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Baptists. New York. Warwick Association.
Minutes ... at Clinton Town ... June 9th &
10th, 1819.

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MINUTES

OF THE

WARWICK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD IN THE BAPTIST MEETING HOUSE AT CLINTON TOWN, (DUTCHESS COUNTY,) JUNE 9th & 10th, 1819.

June 9th—At 2 o'clock P. M. Elder VANVELSAN delivered a Sermon introductory to business, from Zeck. 4, 7, "Who art thou O great mountain, before Zerubable thou shalt become a plain, &c.

2. Business opened by prayer, after which Brother HENRY BALL, was chosen Moderator, and Brother AARON PERKINS, Clerk.

3. Elders and Brethren from Corresponding Associations, were invited to a seat with us.

4. Read the letters from the Churches composing this Association, and took the following minutes.

N. B. The names of ordained ministers are in SMALL CAPITALS, of Licensed preachers in *italics*. Those ministers marked with a star (*) were not present. From churches marked thus (†) we had no intelligence. A dash (—) denotes no settled minister.

Churches.	Ministers and Messengers.	Baptised.	Received by letter.	Dismissed by letter.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Total.
Warwick	{ (—) Dea. James Burt, Jeffery Wisner	2	0	4	0	1	134
1st Wantage	{ LEVI HALL.	21	4	15	2	0	193
Pleasant Valley & Newburgh.	{ (—.) William C. Thompson.	0	0	1	0	3	88
Clinton town.	{ (—) Dea. John M. Thurston, Rh'd. Lawrence, Isaac Travece, Robert Garret.	0	0	0	0	0	32
Eedford.	{ *EZRA FOUNTAIN, Charles Platt.	0	1	5	0	0	122
Brockfield.	{ HENRY BALL, Dea. Joseph Corwin, Cornelius Shanse, Wilmot More.	4	4	4	7	4	317
Carried Over.		27	9	29	9	8	886

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	<i>Anti. brot over.</i>	27	9	29	9	8	886
Deerpark.	{ *BENJ. MONTANIE, Amos Harding,* Peter Hoit.	0	0	2	0	0	52
Middletown.	{ (—) Thomas P. Terry.	0	2	1	1	1	39
2d Wantage.	{ (—) Zelotas Grenell, Ebenezer Mead.	1	0	3	1	1	146
Peekskill.	{ *DANIEL STEERS.	0	0	0	1	0	24
Marbletown.	{ JNO. VANVELSAN, Titus Bishop, Josiah Hollister, Jacob Winchel. (Restor'd 3	30	4	7	0	2	96
Neversink,	{ (—) (†)	0	0	0	0	0	45
Latingtown.	{ AARON PERKINS, Dea. Rhd. Smith, Gilbert F. Mondon, Wm. Mitchell, jun.	5	1	4	0	3	75
Thompsonstown.	{ (—) (†)	0	0	0	0	0	34
Hamburg.	{ *THOMAS TEASDEL.	32	0	0	1	0	74
		95	16	46	13	15	1467

5. Received communications from sister Associations, as follows, viz :

ASSOCIATIONS.	MESSENGERS.	LETTERS.	MINUTES.
Philadelphia,	— —	Letters.	Minutes.
New-York,	Br. J. W. Griffith,	Letter.	Minutes.
Abington,	— —	Letter.	Minutes.
Union,	— —	Letter.	Minutes.
New-Jersey,	— —	Letter.	Minutes.
Hartford,	— —	Letter.	Minutes.
Hudson River,	Br. L. Leonard,	Letter.	Minutes.
New-London	— —	Letter.	Minutes.

6. Resolved, That the Corresponding Letter prepared by brother Burt, be referred to a committee, composed of brethren Ball, Perkins, Smith and Weasner, with the author; who are to report to-morrow morning.

7. The Circular Letter having failed: Resolved, That brother Perkins be appointed to prepare one, which shall be referred to the same committee.

3. Resolved, That we adjourn to meet again at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning. Closed by prayer by brother GRIFFITH—Preaching this evening in different places.

JUNE 10.

Met pursuant to adjournment; business opened by prayer.

1. Heard the report of the Committee on the Circular and Corresponding Letters, and after a reading, Resolved unanimously, That they be adopted, and printed with our minutes.

2. Resolved, That brethren Bart, Smith and More, be our Committee, to examine the minutes of corresponding Associations.

3. Resolved, That the observance of the monthly prayer meeting, so generally attended to throughout the christian world; be recommended to this body: and the churches thereof, are hereby requested to join with their brethren in prayer to Almighty God, for the spread of his Gospel, on the afternoon, or evening, of the first Monday in every month.

4. The Committee on the Minutes of our Correspondents reported, that in their judgment the following note from the minutes of the New-York association, is worthy of a place in ours: Whereupon, resolved that it be published with them. *Note*—"Whereas persons of evil principles and character, frequently impose on the churches, and on the public, as ministers of the gospel; we recommend that no person be received and countenanced as a preacher, without satisfactory credentials, that he is in good standing."

5. Appointed the following brethren our Messengers to Corresponding Associations.

To the Philadelphia, brother Grenell.

To the New-York, brethren Ball and Perkins.

To the Abington, brethren Vanvelsan and Grenell.

To the Union, brethren Fountain and Perkins.

To the New-Jersey, brother Bishop.

To the Hartford, brethren Perkins, Ball, Thurston and More.

To the Hudson River, brother Perkins.

To the New-London, ———

To the Rensselaerville, ———

6. Resolved, That this association is pleased to learn, by the Circular from the Corresponding Secretary of the Baptist board of foreign missions, that the missionary cause continues to prosper.

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7. Supplies for destitute Churches.

For Clintontown, brother Terry last Lord's day in September.
Brother Vanvelsan last in August—brother Ball first in October.
Brother Grenell last in November—brother Bishop second in December.
Brother Perkins last in January.

8. Resolved that we have a short intermission, when brother Wright delivered a sermon from Isaiah 40, 9—"Say unto the cities of Judah, behold your God."—After which resumed our business.

9. Mr. Henry Charlock (formerly elder Charlock) having been excluded from the church of which he was a member: Resolved, That this Association advise him not to preach any more, until his difficulties with the church may be properly adjusted.

10. Resolved, That the request of the Yorktown Church, to be dismissed from this Association, be acceded to; by which act they are considered dismissed from us.

11. Resolved, that our next Association be held with the Baptist Church at Marbletown, (Ulster County) on the 2d Wednesday in June 1820, at 2 o'clock P. M. Appointed brother Ball to preach the introductory sermon, and in case of failure, brother Hall.

12. Resolved, That brother Perkins be appointed to print our Minutes and forward them to the Churches.

Closed by prayer by deacon Burt.

Sermon this afternoon by brother Ball, from Ephes. 2d, 4 & 5. "But God who is rich in mercy," &c. After which the Association parted, in christian harmony and affection.

CIRCULAR LETTER.



The Ministers and Messengers of the Warwick Baptist Association, to the several Churches they represent; send christian salutation.

BELoved BRETHREN.

The return of our anniversary, calls on us, to present you again with a Circular Address. And as our yearly epistle has for its object, the diffusion of christian sentiments, we shall in this solicit your attention to a few remarks on the BAPTISM of the HOLY GHOST.

Perhaps it may be thought at the first view, that a treatise on this subject will be far less important, than remarks on some other portion of *Christian Theology*. But when we recollect that the primitive *nature* and *design* of this Baptism, have been subverted, to subserve the views, and ends of those, who wish to avoid the ordinances of God's house: we feel ourselves called upon, to come up to the help of the Lord; and earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints.

Among the errors which arise from this subversion of truth, we frequently hear of an *inward* baptism, and of persons offering as a reason, why they have not been immersed in water, in the name of the Trinity: that they have been baptized in the above sense; which they consider of far the most importance; when the fact is, the Bible knows of no such baptism as this; and even the baptism of the Holy Ghost, to which they refer, is never once called an *inward* Baptism of the New-Testament.

In first Cor. 12th, 13th, The Apostle says, "By one Spirit are we all baptized into one body."—But here he adverts, not to any inward work of the Spirit; but to the baptism of the Holy Ghost; by which extraordinary gifts were communicated: which is evident from what precedes, and follows the passage above quoted.—But were we to admit for a moment that there is any such thing as an *inward* baptism; or that persons are now baptized with the Holy Ghost; it by no means lessens the obligation of such, to be baptized in water; for the Apostle on a certain occasion says: "Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized? which have received the Holy Ghost, as well as we." Acts 10th, 47th.

It is not our wish, nor intention, to say any thing derogatory to the *internal* operations of the Divine Spirit: we firmly believe in his *renewing* and *sanc-*

tifying influence : but this work of the Spirit, is not termed an *tism*, in the New Testament : nor is there any such baptism or reference to any subject. Those therefore who talk of being inward sense, only show their ignorance of terms, and of scripture. *en council* by words without knowledge.

Relative to the *Baptism* which is the subject of this Letter, we shew
tice

1st. Its *Author*: who is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence John the Baptist said of the Messiah; "He shall Baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire." Math. 3, 11, and Acts 2, 33.—"He (Christ) hath shed forth this which ye now see and hear:" namely, the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. And we cannot learn from Scripture, that it ever belonged to man, to baptize in this sense: for although the Holy Ghost was sometimes given by the laying on of the Apostle's hands, the Redeemer was at the same time the bestower of the heavenly gift:—and the Apostles were pleased to acknowledge it the gift of God, in their public assemblies, see Acts 8, 20—And we consider it awfully presumptuous, for men to seize on the prerogatives of Heaven, pretending to preach baptizingly, in defiance of the Scriptures.

2d. The *manner* of it.—The most signal instance of the Baptism under consideration took place at Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost, soon after the ascension of our Lord: see Acts 2d Chapt. On this memorable occasion, the disciples were all with one accord, in one place: and suddenly there came a sound from Heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind; and it filled all the house where they were sitting: and there appeared unto them cloven (or divided) tongues, like as of fire; and it sat upon each of them. Whether this was precisely the *manner* of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost in every instance, may be a question: but in one it most certainly was. For Peter in rehearsing to the Apostles the circumstances of the conversion of Cornelius and his house, said, "The Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning. Acts 11, 15.

3d. Its *Effects*. Those who were the subjects of the Baptism under consideration, uniformly *spoke with tongues*; that is, they were able to *converse* and *preach*, in languages which they had never learned—see Acts 2, 7, and 8.—They also *Prophecied*, perhaps in the several scripture senses of the word.—Some of them might foretell events—some preach the Gospel—and others *compose* and *sing psalms or hymns*: which is also called Prophecying, in Holy Writ, see 1 Chron. 25, 1 to 3. And the latter, is the general sense, in which females *prophecied* in the Apostolic age.—It also appears that those who partook of this Ascension gift wrought miracles.

4th. Its *Object* or *Design*. And it appears that the original grand Design of this Baptism, was to give success to the Gospel; and for this purpose it was admirably adapted.—For in consequence of this, if the disciple travelled into a land of strangers, whose language he had never learned; he was

nce to teach them the things of the Kingdom, in their own familiar
 Having been endowed with this gift ; he could test his ministry by
 , and special *miracles* ; each of which was peculiarly calculated to
 be hearer and beholder ; that his message was divine.

And finally—The *Continuance* of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost with
 ch, is an important branch of our subject. To mark the precise
 en it ceased, is very difficult : it is most probable however that it
 d no longer than till the close of the Apostolic age. We shall at
 all events hazard the assertion, that none are Baptized with the Holy Ghost
 in our time : and as a reason for this statement we shall urge, that the *Effects*
 originally produced by this Baptism, are in no instances visible at the pre-
 sent day : and it is but rational to conclude, that the same *cause* would pro-
 duce the same *effects*.

Suppose for instance, we should hear that the ancient *Leprosy* prevailed in
 the region around us, and we were to repair to some house afflicted with the
 disease ; we should expect to see the *lepers* of the family, or at least the parts
 affected as *white as snow* : knowing that this in old time, was uniformly the
 effect of the disease ; and if those evidences did not appear, we should know
 at once, that the report we had heard was *false*.

So likewise, when persons pretend to have been Baptized with the Holy
 Ghost, and do not *speak with tongues* and prophecy ; we know that they are
 deceived : because these evidences uniformly attended this Baptism in the
 Apostolic age—From the whole, it is rational to say ; that God in infinite
 wisdom sent down this gift on the Church, in primitive days : and dictated
 by the same wisdom, he has seen cause to withhold it from us. And since
 those who take a contrary stand, are propagating errors, dangerous in their
 consequences ; it becomes us, to gird on the whole armour of God ; and con-
 tend for the truth as it is in Jesus : until the effulgent beams of the latter day,
 shall scatter every mist of error, and the Glory of the Lord shall fill the world.

Signed,

HENRY BALL, *Moderator*.

AARON PERKINS, *Clerk*.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.



The Warwick Baptist Association, held at Clintontown, (Dutchess County) June 9th and 10th, 1819.

BELoved IN THE LORD.

Through the preserving goodness of our Lord and Saviour, a number of us have been permitted to assemble in this place as an associated body : and it excites emotions of joy, to meet so many of our brethren unitedly engaged to maintain *truth* and good order in Zion. We have no special tidings to communicate—few have been added since our last ; but we believe, so many that God will not be left without witness.

We lament to hear that many of our order in different parts, have imbibed sentiments derogatory to the character of Jesus the Lord : but we nevertheless feel to rely on him as our only resting place, "being persuaded that he is able to keep that which we have committed unto him, against that day : " and he has assured us, that not a weapon formed against his people, shall prosper. Let us therefore rejoice while we remember that the God of Providence has even caused the *earth* to open her mouth, and drink up the flood which Satan has cast out of his mouth, to destroy the *woman*, and her seed. While thus distinguished as the highly favoured of God, may we be unitedly engaged to maintain the purity of the Faith and Practice of the Gospel, as left on record in the last *will* and Testament of the Lord and Saviour.—Our meeting has been agreeable, and mutual friendship and decorum have marked all of our business, so that we have dwelt together in unity. We solicit a continuance of your correspondence, accompanied by messengers from your body : each of which we most cordially receive. And may the God of peace, crown you with his choicest blessing. Amen.

Signed,

HENRY BAILL, *Moderator.*
AARON PERKINS, *Clerk.*