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Baptists. Connecticut. Danbury Association, 1799.

Minutes ... at Paulington, October ... 1799.

n. p., [ 1799 ]. 8 pp.

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# MINUTES

OF THE

ANBURY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD

AT PAULINGSTON, OCTOBER 2d and 3d, 1799.

*Together with their Circular and Corresponding Letters.*

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2.

ASSOCIATION met according to appointment at Paulington; Introductory Sermon delivered by Brother Clark, from Mathew vii, 14, *Because Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.*

Proceeded to business Brother Daniel Wildman chosen Moderator, and Brother Hezekiah West Clark.

Letters from the several Churches in our connection, presented, read, and the following list taken.

N. B. In the list Ministers Names in Capitals; Licenced Ministers in Italics; those to whose names an \* is affixed were absent; — dashes denote no settled Ministers; from those marked thus † we received no letters.

<i>Churches.</i>	<i>Messengers.</i>	<i>Added,</i>	<i>Disin.</i>	<i>Excom.</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Rem.</i>
Susfield,	{ JOHN HASTINGS, John Hastings, Jur.	14		1		
1st. Danbury,	{ William Rundal, Seth Burnum,		9			
2d. Danbury,	{ John Scribner, Thomas Dikeman,	5		1		
Canaan,	{ Dea. Joseph Kellogg, Gideon Barns,					
† 1st. Walling- ford,	_____					
2d. Walling- ford,	{ _____ Daniel Chaterton, NEHEM. DODGE,	4	1			
Southington & Farmington,	{ Dea. Eben. Howley, Ezra Clark, Joseph Wright,	14	1	1		
Litchfield,	{ John Todd, William Grant, STEPHEN ROYCE, Nathan Bulkley,	8				
Stratfield,	{ John Staples, Abel Gregory, Phillip Mallett,	5				
Roxbury,	{ Abijah Fairchilds, Isaac Fuller,			2		
Amena Town,	{ ELIJAH WOOD, * William Bentley,	1		2		
Wolcott.	{ DANL. WILDMAN, Edmond Todd,	31			1	
Warren,	{ _____ Ananias Dethick, Deacon Asahel Wedge,	2				
New Hartford and West Bri- ton,	{ EPAPH'S THOMSON Dea. Hezekiah West, Ichabod Stark,	2		1		
Colebrook,,	{ RUFUS BABCOCK, Dea. Eleazer Bidwell,	24		1	4	
Sharon,	_____					
New Milford,	_____					

Ches.	Messengers.	Added.	Disin.	Excom.	Disd.	No.
Sandersfield*	{ BENJ. BALDWIN,	50		1	1	38
Paulington,	{ SETH HIGBY, Dea. David Simmons, Thomas Wheeler, Joseph Beldin,		1	2		50
Hartford,	—					34
bury,	—					7
town,	{ JOHN SHERMAN, Nathaniel Northrop, Elijah Sherman, Samuel Churchil,	5	2			33
Paulington,	{ Asbel B. Hall, Samuel Stephens, Andrew German, Thomas Shelden,		10		2	35
Edletown,	{ —					
Massed,	{ Joseph Coe, ISAAC BELLOWS*	2				27 16
Total		157	30	12	8	1160



*Members and Brethren from Corresponding Associations, were de-  
fired to take a seat with us.—*

10th. Voted that Brother Babcock, Brother Dodge, & Deacon  
Melphey, be a Committee to examine our Circular and Cor-  
responding Letters.

11th. Adjourned till to-morrow morning eight o'clock A. M.  
Thursday, October 3d met according to Adjournment.

Meeting opened by prayer, by Brother Herrick.

12th. Brother Royce's Circular Letter, and Brother Wild-  
er's Corresponding Letter was read and approved.

13th. Heard the reports of the Committees, that were appoint-  
ed to look into the state of delinquent Churches, and found the  
Church at Danbury under trials yet pursuing.—After hear-  
ing the report, of the Committee that was appointed to visit  
New-Milford Church; Voted to continue their name in our  
minutes, and leave their number out, and appointed Brethren  
German, and Sherman, as a committee to look into their cir-  
cumstances.—Likewise appointed Brethren Wood, Higby, Sim-

mons, and Shepard to Sharon.—After hearing the situation of Torrington Church; Voted to leave them out of our Minutes.

8th. Heard the report of the Committee, that was appointed to visit Westfield Church, on the account of their restoring Adam Hamilton to Office-Work in the Church.—After hearing the report of said Committee, and the defence made by the Church and Hamilton in their favor. We are agreed that the crimes of this man are repeated crimes of this man. Viz. Avarice, Intemperance, & falsehood, &c. That notwithstanding confession and their forgiveness. As they had not the advice of a public Council in restoring him, and but a very few and a small number of them.—We conclude it not for the honor of God and the good of his cause for Said Hamilton and his former connections to be fellowship'd by us as a body; Either direct or indirect; and as a token of our entire disapprobation.—Voted to drop Said Church out of our minutes and fellowship.

9th. Received a Letter and minutes from the New-York Association by Brother Wheeler, likewise a letter from the Ohio Association by Brother Herrick, likewise a letter and minutes from the Shaftsbury Association by Brother Abel Brown, also a letter and minutes from the Stonington Association by Brother Dodge,—and by Brother Bruce, minutes from the Ketoson,—Goshen.—North-Carolina and Dover Association and minutes of the general Committee held in Buckingham County.

10th. Appointed Brother John Sherman to prepare our Circular Letter, and Brother Dodge the Corresponding letter for the ensuing year.

11th. Appointed Brethren Sherman, Thomson, and Babcock to the Shaftsbury; Brethren, Royce, Babcock, and Dodge to the Stonington; Brethren, Higby & Royce, to the New-York; Brethren, Baldwin, and Hall, to Ohio Associations.

12th. Appointed Brother Daniel Butler to superintend printing and distributing the minutes.

13th. Voted that this Association be holden the next year on the 1st. Wednesday in October next, at one o'clock P. M. at Elder Hastings Meeting House in Suffield.—Brother Royce preach the introductory Sermon, in case of failure Bro. Wildman. Business being finished, Brother Dodge delivered a Sermon from 2d Peter 1st, 10. *"Wherefore the rather, Brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure; if ye do these things ye shall never fall,—Likewise Brother Butler preached a Sermon from 1st John 11, 2. "And he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."*

14th. It is requested, for the benefit of the Clerk; that the Clerks of the several Churches, would insert the names of

eligates, and the number of their members in the bottom of their letters.

### SUPPLIES FOR DESTITUTE CHURCHES.

	{	Brother Thomson,	3d.	Lord's Day in Nov.
	{	Brother Hastings,	3d.	do. in January.
Wichfield,	{	Brother Royce,	2d.	do. in March.
	{	Brother Hastings,	1st.	do. in May.
	{	Brother Babcock,	3d.	do. in August.
Barbury,	{	Brother Royce,	1st.	do. in June.
	{	Brother Thomson,	2d.	do. in July.
Wal-	{	Brother Hastings,	3d.	do. in Nov.
ogford,	{	Brother Hastings,	2d.	do. in February.
Middletown,		Brother Hastings,	2d.	do. in June.

*Signed in behalf of the Association,*

DANIEL WILDMAN, Moderator,  
HEZEKIAH WEST, Clerk,

*The Messengers, of the several Churches, met in Association at Burlington, October 2d and 3d 1799, holding the Doctrine of total moral Depravity Redemption by the Blood of Jesus Christ of final Perseverance of the Saints in Holiness, water Baptism immersion on a Profession of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. To the Churches whom they represent, send:—GREETING.*

DEAR BRETHREN,

GRATITUDE, to God, and to you for your animating addresses, at the opening of this our annual meeting, calls loudly on us, as a grateful return, in the close of our business, to address you, by letter. Although, some of our brethren and churches, like Gideon's Men, are faint; yet, we are happy to learn, that we believe that, by divine grace, they are pressing through this dreary maze; in full confidence, that, through Christ, which strengtheneth them, they shall one day overtake and finally conquer all their spiritual enemies. By the pleasing accounts from others, they appear to have almost attained the summit, of the hill Beulah, where, they can hear the Shepherds and see the young lambs of the flock, most sweetly play before them:—As appears from the pleasing accounts from Sandwich, Celebrook and others.

In our former addresses, we treated upon a number of the important points, in the doctrine of CHRIST; together, of the necessity of practical religion. It cannot be amiss, in any like this, when, iniquity and infidelity, are making such strides through the world;—to remind you, where your strength lieth. For saith the blessed Jesus, "without me

my Church and the Gates of hell shall not prevail against them; and we have no reason to doubt but that he who hath said, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure will continue to fulfil the Word of his Grace, until he hath accomplished the eternal Salvation of all that obey him.

THE remarkable effusions of the holy Spirit in many parts of our Land the present year, highly deserve our notice, and demand the warmest expressions of our Gratitude to God. Thousands of poor perishing Sinners have, we trust, of late found Redemption from sin and hell through the Blood of the Cross. Ministers and Christians of various Denominations have been called to share in the blessings of this glorious Work, and through the interposition of divine Providence toward our highly favored Land, the four Winds have been holden till many servants of our God have been sealed in their foreheads. These testimonies of the everlasting love of God to us, Brethren, should awaken our zeal, strengthen our faith, and engage us to the diligent performance of every good work. The contest, however, between Michael and his Angels, and the devil and his angels is yet at an end. Satan and wicked men are using all the means in their power to weaken and destroy the Kingdom of Christ. Many are the errors which at this Day abound in our Land. Crafty and designing Men are industriously beguiling ungodly Souls, and Antichrist yet too much holds his seat in the Temple of God. On this account we see a great want of a uniform observance of the Laws and Ordinances of Christ's house, and his own professing people, and many continuing in open rebellion against God. Let us then be engaged, to pray earnestly for the peace and enlargement of Zion; to exert ourselves for the spread and advancement of the truth; to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the Saints, to stand fast against opposition; and to adorn our profession with the fruits of Righteousness. In such a course of obedience to God, we shall find his Grace ever sufficient for us—be prepared for every event of divine Providence, firmly believe in the final accomplishment of his Promises, participate the Joys of Heaven in this World—Sorrow—complete our christian race with patience—meet Death with resignation and holy triumph, and finally win the eternal Crown of Righteousness.

*Signed in behalf of the Association,*

DANIEL WILDMAN, Moderator  
HEZEKIAH WEST, Clerk.

*Corresponding Letter,*