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1807.

Minutes of the ... in Cornish ( Maine ) ... June ...  
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# MINUTES

OF THE

*NEW-HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION,*

HELD IN THE

BAPTIST MEETING-HOUSE,

IN

*CORNISH, (Maine)*

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY,

JUNE 10 AND 11, 1807.



*WILLIAM WEEKS, PRINTER.....SACO, (MAINE.)*

JUNE, 1807.

# MINUTES

## OF THE

### New-Hampshire Association.

JUNE 10, 1807.

AT ten o'clock, a Sermon by Elder NICHOLAS FOLSOM, from Matthew v. 8.

1. At two o'clock, the introductory sermon by Elder JOSHUA CHASE, from Isaiah liiii. 1.—“*Who hath believed our report, and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?*”

2. Chose Elder WILLIAM GODING, Moderator, and Elder ANDREW SHERBURNE, Clerk.

3. After prayer, by the Moderator, proceeded to read the letters from the Churches, and took the following account of the members added, dismissed, excluded, or who have died the past year, and the present number in each Church.

N. B. The names of ordained ministers in small capitals; licenced ministers in italic. Churches that sent no Messengers marked thus †; vacant churches with a dash, —; ministers not present marked thus \*.

<i>Churches.</i>	<i>Elders and Messengers.</i>	<i>Added.</i>	<i>Dismissed.</i>	<i>Excluded.</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
† Madbury,	* William Hooper,					64
	{ JOSHUA CHASE,	10		1		191
	{ Hercules Fernald,					
	{ Cotton Chase,					
† in Berwick,	{ Elijah Blafdel,					
	{ Ebenezer Blafdel,					
	{ John Dennett,					

		Added.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Died.	Total.
Brentwood and branches,	* SAMUEL SHEPARD, * ELIPHALET MERRILL, * JONATHAN THING, Broadstreet Gilman, Moses Clark, Phinehas Sanborn,	10			2	523
Sanford,	OTIS ROBINSON, Eleazar Chadbourne, Ezra Thompson, James Chadbourne, Jonathan Powers, John Libby.	3		3		111
Gilmanton,	Joseph Huckins,					91
1st Wells,	JOSEPH EATON, Jacob Perkins,			4	1	80
2d Berwick,	NATHANIEL LORD, William Perkins, Isaac Perkins, John Fall, Thomas D. Fernald.					65
Lyman,	SIMON LOCK, John Waterhouse, William Waterhouse, Jezekiah Drew, Samuel Bennett.			1		50
1st Shapleigh,	WILLIAM GODING, Aaron Hubbard.	5		2		88
Waterborough,	HENRY SMITH, Samuel Dam, Benjamin Peirce, Samuel Dam, jun.		1	1		87
Cornish,	TIMOTHY REMICK, ZEBEDIAH RICHARDSON, Jeremiah Lewis, David Ranlet, Joseph Chadbourne.	2		1	1	84
† Newtown,						63

	Added.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Died.	Total.
Limerick,	3			1	62
		13	1		174
Parsonsfield,					
					73
Buxton,					
					63
Lebanon and Berwick,	10	1		3	
+ Newmarket,					38
Exeter,		1			44
		1	1		51
Limington,					
					55
ad Wells,		1			
					58
Arundel,		2	2		
					39
Newbury and Newburyport	17	2			

		Added.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Died.	Total.
2d Waterboro,	{ Abraham Bean, Paul Chadbourne.					19
2d Shapleigh,	{ Samuel Simmons, Maturen Abbott.					21
Phillipsburgh,	{ TIMOTHY HODSDON, Samuel Bradbury.					25
Newfield,	{ Nathan Knock, Joseph Dam, Joseph Davis.					14
		65	19	14	6	2210

N. B. The two last churches were received the present session.

4. Voted that the brethren present, from sister Associations, take a seat and act with us.

5. From sister Associations,

<i>From the</i>		<i>Ministers and Messengers</i>
Warren,	Letter, Minutes.	_____
Woodstock,	_____	_____
Bowdoinham,	_____	
Meredith,	Letter, Minutes.	Ezra Wilmarth. Nicholas Folsom.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning ; closed by prayer.

6. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11.—Met according to adjournment. Prayer introductory to business by the Moderator,

7. The circular letter, prepared by brother Sherburne, was read and accepted. The corresponding letter, prepared by brother Chase, was also read and accepted. Appointed brother Hodsdon to write the circular letter for next year, and brother H. Smith the corresponding.

8. In reply to the propofal of the Meredith Affociation, viz. Whether we will connect the churches composing their affociation, to the western part of ours—*Resolved*, That we will take the propofal under confideration, and decide it at our next affociation.

9. Appointed the following Messengers to corresponding Affociations. To the Warren, Elders Hooper, Smith and Robinfon. Woodstock, Elder Remick and brother *Uriah Morrifon*. Bowdoinham, Elders Goding, Roberts, and Flanners. Meredith, Elders Webber, Remick, Roberts, Robinfon, and brother *Uriah Morrifon*.

10. Appointed Elders, Smith, Robinfon, and Chafe, to fuperintend the Miffion.

11. Appointed Elder Henry Smith, Treasurer of the Affociation; and alfo of the miffion.

12. Voted to comply with the request of the church in Newbury and Newburyport to join the Warren Affociation.

13. Voted that Elders Smith and Robinfon vifit the church in Newtown.

14. Voted to hold our next Affociation in the parifh of Gunftock, in Gilmanton, N. H. on the fecond Wednesday of June next, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

15. Supplies for Parfonfield; Elder Webber, the laft Lord's day in Auguft; Remick, firft in September; Roberts, fecond in September; Lock, third, and Eaton laft in September; Elder Delano, laft in October, and Elder Robinfon laft in November.

16. Supplies for Newfield; Elder Otis Robinfon, the laft Lord's day in June; Joshua Roberts the firft in July; Timothy Remick, fecond in July; Stephen Webber, firft in Auguft; Zebedee Delano, the firft in October; Wm. Goding, firft in Nov, and Simon Lock, fecond in December.

## CIRCULAR LETTER.

*Beloved Brethren,*

**I**T has been the invariable practice of your associated Elders and Messengers, at the close of their annual meeting, to address an Epistle to the churches.

Subjects, experimental, practical, and doctrinal, have, from time to time, been discussed. We are (in the judgment of charity) considered by each other as being possessed of experimental religion, through the beneficence of the sinners' friend. And in order that we maintain fervent charity toward each other, it is indispensably necessary that we maintain practical religion. A faith which is not productive of good works, is dead, being alone. It is of great importance, also, that we should be versed in "the doctrine which is according to godliness." Though we should speak with the tongues of men, and of angels, to maintain that we have experienced the power of godliness in our own souls; should we be ever so confident in maintaining the accuracy of our speculations in doctrinal knowledge, yet, if we do not "maintain good works," our professions of religion answer no valuable purpose.

Brethren should it be granted that we have experienced pure religion; would it be improper for us to enquire whether we are most deficient in practical religion, or doctrinal knowledge?

That we should be of one mind, and of one judgment, is, assuredly, a scriptural injunction; and it is our duty to aim to be perfect; but as yet we have not attained to these things. And, as our limits are circumscribed, we cannot, at present, pursue to any considerable length, either of those important particulars which we have just presented to view.



However, as *practical religion* is the great business of the christian, and is so inseparably connected with our happiness, it is never an unsuitable subject of reflection.

It is conceived that practical religion includes our duty both to God and man ; for the same perfect law which requires us to love God with all the heart, requires that we should love our neighbor as ourselves. We cannot exonerate ourselves from these obligations, nor have we perfectly complied with them : But it is the rejoicing of “ the children of God, that Christ is the end of the law for righteousness, to all them that believe.”

The *chosen and called* of God, are called to self denial ; a life of self denial necessarily implies a life of godliness. It is requisite that we maintain a principle of love and internal obedience ; then of course we shall observe our duty in external performance. He that hath my commandments, and *keepeth* them, (saith our blessed Lord,) he it is that loveth me. John xiv, 21. Our love is made manifest by obedience. Prayer, especially secret, fervent prayer, and giving of thanks, should by no means be classed among the smallest duties of our holy religion. How does the professed christian, who neglects to maintain family prayer, expect to account to his God ?

Watchfulness is a duty perpetually incumbent on us ; by this the children of the kingdom distinguish between truth and error. Baptism, the Lord's Supper, and the fellowship of the saints, are plain and familiar duties, which are readily discerned by the followers of the Lamb. Let it be our concern to walk in the ordinances, blameless. Great care should be taken to cultivate christian union ; and in order to this, we should be guarded particularly against taking, or giving.

offence; not forgetting to rebuke and admonish each other in love and patience; remembering, that, in all our reproofs, we should constantly keep in view the glory of God, and the real good of the soul of the supposed offender. If these are not our motives, we shall not well succeed in our undertakings. Every Christian ought to be well acquainted with that salutary instruction, given by our blessed Lord, in the xviii chapter of Mathew; here we may learn both personal and relative duties. Evil surmising, partiality, tattling, and back biting, too frequently retard the dear children of God in their christian race. These, and all other evil propensities of the human heart unto which we are incident, should ever be avoided by the sons and daughters of Zion.

In a word, brethren, "be at peace among yourselves"—"warn them that are unruly"—"comfort the feeble minded"—"support the weak"—"be patient toward all men"—"see that none render evil for evil unto any man," Thef. v. 13—15. "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord," Heb. xii. 14. And may that God, who hath not appointed us unto wrath, but to obtain salvation by our LORD JESUS CHRIST, make you perfect in every good work.

## CORRESPONDING LETTER.

THE New-Hampshire Association convened at Cornish, county of York, June 10th and 11th, to the Elders and brethren of our sister Associations, sendeth christian salutation.

*Dearly Beloved in the Lord,*

**W**E rejoice that God hath favored us with another opportunity of meeting on the shore of time, of hearing the welfare of Zion, and seeing the Messengers of the churches, who are the glory of Christ.

We have reason to lament that we are no more engaged in the cause of our Redeemer, that we are no more zealous to promote his glory in the world, and that so few come to Zion's solemn feasts; yet at the same time, we rejoice that the government is upon his shoulder, and that God will bring all his elect to the saving knowledge of himself, for he has predestinated his people to be conformed to the image of his son.

O brethren! it is of the greatest importance that gospel discipline be kept up in the churches of Jesus Christ: for the want of this, many have swerved from the truth, and turned aside to vain jangling, and have also overthrown the faith of some. In the discipline of the churches, we ought to adhere strictly to the commands of Christ and his Apostles, to those who walk disorderly, and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness. If these things were attended to, the church militant would appear, clear as the sun, fair as the moon, and terrible as an army with BANNERS.

Our present meeting, we trust, has been graced with God's presence, and a good degree of harmony in our deliberations.

Beloved brethren, pray for us, that the God of holiness may purify our churches, and make us all meet to be partakers of the heavenly inheritance with the saints in light.

We earnestly solicit the continuance of your correspondence, and with pleasure subscribe ourselves, your unworthy brethren in the Lord.

WILLIAM GODING, *Moderator.*

ANDREW SHERBURNE, *Clerk.*

