MINUTES

OF THE

VIRGINIA PORTSMOUTH BAPTIST

ASSOCIATION;

HELD AT

SOUTH QUAY CHURCH,

SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA,

May the 21st, 22d, 23d and 24th, 1831.

NORFOLK: PRINTED BY SHIELDS & ASHBURN At the Beacon Office. 1831.



MINUTES, &c.

SATURDAY MORNING, May 21st.

At 11 o'clock, the Delegates from the several Churches having assembled, Elder Wm. W. Snow preached the introductory sermon from Matthew 5th Chap. 16th verse—" Let your light so shine before men, that they seeing your good works, may glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

The Delegates then came together for business, and after prayer by Elder Robert T. Daniel, the Association was organized by the appointment of Brother Josiah Holliman, Moderator; W. M. Jones was chosen Clerk, who called to his assistance Elder R. T. Daniel.

On motion made and seconded, all Brethren in the Ministry present, of the same faith and order with ourselves, and in good standing in their respective Churches, were invited to take seats with us; after which the letters from the Churches were called for, and read, and the names of their Delegates, their present state, &c. enrolled as follows:

Suffalt, - Suffalt, - Tueker's Swamp, - Tanner's Creek, - Western Branch, - African Ch. Petersburg, Smithfield Church,	Swamp, ^{hay,} rs'Hill,	Market st. PetersDurg, Muddy Creek, – North West, – Nortolk 1st Church, Otter-Dams, –	High-Hills, - Kempsville, - London Bridge, - Meherrin, - Mill Swamp, -	Davenport's,	k, - er, - d st. Norfolk, vamp, -	NAMES or CHURCHES.
Calebra Dilver, Tho. Venetson, Calebra Dilver, Tho. Gwaltney Saml. H. Holmes, Juo. Gwaltney Jere. Hendren, H. H. Banks, Wm. M. Cluny, J. H. Butler, Chas. Wrenn, Jas. C. Jordan,	Caleb Ward, Jona, Bonny, Wan, Peters, Sami, Champen, Simon Markee, W. M. Jones, Jos. Wright, Rich'd Carney, Jos. Wright, Rich'd Carney, Letter, but no Delegates, Letter, but no Delegates,	no Deregaces, Thos. B. Creath, Jno. Shipn, Matthias Etheridge, Jno. Lynch, Letter, hut no Delegates, Praneis Ruffin, Wm. M. Douw,	Joseph Frinte, Jour Lecise, S. Sherwood, William B. Wilkins, Wiley Francis, J. L. Gwaltney, Jos. Holliman,	not represented, Letter, but no Delegates, J. W. Newel, Wm. H. Smith,	Eld. R. T. Daniel, Beej. Griffin, Dennis Fulford, Jacob K. Daughtrey, Jos. Vaughan, J. B. C. Howell, Dr. Lillybridge, Z. ach. Harris, Wm. Turner, W. Snow	NAMES of Delegates.
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	66		0101		-	Temp. Societies

The letters from the Churches having been disposed of, it was agreed that the Association would hear any petitions which might be presented by other Churches desirous of membership in this body; whereupon, the newly constituted Church at Smithfild, Isleof-Wight County, laid on the table a petitionary letter, which was read; and, on motion, was unanimously received into our fellowship.

The letters from corresponding Associations were now called for; a letter from the Chowan Association was received and read. Elders Tho. Meredith, Jno. Harrell and Jas. Delk, and Brethren John Blount, Aaron J. Spivy, Charles W. Skinner and S. J. Wheeler, were present as Messengers, who were received with much pleasure, and took their seats. They laid on the table thirty copies of their Minutes.

Brother John Blount, from the Chowan Association, laid on the table twenty-five copies of the Minutes of the Neuse Association.

A committee of Elders Howell, Hendren and Lillybridge, were appointed to examine the letters and Minutes from sister Associations, and report on Monday.

Brother Hendren laid on the table a bundle of Minutes from the General Association.

On motion, and seconded, the Association proceeded to appoint, by ballot, the Ministers to officiate the two ensuing days; Brethren Benjamin Griffin and Richard Carney, were appointed to take the ballot, who reported the following appointments: Daniel, Howell and Sherwood, to preach to-morrow, and Meredith, Delk and Thompson on Monday.

Brother R. B. C. Howell,* appointed to write the letter to our Sister Associations, to be appended to our Minutes. A commit-

^{*} Pressing duties, which called Mr. Howell from home, prevented his fulfilment of the duty here assigned him.

tee of Elders Woodson, Hendren and Lillybridge, appointed to examine the same.

Brethren Richard Carney and James C. Jordan, appointed to receive the contributions, and settle with the Treasurer.

On motion, the Association adjourned till Monday 9 o'clock. Prayer by Brother Howell.

LORD'S-DAY MORNING.

Elder S. Sherwood preached from Acts, 3d chap. 19 verse: "Repent ye, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord."

Elder R. B. C. Howell followed, from Rev. 1st chap. 7th verse:
"Behold, he cometh with clouds: and every eye shall see him."
Elder R. T. Daniel closed, from the 71st Psalm, 18th verse:
"Now, also, when I am old and grey-headed, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come.

MONDAY MORNING.

The Moderator took the chair at 9 o'clock, and after prayer by Brother Howell, the Association proceeded to business.

Resolved, That our next Association be held at Otter-Dams, in Surry county, to commence Saturday before the fourth Sunday in May, 1832, and to continue until Tuesday evening, and longer if necessary. Brother Sherwood is appointed to preach the introductory sermon; Brother Howell, his alternate; service to commence at 11 o'clock.

A committee of Elders Daniel, Howell, Sherwood, Murfee and Snow, together with the Moderator and Clerk, were appointed to prepare a sketch of business for the next Association, which may be considered of general interest to the Churches of this Association.

The committee to examine the letters and minutes of sister Associations, recommend this Association to append to our Minutes the Constitution of the General Association; and, on motion, the committee were discharged.

And, on motion, it was agreed that the Constitution of the General Association be printed in the body of our Minutes.

Brother Benjamin Griffin was duly elected Treasurer of the Association Fund.

The committee of Finance made the following report, viz :

CARR BOWERS, late Treasurer,

To the PORTSMOUTH ASSOCIATION, Dr.

1831.	To balance in hand last year,	-	\$87	08
	paid for transcribing and printing the mir			
	last year, \$	55 0	0	
	paid Brother Eaton, for the General			
	Association,	17 7	8	
	paid Brother Lugg, a Corresponding			
	Messenger,	7 0	and the second second	
	- r took the chair at 8 o'clock, and allor pro-	Strappe	- 79	78
	Cities Association Junececced to pustinger.		\$7	50

BENJAMIN GRIFFIN, Treasurer,

To the PORTSMOUTH ASSOCIATION, Dr.

1831. To amount received of the late Treasurer, \$7 30
 To the public collection made on the Sabbath, 31 86
 Contributions from the Churches, Balance in the hands of the Treasurer,

On motion, adjourned.

TUESDAY MORNING.

The Moderator took the chair at 9 o'clock, and after prayer by Brother ———, the Association proceeded to business.

The following Brethren were appointed as Corresponding Messengers :---Daniel, Snow and Mason, to the General Association, with twenty five copies of our Minutes, and ten dollars as our contribution to the fund; Brother Snow to prepare the letter.

Daniel, Woodson, Hendren, Smith, Etheridge, Sherwood and Bonny, to the Chowan, with thirty copies of our Minutes.

Gwaltney, Leefsy and Daniel, to the Meherrin, with twenty-five copies of our minutes.

Mason, Howell, Woodson, Snow and Jordan, to the Dover, with fifty copies of our minutes.

Murfee, Daughtrey and Creath, to the Neuse, with thirty copies of our Minutes.

Woodson, Lugg, Hendren, Lillybridge and Wrenn, to the Accomac, with ten copies of our Minutes.

Resolved, unanimously, That the second Sabbath in May next be observed by all the Churches composing this body, as a day of fasting and solemn prayer to Almighty God for an out-pouring of his spirit.

Elders Daniel, Mason, Snow, Gwaltney and Creath, appointed to visit the Union Meetings in the upper district.

Elders Howell, Murfee, Creath, Hendren, Brown and Etheridge, appointed to visit the Union Meetings in the lower district, and Elders Sherwood, Woodson, Murfee, Daughtrey, Daniel, Gwaltney and Cofer, to visit the middle district.

Whereas, this Association being convinced of the great good resulting from the circulation of Religious Tracts,—*Resolved*, That, as we learn with pleasure a full depository of the Baptist General Tract Society is established in Norfolk, we recommend to the Churches composing this body, and to Christians in general, to avail themselves of this opportunity of procuring Tracts for distribution.

Resolved, That this Association appoint an itinerancy to travel and preach every where in this Association; and, that Brethren Josiah Holliman, Charles Wrenn, James C. Jordan and Benjamin Griffin be an executive committee, to engage itinerant preachers.

On motion it was *Resolved*, *unanimously*, That the thanks of this Association be presented to the inhabitants of this vicinity, for their kindness and hospitality during our present session.

Agreed, that 1200 copies of these Minutes be printed and distributed as usual.

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Adjourned .- Prayer by Brother Murfee.