

Church meeting January 7th 1839. Opened by prayer.

1. Resolved to appoint Brother John **Champlin** on committee appointed at last meeting on Brother **Stoddard** and **Buck's** case in place of Brother **Cushing** whose illness prevents him from meeting with the committee.
2. Resolved to request the committee appointed to aid and encourage the singing to attend to their duty and also to make an effort to raise money to pay for the Organ. Resolved to release Brother Z. **Cushing** from said committee and appoint Brother **Hewes** in his stead.
3. Heard written report from committee appointed in regard to Brethren **Dickinson** and **Wheeler**. Report accepted and committee discharged so far as relates to Brother **Dickinson**. Resolved that Brother **Dickinson** be required to make proper acknowledgement to individual, not members of the church in whose hearing he had made hard expressions. Brother **Barrell** continue committee to (?) when done.
4. Brother J.(?) C. **Stoddard** presented written complaint against Brother R. **Buck**. First and second steps of labor admitted and the complaint accepted. And [referred?] the complaint to the committee previously appointed to investigate Brother **Saxton's** complaint against Brother **Stoddard**. Voted to add to the said committee Brothers Thomas **Osborn** and G. **Sweet**. Brother J.(?) C. **Stoddard** also brought a complains in writing against Brother J. Z. **Saxton** which complaint was also referred to the above named committee

Voted to adjourn to Saturday next at 10 o'clock A.M.

Adjourned by prayer.

J. **Saxton**, Assistant Clerk

January 12th 1839. Church meeting today agreeable to adjournment.

Opened by prayer. Heard minutes of last meeting.

1. Brother **Johnson** having announced the death of our venerable Brother Zattu **Cushing** who expired yesterday. On motion of Brother **Barrell** it was resolved that we as a church [are deeply] afflicted in the providence of God that calls us to mourn the [passing] of our beloved Brother and Father in Israel, Hon. Father **Cushing**, and that we pray that this dispensation may be sanctified to our spiritual [glory].
2. Called on committee on Brother **Stoddard** and **Buck's** case. Committee presented written report. Report received and committee discharged.
3. Voted to act on the report by items. The report of committee on charges of Brother **Saxton** against Brother **Stoddard** was adopted. [We?] adopted the second and third items of the report.
4. Resolved that it is the opinion of the church that Brother J.Z. **Saxton** is exonerated from any participation in the injunction of Brother **Buck** as referred to in charges against Brother **Saxton** brought by Brother **Stoddard**. Voted to [adjourn] to the 1st day of February next at one o'clock P.M.

Adjourned by prayer.

J. **Saxton**, Assistant Clerk

Church conference 25 January 1839. Opened by prayer.

Heard the experience of Louisa **Miller**. Received for baptism.

Heard a relation of John **Miller's** feelings. Voted, Deacon **Webster**, John **Saxton**, and J.B. **Pixley** be a committee to enquire into his case.

Voted letters to J. Z. **Saxton** and family.

The clerk and assis tant Being absent the above handed in by J.B. **Pixley**.

D. **Barrell**, Clerk

Covenant meeting [January ?] 5, 1839.

Heard the report of Committee appointed to revise our articles of faith and practice and Covenant.

Resolved that we accept the articles of Covenant as presented by the committee and adopt them as the articles and Covenant of the church.

Received a request from the church at Laona requesting us to send our pastor and Brethren to sit in council with delegates from other churches on the 1st Wednesday in February to take into consideration the propriety of setting apart A. C. **Barrell** to the work of the ministry. Resolved that we answer the above request by sending our pastor and Brethren E. **Johnson**, Deacon **Webster** and J. **More** as delegates.

David **Barrell**, Church Clerk

Church meeting February 1, 1839. Opened by prayer.

Elder **Bishop** made a statement of his feeling in regard to certain reports in circulation regarding him, and concluded his remarks by asking the church to appoint a committee to enquire into the matter. Resolved that we appoint such committee. Brother **May** proposed that Elder **Bishop** nominate said committee. Elder **B.** commenced the nomination and it was objected to by Br. **D. Saxton** on the ground that as the committee was on affairs concerning Elder **B.** it might be said that it looked bad. The church then nominated and appointed a committee of seven consisting of Brn. **J. Pettit**, Deacons **Webster**, **Randall**, **Osborn**, **Sweet**, **Forbes** and **Abell**.

The following resolution was presented by Br. **Randall**. Upon the request of Elder **Bishop** our pastor, "Resolved that the church appoint a committee of seven to give advice and pass resolutions in relation to certain statements of the course pursued by Elder **Bishop**, by some of the Brethren upon the subject of calls from the churches of Buffalo and Sardinia, and also statements made by individual Brethren of this church in relation to the same, and that the committee report to the church.

The following resolution offered by Bro. **May** next adopted. Resolved that the church highly appreciate the labor and service of Elder **Bishop** in the preaching of the gospel and the pious and religious influence that he has exerted in the church and community for the last year. Brother **D. Barrell** and a few other dissenting on the ground that such a resolution was uncalled for. Resolved that we appoint Brethren Deacon **Webster**, Joseph **Sweet**, Elder [?] and Alford **Stoddard** a committee to solicit subscriptions for the support of Elder **Bishop**.

Resolved that the church ask Bro. John **Saxton** to retain his letter which was voted at last church meeting by request of the church.

Voted to restore Br. Jerome **Saxton**.

Voted to adjourn to Friday next at 10 o'clock A.M. for the adjustment of Brethren **Stoddard** and **Buck's** business, and at one o'clock P.M. for other business. Adjourned by prayer.

J. Saxton, Assistant Clerk

Lord's day February 3rd 1839. At the close of morning service notice was given from the Desk that there would be a special church meeting in the basement in $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour.

Agreeable to the above notice church convened in the basement. Opened by prayer.

Called for the report of committee appointed on Friday last to enquire into reports in circulation regarding Elder **Bishop**.

Heard their report in part (see report on file). [*Not found.*]

Resolved to receive the report so far as made.

Prayer by Elder **Bishop**.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church Meeting February 8, 1839.

Meeting opened by prayer as adjourned. Appointed **J. B. Pixley** clerk pro tem.

Heard the records of church meeting January 12.

Enquired of Brother **Buck** whether he had complied with the result of the committee (see his reply on file). [*Not found.*]

On enquiry of Brother **A. Stoddard** whether he had interfered in any arrangement made by Brother **Buck** and Elder **Stoddard's** Atty. he answers he had not unless it was interfering to say he did not want the property. Resolved to appoint a judicious committee of 3 to aid Brother **Buck** and **Stoddard** in carrying into effect by simultaneous effort the result of the committee, and that Brethren **D. Saxton**, **J. Hamilton** and **S. May** be said committee and that they report to the church.

Adjourned for one hour.

J. B. Pixley

February 8th one o'clock P.M. Church convened agreeably to adjournment.

Heard resolution appointing a committee enquiring certain reports concerning Elder **Bishop**. Called for the report of committee. Adopted report of committee as presented in part (see report on file). [*Not found.*]

Heard and accepted report of Committee on last part. Referring to Brother **J.Z. Saxton** as follows,

Your committee would state that in connecting with and in addition to other statements in relation to these rumors that Brother John **Z. Saxton** has made repeated statements to the prejudice of the moral character of our pastor, in a given case and that your committee have their substantial witnesses that he did thus state.

They have also examined the truth of such statements and find it to be untrue upon competent testimony, and that our pastor is not censurable in the case. In view of the fact the committee recommended that the vote by which he has obtained a letter be rescinded as far as he was concerned until a satisfactory explanation or retraction is made and that he be immediately certified thereof.

Whereupon it was Resolved that we adopt the report of the committee and further Resolved that Brothers **Pettit** and **Randall**, Chairman and Clerk of committee, write to Brother **Saxton** to inform him of their report. Resolved that the committee be discharged.

Voted letters to Brother E. **Flint** and wife.

Voted to appoint Brother **Stoddard** to take care of the meeting house. Adjourned to Friday next 1 o'clock.
D. **Barrell** , Church Clerk

Church meeting February 15th 1839. Opened by prayer.

Heard the minutes of last meeting.

Voted to call on committee appointed at the last meeting to aid Brother **Stoddard** and **Buck** in resolving their matter of difficulty. Heard and accepted report of committee and they discharged. Resolved, heard the report of committee in reference to [*rumors in*] circulation regarding Elder **Bishop** be recorded.

The committee appointed by the church [*and on*] special request of Elder **Bishop** to enquire regarding certain reports in circulation, to wit, that Elder **Bishop** [*received*] a call from the church in Buffalo [*and his*] intention to accept the same and also [*of reports*] respecting the church at Sardinia. (?) After a full investigation of all the correspondence respecting those rumors do unanimously [*agree that*] the reports in reference to Sardinia [*are without*] foundation. They are also of opinion that respecting Elder **Bishop** requesting the church in Buffalo give him a call to be their pastor with the understanding that the church had at the time [*given*] Elder **Charles** (?) a call to be their pastor are of opinion that Elder **Bishop**, in view of all the circumstances and testimonies is not censurable.

[*The next paragraph, which pertains to Elder Bishop, is mostly illegible, partially erased, and fully crossed out.*]

[*In*] the business relating to **Stoddard** and **Buck** it was moved to adjourn for one week, after which it was Resolved that a committee of three be appointed to aid the trustees in settling up and looking after unsettled pecuniary business, committee consisting of Brethren **Forbes**, J. **Porter**, and J. **Saxton**.

Voted a letter of dismission to Sister Elvira **Carr**.

Adjourned.

J. **Saxton**, Assistant

Church meeting February 22nd 1839. Opened by prayer by Elder **Bishop**.

Resolved that Brother A. **Stoddard** and Brother R. **Buck** be admonished to carry into execution the adopted decision of the committee on record by the church and as the said brethren have referred the matter to certain brethren selected for decision and agreed to abide their decision. Resolved that said brethren leave the decision to be arranged in the form of a legal contract, by the committee under the instruction of some competent man selected by the committee.

Resolved that the matters of conversation on record February 15, 1839 be erased.

Resolved that four delegates be appointed to [*attend*] the Bible society at Mayville, Elder **Bishop**, Deacon **Webster** and Brother **Moore**, also Brother D. **Barrell**.

Resolved that we appoint a committee of three brethren to nominate four candidates for the deacon's office in this church and report the same to the church as soon as possible. Resolved that Brethren. **Osborn**, **Webster**, and **Pettit** be said committee.

A subscription for Bible Society be disannulled, an old subscription.

Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

Covenant meeting March 2nd 1839. Opened by prayer.

The covenant not being present, having been given to the committee appointed to get it printed, the brethren and sisters proceeded to relate their exercises after which heard a request from Brethren D. **Barrell** and J. **Saxton** asking to be released from the duties of Clerk of the church, and that some other one be appointed to take charge of the records of the church. They assigned as a reason for making this request that they had felt abused and insulted by an erasure of a part of the records of the church meeting, February 15th which was erased on the 22nd February in their absence, and no reason assigned for so doing, which said record, so erased, was recorded in good faith by Brother **Saxton** as clerk of that meeting, and precisely

as dictated by the chairman of the committee to whom the question was put and he answered it. Also that on a previous occasion the correctness of the record had been questioned in open church meeting when it was subsequently shown that the record so questioned was literally correct.

On motion of S. **May** resolved that their request be granted, and that they be released from the further discharge of the duties of clerk and assistant clerk.

Resolved that Brother T. G. **Abell** be appointed church clerk.

Closed by prayer.

David **Barrell**, Clerk

John **Saxton**, Assistant

Covenant meeting April 6th 1839.

Devotional exercises very interesting. Attendance [*large?*]

First voted a church meeting to be held on next Saturday at 1 o'clock P.M.

2nd Voted Sister Jane **Crosby** and Susan **Crosby** letters.

3rd Voted Sister Mary Ann **Bowman**.

Thos. G. **Abell**, Church Clerk

Church meeting April 13th 1839.

Opened by prayer.

First voted Brother Joseph B. **Pixley** letter of dismission and commendation.

2nd Resolved that the funds in the hands of Brother R. **Buck** go to pay D. **Barrell** \$5 and pay Brother G. **Sweet** \$2.75 and the balance go to pay for printing the covenant.

3rd Resolved that if Elder **Bishop** will take the subscription and all that can be got on it for his services this year that it be given to him under the direction of the committee in proportion to the time being.

4th The committee appointed to solicit funds for the support of our pastor would report that they have attended to their duty and have succeeded far beyond their expectations. They have obtained nearly seven hundred dollars on paper all of which they consider as responsible and in good faith as the subscription the preceding year, and in most instances there was not only a wish that the amount pledged should be paid for the purpose specified and to Elder **Bishop**, but a willingness to do more if necessary.

Elder **Webster**

A. **Stoddard** copy

5th Resolved that this church look with feelings of strong disappointment upon the course or practice of private or public individuals writing insinuating statements or opinions against any brother (in private or official standing) to individuals of other churches behind the back of such a brother, or to use such communications to his prejudice in his absence.

6th Resolved that it is the judgment of this church that she and other Sister churches are bound to receive and treat their members on the ground of their official recommendations and not of individual insinuations or opinions.

Thos. G. **Abell**, Church Clerk

Church meeting 23 April 1839. Brother **Moore** appointed Moderator. Opened by prayer.

1st Resolved that Broother J. B. **Pixley** be appointed Assistant Clerk.

2nd. Brother **Barrell** called upon to state his grievance with Elder **Bishop**. Heard by the church.

3rd Resolved that they be accepted with the exception of the 4th charge.

4th Resolved that the vote taken on the 15th of February last accepting the report of a committee appointed by the church at the request of its pastor to examine and advise in relation to certain reports then in circulation respecting him (Elder **Bishop**) be rescinded.

5th Resolved that the meeting be adjourned for one hour.

Three o'clock P.M. Met according to adjournment. Opened by prayer.

1st By request of Elder **Bishop**, Resolved that the church proceed to hear the investigation of the subject of calls for the purpose of ascertaining whether Elder **Bishop** is censurable therein: and if so, where in, and that Brother **Barrell** be requested to present his testimony on the subject and remarks, and that Elder **Bishop** also present his evidence and defense, and that the church decide in view of all the testimony presented and bearing on the subject. Said investigation to include only the matters which have transpired

subsequent to his Cazenovia letters of commendation. Also said investigation be entered upon at the time ordered by the church.

2nd Resolved that the 4th charge set forth in Brother **Barrell's** grievances be accepted so far as Brother Bishop understood it at the time the labor was taken and so far as Brother **Barrell** has now conceded. Of this the church is to judge.

3rd Resolved that Brother **Barrell** be requested to proceed in bringing forward his testimony.

4th. Resolved that Brother **Barrell** proceed in bringing forward his testimony upon the 4th charge. The two last resolutions waived for the present.

5th. Resolved that 4 ministering brethren be agreed upon and invited to set with the church in examination of this subject. And also 4 [*lay*] brethren members of the churches of such pastors, to be selected by the pastor. And the said brethren be invited to set with the church in the decision of this subject and of all matters of difficulty which may come before the church which have originated in or grown out of this subject. Said brethren to be Elder **Little**, Elder **LaHatt**, Elder **Windsor** and Elder **Scofield** with their laymen.

6th Resolved that when this meeting be adjourned it be adjourned until next Tuesday.

7th Resolved that the acceptance of Brother **Randall's** complaint against Brother **Johnson** be deferred until next Tuesday. The church to do nothing with it at the present.

8th Resolved that the meeting be adjourned. Closed by prayer.

Thos. G. **Abell**, Clerk

Made out and recorded by J. B. **Pixley**, Assistant

Tuesday April 30th 1839 Church meeting. Agreeable to adjournment.

Brother **Moore** resigned his seat as moderator. Resolved that the Reverend W. **Windsor** be requested to sit as moderator of this meeting. Prayer by the moderator.

Heard the records of last meeting.

Resolved that the visiting Brethren invited by the church, be requested to advise with the church in all matters of difference, now to be presented before the church, but not to vote with the church. Said Brethren being Reverend W. **Windsor** and Brother A. **Clark** of Cassadaga, Reverend C. **LaHatt** and Brother L. **Crosby** of Salem [*later known as Brocton*], Reverend F. **Scofield** and Brother W. **Strong** of Gary and Charlotte, Reverend S. **Little** and Brother W. **Cushing** of Stockton. All being present.

Resolved that the church proceed to investigate the charges preferred by Brother **Barrell** against Elder I.F. **Bishop**.

Resolved that the meeting be adjourned for one [*hour*].

Prayer by Elder **Scofield**.

Two o'clock P.M. Met agreeable to adjournment.

Prayer by Elder **Bishop**.

Heard the first charge set forth against Elder **Bishop** by Brother **Barrell**. Testimony on file. [*Not found.*]

Heard the second read. Testimony on file. [*Not found.*]

Heard also the third charge. Testimony on file. [*Not found.*]

The fourth charge read. Resolved that the fourth charge be waived for the present and the fifth examined.

Heard the fifth charge. Waived for the present.

Resolved that the church proceed to examine the 6th charge. Heard the 6th charge. Remarks.

Heard the 7th also. Remarks.

The 8th read. Remarks

Resolved that the meeting be adjourned until tomorrow at 8 o'clock A.M.

Prayer by Elder **LaHatt**.

1st May assembled according to adjournment at ½ past 8 A.M. Prayer by Elder **Scofield**

Heard the 4th charge read. Remarks from different brethren as introductory to the examination of it. After hearing the testimony brought forward by Brother **Barrell** to sustain the charge, the church resolved to adjourn for one hour.

Prayer by the moderator.

2 o'clock P.M. Convened according to adjournment.

Prayer by Elder **LaHatt**.

5th charge read. Testimony on file. [*Not found.*]

Heard Elder **Bishop's** defense mainly on the 4th charge. The case submitted by both Brother **Barrell** and **Bishop**.

Resolved that the church appoint the 8 visiting Brethren with 8 members of the church to prepare something to recommend to the church for their consideration upon this subject; and adoption if thought advisable by the church. And report to the church the same. Brethren **Moore, D. Saxton, Hamilton, Abell, May, Osborn, Cotton, and Randall**, appointed by the church to be in the committee.

Resolved the meeting be adjourned until tomorrow at 8 o'clock A.M. Prayer by the moderator.

2nd May. Assembled agreeable to adjournment at 9 o'clock A.M. Prayer by Moderator.

Heard the report of committee.

Resolved that it be accepted by the church. Unanimous.

Resolved that the 1st item of said report be adopted by the church. Unanimous.

Resolved the 2nd item be adopted. Unanimous.

Resolved the 3rd item be adopted. Unanimous.

Resolved the 4th item be adopted. Unanimous.

Resolved the 5th item be adopted. Unanimous.

Resolved the 6th item be adopted. Unanimous.

Resolved the 7th item be adopted. Unanimous.

Resolved the 8th item be adopted. Unanimous.

Heard remarks by way of counsel and advise from Brethren **Scofield, LaHatt, Crosby, Windsor and Little**.

Resolved that on the ensuing Sabbath a collection be taken for the purpose of defraying the expenses of Sister **Woodcock's** funeral. And all (if any there be) that is received more than is required to be kept for like purposes.

Resolved that this meeting be adjourned until the 6th of June. The visiting Brethren invited to attend.

Prayer by Elder **Scofield**.

Taken down at meeting and recorded by J. B. **Pixley**, Assistant Clerk

Covenant meeting May 4th 1839. Opened by prayer by Brother J. B. **Pixley**. Heard the remarks by Brothers and Sisters.

Resolved that the clerk be instructed to add to the letter which has been voted to Brother **Pixley** that he has gifts that ought to be improved and might be beneficial to the church and the cause of God wherever providence may place him.

2nd Resolved that a committee of three be appointed to examine into the matters in relation to Brother **Miller**. Brethren **Webster, Randall, J. Forbes** [be] committee and report to the church.

Thos. G. **Abell**, Church Clerk

Sabbath May 5, 1839 at intermission.

Voted Brother John **Saxton** superintendent of the Sabbath School. Also Brother David **Barrell** Leader of the Bible class. Voted Brother Benj. **Randall** Assistant Clerk.

Thos. G. **Abell**, Church Clerk

Sabbath May 5th 1839.

After service received contribution of Church and Society four dollars and forty cents to defray the funeral expenses of Sister Polly **Woodcock** and the money paid to Mr. E. **Phillips**.

After communion Voted Elder John F.(?) **Bishop** a traveling letter.

Thos. G. **Abell**, Church Clerk

Sabbath May 26, 1839. On motion of Deacon **Webster** voted a church meeting of Business next Thursday May 30th.

May 30th Church met according to appointment.

Prayer by Deacon **Webster**.

1st Voted that the committee on Sacred Music and the financial committee be united in order to procure means to purchase the organ and to purchase the same if means can be obtained.

2nd Voted that Sister Roxy S. **Norton** have a letter of dismission.

3rd voted Sister Ann **Whitman** have a letter of dismissal.

June 1st **1839**. Covenant meeting.

Brother Lewis B. **Grant** and Sister Julia A. **Grant** presented a letter of commendation from Forestville church.

1st Voted they be received as members of this church.

2nd The committee appointed to inquire in regard to Brother **Miller** reported favorably.

3rd Voted that the report be accepted and committee discharged.

4th Voted that Brother **Miller** be received as member of this church.

Resolved that Elder **Bishop** and Brethren be a committee to attend a meeting in Sheridan on the council with Brethren of other churches in regard to the erection of a church and if in their opinion advisable the following brethren and sisters to have the privilege of uniting with new church. Brother **Cotton**, wife and daughter, Brother **Willoughby**, Brother (?) and wife, Brother **Keach** and wife, which was accordingly done.

June 6, **1839**. Church convened pursuant to adjournment together with visiting Brethren, elders, **Winsor**, **LaHatte**. Prayer by Elder **Winsor**.

Elder **Winsor** by consent was chosen Moderator.

1st Voted to invite Elders **Leach**, (?), **Smith** and (?) to take a seat with the advisory Brethren and the church; which they accordingly did.

2nd Went into committee of the whole.

3rd Brethren **Randall's** charges were called for.

4th Voted that the first item of Brother **Randall's** charge was out of order and was withdrawn.

5th Voted that the second charge be accepted.

6th Voted that the third charge be accepted

7th Voted that the fourth charge be accepted.

[*The following sentence is crossed out.*] Voted that the above be accepted by the church.

8th In committee of the whole dissolved after (?) the above resolutions.

9th On resolution the above recommendations were accepted by the [church].

10th Adjourned for one hour.

Afternoon met pursuant to adjournment.

11th Prayer by Elder (?).

12 Brother **Porter** presented a complaint against Brother **Barrell**.

12th Voted said complaint be deferred by the church.

1 Brother **Osborn** presented a complaint against Brother Reuben **Buck**.

13th Voted said complaint be received.

Brother **Osborn** presented a charge against Brother Avery **Buck**.

14th Voted the same be deferred.

Voted the case of Brother Elias **Johnson**.

15th be acted upon.

Elder **Bishop** presented a charge against Brother E. **Johnson** on labors.

16th Voted the first charge of Elder **Bishop** (he voluntarily waving the other charges) be received.

Elder **LaHatt** testified that in Portland at Mr. **Crouches'** Brother **Johnson** Stated unqualifiedly that Elder **Bishop** was an imposter, a deceiver and Liar.

Brother (?) testified that some 4 weeks since he went home from church with Brother **Johnson**, Brother **Johnson** stated at his house that Elder **Bishop** had lied like the Devil; said first Elder **Bishop** had Lied and then said he had lied like the Devil or Elder (?) had; Cross Examined said if Elder **Bishop** had said then had no committee been appointed to look into charges once existing against him he **Bishop** had either Lied or Elder (?) had lied. Gave him (?) to understand that he **Johnson** had a letter from Elder (?) upon the subject. Brother **Forbes** testified in regard to Brother **Randall's** 2nd charge that Brother **Johnson** at the close of a certain meeting of the church in the basement to inquire into certain charges against Elder **Bishop** or to hear the report of a committee upon that subject, a question arose about reading the proceedings in relation to the same, that then Brother **Johnson** said to Elder **Bishop**, can you under such circumstances break bread to the church.

Brother **Cotton** testified to the same.

Brother **Johnson** acknowledged the third charge of Brother **Randall's**.

In regard to the 4th charge Elder **Bishop** presented a written statement from Brother T. G. **Abell** which excused Elder **Bishop** from all censure in relation to that matter. Brothers **May, Porter** and **Webster** testified that Brother **Johnson** said the record was erased by a motion of Elder **Bishop**. In relation to the 3rd charge of Brother **Randall**, Brother **Johnson** said he would acknowledge it by adding some qualification. Brother **Johnson** confessed that he was sorry in saying that Elder **Bishop** had lied like the Devil. Voted to appoint a committee of 6 Brethren and report to the church on the morrow morning. Brother **Forbes, Moore, Pettit, Webster, Randall,** and **Porter** were chosen.

Friday morning June 7, **1839**. Committee met according to appointment. Prayers by Elder **Smith**. Voted Elder **Winsor** be Moderator. Brother **Randall** Clerk.

1st Took up the complaint of Elder **Bishop** against Brother **Johnson**.

Voted the resolution of Elder **Leach** be adopted.

2nd Took up Brother **Randall's** first charge and voted that we are satisfied with Brother **Johnson's** explanation and confession. Adopted by the church.

3rd On Brother **Randall's** second charge resolved that Brother **Johnson's** explanation is satisfactory. Adopted by the church.

4th. On brother **Randall's** 4th charge resolved that Brother **Johnson's** explanation is satisfactory. Adopted by the church.

5th On Brother **Randall's** 5th charge resolved that the church withdraw the charge. Adopted by the church.

6th On Elder **Bishop's** charge against Brother **Johnson** resolved that the remarks of Brother **Johnson** in reference to Elder **Bishop** (whether they were qualified or not) were unjustifiable and unChristian. Adopted by the church.

7th Resolved that the confession made by Brother **Johnson** in relation to the charge made by Elder **Bishop** is so far satisfactory, and it would be expedient to make the same confession in covenant meeting. Adopted by the church.

8th Resolved that we recommend to the church to accept the complaint of Brother **Osborn** against brother Avery **Buck** in its present shape and that action on the same be deferred at this time. Voted by the church to adopt and accept the same.

[*The following sentence is crossed out.*] Voted to adjourn and that the advisory and counseling brethren be informed by the clerk of the time of our next meeting.

9th Your committee would recommend the labor of Brother **Osborn**, against Brother Reuben **Buck** be deferred indefinitely.

Signed Washington **Winsor**, Chairman

B. Randall, Clerk

Voted by the church that the above report of the committee be accepted and the committee discharged.

Voted to dissolve the meeting with an understanding that the church meet again (upon these matters) at some future time subject to the orders of the church and that the Brethren originally agreed upon to wit. Elder **LaHatt, Scofield** and **Winsor** and their chosen Brethren and that they be reasonably notified by the church.

L.B. **Grant**, Assistant Clerk Pro tem

Church assembled in covenant meeting July 6, **1839**.

Meeting opened by Prayer and Praise. Then the members proceeded to relate their Christian exercises after which proceeded to the transaction of Business.

1st Resolved that Brothers **Hamilton** and **Moore** be added to the Old committee that was appointed to draft a new covenant for the church.

2nd. Resolved that Brother **Moore** be Superintendent of Sabbath School.

3rd Resolved that Brother **Woodruff** be Librarian of Sabbath School.

4th. Resolved that there be a special church meeting on Saturday the 13th instant to appoint Deacons provided there should be a general attendance and for the transaction of other Business.

5th. Resolved that letters of commendation and dismissal be granted to Sister Hannah **Willcox**, Achsah **Saxton**, May L. **Shepherd** and Sister Lovinia(?) **Montgomery**(?).

6th Resolved that Lewis B. **Grant** be church clerk after hearing from Elder **Bishop** that Brother **Abell** would probably be absent some time and that the church much needed some one to take charge of books. Heard a confession from Brother **Fitch**.

Appointed Brothers **Webster** and R. **Porter** to meet Brother **Fitch** and report to a subsequent meeting.

Closed by prayer.
Lewis B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Sunday July 7. Church assembled specially by request of Elder **Bishop**.
Heard a confession from Brother **Fitch**. In public meeting Brothers **Fitch** and **Forbes** made each a public confession.

1st Resolved by the church that the confessions of Brothers **Forbes** and **Fitch** is satisfactory.

2nd Resolved that letters of dismissal and commendation be given to Sister **Starr** and Brother Thomas **Sweet**.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

July 13th Church convened in pursuance of adjournment. Meeting opened by prayer. Minutes of last meeting read by the clerk.

Brother **Webster** reported that he had visited Brother **Fitch** and reported satisfied with his confession.

Brother **Webster** on the part of the committee appointed to nominate Deacons reported that they had made no nominations.

1st Voted that the committee be discharged.

2nd Voted that three Brethren be nominated to the office of Deacons subject hence after to the appointment and election of the church.

3rd Brethren **Moore**, **Cornwell**, and Rufel **Webster** were ballot(?) elected.

Brother **Moore** objected to serve as Deacon whereupon

4th Resolved that Brother **Moore** be excused.

5th Resolved that Brother **Hamilton** the next highest on the list of candidates be nominated in place of Brother **Moore**.

6th. Resolved that the church appoint a committee to labor affectionately and thoroughly with all and every member indiscriminately who are delinquent in their travel with the church, excepting those members who are or may otherwise be dealt with or considered by the church, and that said committee faithfully admonish such members to duty and report to the church.

7th resolved that Brothers Ebenezer **Webster**, **Osborn**, (?), **Cornwell**, and **Porter** be said committee.

8th Resolved that all persons who have taken letters from the church of commendation and dismissal and have not or may not use them (having convenient opportunity) within three months of the present date are and shall be considered not amenable or in standing or fellowship with the church and that the same standing rule of order regard all Letters hereafter given and not used within three months of their date where convenient opportunity presents for their use.

9th Resolved that the adjournment June 7 to take into consideration and action the difficulties in regard to Brethren dissatisfied with Elder **Bishop** be appointed on Thursday 18th instant at 9 o'clock A.M.

10th Resolved that Elder **Little** and Chosen Brethren be invited to attend.

Elder **Bishop** presented a letter from Elder (?) **Metcalf** and others of advice to him in regard to recent difficulties of which see a copy on file [not found] in regard to which unanimously resolved by the 11th Church (?). That whereas a communication has been received as a copy of a letter sent to our Pastor by Individuals, purporting to be advice that he should submit to call a council or have all his difficulties examined by a council with the communication that they as individuals shall disregard him as a minister and shall publish their correspondence with him in the Register if he does not comply and whereas a public, bonafide and mutual agreement and selection of Brethren for advice upon this matter, with the understanding that the decision of the church with the advice should be final and unalterable, and whereas said agreement has been prosecuted and resulted in the full and unanimous acquittal of Elder **Bishop**, and inasmuch as if the church should consent to (?) the above referred to fair agreement for final settlement they or Elder **Bishop** would have no (?) or encouragement that those who are personally(?) interested and dissatisfied would be any better satisfied with the church or its Pastor than they are now (if he should clear ?). But on the contrary Therefore Resolved that the church without any disrespect for the persons who have tendered their gratuitous advice, the most of whom are strangers to the Church and to Elder **Bishop** and of course to the case as it is, (?) and hereby certify that they cannot without positive violation of their mutual agreement and violence to all principle of good faith and sacrifice of their (?) rights and best judgment, consent or submit to the measures proposed, though the church is convinced that a candid and disinterested council of Brethren of Sister churches (?) not do away the present result.

12th Resolved that there be a committee appointed to visit Brother Aruna **Buck** and William (?) and that Brothers **Moore** and **Pettit** be said committee.

13th Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

Closed by prayer.

Louis B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Lord's day July 14th 1839. Brother Avery D. **Taylor** and wife presented letters of commendation from Portland Church. Resolved they be received.

Friday July 14 church. Met by request of Elder **Bishop**.

Resolved that the clerk forward to the ministering Brethren of the Holland Purchase Association (whose names are attached to an advisory letter to Elder **Bishop** July 11). A copy of the proceedings of the church in relation to said letter.

Resolved that Brothers E. **Webster** and **Osborn** be added to the committee to visit Brother Aruna **Buck** and Wm (?).

Closed by prayer.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

July 18, 1839. Church met in pursuance of adjournment.

Present Elders **Scofield**, **LaHatt**, **Winsor** and **Little**. Brothers **Strong** of Sinclairville, **Crosby** of Portland, **Wood** of Cassadaga, **Cushing** of Stockton.

Prayer by Elder **Winsor**. Elder **Winsor** in the chair.

Brother **Porter** presented a charge against Brother **Barrell**.

Elder **Scofield** requested to hear the letter from Elder (?) **Metcalf** and others which together with the action of the church in relation to the matter was read.

Upon Elder **Scofield's** request to have a private interview with the other advisory brethren the advisory brethren withdrew.

In their absence.

1st Resolved that Brother **Hamilton** be chairman pro tem.

2nd Resolved that Brother Avery **Buck** make the statement he desires to the church in relation to Brother **Osborn's** charge. Heard Brother Avery **Buck's** statement.

3rd Resolved a committee of two Brethren together with the Laboring Brethren be appointed to visit Brother Avery **Buck**.

4th Resolved that Brother D. **Saxton** and E. **Webster** together with the laboring Brethren (**Osborn** and **Shepherd**) be said committee.

5th 12 o'clock resolved that the meeting be adjourned one hour.

Afternoon met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Brother **Sage**.

Committee in relation to the case of Brother Avery **Buck** reported not satisfied.

6th Resolved that the report of the committee be accepted and they be discharged.

7th Brother **Porter** gave notice that he had withdrawn his complaint against Brother **Barrell**.

8th The advisory Brethren returned and reported that they could not recommend any course or action for the church to pursue.

9th Resolved that the thanks of the church be tendered to the advisory Brethren for their important(?) advice under the difficult and trying circumstances under which they have labored and that they as individuals still be invited to continue their advice to the church.

10th Resolved that the case of Brother Avery **Buck** be deferred subject to the appointment of the church and when such time of trial shall be appointed the committee that was chosen to visit him are instructed to notify him of such appointment.

11th Resolved that a committee be appointed to visit brother E. **Johnson** in relation to his confession and ascertain what ground he asserts(?) in regard to the matter and report to the church.

12th Resolved that Brother E. **Webster** and **Osborn** be said committee.

13th Resolved that a committee be appointed to Labor with Brother **Barrell** in regard to his circulating reports and also presentations against Elder **Bishop** and neglect of the church and that said committee report to the church.

14th Resolved that Brothers R. **Webster**, **Osborn** and **Cornwell**(?) be said committee.

15th Resolved that this clerk write to Brother Reuben **Buck** in relation to the labor preferred against him and accepted by the church, requesting him to answer the church the earliest opportunity by mail.

16th Brother **Bishop** presented a charge in labor against Brother **Guild** for unChristian and cruel treatment of his character and course, and that of the church in his (?) conversation and conduct, the second step of labor having been taken was certified by the laboring brother L.B. **Grant**.

17th Resolved that Elder **Bishop's** charge against Brother **Guild** be accepted and a committee appointed to visit and cite him before the church.

18th Resolved that Brother E. **Webster** and **Hamilton** be said committee.

19th Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

Closed by prayer.

Lewis B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Lord's Day July 28, **1839**. Sister Margaret B(?) returned the letter received from the church October 1838. Resolved that she be received.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting August 3, **1839**.

After a season of Prayer and Singing Brethren and sisters proceeded to relate their Christian travel and exercises. Rather an interesting season though not a very full attendance on account of the season. A great degree of union manifested.

1st that sister **Edmunds** have a letter dismission and commendation.

2nd Resolved that the church readopt and use our present covenant and articles (in our church book) until arrangements for their revision and publication be exacted and adopted by the church.

Lord's Day August 4. Special church meeting.

Resolved that there be a special church meeting on Saturday the 10th instant at one o'clock P.M. in regard to which appointment public notice was given in church.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Church met August 10, **1839**. In special church meeting in pursuance of resolution passed August 4.

Brother **Webster** opened the meeting by prayer.

1st Resolved that Brother **Hamilton** be Moderator.

2nd Resolved that the report of the committee to visit delinquent members be presented (see report on file) after hearing the report read. [*Not found.*]

3rd Resolved the report be accepted.

The committee appointed to visit Brother Elias **Johnson** (in regard to his further confession to the church in relation to the matters tried June 7) presented their reported (see report on file)

After the report being read. [*Not found.*]

4th Resolved that the report of the committee be accepted and that they be discharged.

The committee appointed to labor with the brother David **Barrell** presented their report (see report on file) the report having been read. [*Not found.*]

5th Resolved that the report be accepted and that the committee be discharged.

Brothers **Hamilton** and **Webster** the committee appointed to visit Brother A. C. **Guild** made a report (?) that they had visited Brother **Guild** but got no satisfaction, that they had cited him to trial on this day, said that the church might (?) of his case as they pleased, that he did not care how the church dealt with him in reference to the matter. (Brother **Guild** did not attend.)

6th Resolved that the report of the committee be accepted and that they be discharged.

Brothers **Moore** and **Pettit** 2 of the committee to labor with Brother Aruna **Buck** reported that they would advise the church to drop or excommunicate him for immoral conduct. (Brother **Buck** not present.)

7th Resolved that Brother Aruna R. **Buck** be excommunicated.

8th Resolved that the committee still continue to visit Brother William (?) and that his case be at present deferred. The first, second and third sections of the report of the committee upon delinquents was again read and remarks in reference to the same were made by Elder **Bishop**. The last section of the report was again read with a request from Elder **Bishop** that any of those members embraced in said section make such statements as they desired in reference to the matter. Brother James **Pettitt** stated he had in connection

with some thirty others a written statement to present in reference to said matter (see statement on file) [*Not found.*] Brother **Barrell** by consent read said statement.

9th Resolved that the case of Brother Avery **Buck** be tried on the charge preferred by Brother **Osborn** against him June 7th and accepted by the church. Said charge was in general terms slandering the character of Elder **Bishop**. The committee appointed to visit him, having reported that they made specific charges against him in the labor that he did but partially confess the allegations, and that he did not give satisfaction. Brother **Osborn** presented the following Letters to sustain the charge. "To the first Baptist church in Pomfret or to whom it may concern, this may certify that about the latter part of April last past Witness had conversation with Avery **Buck** about Brother **Barrell's** letters, and witness said he thought that **Barrell** was lighting upon him rather rough or harsh by showing letters. That said **Buck** said he did not think it harsh at all but that he Elder **B.** was a great Liar and Scoundrel, he had lied like a dog and I know it and Father and **Barrell** knows he has lied, and said that you know that Elder **Bishop** was sick last spring. Witness said I did not know it. **Buck** said he was and that he Elder **B.** pretended to have the measles and came out in Blotches in his face and they do say it was something worse than the measles, and I requested what, and he said that it was the clap, and further said that Dr. **Walworth** doctored him for it but **Walworth** would not tell of it because it was contrary to medical practice, but I should think he had it by his walk, and that Elder **Bishop** was seen going into the back door of a suspicious house (and pointed toward a certain house) and you know that it has been reported that he Elder **Bishop** is very fond of women." Dated January 4, 1839. Signed Jonathan **Hempstead** (see letter on file). [*Not found.*]

"To the first Baptist church of Christ in Pomfret or to whom it may concern, this may certify that on or about the tenth of May last Avery **Buck** told me that in presence of (?) **Gillis** and D. **Darling** that at the time of the council of Brethren met at Fredonia, that I told said **Buck** that he understood that he had told J. **Hempsted** that Elder **Bishop** had the venereal complaint or Pox, said **Buck** did not say of telling **Hempsted** so, but said he was told so by another person on report, and he had reason to believe it by his Elder **Bishop's** walk." Dated June 4, 1839. Signed Wm. **Meder** of Fredonia (see letter on file). [*Not found.*] Brother E. **Johnson** on the part of Brother **Buck** was called upon. Stated nothing particularly relative to the case.

J. **Hempsted** on the part of Brother **Buck** called upon. His statement did not materially alter the statement presented above in writing.

10th Resolved that the case of Brother A. C. **Guild** be acted upon. (Brother **Guild** not present.) Brother **Hamilton** testified that he had this day cited him before the Church. Brother L.B. **Grant** testified to the second step of labor having been taken. Elder **Bishop** presented the following written testimony.

Fredonia August the 8th 1839.

"Being called upon to state in writing what we understood Brother **Guild** to say in our hearing that he believed Elder **Bishop** to be a notorious liar and a downright scoundrel, on Monday or Tuesday previous to our last special church meeting in July last." Signed R.B. **Morgan**, R.W. **Mason**(?), Robert L. **McKay**. (see letter on file) [*Not found.*]

Fredonia August 8th 1839.

"Being called upon to state in writing, Brother **Guild** said Elder **Bishop** is a liar, a deceiver and imposter and a hypocrite, I now make bold to say it. I believe in calling every one by their right names. On Saturday previous to our last special church meeting in July last. (see letter on file) [*Not found.*] Signed L.M.

Randall, R. B. Morgan.

Fredonia August 8th 1839.

Being called upon to state in writing the conversation between Brother **Guild** and Brother **Stoddard**, Brother **Guild** said that Brother **Cushing** told him that Elder **Bishop** had better leave when the year is up for he is not a man of common sense. Brother **Cushing** did not say exactly so but he said he lacked of good judgment and that is what I call a lacking of common sense. I can't have much charity for him to see him in the Pulpit with great crocodile tears running down his cheeks. (see letter on file) [*Not found.*] Signed L.M. **Randall.**

"Inasmuch as reports are in circulation that my Father previous to his Death was tried with the course of (?) John F. **Bishop** of Fredonia and that he had expressed an opinion that it was best for him to leave. The people of his charge (?) and so forth. I deem it due to my Father and to Elder **Bishop** to say that such is not the fact. I had frequent conversation with my Father last fall and the fore part of winter respecting Elder **Bishop** and the course pursued against him by some of the members of his church, and he has (?) expressed a deep regret at the course of these Brethren and an entire satisfaction with the course of Elder **Bishop**. The last conversation I had with him was the day before his last attack, and the last day he (?) spoke in this

world, and he then expressed the same opinion, and further said that if they turned Elder **Bishop** away, he feared it would be the ruin of the (?). I was with my Father the most of the time the last few days of life, and the day before his death Brother Reuben **Buck** came in the morning, and went to my Father and told him that all the difficulty in the church was like to be settled in regard to (?) and Brother **Stoddard**, and that whatever unpleasant feelings there had been in his mind, and in the minds of others in regard to Elder **Bishop**, was entirely settled, and that everything was now peace and union." Fredonia June 13, 1839.

Signed Walter **Cushing** (see certificate on file) [*Not found.*]

"I herby state that Brother **Guild** stated (in the meeting house) that Elder **Bishop** had not common sense. At another time he stated that he and his family had never been abused by any one as bad as they had been by Elder **Bishop**." Signed Alford **Stoddard**. (see certificate on file) [*Not found.*]

"Brother **Guild** stated subsequent to the trial of Elder **Bishop** that he would not set on a jury for any one who voted in favor of the report of the committee (referring to Elder **Bishop**)." Signed Alford **Stoddard**. See certificate on file. [*Not found.*]

"Brother **Guild** stated that the paper (referring to the paper got up and presented to Brother **Abell**) laid on his counter half a day. Said statement was made previous to Brother **Barrell's** stating in church meeting that it had not been out of his possession until the present time. Subsequently he stated that it did lay on his counter but it was in **Barrell's** Pocket." Signed Alfred **Stoddard**.

(see certificate on file) [*Not found.*]

Fredonia June 26, 1839.

11th Resolved that the church withdraw the hand of fellowship from Brother A. C. **Guild**

12th Resolved that the case of Brother **Barrell** be called up where upon Elder **Bishop** presented the following certificates in relation to the charges preferred against Brother D. **Barrell**.

"As I have been requested by a member of the Brethren to leave a written statement of my understanding in relation to a paper presented to me by Brother D. **Barrell**, I am sorry to have such a thing to do, painful as it may be, but I feel that I ought not to shrink from what my brethren tell me is duty, and my own conscience tells the same. I do say that Brother D. **Barrell** came into my house last winter and laid a paper down on the desk, and asked me to sign or put my name on it. I took up the paper, looked at it, saw it to be church matters as I supposed, asked him in another room. There Brother **Barrell** said I will read it for you. He did so. I told him I could not sign such a paper, that it was wrong to put anything of that nature in black and white. I told Brother **Barrell** if he or any of the Brethren had anything against Brother **Bishop** that I would go with them and have it explained, then or any other time, and what I learned(?) of Brother **Barrell** at that time I supposed that it was his intention at the time we (?). In relation to what the paper contained I am not able to state all, but it carried with it this idea, will it not be best in view of all the circumstances for Elder **Bishop** to ask for a dismissal at the end of the year. There was certain item or complaints of reports in that paper which I supposed was the reason why they asked him to resign his charge." May 20, 1839.

Signed Thos. G. **Abell** (see certificate on file) [*Not found.*]

"I herby state that in reply to Brother **Barrell's** repeated statements in the church, that I was of the same mind with them (referring to Elder **Bishop**) after the third time repeating it I feel it a duty to say to Brother **Barrell** that he must be mistaken as to my being of the same mind. Then Brother **Barrell** said he and(?) Brother **Abell** knew these things. I then asked (?) when he told me them. He answered in his counting room at the time Brothers Z. **Cushing**, **Saxton**, and other brethren met soon after elder **Tucker** left."

Signed T. G. **Abell** (see certificate on file) [*Not found.*]

"I herby state that I know positively as a member of the committee of seven, that said committee did not clear or justify Brother **Barrell** in writing to Buffalo. Also Brother **Barrell** did certainly and plainly admit before the committee of seven in the basement of the church (on (?)) that it was suggested (in the paper then referred to) for Elder **Bishop** to resign his pastoral charge. I for one would not be satisfied at the time without an examination of the paper only as he admitted the fact of such a request or suggestion. I further state that Brother **Barrell** did distinctly state before the church that he knew nothing of such a record and had nothing to do with it (referring to it with his hand) and adding (?) it is in Brother **Saxton's** handwriting and his signature and afterwards that he made out the original papers and showed it to Brother **Pettit**."

Signed Thomas **Osborn**. Said statement (?) by Brother Ebenezer **Webster**.

"I hereby state that I was at the church meeting and distinctly heard Brother **Barrell** make the statement relative to Brother **Porter's** charge against Brother **Barrell** in relation to (?) Elder **Bishop**. Afterward I heard Elder **Bishop** and Brother **Barrell** have conversation about the subject and that Brother **Barrell** did positively deny making the statement."

June 10, 1839. Signed B. **Randall** (see certificate on file) [*Not found.*]

"I herby state at the time the committee of seven met in the basement on the subject of getting up a certain paper (referred to in the report of said committee) that Brother **Barrell** did distinctly admit before the said committee that the paper (referred to) did contain a suggestion for Elder **Bishop** to resign his charge, and afterward I heard Brother **Barrell** say of making such admission, once in church, and once in said **Barrell's** counting Room." June 10, 1839. Signed B. **Randall**.

"I herby state that Brother D. **Barrell** stated subsequent to the first trial, Elder Bishop would have come off with flying colors if he **Barrell** had not wrote to Buffalo and got these letters." (see certificate on file) [*Not found.*] Signed Alford **Stoddard**.

"Brother **Barrell** (I also state) about the last February took me into his counting room and read to me one or two letters and said I am a friend to you and I do not wish to have you identify yourself with Elder **Bishop** and disgrace yourself with him for he must come down." (see certificate on file) [*Not found.*] Signed Alfred **Stoddard**.

Brother **Hewes**(?) testified that some time last spring he called in to Brother **Barrell's** store, went into Brother **Barrell's** counting room, that Brother **Barrell** read or presented letters he had received from Buffalo that went against Elder **Bishop's** character, that Brother **Barrell** said Elder **Bishop** was a liar or had lied (Brother **Pettit** and Brother **Buck** being present) one of them said that was a hard saying. Brother **Barrell** said he knew it was but he could prove it.

13th Resolved that the Report of the Committee in the case of Brother E. **Johnson** be taken up. Brother **Johnson** made some remarks in reference to the matters. His statement did not vary materially from the report of the committee.

14th Resolved that the church are not satisfied with the further confession of Brother Elias **Johnson** as made and reported by the committee, and also with the ground assumed by him in regard to the church and its Pastor upon the occasion of his last confession, and as reported by the committee, and that Brother **Johnson** be (?) he is hereby placed under solemn admonition(?), humbly to confess as resolved by the church on the 7th of June, he should do with the advice then had. And that he retract his (?) of nonsubmission and unconciliation to the church upon matters decided upon in the church and that in case he fails to hear the church in this admonition, he be hereby admonished thus(?) in due season and without any further citation of him or trial of his case, the church will be compelled to withdraw their connection from him as a member of this body.

15th Resolved that Brother **Barrell's** course, in making and suffering to be made frequent use of letters against the Pastor of the church and behind his back before numbers of persons, and by this (?) endeavoring in private to prejudice the minds of [*the*]community against him, and also preferring charges against him for duplicity or (?) and holding him up before the public upon painful trial for several days for such charges when such charges were false and he (?), in the Judgment of complaint and mutually fixed upon advice and also in view of the church did Brother **Barrell**, having been labored with by the church according to the report of the committee, and the document of labors now on file, and he still refusing to humbly retract or confess his error, and submit and be reconciled to the church and its Pastor on the ground of the result of his (the Pastor trial referred to above) and the church still being desirous to reclaim him on the ground set forth in his labors. Therefore resolved that the church do now hereby place Brother **Barrell** under continued and solemn admonition immediately to discharge the duty of retraction before the church, give up his ground of nonsubscription and unconciliation to the church upon the matters referred to and thus (?) to himself the peculiar privilege of regular membership, and that Brother **Barrell** be admonished that in case he does not hear the church in this matter they will be compelled (in due season) to withdraw their connection from him without further citation.

The following resolution was then made. Inasmuch as members referred to in the 4th section of the report of the committee upon delinquents are certified (from (?) and said report upon the case) to have withdrawn themselves from the communion of the church on the ground of dissatisfaction with our pastor in matters which have been previously and finally examined and settled upon by the church (with competent and unanimous advice mutually fixed upon) and have been admonished by the church to retract their delinquency and fall in with the (advice referred to and the decision of the church in the case) But they still refusing thus to do, and inasmuch as the church are anxious to reclaim them to duty and to exercise all due forbearance. Therefore resolved that they(?) are hereby placed under continued and solemn admonition by the church immediately to confess their delinquency in the case before the church and return to duty. And in case they refuse to hear the church in the matter the church will be compelled (in due season without any further citation) to withdraw the connection from them, in relation to which

16th Resolved that the same be laid on the table.

17th Inasmuch as the charge preferred by Brother **Osborn** against Brother Avery **Buck** in labors has been accepted by the church in its present vague form in consequence of the peculiarities of its particulars, and accepted thus by the competent and unanimous advice of chosen Brethren, inasmuch as the heinous nature and the publicity of the slanders (?) by Brother Avery **Buck** are of such a character as to (?) a strict private labor necessary, and though such labor was not perfectly accomplished as to particulars in the case, yet as he has been (?) with by a committee of the church on said particulars and still refuses to give satisfactory resolution(?), and partly denies the abundance competent testimony in the case, and having been cited to and had his trials in the case and found guilty of committing the base slander (?) in the charge, which slander he does not now even attempt to sustain or profess to be as true concerning Elder **Bishop**. Therefore resolved that the church feel that his case (?) and (?) that he be excluded without much delay, unless that he immediately respond and humbly confess his cruel treatment of Elder **Bishop's** character, and endeavor to make such retractions to the cause as he can, and that such dispensation(?) of his case be without further advice.

18th Resolved that the church place delinquent members embraced in the forth section of the report of the committee on delinquents under continued admonition by the church.

19th Resolved that the clerk request of Brother **Barrell** certified copies of the letters of H(?) C(?), Deacon **Bowen**(?) and Elder **Metcalf** that were used on the trial of Elder **Bishop**.

20th Resolved that members embraced in the 1st and 2nd sections of the report of the committee upon delinquents be placed under the admonition of the church.

21st Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

Closed by prayer.

Lewis B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Lord's day August 18, **1839**. Special church meeting called. Resolved that there be a special church meeting on the 24th instant at one o'clock P.M. for the transaction of business.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

August 24, **1839**. Met in special church meeting in pursuance of appointment August 18. Opened by prayer and praise.

1st Resolved that the Pastor, Clerk and Brother D. **Saxton** be a committee to draft a letter for the church to the association and present it at our next covenant meeting for the (?) of the church.

2nd Resolved that we appoint 7 delegates represent this church in the association in their next session.

3rd Resolved that Elder **Bishop** be a delegate.

4th Resolved that Brother **Moore** be a delegate.

5th Resolved that Brother D. **Saxton** be a delegate.

6th Resolved that Brethren **Shepherd** and **Miller** be delegates.

7th Resolved that Brother **Osborn** be a delegate.

8th Resolved that Brother E. **Webster** be a delegate.

9th Resolved that the association be requested to meet in their next session with this church.

10th Resolved that the church raise three dollars to be raised out of the fund of the church for printing the minutes.

11th Resolved that Brother **Morgan** be Treasurer of the church.

12th Resolved that there be a committee of two brethren to enquire as to funds of the church.

13th Resolved that Brother **Hilton** and J. **Osborn** be said committee.

14th Resolved that Brother R. **Morgan** be appointed to provide for the table.

15th Resolved that Brother E. **Webster** and **Grant** be a committee to enquire in regard to the former records of the church.

16th Resolved that Sister Naomi **Benjamin** (now Sister (?)) have a letter of dismissal and commendation.

17th Resolved that Brethren R. **Morgan**, L.B. **Grant** and A. **Stoddard** be a committee to solicit subscription for sacred music in the church.

18th Resolved that Brother **Forbes** (the successor of A.C. **Guild** as trustee) be instructed to obtain ? papers belonging to the church in the hands of said A.C. **Guild**

19th Resolved that the records of last meeting be read whereupon the clerk made the same.

20th Resolved that Brother R. **Clark** whose season(?) was elapsed(?) by the committee upon delinquents in the second section of their report (made to the church August 10) be placed or included in the fourth section of said report.

21st Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.
Closed by prayer.
L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Special church meeting Lord's day August 25, **1839**. Resolved that sister Amelia **Webster** have a letter of dismissal and commendation.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Covenant Meeting August 31, **1839**. Opened by prayer and praise.
The Brethren proceeded to relate their Christian exercise after which the covenant was read. Then the sisters proceeded with the relation of their feelings and travel after which resolved that Sister Susan **Stearns**, now Sister **Weed**, have a letter of dismissal and commendation.
The meeting was as fully attended as usual and was particularly (?) by a oneness of feeling and a (?) after more holiness.
The committee appointed to draft a letter to be presented to the association made their report to the church after hearing the letter read. Resolved that the same be adopted.
Closed by prayer.
L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Lord's day September 1st **1839**. Church assembled in communion the attendance being full. It was a pleasant season.
Resolved that sister Esther **Leonard** have a letter of dismissal and commendation.
L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting October 5, **1839**. Opened by prayer by Brother **Hamilton** and singing. Brethren and sisters proceeded in the relation of their Christian travels. Rather an interesting season. A good degree of union in the church. Renewed covenant.
1st Resolved that the church hold conference(?) meeting on Every Saturday at 2 o'clock P.M. until otherwise ordered by the church.
Sister Sarah **Shepherd** presented a letter of commendation from the church in Massilon, Ohio.
2nd Resolved that she be received as a member of this church.
L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Lord's Day October 6, **1839**.
1st resolved that Sister Rachel **Case** (former Rachel C. **Morse**) have a letter of dismissal and commendation.
2nd Resolved that Brother Orange **Mott** have a letter of dismissal and commendation.
L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Lord's Day October 20, **1839**. Resolved that there be a special church meeting on Friday the 25th instant at one o'clock P.M.
L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Church met in special church meeting October 25th, **1839**. Opened by prayer by Elder **Bishop**.
1st Resolved that Brother T. G. **Abell** be clerk protem.
2nd Resolved that the case of Brother Reuben **Buck** and J. F. **Saxton** be taken up.
3rd Resolved that the case of Brother Reuben **Buck** be investigated.
A certificate from the clerk L.B. **Grant** was read certifying that Brother **Buck** was duly notified in accordance with the direction of the church in July 18th.
After which proceeded to hear written testimony of Brethren Stephen **May**, John **Forbes**, A. **Stoddard** and **Randall**, also Sister Hannah **Barrell**.
See testimony on file. [*Not found.*]
4th Resolved that the case of Brother J. Z. **Saxton** be investigated.
Proceeded to hear the written testimony of Sister Esther **Geer**, Lucina **Flint**, and Brother **Hewes**.
See testimony on file. [*Not found.*]

5th Resolved that the hand of fellowship be withdrawn from Brother Reuben **Buck** upon the ground of the charges set forth in the labors presented against him being (?).

There was then a preamble and statement read in relation to the case of Brother John Z. **Saxton**.

6th Upon which resolved that the preamble and resolution be adopted and that the clerk inform the church at Rochester of the doings of the church in reference to the matter (see preamble and resolution on file).

Elder **Bishop** presented a request to the church in reference to the difficulties existing between himself, other brethren and Elder C(?) **Metcalf** [etc.] (see said documents on file) [*Not found.*]

7th Resolved that said request be laid over until next Friday at 1 o'clock P.M.

8th Resolved that there be a special church meeting next Friday at one o'clock p.m.

T. G. **Abell**, Clerk Pro-tem

Lord's day October 27, **1839**. Church assembled.

1st Resolved that we go into special church meeting.

2nd Resolved that the special church meeting appointed to be held on Friday be held on Tuesday of this week at 1 o'clock P.M.

3rd Resolved that there be a committee appointed to enquire in relation to the purport of the facts and the getting up of the paper against Elder **Bishop** presented at special church meeting August 10, **1839** and signed by some thirty members and that since committee labors with said individuals and cite them to trial at our next special church meeting excepting them who have been excluded recently dealt with and report to the church.

4th Resolved that Brother Deacon **Webster, Morgan, L.M. Randall, Hilton, T. Osborn, Hamilton,** and T.G. **Abell** and **Thompson** be said committee.

5th Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

October 29, **1839**. Church met in special church meeting in pursuance of resolution October 27, **1839**.

Opened by prayer by Deacon **Webster**.

1st Moved the records of last meeting be read.

2nd Resolved that the Record be approved. There was then read a letter from Brother James **Pettit** (see letter on file.) [*Not found.*]

Brother E. **Webster** stated that he as one of the members of the committee upon delinquents labored with Brother **Pettit**. Brother **Pettit** then stated the reason for his leaving the communion was his being on Sabbath called away to visit a sick person, that one Sabbath he was sick [etc] and refused to give any other answer until he could see a particular Brother.

Brother **Osborn** testified that as one of the members of said committee upon delinquents he called upon Brother James **Pettit**, that Brother P. stated his reasons for not attending on the communion was his attending a sick person one Sabbath, his being sick another, and it being rainy another and said before he could give any further reason he wished to see a certain Brother. Since which he had seen Brother **Pettit** and Brother **Pettit** said he had not seen the certain Brother.

3rd Resolved that the committee appointed to enquire in relation to the getting up of the paper against Elder **Bishop** make their report. The report was then read (see report on file) [*Not found.*]

4th Resolved that the report of the committee be adopted and that they be discharged. Brethren **Webster** and **Thompson** called upon to make in relation to Brother **Champlin**. No particular facts elicited.

5th Called upon Sister **Johnson**. No particular facts elicited, that her mind was expressed in the paper. Did not feel satisfied with the results of Elder **Bishop's** trial.

Called upon sister **Buck**. Got no particular facts, that she could not come to church meeting if Elder **Bishop** was there, said she had not liked him much, his conduct did not meet her mind. Brother S. **May** called upon in relation to R. **Dickinson** said he had conversed with him that he D. had nothing against Elder **Bishop** and never(?) had.

5th Resolved that the report of the committee be adopted. The clerk was called upon to state the conversation had with sister **Pier**, that she was not acquainted with any particular facts charged in said paper against Elder **B.**, that the ground of her difficulty was the result of Elder **Bishop's** trial.

6th Resolved that the report of the committee be acted upon.

A preamble and resolution was then read in reference to the matter (see resolution on file) [*Not found.*]

7th Resolved that the same be adopted.

Elder **Bishop** then read a request to have the privilege of making propositions(?) for a council for neutral trial [etc.] with Harlow(?) **Case** and others of Buffalo and also with the dissatisfied members of this church. 8th Resolved at the earnest request of Elder **Bishop** that he have the privilege of making the proposition (presented to the church in special church meeting October 25, 1839, and again read October 29, **1839**) to the parties opposed to him in Buffalo and Fredonia so far as said proposition regards a mutual council as therein expressed.

9th Resolved at the earnest request of Elder **Bishop** he have the privilege of making the proposition ((?) October 25, **1839** in special church meeting and again read October 29, **1839** in special church meeting) to the (?) in this church as referred to in said proposition so far as said proposition regards the mutual council for mutual trial as therein expressed.

10th Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

Closed by prayer by Elder **Bishop**.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting November 2, **1839**. Opened by prayer and praise.

The covenant not being present was not read.

A letter from Brother James **Petitt**, David **Barrell**, and Elias **Johnson** was read. See letter on file. [*Not found.*]

Heard a relation of the exercises of the brethren and sisters. Closed by prayer.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Lord's day November 3, **1839**. church met in communion. Attendance about as usual.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Lord's Day November 10, **1839** at conference meeting.

1st Resolved ourselves into special church meeting.

2nd Resolved that the former committee appointed to revise and see to the publication of our covenant and articles be discharged excepting Brother **Moore**.

3rd Resolved that Elder **Bishop** and Brothers E. **Webster** and **Grant** be added to the committee to attend to the publishing of covenant and articles.

4th Resolved that Brothers E. **Webster**, **Morgan** and **Grant** be a committee to solicit subscriptions to warm and light the church.

5th Resolved that on Saturday the 7th day of December there be a meeting of the church and society at 2 o'clock P.M. for the purpose of choosing a trustee in place of Benjamin **Randall** deceased.

6th Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

Closed by prayer.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Lord's day November 17, **1839**. Church assembled in the basement.

1st Resolved that we go into special church meeting.

2nd Resolved that Brother E. **Webster** be a committee to visit and labor with Brother James **Norton**, Jr.

3rd Resolved that the committee appointed to visit and labor with Brother (?) be discharged.

4th Resolved that Brothers Horace and Russell **Webster** be a committee to visit and labor with Brother (?).

5th Resolved that there be a committee appointed to collect and arrange, give, receive and consider such communications or information as may be necessary to be kept or used in regard to our present and recent existing difficulties.

6th Resolved that Elder **Bishop**, Brothers D. **Saxton**, **Hilton**, R. **Morgan** and **Grant** be said committee.

7th Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

Closed by prayer.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting November 30, **1839**. Opened by prayer and praise, after which the Brethren and Sisters proceeded in the relation of their exercises and travels. Upon Sister Matilda **Morton's** request for a letter of dismissal resolved that a letter be granted.

Closed by prayer.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Lord's day December 1st **1839**. Church assembled as usual to celebrate the death of the saviour. The covenant not having been read at the preceding covenant meeting was now read. A goodly number in attendance.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Lord's day December 8, **1839**. At conference meeting resolved that there be a special church meeting on Thursday the 12th instant at one o'clock P.M.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Church met in special church meeting December 12th **1839**. Prayer by Brother L. **Crosby**.

The clerk presented a letter from Brother **Pettit**, John **Saxton**, and **Barrell** dated December 12.

After hearing the letter read,

1st Resolved that the committee appointed under the 5th Resolution of November 12 make their report. The clerk on the part of the committee read the proposition made by the committee November 20, to Brethren **Johnson**, **Barrell**, **Pettitt**, and **Saxton** as also the correspondence that had passed on the subject. (see proposition and letters on file) [*Not found.*]

2nd Resolved that the report of the committee be accepted and they be discharged.

3rd Resolved that the report of the committee be approved and adopted.

4th Resolved that the hand of fellowship be withdrawn from Brother Elias **Johnson** in pursuance of the 14th Resolution passed in special church meeting August 10, **1839**.

5th Resolved that the hand of fellowship be withdrawn from Brother David **Barrell** in pursuance of the 15th Resolution passed in special church meeting August 10, **1839**.

6th Resolved that the hand of fellowship be withdrawn from Brother Avery **Buck** in pursuance of the 17th Resolution passed in special church meeting August 10, **1839**.

7th. Resolved that there be a committee appointed to confer with Brother **Taylor** and Brother Loving **Crosby** in regard to difficulty existing between them.

8th Resolved that Brethren D. **Saxton** and **Osborn** be the said committee.

9th Resolved that the meeting be adjourned to the 19th ? at 1 o'clock P.M.

Closed by prayer.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Church met in special church meeting December 19, **1839** in pursuance of adjournment.

Opened by prayer by Brother **Morgan**.

After hearing the record of last meeting,

1st Resolved that the same be approved.

2nd Resolved that the committee appointed to confer with Brother **Taylor** and Brother Loving **Crosby** report. They thereupon reported that they had not been able to accomplish the object of their appointment.

3rd. Resolved that the committee appointed to labor with Brother James **Norton** Jr. report.

Deacon **Webster** the committee reported that he had visited Brother **Norton**, that Brother **Norton** had not neglected his travel with the church on the account of any difficulty with the Pastor or church, but when he asked for a letter some objection was raised. He desired to stand as he was for the present.

4th Resolved that the report be accepted.

5th Resolved that the case of Brother **Norton** be postponed and that Brother E. **Webster** be continued the committee.

6th Resolved that the committee appointed to visit Brother (?) make their report. (see report on file) [*Not found.*]

7th Resolved that the report be accepted and the committee be discharged.

8th Resolved that the request as reported by the committee of Brother (?) be accepted.

Resolved that the difficulty that existed last winter between Brothers A. **Stoddard** and J. Z. **Saxton** have been settled to the satisfaction of the church.

10th Resolved that there be a committee appointed to enquire of D. **Barrell** whether he performed his duty in reference to Brother J. Z. **Saxton** in pursuance of a resolution passed February 1st **1839**. and also of Brother James **Pettit** in regard to the committee performing their duty in reference to Brother J.Z. Saxton in pursuance of the instruction of the church February 8, **1839**.

11th Resolved that the clerk be said committee.

12th Resolved that there be a committee appointed to labor with Brother James **Pettit** for detraction(?) in regard to the character of Elder **Bishop** and (?) in regard to the getting up and soliciting names to the paper presented to the church against Elder **Bishop** August 10, **1839**.

13th Resolved that Brethren D. **Saxton** and J. **Porter** be said committee.

The clerk then presented the following preamble whereas our Pastor under the sanction of the church made certain propositions to Brethren disaffected with him, and said Brethren being unwilling to make arrangements as aforesaid but on the 15th of November addressed a letter to the church, continuing propositions for a council, and whereas on the 17th of November there was a committee appointed whose province it would be to consider and answer such communications, and whereas said committee did consider such communication and acknowledges the receipt thereof, and made one the 20th of November certain propositions for a council to Brethren **Johnson, Barrell, Pettit** and **Saxton** which in their judgment would be much more likely to bring about a happy termination of the difficulties that have so long distracted the church, and whereas said Proposition has not been accepted, and whereas on the 12th of December the committee reported to the church their doings in full, which were by the church approved, therefore

14th Resolved that the said proposition of November 20 be extended to them a reasonable time for acceptance with the exception that there be only the Pastor and one Brother from each church in the association invited in place of the Pastor and two Brethren, if they (Brothers **Saxton** and **Pettit, Barrell, Johnson**) shall desire.

15th Resolved that the clerk forward to Brethren **Pettit** and **Saxton**, Doct. **Johnson** and Mr. **Barrell** a copy of the above preamble and resolutions.

16th Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

Closed by prayer.

L.B. **Grant**, Church Clerk