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Baptists. Connecticut. Danbury Association. 1790.

The Minutes ... in Danbury, September, 1790.

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The  
**M I N U T E S**  
of the  
**A P T I S T A S S O C I A T I O N.**

HELD IN DANBURY SEPTEMBER, 1799.

TO WHICH IS ADDED

THE

Sentiments and Plan of the said

**A S S O C I A T I O N.**

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NEW-YORK.

By WILLIAM DURELL at his Book Store and Printing Office No. 190, E. Street.

*Minutes of the Danbury Association, held at the Baptist Meeting-House in Danbury, Sept. 29, 1790.*

At 1 o'clock, P. M. Elder Elisha Ransom, according to appointment, delivered the introductory sermon from John xiii. 35. "By this shall all men know that ye are disciples if ye have love one to another."

Second After public worship, proceeded to business, and chose Elder Elisha Ransom, Moderator, Elder Adam Hamilton, Clerk: Also, read the letters from the several Churches, and the following account of the number of their members:

<i>Churches.</i>	<i>Messengers.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
Watertown.	{ Elder Elisha Ransom, White Osbourn, Truman Catlin. - - -	19
Farmington.	Elder Calvin Hulbert. - - -	25
Wallingford.	{ Isaac Hall. Joel Ives. - - -	49
Torrington.	{ Elder Stephen Shephard, Epaphras Thompson. - - -	70
Canaan.	{ Jesse Bishop, Ashbel Hofmer. - - -	22
Stratfield.	{ Elder Seth Higby, Deacon John Edwards, Samuel Bennet. - - -	99
Warren.	{ Elder Isaac Roots, Nathan Stillson, Benjamin Dunning - - -	80
Suffield.	. . . . .	112
W. & Westfield.	Elder Adam Hamilton. - - -	84

<i>Churches.</i>	<i>Messengers.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
1st Danbury.	Elder Nathaniel Finch,	
	Elder Nathaniel Norton,	
	Elder Enoch Ferris,	
	Reuben Ferris,	
	Barzila King,	
	Daniel Bristol,	
	John Beal.           -       -       -	125
2d Danbury.	Elder Justice Hull,	
	Daniel Wildman, jun.	
	Peter Ambler.           -       -	49
South-Britain.	Deacon John Sherman,	
	Joseph Pierce.           -       -	31
Amenia-Town.	Elder Elijah Wood.       -       -	15
	<b>Total.</b>	<b>774</b>

Adjourned till to morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Sermon in the evening, by Elder Hamilton, from Prov. xiii. 15.

MET, pursuant to adjournment.

3. Sermon by Elder Samuel Waldo, from Matt. xvi. 18.
4. Voted to consider ourselves at this and at every future meeting annually, an Assoc under the name of *The Danbury Association*.
5. Voted to form a connection and correspondence with the Philadelphia, Shaftsbu Stonington Associations.
6. Voted brother Samuel Whelply to write a letter from this Association to the Philad Association, requesting a union and correspondence with them: And Elder Adam Hami be the messenger.
7. Voted Elder Justice Hull and Elder Adam Hamilton to be messengers to the Sha Association, and by letter request a union and correspondence with them.
8. Voted Elder Calvin Hulbert to be messenger to the Stonington Association, and by request a union and correspondence with them.

9. Voted that this Association recommend to the Churches not to give flattering titles, such as Reverend, &c. to their Elders.

*Query* from the Church in Warren. Should a brother change his sentiment respecting believers baptists, and freely give it as his opinion that infants have a just right to the ordinance, and because the Church holds the contrary sentiment, and likewise close communion, he publicly withdraws from her communion, What shall a Church do in such a case?

*Answer.* We consider such a person to be a covenant breaker.

*Query* from the Church in Amenia-Town. Has a Minister of the gospel a right to add to the Church members at his own option?

*Answer* in the negative.

Voted to have the sentiments, ~~plans~~, and minutes of this Association printed, and Elder Hamilton to superintend the printing of them.

Voted to meet the 3d Wednesday in September next, at 1 o'clock, at Elder Higby's Meeting-House in Stratfield.

Voted Elder Hamilton to preach the next Association Sermon:—In case of failure, Elder Ferris.

#### SUPPLIES *for* VACANT CHURCHES.

Wallingford.	{	<i>Elder Norton,</i>	last Lords day in November.
	{	<i>Elder Hulbert,</i>	second Lords day in November.
	{	<i>Elder Shephard,</i>	last Lords day in November.
	{	<i>Elder Higby,</i>	first Lords day in May.
South-Britain.	{	<i>Elder Hamilton,</i>	fourth Lords day in June.
	{	<i>Elder Hulbert,</i>	third Lords day in April.
	{	<i>Elder Norton,</i>	first Lords day in December.
	{	<i>Elder Ransom,</i>	second Lords day in November,
Canaan.	{	<i>Elder Roots,</i>	first Lords day in January.
	{	<i>Elder Shephard,</i>	last Lords day in January.
	{	<i>Elder Norton,</i>	first Lords day in January.
	{	<i>Elder Ransom,</i>	first Lords day in December.
	{	<i>Elder Roots,</i>	second Lords day in November.
	{	<i>Brother Thompson,</i>	second Lords day in October.

Weathersfield.	{	<i>Elder Hulbert,</i>	first Lord's Day in January.
	{	<i>Elder Runsom,</i>	first Lord's Day in February.
	{	<i>Elder Sheppard,</i>	first Lord's Day in May.
	{	<i>Elder Adam Hamilton,</i>	third Lord's Day in July.
	{	<i>Elder Roots,</i>	first Lord's Day in August.

Voted Brother Whelply to write the Circular Letter for the next year.

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## S E N T I M E N T S.

1st. **T**HAT such a combination of *Churches* is not only prudent, but useful, as has appeared even in America, by the experience of upwards of sixty years: some of the uses of are, union and communion among themselves, maintaining more effectually the order and discipline once delivered to the saints, having advice in cases of doubts, and help in distress, being able to promote the good of the cause.

2d. **T**HAT such an *Association* is consistent with the independency and power of particular Churches, because it pretends to be no other than an advisory council, utterly disclaiming superiority, jurisdiction, coercive right and infallibility.

3d. **T**HAT an *Association* should consist of men knowing and judicious; particularly in the scriptures; the reasons are obvious; such men are the fittest to represent communities who profess the scriptures to be the only rule of faith and practice in religious matters, who expect that every advice, opinion or direction they receive from an *Association*, scriptural. They should be skilful and expert in the laws of their God, as counsellors are in the laws of the land for that is the ground of the churches application to them.

