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Baptists. New Jersey. Philadelphia Association, 1776.

Minutes of the Baptist Association, held at the Scots
Plains October 15th and 16th, 1776.

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AMERICAN BAPTIST
GENERAL SOCIETY.

MINUTES

OF THE

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

Held at the SCOTS PLAINS, in the STATE of NEW-JERSEY,
October 15th and 16th, 1776.

October 15th.

AT three o'clock, P. M. the ASSOCIATION was opened with a discourse from COL. i. 28th: *Whom we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.* By our brother WILLIAM VAN HORNE.

2. After divine service, brother ISAAC STELLE was chosen *Moderator*, and brother WILLIAM VAN HORNE *Clerk*.

3. Proceeded to read the letters from the churches.

Note. *The Ministers names are in capitals. Those marked with an * not present. The Churches marked with an † sent neither letters nor messengers: Their numbers remain as at last association. Dashes denote no minister.*

Churches.	Ministers and Messengers.	Baptiz.	Rec. byl.	Dismiss.	Dead.	Excom.	Numb.
Pennepeck	{ SAMUEL JONES,* Peter Smith.	4	3	2	1	0	73
Middletown	{ ABEL MORGAN,* James Mott.	5	0	0	3	0	141
Piscataqua	{ ISAAC STELLE, Moses Martin, Randolph Drake.	2	0	0	2	0	75

Cohansey

<i>Churches.</i>	<i>Ministers and Messengers.</i>	<i>Baptized.</i>	<i>Ald. by L.</i>	<i>Dism. by L.</i>	<i>Dead.</i>	<i>Excom.</i>	<i>Numb.</i>
Cohansey	{ ROBERT KELSAY, <i>Philip Sheperd,</i> <i>David Elwell.</i>	0	0	1	3	0	76
Welshtract	JOHN SUTTON.	2	0	0	2	0	120
Great Valley	JOHN DAVIES.*	0	0	0	2	0	68
† Cape May	DAVID SMITH.*	0	0	0	0	0	52
Hopewell	{ BENJAMIN COLES, <i>Nathaniel Stout,</i> <i>James Darrab.</i>	101	0	1	7	1	247
† Brandiwine	ABEL GRIFFITHS.*	0	0	0	0	0	29
Montgomery	JOHN THOMAS.	0	0	0	2	0	101
Kingwood	{ DAVID SUTTON, <i>Andrew Bray.</i>	1	2	5	0	0	82
Southampton	{ WILLIAM VAN HORNE, <i>JOHN BLACKWELL.*</i>	0	0	0	2	0	61
Philadelphia	{ — — — <i>Joshua Moore,</i> <i>Thomas Fleeson,</i> <i>George Bright.</i>	3	0	3	1	1	172
† Cranberry	— — —	0	0	0	0	0	27
Scots Plains	{ BENJAMIN MILLER,* <i>John Stites,</i> <i>Recompence Stanbury.</i>	1	0	2	2	0	126
† Oyster Bay	— — —	0	0	0	0	0	27
Morristown	{ REUNE RUNYAN, <i>John Brookfield.</i>	4	2	2	3	0	81
Knowlton	<i>John Honeywell.</i>	11	3	0	0	1	27
Harford	JOHN DAVIES.*	2	0	0	2	0	142
† New Britain	JOSHUA JOHN.*	0	0	0	0	0	50
† Salem	— — —	0	0	0	0	0	26
Newtown	{ NICHOLAS COX, <i>Hezekiah Smith, sen.</i>	2	0	0	1	0	80
† Beekman's Precinct	SAMUEL WALDO.*	0	0	0	0	0	152
† Dividing-Creek	SAMUEL HEATON.	0	0	0	0	0	32

<i>Churches.</i>	<i>Ministers and Messengers.</i>	<i>Bap.</i>	<i>Add.</i>	<i>Dym.</i>	<i>Dead</i>	<i>Exco.</i>	<i>Num.</i>
† 1st New-York	JOHN GANO.*	0	0	0	0	0	139
New Mills	{ Samuel Gaskill.	0	0	0	0	0	53
† Conoloway	JOSEPH POWELL.*	0	0	0	0	0	60
† Coram	_____	0	0	0	0	0	34
Upper Freehold	{ Thomas Cox, jun. Edward Taylor.	13	0	1	1	0	61
Mount Bethel	John Worth.	5	0	0	1	0	27
Goshen	{ JAMES BENEDICT, William Howard.	27	1	0	0	0	141
Lyons Farms	{ _____ Ichabod Grummon.	0	0	0	0	0	22
† Oblong	SIMON DAWKIN.*	0	0	0	0	0	92
Philip's Patent	{ JOHN LAWRENCE,* Ebenezer Ward.	7	4	0	1	0	108
† Pitt's Grove	William Worth.	0	0	0	0	0	40
† Manahawkin	HENRY CROSSLY.*	0	0	0	0	0	15
† Vincent	_____	0	0	0	0	0	57
† Tuckahoe	WILLIAM LOCK.*	0	0	0	0	0	24
† Northern Liberty	_____	0	0	0	0	0	15
† 2d New-York	JOHN DODGE.*	0	0	0	0	0	14
† Stamford	_____	0	0	0	0	0	31
† Kings Street	_____	0	0	0	0	0	13
		188	15	17	35	3	3013

Adjourned to nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning.

October 16th.

ASSOCIATION met, pursuant to adjournment.

4. A letter was read from the ASSOCIATION held at the High Hills of Santee, dated May 16th, 1773.

5. This ASSOCIATION taking into consideration the awful, impending calamities

calamities of these times—and deeply impressed with a sense of our duty, to humble ourselves before GOD, by acknowledging our manifold sins and imploring his pardon and interposition in favour of our distressed country;—and also to beseech him to grant, that such blessings may accompany the means of his grace, that a revival of pure and undefiled religion may universally prevail;

Resolved, That it be and it is hereby recommended to our *Churches* to observe four days of humiliation, in the year ensuing; by prayer, abstinence from food and labour, and recreations, lawful on other days.—The days proposed for humiliation are the Fridays before the last Lord's day in November, February, May and August.

6. Application being made to ASSOCIATION for the benefit of Mrs. *Hubbs* donation by Messrs. *Enoch Morgan*, *Burgefs Alison* and *James Darrab*, it was

Resolved, That it be equally divided between the latter, they giving the usual Security.

7. Agreed, that brother SAMUEL JONES be requested to write the circular letter for next year.

8. On Motion, *Resolved*, That brother ABEL MORGAN be desired to compose a letter on the subject of *humiliation, fasting and prayer*, against the next ASSOCIATION.

9. Brother JOHN SUTTON being requested to bring in a draught of a letter to the ASSOCIATIONS corresponding with us—and having brought in the same, and it being read, was approved.

10. Agreed, that brother WARD be our messenger to *Warren* ASSOCIATION.

11. Brother JAMES BENEDICT was requested to preach the association-fermon next year; and, in case of failure, brother JOHN SUTTON was desired to be prepared.

12. Voted, that the ASSOCIATION meet next year, in PHILADELPHIA, on the Tuesday after the second Lord's day in October, at three o'clock, P. M.

13. Supplies granted to destitute places are as follow :

- New Mills.* Isaac Stelle, second Lord's day in November.
 Nicholas Cox, third ditto in ditto.
 Thomas Fleeson, fourth ditto in ditto.
 Abner Sutton, second ditto in January.
 William Worth, third ditto in ditto.
 Thomas Fleeson, fourth ditto in February.
 Abner Sutton, fourth ditto in March,
 David Sutton, first ditto in April.
 William Van Horne, second ditto in May.
 Reune Runyan, fourth ditto in ditto.
 Thomas Fleeson, fourth ditto in August.
- Upper Freehold.* William Van Horne, second Lord's day in November.
 Benjamin Coles, first ditto in December.
 Reune Runyan, second ditto in January.
 Thomas Fleeson, fourth ditto in ditto.
 Ditto, third ditto in March.
 William Van Horne, third ditto in May.
 Thomas Fleeson, fourth ditto in ditto.
 Ebenezer Ward, second ditto in June.
 Thomas Fleeson, first ditto in September.
- Mount Beibel.* Peter Smith, fourth Lord's day in October.
 Reune Runyan, third ditto in November.
 David Sutton, fourth ditto in ditto.
 Abner Sutton, first ditto in April.
- Lyons Farms.* Nicholas Cox, fourth Lord's day in November.
 William Van Horne, fourth ditto in December.
 Reune Runyan, third ditto in April.
 Ditto, third ditto in August.
 Thomas Fleeson, second ditto in September.
- Cow Marsh.* John Sutton, third Lord's day in November.
 Peter Smith, the whole Month of April.

Cow Marsh. Robert Kelfay, second Lord's day in June.

14. The circular letter appointed to be drawn up the last Year for this ASSOCIATION not coming to hand,—brother ROBERT KELSAY was desired to prepare one to the churches,—and having brought in the same, it was read, approved,—and is as follows:

G E N E R A L L E T T E R.

The ELDERS and MESSENGERS of the several churches baptised on a personal profession of their faith, met at the *Scots Plains*, in *New-Jersey*.

To the several Churches we relate unto, send our Christian
S A L U T A T I O N.

BELOVED BRETHREN,

THROUGH the sparing mercies of God, we have been permitted to see the revolution of another year, and to meet together, although not at the place appointed by our last Association. Nevertheless, we have abundant cause to admire the goodness of God, that we have a Being,—a ⁺ are not driven from our habitations as many of our brethren have been. Dark and gloomy are the clouds which hang over us; therefore, brethren, since the Lord seems to be contending with our guilty land, both by sword and epidemical diseases, his judgments being so evidently amongst us, there is a loud call to the inhabitants in general—and especially to his professing people to learn lessons of righteousness. Suffer us, therefore, your friends, brethren and ministers, to recommend these few things in love to your serious consideration.

First.—We exhort you in the words of our Lord, *watch* against a drowsy disposition, and remissness in fulfilling the solemn obligations incumbent on us, to the glory of him that called us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Secondly.—Take special heed to maintain peace amongst yourselves—in those days of confusion. And, let every one be honestly engaged to fill up their proper stations as creatures bound to eternity, not knowing how long we may enjoy those privileges which we have abused. Let it never be said of one professing to be born from above, that such a one is careless in prayer,
—read—

—reading the scriptures,—attending worship and maintaining discipline, seeing we must all be accountable to God for our stewardship at last.

Thus, brethren, in a few words, we commend you to God and the word of his grace: Subscribing ourselves your brethren in gospel relation,

ISAAC STELLE, *Moderator.*

WILLIAM VAN HORNE, *Clerk.*

P H I L A D E L P H I A :

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