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Baptists. New Hampshire. New-Hampshire Association,
1793.

Minutes ... at Northwood, June 12th and 13th, M, DCC,
XCIII.

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M I N U T E S.
OF THE
N E W - H A M P S H I R E
ASSOCIATION,
HELD AT
N O R T H W O O D,
JUNE 12th and 13th,
M, DCC, XCIII.

THURSDAY, June 12.

THE Association met according to appointment, a sermon preached at 11 o'clock, by brother Wm. Hooper, from Isaiah 53 and 1 verse, *Who hath believed our report, and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?*

At 2 o'clock P. M. Brother Hezekiah Smith preached the association sermon from Ephesians 3, and 19th verse, *And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of GOD.*

After public worship, chose Brother Hezekiah Smith Moderator, and Brother William Hooper, Clerk.

Read letters from the several churches, and took the following account of the members who have been added, dismissed, excluded or died the year past; and the whole number in each church.—N. B. Ordained ministers names in *Italicks.*

		Added	Disin.	Excom.	Died	Num.
Berwick and Madbury.	{ <i>William Hooper,</i> Ephriam Fols, James Hooper, Eliphalet Cloutman,	5				75
Brentwood with its Branches.	{ <i>Samuel Shepard,</i> Levi Morrill, <i>Moses Chase,</i> Bernard Carrier, <i>John Peak,</i> John Prescott, Peter More, Nathaniel Brown, _____ Williams,					
Brintwood with its Branches	{ Josiah Tukesbury Samuel Pottle, Joseph Robertson, Broadstreet Gilman, Benjamin Watson, Joshua Lane, Zebulon Dow, <i>Elias Smith,</i> Nathaniel Bean, Benjamin Cilley.	18	2	1		526
<i>continued.</i>						
Sanford.	{ Samuel Scribner, John Powers,	4	48			35
Gilman- town.	{ <i>Walter Powers,</i> Thomas Edgerly, John Cotton, Dudley Young.	23				57
Northwood	{ <i>Edmund Pilsbury,</i> William Wallis, Israel Huckins.	18				109
Wells.	{ <i>Nathaniel Lord,</i> Joseph Eaton, Gideon Hatch,					

		Ad.	Dis.	Fac.	Z.
Wells.	{ Robert Ford, William Perkins,	6			60
Coxhall.	{ <i>Simon Lock,</i> Levi Chadbourn.	10			51
Shapleigh.	{ <i>Nehemiah Davis,</i> Abraham Pugsley, Benjamin Magoon.	21			44
Waterboro'	{ Henry Smith, Nathaniel Haines, Samuel Dam.				23
Francis- boro'	{ John Chadbourn, Andrew Sherburne, Henry Cole.				50
Fryburg.	{ <i>Zebadiab Richardson,</i> Moses Pitte, Morris Witham.				26
<i>Total.</i>		215	50	11	1966

The three last churches were added to our association this session.

Read, letter and minutes from Warren association, brought by their messenger brother Hezekiah Smith.

Read, letter and minutes from Bowdoinham association, by their messenger brother Joshua Young.

Read, minutes from Meredith association—messengers brother Jeremiah Ward and brother Daniel Bramerd.

Chose, brother John Peak to prepare the circular letter.

Chose, brother Samuel Shepard to write the corresponding letters to our sister associations.

Concluded by prayer—adjourned till tomorrow morning 8 o'clock,

Met according to adjournment, brother John Peak preached a sermon from Romans x chap. 9 verſe, *That if thou ſhalt confeſs with thy mouth the Lord Jeſus, and thali believe in thine heart that God hath raiſed him from the dead, thou ſhalt be ſaved.*

Proceeded to buſineſs, read and approved the circular letter wrote by brother Peak, and read, and approved the correſponding letter prepared by brother Shepard.

Whereas there are ſome perſons baptized, that have not given themſelves members of any particular church, and live in the neglect of the holy ordinance of the ſupper.

Voted, It is our opinion, that it is the duty of ordained elders that baptize, to hold in their fellowſhip, and as members of their particular churches, all perſons by them baptized, until diſmiſſed to ſome other church of the ſame faith and order—and not to baptize ſtrangers belonging nigh to another baptiſt church, without ſome ſpecial reaſon can be given.

Chole brother John Peak and brother Peter More our meſſengers to Warren aſſociation, to meet at Attleborough Sept. 10th, 1793.

Chole brother Walter Powers, brother Levi Chadbourn and brother Dudley Young to Meredith aſſociation.

Chole brother William Hooper brother Simon Lock & brother Henry Smith to Bowdoinham aſſociation to meet at Winthrop the 4th Wednesday in Auguſt at 1 o'clock P M.

Chole bother John Peak and brother Elias Smith to Woodſtock aſſociation to be holden at Sandwich ſecond Wednesday in September.

Appointed brother Walter Powers to write

the circular letter for next year, and brother William Hooper to write the corresponding letter.

Voted to hold our next association at Gilman-town, second Wednesday June 1794.

Whereas it has been of late the practice of some persons to set up grog shops, near the meeting house where the association is held, voted—that we disapprove of such practice, and that application shall be made to the select-men of the town where the association shall meet in future, to use their influence to prevent such conduct.

A sermon in the afternoon by brother Shepard from Exodus 33 chapter, 16 verse—*For wherein shall it be known here, that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? Is it not in that thou goest with us? So shall we be separated I and thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth.*

C I R C U L A R L E T T E R.

BELOVED BRETHREN IN THE LORD,

THE revolving seasons are constantly unfolding the benevolent designs of the king of Zion towards his people. It is evident that we see those things in our days which were long ago foretold by ancient prophets: And may we be so happy as to have proper conceptions of the divine œconomy. GOD is a being of eternal and unalterable perfections,—of pure and perfect holiness. With respect to him, there is nothing contingent. Known unto him are all his works from the beginning. *His law is perfect truth*, inasmuch as it requires nothing but what is completely just and right, viz. that we should love GOD who is a being of entire good-

ness, and perfect holiness, with the whole soul — with all the abilities which we have received from him in creation ; also that we should love our neighbor as ourselves, inasmuch as they are of equal importance in the common scale of beings. But, be astonished O heaven ! has the tall arch-angel fell by his rebellion against the good sovereign of the universe ? And man joined in the vile revolt !—became an enemy to GOD by wicked works, and justly exposed to everlasting condemnation.—But glory to GOD in the highest, on earth there is peace and good will towards men. GOD is independent of all his creatures, and cannot be made happy or miserable by the happiness or misery of any of the souls which he has made : But for his own glory he hath made a display of his eternal love, in providing a ransom for them. The glory of the invisible GOD was manifest in feeble flesh, in the character of the only begotten son of GOD, by virtue of the covenant stipulated between the Father and the Son, before the foundation of the world. This divine personage descended from heaven to earth to satisfy divine justice in our room and stead. This is the blessed errand he came into this world upon. He lived and died a faithful witness to the truth.—He was delivered for our offences. His soul was exceeding sorrowful, even unto death, that we might be made the righteousness of GOD in him. Behold thy redeemer ! the man of grief ! see him yonder, stretched on the fatal wood between the heavens and the earth, as though forsaken of GOD and rejected of men. No royal diadem to crown his reverend head ; but his crown was a crown of thorns.—No sparkling diamonds to adorn his sacred brow, but his jew-

els were crimson jewels of his own most precious blood. And though no man could take his life from him, yet he freely laid it down that he might take it again at the commandment of his father.—Behold your rising GOD leaving the dreary mansion of the dead—see him ascending from the tomb as a mighty conqueror. This is he who is the substance to which all the shadows pointed. In him all fulness dwells, that with him GOD might freely give us all things ; and and now he commandeth all men every where to repent. Acts 17, 30.—This is the commandment which we have received of him, that we should believe on the name of his son Jesus Christ, and love one another. 1 John 3, 23.—that in him we might be justified from all things — Acts 13, 39.—But we have hid our faces from him.—But, that the immutable promise might not fail, he hath sent his holy spirit, not only to reprove the world, but also to seal the heirs of salvation to eternal redemption ; according as he hath predestinated us to the adoption of children, chosen in Christ before the world began. The love of GOD shed abroad in our hearts by the holy ghost, he hath given us as an earnest of the heavenly inheritance ; by which he hath not only administered a sealed pardon to our souls, but hath also given us many great and precious promises ; so that none shall be able to pluck us out of his hand. All things shall work together for good to them that love GOD, who are the called according to his purpose.—Brethren we know these things ; not that we loved him, but that he first loved us, and gave his son to be *the propitiation for our sins* through faith in his blood ; and hath given us to feel the resurrection power of Christ, by which we are

quickned to newness of life, and know that we have an advocate with the Father.

And now, while a flood of errors from the mouth of the beast and the false prophet are bursting forth on every hand, in colours too numerous here to name, let us stand fast in the testimony of Jesus, and not be carried about with every wind of doctrine.

We behold with refined satisfaction, the growing empire of our king.—Truth prevails,—our churches revive,—converts are multiplied.—additions are daily made to the churches of such as we hope shall be saved : and the spirit of persecution is not suffered to rage as heretofore. Let us beware lest the sawning spirit of worldly friendship should flatter us out of those principles of faith and practice which our forefathers vindicated against the rage of fire and sword. But may we be enabled to persevere through good report, as those before have through evil report. Let us be faithful in doctrine,—strict in discipline,—and uniform in practice ; walking in all the ordinances of the Lord blameless—keeping them as they were delivered by the executors of the last will and testament of our Lord, and contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints.

We have had an happy interview through the whole of the present session. We can say, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.—The good spirit of our GOD descends with such divine manifestation of himself, that our hearts are filled with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

Now to him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the throne, be ascribed ceaseless praises—*Amen.*

HEZEKIAH SMITH, *Moderator*
WILLIAM HOOPER, *Clerk.*