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Baptists. Vermont. Leyden Association, 1816.  
Minutes ... Holden at Colerain, October 9th  
& 10th, 1816.

Brattleborough, [ Vt. ], Holbrook, 1816. 8 pp.  
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*Presented to the Association from S.*

# MINUTES

OF THE

LEYDEN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

HOLDEN AT

COLERAIN, OCTOBER 9th & 10th, 1816.

TOGETHER WITH THEIR

CIRCULAR AND CORRESPONDING

LETTER.



BRATTLEBOROUGH :

PRINTED BY JOHN HOLBROOK.

1816.

# MINUTES.



*Wednesday, October 9.*

1. **A**T one o'clock, P. M. Elder Nathaniel Rice (according to appointment) delivered the introductory discourse, from Col. i. 19. *For it pleased the Father, that in him should all fulness dwell.*
2. After publick worship, the association was organized, by making choice of Elder ELIJAH MONTAGUE, *Moderator*, and Elder ELISHA ANDREWS, *Clerk*.
3. Voted to invite corresponding and visiting Brethren, to take a seat with us.
4. Voted, that Elder George Witherel, Nathaniel Rice, and George Robinson be a committee, to examine and revise the circular and corresponding Letter.
5. Proceeded to read the letters from the Churches, and took the following account of the members added, dismissed, excluded, or who have died the year past ; and the present number in each Church.—NOTE. The names of ordained ministers are in *small capitals*, licentiates in *italicks*. Ministers not present are designated with this mark (\*). From churches marked thus (†), we received no information. Vacant churches distinguished by a dash (—). The number of



		Added.					
		Ds. Ex. Dd. Tot.					
		bap. let.					
	Dn. Ezek. Gore, Peter Briggs, Nath. Cole, Cyrus Carpenter,	37	3	1	0	0	91
Royalston & Warwick, }	LEVI HODGE,* John Chamberlain, Thos. Jacobs,	8	6	2	0	2	108
Brookline,	ISAAC WELLMAN, Daniel Bixby,	2	1	0	0	1	119
Heath,	STEPHEN BARKER, Dn. Vernon Gilson, Sullivan Taft, Stephen Davenport,	0	0	0	0	1	25
New-Salem,	_____						
	Dn. David Hunt, Dn. Tristram Aldrich, Josiah Hemmenway,	0	0	5	0	0	67
Wilmington,	_____						
	Dn. Enoch Winslow, Medad Smith, David Haskins, Joel Martin,	0	0	1	0	1	39
Hinsdale,	_____						
Whitingham,	Benj. Stone,	0	5	3	4	0	35
	_____						
	Dn. Jonas Brown, Nathan Brown, Edmund Bemis,	25	5	4	0	1	86
Wardsborough,	John Shepardson, John Greenwood,	0	0	6	1	1	63
Barnardston,	PETER RODGERS,	42	0	0	0	0	89
<i>NOTE. The letter from Barnardston being mislaid, the numbers are put down from memory, and may be incorrect.</i>							
Dover,	Calvin Cruett, Dn. Eben. Sears, Simeon Jones,	0	0	2	0	0	26
2d Colerain,	Edward Davenport, Dn. Arad Hall,	0	0	0	0	0	40
	Totals,	220	34	53	15	16	1663

*NOTE. The last named Church was received the present session.*

6. Voted to adjourn till eight o'clock to-morrow morning.—Prayer by the Moderator. Br. Stone preached in the evening.
7. *Thursday, October 10.* Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder Carpenter.
8. Read the Circular and Corresponding Letters, prepared by Elder Montague, and ordered them to be printed with our minutes.
9. Received from corresponding associations the following communications :

Associations.	Messengers.	Minutes.
Shaftsbury,	Elder Materson.	Minutes.
Dublin,	—————	Minutes.
Boston.	—————	—————
Sturbridge,	—————	Minutes.
Westfield,	Todd and Grant,	Minutes.
Woodstock,	Br. Bueklin.	—————
Saratoga,	Boardman,	Minutes.
Vermont,	Stone,	Minutes.
Stonington,	—————	Minutes.

10. Appointed messengers to corresponding associations, viz. Elders HIBBARD, RICE, and *Witherel*, appointed to visit the Shaftsbury Association, and look into their state, and if they find their difficulties settled, to continue correspondence : otherwise to report to this Association. To Dublin, Br. *Cruet* ; to Sturbridge, Elders MONTAGUE and WITHEREL ; to Woodstock, Elder BRUCE ; Stonington, Elders HIMES and *Davenport* ;— To other corresponding associations, we shall send Minutes.
11. Voted to hold our next session at the Baptist Meetinghouse in Leveret, on the second Wednesday in October, 1817, at one o'clock, P. M. Elder DAVID GODDARD to preach the introductory sermon, and Elder PETER RODGERS in case of failure.

12. Chose Elder *Rodgers* to prepare the Circular Letter, and Elder ANDREWS the Corresponding.

13. Voted, that the Clerk superintend the printing of the Minutes. Sermon by Elder ANDREWS.

The Missionary Society attended to their usual business, and made choice of Elder George Witherel, Secretary; Elder Elijah Montague, Treasurer, who, with eleven others, are Trustees for the year ensuing.—The Missionary spirit, we hope, has not declined; although from the great scarcity of money we have collected only \$ 64,01. The meeting was closed with a very appropriate and impressive discourse, by Elder George Robinson.



## CIRCULAR LETTER.

**BELLOVED BRETHREN,**

**YOUR** Elders and Messengers, in Association, convened at Colerain, October 9th and 10th, 1816, present to you the following serious considerations.

*First.....*The perfections of that God, whom we profess to worship: a Being possessing infinite and perfect knowledge, almighty power, spotless purity, unvarying truth, unerring rectitude, unchanging faithfulness, and underived, eternal, and independent existence.

In whatever way this infinitely glorious Deity is pleased to make himself known, we are under obligation to contemplate his perfections, and adore his majesty and glory. With admiration let us survey the revolving heavens, rolling sublimely over our heads; while the variegated face of nature smiles in beauty beneath our feet, and must we not exclaim with the pious Psalmist, "*The heavens declare his glory, and the firmament sheweth his handy work*"? Must we not adopt

the sentiment of the holy Paul, "*The invisible things of God are clearly seen by the things which he has made: even his eternal power and Godhead*"?

Still, however, we need further and more explicit instructions, than the light of nature and reason can afford us, to teach us in what manner we may acceptably approach and worship the supreme Being. Here divine revelation is our only infallible guide: in this, is the man of God thoroughly furnished to every good work.....in this, we are taught the depravity of our nature, the purity of God's law, redemption and salvation by Jesus Christ, the efficacy of the Holy Ghost in regeneration, and all the sublime mysteries of Godliness .....in this, our thoughts are directed to a future Judgment, and those eternal rewards and punishments, which are the strongest incentives to virtue.

*Second.....*In the view of those sublime truths of divine revelation, when effectually impressed upon our hearts by the energy of the holy spirit; we find our most influential motives to undeviating obedience to the divine commands; and we are powerfully induced to dedicate all our powers of soul and body to the service of God: to declare his doings among the people; to make mention that his name may be glorified. "*Let the people praise thee; let all the people praise thee, that the earth may yield her increase.*"

*Third.....*Permit us, dear brethren, to remind you that the diffusion of gospel light and truth in distant and destitute countries, demands our religious and liberal attention. Vast fields for missionary labours and usefulness are still open, and still unoccupied in the new settlements of our own country, as well as among the numerous tribes of savages which inhabit our western wilds. Do we profess the benevolent principles of the Gospel? Have we imbibed the love of our adorable Lord, who laid down his invaluable life a ransom for us? And can we hear the *macdonic cry* wafted on every western breeze, and forbear to add our mite, to send the gospel to those perishing thousands of our fellow-creatures? Surely we cannot. Let not sordid avarice form an excuse, that the labour of the husbandman has failed, and that our fields do not yield their wonted increase. Let us contribute according to what we have, which, together with our fervent prayers to God, will be an acceptable service in the sight of him, who hath said that he loves the cheerful giver.

*Fourth.....*Finally, brethren, we cannot forbear to call to your recollection the obligation we are under to our friends in the empire of *Burmah*. The names of our missionary brethren *Judson* and *Hough*, with their dear devoted com-



panions, together with the pious and heroic sister *White*, must excite something more than sympathy in the breast of every *American Baptist*. We cannot suffer the good work in which they are engaged, to fail for want of our patronage and support, without incurring the most awful guilt. We speak as to wise men; judge ye what we say. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.



## CORRESPONDING LETTER.

**THE Leyden Association, to the several Associations with whom we correspond, sendeth christian salutation.**

**RESPECTED FATHERS AND BRETHREN.....**With gratitude we have received your Messengers and Minutes, and rejoice for the consolation they afford.....happy to be informed of the growing empire of Emmanuel and to witness the accomplishment of those glorious things long since predicted of the city of our God.

The late and present revivals of religion among so many denominations of christians in our country, seem to be an evident token of the dawn of that happy day, when the knowledge of the glory of God shall cover the earth as the waters do the sea.

We bless God that the Churches of this Association have shared richly the effusions of the divine spirit, the year past, as you will perceive by our minutes. Our present session has been attended with uncommon manifestations of the divine presence; and we feel encouraged to receive the exhortation of the Apostle, "Be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."

We solicit an interest in your prayers, and a continuance of your friendly correspondence; and hope that your messengers will not fail to visit us. We are affectionately yours in Christ Jesus.....In behalf of the Association,

**ELIJAH MONTAGUE,**  
*Moderator.*

**ELISHA ANDREWS,**  
*Clerk.*