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Philadelphia Baptist Association.

Minutes of the Philadelphian Association in MDCCLXIX.

Germantown, 1769. 7 pp.

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MINUTES  
OF THE  
PHILADELPHIAN  
ASSOCIATION  
IN MDCCLXIX.

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GERMANTOWN:  
Printed by CHRISTOPHER SOWER, 1769.

Newyork. Oct. 10. The Association met in the after-noon---Divine service being over, Rev. Isaac Eaton was chosen moderator, and Rev. Morgan Edwards clerk---Letters from 26 churches were read; also from the *Warren* association, and that of *Virginia*---The names of the messengers were enrolled, who were the Rev. messieurs Isaac Eaton, Abel Morgan, Morgan Edwards, John Gano, Isaac Stelle, John Thomas, Samuel Jones, David Surton, Joshua Jones, Samuel Waldo, John Waltam, John Sutton, Abel Griffiths, Noah Hammond, Robert Keltay, David Jones, Henry Croisley, Benj. Miller, Hezekiah Smith, James Benedict, John Lawrence, Simon Deacon, Benj. Coles; also Messieurs William Harper, Samuel Edmunds, Wm. Bennet, Wm. Lawson, Francis Van Dyke, Arthur Watts, Andrew Bray, Thomas Pollen, Jonath. Waldo, John Brookfield, Edward Kesby, James Grover, Rich. Crosford, James Pew, John Stout, Henry Ludlem Safety Mahgee, Joseph Meeker, Timothy Hughes Recompence Stanbury, John Stites.---Business done (1) A church constituted Ap. 16. 1769 at Lyons-farms in Newark township, county of Essex and province of New-jersey was received into the association; the number when constituted 11 (2) Agreed, that any member of the associated churches, or of any other baptist church, except he be under censure, may be present at the meeting of the association---Adjourned to the morrow--- A Sermon in the evening

Oct. 11, eight o' clock--- The association met, and after prayer and calling over the roll, proceeded to business (3) Henry Dawson appeared, Resolved to dismiss his cause, and to avoid him--to dismiss his cause, because, we cannot judge between him and the parties in London---and to avoid him, because he stands excommunicated by two churches of the same faith and order---from the one justly, to our knowledge---and, for ought appears, justly from Dr. Gifford's church---the preamble to his excommunication observing that his breaking was 'reproachful to religion' (4) A church constituted Nov 7. 1764 in Goshen township, Orange county, and province of Newyork was received into the association--this church begun with 3 persons, and is increased to 57 --- the minister is Rev. James Benedict (5) Two churches in Philip's-patent in Newyork government sent their messengers, with their church covenants and confessions of faith in order to be first known to the association and the association

ciation known to them, and then to join it if mutual approbation should be obtained. -- Agreed, that these churches are orthodox -- that they are rightly constituted, ---their ministers regularly ordained, and that letters be written to them to signify this our judgment, and to own them as sister churches -- their messengers were allowed to sit in the association -- their ministers are Rev. John Lawrence, and Rev. Simon Deacon -- Adjourned.

The association met again at half an hour past two, and proceeded to business (6) It was shown by some from Philadelphia that they had obtained leave from the church they belonged to, to form themselves into a distinct society in the northern liberties of that city, and were desirous to know the sense of the association touching their design? Voted, that if any of our ministers were free to constitute them into a church in said liberties they might do it without offending the association (7) By letter and messengers from Warren we were informed that they had petitioned the legislature of Boston and Connecticut in favour of their brethren who suffer for non-conformity to the religious establishments of those colonies; and, in case their petitions produced not a speedy or effectual redress of their grievances, that we would join with them in a petition to our gracious sovereign. --- Voted -- that this association will not only join that of Warren in seeking relief for our oppressed brethren but will also solicit the concurrence of the associations of Virginia and Carolina in the design, if need be -- Voted also -- that letters and messengers be sent to signify this our resolution -- The letter to the Warren association was drawn up by the Rev. Samuel Jones, the messenger. Rev. Samuel Waldo & Rev. Benj. Coles, -- That to the Virginia association by Rev. Hez. Smith, the messenger, Rev. John Gano, (8) By a letter from the Virginia association we learn that two churches have joyned them, and that the increase this year is 167. --- Adjourned.

Oct. 12. The association met at eight this morning (9) A letter of thanks from the Rev. P. P. Vanhorm was read. (10) Rev. messieurs Rob. Kelsey, John Walton and Dav. Jones were desired to attend at the Welsh-tract on the 4th Sunday in May, and at Cohasset the 3d. (11) In a letter from Beckmansprecinct it was queried, How a church should proceed towards members who deny family worship to be a duty, and so dissent from it? Advice -- Let the church bear with them till it has used endeavours to convince them of their error, and reduce them to their duty by argument -- Ordered -- that some thoughts on this subject be put together and

printed. (12) The following churches and private persons contributed to the association fund, Philadelphia 1. 10. York 2. 16. 3. Hopewell 1. 10. Kingwood 10s. Beckmansprecinct 9s. 4d Mountbethel 5s. Capemay 7s. 6d. Warwick 3s. 9d. Lyonsfarms 5s. 6d. Morristown 7s, 10d. Cohansey 7s. 6d. Philips'spatent 7s. 6d. Salem 7s. 6d. Newbritain 7s. 6d. Coram 7s. 6d. Mr. Ward 7s. 6d. Mr. Wills 1. 10. Mr. Hall 7s. 6d.--in all 12l 8. 0. which sum was delivered to Rev. Samuel Jones to be by him deposited in the hands of the treasurer, Mr. George Welcott, to be put to interest. This fund, in three years, has increased to 72. 16. 6.-- the churches are desired to continue the collections (13) We received pleasing accounts from Rhode Island college--seven commenced this fall-- the colony have raised 1200 L. lawful, towards the building, which will be begun early in the spring---about a 1000 L, lawful currency of New-england, have been sent us from home towards making up a salary for the president-- and all the ministers of this association have explicitly engaged to exert themselves in endeavouring to raise more for the same purpose-- Resolved-- that the monies which may be raised in the province of Newyork, in that of Jersey, and that of Pennsylvania shall be put to interest in those provinces, and not be taken out of either; except the interest, which shall be subject to the order of the college to pay the presidents salary, and for no other use-- The persons appointed for receiving the donations are these-- in Newyork government, the Rev. John Gano. In the Jerseys, John Stites Esqr.- In Pennsylvania, Rev. Morgan Edwards, they to see that the securities be sufficient, and that the bonds, mortgages &c. be deposited with the treasurer of the college (14) Voted-- that 14L, Jersey currency, be given Mr. Thomas Eustick, towards defraying his expences at college, out of the profits of the late Mrs. Hubs's estate-- he giving bond to return the money in case the association should be disappointed in him-- An order on Mrs. Hubs's executors was drawn, and given to the Rev. John Gano, to be occupied (15) Our number of ministers decreasing, and calls for them growing more numerous, It is earnestly requested that the churches will look among themselves for men of public gifts, and send them forth to preach the gospel (16) The association to be held at Philadelphia next year on the Thuesday after the second Sunday in October-- the sermon to be preached by Rev. John Davis of Baltimore, or, in case of failure, by Rev. Abel Morgan (17) Rev. Abel Griffiths to draw a circular letter, the which follows.

*The*

*The ministers and other messengers of the congregations (in Pennsylvania Jersey and provinces adjacent, met in annual association at Newyork the 10th. 11th. & 12th. of Oct. A. D. 1769) to the several churches we respectively relate unto send greeting.*

*Dearlly beloved brethern in our Lord Jesus Christ! Thro' the abounding goodness of almighty God in his providence we have been favoured with the high privilege of meeting in his name, according to appointment, in this city; and thro' divine goodness we met and were preserved in love throughout all our consultations, for ever praised be the Lord for his goodness. We were agreeably entertained with a discourse upon the Union of saints by our brother, Rev. David Jones, from Gal. 3, 28. and much refreshed on hearing your letters read, by which we find that our churches are mostly at peace among themselves, and that the Lord's work is still carried on in some good measure among them; for there have been considerable additions to some. Sixty eight have been baptized. Thirty six dead, and nine excommunicated. From the Warren association we find that four churches have been added to it, and an increase by baptism of 55. To the Virginia association two churches have been added, with an increase by baptism of 167. Two joined our association, and two more became known to us, over which we have reason to rejoice.*

*Now, dear brethren, suffer us before we separate from each other to lay before you these few necessary things -- You profess to be followers of Christ, O strive to lay aside every weight and sin, and to walk as children of light in all holiness of conversation, that the ways of God be not reproached - Be diligent to keep your places in the house of God -- Be careful to encourage men of useful gifts, among you; for great is the want of ministerial helps at this time. Neglect not the worship of God in your families and closets -- Pray for all men, especially for the household, of faith -- Finally, endeavour to live under the influence of the spirit of God, and in the increase of every grace, that you may have the consolation thereof while here; and maybe ready when the great bridegroom come to open, and with him to enter into everlasting joy. Signed*

*Isaac Eaton, moder.  
M. Edwards, clerk.*

**The state of 34 churches which belong to the association of Philadelphia in 1769 is as followeth:**

<i>Churches</i>	<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Bapt.</i>	<i>Resto.</i>	<i>Dead</i>	<i>Excom.</i>	<i>Mem.</i>
Pennepek	Samuel Jones					49
Middletown	Abel Morgan	7				143
Piscarawa	Isaac Stelle	7		2		69
Cohansey	Robert Kelsay			7	1	115
Welshtract				2		110
Greatvalley*	John Davis					115
Cape-May				3		62
Hopewell	Isaac Eaton	4		4	1	208
Brandiwine		5		2		29
Montgomery	John Thomas	12		1		75
Tulpehokin*	Thomas Jones					16
Kingwood	David Sutton	3			1	76
Cranberry*						76
Southampton	Samuel Jones	1		1	2	53
Philadelphia	Morgan Edwards	11		6	3	149
Scotsplains	Benj. Miller	1		3		133
Horseneck						7
Oysterbay				1		14
Morristown	John Walton					47
Knowlton	Henry Crotsley					26
Baltimore*	John Davis					112
Newbritain	Joshuah Jones	7				56
Salem	Abel Griffiths			1		20
Newtown						26
Beekmansprecinct	Samuel Waldo					114
Dividingcreek*	Samuel Heaton					38
Newyork	John Gano	1		2		140
Newmills*					1	42
Konoloway	Joseph Powell	2				27
Coram	Noah Hammond					46
Croswicks	David Jones	2				53
Mountbethel		2		1		30
Goshen	James Benedict					57
Lyonsfarms		3				15
		68		36	9	2366

NB.

*NB. The churches marked with a \* have sent neither letters nor messengers this year, ---their numbers stand as they were last association. The increase in the rest is 15. It is proposed to print the transactions of the association in the same size every year, that the churches may in time bind them up. The tardy churches are again requested to send either letters or messengers every year that those who are at the expense of printing may not be disappointed. Our confession of faith may be had at Philadelphia for 15 coppers, half bound. In sheets for 7 coppers. Catechisms for 4 coppers. Norcott for 5 coppers.*

*F I N I S.*

