wilson closed his labors a short time ago and has return-

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ed again to school. What is wanted on this Pastorate now is a Pastor to work in harmony with our brethren and continue the good work. They have raised more financially than was thought, one year ago, for the support of the gospel, and the prospect for the future is still better. It must be the prayer of all our hearts that God will wonderfully bless all through this field of labor.

Pastorate No. 8, including Kemptville and Carleton Churches, and their branches—Rockingham, Forest Glen, etc. Licentiate E. S. Parker, who was with these churches at time of our last Yearly Conference, returned to school last November. In December last Rev. J. W. Freeman by direction of Home Mission Board paid them a visit and spent about a month, for the most part in Kemptville holding revival meetings and baptized four and united them to the church. Your secretary heard good words said in favor of Brother Parker's labor there. That he did much good among them was quite apparent. Bro. Parker returned to this Pastorate in May last and has been with them until recently. He is now attending school. Brother West has labored one quarter of his time at Forest Glen, and has also done good work in other parts of the Pastorate.

Pastorate No. 9, including the churches of Queens County. Last fall, Licentiate Geo. Downey moved his family to Port Medway, and since then has had the care of Port Medway, East Port Medway, and Port Mouton Churches. The interest in East Port Medway is good. At Port Medway, they feel quite encouraged and have a fair interest. Everything at Port Mouton is not so encouraging. We believe Bro. Downey has exerted himself to build up the cause of God here. We hope and pray with those deeply interested in the cause of God that these churches may have large gatherings and thus be greatly blessed. (Caledonia) Harmony Church has had no regular preaching from a Pastor, but for about two or three months Bro. James Smith has been preaching to them and good has been done.

Pastorate No. 10, including the churches of Kings County. These churches had been without pastoral labor for some time. Under the direction of the Home Mission Society

Rev. J. W. Freeman went to their assistance last February. At Halls Harbor there was a good revival. Twenty-eight were received into the church by baptism and three by letter. He has spent all his time since, excepting the month of May with the churches of this last named county. One has been received into the Canning Church by baptism and two by letter. The prospect of this church is much better than it has been for a long time. The debt on Meeting House is about paid off. The prospect in the Black Rock Church is not good. Many are away. Out of a membership of over a hundred, you can count only on about thirty resident members, and many of these live some miles from House of Worship. There are very few resident members at Avonport, but we have some good members there. To sustain our interest in this county, they must have a settled Pastor. Rev. Joseph Cox has again settled at Canning on his farm. He has preached some in Halls Harbor, Centerville, etc., and has been very helpful.

Pastorate No. 11, including the churches of Cumberland county. This field of labor has the pastoral care of Rev. D. T. Porter. He preaches at Advocate Harbor, Port Greville, Apple River and other preaching stations. There appears to be an increase of interest. It is the purpose of the people at Advocate Harbor to have a House of Worship built soon. There is a good interest at Port Greville. Four were added to the church by baptism. Reports speak well of our Brother's work and of the prospect in Cumberland county. Let it be remembered that these churches have only been planted a short time ago.

Pastorate No. 12, Halifax church: Rev. Arthur G. Jones is Pastor. Report from church was made up, stating finances, &c., to December 31st, 1889. A good interest in Christian work and fellowship is reported. It has not been without great effort by those deeply interested, for years, to hold and build up the religious interest, connected with this denomination, in Halifax. The brethren are hopeful, and under the protection and favor of God, we may look for greater things. Three have been added to the church by baptism. It is to be hoped that Bro. Jones will be cheered in his work.

That Rev. W. C. Weston is very much interested in religious work of the Denomination, is well known.

Rev. S. K. West manifests his interest and preaches as occasion offers, especially on the Kemptville pastorate.

Since our last Yearly Conference, our aged and much esteemed Bro. Albert Swim has passed away from his earthly home to his home on high. I need scarcely say he died in the triumph of Faith.

There is generally taken the usual interest in Sabbath School, Missions, and Temperance, and there is a growing interest in the A. C. F. movement.

Upon the whole, the Conference and prayer meetings, with few exceptions have been sustained.

Now I find this difficulty in making out reports as Corresponding Secretary: Some churches report too late to give sufficient time to your Secretary. Some fail to report. The clerks of churches, and in their absence, some one appointed instead, could very much aid your Secretary by reporting what information could be gathered. In making up the statistical report, I have considered previous reports, and, also, conferred with some who were interested in churches where reports were not sent.

I have now presented to you some items for your consideration and interest, hoping and praying that the Divine blessing may rest upon this Conference, and that we may have the guiding spirit in all our deliberations. May all difficulties and hindrances be removed out of the way, and, as we go away, return to our Master's work with greater love to God and each other.

Yours, etc.,

J. W. FREEMAN,

Corresponding Secretary.

STATISTICS OF CHURCHES.

Churches.	Added by Baptism.	Added by Letter.	Dismissed.	Restored.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Died.	Total.	Money Raised for Church Purp- ses.	No. of S. Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars.	Money Raised.	
Port La Tour							2	81	\$250 00	1	12	60	\$45 00	
Cape Negro							10	10						
First Barrington	3						4	299	578 26	2	18	175	18 25	
Centreville, U. S. I.	13						5	239	600 00	2	28	430	100 00	
Clarke Harbor	12						2	331	700 00	2	6	50	15 00	
Second Barrington							3	44	190 00	1	3	30	5 00	
Bear Point							3	72	100 00	1	8	72	10 00	
Shag Harbor							3	67	200 00	1	8	52	10 00	
Woods Harbor							3	130	200 00	2	9	80	31 00	
Upper Pubnico							3	93	180 00	1	4	40	5 00	
Lower Pubnico							2	112	170 00	1	9	76	18 00	
First Argyle	2						2	232	367 00	1	8	80	19 00	
Second Argyle							1	208	427 50	1	8	80	12 25	
Tusket							1	58	100 00	1	4	20		
Riverdale							4	18	40 00		5	25	5 00	
Plymouth	3						4	53	120 00	*	7	40	50 00	
Little River	1						1	75	650 00	*	7	90	50 00	
Yarmouth	5						1	31	210 00	*	8	90	20 00	
Chebogue Point	1						1	20	165 00	1	6	35	26 45	
Brooklyn		1					1	84	60 00	1	7	40	6 00	
Session Hill							1	94	125 00					
Sandford		1					3	332	300 00	1	17	120	20 00	
Beaver R & Cedar Lake	1	4					3	83	50 00	2	8	50	8 00	
Carlton & Forest Glen								180	220 00	3	20	134	15 00	
Kemptville	4							15					5 00	
East River								105	165 00	1	6	52	14 00	
Port Moulton							2	113	83 34	1	7	50	20 00	
Port Medway							1	72	100 00	1	7	40	40 00	
East Port Medway			2				2	13		*				
(Caledonia) Harmony								72			5	53	15 00	
Avonport	1	2					2	51	225 00	1	7	70	5 00	
Ganning	28	3					1	120	210 00	2	7	70		
Halls Harbor								105	30 00					
Black Rock	3		1				2	133	829 35	1	4	60	37 68	
Halifax	4						1	22	200 00					
Advocate Harbor							1	17	100 00					
Port Greville							1	17	100 00					
Apple River and Salem	4	2					1	1						
	63	17	14				2	50	3803	\$8253 46	37	262	2356	\$600 61

* Union.

THE BASIS OF UNION.

Between the Free Christian and Free Will Baptist Denominations
of Nova Scotia, Nov. 29, 1866.

Many of the people of God, belonging to the Free Christian and Free Will Baptist denominations as they hitherto existed in this Province, believing their isolated condition to be detrimental to the prosperity of each, and to hinder the work of God among us, by retarding the development of the free element in this Province, resolved to labor for their consolidation. After several unsuccessful attempts to accomplish the work, believing it to be right, and for God's glory, relying upon Him for success, the work was again undertaken previously to the last General Conference of the Free Christian Baptists, held at Canning, Gornwallis, Sept. 15th, 16th, and 17th, 1866, when the following was proposed to the Free Will Baptist Quarterly Meeting as a

BASIS OF UNION.

1. That the Free Will Baptist churches of Nova Scotia dissolve their present organized connection with the Yearly Meeting of which they are now members, and that they and the Free Christian Baptist Churches of Nova Scotia unite in one Yearly Meeting under the name of the Nova Scotia conference of Free Baptists.

2. That we unite in one Denomination as we now exist; the Ministers of each Body to retain their present standing in the new organization, and have full liberty to engage in any church from which they may have a call.

3. That we labor to consolidate and unite our churches, when such consolidation is necessary, as fast as possible.

4. That any church have the liberty to receive and employ a Minister of the Free Will Baptist Denomination, who is in good standing, with the understanding that if said Minister should be permanently employed, he shall unite with the Denomination.

Scholars.	Money Raised.
60	\$45 00
157	9 50
175	18 50
430	100 00
50	15 00
30	5 00
72	10 00
52	10 00
80	31 00
40	5 00
76	18 00
80	19 00
20	12 50
25	5 00
40	5 00
90	59 50
99	5 00
35	26 45
40	6 00
120	20 00
50	8 00
134	15 00
75	5 00
52	14 00
50	20 00
40	40 00
55	15 00
70	5 00
60	37 00
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At the last Quarterly Meeting of the Free Will Baptists, held at Pubnico, Nov. 2nd, the proposed Basis was adopted.

It was then agreed by the Quarterly Meeting, with the consent and advice of the Delegates of the Free Christian Conference who were present; to call a Convention of delegates from the several Churches of the two Denominations, at Barrington, on Thursday, November 29th, for the purpose of Consolidation.

Agreeably to the above, the Convention was organized by appointing Deacon Thomas W. Wilson to the Chair. Prayer was then offered. Brother J. C. Smith was chosen Secretary.

The Chairman then made some very interesting and appropriate remarks; when Rev. E. G. Eaton moved, and Rev. J. I. Porter seconded, the following resolution:—

Resolved, that we, the Free Will Baptists, and Free Christian Baptists, in the Province of Nova Scotia, do now form ourselves into a Yearly Meeting, to be known by the name of the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia.

This was passed unanimously.

AN ACT

To Incorporate Certain Bodies in Connection with the Free Baptist Church of Nova Scotia.

Passed the 18th day of April, A. D., 1870.

Section.

- Preamble.
1. Incorporation.
2. First Meeting.
3. Powers of Trustees.
4. Vesting of Real and Personal Property.
5. Conference.
6. Investment of Money.
7. Church may elect Trustees.

Section.

8. Voting at election of Trustees
9. Quorum.
10. Trust Lands subject to the provisions of this Act.
11. No Conveyance to a Free Baptist Church to be deemed a Conveyance to Free Baptist Conference, unless expressed.
11. Revenue.

Whereas a number of persons in this Province, associated together in churches constituting two religious

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communities, known respectively as the "Free Will Baptists" and the "Free Christian Baptists" of Nova Scotia, did call a Convention of Delegates from the several churches of such two Denominations at Barrington, in the County of Shelburne, on Thursday the twenty-ninth day of November, A. D., 1866, who then and there unanimously formed themselves into an association, by the name of the "Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia."

And Whereas this religious community now exists, governed by rules made by the said Conference, composed of all the ordained Elders, Licentiates, and Deacons of the said church in Nova Scotia; and the business of such Conference is presided over by a Moderator elected annually from the ordained Elders;

And Whereas such Conference is possessed of considerable property, real and personal;

And Whereas parcels of land have been conveyed in trust for such Conference, and Meeting Houses have been built thereon, and serious inconveniences have arisen in the holding and transmission of such lands, and the management of their property, from the difficulty of appointing new Trustees on the occurrence of vacancies, and it is believed that the incorporation of such Conference and the several churches respectively, would greatly simplify the management of their temporal concerns and advance the several benevolent and religious objects of the said church, and promote its spiritual interests:

Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly, as follows:

1. Elders C. Knowles, A. Swim, D. Oram, W. C. Weston, S. K. West, J. I. Porter, E. Sullivan, C. Cann, W. M. Knollin, T. H. Crowell, W. Downey, B. Minard, Z. Churchill, J. Lowden, C. Cushing, sen., B. Banks, B. Covell, J. Newell, T. Pitman, G. Bower, D. Porter, W. Sollows, S. Crowell, J. Robbins, E. Crowell, L. Minard, C. Cushing, jun., P. Smith, S. W. Nickerson, A. E. Gayton,

A. Pitman, S. Hamilton, J. Trefry, D. P. Corning, M. McGray, J. Kenny, E. W. Perry, A. McGray, W. Sims, A. Robbins, T. Brown, E. Perry and others, now constituting "The Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia," their associates and successors shall, be a body politic and corporate, by the name of the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia, and may purchase, receive and hold grants of real and personal estate, and sell, assign, mortgage, lease, or otherwise dispose of the same, and receive the rent and profits, for the use of such Conference and Churches, according to the intention of the donors, and may appoint officers for the management of any funds, institutions and objects connected with such Conference and Church, and may regulate the mode of constituting and government of such Conference.

2. The first meeting of the Corporation, shall be held at Port Medway, in Queen's County, on Thursday, the eighth day of September next. When the Corporation shall be deemed organized, thirteen members shall be a quorum for the transaction of business; but any less number may adjourn.

3. The Trustees of every Meeting House in connection with such Conference shall be a body politic and corporate, by the name of "The Trustees of the Free Baptist Church of —," according to the particular designation thereof, at pleasure, with power to hold and receive real and personal estate, add may mortgage, sell, assign and convey the same, and make such By-Laws as may be necessary, and exercise all the corporate powers conferred by law for the purpose of managing the temporal affairs of such Meeting House.

4. Every conveyance grant, bequest, devise or gift of any lands, goods, chattels, or real or personal estate, whatever, that may have been made to any Free-Will Baptist or Free Christian Baptist Society or Body, or may hereafter be made to any Free Baptist Society or Body other than Trustees of any Meeting house organized by or constituted under the authority of "The Free Baptist Conference of Nova

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Scotia," shall be deemed to be made to and vested in such Conference by operation of law in the same manner and as fully in all intents and purposes as if specially given, granted, bequeathed, devised, or conveyed to the Conference by its proper title, and such Conference shall have full power and authority to sue for and recover the same either at Law or in Equity, and to assign, transfer, sell, encumber, charge, or otherwise dispose thereof, but shall appropriate the sum or proceeds thereof to and for the Society and Body for which it was specially given or intended to be given by the donors or grantors, and in all cases of doubt as to the specific object of such gift or grant the Conference shall settle such doubt, and finally determine the same in such manner and according to such rule as they may from time to time prescribe.

5. All property or estate, real or personal, to which any Society or Body in connection with such Conference, other than Trustees of any Meeting House constituted under the authority of the said Conference, shall be entitled in any way, shall be held by such Conference for the benefit of and in trust for any such Society or Body, and the Conference shall by such rules as they shall from time to time make, define the mode of investing the same and accounting therefor.

6. The Conference may invest any money they may have from time to time, either in Government securities or the security on Bond of any Corporation, or on Bond and Mortgage.

7. Every church may annually, at such time as the Conference shall prescribe, elect any number not less than three nor exceeding five Trustees, being members of such church, who shall continue in office for one year or until others are elected in their stead.

8. Every male of the age of twenty-one years or upwards, being a communicant of such church, or a regular

attendant at the worship in the Meeting House where such church is organized, who contributes towards the funds of the church, such sum as the Conference shall prescribe, shall be entitled to vote at the election of Trustees.

9. Every Board of Trustees incorporated under the authority of this Act shall exercise their powers and privileges according to the usages and rules prescribed by the Conference, but not less than three Trustees shall form a quorum for the transaction of business, and no By-Law shall be made repugnant to Law.

10. All lands conveyed in trust to the late Free-Will Baptists, or late Free-Christian Baptists, and buildings erected thereon, shall be subject to the provisions of this Act whenever a Board of Trustees to manage the same is elected in the manner herein prescribed, provided always that this provision shall not interfere with the right of the Conference to the exclusive control to any land conveyed to such Conference.

11. No conveyance, gift, or bequest made to the Free Baptist church shall be deemed to be made to "The Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia," unless such Conference is expressly named in the instrument of transfer.

12. The annual revenue derived from the rent of lands held by such Conference shall not exceed twenty thousand dollars, nor of any Board of Trustees two thousand dollars.

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Constitution of the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia.

ARTICLE I.

This yearly meeting shall be known as the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia.

ARTICLE II.

This Conference shall consist of its own Elders and Licentiates and Deacons ^{and Sunday School Teachers} and delegates from the several churches of which it is composed. Each church shall have one delegate for every fifty members, but any church shall have one delegate though its membership be not fifty.

ARTICLE III.

The officers of this Conference shall be a Moderator and Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer and an Auditor, all to be chosen annually.

ARTICLE IV.

Any church which holds the doctrines and agrees to conform to the usages of the Free Baptist denomination, may at any time, on application, by a vote of the Conference become a member thereof.

ARTICLE V.

This Conference shall have power to discipline the churches of which it is composed, and to exclude them for disorderly walk if labor proves unsuccessful, but in no case to reverse their decisions nor interfere with any of their internal regulations.

ARTICLE VI.

The Annual Session of this Conference shall be held on the second Thursday in September, commencing at 10 o'clock a. m., at which time it shall be the duty of the churches of which the Conference is composed to represent themselves by delegates, and report their standing, prospects and statistics by letter; and at which time the Conference shall transact such business, not repugnant to this constitution, nor to the usages of the denomination, as in their judgment may forward the cause of Christ, and the interests of the churches within the limits of the Conference.

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ARTICLE VII.

Thirteen members shall constitute a quorum for business; a less number may adjourn.

ARTICLE VIII.

No minister of this Conference shall be allowed to engage, labor, or in anywise exercise the functions of his office in any community in which there is a Free Baptist Church, between which and said minister there is any difficulty or trial existing until said difficulty or trial shall have been removed; provided always that this article shall not be so construed as to conflict with the Basis as adopted by this body.

ARTICLE IX.

All questions before this Conference shall be decided by a majority vote.

ARTICLE X.

No Licentiate shall be ordained to the work of the ministry until examined and approved of by this Conference.

ARTICLE XI.

This Conference shall have power to adopt any Regulations or By-Laws not inconsistent with this Constitution, which may be deemed essential to the farther regulation of its sessions.

ARTICLE XII.

A special meeting of this Conference may be called by the Clerk at the request of three Elders and two Lay brethren by giving three weeks notice in the "Religious Intelligencer" and the "Morning Star."

ARTICLE XIII.

This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of the Conference at any Session, notice of such intended alteration having been duly given and recorded at any previous Session.

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BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

Each session and adjourned sitting of this Conference, shall be opened and closed by prayer.

ARTICLE II.

After the opening of each session of this Conference, a Prudential Committee shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to examine all questions coming before the Conference, and decide whether they should be introduced or not.

ARTICLE III.

This Conference may hold correspondence by Delegates or otherwise with other religious bodies as it may deem advisable.

ARTICLE IV.

This Conference shall sit with open doors except when it may go into Committee of the whole.

ARTICLE V.

Any person not a member of this Conference may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission of the Conference.

ARTICLE VI.

It shall be the duty of the members of this Conference to be present at the time appointed for the sitting, and any one wishing to retire while the Conference is in sitting, shall first obtain leave of the Moderator.

ARTICLE VII.

It shall be the duty of the Moderator to appoint the time of opening and closing of all the meetings; to preserve order; and to conduct all business before the Conference to a speedy and proper result.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Moderator and Prudential Committee shall have charge of the Meetings for Worship during the session of the Conference, and appoint Brethren to preach in them, if expedient.

ARTICLE IX.

The Clerk shall keep a true and faithful record of all Meetings, and business transacted in them, and furnish a copy of the same for publication, when required.

ARTICLE X.

The Corresponding Secretary shall receive the reports from the various churches, and report to the Conference on the first day of its Annual Session.

ARTICLE XI.

The Treasurer shall receive all money forwarded or paid to him for this Conference; shall pay to the order of the Conference such sums as may be drawn for; and shall render at each Annual Meeting a just and proper account of all money received and paid—including from whom amount received, and to whom paid.

ARTICLE XII.

Every member wishing to speak in Conference, shall first address the Moderator, thus:—Brother Moderator.

ARTICLE XIII.

No person shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes at any one time, nor more than twice on any subject without leave of Conference.

ARTICLE XIV.

No debate shall be allowed on any motion, except the same be submitted in writing, and seconded by a Member of Conference.

ARTICLE XV.

Each Male Member of the Denomination shall be requested to contribute annually a sum not less than twenty-five cents, and each Female not less than ten cents into the Conference Fund.

ARTICLE XVI.

The Constitution and By-Laws of this Conference shall be read at the commencement of each Session.

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A Treatise on the Faith of the Free Baptists of Nova Scotia.

ARTICLE I.

Being and Attributes of God.

The Scriptures teach that there is only one true and living God, who is a spirit, self-existent, eternal, immutable, omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent, independent, good, wise, holy, just, and merciful; the Creator, Preserver, Governor of the Universe; the Redeemer, Saviour, Sanctifier, and Judge of men; and the only proper object of divine worship. The mode of his existence, however, is a subject far above the understanding of man. Finite beings cannot comprehend him.

ARTICLE II.

Creation, Primitive State of Man, and his Fall.

SECTION I. CREATION.—1. *Of the World.*—God created the world, and all things that it contains, for his own pleasure and glory, and the enjoyment of his creatures.

2. *Of the Angels.*—The angels were created by God to glorify him, and obey his commandments. Those who have kept their first estate, he employs in ministering blessings to the heirs of Salvation, and in executing his judgments upon the world.

3. *Of Man.*—God created man, consisting of a corporeal body, and a thinking, rational soul. He was made in the similitude of God to glorify his Maker.

SECTION II.—PRIMITIVE STATE OF MAN AND HIS FALL.—Our first parents, in their original state of probation, were perfectly righteous; but in consequence of the first transgression, the nature of their descendants is so unholy, that none by virtue of any natural goodness can become the holy children of God; but they are all dependent for salvation upon the redemption effected through the blood of Christ; and upon being created anew unto holiness through the operation of the Spirit; both of which are freely provided for every descendant of Adam.

ARTICLE III.

Of Christ.

SECTION 1.—The Son of God possesses all divine perfections. His divine perfections are proved from his titles, his attributes, and his works.

1. *His Titles.*—The Bible ascribes to Christ the title of Saviour, Lord of Hosts, the first and the last, God, true God, great God, God over all, mighty God, and everlasting Father.

2. *His Attributes.*—He is eternal, unchangeable, omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent, holy, and is entitled to divine worship.

3. *His Works.*—By Christ the world was created; he preserves and governs it, he has redeemed man, and he will be his final Judge.

SECTION II.—THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST.—The Word which in the beginning was with God, and which was God, by whom all things were made, condescended to a state of humiliation in becoming united with a body like ours, pollution and sin excepted. In this state, as a subject of the law, he took our infirmities, was tempted as we are, but lived our example, and rendered perfect obedience to the divine requirements.

ARTICLE IV.

Holy Spirit.

1.—The Scriptures ascribe to the Holy Ghost the acts and attributes of an intelligent being. He is said to guide, to know, to move, to give information, to command, to forbid, to send forth, to reprove, and to be sinned against.

2.—The attributes of God are applied to the Holy Ghost; such as eternity, omnipresence, omniscience, goodness, and truth.

3.—The works of God are ascribed to the Holy Ghost; creation, inspiration, giving of life, and sanctification.

4.—The same acts, which in one part of the Bible are attributed to the Holy Ghost, are in other parts said to be performed by God.

5.—The Apostles assert that the Holy Ghost is Lord and God. From the foregoing, the conclusion is that the Holy

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Ghost is in reality God, and one with the Father in all divine perfections. It has also been shown that Jesus Christ is God, one in essence with the Father. Then in essence these three, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, are one.

ARTICLE V.

Atonement and Mediation of Christ.

1. *Atonement.*—As sin cannot be pardoned without a sacrifice, and the blood of beasts could never actually wash away sin, Christ gave his life a sacrifice for the sins of the world, and thus made salvation possible for all men.

2. *Mediation of Christ.*—Our Lord, not only died for our sins, but he arose for our justification, and ascended to heaven, where as Mediator between God and man, he will make intercession for us till the final judgment.

ARTICLE VI.

The Gospel Call.

By virtue of the atonement, which is designed to counteract the effects of the fall, man is placed in a salvable state; the grace of God, the influences of the Holy Spirit, and the invitations of the Gospel are given to all men, and by these they receive power to repent and obey all the requirements of the Gospel. We mean only to say, that salvation for all men is possible, for though in its provision it is free and absolute, yet in its application it is expressly conditional. Salvation, then, being freely provided, and man being capable, through grace, of obtaining it, if he perish whom can he blame but himself?

ARTICLE VII.

Repentance.

The repentance which the Gospel requires is a deep conviction, a penitential sorrow, an open confession, a decided hatred, and an entire forsaking of all sin. This repentance God has enjoined on all men, and without it in this life, the sinner must perish eternally.

ARTICLE VIII.

Faith.

True faith is an assent of the mind to the great and fundamental truths of revelation; an act of the understanding in giving credit to the Gospel through the influence of the Holy Spirit, and a firm confidence and trust in the living God. The fruit of faith is obedience to the Gospel. The power to believe is the gift of God; but believing is an act of the creature. Repentance and faith are required as a condition of pardon.

ARTICLE IX.

Regeneration.

As God is a holy Being, and heaven a holy place, man must be regenerated before he can enter a state of happiness. This change is a renovation of the soul by the grace and Spirit of God whereby the penitent sinner receives new life, becomes a child of God, and is enabled to perform spiritual service. It is called being born again, born of the Spirit &c.

ARTICLE X.

Perseverance.

As the regenerate are placed in a state of trial during this life, their future obedience is not determined. Consequently their eternal salvation is depending on their abiding in Christ; it is therefore their duty and privilege to be steadfast in the truth, to grow in grace, persevere in holiness, and made their election sure.

ARTICLE XI.

The Church.

A Christian Church is an assembly of persons who believe in Christ and worship the true God, agreeably to his word. In a more general sense it signifies the whole body of real Christians throughout the world. The Church being the body of Christ, none but the regenerate, who obey the Gospel, are its real members. Believers are received into a particular church, on their giving evidence of repentance and faith, and being baptized.

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SECTION 1.—OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH.—The officers in the primitive church were apostles, bishops, and deacons. The apostles were the special *Witnesses* of the works and sayings of Christ, and of course this office ceased when their work was accomplished. The *Gifts* perpetuated in the Church are evangelists, pastors, teachers, helps and governments. These, however, do not appear to be distinct officers, but they imply different kinds of duties, which are performed by bishops or elders, deacons and others.

1. *Bishops* are overseers, who have the charge of souls—to instruct and to rule them by the Word. They are called *Elders*, and they perform the duties of pastors, teachers, and evangelists. The qualifications required in a candidate for the office, are as follows:—He must be guiltless and be the husband of but one wife. He must be watchful, prudent, and have the regular exercise of cool, dispassionate reason. His conduct and manners must be decent, orderly and grave. He must be a lover of hospitality and good men; ready to communicate and able to teach. He must be temperate; not quarrelsome; nor desirous of base gain. He must govern his family well; he must not be a novice, but experienced in the things of God, and have a character not justly liable to reproach. He must be especially called of God to the work, adhere closely to the doctrine of Christ, and be ordained by the laying on of hands.

The duties of an Elder or Bishop are, 1. To be an example to the flock in all things. To preach the word, baptize, and administer the Lord's Supper. He should assist in ordaining elders and deacons, and according to his ability, do the work of an evangelist, and make full proof of his ministry.

2. *A Deacon* is a regular or stated servant of the church. For the qualifications required in a candidate for this office, see 1 Tim. iii. 8, 12. Acts vi. 1-3.

Duties of a Deacon.—1. He should attend to the temporal wants of the poor members of the church.

2. As the design of his appointment was that the ministry might be freed from temporal care, the inference naturally follows that it is his duty to see that *their* wants also are

supplied. 3. There being no other officer in the church to superintend its *temporal affairs*, it is inferred from the nature of his office that the deacon should attend to all the concerns essential to its prosperity, which do not devolve on an Elder. 4. From the important nature of his qualifications, it has been considered his duty to take the lead of religious meetings in the absence of the minister.

SECTION II.—ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH.—The following ordinances or institutions of the church were appointed by Christ, and are obligatory on the church:—

1. *Christian Baptism*.—This is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, in which are represented their death to the world, the washing of their souls from the pollutions of sin, their resurrection to newness of life, the burial and resurrection of Christ, their resurrection at the last day, and their engagement to serve God.

2. *The Lord's Supper* is designed to commemorate the sufferings of Christ, and to represent, in the use of bread and wine, the communion which saints have with him, and with each other. Every *true believer* in Christ, being a member of his body, and a part of his visible church, has not only a right to partake of his body and his blood in the communion, but is under obligation thus to commemorate his death.

SECTION III.—DUTIES OF THE CHURCH.—The duty of the Church is that obligation which the revelation of God enjoins upon it collectively, or as individuals, for the manifestation of his manifold wisdom, the perfecting of the saints, and the conversion of the world. In this obligation are included the observance of the ten commandments, entire obedience to the influences of the Spirit, to the institutions of the Gospel and to all the instructions and precepts of the Scriptures. Among the latter are the following particular requirements: Christian fellowship, secret and family prayer, domestic and social duties, watchfulness, administering to the necessities of the poor and afflicted, the support of those that preach the Gospel, and the exercise of church discipline.

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ARTICLE XII.

Death.

The bodies of men, being subject to the calamities of the fall, all have died, all will die, except Enoch, Elijah, and the Saints that will be on earth at the last day. But the soul, spirit, or the immaterial part, survives the dissolution of the body, and immediately after death enters a state of happiness or misery.

ARTICLE XIII.

The Resurrection.

As the transgression of Adam secured temporal death to all his posterity, so the obedience and resurrection of Jesus Christ render it certain that the bodies of all men will be raised from the dead. The saints will be raised in the likeness of Christ; but the wicked will awake unto shame and everlasting contempt.

ARTICLE XIV.

The General Judgment.

As men do not receive the due reward of all their deeds in this life, there will be a general judgment, when time and man's probation will close forever. Then all men will be judged according to their works; the righteous will enter into eternal life, and the wicked will go into a state of endless punishment.

Church Covenant.

Having been brought, as we humbly trust, by Divine grace, to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ, and accept him as our Saviour, and believing that the interests of His Kingdom require our united efforts, we do therefore adopt the following as our Church Covenant:—

That we will exercise a mutual care, as members, one of another—striving to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace—to promote the growth of the whole Body in Christian knowledge, holiness and comfort; and to labor together by prayer, precept and example, for the salvation of sinners.

We agree to exert our influence for the maintenance of the public and social worship of God and the ordinances of His house, holding constant communication with each other therein: and we will also contribute of our substance according to our ability and circumstances, for the support of a faithful Ministry, and all other necessary expenses of the church.

We who are heads of families will maintain prayer in our households; we will also maintain secret prayer, and to the utmost of our ability we will endeavour to train our children, and those under us, for usefulness in the world, in the service of Christ, and in the enjoyment of Heaven.

We agree to attend, to the utmost of our power, the Sabbath, Conference, Prayer, and other Meetings of the Church. In every Conference Meeting we attend, we will report ourselves to the Church, and in no meeting will we wilfully grieve the Holy Spirit of God; we will labor for the prosperity of the Church and its upbuilding in the most holy faith—not forsaking it in adversity, but bear each other's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

We will attend to the ordinance of the Lord's Supper as we may have opportunity, or as it may be administered by those over us in the Lord.

We will not use intoxicating drinks ourselves, nor allow them to be used in our families, nor furnish them for persons in our employment except for medical, chemical or mechanical purposes. We will not buy nor sell these articles, nor give our influence for the traffic in them, only for the purposes above named.

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We covenant and agree that we will love all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ; that we will avoid all vain extravagance and sinful conformity to the world, and will abstain from all sinful amusements, as theatres, dances, gambling, and from all vain festivals; and will refrain from all unchaste and profane conversation, and from the reading of wicked and corrupting publications.

We will walk circumspectly towards those who are without, that the cause of God may not be reproached on our account; and will strive to promote those enterprises which have for their object its advancement—among which are Sabbath Schools, Bible Societies, Missions, and Education.

And may the God of Peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; to join the glorified around the throne of God, in ascribing blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, unto Him that sitteth on the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. Amen.

We agree to the annexed usages as guiding to the faith in doctrine, and our practice in Church Government.

Church Usages.

Section I.

This church shall be known as the "Free Baptist church," in connection with the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia.

Section II.

The leading doctrines held by this church are those set forth in the Treatise of Faith, as published in A. D. 1866, by the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia, which we consider in harmony with God's Word.

Section III.

All the affairs of this church shall be under the decision of church meetings publicly convened. At all church meetings the Pastor shall preside, and in case of not having a Pastor, the Senior Deacon.

Section IV.

The officers of this church shall be :—1. A Pastor, to be chosen by the church. 2. Deacons, similarly elected. 3. Helps may be chosen annually to assist the Deacons and Pastor in their duties. 5. A Clerk, whose duty it is to keep a good and faithful record of the church.

Section V.

The Pastor, Deacons, Helps and Clerk, may meet quarterly, or oftener, if necessary, to arrange and digest any business to be brought before a church meeting, and for other purposes when expedient.

Section VI.

All business of this church shall be done by a majority vote, except the reception of members, which shall be unanimous.

Section VII.

Any church may receive the transient labors of any Minister belonging to the Free Will Baptists of the United States of America, or the Free Christian Baptists of New Brunswick, who is in good standing in his own denomination; and if requested by a legal vote of the church, shall have full liberty to administer the ordinances and give the right hand of fellowship therein.

Section VIII.

This church admits to full fellowship only such as give satisfactory evidence of being born of God, and are immersed; but admits to communion and equal privileges in worship all who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth.

Section IX.

Cases of discipline, after private admonition and counsel by the Pastor or some other officer of the church, shall be brought before the Officers' Meeting for consideration; but sentence or suspension from church privileges or excommunication shall be the act of the church meeting only.

Section X.

This church shall meet at least once in every month for Christian conference; at which time it shall be the duty of

every member to attend and report him or herself therein. Any member neglecting to comply with this usage for the space of three months, shall be considered a subject of labor.

Section XI.

Any member in good standing, removing from the limits of the church to which he belongs, or wishing to unite with any other church, on application to the church, may receive a letter of commendation by a majority vote of the church.

Section XII.

Whatever mode for obtaining means to defray the expenditures of the church shall be deemed prudent by legal vote thereof, the members shall co-operate in—all contributing as God prospers them.

Section XIII.

The Covenant and Church Usages shall be read in church conference at least once in three months.

Section XIV.

The church may adopt any rule not contrary to God's Word, which may be necessary for their interests.

Important Enactments of the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia.

1. *Resolved*, That the senior deacon of each church connected with this Conference, be requested to collect from each member of the church to which he belongs, the Conference funds, and forward them, with a list of the names of contributors, to the Treasurer of the General Conference

See minutes 1867, p. 14.

2. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of your committee it is the duty of a Deacon, by virtue of his election to that office, to attend to the temporal wants of the church, and to look after its spiritual welfare; but that he should be ordained before assisting the Pastor, by carrying around the Emblems at the Lord's Table.

See minutes 1868, p. 13.

3. *Resolved*, That the blank in the Incorporation Act, as regards qualification for voting for Trustees, be filled thus:—one dollar.

See minutes 1870, p. 11.

4. *Resolved*, That whereas the 7th section of the 78th chapter of the statutes of Nova Scotia, on Acts to incorporate certain bodies in connection with the Free Baptist Church of Nova Scotia, requires that a certain day be prescribed by this Conference for the purpose of the annual election of Trustees in each church;

Therefore Resolved, That the first Monday of January in each year, be designated as such election day in each church.

See minutes 1874, p. 17.

5. *Resolved*, That the report be adopted.

REPORT:—Your committee appointed to define the mode of admission of an Ordained Minister into this Denomination, beg leave to recommend the following as the future mode of action.

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1st. *Said Ordained Minister* shall obtain a dismission from the church of which he is a member.

2nd. He shall present said document to some Free Baptist church, when said church may by legal vote admit him as an ordinary member, and may grant him a License to Preach and exercise the functions of his office until the next Quarterly Meeting Conference, when said Minister shall be examined, after which he may be received into full fellowship by said Quarterly Meeting Conference. Adopted.

See minutes 1869, p. 4.

6. *Resolved*, That it is unwise for our churches to build any other than Free Baptist Meeting Houses; and recommend that churches become incorporated, and have them properly deeded to themselves.

See minutes 1873, p. 19.

7. *Resolved*, That this Conference recommend all our churches to avoid the use of alcoholic wine at the Lord's table, and earnestly request all our ministers to use their influence in having domestic wine at the Sacrament.

See minutes 1874, p. 13.

8. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Conference, a minister leaving one church and commencing labor with another church, should take a letter from the former church, and by letter from the former church join the church or a church with which he labors.

See minutes 1878, p. 4.

9. *Resolved*, That each of our ministers get two copies of the Minutes of Conference.

The Report of Committee on Dismission of Church Members read, as follows:—

Your committee recommend that the 11th Article of Church Usages be changed to read thus: "Any member in good standing removing from the limits of the church to

which he belongs, or wishing to unite with any other church, on application to the church, may receive a letter of commendation by a majority vote of the church."

10. *Resolved*, that the above report be adopted.

11. *Resolved*, That this Conference regard dancing as contrary to the teaching of the Sacred Scripture, and a violation of our Church Covenant, and that we request our ministers to call the attention of their respective churches to the clause in the Covenant relating to sinful amusements and dancing.

See minutes 1878, p. 14.

12. *Resolved*, That the Report of Committee on Article VIII of the Constitution be adopted, viz.:

Your committee, appointed to interpret the meaning of Article VIII of the Constitution of Yearly Meeting Conference, beg leave to submit the following report:

Whereas, Sec. III of our Church Usage states, "All the affairs of this church shall be under the decision of Church Meetings publicly convened;"

And Whereas, Sec. VI of Church Usage states, "All business of this church shall be done by majority vote, except the reception of members;"

Therefore, a difficulty or trial between a minister and church in the sense of this Article of the Constitution, in our opinion, cannot be considered as such until the matter has been laid before the church and action taken thereon.

Nevertheless, we deem it highly imprudent and unadvisable for any minister to continue his services in a church where any considerable number of the members thereof are unreconciled to his so doing.

See minutes 1880, p. 18.

13. *Resolved*, That in future the Moderator of Conference shall give the right-hand of fellowship at Ordination.

14. *Resolved*, That the Report of the Committee to draft a rule governing the relation of ministers and churches to the Pastorate system be taken up.

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The following is the Report which was adopted :

In view of the benefits secured by the Pastorate System and our desire to preserve it intact;

Therefore be it enacted by this Conference, that any minister who shall in any way act prejudicially to the best interests of the Pastorate System, as recommended and adopted by this body, shall be the subject of discipline for such an act;

And be it further enacted, That any church that shall violate, by any action, the rules regulating this Pastorate System, shall also be liable to the discipline of the Quarterly Meeting to which it belongs, unless both as regards ministers and churches, consent has been given to take such action in accordance with vote of Quarterly Meeting to which said churches and ministers belong.

See minutes 1880, p. 17.

The following resolution, referred from Elders' Conference was adopted :

15. *Whereas*, This body does not claim that the action of a church in the reception of a person as member thereof is anywise invalid in the past because of neglect to administer the right-hand of fellowship;

Therefore Resolved, That those who have a recognized standing in any church may so continue in virtue thereof :

And Further Resolved, That in the future practice of our denomination, the advisable and general usage of giving the right-hand of fellowship be observed by all the ministers connected with this body, except in the case of a minister joining a church.

See minutes 1881, p. 21.

16. *Resolved*, That this Conference recommends that when Pastors and Churches deem it advisable to dissolve the Pastoral relation, they do so with the last Sabbath in September, and that ministers and churches contemplating a Pastoral change, notify their respective Pastor or Pastorate. three months previously.

See minutes 1882, p. 14.

17. *Resolved*, 1. That the Executive of General Conference shall have charge of the affairs of this denomination between the annual sessions of Conference.

2. The Executive shall act for Conference. Such action to be subject to the approval of Conference at its next annual or special session.

3. That the Secretary shall duly notify all members, at least seven days before the time appointed for any meeting.

4. That at each annual Conference a report of all business done by the Executive shall be presented.

5. That five shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

See minutes 1887, p. 28.

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Resolved, That the ministers and licentiates of this Conference form themselves into a body, to be called the Elders' Conference of Free Baptists of Nova Scotia. The object of this Conference shall be the cultivation of union among its members, and harmony of doctrines and practice; and that the Annual Meeting of this body shall be held on the day preceding the Yearly Meeting of Free Baptists of Nova Scotia.*

Constitution of Free Baptist Elders' Conference.

ORGANIZED SEPT. 11TH, 1878.

Believing it would be highly conducive to the efficiency and success of the ministry of the Free Baptist denomination to hold an Annual Conference; we, therefore, the ministers of the N. S. F. B. Conference, do hereby agree to the following Constitution:—

ARTICLE I.

This organization shall be known as THE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE OF FREE BAPTISTS OF NOVA SCOTIA, and shall be composed of the ordained and licensed ministers in good and regular standing in the N. S. F. B. Conference.

ARTICLE II.

Its object shall be to promote union and harmony in feeling and unanimity of doctrine among its members, and to consider any question of discipline or adopt any mode of operation for the assistance or benefit of its members, that may be deemed proper by a majority at any regular meeting.

ARTICLE III.

Its officers shall consist of a President and Vice-President, chosen annually, and a Secretary and Treasurer, who shall continue in office at the pleasure of the Conference.

ARTICLE IV.

It shall convene the day previous to the sitting of the F. B. Annual Conference.

* See minutes 1870. p. 13.

ARTICLE V.

Five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business ; a less number may adjourn.

ARTICLE VI.

This Conference may adopt By-Laws for its government as may be deemed suitable, not conflicting with this Constitution.

ARTICLE VII.

A special meeting may be called by the secretary at the request of Two Elders by giving notice thereof at least three weeks in the Religious Intelligencer.

ARTICLE VIII

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a majority vote.

Constitution of the Nova Scotia Free Baptist Home Mission Society.

ORGANIZED AT CANNING, CORNWALLIS, SEPT. 14TH, 1878.

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be known by the name of THE NOVA SCOTIA FREE BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY.

ARTICLE II.

The object of this Society shall be to aid destitute churches and spread the Gospel in this Province.

ARTICLE III.

The male members of this Society shall be such as contribute annually at least the sum of one dollar, and females at least fifty cents, and ten dollars shall constitute life membership for males, and five for females.

Life members of Yarmouth and Shelburne, and Harmony Quarterly Meeting Home Mission Societies, shall be life members of the Nova Scotia Free Baptist Home Mission Society.

ARTICLE IV.

The officers of this Society shall be a President, three Vice-Presidents, and a Secretary Treasurer and Auditor. There shall also be a committee of three, who together with the officers, shall constitute a Board of Directors ; all of whom shall be appointed annually.

ARTICLE V.

The Board of Directors shall carry into effect such measures as they may deem necessary for the best interests of the Society; make all necessary arrangements for the meetings of the Society, and give due notice of the same through the Secretary. A majority of the Board may call special meetings when they think proper.

VI.

The stated meetings of this Society shall be held the same time and in connection with the Annual Meeting of the Foreign Mission Society, under the auspices of the Conference. If at any meeting of the Society the President and Vice-Presidents are all absent, the senior officer present shall call the meeting to order, and in such cases there shall be a President *pro tem*.

ARTICLE VII.

At each Annual Meeting of the Society the Report of the Board of Directors and Secretary Treasurer shall be presented.

ARTICLE VIII.

Ten members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, a less number may adjourn.

ARTICLE IX.

This Constitution may be altered or amended by two-third vote of the members present, provided such alteration or amendment has been proposed at a previous stated meeting of the Society.

ARTICLE X.

This Society may adopt any By-Laws it may deem necessary.

Constitution of the Nova Scotia Free Baptist Education Society.

Organized at Kemptville, Sept. 14, 1867.

ARTICLE I.—NAME.

This Society shall be known as the NOVA SCOTIA FREE BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY.

ARTICLE II.—OBJECT.

The object of this Society shall be to encourage and raise funds for the assistance of young men who may wish to study preparatory to entering the ministry.

ARTICLE III.—MEMBERSHIP.

Any member paying one dollar annually to the Society shall be a regular member of the same, and by paying ten dollars at one time shall be a life member; any female, by paying fifty cents, shall be a regular member, and by paying five dollars at one time shall be a life member.

ARTICLE IV.—OFFICERS.

The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, and a committee of five;—said committee with all the officers shall form a board, who shall have the management of all the business of the Society.

ARTICLE V.—ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE.

Any male member of this Society shall be eligible to office in the Society.

ARTICLE VI.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND BOARD.

SEC. 1.—The President, or in his absence, the Vice-President, shall preside over all meetings held by this Society.

SEC. 2.—The Secretary shall conduct all the correspondence of this Society, keeping a copy of the same; he shall also keep a correct record of the meetings and doings of the Society.

SEC. 3.—The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all moneys belonging to the Society; no money to be paid out by the Treasurer except by the written order of the Secretary, endorsed by the President of the Society.

SEC. 4.—The Secretary and Treasurer shall each prepare annually a written report, giving a full statement of all the business transacted in his department, and lay said report before the Society at each annual meeting.

SEC. 5.—The Board shall hear and advise with any young men who may wish a sabbath from the Society as to the best place for them to study, and the course of study to be pursued; they shall disburse the funds of the Society as they may think will best promote the object of the Society, but shall have no power to contract a debt beyond the amount in the Treasurer's hands, or bona fide pledges made.

ARTICLE VII.—TIME OF MEETING.

The annual meeting of this Society shall be held during the sitting of the Free Baptist Conference. Special meetings may be held at any time when the President and two of the Committee shall think it necessary. All the officers and Committee shall be notified in writing by the Secretary at least two weeks before the time of meet-

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ing, when a special meeting shall be called. Four members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A less number may adjourn.

ARTICLE VIII.

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the society by a majority vote of the members of the society present, twelve members constituting a quorum. No alterations can be made unless notice thereof be given in writing and recorded one year previous.

Constitution of the Free Baptist S. School Convention.

Organized Sept. 12th, 1873.

ARTICLE I.

This organization shall be known as the Free Baptist Sabbath School Convention.

ARTICLE II.

The object of this Convention shall be to encourage and strengthen the Sabbath School interests in our churches throughout the province.

ARTICLE III.

The acting members of this Convention shall be the Elders and Licentiated of the Free Baptist Conference, the Superintendents of Schools, and such Delegates as the several Schools may appoint.

ARTICLE IV.

The Officers of this Society shall be a President, five Vice-Presidents, and a Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

Sec. 1.—The President, or in his absence the Vice-President present having seniority of years, shall preside at the meetings of the Convention.

Sec. 2.—The Secretary shall conduct all the correspondence of the Convention. He shall also keep a correct record of its meetings and doings, and present an annual report.

ARTICLE VI.

A committee of five shall be chosen annually to prepare a programme for the next meeting of the convention; two of whom shall be the President and Secretary.

ARTICLE VII.

The Annual Meeting of this Convention shall be held during the sitting of the Free Baptist Conference.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Constitution may be altered or amended at any Annual Meeting of the Convention, by a majority vote of the members of the Convention present; twelve members constituting a quorum.

Constitution of the Ministerial Relief and Aid Society.

Organized Sept. 10th, 1886.

1. This Society shall be known as the MINISTERIAL RELIEF AND AID SOCIETY.
2. The object of this Society is to give needed aid to the ministers of the Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia.
3. The officers of this Society shall be a President, one Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer; and three brethren and the officers of the Society to constitute the Executive.
4. Each ordained minister belonging to the Free Baptist General Conference shall pay at least one dollar annually into the fund of this Society; neglecting to do which, it shall be at the discretion of the Executive whether he shall receive aid or not.
5. Each Church connected with the Free Baptist General Conference is hereby expected and requested to pay into this fund, by collections or otherwise, a sum not less than ten cents per member.
6. The Executive Committee shall have power to disburse all moneys, and invest any not required for existing needs.

Constitution of the Free Baptist Foreign Mission Society of Nova Scotia.

Reorganized Sept. 12th, 1890.

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be called the FREE BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA.

ARTICLE II.

Its object is the Evangelization of the heathen.

ARTICLE III.

The payment of one dollar per year shall constitute membership. Twenty dollars, life membership.

ARTICLE IV.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, three Vice-Presidents, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Six District Secretaries, Auditor, and a Board of Managers consisting of the above officers together with the officers of the General Conference. These officers shall be elected annually, and shall hold their office till others are elected.

ARTICLE V.

The duties of the President, Vice-Presidents and Secretaries, shall be such as are usually performed by such officers.

ARTICLE VI.

The District Secretaries shall labor to secure the formation of Auxiliary Societies in every church in their respective districts, and shall report the same to the Corresponding Secretary.

ARTICLE VII.

The Board of Managers shall select and appoint Missionaries, designate their field of labor, appropriate the funds in the treasury, fill vacancies in the offices of the Society, and execute such other business as may be necessary for accomplishing the object of the Society. Five may constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII.

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, notice of alteration having been given two weeks before such meeting.

Church Auxillary Society to the N. S. F. B. Mission Society.

ARTICLE I.

Name.

This Society shall be called the FREE BAPTIST CHURCH FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

ARTICLE II.

Object.

The object is to help the Nova Scotia Free Baptist Missionary Society in the evangelization of the heathen.

ARTICLE III.

Membership.

Any person may become a member by contributing not less than one dollar a year, paid annually or quarterly.

ARTICLE IV.

Officers.

The officers shall be, a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, their duties being those that usually fall to such officers.

They shall be chosen by ballot by the Society and hold office for one year, or until their successors are appointed.

These officers together with the Pastor, Deacon, Clerk and Treasurer of the Church shall constitute a Board of Managers. The Clerk and Treasurer of the Church shall be Auditors of this Society.

ARTICLE V.

Committees.

Music—This Committee shall consist of three members whose duty shall be to provide music for the meetings.

Literary—This Committee shall consist of three members whose duty shall be to provide the Society with Missionary intelligence to use at the meetings.

Visiting—This Committee shall consist of, at least, eight members. Each member shall visit every month four members of the congregation with a view to interest them in the work and invite them to become members of the Society. Every month this Committee shall report to the Society the result of their visits.

These Committees shall be chosen by the Society annually.

The President shall be a member, ex-officio, of all committees.

ARTICLE VI.

Finance.

The funds of this Society shall be forwarded to the Treasurer of the N. S. F. B. M. Society once a year or oftener if necessary.

ARTICLE VII.

Meetings.

The regular meetings of the Society shall be held on the first of every month.

At every monthly meeting the roll shall be called by the Secretary.

The first half hour of these meetings shall be devotional.

The Board of Managers shall meet once a quarter immediately after the monthly meeting.

ARTICLE VIII.

Amendments.

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, notice of alteration having been previously given.

Formula for Marriage.

Divine Revelation, my friends, has declared Marriage to be honorable in all. It is an institution of God, established in the time of man's innocency, ere he had yet been banished from Paradise. It was given in wisdom and in kindness, for the benefit of the race, to increase human happiness, to repress irregular affections, to support social order, and to provide that through well-ordered families, truth and holiness might be transmitted from one age to another. It lies at the basis of all human society, and all governments and laws are built upon the household relations.

From the history of our blessed Saviour, we learn that that he honored a Marriage festival with his presence, and wrought there the beginning of his miracles; and by the Holy Spirit speaking in His Apostle, he has selected the relation thus formed, as an apt emblem of the union that exists between himself and the church. A union thus consecrated, should therefore be undertaken not thoughtlessly and irreverently, but discreetly, advisedly, and in the fear of God, and with a due regard to the purposes for which matrimony was at first ordained.

APPEAL.

And now, as in the sight of God, the Searcher of hearts, and as you will answer it on that day when the secrets of all hearts shall be made manifest, I charge you to declare, if there be any cause which should prevent your lawful union.

ADDRESS RESUMED.

As the ties now to be assumed should be sundered only by death, it becomes you to consider well the duties enjoined upon you as husband and wife. If duly remembered, and faithfully discharged, they will smooth the rugged pathway of life; lightening, by dividing its sorrows, and heightening, by doubling its enjoyments; if neglected and violated, you cannot escape misery and guilt.

It is the duty of the husband to be the friend, counselor, and guardian of his wife; shielding her from danger, providing for her support, and cherishing for her a manly and unalterable affection; it being required by the word of God that husbands love their wives, even as Christ also loved the Church and gave himself for it.

It is the duty of the wife to be the friend, companion, and solace of her husband; reverencing and obeying him, putting on the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price; it being commanded by Scripture, that as the Church is subject unto Christ, so should wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

It is the duty of both to cherish and ever to manifest mutual affection; to preserve an inviolable fidelity; to delight each in the society of the other; to cultivate a just sense of their respective duties; to train wisely all who may, in their household, be brought under their influence; to remember that in interest and reputation, as in affection, they are to be henceforth one and indivisible; and to see to it that what God hath joined together, man put not asunder.

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Wilt thou ———, have this woman to thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others, keep thee only unto her, as long as ye both shall live?

(Answer),

I WILL.

Wilt thou ———, have this man to thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the Holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou obey him and serve him, love, honor and keep him in sickness and in health, and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him as long as ye both shall live.

(Answer)

I WILL.

(If the ring is used, the man holding the ring on the fourth finger of the woman's left hand, shall say, as dictated by the minister.)

With this ring, I thee wed, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost.—Amen.

PRAYER.

(Having joined their right hands together, the minister shall say :) Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder.

Forasmuch as ——— and ——— have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and have declared the same by giving and receiving a ring and by joining of hands, I pronounce that they be man and wife together in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Benediction.

NOTES.

The man should stand at the right hand of the woman during the ceremony.

Marriage may be either by publication of banns, or by obtaining a license.

The ring is usually handed to the minister by the man, and then returned to him, when he places it on the proper finger, and repeats the vow.

The legal marriage of two persons involves mutual consent, publicly expressed, before a duly authorized minister of the Gospel, of this province, who publicly pronounces them man and wife.

Forms.

I. CHURCH LICENSE.

This certifies that Brother — is a worthy member of the Free Baptist Church, in —, and we would hereby express our approval of his efforts in preaching the Gospel and commend him to the fellowship of all Christians.

Given by the vote of the church.

18—

Signed, { — Pastor.
— Clerk.

II. LETTER OF DISMISSION.

This certifies that — a member in good standing in the Free Baptist Church, at —, is hereby dismissed at — request, to unite with the — church in —.

May the new relationship be mutually beneficial under the blessing of God.

{ — Pastor.
— Clerk.

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