

S5779

Baptists. Maine. Bowdoinham Association, 1804.
Minutes ... in Readfield ... September ... 1804.
Portland, Willis, 1804. 8 pp.
MWA copy.

MINUTES

OF THE

Wobodoinham Association,

HELD AT THE

BAPTIST MEETING-HOUSE

IN

READFIELD,

September 26th and 27th,

1804.

P O R T L A N D :

FROM THE ARGUS-PRESS.....BY N. WILLIS, JUN.

1804.

MINUTES.

WEDNESDAY, September 26.

AT ten o'clock, A. M. brother Elisha Williams preached from Isaiah 40, 11, *He shall feed his flock like a shepherd.*

1. At two o'clock P. M. brother Joseph Bailey preached the introductory Sermon from Heb. xii. 28. *Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably, with reverence and godly fear.*

2. Chose brother Sylvanus Boardman, Moderator, & brother Benj. Titcomb, Clerk.

3. Read letters from the several Churches, and took the following account of members added, dismissed, excluded, or who have died the year past.

N. B. The names of ordained ministers in SMALL CAPITALS. Licensed preachers in *Italic*. Those ministers with this * mark were not present. Churches with this † mark gave no information this session. Vacant Churches distinguished with a dash.—

<i>Churches.</i>	<i>Ministers and Messengers.</i>	<i>Added.</i>	<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>Excluded</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Total,</i>
<i>Bowdoinham,</i>	JOB MACOMBER, James Buker, Seth Hathorne, Thomas Dinsmore,	2				25
<i>Harpeswell,</i>	SAMUEL MARINER, SAMUEL WOODWARD, David Farrin, William Gatchell,	1	2			47
<i>Thomastown,</i>	ELISHA SNOW,	1	6		1	77
<i>Bowdoin,</i>	*JAMES POTTER, Joseph Dinsmore, James Sampson, Nathaniel Smith, Moses Dennet,	5		4	1	106
<i>Vassalborough,</i>	JESSE MARTIN, NEHEMIAH GOULD, Coker Marble, Allin Wing,	19	8	1	1	61
<i>Ballston,</i>	JOSEPH BAILEY, Barna Toby, Abraham Choat,	31	1	1		104
<i>Sidney,</i>	ASA WILBUR, Samuel Ward, Nathaniel Reynolds, jun. Afa Williams,	5			2	55
<i>Litchfield,</i>	WILLIAM STINSON, Heman Smith, Saul Cook,			4		92
<i>Hebron,</i>	*JOHN TRIPP, William Barrows, James Dunham, William Bumpus,		2	1		59

Churches. Ministers and Messengers.

<i>Churches.</i>	<i>Ministers and Messengers.</i>	<i>Added.</i>	<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>Excluded</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
<i>Buckfield,</i>	NATHANIEL CHACE,	2	12			36
<i>Paris,</i>	JAMES HOOPER, Uriah Ripley, Josiah Smith,	1	1	1		41
<i>Lewiston,</i>	BENJAMIN COLE, James Garcelon, jr. Josiah Mitchell, Thomas Lumber, Peter Garcelon,			1	2	54
<i>Readfield,</i>	ISAAC CASE. PETER MOORS, William Briggs, William Richards,	3				59
<i>Fayette,</i>	OLIVER BILLINGS, Joshua Walton, Abijah Crane, Jeremiah Richards, Benjamin Palmer,	4		1	1	65
<i>Misconagus-Island,</i>	William Loud,	1			1	32
<i>St. George,</i>	EPHRAIM HALL,		1	2		74
<i>Nobleborough,</i>	*Samuel A. Flagg, Jesse Flint,	1				17
<i>Livermore,</i>	SYLVANUS BOARDMAN, Ransom Norton, Thomas Wyman, Reuben Wing, Moses Stevens,	8	2	4	1	92
<i>Green,</i>	Lemuel Conines, John Mower, Benjamin Quinby,					38
<i>Wayne,</i>	WILLIAM GODDING, Joseph Fairbanks, Ichabod Billington, Japheth Wathburn, Ichabod Billington, jr.	1				32
<i>Lisbon,</i>	*ICHABOD TEMPLE, Seth Hinkley, Joseph Kilgore, Samuel Tebbets,	1	2			45
<i>Hope,</i>				2		16
<i>New-Gloucester,</i>	ROBERT LOW, Abner Harris, John Woodman, Richard Tobie,	6		1		38
<i>Clinton,</i>	MEPHIDESHETH CAIN, Joseph Spencer,		16	8		34

Churches. Ministers and Messengers.

	<i>Added.</i>	<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>Excluded</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
<i>North-Yarmouth,</i> *THOMAS GREEN, Samuel York, Sylvanus Sole,					23
<i>Harlem,</i> JOB CHADWICK, Sylvanus Hatch,	6	2		1	31
<i>New-Vineyard,</i> _____ Deacon Spencer, B. Cottle,					16
† <i>Farmington,</i> _____ <i>2d Litchfield,</i> _____ John Neal, James Pearce, Daniel Cunningham, Levi Harriman,	3		2		85
<i>Wales,</i> _____ Philip Jenkins, Benjamin Tebbets,			1	1	39
<i>Jay,</i> JOSEPH ADAMS, Thomas Macomber, Oliver Fuller, Oliver Peabody,	24	2			62
<i>Mount-Vernon,</i> _____ Samuel Thing, John Prescott, John Hovey,			2		49
<i>Brunswick,</i> BENJAMIN TITCOMB, Samuel Dunlap, Elisha Snow,	4		1	1	35
<i>Leeds,</i> THOMAS FRANCIS, Giddins Lane, Thomas Millet, Daniel Lathrop,	9		2		32
<i>Woolwich,</i> _____ Samuel Stinson, Charles Curtis, Robert Perkins,					13
<i>Madumcook,</i> _____ Benjamin Burton, ANDREW FULLER,	5 6		1		34 49
<i>Warren,</i> _____ <i>Portland,</i> _____ David Basset, JABEZ LEWIS, Nathaniel Robertson, Stephen Dexter,	3 21	2	1		30 38
<i>2d Buckfield,</i> _____ John Drake,	2			1	33
<i>Mount-Ephraim,</i> JOHN HAINES, Joshua Smart,	19				30
<i>New-Sharon,</i> _____ Samuel Prescott, Moses Wood, Ambrose Arnold, Levi Jewell,					24

<i>Churches.</i>	<i>Ministers and Messengers.</i>	<i>Added.</i>	<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>Excluded</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
<i>Canaan,</i>	----- Humphrey Buril, David Lancaster, Daniel Smtih,					18
<i>Sumner,</i>	THOMAS MACOMBER, John Briggs, M. Keon, Seth Sturtevant,					23
<i>Ileeborough,</i>	----- Thomas Ames, Noah Dodge,					51
<i>Vinalhaven,</i>	-----					52
<i>Bethel,</i>	-----					6
<i>Jefferson & Lancaster,</i>	-----					39
<i>Total,</i>		196	62	41	14	2121

B. The Church called Fairfax, was last year called Freetown. The Church called Hope, was last year called Barrestown. ☞ Those persons who stand as licensed preachers in the Churches belonging to this Association, are requested to give in their names to the Clerk at the next session. The six last mentioned Churches were received into union the present session.

THURSDAY, September 27.

Met according to adjournment at 8 o'clock P. M. meeting opened by prayer by Elder Chadbourn.

4. Read letters from Sister Associations—Letter and Minutes by brother Williams from the Warren—Letter and Minutes by brethren Chadbourn and Flanders from the New-Hampshire.

5. Chose brethren Billings, Boardman, Case, Francis & Godding a Committee to visit the Church in Farmington, having received no communications from them two sessions.

6. Rec'd & accepted the report of the committee relative to the Church in Green.

7. Read and adopted the Circular Letter prepared by brother Titcomb, and the corresponding Letter to sister associations by brother Boardman.

8. Voted that the corresponding Letter be printed in the minutes.

9. Chose brother Godding to write the Circular Letter, brother Francis the corresponding Letter.

10. Chose brethren Case & Tripp messengers to the Warren, and brethren Godding and Hooper to the New-Hampshire Associations.

11. Chose brother Abner Harris Treasurer.

12. Voted that brother Titcomb superintend printing the minutes.

13. Voted that those Churches which wish to withdraw from the Association, meet at Ballston, the 4th Wednesday in October next.

14. Voted that the introductory sermon be preached at ten o'clock A. M. next year.

15. Voted to hold our next Association at the Baptist Meeting-House in Mount-Vernon, at ten o'clock A. M.

In the afternoon a meeting was held for the establishment of a Missionary Society, a Sermon Preached ; Society organized ; and 130 dollars collected.

Supplies for the Churches.

Portland. James Hooper, 3d in October. Robert Low, 3d in Nov. Eld 3d in Dec. Elder Woodard, 3d in January. Elder Stinton, 3d in Feb. Elder 3d in March. Elder Titcomb, 1st in April. Elder Baily, 3d in May. Elder Macber, 3d in June. Elder Adams, 3d in July. Elder Chase, 3d in Aug.—*Wales.* Elder Temple, 4th in Nov. 4th in May, 4th in July, 4th in Sept. Elder Chase, 4th in January. Elder Stinson, 4th in March.—*Canaan.* Elder Wilbur, 2d in Feb. Elder Martin, 2d in June.—*New-Vineyard.* Elder Palmer, 2d in June, 2d in Aug. Elder Godding, 2d in Feb.—*Mount-Vernon.* Elder Billings, 2d in January and 2d in May.—*2d Litchfield.* Elder Billings, 4th in Dec.—*Hope.* Elder Hall, 3d in January, 3d in July.—*Nobleboro'.* Elder Cole, 1st in Jan. Elder Cain, 1st in May.—*Woolwich.* Elder Woodward, 3d in October. Elder Stinson, 3d in January. Elder Bailey, 3d in May. Elder Mariner, 3d in July.—*Jefferson & Lancaster.* Elder Low 1st in Aug. Elder Chase, 2d in March. Elder Adams, 1st in Sept.—*Bethel.* Elder Adams, 1st in October.—*Green.* Elder Boardman, 3d in February. Elder Hooper, 3d in August. Elder Godding, 3d in November. Elder Billings, 3d in June.—*Miscungus-Island.* Elder Chadwick, 2d in Feb. 2d in July. Elder Hall, 2d in May, 2d in Aug. Elder Fuller, 3d in Jan. 3d in June.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Ministers and Messengers of the BOWDOINHAM ASSOCIATION, met at Readfield the Fourth Wednesday in September current ; to the respective Churches they represent—grace and peace be multiplied.

DEAR BRETHREN,

THROUGH the tender mercy of our God we have been favored with another precious season of meeting together, to consult the welfare of Zion. With heartfelt pleasure and satisfaction we have experienced that wise saying of the Prince of Israel, "As Iron sharpeneth Iron, so doth a man the countenance of his friend." When we meet in the great congregation and mingle souls with our brethren from various quarters—when we listen to communications from the Churches, and learn their trials and joys, their decrease and increase, we feel a mixture of pain and pleasure which is indistinguishable—Still we find that Zion is increasing. New Churches are received to fellowship, the body of the Churches maintain the doctrines and order of the gospel, while our ears are saluted with agreeable tidings from Sister Associations.

Dear Brethren,—Notwithstanding the jars and commotions in the world, notwithstanding the flood of error that is spreading amongst us, whereby thousands are deluded and fall victims to the shrine of infidelity, let us remember that the Lord God omnipotent reigns, and that his steady purposes are rolling on the wheels of time till all shall be completely accomplished. The beautiful temple of the mystical Solomon is rising superior to all the efforts and power of its enemies, and the happy period approaches when the cope stone will be laid by the great antitypical Zerubbabel with shoutings of grace, grace unto it.

Gird up, therefore, the loins of your mind, dear brethren, and hope to the end. Because Jesus lives, you shall live also—you are called to wage war with all the enemies of God,—Repair to the magazine of God's word, and put on the spiritual armour, by which you may hope to subdue your enemies, and obtain the victory.

Your principal enemies are the world, the flesh, and devil. By its alluring charms the world will court your company, your time, and your talents ; but remember that the fawning sycophant threatens the welfare of princes, while powerful armies are kept

at a distance. In addition to this dangerous enemy another more dangerous will succeed and second all the efforts of the world. His artifices are all exposed in the volume of inspiration; to it therefore repair, and take it as the man of your counsel, obey its precious dictates, and it shall be a light unto your feet, and a lamp unto your path. But remember, brethren, that the most dangerous enemies are within you, and of all your enemies, these will require the most watchful & vigorous resistance. These subtle foes are in ~~you~~ with all the enemies without, and when a communication between them is effected, dangerous consequences ensue. Mortify, therefore, your members which are on the earth—crucify the old man with his lusts and affections, and put on the new man which after God is created in knowledge, righteousness and holiness.

To conclude, we recommend to you a diligent and close attention to the gospel, as a rule of conduct, whether it respects our duty to God, to ourselves, or to our fellow men. Often measuring ourselves by this rule, we shall discover our imperfections and short comings, and be led to adopt the language of the inspired psalmist, "My goodness extendeth not unto thee, but to the Saints, the excellent of the earth, in whom is all my delight."



CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The BOWDOINHAM ASSOCIATION convened at Readfield the 26th and 27th of September, 1804, to corresponding Associations, sends Christian salutation.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,

THE Author of our existence has in wisdom and mercy constituted us intelligent and social beings, and by an interchange of affections, and a communication of ideas we are capable of administering to the information, edification, satisfaction and joy of each other. While leading and designing men in the Church of Rome are endeavouring to dupe the people, and lead them in the belief that ignorance is the mother of devotion, we glory that light and truth are disseminated in our happy land; and although the region in particular in which we dwell, enjoys not the advantages which older and more populous parts of our land are favored with; yet through the medium of books and a correspondence with the more enlightened of mankind we possess a source of information for which our gratitude is due to the kind disposer of all events.

Our present meeting is a correspondence with the Churches and individual members who compose the Association, and our correspondence with our Elder Sister Associations is a privilege we highly prize, and wish to cultivate and continue. It is a source of information and instruction, of gladness and joy.

Our present meeting has been satisfactory and pleasing. We hear of the Gospel's spread, the growth of the Redeemer's Empire, the shaking of infidelity, the tottering of the kingdom of darkness.

May Zion in our land make a vigorous effort for apostolic purity in doctrine, order, discipline and manners. May zeal and unity, wisdom and prudence, peculiarly distinguish the heralds of Immanuel—and may all the members which compose the mystical body of Christ, be perfectly joined together in the same mind and judgment, dressed in uniform, march in gospel order, sing in perfect unison, run with patience, watch with prayer, fight with valor, conquer shouting victory to their glorious leader, die triumphing, & reign gloriously with their exalted head in mansions above the skies.

Signed in behalf of the Association,

SYLVANUS BOARDMAN, *Modcrator.*

BENJAMIN TITCOMB, *Clerk.*