MINUTES

OF THE

TWELFTH SESSION

OF THE

Central Baptist Association

NOVA SCOTIA.

HELD AT LAKEVILLE, CORNWALLIS,

Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, June 21, 23, 5 24, 1862.

TOGETHER WITH

THE CIRCULAR LETTER, &c.

ALSO,

THE MINUTES OF SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION, AND ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE NOVA-SCOTIA BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY, AND

N. S. BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

HALIFAX, N. S.
"CHRISTIAN MESSENGER" OFFICE.
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MINUTES

OF THE

CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

LAKEVILLE, CORNWALLIS, June 21st, 1862. The Association met pursuant to adjournment at 2 o'clock

LIST OF MEMBERS.

MESSENGERS FROM CHURCHES.

Aylesford, Upper.—Rev. James L. Read, Brethren E. D. Harris, A. D. vison, C. Moser, Oliver Cogswell.

Burton Church.—Rev. Jacob Allan.

Chester.—Rev. I. J. Skinner, Bro. D. Hume.

Conwallis 1st.—Rev. A. S. Hunt, Brethren Henry K. Eaton, Wm. Eaton, E. Griffin, Elisha Harris, Benjamin Eaton.

Conwallis 2nd.—Rev Wm. Chipman, Rev. E. M. Saunders, Descons Wm. Craig and Abel Parker, Bro. C. V. Rawding.

Cornwallis 3rd.—Rev. James Parker, Brethren S. M. Ruscoe, M.

Kinsman, Jno. Wallace, Jas. Bligh, S. G. Bligh, Cornwallis 4th.—Rev. Jas. L. Read, Brethren Henry Hall, Gideon Beardesly, Geo. Gould, Charles Hall.

Cornwallis 5th. (New Church).— Rev. David Freeman, Brethren G. N. Davison, Walter Witt.
Falmouth.—Rev. D. G. Shaw, Dea. Wm. Shaw.

Hahfax 1st.—Deacons S. Selden, R. N. Beckwith, Bro. A. Rob-Halifax 2nd.—Rev. A. H. Munro.

Hammonds Plains 2nd.—Rev. R. R. Philp.

Hantsport.—Dea. Wm. Davison, Breth. W. Holmes, E. Churchill. Horton 1st.—Rev. S. W. deBlois, Rev. Dr. Cramp, Deacons S. Fitch, M. Cleveland, Brethren T. H. Borden, D. F. Hig-

P. M.

gins, (Lic.)

Horton 2nd.—Rev. E. O. Read, Dea. Jas. Pick, Brethren Jas. Vaughan, Abram Dorman.

Kempt.—Bro. Wm. Francis.

Lunenburgh .- Rev. L. B. Gates.

New Cornwall .- Bro. D. Spidal.

New Germany .- Rev. T. Delong, Bro. Jno. Mader. Newport East.-Rev. J. Bancroft, Dea. Levi Dimock, Francis Parker, Bro. Jacob Millar.

Newport West.—Bro. Geo. Withers, (Lic) Shubael Dimock, Wm.

Rawden.-Rev. Jas. Stevens, Dea. J. McLearn, Bro. Wm. Phalen.

Sackville.- Deacon Francis Webber. St. Margaret's Bay .- Rev. R. R. Philp.

Windser .- Deacon Bennett.

Windsor Plains .- Rev. D. G. Shaw. Walton, (New Church).—Rev. J. Bancroft, Dea. Francis Parker. C

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DELEGATES FROM OTHER ASSOCIATIONS.

Western Nova Scotia .- Revds. Wm. Hall, M. Normonday, R. S. Morton, D. O. Parker, Wm. Burton, R. D. Porter, N. Vidito, W. G. Parker, A. Cogswell, Geo. Armstrong, J. Ar Moore, T. A. Higgins, A. Stronach. Eastern Nova Scotia.—Rev. Jas. Balcom

INVITED.

Rev. Dr. Pryor, Prof. Jas. deMill, Bro's. J. W. Barss, D. Sanford, Rev. T. H. Porter, jr., Bro's. Eliphalet Read, of Sackville, N. B. C. Norwood, Wm. George, J. Palmer, Wm. Hall, Wm. H. Porter, Jno. Moser, Warren Parker, Licentiates; Revds. S. March, Jno. Chase, of New Brunswick; Brethren M. P. Wheelock, Dea. Kinsman, A. Strong, C. E. Parker, C. Rockwell, Wm. A. Ruscoe, J. Dimock, M. Beckwith.

The Association was called to order by the Rev. Jas. Parker, Moderator of the preceding year. After prayer by Rev. J. Pryor, D. D., a ballot was taken which resulted in the choice of Rev. Dr. Cramp as Moderator.

Rev. S. W. deBlois, was appointed Secretary, Rev. E. O. Read, Assistant Secretary, Bro. M. Kinsman, Treasurer, Rev.

D. Freeman, Assistant Treasurer. Revds. Dr. Pryor, Wm. Hall, J. Stevens, were appointed a Committee to examine the Letters. Revds. E. M. Saun-

ders, I. J. Skinner, J. Balcom to read them. The following brethren were appointed a Committee of Nomination and Arrangement,-Revds. Jas. Parker, D. Freeman, D. G. Shaw, Bro's. J. W. Barss, M. Kinsman.

The Letters from the Churches were then read, from which the accompanying Statistics were obtained.

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Nors.—Some of the Letters contained numbers as "removed." As the column of Removals was ordered to be struck from the Minntes, these are recorded as "Dismissed."

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ed unof eeich The fifth Cornwallis Church having by Letter applied for admission to the Association and the statements of its delegates and other brethren being deemed satisfactory, secordingly by unanimous vote, the said Church was admitted and their Pastor received from the Moderator in behalf of the Association the right hand of fellowship.

The following brethren were appointed delegates from this Association to the Convention: J. W. Barss, S. Selden, Abel

Parker, M. Beckwith, D. McN. Parker.

Voted, That all ministering brethren of this Association, and Bro. Selden be delegates to the Eastern and Western Associations of Nova Scotia.

Voted, That Dr. Pryor be our delegate to the Eastern Associa-

tion of New Brunswick.

Voted, That Rev. E. O. Read, be our delegate to the Western

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Association of New Brunswick.

Voted, That Rev. A. H. Munro, preach the Introductory Sermon next year, and that Rev. I. J. Skinner be his alternate.

Voted. That Rev. A. S. Hunt write the Circular Letter for next

year.

Voted, That 1000 copies of the Minutes be printed at the Christian Messenger Office under the superintendance of Brethren Selden and Munro, that 50 copies be reserved for the use of the Association at its next session, and that 44 dollars be paid Bro. Selden for the same.

Voted, That the subject of Education be taken up on Monday

at 8 o'clock, P. M.

The Committee on Nominations and Arrangement reported the following:-

COMMITTEES.

ON QUESTIONS IN LETTERS :-

Revds. A. H. Munro, D. G. Shaw, Jas. Stevens, T. Delong, Dea. Jas. Pick, afterwards added by request of Chairman, Revds. G. Armstrong, N. Vidito, W. G. Parker, Jas. Parker, Dr. Pryor, S. W. de Blois, Deacons R. N. Beckwith, S. Selden, M. Cleveland.

ON CIRCULAR LETTER: -

Revds. I. J. Skinner, J. Balcom, E. M. Saunders.

ON THE BIBLE CAUSE:—

Rev. D. O. Parker, Deacons Francis Parker, S. Fitch, Brethren G. Bligh, E. Griffin, L. Dimock.

ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE:-Dea. J. M. Ruscoe, M. Kinsman, Wm. Davison, Jno. Mader, .W. Thomas.

ON THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER :-Revds. Wm. Chipman, E. M. Saunders, Brethren Wm. Shaw, H. K. Eaton, Rev. L. B. Gates, Brethren S. Sweet, W. Holmes.

ON UNION SOCIETIES :--Revds. D. Freeman, J. L. Read, T. H. Porter, jr., Brethren W. Hall, (Lic.) A. Strong, D. Hume, W. Craig,

ON EDUCATION:-Revds. T. A. Higgins, A. S. Hunt, D. Freeman, Jas. Parker, Dr. Cramp, J. W. Barss, Prof. Jas. deMill, J. Balcom, R. D Porter, Jas. Bligh, J. McLearn, C. Rockwell, M. Beckwith.

ON TEMPERANCE :-Brethren W. H. Porter (Lic.) W. Witt, A. Parker, H. Hall, E. Churchill,-Rawding.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS:-Rev. R. R. Philp, W. Hall, (Lic.) G. N. Davison M. Cleveland, Jno. Moser.

ON MISSIONS :-Revds. Dr. Pryor, M. Normonday, R. S. Morton, Brethren B. Eaton, Jno. Wallace, Jas. Vaughan, Geo. Wethers, (Lic.) Dea. Bennett, Bro. Phalen.

ON OBITUARIES :-Revds. T. Delong, Dr. Cramp, I. J. Skinner, Jas. Parker, R. O. Read.

The Committee also recommend that the usual prayer meeting be held at 6 o'clock, a. m., during the Session. That the meetings begin at 10 o'clock, a. m., and 2 p. m.,

adjourn at 121 and 6 p. m., Report adopted.

A Memorial was presented by the Secretary to the Association. The following brethren were appointed a Committee to consider the same. Revds. A. H. Muhro, D. Freeman, S. W. deBlois, E. O. Read, T. Delong, Brethren J. W. Bares, R.

Voted, That the Association adjourn on Tuesday at 3 p. m., to p. m., to allow the Sabbath School Convention to hold the Annual Meeting.

On motion, after Prayer by Rev. T. Delong, adjourned.

On the Lords day, Rev. Dr. Pryor, preached at 10 a. m., from Eph. 6:18, 19. Rev. W. Hall, at 3 p. m., from John 17. 1. Rev. James Stevens, in the evening from Heb. 10:23. Meetings were also held in the Presbyterian House, kindly offered to the Association, and in the neighbouring places of worship.

Morning Session, June 23, 1862.

Rev. E. O. Read, preached the Introductory Sermon from Matt. 28: 20. Prayer by Rev. E. M. Saunders. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Voted, That \$8,00 be placed at the disposal of Bro. Selden, to pay postage on the Minutes when necessary to transmit by mail. Any portion of the sum not required to be accounted for next year.

Committee on Obituaries reported. After remarks by Bro. Delong, report adopted. (See Appendix A)

Voted, That the subject of Missions be taken up on Tuesday morning.

The Committee on the Circular Letter, reported. Circular Letter read.

Prayer by Rev. W. G. Parker. Adjourned.

Afternoon Session, June 23.

Prayer by Rev. Wm. Burton.

Voted, That the Circular Letter be recommitted and that the following trethren be added to the Committee. Revds. G. Armstrong, N. Vidito, Jas. Parker, W. G. Parker, D. Freeman.

Committee on Sabbath Schools reported, Report adopted. (See Appendix, C.)

Committee on Questions in Letters reported in part. (See Appendix E., 1st. Clause.) Report adopted.

In accordance with said Report, the Walton Church was received and the Moderator presented to the Rev. J. Bancroft a behalf of the church, the right hand of fellowship.

Committee on Education reported. Remarks were made by Brethren Pryor, J. W. Barss, E. Churchill, Burton, Vidito, deMill, T. Higgins.

Moderator read a letter received from Rev. Dr. Forester, in reference to assessment for schools. Remarks by Rev. T.

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Voted, sociation of the T propriation Delong. Dr. Pryor, R. N. Beckwith. Report adopted. (See Appendix F.)

Committee on Circular Letter reported. Report adopted. (See Appendix B.)

Committee on Union Societies, reported. Report adopted. (See Appendix D.)

Voted, That we meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock instead

Prayer by Rev. R. S. Morton. Adjourned.

Morning Session, June 24.

Prayer by Rev. A. Cogswell.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Committee on Questions in Letters reported, Report adopt-(See Appendix E., 2nd. and 3rd. clauses.)

Committee on Missions reported. After remarks by Brethren Freeman, and Dr. Pryor, report adopted. (See Appen-

Association adjourned to allow the Home Missionary Society to hold its annual meeting.

Association resumed. Letters from 1st. Halifax and Preston churches were read.

Committee on a Memorial presented to this Association reported. After remarks by Brethren Beckwith and Delong. report adopted. (See Appendix H)

Report of the Committee on the Bible Cause called for. No report being forth-coming,

Voted, That the Committee be discharged.

Committee on Sabbath Observance discharged for the same

Committee on Christian Messenger reported. After remarks by Brethren Freeman, W. Chipman, Munro, Selden, Hunt, Vidito, Beckwith, Barss, Philp, Saurders, Jas. Parker, Report amended and adopted. (See Append ix I.) On motion adjourned.

Afternoon Session, June 24.

Prayer by Rev. Wm. Hall.

Voted, That after paying the necessary expenses of the Association, the balance of monies received be placed in the hands of the Treasurers of the different Societies embraced in its ap-

After remarks by Brethren Saunders, de Blois, Munro. Dr. Pryor, Hunt, M. Beckwith, Freeman, T. A. Higgins, Delong, Armstrong, Barss, the following resolution was passed.

Whereas, the membership of the Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society has been greatly reduced in member, and is annually diminishing, there being now no contributing members by annual

And whereas great advantage would result from the consolidation of our educational enterprises under one management;—

Therefore resolved. That it be recommended to the members of the Education Society to take into consideration, at their approaching Annual Meeting, the propriety of committing the management of Horton Academy to the Governors of Acadia College, and of transferring to the said Governors the interests, trusts, and obligations of the Society, to be assumed and guarded by them exclusively for the benefit of the Horton Academy.

The Association then adjourned to allow the Education Society to hold its Annual Meeting.

For report of the above meeting see Appendix L.

Association resumed its business.

Prayer by Rev. R. D. Porter.

Committee on Temperance reported. Report adopted. (See Appendix K.)

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of the Association be presented to the third Cornwallis Church and congregation and to the other friends at Lakeville and vicinity, for their kindness and hospitality during the present session, and to the choir in connection with said congregation for their excellent music and also to our Presbyterian friends for the use of their house of wership on the Lords-day.

After prayer by Rev. A. S. Hunt, the Association adjourned to meet with the Upper Aylesford Church on the third Saturday in June, 1863, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

J. M. CRAMP, Moderator. STEPHEN W. DEBLOIS, Secretary.

Lakeville, Cornwallis, June 24th, 1862.

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Circular Letter.

TO THE CHURCHES OF THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

Dear Brethren.—

It is the design of this Letter to urge a close conformity to the Scriptural standard of admission to Church membership. Let us consider what that standard is, the consequences of departing from it, the causes of that departure, and the difficulties to be overcome in maintaining the standard.

FIRST. THE SCRIPTURAL STANDARD OF CHURCH MEMBER-SHIP.

The outward rite of joining the church of Christ is baptism. But this ceremony is symbolical of the inward qualification, the outward sign of the inward grace. The essential qualification for church membership is "a new creature," "a new heart," "a new man." John refused to baptize the people unless they brought forth the fruits of repentance; Matt. iii. 8. Before they became united to the church by Baptism they were believers; Acts. viii. 12. As believers they had the justifying faith of Paul; Gal. iii. 11. And the practical faith of James; Isaiah ii. 24. And the Apostles addressed the members of the church as well beloved, 3 John i. 1; as brethren, James i. 2; as the elect, 2 John v. 1; 1 Pet. i. 2; 1 Thes. i. 4; as saints, Paul, unto the Church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called (to be) saints, I Cor. i. 1, 2; Rom. i. 7; Eph. i. 1; Phil. i. 1; Col. i. 2. The mambers of the primitive church then were believers, brethren, beloved, elect, saints. And what do these terms mean but genuine, active, living, and life-giving piety? Nowhere do we find the Apostles addressing the Church of

Christ as approved except in the character of true christians. And before they admitted candidates to church membership they required credible evidence of sound conversion. And nothing is more important than that this principle be maintained. A departure from it has been the source of untold evils in the christian world, and it is this which distinguishes, or should distinguish us as a people. Like the straitest sect of the old Catharists and Puritans we hold that " pure religion and undefiled" is indispensible to baptism and church membership. That so far as church ordinances are concerned we should demand, not "first the form and then the power," but first the power and then the form, not first the profession and then the possession; but first the possession and then the profession. We profess to grade our piety not by the standard of nominal christianity, but by the scriptures. Hence the universal expectation that Baptists should be the holiest people is not unreasonable, and the reproach incurred when we fail of being so, is not undeserved.

If credible evidence of conversion in candidates for church membership was required in primitive times, it should still be sought. But such is the change of the relations between the church and the world, that an act which then amounted to strong evidence of sincerity, is now no more than the feeblest presumption. At that time when all the inveterate hatred and combined power of the world, was arraigned in direct, open, deadly, and uncompromising opposition to Christianity, it required great sincerity and decision of character to say in a public assembly, "I am a christian." Whoever did so had anticipated the consequences beforehand, and counted well the cost. He had come to the conclusion that rather than be ashamed of His Lord he would forsake all that was dear to him in this world. He took his life in his hand when he deelared, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."-Hence such a profession was at that time a credible evidence of piety. To confess the Saviour then was to incur the dethat Chrisean capi chri who goin say, sion Wha

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termined hostility of the world; but times are so changed that to confess Him now may secure worldly patronage. The Christianity then current was at a discount, that now current bears a premium in the world's market. He who has a small capital to invest in trade may increase it by saying, "I am a christian" and being initiated into an influential church. He who has no stock, and no credit may easily create both by going through the usual ceremonies of joining a church. We say, then, that now something more than a mere verbal profession is requisite, to constitute credible evidence of piety .-What is it then, in this age of nominal christianity, that is necessary to constitute good evidence of sound conversion?

1. A mere profession though it has but little force as evidence of piety, may yet be admitted as a portion of that evidence. When an individual rises in the congregation and declares his determination to serve the Lord, such an act, on his part, creates a presumption in his favor, and should dispose a church to consider other proofs of conversion which may be But in too many cases no further evidence is demanded. Hence our ecclesiastical difficulties.

2. Another point in the evidence of sound conversion is the relation of christian experience. If this experience be scriptural it has considerable force as evidence. The church at Jerusalem would not receive Saul among them till they had been told how he had met the Lord in the way, Acts ix. 27. And if the christian should be ready always to give a reason of his hope, much more so, when he is about joining himself to the Church of God, 1 Pet. iii. 15.

3. Another evidence of genuine piety is activity in the cause of the Saviour. The church in Jerusalem were informed of the labors of Saul, "and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Josus," Acts ix. 27. Church members should "maintain good works." Titus iii. 8. The absence of this fills the vineyard with idlers, and the army with cowards.

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4. As a fourth point in the evidence of conversion we notice a willingness to consecrate of our substance to sustain the institutions of the gospel. A spirit of avarice is inconsistent

with membership in a church.

5. Similarity of religious belief is highly important in the members of the same church. Though some diversity of opinion must be allowed on minor points, on all vital questions the church should require conformity to the articles of our common faith.

6. Another point in evidence of fitness for church membership is a spirit of christian humility. We are to "try the spirits." No one who has the right spirit would obtrude himself unworthily upon any church, nor would he wish to join without giving ample evidence of fitness, and submitting himself to every test which the Word of God prescribes or his brethren require. The spirit of a candidate is one of the most important points to be considered in receiving a candidate for church membership. A spirit of humility is in the sight of God, "of great price."

Such are a few of the tests which should be carefully applied in modern times, to establish credible evidence of scriptural piety. Let them be faithfully applied and our churches

would soon be restored to their original purity.

SECOND. THE CONSEQUENCES OF A DEPARTURE FROM THE TRUE STANDARD OF ADMISSION TO THE CHURCH.

By admitting the unconverted into the church numerous evils would evidently follow. The church would be so corrupted that though possessing the form of godliness they would deny the power. In times of special excitement, all might flock to the house of God; but when this subsided the love of many would wax cold. With a portion of the church members unconverted we might expect to see a revival followed by heart-sickening declension. Where divine love is absent strife and animosity would spring up among certain members of the church. The wolves in sheeps' clothing would worry the flock

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and "bite and devour" one another. Many of the unconverted portion refusing to make any sacrifices for the support of gospel institutions at home and abroad, the burden of the many would rest upon the few. The piety of such a people would not be sufficient to guarantee their harmonious cooperation in the work of the Lord. Discipline would be impossible, because the unconverted members would know that the "sword" if applied, would easily out the slender thread of their profession, which gives them a nominal and, perhaps, a self profiting union with the visible church of Christ. In such a church, even a revival might be perverted to evil consequences. If Baptist Churches forsake the gospel standard of church membership-holiness of character-their temporary success will only hasten their final overthrow. Mutual jealousies will spring up between different churches, and between the members of the same church. The divine favor will be forfeited and our candlestick "removed."

THIRD. THE CAUSES OF DEPARTURE FROM THE BIBLE STANDARD OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.

In considering the cause of the departure from the bible standard of admission to church membership, we believe that one great evil lies in the secularization of the churches themselves. It cannot be that the offence of the real cross has wholly ceased in the world. A profession of christianity always involved the same uncompromising principle of holiness that it did in primitive times, and would also be opposed by the world. A modern Baptist writer truthfully remarks, "It is not the world that has become modified in favor of the church, but the church in favour of the world." (Primitive Piety Revived by Dr. Fish, page 154.) The church and the world should be as different as light and darkness. It may be possible for churches to be more anxious to swell their numbers of membership than they are to grow in grace and abound in spiritual gifts and good works. Our letters to the Associations sometimes speak of glorious revivals and large secessions

to their ranks, for which they are inexpressibly grateful; but close by saying that they have sent only a paltry sum for the glorious cause of God, that "money is scarce" and "charity begins at home." A genuine revival would produce different results.

It may occur that persons are sometimes urged prematurely into the church because they are wealthy or influential without a due regard to their piety, and thus a power become recognized in the church which the bible does not warrant, and which experience, alas often, too sad, will condemn.

Occasionally the labors of an itinerant revival preacher are blessed, the pastor, or the church, or both yield up their responsibility of the keys for the time being, and in return the doors are widely opened by their zealous brother, and a multitude of members are sometimes indiscriminately hurried in, for which the church may afterwards repent at their leisure.

Missionaries very properly desire to make a good report to their employers. But those missionaries would greatly err, who should prefer to report a large number of spurious additions; rather than a smaller number of genuine conversions. It is better to rejoice over a "few names" written in heaven, than that many "devils are subject" to the power of God.

May not even pastors too be strongly tempted to aim at swelling their list of baptisms, and presenting a large increase in their letters to the Association, rather than that their flocks should abound in the fruits of a noble christian benevolence. Every christian is glad to know of any real addition to the kingdom of Christ; but he is saddened to think that some reported additions and conversions are in the circumstances, not such as the angels in heaven could rejoice over, Luke x. 20.

It is true that though every precaution were used, unworthy members might still find their way into the church of Christ

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on earth, as in the case of Simon Magus. But this fact should only make the servants of the Lord the more faithful in placing every scriptural guard at the door of the sheepfold. In the temple of God there is only one foundation—Christ, and only one material for the building—the "living stones. Let us "take heed, how," and what we build en that foundation; I Cor. iii. 10. The day is coming which wilt try our work. Yea it has already come in part. If portions of that temple built by us are crumbling under our own hands, how will they abide the day of God's fiery indignations?

FOURTH. THE DIFFICULTY OF RESTORING THE BIBLE STAND-ARD OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP ONLY INCREASES OUR OBLIGATION TO DO SO.

We take it for granted that as churches of Christ in receiving members to communion we have in too many cases departed from the gospel rule. The state of some churches presents convincing proof of this. True we may not be worse than other denominations in this particular; but we ought to be infinitely better. In personal religion, in brotherly love, and in active benevolence we ought to be exalted above our present state, as high as the heavens are above the earth. Where are now the burning zeal and the fiery energy of of the primitive churches? Quenched! alas, quenched! by the cold floods of worldliness which have largely come in through the widened gates of admission to membership in the church. In removing this evil we shall doubtless encounter the most formidable obstacles. But removed it must be if we wish prosperity. The difficulty increases the necessity of accomplishing it.

It would be no easy task to disencumber the church of the useless members who now hang as dead weights upon her activity, or keep up intestine broils and discords within her sacred enclosure; but this work must evidently be done before the church on earth shall occupy that position to which she is destined in the promises of God. Would that the ancient

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law of battles could be applied to the church militant in our times. "What man is there that is fearful and faint-hearted, let him go and return unto his house lest his brethren's heart faint as well as his heart." Deut. xx. If such a proclamation could be made and the churches sifted it would be a bright day for them all. But this work must be left to the prayerful efforts of God's people, and especially to Him who sits as a refiner's fire to parity the sons of Levi.

How can a church that is corrupt, purify itself? How can it begin and, in time to come, carefully guard the door of admission, against all such as "cannot give scriptural evidence of their union with Christ?"

The duty involved in these questions is imperative. Would that every church and minister could be thoroughly aroused to its importance. Would that all were as uncompromising in its observance, as they are pained by the consequences of its neglect.

But these questions also suggest a difficulty. True that difficulty would not have existed if the duty had not been neglected. The difficulty is the want of piety in so many members of the church. This difficulty must be met. It can only be overcome by prayer. The encouragement is twofold. God hears prayer, and there are still praying souls in the churches. There are pastors and private members grieved at the afflictions of Joseph. Mourning in secret for the church of God. And if God will always hear His people, he will especially hear for His church, the purchase of His blood and the object of His peculiar care.

Let the divinely appointed means for the holiness of the church, be prayerfully used, and spiritual prosperity will follow. When the power of godliness is felt in the heart of each member, then the influence of the church for good will be seen. When our hearts shall burn with pure love to God, then will the same blessing flow out through the gospel and its truths, through the church, her ordinances and members

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till a lost world shall be converted to the Saviour. Then will additions to the membership of the church be additions to her real strength. Then shall Zion shine; the forces of the Gentiles shall be given to her, and kings shall come to the brightness of

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APPENDIX.

(A)

ON OBITUARIES.

Your Committee have to report the death of brother W. H. Caldwell, late pastor of the church at New Germany. Brother Caldwell was ordained to the work of the ministry at Lower Granville, Sept. 15, 1852. He afterwards served the church at Westport. Having removed to New Germany, where it was hoped that a long career of useful effort was before him, it pleased God to disappoint those hopes by his early death. His ministerial life was limited to nine years. Though his course was not marked—by striking incidents, it presented satisfactory proof of sincere devotedness to the Saviour's cause, and patient, persevering endeavours for usefulness. He was highly esteemed by the churches over which he successively presided.

Your Committee regret to learn that brother Caldwell's widow is left in destitute circumstances. They recommend her case to the favourable consideration of the Board of the In-

firm Minister's Fund.

THOMAS DELONG, Chairman.

(B)

REPORT ON CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Committee on the Circular Letter, beg leave to report? That it has been examined and amended, and they recommend that it be printed in the Minutes in its amended form, and also that the Editor of the Christian Messenger be requested to publish is in that periodical.

Respectfully submitted.

I. J. SKINNER, Chairman.

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REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your Committee are gratified to learn that our Churches generally are waking up to the importance of Sabbath Schools. Their value as an auxiliary to the Church cannot be overestimated. They would strongly recommend to all who love the Saviour increased activity in this department of christian

As arrangements have already been made by the Association for a meeting of the Sabbath School Convention they would refer the minutize of Sabbath Schools to their consideration.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

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R. R. PHILP, Chairman,

(D)

ON UNION SOCIETIES.

Your committee are pleased to believe that the churches are beginning to feel the need of more efficient means for supporting gospel institutions. But yet there is great want of timely systematic and united effort. There is also a lack of faith in God who says " Honor the Lord with thy substance so shall thy barns be filled with plenty." "There is that with holdeth more than is meet, and it tendeth to poverty."

We would earnestly recommend that the following particu-

lars, urged in last year's report, be attended to:

1st. That the Union Society be set in operation early in the year, "that there be no gathering" when the year is nearly closed, and money perhaps is scarce.

2nd. That Collectors be appointed in the several localities for the purpose of making at least quarterly collections for the Union Society. Small sums frequently gathered through the year will make a large aggregate.

" Little drops of water Little grains of sand,
Make the mighty ocean,
And the solid land."

3rd. We would suggest that something like the following

scheme be adopted for the next year: That monies be raised the begining of the first quarter in S ptember, for Home Missions, French and Gaelic Missions; December 1st., for Foreign Missions and Bible cause; March 1st., Acadia College and Ministerial Education; June 1st., Infirm Ministers.

"Bring ye all the tit'res into the store house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord: if I will not open the windows

of heaven and pour you out a blessing."

D. FREEMAN, Chairman.

(E)

ON QUESTIONS IN LETTERS.

The Committee on Questions in Letters beg to report as follows:---

1st. In reference to an application made by the Baptist Church in Walton to be received into the Association. Fursher information having been received concerning this subject they recommend that the Walton Church be received as a constituent member of this body.

2nd. In reply to a question from the Newport Church East, your Committee recommend that the six persons referred to in the enquiry be recorded in the same way as the others, who

withdrew to form the Newport Church West.

8rd. Your Committee would recommend that this Association meet with the Baptist Church at Upper Aylesford on the third Saturday in June, 1863, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

Respectfully submitted.

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A. H. MUNRO, Chairman.

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ON EDUCATION.

The Committee on Education report, that in their opinion every christian parent should regard it as a plain and very

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pressing duty, to use every endeavor to bring the advantages of education within the reach of his own family. All the youth of our land may not be able to pass through a College course, but we should be educated to the utmost extent of the available means. Hence the Committee beg to express their dcep conviction of the importance and necessity of encouraging common school education, and their regret that its benefits are inadequately appreciated in many parts of the province. The late Census reveals the melanel oly fact that almost one fourth of the inhabitants of Nova Scotia (reckoning from 5 years of age) are unable to read. The exact number is 81,469; 36,-430 are reported to be over four years of age under 15, 45,-039 are over 15. The Committee are of opinion that general education requires to be stimulated and nurtured by general assessment; that as all members of society share the advantages, all should help to bear the burden, equitably apportioned among them; and that by this eans well-qualified teachers will be more likely to obtain suitable remuneration than on the present system.

The efforts of our denomination have proved of great service, and cannot be c ntemplated without grateful pleasure.-Our zeal has provoked others. Enlightened and useful men trained in our Institutions are to be met with in all the Provinces of British North America, in the United States and in

other parts of the world.

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Referring to the labors of the past year the committee have to state that Horton Academy and the Female Seminary have enjoyed a gratifying measure of prosperity. As full details will be given in the Report of the Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society it is unnecessary to enlarge in this place. The views of the committee in reference to the position and prospects of that Society embodied in a resolution which will be appended to this report, and proposed for seperate discussion.

Acadia College has now been in operation more than twenty years and was never in a more flourishing condition. Ten students graduated at the recent Anniversary. Six have matriculated and that number will probably be doubled at the commencement of the next term. The accession of Dr. Pryor to the Faculty is regarded by the committee with great satisfaction and will no doubt be highly acceptable to the denomination at large.

Brother Barss, the Treasurer, labors indefatigably for the

College, and with very encouraging results. The generous aid of the churches will continue to be required, to some extent, till the Endowment is completed. That necessary work is in the hands of Brother Thompson, whose energy, tact, and perseverance are fully equal to the emergency.

Your committee conclude by calling on the members of the Association to thank God for his past care of the "Child of

Providence," and to trust his goodness for the future.

Respectfully submitted.

T. A. HIGGINS, Chairman.

(G)

ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to report :-

Jesus cur Lord was the first Missionary in the Christian cause, and has thus hallowed the missionary field. The churches have been built upon missionary labor, and all true followers of the Redeemer are deeply interested in the success of missions: but alas how few feel their obligations, and come

up to their duty.

The foreign field continues to wear the most inviting aspect. In the providence of God the whole world is now thrown open to Christian missionaries, and shall we not be prepared to go in and possess the land. We again urge upon churches the observance of Monthly Concerts, and the taking up of collections at those meetings, in addition to other plans. Our home field was never more inviting, never called more loudly for continuance of missionary labor. But as this is the time for the presentation of the annual report of the Home Missionary Society, we refer to that report for full information upon the subject. The French Mission is prosperous and is rapidly extending its operations. We commend it heartily to the sympathy, and material aid of our body.

We would urge upon our churches the adoption of more system in our missionary collections, so that, instead of contributing hundreds, they will be ready to give their thousands

to help on the good cause.

J. PRYOR, Chairman.

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ON A MEMORIAL.

The Committee on a Memorial, submitted to the Association, report:

Your Committee would beg to state that, in their opinion, the subject of the Memorial submitted to them for examination is one which this Association cannot take into consideration, inasmuch as matters therein contained are suitable only for the action of an individual church.

Respectfully submitted.

On behalf of the Committee.

A. H. MUNRO.

(I)

ON THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

The Committee on the Christian Messenger report, That they have much pleasure in stating as their firm belief, that the Chrisfian Messenger continues to enjoy the unabated confidence of the Baptist Denomination in this Province, and that in disputed matters especially, whether in politics or religion, the mild, independent, and courteous course which the Editor preserves, is a source of much gratification.

Having confidence in the Editor's discretion in these respects, the Committee most cordially recommend the Christian Messenger to the increased patronage of our Churches and people as the best religious periodical in the Province of Nova Scotia, and that it is especially adapted to promote sound religious knowledge, advocate Baptist principles, and afford us a faithful record of passing events; and therefore fondly hope that the increased patronage, and prompt payment, so essential to the prosperity of the paper, will enable the Editor successfully to continue the publica-

Respectfully submitted.

WM. CHIPMAN, Chairman.

ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on Temperance regret that they are not able to report more favorably on the Temperance Cause.—
They have watched with profound sorrow the unchecked evils of intemperance sapping the foundation of moral, intellectual and religious reform. In their opinion, if ministers of the gospel were to give Scripture prominence to this subject, much might be done to repress the evils of intemperance. Your Committee believe the time is come that judgment should begin at the house of God in this matter, and that the Church should fall behind no human society in the exercise of the principle: "It is good neither to eat meat nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth or is offended, or is made weak."

Attempts at combined effort having failed; your Committee would suggest the propriety of reviving the old Total Abstinence Society, where the Order of the Sons of Temperance does not exist, or fails to accomplish its work.

These means under God, your Committee believe calculated most effectually to pave the way for the final safeguard, the pledge token of success—a prohibitory law.

Respectfully submitted.

On behalf of the Committee.

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W. H. PORTER.

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MINISTERS IN THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION, 1862.

Names.	Residences.	Date of	Place of
B. Taylor, B. Vaughan, D. M. Welton, John Pryor, D.D. T. Delong, R. R. Philp, D. G. Shaw, D. Pineo, R. Walker.	Newport, East. Plessant Valley Wolfville. Newport West. Wolfville. Canning. Wolfville. Canard, Cornwallis. Halifax. Billtown, Cornwallis. Hantsport. Gaspercaux. Upper Aylesford. West Cornwallis. Chester. Rawdon. New Germany. Mempt. Wirdsor. Wolfville. New Germany. Halifax. Falmouth.	Dec 10, 1857 May 19,1842 Oct. 7, 1834 Jan 8, 1858 June 30, 1858 Dec. 15, 1856 Sep. 19, 1858 July 13, 1842 1698 Sep. 2, 1857.	Ordination Rawdon. Rawdon. Pleast Valley. Pleast Valley. London, G. B. Newport. Chester. Halifax. Liverpool. Liverpool. Digby Joggins. Up. Wilmot. Cornwa lis. Gaspereaux. Hopewell, N. B. W. Cornwallis. Port Medway. Chelses. Liverpool. Chelses. Liverpool. Margarea, C.B. Karangarea, C.B. Kalmouth.

MONIES RECEIVED FROM THE CHURCHES, JUNE 23RD, 1862.

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The above sums are paid to the Treasurers of the various Societies and funds named therein.

Returns were also made, in some of the letters from the Churches, of Monies paid into the Treasurers of the several funds, but as those amounts did not pass through the hands of the Treasurer of the Association, no account could properly be given of them. Melatiah Kinshan, Treasurer of Central Baptist Association.

REPORT

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

Moba Scotia Baptist Education Society.

The Committee have much pleasure in again presenting the Annual Report of the operations of this Society. During the year now past the institutions have had an enlarged measure of prosperity under the able management of its devoted Principal, and his taithful co-laborers. Nor has your Committee to complain of a falling off in the interest ever so warmly expressed by the friends of Horton Academy.

The attendance during the past year, has been as follows:

Whole same						
WHOIH HUIH	ber durir	g year,				140
Greatest nur	mber in a	ittendanc	e at on	e time	3	90
Least	14	48	***	"		
Average	"	"	"	"		70
FEMALE DEPAR	TMENT,					
Whole num	ber durir	g vear.				90
Greatest unt	mber in a	ttendanc	e at on	e time		60
Least	•	45	"	- 11		
Average		- 11	"	a		44

BRANCHES TAUGHT DURING THE YEAR.

In addition to the ordinary English branches, classes have been instructed in History, Ancient and Modern, Rhetorio, Mental, Moral and Natural Philosophy, Algebra, Geometry, Mensuration, Land Surveying, Botuny, Geolo y, Chemistry, Physiology, Trigonometry, French, Latin and Greek.

THE MEMBERS ENGAGED	IN THE VARIOUS STUDIES,
The whole number in	Mathematics during year,
** **	Latin and Greek "88
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By comparing the above with the reports of past years, it will be seen that, notwithstanding a depression, generally felt in the financial interests of the Province, the Institution con-

tinues to enjoy a good share of public patronage.

At the Examinations, during the year, your Committee could not fail to pe ceive that the pupils were making solid progress in a sound and well conceived Academic Course. Six of the pupils have recently matriculated, and some others expect to enter the College the ensuing term.

Your Committee are happy, in the assurance they strongly cherish, that the course of study, now pursued at the Institutions is pra tical, sound and judicious, and that the youth, enjoying the advantages of the school, can hardly fail in being well equipped for the various positions of life they may have to fill.

The Committee are assured, that with live confidence they may review the moral aspect of your Institt tions, cases requiring severe discipline rarely occurring, while a willingness to submit cheerfully to established regulations at all times is distinctly manifest. Upon this subject Mr. Higgins

The conduct of the pupils has been good. So large a number must of course include a considerable variety of character. Some irregularity and impropriety are to be looked for and dealt with. But by far the larger proportion of the pupils, have given the teachers every reason to love and respect them; and the government of the school has, upon the whole, been a very easy

RELIGIOUS ASPECT.

A considerable number of the older pupils are professors of religion. There has been no revival influences in the school nor in the community, but the meetings have been well attended and it can not but be hoped that through the united efforts of our pastor, the Sabbath School, Bible class, and personal christian effort seed has been sown which shall hereafter bring forth fruit. One member of the Female Seminary has been recently baptized and received into the church at Wolfville.

As on former occasions, your committee would again appeal to the entire B ptist Denomination of N. S., for the benealt of whose rising generation the friends of Education have labored with unflinehing resolution, and solicit a jet more enlarged expression of a permanent and growing attachment to a cause, worthy the love of every christian man and true

patriot. The conviction yearly deepens, that, although we enjoy enlarged prosperity, yet the average attendance is considerably below what your committee might expect. How largely the prosperity of Acadia College, is identified with success in Horton Academy, must to every thinking man be most

apparent.

Our appeal demands no other arguments than those log before the public mind, and long imprinted on the hearts and consciences of the Baptists of this Province. The present aspect of the Institutions, their History,—and they have a history of no ordinary interest,-distinctly and strongly embody the views and purposes of this Denomination in relation to this most important enterprise. Let us be true to ourselves brethren, and to our children, and the fruits of our labors will glad-

den and bless unborn generations.

Your Committee would invite especial attention to the result of efforts but recently made to found at Horton an Institution for Female Education. One year and a half since, after mature deliberation, your Committee entered upon this new field of labor, then a mere experiment, now a complete success. Of the course of instruction, the point of advancement reached, and the encouragement to continuance, your Committee can speak in language most confident, and rejoice, that we now have in healthful operation a Female Seminary, affording to young ladies a high and thorough course of Academic instruction. The large number of pupils in constant attendance sufficiently indicates a most hearty appreciation of our labors in this direction. Your Committee may here remark, that the plan suggested at the beginning, of uniting some of the classes with those in the Academy, under the instruction of Mr. Higgins and Mr. Jones, is found most advantageous, affording, a high course of study, for a very moderate charge. Your Committee would express its entire confidence, in the well proved ability of the Principal, and doubt not that his untiring energies will secure yet enlarged results.

Up to the close of the last Term, the Seminary was under the management of Miss Shaw, whose experience and wellknown ability, eminently qualified her for the important trust. The hopes relative to the labors of this valued and esteemed preceptress, have been fully realized. Fears were, however, felt, that, Miss Shaw's health would not equal her activities and resolutions. These, we lament to say, have been realized,

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and in consequence Miss Shaw was constrained to vacate her chosen and loved employ.

The following Resolution, passed at a recent meeting of the Committee, will doubtless express the feeling, alike felt by all in any way connected with the Seminary:

This Committee would convey to Miss Shaw, late Principal of the Female Seminary at Horton, an expression of the high value they have ever placed upon her services, and the high esteem in which she is regarded.

Most deeply do they regret, that Miss Shaw's health constrains her retirement to private life, especially at a time, when the cause of Female Education demands those labors for which they are assured her high literary attainments so eminently qualify her.

The Committee would assure Miss Shaw that she carries with her the most profound respect and esteem of all acquainted with her public labors and private deportment. They trust that God's blessing will rest upon and long preserve her life for usefulness—and the enjoyment of His highest and best blessing.

To secure the services of one well adapted to the office of Principal of a young Ladies Seminary, requires the exercise of no ordinary prudence and forethought. Of this your Committee is profoundly impressed, for notwithstanding the best negulation, and wisest economy, almost every thing must depend on the controling mind of the lady at the head of the Institution. The Committee, therefore, early took this matter into consideration, and correspondence was opened with parties, whose services we hoped to secure, and we are happy in being able to state, that an engagement has been made with Miss Reed of New York, a lady, your Committee believe, in every respect well qualified for her position. Miss Reed will enter upon her duties on the first of August.

It is generally known that the house occupied by the Seminary was rented, and for which sixty pounds per annum was paid. The building has recently been sold and consequently we now have to do with new owners, we however hope, in some way, to secure its continued occupancy. In the mean time, if the Denomination decide upon sustaining a Female Institution at Horton, efforts must be put forth, for erecting upon our own grounds a suitable edifice. Nothing has as yet been done beyond the mere suggestion of the idea. Plans, raising of funds &c., are yet to occupy your attention, and your Com-

mittee trusts that some scheme, wise and congenial to the dispositions and abilities of the denomination; will be produced, and that the Baptist people, in their devotedness to this branch of our Educational effort will give a response, worthy of themselves, and of the educational convictions, so long and nobly fostered. The following "general remarks" by the Principal deserve our serious attention.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The time has come for the Baptists of Nova Scotia to take higher ground with reference to the great work of education. The system adopted should take a wider scope. The College can flourish only in the same proportion as the Academy is liberally sustained and efficiently worked. The latter is the foundation, not in a financial but in an educational point of view, of the whole fabric. Let the foundation grow weak and the building must fall. In order that the Academy may become really vigorous and be able to meet the demands of the denomination some effort and improvement are indispensable.

1. A Primary Department should be at once established. The inhabitants of Wolfville have a right to claim this at our hands. The Academy takes the older of the pupils while the younger both male and female are left in a worse condition than in ordinary school districts. If we profess to educate the community the scheme should meet the wants of all.

2. Female education should be promptly and efficiently provided for.

The denomination has a right to claim this.

We throw our educational burden upon the churches. We say "it is your duty to support, uphold and protect." The churches are composed of brethren and sisters. Without the sympathy of both we can not prosper. Here we have a right to say to every one thirsting for knowledge of whatever age or sex "we are making provision for you, and can offer advantages second to none in this country."

In order to secure the two things referred to above, a thorough Primary School and an efficient Female department, commodious buildings, thoroughly fitted and furnished are indispensible, and the time has fully come for the friends of education to take hold

of the work.

Your Committee while viewing the past with grateful emotions, would thank God and take courage, assured are they that God has owned the labors of his servants, and made your society in His hand a blessing of priceless value. Our trust is yet in him from whom cometh our help. Ever desiring to prayers that all scheme ture the

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ing to realise this, we would, before all other claims, seek the prayers and christian sympathy of our brethren in the Lord, that all our deliberations and labors, may harmonise with that scheme of eternal truth, which contemplates in its every feature the Glory of God and salvation of men. June 23rd, 1862.

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Our lesirA. S. HUNT, Secretary.

Administration of the first soil deal building themselves N. S. BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY in account with S. Selden, Treasurer.

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PROVINCIAL Haptist Sabbath School Conbention.

Meetings of this Convention were held in connexion with each of the three Baptist Associations,—at Liverpool, Lakeville and Great Village. The statistics sent to the S. School Boards, and to the Association in the letters from the churches, were read by the Secretaries of the Boards and addresses were delivered on the subject.

The Annual meeting was held with the Central Association

at Lakeville on Tuesday, June 24th, 1862.

The following officers were chosen:

General Board for the Province :-

S. Selden, President; Rev. A. H. Munro, Secretary;

Central Board:—Rev. T. A. Higgins, Chairman; Rev. D. Freeman, Secretary; Thos. Rand, Treasurer.

Western Board:—Rev. H. Angell, Chairman; Rev. J. H. Saunders, Secretary; S. Brown, Treasurer.

Eastern Board:—Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, Chairman; T. H. Rand, Secretary; David Page, Treasurer.

Resolved, That Rev. A. H. Munro be requested to deliver an Address before the next meeting of the S. S. Convention with the Central Association.

It was also resolved, 1st., That this Convention recommends the holding of County Sabbath School Conventions for the mutual encouragement of teachers and friends, and for promoting an increase of interest in Sabbath School work.

2nd., That General Sessions of the Convention be held within the boundaries of each of the Baptist Associations, at suitable times and places during the present year, under the direction of the several Boards.)

A. H. Munro, Secretary.

N. B.—The Annual Meeting next year will be held with the Eastern Baptist Association at Bedeque P. E. I.

[The number of Scholars returned in the following tables is 4355, and of Teachers 485. If full returns had been made from every School, in connection with the Baptist Churches, a much larger number would have been the result. If each School would send their report on a separate sheet of paper, distinct from their Church letter, it would facilitate the making up of the tables.—S. S.]

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DAVID FREEMAN, Secretary of Central Board,

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H. RAND, Secretary of Eastern Board.

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FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

A. S. Baptist Home Missionary Society.

The N. S. Baptist Home Missionary Society held their Annual Meeting at Lakeville, Cornwallis, on Tuesday, June 24, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

J. W. Barss, Esq., the President, in the chair.

The report of the proceedings of the Society for the past

year was then read by the Secretary and adopted.

Brethren Normondy, J. E. Balcom, A. H. Munro, Allen, Dr. Pryor, S. Selden, A. S. Hunt, N. Viditoe, and Secretary addressed the meeting.

The following resolution, moved by Rev. A. H. Munro and

seconded by Rev. D. Freeman, passed unanimously.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society are due and are hereby tendered to Brother R. N. Beckwith, for his gratuitous services as Secretary for the past year.

The following were appointed the officers of the Society and Board of Managers for the ensuing year:

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

J. W. Nutting, Esq., President.
J. W. Barss, Esq., Vice Presidents.
John King, Esq., Vice Presidents.
D. McN. Parfer, Esq., M. D., Treasurer.
R. N. Beckwith, Esq., Secretary.
Corres Polyme, Esq. Auditor. George Robins, Esq., Auditor.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

Rev. J. E. Balcom,
" J. M. Cramp, D. D.,
" D. W. C. Dimock,
" S. W. deBlois, ** D. Freeman, A. S. Hunt, G. F Miles, A. H. Munro J. Pryor D. D., James Parker,

T. H. Porter, I. J. Skinner, " D. M. Welton, W. Ackhurst, J. F. Burnham. Mayhew Beckwith, H. R. Cunningham Hon. J. W. Johnston, Hon. J. McCully, Daniel Mosher, Henry N. Paint, Alex. Robinson, S. Selden, Thomas Wesley, Francis Webber.

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small and in confinence assuming offened you in section yelbelieved and any transfer of any more branches and a finished REPORT.

In submitting this the Fifth Annual Report of the N. S. Baptist Home Missionary Society, your Board regret that, for the want of sufficient means, the work, during the past year, has been much restricted, in consequence of which they cannot shew as large an amount of labour performed or so much apparent good resulting from their deliberations as they would

They have abstained from incurring liabilities much in advance of their receipts, as past experience has shewn the inexpediency of such a course.

Your attention is directed to the following few brief particulars :on finner-till the server countries, appropriate agents

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HALIFAX COUNTY. Rev. R. R. Philp, by appointment of Aug. 5, 1861, performed 6 months missionary labour at Dartmouth and other places in the vicinity.

He reports 96 sermons preached, 38 Prayer and Conference meetings attended, 884 miles travelled, 85 families visited.

Bro. Philo says: "I found the cause at Dartmouth in a very depressed state, they had been for a long time without a stated minister, the result was that the congregation was scattered and the members greatly discouraged, there were a few however 'though faint, still pursuing.'

At Cole Harbour there was a good attendance upon the means of grace, a growing interest and steady increase was manifested. On several occasions quite a number were unable to obtain seats and remained standing during the service.

At Tuft's Cove my efforts were a complete failure to all appearances, I did not succeed in obtaining a congregation.

At Bedford my visits were always welcomed by a few who expressed their gratitude to the Board for remembering them. We humbly hope that our efforts there were as "bread cast upon the waters." I also visited Hammonds Plains and Windsor Road.

The field as a whole is certainly not one of the most promising and yet in my humble opinion it ought not to be abandoned. I do not know of any other place that can be regarded so much as missionary ground as Dartmouth. The mission will, of necessity, be an expensive one, the work laborious, the good resulting may not be seen for a long time, yet with all these discouragements the mission ought to be prosecuted."

Since Bro. Philp left Dartmouth the Granville Street and North Baptist Churches, have united for the purpose of assisting their brethren there in sustaining public worship every Sabbath afternoon.

GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY.

Rev. A. F. Porter, by appointment of 2nd Dec., laboured 6

weeks at Sand Point and New Harbour.

"Travelled 375 miles; preached 30 sermons; organized 1
Church; baptized 13; attended 8 Conference, Prayer and other religious meetings; visited 60 families; distributed 300

pages of tracts."

He writes May 1862: "There has been a great work at New Harbour, a Church has been organized there of 23 baptized believers, all of whom there is good hope to believe have

been 'born again.'"

They have an efficient Sabbath School, hold a weekly prayer meeting which is attended by all, and their monthly conferences are never neglected. A number are waiting for an opportunity to follow Christ in baptism. A faithful missionary should be sent to this county for a year, and great good would be the result. "The fields are white for the harvest."

Rev. M. A. Bigelow performed 10 weeks labour at Sand Point and 2 weeks at Goshen.

Preached 43 sermons; attended 55 Prayer meetings; visit-

ed 71 families; baptized 18.

Under date 27th May, he writes: "When I commenced labouring at Sand Point in January last, there was but one family altar erceted in that region and only three or four tha

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took any part in religious meetings. Since then God, I trust, has effected a great change, the disheartened have been made to rejoice, careless sinners converted and the swearing have become praying men and women.

Over 50 have spoken and prayed in public, 18 have been baptized, one of whom was a woman over 70 years of age, who

has been blind for 30 years.

Bro. Grant is making himself very useful in the little Church as well as in the Sabbath School. I hope the Board will not forget this long neglected field."

Rev. M. A. Bigelow performed 4 weeks missionary labour

at the Bay of Islands and neighbourhood.

Preached 10 sermons; made 30 family visits.

In writing to the Board Nov. 22nd, 1861, Bro. B. says :-"There are 14 professing Baptists in this place, but for the want of the preached gospel and the ordinances of the church, they have grown cold and careless. I do not know a place that is more in need of missionary labour at the present time. I received a warm reception, had good attendance. The time was too short to expect to see results. A church might have been organized, but the uncertainty of having a minister to labour with them lead me to defer it. I hope the Board will be able to send a missionary for a longer time than four weeks to this most destitute region."

CAPE BRETON.

Rev. Hugh Ross performed a mission of 6 months among the Gaelic people, on the Island of Cape Breton.

Preached 90 sermons; made 208 visits; travelled 1,600 miles.

Under date May 25th, 1862, he says: "I have been labouring in the service of the Board for 6 months. A small part of what I have desired to do has been accomplished, yet something has been done, I hope. Some drops of mercy have fallen upon us and we hope the rain is at hand, our meetings are well attended and interesting, the prospects of the future are still encouraging. I have preached at Baddeck, St. Anns, Salmon River, and Schooner Pond."

Bro. Ross also laboured 7 weeks in the service of the Board in the Central part of the Province, preaching and soliciting aid for the Gaelie Mission.

R v. A. P. Shields spent 6 weeks in the Northern parts of

Cape Breton.

Travelled 304 miles; preached 29 sermons; visited 62 families; 5 other persons; delivered 1 Lecture on Temperance; distributed 2000 pages of Tracts, 10 copies of Dr. Cramp's Lecture on "What will become of the wicked;" 8 copies of Booth's "Death of Legal Hope;" 6 Gaelic Bibles, 2 English Bibles. These were all distributed gratuitously.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Rev. John Shaw performed 4' weeks missionary labour on the Island. He writes under date May 20th:—" In compliance with the request of the Board I left home on the 17th Nov. 1861, and spent a month at Grand River, with the exception of one Lord's day at West and Dog River. Preached as often as I conveniently could; gave one lecture on the first chapter of Hebrews; visited as many families as I possibly could, attended one prayer meeting, one Conference meeting, gathered and reorganized the Church at Grand River, set in order the things that were wanting. Ordained deacons and broke bread with the disciples, in fellowship with brethren Davis and McLeod, who by request came to help me, 'In the multitude of counsellors there is safety.' The number of miles I travelled I cannot tell."

The labours of Rev. John Davis at Charlottetown are still retained, a portion of his time being spent in the service of the Board. He writes May 24th,—" Last September I went out as far as Ingonish, at the north-western extremity of our Island. There I spent a few days including a Sabbath, preached four times, and delivered a Temperance Lecture. I found several persons there who and believed in Jesus, and were desirous of tollowing their Lord in baptism. Should I be able to visit them again in the course of the present summer, I hope to find them fully prepared to put on Christ in

his own ordinance.

Returning from Ingonish, I spent a second Sabbath at St. Eleanor's and Summerside, preaching three times, and lecturing again on a week evening on Temperance, travelling at that time some 225 miles.

Last February I made another missionary excursion to Dundas and its neighbourhood, lying towards East Point, Bre that ing A St. influ trut that due

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Brethren Shaw and McLeod were also there. I preached at that place four times and lectured again on Temperance. Dur-

ing this excursion I travelled some hundred miles.

As to results, I have but little to say. In the city and at St. Peter's Road we are still confronted by strong Pædobaptist influences, yet we hold on to our plan for New Testament truth, and New Testament ordinances. Why should we think that we do so in vain? "Our work is with our God" and "in due time we shall reap if we faint not."

COLCHESTER COUNTY.

Rev. Jas. Reid, with the permission of his Church, spent 3 Sabbaths in Missionary labour. Preached one Sabbath at Clitton near to Shubenacadie River and two Sabbaths at Five Islands.

Bro. Reid says, "in both places good attention was paid to the word. The followers of Christ seemed to be comforted and others appeared to be concerned for the salvation of their souls. But it is distressing to witness the great destitution and disregard to eternal interests that prevail along our shores, and in our back settlements.

There is great need of more missionaries to visit the destitute parts of our Province. We need especially an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord soon bestow it upon

us for our Redeemer's sake."

PICTOU COUNTY.

Rev. John Davis, with consent of his Church, has performed 12 days missionary labour in the above county.

Preached 4 times at Pictou and administered the Lord's

Supper. Preached once at River John.

In reporting the result of his mission, Dec. 12th, 1861, Bro. D. writes : "My best congregations were on the Lord's day evenings. Some 400 were present on the evening of my first Lord's day in Pictou, while there was a respectable attendance on that of the second, notwithstanding the pouring rain. At River John, I preached in the Temperance Hall to perhaps some fitty people. The Baptists have never given Pictou a fair trial. May there not be a future for them yet?

Who will enter upon this field? It is time that question was entertained. There is Pictou itself with its three or

four thousand inhabitants, and its populous neighbourhood, there are River John and Merigomish, with places within their reach that ought to be visited at least occasionally. It is high time that something were once more attempted by our body in this field. And so the question returns, is there any one who will enter on it? I just add that our brethren at Pictou acted with great liberality on my recent visit; thus affording a pledge as to their willingness to give pecuniary aid to their power, if not beyond their power—if only they had a missionary among them."

SHERBROOKE.

Rev. I. J. Skinner reports to the Board as follows .--

"Having obtained leave of absence from my people for a short time to be employed in Missionary labour. On the 15th Feb. I went to Sherbrooke, where I remained till the 25th of the same month, labouring as far as practicable in public and from house to house.

Stormy weather and bad roads rendered it very disagreeable for persons to come to meeting, yet the meetings were well attended, some coming the distance of 9 or 10 miles.

We held 6 preaching meetings, 2 prayer meetings, 1 Con-

ference and attended 1 Temperance meeting.

The Baptists are comparatively few and considerably scatter-

ed and consequently labour under many disadvantages,

They need pastoral aid, and yet they are so situated that
unless they can join with some other church in the support of

unless they can join with some other church in the support of one minister it cannot be obtained.

We have no conversions or additions to report, nevertheless we trust that our visit was not altogether in vain. We endeavoured to scatter the seed of Divine truth, the springing up and fruit bearing must be left to him who alone can 'give the increase.'"

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Condensed Account of Missionary work performed during the Year.

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It will be seen by the foregoing statement that the number of Missionaries employed during the past year is considerably less than in former years, and what naturally follows, the results are less.

The reason of this will however be apparent to all. Last year there was paid into the Treasury \$1043,881 and at the close there was a debt of \$392,89. The present year the receipts have been but \$715,911 and the debt is now reduced to \$137,804. The debt of the Board therefore is nearly wiped out, but it has been at the expence of our Missionary operations, and not by any increase of the freewill offerings of the Churches.

Your Board would be sorry to attribute this result to any general decline of the Missionary Spirit in the Denomination. They trust that such may not be the case, for were it so. it would be a sad omen of our future prosperity. They believe the cause of God is as near the hearts of his servants as ever, but it surely concerns us all to arouse ourselves to meet the calls of duty in the Home Missionary Field with more prayerfulness, vigour and liberality than we have hitherto manifested.

It will be observed that in most of the localities where the Missionary labour has been or should be expended, the Southern and Eastern shores of the Province, the recent discovery of Gold is greatly increasing the population, and that it is therefore of the first importance that every effort should be made to establish in such places a sound and healthy religious influence as early as possible, for it is evident that by the existence of such an influence must the future character

of the population be determined.

Your Board would acknowledge the generous act of a few of our churches, in consenting to their Pastors engaging for occasional periods in Missionary labour in destitute districts, without expence to the Society, in response to an appeal made to them from the Board. May the number of such be largely increased during the ensuing year. The Board feel assured that the labours of these experienced brethren, will not only be highly appreciated by those to whom they are thus given, but under the divine blessing prove most valuable in their results.

The expediency of appointing an agent to bring the cause of Home Missions more immediately before the brethren, has been under the consideration of your Board, but they have

deferre ing to It do their re They tr Scotia t titude: be a rep our fath those wl deferred making the appointment, trusting at the annual meeting to obtain the co-operation of the brethren upon the subject.

It does not seem necessary that the Board should extend their remarks on the present state of our Home Missions. They trust they need not say anything to the Baptists of Nova Scotia to urge the necessity of sending the Gospel to the destitude: "Freely ye have received freely give." Let it not be a reproach to us that we have forgotten a duty so dear to our fathers in this Denomination,—sending the word of life to those who are ready to perish.

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CONTRIBUTIONS.

HALIFAX COUNTY.

Collected by Rev. R. R. Philp.

HALIFAX.	BEDFORD.
D. McN. Parker, Esq., M. D.\$4 00	W. H. Beals 2 00
	Miss Beals 0 50
W. M. AIRING & CO	Miss F. Beals 0 25
C. IT. DOCK WINI,	R. W 0 25
	James Ward 0 25
MI. O. MEC Y COM.	
	3. Martin
). W. Nutting 2 00	SACKVILLE.
DARTMOUTH.	Francis Webber, 4 00
Mrs. Lowe 2 00	Nathan Ellis 2 00
Mrs. George Coleman 2 00	Mrs. James Webber 0 374
Mrs. Crips 2 00	John Davis Senr 1 00
Mrs. Hyde 3 00	John Davis Junr 0 25
Mrs. McNab 2 00	
Mr. Graham 2 00	\$56 924
Mrs. Katsman 1 62	4
Mr. Smith 1 50	" HAMMOND'S PLAINS.
Miss C. Innis 1 00	James Mason 0 50
Miss Sarah Meagher 1 00	John Thomas 0 324
Mrs. Jones 1 00	Mr. Hays 0 321
Miss Sarah Coleman 0 50	John Thompson 0 25
Mrs. Shiels 1 00	Samuel Thompson 0 25
Mr. Corkum 2 00	
Mrs. Bettinson 0 25	
Mrs. Graham 0 2	
Mr. E. White 1 00	
Mr. Bartlette 0 50	
Mer. Dartiette V o	Dartmouth 2 60
COLE HARBOUR ROAD.	Cole Harbour Road 1 01
J. Eisner 1 50	
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Josiah Ross 1 00	
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GUVSBORO	UGH COUNTY.
Collected by Rev. A. F. Porter	Col. by Catherine Horton. 0 75 Col. by Mary Peddy. 11 672 Col. by A. F. Porter. 1 00 Col. by Mrs. A. F. Porter. 1 00 \$28 264 Collected by Rev. M. A. Bigelow. Collected at Sand Point. \$12 00 Collected at Gosthen. 6 00 Collected at Bay of Islands. Mr. Shires. \$0 55 Mrs. Shires. 9 25 Jacob Moser. 0 25
Collection at New Harbour. 2 100 Coll by Margaret Myers 0 71 Coll by Elizabeth Henderson 2 00	William Moser. 0 50 A friend 4 00 \$6 00
PRINCE EDW Collected by Rev. Jno. Shaw. From Bro. McPhee	ARD ISLAND. Collected by Rev. Jno. Davis. At Charlottetown

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

N. S. BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

1. This Society shall be called "The Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society."

II. The object of this Society shall be the preaching of the Gospel throughout Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland, the assistance of feeble Churches, and the planting of new ones.

III. Any person may become a member of this Society by contributing five shillings and upwards, annually, to its funds. Any person contributing five pounds at one time, shall be a Life member. Any person contributing twenty pounds at one time, or whose contributions shall amount to that sum, shall be a Life Director. Every Association or Auxiliary, which contributes annually to this Society, shall be entitled to be represented by one Delegate for every five pounds so contributed; and every Baptist Church contributing annually to the funds of the Society, shall also have the privilege of sending a Delegate. Should the funds so contributed exceed five pounds, such church shall be entitled to send one delegate for every five pounds contributed.—Provided: That no Association, Auxiliary, or Church, shall be entitled to send more than five Delegates at one time.

IV. The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and Auditor, who shall be annually appointed by the Society from among its members.

V. The Society shall annually appoint a Board of Management, consisting of twenty-four members, seven of whom shall reside in the place designated, from year to year, as the location of the Board, or in its neighborhood, and seven shall constitute a quorum. The officers above named shall be ex officio members of the Board. The following shall be the duties of the Board, viz:—To meet from time to time for the despatch of business, due notice of such

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VI. Exfunds to t Missionar least equa intimated

VII. This Society at meeting

VIII. T time and p meeting. suing year as the mem

IX. No a affirmative nual meetin

meeting being given; to appoint Missionaries, and assign their respective spheres of labor; to expend the funds for the objects of the Society, provided that all amounts contributed for any specific purpose shall be faithfully applied, as far as possible, in accordance with the wishes of the donors; to employ agents for the collection of funds, and for the general advancement of the interests of the Society; and to furnish a report of the proceedings of the past year at the Annual meeting.

VI. Every Auxiliary Society which shall agree to commit all its funds to the direction of this Society, shall be entitled to receive Missionary labor in such field as it may designate, to an amount at least equal to its contribution; provided that such designation be intimated at the time of payment.

VII. The members of Auxiliary Societies shall be members of this Society. Life Directors shall be entitled to attend and vote at meetings of the Board.

VIII. The Annual meeting of the Society shall be held at such time and place as shall be determined upon at a previous Annual meeting. At that meeting, the officers of the Society for the ensuing year shall be appointed, and such other business transacted as the members then present shall deem expedient.

IX. No alteration of this Constitution shall be made without an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present at an Annual meeting.

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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA.

ARTICLE 1st.—This Association shall consist of Delegates representing the Churches of which it is composed, each of whom shall be a member of one of those Churches, together with Delegates from Corresponding Associations, and such other Brethren present as the Association may see fit to invite to sit in Council.

ART. 2nd.—The Association shall meet at such time and place as may be agreed upon by the body.

ART. 3rd.—Each Church shall have the privilege of sending one Delegate or more, but no Church shall be entitled to send more than five in addition to their Pastor.

ART. 4th.—At each meeting of the Association the Moderator of the preceding year shall preside till his successor is chosen. The choice of Moderator, shall take place by ballot, as soon as a list of Delegates has been prepared, as hereinafter provided. No brother shall be chosen Moderator two years in succession. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside in all the transactions, maintain due order, and nominate Committees, unless otherwise ordered by the Association. A Secretary shall be chosen, whose duty it will be to record the transactions of the Association, and to furnish a correct copy of the same for the Press; he is also to remain in office til his successor is chosen.

ART. 5th.—It shall be the duty of each Church to send by its messengers a letter to the Association giving an account of its state, particularly of the additions and diminutions within the last year, and generally of whatsoever relates to its peace and prosperity.

ART. 6th.—At each Annual Meeting the letters from the churches shall be first handed in, from which the Secretary shall immediately make out a list of Delegates. The election of Moderator and Secretary shall then take place, after which the letters shall be read. Committees nominated by the Moderator shall not consist of more than five brethren, of whom three shall constitute a quorum. When large Committees are judged desirable they shall be appointed by the Association, and two-thirds of the number appointed shall be competent to act.

ART. 7th.—When any Church shall desire admittance into this body, application must be made by letter, and satisfactory evidence furnished of its faith and order; this being done, and a vote of acceptance taken, the Moderator shall, in behalf of the Association, give to one of its Messengers present the right-hand of fellowship.

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RULE 6th. Minutes, exc RULE 7th opening of th Arr. 8th.—When any Church shall neglect to make communication for three years successively it shall be considered as having withdrawn from us, and shall be dropped from the Minutes, unless two or more members shall request its continuance and shall engage to enquire into its standing and report at the next meeting of the Association.

ART. 9th.—Although as an Association all power over the Churches is disclaimed, so far as respects any interference with their independence and discipline; yet it is deemed a privilege belonging to the Association to judge for itself of the propriety of receiving or retaining any Church in its connexion.

ART. 10th.—The religious sentiments of this body are those expressed in the "Articles of the Faith and Practice of the Baptist Churches in Nova Scotia."

ART. 11th.—That the Moderator be authorized at any time during the year, to call a special meeting of the Association, in pursuance of a requisition signed by ten members thereof.

ART. 12th.—Alterations and amendments may be made to this Constitution by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any of its regular meetings.

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RULES OF ORDER.

Rule 1st.—At every sitting, business shall be opened and closed with prayer; and immediately after the opening, the Minutes of the preceding meeting shall be read and corrected.

Rule 2nd.—No member of the Association shall leave the Session before the business is concluded, without permission of the Association.

 $\ensuremath{\mathtt{Rule}}$ 3rd.—No subject shall be discussed without a motion first made and seconded.

Rule 4th.—No person shall speak oftener than twice on the same subject, unless by permission of the body.

RULE 5th .- All resolutions shall be presented in writing.

RULE 6th.—Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the Minutes, except so ordered at the time.

 ${\tt Rule}$ 7th — These Rules shall be distinctly read from the Chair at the opening of the Session.