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Baptists. Massachusetts. Boston Association, 1812.

Minutes . . . in Salem, September 16th & 17th.

Boston, Lincoln & Edmands, [ 1812 ]. 15, [ 1 ] pp.

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# MINUTES

OF THE

**Boston Baptist Association,**

HELD AT THE

*Baptist Meeting-House,*

IN

**SALEM,**

**SEPTEMBER, 16th, & 17th,**

**1812.**

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BOSTON :

PRINTED BY LINCOLN & EDMANDS, NO. 53 CORNHILL.

# CONSTITUTION

OF THE

## BOSTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ART. I. This Association shall be composed only of ministers and delegates, who shall be members of the churches which they represent ; (excepting such as may be invited to a seat, by the consent of the body :) and shall be styled, THE BOSTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

II. The association shall meet annually at 10 o'clock, A. M. on the third Wednesday in September, at such place as they shall appoint, of which notice shall be given in the Minutes. The meeting shall be opened with public worship, after which there shall be a collection made for the relief of widows and children of deceased ministers, who may have belonged to this body. It is also expected, that every meeting held by adjournment from time to time, during the session of the association, be opened and concluded by prayer.

III. Each church shall have the privilege of sending one delegate or more ; but no church, however numerous, shall be entitled to a greater number than three, in addition to their pastor.

IV. At the first meeting of this Association, the oldest minister present shall call for a nomination of a moderator, who shall be chosen by a hand vote, by a majority of all the members present. The moderator thus chosen, shall, upon his acceptance, lead the meeting to the choice of a clerk in the same manner. It shall be the duty of the moderator thus chosen, to preside and lead in all the transactions of the meeting, and to see that due order and decorum are observed by all the members. It shall be the duty of the clerk to make a fair and impartial record of all the doings of the meeting during their session, and furnish a correct copy of the same for the press.

V. It shall also be the duty of the moderator, impartially to attend to every member, while speaking in an orderly manner. And when any question or subject has been sufficiently discussed, and a motion made and seconded for a decision, he shall put the question, and declare the vote.

VI. It is expected that the churches, with their messengers, will send letters to the Association, giving an account of the state of the church ; particularly of the additions and diminutions in the past year, and generally of whatever relates to their peace and prosperity, together with the whole number of members in communion. With these letters, each church shall forward money for the printing of the Minutes, which shall always contain a Circular Letter addressed by the Association to the churches.

