

(Postponed one week for protracted meeting)

Covenant meeting January 12, 1833 opened meeting with prayer by Elder **Cole** and found union in the Church. Heard the relation of **Rufus Johnson**, **Abijah Young** and **Alonso Parker**. Church voted to receive them when Baptized. 18th Sabbath Day. **Abijah Young** and **Alonso Parker** Baptized. Elder **Cole** Administrator.

M. D. **Harmon**, Church Clerk

February 2, 1833

Covenant meeting opened by singing and prayer by Elder **Cole** found union in the church.

Martin **Eastwood** and Stillmon **Brooks** related their Experience to the church.

Voted to receive them when Baptized.

Sister Polly **Baldwin** from Pawlet, Vermont who was a member of a church which did not travel. Received on the testimony of Sister **Monroe**. Church voted to receive her.

Church voted to withdraw the hand of fellowship from Brother Samuel **Sheppard**. Voted that Elder **Cole** write him a letter and to Sister Rachel **Thompson** and request her to return an answer.

M. D. **Harmon**, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting, March 2, 1833 opened by singing and prayer by Eld **Cole**. Union in among those present.

Mother **Crosby** wished to return to the church and wished an expression of the church. Voted to receive her. Sister Cynthia **Carroll** related her experience to the church. Voted to receive her having been baptized. Closed by prayer.

3rd, Sabbath. After service Elder John S. **King** and Sister Anna **King** and Elsa A. **King** presented letters from Ashville church and wished to unite with this church. Voted to receive them. Brother John **Cady** presented a letter from the Baptist Church in Pompey and wished membership with us. Voted to receive him.

Closed by Prayer.

M. D. **Harmon**, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting April 6, 1833 opened with singing and prayer and found union among those present.

Alvira **Woods** related her experience to the church. Church voted. Received her when baptized. Brother David **Elliott**, Eunice **Elliott** and Sister Hannah **Elliott** requested letters of dismissal. Church voted to grant them. Sister Polly **Lunt** returned her letter to the Church.

Voted that Elder John S. **King** be a committee to visit(?) Brother George W. **Pierce** relating to reports about him. Voted to hold a special church meeting 3 weeks from this day to transact church business at 1 o'clock P.M.

Closed by Prayer by Elder **Cole**.

M. D. **Harmon**, Church Clerk

Special church meeting April 24, 1833. Opened by singing and prayer by Elder **Tucker**. Church proceeded to sanction by vote the appointment of Deacon N. **Crosby** as one of the Deacons of this church. Voted that this meeting be adjourned to May 1 at 1 o'clock.

M. D. **Harmon**, Church Clerk

Special church meeting held by adjournment May 1, 1833.

Voted to postpone the business (choice of Deacons) indefinitely. The request of Brother M. D. **Harmon** to be discharged from further services as clerk of the church was taken up and agreed to and **Abijah Young** chosen to supply his place. Meeting dissolved.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Covenant Meeting May 4, 1833 opened by prayer and renewing covenant. Found a union among those present. Voted a letter of recommendation and dismissal to Sister Eliza Jane **Vedder**. Appointed Brother **Elon Crane** a Committee to visit Ira **Halstead**, inquire into certain reports, and cite him to appear before the church.

Sabbath May 5, communion. Brother Orange **Mott** returned a letter from this church and was received.

Martha **Simpson** presented a letter from the church in Erie, PA and was received.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting June 1, **1833**. Pastor absent. Elder E. **Johnson** presided.

Brethren M. D. **Harmon** and Elon **Crane** for themselves and wives and Wm. **Griffin** for himself, requested letters. Voted that they receive letters.

Brother E. **Crane** as a committee appointed to visit Ira **Halstead** reported that he has performed the duties assigned him, that he received as an answer from **Halstead** that he had no fellowship in sentiment or feeling with the church, and that he would not obey the citation to appear before them. Statement confirmed Brother Ezra **Buck**. Where upon, voted, that Ezra **Halstead** be excluded from the fellowship and privileges of this church.

Appointed J.Z. **Saxton** church treasurer and to furnish the Table.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting July 6, **1833**. Appointed a special church meeting for the transaction of business in one week from next Monday and appointed Elders **Handy** and **Johnson** and Brother **Buck** as a committee to visit delinquent members and report at next(?) meeting. Voted to receive Lydia **Willoughby** into this church, the 2nd Hanover church of which she was a member having in writing refused to give her a letter on the ground that they were not in fellowship with us.

Voted to appropriate enough of the church funds to make up five dollars as a compensation to Elder **Johnson** for services in supplying the Desk two Sabbaths.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Special church meeting held by appointment July 15, **1833**.

Elder John S. **King** as a committee (appointed April 6th) to visit Brother George W. **Pierce** reported that he had not visited him, but had been informed that he paid no attention to religion. Voted that the clerk write a letter to Brother **Pierce** requesting him to appear before the Church. Elders **Handy** and **Johnson** and Brother **Buck** as a committee appointed to visit delinquent members reported that they had visited Brethren **May**, Eli **Webster**, **Randall** and **Palmer**. Eli **Webster** states that he has a difficulty, but not with the church as a body. He refused to tell what the difficulty is, but says he cannot walk with the church. He was required to meet the Church, but refuses to appear. Whereupon, voted that we withdraw the hand of fellowship from Eli **Webster** for refusing to hear the Church. Voted to continue same committee to visit Sister **Webster** and report at a subsequent meeting. Brother **May** not being present his case laid over till next meeting. Brother **Randall** being present, stated that he has difficulties with the Church as a body and until removed he cannot walk with the Church. After some conversation on the subject the case was postponed. Brother **Palmer** being present, denied the charges against him, consents to any investigation the church thinks proper, whereupon committee was continued and case postponed till next meeting. On motion, Resolved to rescind a vote passed May 1st granting a letter of recommendation and dismissal to Sister Eliza Jane **Vedder** and appointed Sisters **Butler**, **Mulford**, and **Morton** as a committee to visit her and report. Appointed Brethren Ab. **Johnson** and Thos. **Osborn** a committee to visit Brethren **Sprague** and **Sage** and report. Resolved to hold an adjourned meeting on Monday 29th instant at 1 o'clock P.M. Adjourned.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

By request of some of the members the adjourned meeting for the 29th July was by a public notice postponed two weeks.

A. **Young**, Clerk

The above postponement was confirmed by a vote of the church August 11, **1833**.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting 3rd August **1833**. After the usual exercises voted that Elder **Cole** write the letters to the association and that Elders **Cole**, **Handy**, and **Johnson**, and Brethren Ebenezer **Webster**, Nathl. **Crosby**, J.D. **Allen**, Stephen **May**, and I.Z. **Saxton** be the messengers from this church to the association. Resolved that we invite the Association to meet with us next year. On her request, voted a letter of dismissal to Sister Anna **Thompson**. Sunday at Communion Sisters Harriet E. **King** and Mary E. **King** presented letters from the Church in Ashville and were received.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Special Church meeting held by adjournment 12 August 1833.

Sister Roxa **Winsor** (now **Crissy**) returned her letter to the church and was received. The committee on the case of Sister Jerusha **Webster** reported that Sister **Webster** thinks she must go with her husband. Case postponed. Brother **May** present, case laid over. And likewise Brother **Randall's**. Brother **Palmer's** case called up, committee presented a written report which was received and accepted and ordered to be kept on file. [*Not found.*] On one of the charges Brothers **Crosby, Allen, Osborn, and A. Johnson** were added to the committee and directed to see **Palmer** and (?) **Houghton** together and investigate the charge. After an absence of a few minutes the committee returned and reported that they had examined the accuser and accused face the face, that **Houghton** affirms the charge to be true and so far as they can judge they are satisfied of the truth of the charge. **Palmer** not returning to the house Deacon **Webster** was sent to require his return. When Brother **Palmer** absolutely refused to return to the house and immediately went home, thus by refusing to hear the call of the church putting a stop to a further investigation of the charges, whereupon the church resolved unanimously that Amos **Palmer** be excluded the fellowship of this church. The committee on Eliza Jane **Vedder's** [case] reported that they had visited her, that she refuses to make any confession to the church or to meet them, but said if the church thought she should be excluded, they must do it. Elder **Handy** and wife was appointed to visit her and her case laid over to next meeting.

The committee appointed to visit Sisters **Sage** and **Sprague** reported that they had performed that duty, that Sister **Sage** says she has no difficulties with the church and the reason of her absenting herself is on account of domestic troubles. Case dropped. Sister **Sprague** being present states that she has no difficulties with the church but wishes to hold her place with them. Case dropped. Meeting adjourned two weeks.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Special church meeting held by adjournment 26 August 1833.

On motion voted that the vote passed 15 July excluding Eli **Webster** be rescinded in consequence of a prospect of a final adjustment of difficulties. Elder **Handy** as a committee appointed to visit Eliza Jane **Veder** reported that he has performed that duty but has no hopes that she can be reclaimed. Voted to withdraw the hand of fellowship from Eliza Jane **Veder**. Brother **May** being present says that he did not know that a labor had been commenced with him, whereupon the committee was called to report on his case. They reported that [they] visited him as a committee of the church and that he stated to them, that he had a difficulty with Deacon **Crosby**. Brother **May** now says that the difficulty is settled. Case dropped. On motion appointed Brethren **Crosby, Forbes** and **Buck** a committee to visit Brother **Randall**. Voted that so much as may be necessary of the collection taken up next Sabbath, be appropriated to printing the Minutes of the Association. On motion resolved the following expression of the sense of this church be entered on the records of the Church.

It is the sense of this church that every member who may withdraw from the communion of the church on account of any difficulty with any other member, unless they have taken Scripture measures to adjust it, shall be considered a transgressor and dealt with accordingly. Meeting adjourned to the second Monday of November next.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting August 31, 1833. After the usual exercises the letter to the Association was presented and accepted and Brother **Corwin** added to the delegation.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting 5 October 1833. After the usual exercises the church heard the confessions of Linus **Douglass** for drinking to excess and on motion appointed Elder **Handy**, B. **Buck** and Brother **Shepard** a committee to take such measures as they think necessary and report. A letter from Brother Lucius **Andrews** was read to the Church requesting a letter of dismissal, request granted. Sister Betsy B. **Sage** presented a letter from the Church in Erie Pa. and was received. A letter from the Church in Sardinia requesting a delegation to sit in council 23 instant was read. Voted to answer the request and Elders **Cole, Handy**, and Brothers **Crosby** and **Buck** appointed to go.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Sunday October 6. After communion the church voted a letter of dismission to Sister Nancy **Warren**.
A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Sunday October 20th, church voted a letter of dismission to Sister Persis **Shumway**.
A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting November 2, **1833**. A letter presented from the church in Delphi recommending Brother Graphen **Sweet**, his wife Elizabeth **Sweet**, Thomas **Sweet** and Pamela **Sweet** (their children) and Deborah **Sweet**, who were accepted. On motion resolved that the church hold a prayer meeting on the 2nd Wednesday in November instant 10 o'clock A.M.
A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Sunday 10 November voted a letter to Sister Lovilla **Gardner**.
A. **Young**

Monday 11 November Special Church Meeting. Met and adjourned two days. Then adjourned to Monday 18 November at 1 o'clock P.M.

Monday 18th November **1833**. Special Church Meeting held by adjournment. Meeting opened by prayer by Pastor. Minutes of previous meeting read. Committee (Brothers **Crosby**, **Forbes**, and **Buck**) called upon to report on the case of Brother **Randall**. Reported that they had performed the duty assigned them. Brother **Randall** being present stated that his difficulties are with certain acts and resolutions of the Church which he thinks are unequal and unjust. After much discussion and careful investigation the following Preamble and Resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Whereas this church in hopes of securing peace and harmony and restoring Christian confidence which had been destroyed in the conflict touching the subject of Freemasonry, Did, by the advice of a Council, convened in the Baptist Meeting House in February 1831 adopt their result with the Whitesborough resolutions, and whereas such act of the Church failed to produce the effect contemplated; Therefore resolved, that such resolutions are and of right ought to be null and void; and that we, as the professed followers of our Lord Jesus Christ have no fellowship with Freemasonry and that any connection of any member of this church either directly or indirectly with the institution of Freemasonry, we deem an offence against the church, and such member a proper subject of Discipline.

Meeting dissolved.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

At an adjourned church prayer meeting held at the meeting house December 5th Brother **Saxton** informed the Church that a proposal had been made by some of our dissenting brethren, that the church should appoint a meeting and give them notice thereof, to ascertain whether the breaches which had so long unhappily existed between the two bodies could not be healed and Union and Christian confidence restored. After conversation had on the subject the following letter was voted and sent by the hand of Brother P. **Nichols**.

From the First Baptist Church in Pomfret. To their brethren who have been long separated from them by reason of the unhappy division which has rent asunder the Zion of God in this section of country.
Dear Brethren, We have (feeling it our duty, in hopes of the greatest good) recently rescinded the Whitesborough resolution together with the result of Council on the subject of Freemasonry and have in the place of said Whitesborough resolution adopted a resolution which is on our Church Book, a copy of which had recently been handed to Brother Phineus **Nichols** by our Church Clerk, which resolution is the unanimous sentiment of our church upon the subject and we cheerfully invite our Brethren to meet us and unite with us on that Resolution, and hope in the spirit of the gospel we may again be united as Brethren in the love of the Saviour. And if we are agreed touching the main question it is our opinion that no good can result from a discussion of the old subject, or the particular merits of the resolution now adopted; but hope on both sides the question, all personal difficulties, hardness, etc.(?) may be removed and that a spirit of confession maybe felt and exercised and that a forgiving spirit may possess every heart, that all may mutually harmonize, and may we all feel to bow before God and together move on toward that Celestial

City where we hope ere long to meet. We propose to meet at the Baptist meeting house on Saturday 7th instant at 12 o'clock.

In behalf of the church (Signed) A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Voted that we hold a special church meeting on Saturday next at 12 o'clock. Meeting dissolved.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Special Church meeting held by appointment December 7, **1833**. Meeting opened by prayer and reading minutes. Voted that Elders **Winsor** and **Sawyer** be invited to take a part in the deliberations of the meeting. The meeting being thus opened our dissenting brethren present were desired to say whether they agreed with the church in the sentiments of the resolution adopted November 18th **1833**. Whereupon Judge **Cushing** inquired to know whether the church understood by the phrase "an offence against the Church" in the resolution, the same as though it had read "a violation of the Divine rule," and expressed his wish to have it thus amended. The brethren present individually expressed their opinion that they were modes of expression of the same meaning in this case but preferred not to have the alteration made. With this our dissenting brethren individually professed satisfaction on that point. Meeting adjourned till Tuesday next.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk

Special Church meeting held by adjournment December 10, **1833**.

Meeting opened by prayers and reading minutes. Our dissenting brethren presented the minutes of a meeting which they held yesterday (9 instant) in which they expressed themselves unanimously and perfectly satisfied with the stand the church have taken on the subject of Freemasonry and resolving to meet with us for the purpose of amalgamating. A question arising respecting the manner in which the two bodies shall unite, whether they shall be received as a body or as individuals. On motion resolved that it is the understanding of the church that they were invited to return to the church as individuals. Whereupon Judge **Cushing** declared that it was their unanimous determination not to dissolve their organization and if they could not return as a body they could not come. On motion appointed Elders **Winsor** and **Sawyer** and Brothers **Forbes**, **Saxton**, **Cushing**, and **Covell**, a committee to consult together and ascertain if any measures could be devised by which a union could be effected. While the committee were absent the church called on the committee appointed on the case of Brother S. **Douglass**, who reported that they had seen him and directed him to make a confession to Brother **Hempstead's** family. Brother **Douglass** being present says he has made a confession to them and others and has made up his mind never to drink any more ardent spirits except as a medicine. Voted satisfied. Brother **Buck** from the committee on the case of Eli **Webster** reports that he has visited him and that he refuses to walk with the church or to meet them, but says he has no hardness toward the church as such. On motion resolved that we withdraw the hand of fellowship from Eli **Webster** till he make satisfaction to the church. Elder **Winsor** from the committee appointed reported no progress. On motion, meeting dissolved.

A. **Young**, Church Clerk