

MINUTES
OF THE SESSION
OF THE
NOVA SCOTIA
Baptist Association,

HELD AT

Bridgetown, Annapolis Co.,

FROM JUNE 22nd, TO JUNE 24th, 1846, INCLUSIVE;

TOGETHER WITH

THE CIRCULAR LETTER, MISSIONARY NOTICES, &c.

Minutes of Corresponding Associations, and other documents relating to the N. S. Baptist Association may be directed to Rev. William Chipman, Pastor of the 2^d Baptist Church, Cornwallis.

MINUTES

OF THE

ASSOCIATION

OF THE

BRISTOL, ANNAPOLIS

TOGETHER WITH

THE REGULAR LETTER, MISSIONARY NOTICES

At the office of Corresponding Association, and other documents relating to the B. Home Mission Association may be directed to Rev. William L. Johnson, Secy.

THE Introduction of Stronach, from of Home Mission day.

THE Association was appointed M Isaac Chipman

Rev's. J. Pryor the churches, and Tupper, to examine

The following and report on an the Association, v

W. Chipman, J. J. Mosher, J. Kin Various other C

ed. The letters from the following Tab

CAPITALS; those o marked with an a received are mark by a dash —.

N. B. Churches returned as they s of members are no

MINUTES, &c.

MONDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M., June 22nd, 1846.

THE Introductory Sermon was preached by the Rev. Abraham Stronach, from Zech. iv. 6, after which a collection was taken in aid of Home Missions, in addition to the collections taken on the preceding day.

The Association being then called to order, Rev. Charles Tupper was appointed Moderator, Rev. William Chipman, Clerk, and brother Isaac Chipman Assistant Clerk.

Rev's. J. Pryor and I. E. Bill were chosen to read the letters from the churches, and Rev's. N. Viditoe, A. V. Dimock, and brother T. Tupper, to examine the same previously to their being read.

The following brethren were appointed a Committee to examine and report on any subjects referred by the churches in their letters to the Association, viz.: Rev's. E. A. Crawley, S. T. Rand, R. B. Dickey, W. Chipman, J. M. Cramp, G. Richardson, I. E. Bill, and brethren J. Mosher, J. King, and E. B. Cutten.

Various other Committees were appointed, as subsequently recorded.

The letters from the Churches were read, from which was obtained the following Table. The names of ordained Ministers are in SMALL CAPITALS; those of Licentiates in *Italics*; Ministers not present are marked with an asterisk*; Churches from which no information was received are marked thus †; and vacant churches are distinguished by a dash —.

N. B. Churches from which no information was received, are returned as they stood last year, as well as those where the number of members are not stated in the letters.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	MINISTERS AND MESSENGERS.	ADDED.					Total		
		Restored	By Baptism	By Letter	Removed	Dismissed			
Annapolis and Upper Granville.	JOHN CHASE, S. Morse, J. Rice, W. H. Chipman, B. Fellows, J. Messenger, W. H. Morse, W. Richardson.			1		2	2	202	
Lower Granville.	P. M. Murray, J. Lich, B. Reed.		1			1	3	206	
Wilmot.	NATHANIEL VIDITOE, J. Elliott, S. Jackson, A. Marshall, J. Cornel, J. Longley, W. Saunders, G. Starritt, A. Pool.					2	2	307	
Newport.	GEORGE DIMOCK.*						4	1	132
Onslow.	DAVID W. C. DIMOCK, D. Cutten, J. King.	14				2	1	185	
1st Clements.	ISRAEL POTTER, senr., * ISRAEL POTTER, junr., * A. Chute, G. Troop, J. Potter.			1			9	3	257
Lunenburg.	BENNET TAYLOR.		2	1			1		69
Nictaux.	INGRAM E. BILL, Deacs. S. Taylor, T. Bishop, C. Shafner.			1		26	8	46	98
1st Digby neck.	JAMES C. MORSE, W. Brown					18	3	1	98
† River Philip.	W. Cossaboon.								39
Horton.	JOHN E. COGSWELL,* THEODORE S. HARDING, JOHN PRYOR, EDMUND A. CRAWLEY, I. Chipman, Deac. P. Strong, D. Page.						6	3	401
1st Cornwallis.	EDWARD MANNING, DAVID HARRIS, M. Beckwith, T. Elder.	2	4	5		1	1	4	238
Windsor.	JOHN MILLAR.			2			1	2	60
Rawdon.	Deacs. F. Parker, W. Dimock.						5		86
Up'r. Granville Mountain.	AARON COGSWELL, H. Chute, A. Foster, J. N. Foster.				4		1	1	116
Parsboro.									43
Chester.	JOSEPH DIMOCK, I. Mosher, J. Bradshaw.	1	4	3			4	1	276
Amherst.	CHARLES TUPPER, Deac. E. B. Cutten.		2	3				1	65
Port Medway.	JAMES STUBBARD, G. Manthorn.								64
2nd Cornwallis.	WILLIAM CHIPMAN, Deac. A. Parker, D. Lyons.					3	5	4	241
Sissiboo or Weymouth.				2				1	66

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CHURCHES.
1st Yarmouth.
1st Aylesford
Waterford, or Pughwash.
New Albany.
Liverpool.
brookfield.
† Bedeque and St. Eleanors, P. E. I.
Sydney, C. B.
1st Hillsburg.
Pryer Island.
1st Falmouth.
Ragged Islands.
West Chester.
Manchester and Guysborough.
Granville Street, Halifax.
Windsor Road.
Mabou.
† Tracadie.
Sherbrooke.
Stewiacke.
Jeddore.
Margaret's Bay.
Economy.
Three Rivers, P. E. I.
† East Point.
† Canso.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

Total	Died	Excluded	CHURCHES.	MINISTERS AND MESSENGERS.	ADDED.					Total	
					Restored	By Baptism	By Letter	Removed	Dismissed		Excluded
202	2		1st Yarmouth.	HARRIS HARDING, WILLIAM BURTON, T. Pinney, B. Rogers, N. Corning, S. Brown, R. Brown.			2		2	6	528
206	3		1st Aylesford	WILLIAM C. RIDEOUT, EBENEZER STRONACH, J. Wheelock, Deac. S. Welton.	3			20	9	1	306
307	4		Waterford, or Pughwash. New Albany.					1			51
132	1		Liverpool.	D. Whitman, H. Whitman.			2	1	5		51
185	1			ROBERT B. DICKEY, W. A. Kempton, S. Freeman, D. Kinsman, W. Freeman.						2	211
257	3		brookfield.	JAMES PARKER, Deac. P. F. Murray, J. Park, J. Kempton, L. Leadbetter, J. T. Freeman.	1		1			1	156
69			Bedeque and St. Eleanors, P. E. I.	ALEXANDER McDONALD.*							108
469	8		Sydney, C. B.	GEORGE RICHARDSON.				7	5		94
98	1		1st Hillsburg.	JOSHUA B. COGSWELL, Deac. W. Dunn, R. Dunn.	1	6		4	1		85
39			Ryer Island.	SAMUEL M RANDALL, A Payson.			1	1		1	101
401	3		1st Falmouth.	BENJAMIN VAUGHAN,* Deac. W. Davison.	1		1			2	199
			Ragged Islands.	WELLINGTON JACKSON.			2			2	78
238	4		West Chester.	HEZEKIAH HULL.*		1				2	35
60	2		Manchester and Guysborough.	JAMES STEVENS.*	1						27
86			Granville Street, Halifax.	Deac. J. W. Nutting, J. Ferguson.							209
116	1		Windsor Road.	S. Richardson.				1			41
43			Mabou.	THOMAS DELONG.*	21	1					29
276	4		Tracadie.								65
65	1		Sherbrooke.								31
64			Stewiacke.	ANTHONY V. DIMOCK.		3	3			1	80
241	4		Jeddore.	DAVID B. PINEO.	2	1			9	1	106
241	4		Margaret's Bay.	WILLIAM HOBBS.						1	84
66	1		Economy.								38
			Three Rivers, P. E. I.	JOHN SHAW.*			3	1	99		45
			East Point.	J. SHAW.*							101
			Canso.								12

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STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	MINISTERS AND MESSENGERS.	ADDED.		Removed	Dismissed	Excluded	Died	Total
		By Baptism Restored	By Letter					
3rd Cornwallis.	ABRAHAM STRONACH, Deac. } C. Strong.		4	4	2	4	3	221
Wilmot Mountain.	RICHARD W. CUNNINGHAM, } Deac. J. Marshal, W. Rusteen, J. Hall.					11	1	132
Tusket and Argyle.	JAMES LENT,* Deac. J. Ga- } vell, A. Gavell.			4	1	1	6	97
Wellington & Chelsea	BENNET TAYLOR.							78
† Springfield.	_____							7
Dalhousie.	_____					4		34
† 2nd Yarmouth.	G. HARRIS.							293
Long Island.	H. HARDING.							81
Charlotte-town, P.E.I.	S. M. RANDALL.		1			2		24
2nd Aylesford.	SILAS T. RAND. } OBED PARKER, T. Tupper, S. } Spinney.	1	2	18	1	4		106
2nd Digby Neck.	JAMES C. MORSE.	2			2	1		55
† Bay of Islands.	_____							17
† Indian Harbour.	_____							14
Advocate Harbour.	_____				1			13
† Barrington.	_____							8
Digby.	_____							18
2nd Hammond Plains	J. B. COGSWELL.		13					18
Preston.	_____	1			1			42
Wallace River.	ABRAHAM S. HUNT.		8	30	4	2		132
† Antigonish.	_____							18
Lot 49, P. E. I.	JOHN WHIDDEN.* } BENJAMIN SCOTT.* }	3	2	5	1	3	1	36
2nd Horton.	_____					1	2	150
New Germany.	S. Richardson.							38
2nd Hillsburg.	B. TAYLOR, W. Morton.			6				36
Petite Passage.	J. B. COGSWELL.		11					33
† Kempt.	S. M. RANDALL.							85
Portapique.	D. W. C. DIMOCK.		4					67
3rd Yarmouth.	S. M. RANDALL.							48
Sal e River.	W JACKSON.							53
Indian Harbour, West.	W HOBBS.			2		1		29
Amherst Shore.	C. TUPPER.							11
1st Hammond Plains.	W. HOBBS, D. Thompson, C. } Thompson.	1	5			1		53
† Cavendish, P. E. I.	_____							7
Dartmouth.	A. S. HUNT.		5					34
Little Forks.	_____							20

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CHURCHES.

York and Elliot Ri-
vers, P. E. I.
2nd Falmouth.
Digby Joggins.
New Tusket.
St. Mary's Bay.
Margaree.
Port Piswick & Mus-
quodoboit Har-
bour.
Lawrence Town.
Tryon.
Minudie.
Indian Harbour, East.
Burton Church, New }
Guysboro' Road. }
Mira Bay, C. B. }
Upper Aylesford.
St. Marys.
Isaac's Harbour.
Coddal's Harbour.
New Harbour.
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STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	MINISTERS. AND MESSENGERS.		ADDED.				Total		
			Restored	By Baptism	By Letter	Removed		Dismissed	Excluded
2 4 3 221	York and Elliot Rivers, P. E. I. and Falmouth.	MALCOLM ROSS.*							117
11 1 132	Digby Joggins.	BENJAMIN VAUGHAN,* Deac. Payzant.							18
1 1 6 97		CHARLES RANDALL, S. T. BACON.		1		1	1		42
78	New Tusket.	C. RANDALL, J. Knowlan.				2			34
7		C. RANDALL, J. Clements, J. Andrews.		1			1		66
4 34	St. Mary's Bay.								36
293	Margaree.								7
1 81	Port Piswick & Musquodoboit Harbour.	D. B. PINEO.							14
2 24		D. B. PINEO.							56
18 1 4 106	Lawrence Town.	A. McDONALD.*							13
2 1 55	Tryon.								57
17	Minudie.								30
14	India Harbour, East.	W. HOBBS.							69
1 13	Burton Church, New Guysboro' Road.	A. S. HUNT.							35
8		G. RICHARDSON.							24
18	Mira Bay, C. B.	W. CHIPMAN, W. Graves, E. Parker.							26
1 42	Upper Aylesford.								15
30 4 2 132	St. Marys.								10
18	Isaac's Harbour.	W. HOBBS.							
20	Coddal's Harbour.	W. HOBBS.							
1 3 1 36	New Harbour.	W. HOBBS.							
1 2 150		W. HOBBS.							

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The eight churches last named were received during the present session, the right hand of fellowship being presented by the Moderator, in behalf of the Association, to the brethren who were appointed, and are named above, as their representatives for such purpose.

The Report of the Committee of arrangements in relation to preaching, nomination of committees, order and hours of business who were appointed in 1845, was presented and adopted as far as respected the first two objects named. The nominations of said Committee were subsequently presented and adopted, subject to addition.

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It was then Resolved that the Rev. J. M. Cramp, A. M., President of the Baptist College, Montreal, Revs. J. Francis, and J. Wallace, of New Brunswick, be invited to take a seat in council with us.

It was also Resolved, that any ordained ministers or licentiates in regular standing with the churches composing this or the N. B. Association, who may be present and are not delegates, be invited to take a seat in council with us. No names were understood to be reported.

Rev. T. McGee took his seat as Messenger from the N. Brunswick Association.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Committee of arrangements it was Resolved—That the morning sessions continue till two, adjourn to half past three, and continue till six; immediately after which, on Monday and Tuesday evenings, meetings will be held for the promotion of Home and Foreign Missions.

Met at half-past 3 o'clock.

* A letter from the Canada Baptist Union to the N. S. Baptist Association having been read, "expressing the desirableness of a closer union between all the Baptists of British North America being effected and manifested," and declaring the Rev. Mr Cramp to be representative of such union at this session of the Association,

It was Resolved, That Rev. Dr Crawley, Rev. W. Chipman, and R. B. Dickey, be a Committee to meet Brother Cramp and confer with him on the object of his mission and report thereon to this Association.

Letters from the Free Will and Free Christian Baptists having been read to the Association, in answer to certain proposals made to them by delegates appointed to visit them, action on these was deferred till Report of Delegation was heard.

The Committees before referred to in connection with the nomination of Committee of arrangements were appointed as follows:

To examine the Circular Letter, Rev. R. W. Cunningham, Bro. J. Ferguson.

To Report on the Bible Translation cause, Rev. J. Pryor, C. Tupper, and Bro. J. W. Nutting.

To Report on Home Missions, Revs. D. Harris, S. T. Rand, A. S. Hunt, G. Richardson, Bro. J. Kempton, S. Taylor, and W. H. Chipman.

To Report on Foreign Missions, Revs. E. A. Crawley, T. S. Harding, W. Burton, I. E. Bill, N. Viditoe, Breth. W. Rickerson, J. Mosher, W.

* For letter, see Appendix, letter A.

Morse, E. B. C.
P. Murray.

To Report
Rideout, J. Par
Kempton.

To Report o
Fellows, A. Par

To Report o
Stronach, J. Fra
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Met at half-past
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Morse, E. B. Cullen, M. Beckwith, D. Kirsman, W. Freeman, and P. Murray.

To Report on Temperance, Revs. J. Millar, J. C. Morse, W. C. Rideout, J. Parker, J. Francis, W. Hobbs, Breth. S. Freeman, and A. Kempton.

To Report on Sab. Schools, Breth. I. Chipman, A. Kempton, B. Fellows, A. Parker, C. Shaffner, and S. Baker.

To Report on Union Societies, Revs. I. E. Bill, W. Burton, A. Stronach, J. Francis, R. B. Dickie, B. Taylor, Bro. S. Taylor, and A. Parker.

Voted, To take up the subject of Union with New Brunswick, at 3 o'clock to morrow.

Voted, That eight o'clock to morrow morning, be the hour for receiving monies.

The times of meeting of the several Committees, having been fixed for to morrow, Adjourned, to meet at 6. P.M.

6 o'clock, P. M.

By previous regulations adopted from Report of Committee of arrangements, the Domestic Miss. Society, met this evening, when a highly interesting Report of the years proceedings, was read by Rev. S. T. Rand, a member of the Board, which was immediately adopted, and ordered to be printed.

Also by previous arrangement, the remainder of this evening was occupied by the Rev. Mr. Cramp, who in a very engaging manner brought before a large and deeply interesting audience, the claims of the Swiss Mission, at Grand Ligne in Canada, to present which before his brethren in Nova Scotia was a part of his object in visiting this country. A collection not previously announced but spontaneously called for at the time, testified the approbation with which his statements were received, this collection, together with donations made after his leaving Halifax having amounted to 20/.

Tuesday morning, 10 o'clock.

Preaching by Bro. J. Francis of N. B., immediately after which according to established usage the Education Society business was brought forward. The business of the meeting will be found in the published Report of the Education Society for the present year.

Adjourned to half-past three.

Met at half-past three. On account of want of preparation for Union business as assigned for this hour, after Prayer by Rev. Joseph Dimock it was resolved as follows.

That the observance of the monthly Missionary Concert, as heretofore, be most earnestly recommended by this Association, together with an accompanying collection in aid of the F. M. Fund.

That Bro. J. W. Nutting superintend the printing of the Minutes and Rev. R. B. Dickie write the Circular letter. That Rev. George Richardson preach the introductory sermon.

That the present Foreign and Domestic Missionary Boards be continued, and that the Rev. R. B. Dickie be added to the same.

That Mayhew Beckwith, Esq. be appointed as Treasurer of the Home Missionary Society instead of W. A. Chipman, Esq., deceased.

That Rev. N. Viditoe be our Messenger to the New Brunswick Baptist Association, and receive for expenses the sum of four pounds; also, That brethren Bill, Chase, and Cunningham be requested to accompany brother Viditoe, with reference to objects which are named subsequently.

Resolved, That this Association, as the Baptist Foreign and Domestic Missionary Society for Nova Scotia, accept the power of appointing to the Theological chair at Horton now relinquished by the Education Society in their favor, provided, and with the clear understanding, however, that no part of the proper Missionary funds, shall ever be employed for the maintenance of the Theological Department; and do hereby confirm the appointment of the Rev. Dr. Crawley to the Theological chair.

The Brethren, Joseph Dimock and R. B. Dickie, delegated to the Free Will and Free Christian Baptists having reported their visitation to the same and expression to them of the desirableness of further acquaintance and union on just principles, the following were appointed a Committee to receive the letters before named in this connection and report answers to this Association, viz., Rev. T. S. Harding, I. E. Bill, E. A. Crawley, R. B. Dickey.

Voted,—That the next annual meeting of this Association be held with the First Baptist Church in Yarmouth on the first Monday after the 20th June.

The Committee appointed to confer with the Baptist Church in Westbrook, in relation to their difficulties, reported that they met as requested, and that every means in their power was employed to effect reconciliation, but without success.

The Committee appointed to confer with the Church at Kempt, reported that they met said Church, and gave them advice which they hoped would tend to remove disaffection.

The subject of Union between the Baptists of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and P. E. Island was now taken up.

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Harding, Hants; J.

The Constitution agreed upon by the united delegation of both Associations, who met in St. John, N. B. in September last, and as reported in the Christian Messenger, was read throughout, whereupon, after sundry motions and lengthened discussion, which it is unnecessary to report, relating solely to the form of union, not to its desirableness, in which all agreed, it was resolved that the said Constitution, as reported, be submitted to the examination of a Committee who shall report on the ensuing day, to consist of the following persons, Revs. J. M. Cramp, J. Pryor, I. E. Bill, C. Tupper, E. A. Crawley, J. Chase, R. B. Dickey, R. W. Cunningham, N. Viditoe, T. McGee, J. Francis, J. Wallace, W. Burton, D. Harris, Breth. J. W. Nutting, J. Ferguson, and J. Mosher.

By previous arrangement a meeting was held at 6 o'clock, which was designed for exciting public interest on the subject of Foreign Missions, which, however, was principally occupied with the discussion of the point, whether to send, at once, another missionary to a foreign field.

The business was opened by the Secretary, by reading the annual Report, which as usual was heard with much interest. The same was adopted and ordered to be published.

The question having been canvassed with varying motions and amendments, which need not be recorded, and by extended addresses on both sides, whether to send out at once an additional missionary, it was finally resolved to refer the same to the action of the Board.

Voted,—To excuse from further attendance, on account of indisposition, Brother Joseph Dimock.

Voted,—That Brother D. W. C. Dimock also have leave of absence to meet an engagement.

Voted,—To adjourn to 10 o'clock, to-morrow.

Wednesday morning, 10 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Preaching by Rev. J. Millar, immediately after which the Committee of Historical Reminiscences, Brethren S. T. Rand and Isaac Chipman, presented their Report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Christian Messenger.

The Resolutions reported by the Committee for adoption and insertion in the Minutes are as follows:

Resolved, That the Historical Committee be enlarged to the number of fourteen, consisting of the Rev. Dr. Crawley and — — at Horton, empowered to conduct business as a Sub-Committee for central action; of Rev. W. Burton, Yarmouth; Rev. C. Randall, Weymouth; Rev. I. E. Bill, Annapolis Co.; Dr. Harding, Hants; J. Ferguson, Halifax; Rev. D. Dimock, Colchester; Rev. C.

Tupper Cumberland; Rev. J. Whidden, Antigonish, Rev. G. Richardson, Cape Breton; ———, P. E. Island; G. Armstrong, Lunenburg; and Rev. R.B. Dickie Queen's.

Resolved, That ——— be requested to prepare a historical sketch of the N. S. Baptist Association, to be presented at their next session.

Resolved, That the Historical Committee be requested to take under their consideration an order of proceedings by which to celebrate the Jubilee year of this Association, to be presented at their next meeting for examination.

Resolved, That the Historical Committee be recommended to devise some regulations for the holding of the property which is entrusted to their care, and for controlling its use.

Resolved, That this Association earnestly recommend the Churches which compose it, and individual members thereof, to respond so far as is practicable, without delay, to the important calls of the Historical Committee for co-operation in the several departments of their labour.

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of this Association be hereby expressed to all the kind friends who have already aided the Historical Committee in their work, and they especially declare their high satisfaction that the Portraits of four of their Fathers in the Gospel have been successfully executed.

S. T. RAND, } *His. Com. N. S. B. Association.*
ISAAC CHIPMAN, }

The blanks in the foregoing Resolutions were filled up as follows—that Bro. Isaac Chipman be appointed to the vacancy left in Sub. Committee. Bro. S. T. Rand to that in General Committee for P.E. Island, and also to prepare a historical sketch of the Nova Scotia Baptist Association to be presented at their next session.

It was then further Resolved, That this Association entirely approve of the course pursued by the Historical Committee in the plans which they have adopted in enlarging and carrying forward the design contemplated in their original appointment, and hereby express to them the high sense which they entertain of the value of their labours.

The Committee appointed to the subject of Union Societies on a previous day, Reported as follows:

Your Committee deem it exceedingly important to the interests of the several benevolent objects in which the Baptist Denomination are engaged, that Union Societies should be put into efficient operation in all our Churches, as a means well adapted to enlist the sympathies, and secure the contributions of our Churches generally, for the promotion of the cause of truth;—and they are also of opinion that if these Societies shall become thoroughly established, a much greater amount will be realized than by any plan now in existence amongst us.

Your Committee, after carefully examining the whole question, are perfectly satisfied that Union Societies will not go into extensive operation, until there shall be a suitable person selected who shall devote himself entirely to their formation, and to the general superintendence of the benevolent objects of the Denomination.

Your Committee would, therefore, recommend that such agent should be appointed with the least possible delay. They would also urgently recom-

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mend that all the objects which the Union Society embrace be kept steadily in view, and that the most strenuous effort be made to induce every Baptist in Nova Scotia to contribute to each of them.

I. E. BILL,

Chairman.

Adopted without amendment.

In fulfilment of the foregoing, Rev. George Richardson was appointed to act as agent in promoting the formation and growth of Union Societies in the eastern part of the Province, who accepted of this appointment on condition that the Church of which he is pastor will approve of the same.

The selection of an agent for the western part of the Province, was referred to the Executive Committee of the Education Society.

The Committee on the Bible Translation cause Reported as follows, which Report was adopted without amendment.

Resolved, That as we are now sending to the Heathen, Missionaries who urgently need an immediate and continued supply of the Scriptures, for distribution in the Burman and Karen languages, in which no translations are either made, or likely to be so, save those made by Baptist Missionaries, which therefore neither the British and Foreign, nor the American Bible Society will aid in circulating, but which we fully believe to be faithful and correct, this Association urgently recommends to the churches composing it, to form Societies forthwith in aid of this important object.

The Committee on the Union between Baptists of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and P. E. Island presented their Report, which was adopted without amendment.

[As the Constitution of the Union of the Baptist Denomination between the Provinces has been in some degree modified by the proceedings of the New Brunswick Association, the Report presented to the Nova Scotia Association, and accepted by them, will consequently be affected by such modifications. It will not therefore now be necessary to publish said report, the amended Constitution of the Union having already appeared in the Christian Messenger as the result of the united deliberations of the Brethren in New Brunswick.]

It was further Resolved that brethren Cramp, Viditoe, Bill, Chase, and Cunningham, be requested to act as delegates from this to the New Brunswick Association, and be empowered to concur with them in finally amending, if thought proper, and adopting the Constitution of the Baptist Union of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and P. E. Island.

That the brethren of this Association before named, together with Rev. C. Randall, be a Committee to make arrangements in behalf of this Association for the first meeting of the Union, should it go into effect, and adopt measures for calling the attention of the

churches thereto; and also form the delegation from this Association to said meeting.

The Report of the Committee on Union with Baptists in Canada was presented, and adopted without amendment, as follows:

That it is highly desirable to form a closer Union between the Baptists of British North America.

That in the opinion of this Committee such Union may be immediately formed, and its purposes carried into effect, in several particulars, viz:—

1. By correspondence, with a special view to the preparation of an annual Report of the state of religion in the Provinces to be transmitted by each to the others respectively:—

2. By occasional visits of delegates as representatives of the respective religious Bodies, for the purpose of communicating information, cultivating friendship and thus consolidating the proposed Union:—

3. By co-operating in missionary enterprise, especially with regard to the French population of the Provinces.

The committee beg further to suggest the desirableness of taking some steps in order to excite more extensively a taste for useful reading among the Baptists of British North America, to provide books suited to their present state and attainments, and to adopt measures for securing the circulation of such books.

In fulfilment of which it was Resolved that the following brethren be appointed a Committee to carry out the several objects named in said report, viz., Revs. R. B. Dickey, E. A. Crawley, and J. Pryor.

Resolved, That this Association desire to testify the sincere gratification which the visit of their respected brother the Rev. J. M. Cramp has afforded them, and they pray that his useful life and labours may long be continued in fulfilling the highly important charge committed to his trust.

The Committee on Questions in letters from Churches Reported as follows. Report adopted.

1. The Committee recommend that the Letter from Three Rivers, P. E. I. be received notwithstanding the unfavourable circumstances in which the church is placed, and that their statistics be inserted in the Minutes.

2. They also suggest that the Letter from Economy should be read to the Association, and that explanations be made. The Committee are confident that no disrespect was intended in the matter complained of.

3. In answer to the question from the 2nd Cornwallis church: they recommend,—That whenever any minister declares his rejection of those doctrines the belief in which distinguish us as Calvinistic Baptists, he be no longer regarded as a minister of the gospel in connection with this Association.

4. In answer to the Letter from Digby Neck on the subject of the desecration of the Sabbath, the following Resolutions are submitted:—

Resolved, That the Sabbath was originally given by God to man, as a day of rest from labour, and that its observance, by cessation from unnecessary work, engagement in religious exercises is essential to the maintenance and promotion of godliness, both in individuals and in churches.

Resolved, That the desecration of the Sabbath, by labouring or transacting worldly business on that day, and by unnecessary travelling, is an act of disobedience to the divine command, and cannot but expose the persons so offending to the most serious consequences, in regard to their temporal as well as their spiritual and eternal interests.

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Resolved, That inasmuch as it is the duty of all christians to bear their solemn testimony against sin in every form, the ministers and messengers now assembled affectionately exhort their brethren throughout the Province to discountenance the violation of the Sabbath, by abstaining from every act that can be justly considered as inconsistent with obedience to the command of God, and by the exertion of their moral influence on others, in order to promote the more general observance of the divinely appointed day, and to suppress the evils naturally resulting from its desecration.

5. In reference to the difficulties which still unhappily exist in the church at Westbrook, the committee recommend that the Missionary who shall be appointed to that region shall be requested to visit those brethren and give them such advice as he shall deem in accordance with the word of God.

6. In reference to the letter from the church at Upper Granville Mountain, the committee recommend that the church in that place call a council to visit and afford them advice.

With regard to the question in the letter from the 1st Aylesford church, the committee see no reason why the newly constituted church in upper Aylesford should not be received into the Association, and in respect to the members of the 1st church who reside within the boundaries of the other, the committee see no necessity of offering any advice to them, except to recommend christian affection and forbearance.

The newly organized church of Upper Aylesford, whose reception had been deferred till report should be received from the foregoing Committee on a question from First Aylesford Church, was now received, and the right hand of fellowship presented to the Rev. W. Chipman, as their representative.

The Committee in correspondence with Free Will and Free Christian Baptists Reported as follows. Report adopted. (See Appendix, B.)

It was *Resolved*, That the Report of the Home Missionary Society for 1845-6 be published in a separate form, accompanied by the names of subscribers to the Special Home Mission Fund, and that copies of said Report be extensively circulated.

The Committee on the Circular Letter reported in favour of its adoption. It was adopted accordingly.

Voted,—That the sum of £5 (five pounds) be appropriated to Brother Cunningham, in consideration of his continued indisposition, from the fund for superannuated and infirm ministers, and that the committee having charge of that fund be authorized to increase this sum during the present year if they shall deem it proper.

Resolved,—That the annual Fall meeting of the Education Society shall be held at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall decide. Notice of the time and place to be given in the C. Messenger.

A committee appointed in connection with representations made or inquiries proposed by New Brunswick brethren in relation to a Mr. McGinnis, whose name was inserted in the Minutes of a former

year under unfavourable circumstances, reported as follows. Report adopted.

The Committee on the subject which refers to Mr. McGinnis, in connection with representations made by N. B. Brethren, beg respectfully to recommend the following Resolution:—

That this Association feel justified in recording in their Minutes of 1844, that Mr. Edward McGinnis was not recognized as a Licensed preacher of this Body, but that they leave other Religious bodies to exercise the freedom of their own judgment in his case.

Whereas, this Association continue deeply sensible of the value of the Christian Messenger to the Baptist Denomination, of which, although sustained upon private responsibility, it is the recognized organ, and is exerting an extensive influence among our churches in promoting the great Educational, Missionary, and other objects which the Baptists of this Province are labouring to advance, and is also exerting the most beneficial influence over the youth of the country in enlarging their minds, and increasing their knowledge—

It is therefore *Resolved*, That this Association urge upon their churches the duty of extending the circulation and promoting the interests of the Christian Messenger, in every way possible; and that they also urge upon their Missionaries who are sent out by the Board the duty of recommending the paper to the churches, increasing its circulation, and also of urging on subscribers the necessity of punctual payment, as well as rendering to the Editors all the assistance in their power for the collection of outstanding subscriptions.

The Committee on Temperance Reported as follows. Report adopted.

The Committee on Temperance, having considered the subject, are of opinion that the very excellent resolution adopted by the Association for the last three years has not been attended to, and, as a natural consequence, the use of intoxicating drinks has greatly increased, facts which they very much lament, and recommend that the resolution be again adopted, and particularly pressed on the attention of the Association.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools reported as follows. Report adopted.

Resolved, That this Association continue with all earnestness to recommend to the churches which compose it the formation and vigorous promotion of Sabbath Schools within their boundaries as of vast importance to the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom and the furtherance of his gospel, and

Whereas it appears that the American Baptist Publication and Sabbath School Societies have been addressed during the year, for the purpose of learning what measures they may be disposed to adopt for promoting our operations in the diffusion of Sabbath School and standard religious publications, whether by the establishment of an agency at Halifax or by entrusting their Publications to us for distribution by the hands of colporteurs, from which Society information has not yet been received,

It is hereby resolved that the Committee of the Union be recommended to take such action upon the response of this Society as they may deem desirable, and that if possible no further time be lost in bringing the business to a proper adjustment.

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That in the event of a general agent being appointed for the promotion of various denominational undertakings, this Association are desirous that the Sabbath School enterprise should, if consistent with other objects, receive his attention.

Resolved, That the pledges from the churches for the Theological chair be continued for the next year.

It was understood that one church only declined the renewal of the pledge.

Resolved, That this Association, being solemnly affected in view of the fact that vital religion is not advancing amongst us, recommend to the churches to set apart a day of fasting and prayer, with special reference to this subject.

Resolved, That the following brethren, Revs. Harris Harding and William Burton, with power to add four others, be a Committee of arrangements for the next meeting of the Association, having in view the following objects:—

1. Direction in reference to preaching.
2. Nomination of Committees.
3. The order of business.

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this Association be given to the members of the Baptist church and congregation, and the community generally at Bridgetown, for the great kindness and hospitality which they have shown to the ministers and messengers of the churches during the present session of the Association.

Having adjourned to meet in the Meeting House of the first Baptist church at Yarmouth on the first Monday after the 20th of June, 1847, at 10 o'clock, a. m. this very interesting session was closed.

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APPENDIX.

A.

To the Brethren constituting the Churches of Nova Scotia assembled in their Associated capacity.

DEAR BRETHREN,—

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Canada Baptist Union held in Montreal, May 25th, 1846, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

Resolved—That the Secretaries prepare letters for the Associations of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, expressing the desirableness of a closer Union between all the Baptists of British North America being effected and manifested.”

This resolution was preceded by another to the following effect:—

“*Resolved*—That Mr. Cramp represent the Canada Baptist Union at the next annual meetings of the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Associations.”

It now devolves upon me as Corresponding Secretary to address you according to the tenor of the above resolutions. The objects of our Baptist Union are probably known to you. Lest, however, that should not be the case, it may seem advisable briefly to state them. The Union is designed to extend brotherly love among the Churches,—to promote unity of exertion in advancing the cause of Christ in general, and our denominational views in particular, and in defending our religious rights and privileges,—to obtain accurate statistical information relative to the Baptist churches, Associations, Colleges, &c. throughout the Province, and the world at large,—and to prepare an annual report of the proceedings of the Union, and the state of the denomination.

Since the formation of the Union, and directly in accordance with its spirit and design, its members have felt an earnest desire to enjoy a more intimate acquaintance and connexion with the brethren in Nova Scotia. Circumstances over which they had no controul from time to time prevented them from realizing their wishes. All obstacles are now happily removed, and it is with unfeigned pleasure that the Executive Committee of the Union, through me, request you to receive their beloved and highly esteemed brother the Rev. J. M. Cramp, President of the Baptist College, Montreal, as their representative, and to afford him all the information and co-operation which may be deemed desirable. They rejoice in feeling assured that the arrival of our brother will be hailed with pleasure by you, and that it is your wish as much as theirs that a reciprocity of kind feeling and a system of connected effort, should, as much as possible unite the Baptists of the British Provinces of North America. That a

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result so auspicious may be the fruit of this representation the Committee of the Union desire with no little solicitude.

In conclusion, the Executive Committee most earnestly pray that the blessing of Almighty God may be vouchsafed to you in your Associational and individual capacities, and that your efforts for the extension of Messiah's kingdom may be abundantly successful.

With sincere respect and earnest desires for your welfare,
Allow me, Dear Brethren, to subscribe myself,
Yours in the bonds of the gospel,

F. BOSWORTH,
Corresponding Secretary.

Montreal, Monday, June 1st., 1846.

B.

Cape Sable Island, in the Township of Barrington, 10th February, 1846.

To the Secretary of the C. B. Association,—

REV. SIR.—As we being appointed a Committee by our last Quarterly Meeting Conference in answer to the wish expressed by your Association, you will be so kind as to lay the following before the next meeting of that body.

BRETHREN,—

We wish through the medium of this letter to express our satisfaction in the interview enjoyed with your delegates, hearing the word preached by them, and the object of their visit explained. In accordance with the request presented to the Free Will Baptist Churches by the delegates appointed by your Association, we feel perfectly willing to transmit the result of our deliberations on the subject to you. The desire expressed by the Association of cultivating Christian acquaintance and friendly intercourse, so far as can be done consistently, we acquiesce in with much pleasure, and should be pleased could there be a Christian correspondence opened and continued between our churches and those of your denomination. The Free Will Baptist churches in this Province stand connected with a very large body of brethren in the United States, consequently we feel indented with them in all measures deemed expedient as a denomination for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom on earth. The cause of Missions deeply engage our hearts, and for the advancement of this Godlike institution, we feel not only willing to enlist our sympathies, but to contribute of our substance. Missionaries are already in the field, some in different parts of America, and others on the far distant plains of India. Education is advancing forward among us with increasing interest in its various branches, from the Sabbath School to a flourishing Biblical institution.—Such measures have been adopted that superior advantages and facilities are now afforded the student in the acquisition of a thorough education. In view of the many advantages afforded us in our present standing, we feel unwilling to withdraw until we become better acquainted on what terms you wish for a union. We expected that your Committee would have presented some proposals to our churches on what ground you wished for a union, but according to their communication no proposal has been presented, only a wish expressed. Some differences, in point of doctrine and practice, exist between the two denominations as is well known, and whether you expect us to make all the sacrifices required, we are not prepared to say. But inasmuch as we have pledged ourselves in connection with our brethren in the States to cooperate in carrying forward their benevolent enterprises, we feel in duty bound not to withdraw without giving them satisfactory reasons for so doing. Accordingly, before any further action is taken on the subject by us, we wait for a

definite object to be specified, and then we shall be in a capacity to give a definite answer.

Done in behalf of the Free Will Baptist Conference,

WILLIAM C. STEWART,
MOSES C. HENDERSON, } Committee.
JAMES C. SMITH,

DEAR BRETHREN,—

We are directed by the Baptist Association of Nova Scotia as a Committee appointed for that purpose, to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter. We are exceedingly pleased at the good will you manifest, and the satisfaction you express in the visit made you by our delegates. In the hope of cultivating still further this Christian sympathy permit us to say, the Association have again appointed our brother Burton as their delegate to visit you in the course of the year, and shall be happy to receive from you any suggestion that may tend further to promote the same object.

With reference to placing distinct proposals before you, we would beg leave to suggest that the general cultivation of good will and Christian sympathy between our churches, is in itself one important object tending to fulfil the glorious purpose of our holy religion, whose great law is that of love.

In the next place it might be found that union between our respective churches for the purpose of Sabbath School instruction, and printing suitable books for that purpose, might be advantageously effected.

Another object is that of Education. We notice with pleasure the remarks you make on this subject, showing that you feel deeply its importance. If, however, we rightly understand those remarks, the institutions with which you stand connected, are not in this Province; and in this case, we would beg to submit to you, whether the common interests of education in our own province, might not be promoted by union, between us for this object.

We might possibly by this means be led to some way of improving the common-schools of the country, by introducing better modes of instruction and better books.

Allow us to say, with reference to our own institutions at Horton, that our Academy and College, in that place are secular, not Theological institutions, and that a fundamental rule formed for their regulation, requires that their teachers shall not attempt to exert any sectarian bias, on the minds of the students, a provision which it is conceived, will be found on experience, to render them entirely unexceptionable places of education, to any Christian denomination.

We would further suggest that possibly the view might be carried out by delegates from your churches met by some from ours for the purpose of mutual conference on this subject.

With christian and brotherly regard,

We remain yours &c.

T. S. HARDING,
I. E. BILL,
E. A. CRAWLEY,
R. B. DICKIE.

Harmony, Sept. 30th, 1845.

BROTHER DICKIE,

In answer to your request, the Elder's conference agreed that, "We are not prepared to contribute to your Institutions, yet, we wish to cultivate good

feeling and Christian nation."

DEAR BRETHREN,

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In behalf of the conference,
CHARLES KNOWLES.

DEAR BRETHREN,

We are directed by the Baptist Association of Nova Scotia, as a committee appointed for that purpose, to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter.

We are exceedingly pleased, at the good will you manifest, in the expression of your desire, to cultivate good feeling between your churches and ours, and we beg to assure you, that the same is the earnest desire of our Association. To promote this, they have again appointed our Bro. Burton, as our delegate, to visit you in the course of the year, and shall be happy to receive from you any suggestion, that may tend further to promote the same object.

With regard to our Institutions, permit us to inform you, that the Academy and College at Horton, are secular, not Theological Institutions, and that a fundamental rule formed for their regulation, is, that the teachers shall not attempt to exert any *sectarian* views on the minds of the students—a provision which it is conceived will be found on experience to render them entirely unexceptionable places of instruction to any Christian denomination.

With sincere regards,

We remain, &c.

T. S. HARDING,
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CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Elders and Messengers composing the Nova Scotia Baptist Association, assembled at Bridgetown, to the several churches which they represent, send Christian salutation.

BELoved BRETHREN,—

The subject to which we would call your attention in this our annual epistle is, **The importance of Christian Decision.**

By **Christian Decision**, we mean an unchanging regard to God's revealed character, to his laws, to his gospel, and to the path of duty as exhibited in the Bible, in contradistinction to that manifest inconsistency, which alas, in too many instances prevails amongst us at this day.

Christian Decision is important in order that we appear consistent with our profession. We profess to have been born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever,—to have become new creatures in Christ,—to have renounced the world with its vanities, and to have surrendered ourselves unreservedly, with all that we have and are, to Him, whose we are, and whom we should serve. We profess to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ, not only as our Redeemer and Saviour, but also as our law-giver and teacher—to believe all the truths of our holy religion, and to found our practice on these holy principles. And this profession, Dear Brethren, we have made before the world, before the church, before angels; and before the Great all seeing God. How great, how solemn, then, our profession! How natural to expect that our practice will accord with such profession! How important that it should; and yet we cannot expect that it will unless we are decided. For an apostle tells us that "A double minded man is

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unstable in all his ways." We are placed in a world which is unfriendly to religion, whose principles and interests are opposed to a life of holiness, and whose friendship is declared to be enmity with God. But this is not all; we still retain a nature but partially sanctified, with which, as with the world, we are called to keep up a perpetual warfare, and against the corrupt tendencies of which we are commanded incessantly to watch. "Watch and pray lest ye enter into temptation, and what I say unto you, I say unto all, watch."—"Take to yourselves the whole armour of God," etc.

But how can this be effected, if we are not decided. If we halt between the authority of God, and our worldly interests or reputation, we not only act inconsistently with our profession, but we actually stand on perilous ground. For while our minds are fluctuating, sometimes manifesting a preference to religion, and sometimes to the world, our power to resist evil is gradually weakened, and we become the sport of every temptation and sin. To be consistent with our profession, we must shew by example, as well as by precept, that we are on the Lord's side. For what would we think of the man, who, professing attachment to her Majesty, should nevertheless be found in the ranks of her enemies, sanctioning their plans, and sustaining their measures. Would we say that he was sincere in his profession. And where would be the consistency of his character? And may we not ask, where is the consistency of that man, who professes to "seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness," and who, at the same time, is seeking the favour of the world, tasting its unholy pleasures, and reaping its unrighteous gains? If we turn aside from the path of known duty, and manifest that we disregard the character, government, or worship of God, our conduct plainly contradicts our profession, and is calculated to encourage ungodly men in their career of impiety and sin, to grieve the hearts of those who are striving for the faith of the gospel, and to dishonour God. We may unite with the world, give countenance to wickedness, prostrate our christian character, and shrink from the claims of duty, but we do this *only* at the expense of every claim to Christian Decision. Wanting decision, how must we appear in the view of Him who hath said, "He that is not for me, is against me?" Decision of character is important in every department of life, in order to success in our undertakings, but in nothing is it so important as in religion. Let us then, Dear Brethren, manifest a firm adherence to the cause of truth and duty, under all circumstances: then, and only then, do we oppose the works of dark-

ness, and give no occasion to any to speak reproachfully of the cause of Christ.

Christian decision is important in order that we gain the confidence and respect of others. We may possess gifts of an important character—gifts which may enable us to speak as with the tongues of men or of angels,—we may possess zeal, which, at times, would lead us to compass sea and land to promote the cause of God, and in consequence be held in admiration by others, and yet, unless we are firm in our attachment to Christian principles, and our general deportment is such as becomes the gospel of Christ, it will not be in our power long to conceal from others the feelings and motives which influence us. Our best resolutions will be broken, and we shall fall a prey to the adversary of our souls.

Even the unconverted so feel the necessity of consistency, that they will cherish neither confidence nor respect towards the individual who acts contrary to his profession, however well pleased they may be to find occasion to reproach the cause of God. But who, on the other hand, can withhold his respect from the man who manifests by his conduct that he is determined to go forward in the path of integrity, and who, impelled by a noble, unconquerable principle, rises superior to the difficulties and dangers which may beset his path? Such an one shows to all around him that he is hearty in the cause in which he is engaged, and that he esteems it a matter of the first importance. Such a man will not lose sight of the object of his pursuit; he will not rest easy in the region of inactivity, but will advance forward with determined step in the performance of every duty. Who could withhold his confidence and respect from such men as Joseph, Daniel, or the three ancient worthies—such men as Stephen, and Paul—as Luther, Whitefield, Brainerd, and Carey, with a host of others whose lives we read with profit and pleasure? And, we may ask, have we not these among ourselves, who have pressed forward through good report and evil report, thus manifesting an unshaken constancy in the path of duty, and who have so gained the confidence and respect of all who know them, that in their presence the most irreligious and profane are awed into respect.

As we cannot, as christians, gain the confidence and esteem of others unless we manifest decision of character, neither can we have good evidence of our own piety. We feel no desire to lower the standard of vital piety, or to deny that the Lord frequently manifests himself to his children as he does not to the world,—shedding abroad his love in their hearts, and bearing witness with their spirits that they

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are the children of God. But we would ask, Are the subjects of such exercises undecided? Do such manifest a desire to unite the conflicting claims of God and Mammon? Do they not rather, with a dignified step, march forward in the path of religious duty, saying with Ryland,

"Through floods and flames if Jesus lead,
I'll follow where he goes."

Nor is it under the influence of excited feeling merely, that persons are to profess religion. If such be the case, we may soon expect to see them returning back to the world, and thus manifest that they are like the stony ground, in which the plant withers for want of depth of earth. What evidence, we would enquire, can such an individual possess that he is pious? He may talk a great deal of the past—he may ever boast that he knows when, and where, and by what means he was converted—that he possesses an unshaken hope of heaven,—but if he be unwilling to deny himself, and take up his cross daily—if he can turn with indifference from the precepts of the bible, he can have no evidence that he is pious? He may hope, indeed, for heaven, and so do men in general. But what can be more delusive than such hope, while the word of God is at variance with his principles and conduct. If we can see no more beauty in Christ, and the world of glory, than in the riches, the honours, and pleasures of this world, we have reason to tremble. We may pretend to stand on neutral ground, but that is impossible. God has said, he that is not for me is against me, and such may expect to be addressed by the Almighty, as was the Laodicean church,—“I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would that thou wert cold or hot.—So then, because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.” God has been graciously pleased to inform us how we may know that we have passed from death unto life, and it becomes us to take heed to his word, as to a light that shineth in a dark place, lest we be deceived in the greatest of all matters.

Christian decision is important in order to our usefulness. Our gracious Father, in calling us from darkness to light, did not merely design that we should reach heaven when we die, but that we should be welcomed there as those who had been useful in this world. Hence the Saviour declared that the King would say to those on his right hand, “come ye blessed of my father,” “for I was an hungered and

ye gave me meat," "Well done good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." He, whose is the cattle on a thousand hills, does not need that we should minister to Him as though he were dependant on us, but that we should "do good to our fellow men as we have opportunity." "To do good and to communicate forget not, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased." "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me." God has placed us in circumstances of responsibility in this world, hence the declarations in his memorable sermon on the mount,—Ye are the salt of the earth. Ye are the light of the world. How solemn! how fearful our responsibility, and especially when we connect this with the great day of judgment, when every man shall be judged according to his works. It cannot be, but that every sincere christian will acknowledge, that high responsibilities rest upon him; for not only does the bible teach it, but his own experience confirms such belief. For no sooner did he feel the power of divine love, drawing him away from the selfishness of his nature, towards that Being whose very nature is Benevolence, than his heart began to expand with a strong desire to be useful to others. "Then," said the Psalmist, "will I teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners shall be converted unto thee." And such desires will increase in proportion to the increase of our knowledge. But what, dear Brethren, will mere feeling accomplish, without decision. God requires that we should act, as well as think and feel. Mere purposes, you know, are useless things without accompanying efforts. For of what value are our desires, or our prayers, if we are unwilling to contribute of our substance for the accomplishment of the object which we professedly seek? In order to "let our light shine before men," we must fearlessly avow our principles, be regardless of ridicule or the finger of scorn, and with an unchanging purpose, throw our whole weight of influence and character into the scale of usefulness. We must hold fast our profession, and be willing to run all hazards, rather than recede from the path of duty. Then, and only then, will our religion appear in itself as genuine—then will both the church and the world attach weight to our character, and then may we hope to be useful. Unless all the powers of the mind act in concert, there can be no such thing as christian decision, without which there will be no vigorous action, and of course but little will be accomplished.—Nothing can appear more useless in the world, than a profession of religion, with a mind unstable, with resolutions half formed, and with

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conduct that is contradictory. Verily such an one is like salt that has lost its savour. There is much to be done in the great field of benevolence by the Christian Church. We need not say that there are yet four months and then cometh harvest, we have only to lift up our eyes, and we behold the fields white unto harvest. None need stand idle as though there were no work to do,—we need only to be decided for God,—to enquire of him “What wilt thou have me to do,” and around us on every hand are seen objects of benevolence, and means already in operation in which we may unite for the benefit of our fellow men: The benevolent institutions of the day, dear Brethren, require our assistance and our prayers, that they may accomplish the objects which they have in view, and when we reflect how great the work and how few the labourers, we feel that a mighty effort is required by the whole church. It is by christian decision that our benevolent institutions are to be sustained, and the world liberated from the chains of error and sin by which it is bound. And where is the Christian that can stand on neutral ground. The time will come when neither the church nor the world will tolerate neutrality, when every man must appear under his own colours, and it will be known who are on the Lord’s side.

Christian decision is important in order to our happiness. God has evidently designed that we should be happy, as well as useful in his service. He that doeth God’s will shall know of his doctrine. In keeping the commandments there is great reward. The ways of wisdom are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. The work of righteousness shall be peace, and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever. But this we cannot enjoy except we are decided. We may receive the word with joy, and seem happy in the hope of heaven; and we may be willing to follow the Saviour for a time so long as the loaves and fishes last: but if we have not a decided regard to God’s laws, to the doctrines of the gospel, to the order of Christ’s house, and to the path of duty as it is exhibited in the bible, our happiness will be of but short duration. We may expect to fall under the most harassing embarrassments, to be whirled about with every wind of doctrine, and overcome by almost every evil. For how can we be happy while halting between the opposite claims of God and Mammon, sometimes manifesting a preference for one, and sometimes for the other. If we are not decided for God, our path will be strewn with thorns, for both the demands of the bible, and the conduct of the righteous, will continually condemn us.

Suppose a man be unwilling to devote himself to the service of God

in the performance of those duties which the Bible requires, to shut up his bowels of compassion from the poor, and withhold his aid from the benevolent institutions of the day, while around him on every side are the lovers of God and man, whose hearts and hands are ready to every good word and work; will he not be rendered unhappy? while he finds his more consistent brethren, commending those objects, to the sympathy, the prayers, and the liberality of the church, and has evidence of their sincerity in their own liberal contributions, his feelings must be anything but pleasant however he may pretend to religious enjoyment. If we could lay open his bosom, and witness the conflicting passions within, we should be satisfied that his happiness, if happiness indeed it can be named, is of an inferior order. Christian decision is friendly to a life of communion with God, for he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in God, and God in him. To dwell in God, and for Him to dwell in us, constitutes the very essence of religious joy. Every thing precious in religion, the glory of God, the prosperity of the church, the salvation of the world, and our own happiness, require that we should possess Christian decision.

Dr. The Bap

1845

Aug. 4 Pd.

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" 26 Rev.

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" " Rev. J.

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Oct. 16 Pd. Re

" 18 Bro.H.

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Novr. 28 Rev. D.

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Bad half

* In hand

1846

March.

Pd. Rev. W.

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Cash paid

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* This sum has been p

The Bap. Miss.

1845

July.

Balance i

Dr. *The Bapt. Miss. Board, in Acc't. with the late W. A. Chipman, Treasurer.*

1845				£	s.	d.
Aug. 4	Pd. Rev. S. T. Rand, bal. miss. to people of colour,			1	9	2
	" on acct. his miss. to Ch. Town,			1	10	10
	" 26 Rev. T. Delong, tour to Antigonish, etc. 8 weeks,			3	0	0
	Expenses,	12	0	0		
		0	15	0		
	Received in aid,			12	15	0
	Bal. his pledge on acct. C.M.	5	0	0		
		3	0	0		
				8	0	0
	" " Rev. J. Dimock's tour to Barrington, etc.,			4	15	0
	Expenses,	6	0	0		
		0	15	10		
	Received in aid,			6	15	10
				0	9	1½
Oct. 16	Pd. Rev. S. T. Rand, on acct. his miss. to Ch. Town,			6	6	8½
" 18	Bro. H. Ross, miss. to Antigonish and C. B. to Gaelic people, 9 ws.	13	10	0		
	Expenses,	0	19	6		
	Received in aid,			14	9	6
				4	3	2
Novr. 28	Rev. D. Pineo, miss. 6 weeks and 3 days from Jeddore to Canso,	9	15	0		
	Expenses,	0	3	9		
	Received in aid,			9	18	9
				3	13	4
	Paid him			6	5	5
	Bad half-pence,			1	10	0
	* In hands of Eds. C. M.			9	3	2
1846 March.	Pd. Rev. W. Rideout, on acc't. his Miss among people of colour, by Wm. Chipman, after decease of late Treasurer.			2	5	0
	Cash paid to M. Beckwith, the present Treasurer, by S. Chipman;			48	11	7
				6	11	3
				£55	2	10

* This sum has been paid to Missionaries, as will appear in the next account.

The Bapt. Miss. Board, in Acc't. with the late W. A. Chipman, Treasurer. Cr

1845				£	s.	d.
July.	Balance in Treasurer's hands,			55	2	10

Mayhew Beckwith, Treasurer.

1846 By amt. received balance due from the late W. A. Chipman, Esq., Treasurer,

	" Rec'd. from 1st Cornwallis Ch. col. in Dec. '45	6 11 3
	" " 2nd " " and June, '46,	4 1 8
	" " 3rd " " "	2 0 0
	" " 1st Hillsborough " "	2 7 0
	" " 2nd " " "	2 8 9
	" " Digby " "	1 7 6
	" " New Albany " "	0 10 0
	" " Second Digby Neck " "	0 15 0
	" " Windsor " "	1 10 9
	" " Three Mile Plains " "	1 19 3
	" " Chester " "	0 11 0
	" " Sherbrooke " "	2 4 10½
	" " Lawrencetown " "	1 2 0
	" " Jeddore " "	0 10 0
	" " Musquodoboit " "	1 0 0
	" " New Tuskot " "	0 7 8½
	" " Digby Joggins " "	1 1 10½
	" " 1st Digby Neck " "	1 5 2½
	" " New Germany " "	2 4 7½
	" " Sissiboo " "	0 11 0
	" " Indian Harbour West " "	0 15 0
	" " 1st Hammond Plains " "	1 14 2
	" " St. Mary's Bay " "	1 6 1½
	" " Amherst " "	1 7 1
	" " 3rd Yarmouth " "	2 17 1½
	" " Brier Island " "	0 5 0
	" " 2nd Aylesford " "	2 11 10
	" " 1st Clements " "	2 6 8
	" " Wilmot Mountain " "	0 15 0
	" " Onslow " "	1 18 1½
	" " at a quarterly meeting,	3 5 2
	" " Female Mite Society,	2 2 8
	" " " " " "	6 5 11½
	" " Horton " " "	11 13 9½
	" " Portapique Church Collection	11 3 2½
	" " Aylesford " "	1 10 2½
	" " 1st Yarmouth " Union Society	0 3 7
	" " Wallace River " Collection	4 3 10
	" " 1st Falmouth " "	0 2 6
	" " Tuskot & Argyle " "	0 17 9
	" " Brookfield " "	2 3 5
	" " Lunenburg " "	3 5 9
	" " Newport " "	1 6 4
	" " Bridport " "	0 13 0
	" " Rawdon " "	0 5 0
	" " Lower Granville Church, & U. Society	0 16 2
	" " Liverpool " "	3 11 0
	" " Economy " "	10 0 0
	" " Parrsboro " "	0 17 5
	" " Upper Falmouth " "	1 0 2½
	" " Weymouth " "	1 16 3
	" " Sable River " "	1 16 3
	" " Ragged Islands " "	1 5 0
	" " " " " "	1 5 0

£ s. d.
 9 13 0
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 1 11 0
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 7 0
 3 15 2½
 5 0 0
 1 19 11½
 100 7 10½
 72 2 6½
 172 10 5

The Baptist Missionary Board, in Account with M. Beckwith, Treasurer. CR.

1846		£	s.	d.
	By Rec'd. from 1st Aylesford Church Collection	0	10	10
	" " Windsor Road " "	1	4	0
	" " 2nd Horton " "	1	0	10
	" " Yarmouth Missionary Society	3	0	0
	" " Wilmot Church	1	13	8
	" " Annapolis and Upper Granville	2	14	11
	" " Dartmouth Church	0	12	0
	" " Preston " "	0	10	10
	" " Stewiacke " "	1	0	0
	" " New Guysboro' "	0	2	6
	" " Nictaux " "	13	19	0
	" " Collection at the Association	12	7	1½
April 4	" Legacy from Mrs Whitman to Home Miss. So.	1	10	0
	" Mr Bew, Arichat	1	0	0
May 25	" From Church at Margaret's Bay	0	12	8½
June 5	" " "	0	7	10
	" Collection at Yarmouth, September, '45	6	13	0
" 11	" J. W. Barss, subscription to Home Miss. fund	5	0	0
	From 2d Hammond Plains Ch. pr. bro. W. Henry	1	0	0
	" Monthly Mis. collection Gr. Street Church	0	16	7
	" Guysboro Ch. proportion of sum col. by U. So.	0	14	3
	" Port Medway do.	0	5	9
	" North Sydney do.	2	2	11
	" South Sydney do.	0	19	6
	" Gr. St. Ch. do.	2	2	11
	" Canso do.	0	8	0
		23	13	5½
		£172	10	5

DR. N.S. Bapt. Domestic Miss. Special Fund, in Acc't. with M. Beckwith, Treasurer.

1846		£	s.	d.
June 18	To cash pd. Rev. Mr DeLong, on acct. his Miss. East, pr. Rev. Dr Crawley	15	0	0
May 20	" Rev. Mr Stephens, do. do.	4	0	0
June 20	" Rev. S. T. Rand, do. do.	20	0	0
		39	0	0
Aug 22.	To cash in hands of Treasurer	61	12	1½
		£100	12	1½

1846	CONTRA, CR.	£	s.	d.
April 26	By Cash from Rev. S. T. Rand	13	10	0
May 6	" " Rev. J. Parker	31	7	4
	" " Rev. J. Chase	14	9	8½
	" " Rev. C. Randall	9	12	7
	" " Annapolis & Up. Granville Ch. pr. Rev. J. Chase	3	9	2½
	" " Rev. C. Randall, pr. hand: of J. Chipman	13	10	0
	" " Col. 1st Horton Ch. & Cong. in Feb. & June, '46	3	13	6½
	" " Col. in Stewiacke, by Rev. A. V. Dimock	3	12	3
	" " J. Ferguson, sub. to this fund	1	0	0
	" " Col. in Gr. St. Ch. Oct. 20, '45	5	7	6
	" " Weston Hall, Esq., Granville	1	0	0
		£100	12	1½