Articles of Faith & c. of the First Baptist Church in Pomfret N.Y.

Art. 1. We believe in one God, infinite, unchangeable, self (?) and independent, and that in the Godhead there are Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Art. 2. We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are a perfect (?) of faith and practice, and were given by inspiration of God.

Art. 3. We believe that God made man upright, but he has sought out many inventions, and by his transgressions (?) himself and all his posterity in a death of trespasses (?) and to the wages of which to all the finally impenitent is death, the second death.

Art. 4. We believe that our blessed Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is possessed of all the perfections of absolute essential Deity, and of all the infirmities of innocent humanity, so that he is emphatically Immanuel, God with us.

Art. 5. We believe that Jesus Christ is the beginning of the creation of God, and that all the members of his mystical body are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Art. 6. We believe that God, according to the councils of his own will, revealed a place of Grace - his own glory being the moving cause – in which the eternal salvation of all spiritual Israel is secured.

Art. 7. We believe that all the people of God, however in scripture by the appellation of the heirs of promise, are the sheep of Christ the elect, and are called in time with an holy calling; not according to their works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given them in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Art. 8. We believe that Christ the Lord is the covenant head of his people, and that all spiritual blessings, included in, or derived from his righteous life, bitter death, and glorious resurrection, and intercession at the Father’s right hand, do particularly and exclusively belong to the people of God, and are secured to them by the oath and promise of their heavenly Father, and that the hour cometh in the which all that are in their graves shall hear his voice and come forth, they that have done good unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation.

On Practice.

Art. 1. A Christian church is composed of visible saints, who covenant with each other, to walk together according to the rules of the Gospel.

Art. 2. Christ has instituted water baptism and the Lord’s Supper, to be observed by his followers to the end of the world, and they ought to be administered by those only who are in good standing, and have themselves been buried in baptism, and have been regularly set apart to the work of the ministry.

Art. 3. Those who profess faith in Christ and give evidence of true piety, are the only proper subjects of baptism, and dipping (?) in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, as a figure of the death burial and resurrection of Christ and his members, is the only scriptural mode.

Art. 4. The Lord’s supper is a figurative representation of the sufferings of Christ in having his body broken and his blood shed for us, and an emblem of our feeding on him by faith.

Art. 5. Water baptism on gospel evidence of faith and repentance and a circumspect life, are necessary qualifications for church membership and communion at the Lord’s table.

Art. 6. Every church has a right to discipline her own members, and by the voice of a majority of the brethren to exclude offenders who cannot be reclaimed, but to promote harmony in Zion, an advisory council ought to be called from sister churches in difficult cases.

Art. 7. Before an individual brings a complaint to the church against any of our members, he ought to take the first and second steps according to the 18th chapter of Matthew.

Art. 8. Public offenders ought to be public confessors.

Art. 9. Church members are forbid to sue each other in the law, in ordinary cases.

Art. 10. Every church for the support of the gospel ministry, and other necessary changes among them, ought to communicate of their substance, according to each one’s ability, that these may be an equality, and
the church has a right to judge of each one’s ability, and ought to deal with those as covetous who neglect this duty.
Art. 11. To all the above articles we now manifest our hearty assent.

Fredonia, August 4, 1832
Covenant of the First Baptist Church in Pomfret N.Y.

We do now in the presence of God, angels and men, without the least known reserve, devote ourselves to God, choosing the Father, Son and Holy Ghost to be our God and portion, for time and eternity; providing most solemnly to make His word the rule of our faith and practice.

We covenant to take heed to ourselves, to our (‘?), conversation, and company, not to indulge ourselves in passionate revengeful anger, lascivious talking, foolish jesting, evil speaking, nor tavern haunting; but maintain a peaceful and quiet deportment at home and abroad, and have our conversation and company as becometh the gospel of Christ.

We promise to keep a faithful watch over each other, to provoke one another to love and good works, to be tender of each other’s persons, characters, and states; to be just in all our dealings, both among ourselves and towards all men, and to do good to all men as we have opportunity, especially to the household of faith.

We covenant to observe the Lord’s day in a religious manner, and not allow ourselves in unnecessary worldly business, conversation, or visiting, but constantly to devote the first day of the week to the public and private duties of religion, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is.

We covenant to practice secret prayer, and while or whenever we are heads of families, to maintain the worship of God morning and evening in our houses, daily to attend to the reading of the scriptures for the instruction of our families, and to use our best endeavors to bring up those committed to our care in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

We covenant to attend the appointed meetings of the church, and statedly to unite with our brethren in observing the Communion Supper and all the ordinances of Christ’s house to maintain Gospel discipline, to seek the prosperity of this particular Church, and the good of the Redeemer’s kingdom in general. And should we ever remove to any other place, so that we cannot enjoy the ordinances of Christ in this particular Church, we will endeavor, so soon as we have opportunity, to unite with some other Church of the same faith and order; and we solemnly covenant in whatever part of the world we may live, to devote ourselves to God, and to seek the prosperity of Zion so far as opportunity may permit, to the end of our days. Depending on God for His assistance, we severally and unitedly make this solemn Covenant.

Witness whereof we say Amen.

The covenant of this Church adapted at the organization of the body in October 1808 being lost or mislaid the Church supplied its place on the 4th of August 1832 with the above covenant.

September 1st, 1832

Covenant meeting opened by singing and prayer by Elder Handy found good union in the church –
1. Church voted to send Elders Handy, Cole & Johnson and Deacons Webster and Crosby, Brothers Forbes, Saxton and Johnson as delegates to the association to meet at Mayville on the fifth of September instant
2. Voted to hold a special church meeting on Monday next at 3 o’clock for business.
M.D. Harmon, Church Clerk

(?) Sabbath Communion season
M.D. Harmon, Church Clerk

Special church meeting on Monday September 3, 1832 opened with prayer by Elder E. Johnson. Heard the report of a committee appointed to visit Brothers Eli Webster and J. Sprague. Committee reported. Voted to accept of the same.

Report of the committee appointed to visit Brethren Eli Webster and J. Sprague beg leave to say that – Brother E. Webster condemned himself for not having continued his walk and assured committee that he
had (?) in not having brought his difficulty before the church. Brother J. Sprague said admitted that he had stated to Deacon Webster and Brother Horace Webster things prejudicial to the character of Brother Eli Webster and sister Fitch and still declared he believed the slander true, and Brother Sprague at the time behaved very unChristian like and appeared (?) by a very bad spirit and persisted in the slander about Brother Webster and justified the declination he had made all though at the first meeting he said he did not believe at the last meeting he said he did believe it – that Brother Sprague also (?) at the last meeting of committee that he could prove the case of Br. Webster and Sister Fitch.

J. Z. Saxton, Clerk of Committee

Church voted that the clerk inform Brother J. Sprague by letter to attend an (?) meeting appointed to attend to business of which he has been notified by committee appointed by the church.

Br. J.Z. Saxton presented a charge against Brother Amos Palmer for unChristian conversation in the public highweigh [sic] in conversation with Mr. Howard. Put over until a future meeting. Voted that Brother Andrus and sister Eastwood have letters of dismission from this church also to Brother and sister Fails.

Meeting adjourned to September 15th at 3 o’clock.

M. D. Harmon, Church Clerk

Adjourned church meeting September 15, 1832.

Opened by prayer. Read the proceedings of the last meeting in reference to Mr. Eli Webster, J. Sprague and Palmer. Church voted that Brother J Sprague be requested to retract the whole that is embraced in the report of the committee appointed to visit him.

Voted that Brother Sprague be suspended from this church until satisfaction is made by him to the church.

Brother Palmer did not appear. Church voted to withdraw from Brother Palmer the hand of fellowship until satisfaction is by him made.

M. D. Harmon, Church Clerk

October 6th 1832.

Covenant meeting opened by singing and prayer by Elder Cole. Good union among the Brothers and sisters present. Heard the experiences of Ebenezer Tuttle and Jonathan Hempstead. Church voted to receive them when Baptized.

Sister Amanda Sage presented a letter from the Baptist church in Erie, PA, and wished to unite with this church. Voted to receive her.

Heard the experience of Thomas Osborn and Mariah Hawks. Church voted to receive them when Baptized.

Meeting closed by prayer.

M. D. Harmon, Church Clerk

After Sabbath Thomas Osborn and Ebenezer Tuttle and Jonathan Hempstead baptized. Elder Cole administrator.

Communion season after (?)

M. D. Harmon, Church Clerk

November 3 1832

Covenant Meeting opened by singing and prayer by Elder Cole and found a desire to press forward in doing the will of the Lord among those present. Sister Susana Stearns presented a letter from the Baptist Church in Hoosick, Rensselaer Co, NY and wished to unite with this church. Voted to receive her.

Clerk is instructed to write the Second Baptist Church in Hanover requesting them to grant sister Lydia Willoughby a letter of dismission from them for the purpose of uniting with this church.

Heard the experiences of Jacob Morgan, Betsy Bond, Caroline Randall, and Lovilla Gardner. Voted to receive them when Baptized.

Closed.

M. D. Harmon, Church Clerk

Lord’s day at noon M. Morgan, Mariah Hawks and Betsy Bond were Baptized. Elder Cole administrator.
M.D. Harmon, Church Clerk

December 1, 1832
Covenant meeting opened with singing and prayer by Elder Cole and found a union in the church. 
Wm. Griffin related his experiences. Church voted to receive him when baptized. Church voted to hold a special church meeting next Wednesday at 1 o’clock at the meeting house for transaction of business.
Lemuel Tuttle related his experience. Church voted to receive him when baptized.
Closed by Prayer by Elder Cole.
M. D. Harmon, Church Clerk

December 5th 1832
Special church meeting opened by prayer by Elder Handy. Appointed Elder Handy Moderator. Voted that the trustees be requested to ascertain if those owning slips in the House will agree to give them up for one year from the first of January next for the support of preaching, if so to rent them to the highest bidder for the above named purpose.
Voted that the church write to Joseph Plum[?] of Lodig [Forestville] to ascertain where(?) Brother Ira Halstead has changed his religious sentiments or has become a Universalist. Voted to dissolve this meeting. Closed by prayer.
M. D. Harmon, Church Clerk

(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 Alanso 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 dismission. 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 dismission 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 dismission 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 dismission, 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

Covenant meeting January 4, 1834. After reading the covenant and articles of faith the church heard the relation of the following persons who were received as candidates for baptism. Wealthy Webster, Mrs. Charlotte Story, Benjamin Sweet, Joel Parker Jr., Arunah R. Buck, Ebenezer Shepard, Justus Smith, Hiram Patterson, Mrs. Sibbill Lock, Thos. G. Abell and Rhoda his wife, and received by letter Brethren Joseph Sweet and Sister Sally Sweet and on Sunday at noon Brothers B. Sweet, Parker, A.R. Buck, E. Shepard & H. Patterson and Sisters W. Webster, Story and Lock were baptized by Elder Cole and received into the Church.

A. Young, Church Clerk

At a special Chh. meeting 7th January 1834 the Church heard the relation of Harriet Webster, Nancy Norcutt, John Saxton, Fidelia Webster, Lois Norton, Lavina Scott, Amelia Webster, and A. Warren Young, who were received as candidates for baptism and on Saturday January 11th, the following persons were received as candidates for baptism, and on Saturday January 11th the following persons were received as candidates for baptism, viz. William Bond, Elisha E. Case, Harvey Meeder, Charles S. Sanford, Edwin Loomis, Emilius Davis, Demmy Hawkes, Sabrina Shumway, Miriam Brown, Amanda Eaton, Jane Osborn, Julia Ann Forbes, Ester Webster, and Sarah Crosby and on Sunday morning the Church heard the relation of Avis Walker, Mary Walker, and Hannah Smith who were received as candidates for baptism, and at noon Sunday January 12th the following candidates were baptized and received into the church. John Saxton, E. Davis, Chas. S. Sanford, H. Meeder, E.E. Case, E. Loomis, S. Crosby, J. A. Forbes. J Osborn, M. Brown, H. Smith, S. Shumway, A. Walker, M. Walker, H. Webster.

A. Young, Church Clerk

At a special church meeting 18th January 1834 the church heard the relation of Chester Davison, Jemima Gear, Mira Parker and Fanny Abell who were received as candidates for baptism and on Sunday morning January 19th heard the relation of Nancy Walker. Same day at noon Thomas G. Abell, Rhoda Abell, Demmy Hawkes, Jemima Gear, Nancy Walker, Lavina Scott, Amanda Eaton and Mira Parker were baptized and received into the church.

A. Young, Church Clerk

Special church meeting 25 January 1834. Meeting opened as usual and after reading the Covenant and Articles heard the relation of Benjamin Webster, Rosamond Randall, and Catherine Morian who were received as candidates for baptism.

A Young, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting 2 February 1834. After reviewing Covenant and reading the Articles of Faith and practice the church heard the relation of George C. Osborn, Ira S. Nichols, Hanson Bailey, Mary Nichols and Lorena Davison who received as candidates for baptism. Brother Farring Willson presented a letter from the first Baptist church in Medina and was received. On motion resolved unanimously that the church have no other feelings towards Sister Mercy Baldwin, than the fullest fellowship and Christian kindness. Sunday 3 February at noon the following candidates were baptized and received in the church. Viz. Chester Davison and Lorena his wife. Wm. Bond, I. Nichols, Alanson Bailey, Benjamin Webster, A.W. Young, Esther Webster, Amelia Webster, Fidelia Webster, Mary Nichols and Rosamond Randal.

A. Young, Church Clerk

Special church meeting 9 February 1834. The church heard the relation of Adams Buck who was received as a candidate for baptism. Sunday 24 February church voted letters to Elder King and family and Brother Farring Wilson.

A Young, Church Clerk
Sunday March 9th the church heard the relation of Lodemia Chapel who was received as a candidate and at noon Elder Cole baptized Adams Buck, Lodemia Chapel, and Lois Norton who were received the same day into the church.
A. Young, Church Clerk

March 22nd special church meeting. Brother Phineas Nichols and Esther his wife requested to take up their walk with the church. Voted that this church consider Brother and Sister Nichols as members of this church. Sister Betsey Hull requested to resume her place in the church. Voted that we welcome her return. Elder Cole having retired, Deacon Webster chosen chairman for the remainder of the meeting. On motion resolved that we invite Elder Cole to preach to us another year. Appointed Brethren Abell, Shumway, and Buck a committee to inform Elder Cole of the wishes of the church, who visited Elder Cole and returned, informed the church that he wishes to have the old subscriptions settled that he may know what it costs him to support his family. On motion voted that the church visit every member of the church and learn what they will give for preaching the coming year.
A. Young, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting 5 April 1834. After the usual exercises the church heard the relation of Lewis M. Walker, Nathan Wood, Jr. and Lucinda Walker who were received as candidates for baptism and Sunday April 6th at noon they were baptized and received into the fellowship of the church.
A. Young, Church Clerk

Sunday 20th Church voted letters of dismission to Sisters Lovilla Gardner and Betsey Hull and on Sunday 27th April church voted a letter of dismission to Sister Julia Story.

Covenant meeting May 3rd Church heard the relation of Mary Underhill who was received as a candidate. Voted letters of dismission to Brother and Sister Allen and Brother Salmon Morton. On motion the following preamble and resolution were adopted.
Whereas the Canadaway church located at Laona has requested to know whether this church will receive letters from that body. Resolved that this church are in fellowship with and will as freely receive letters from the Canadaway church as from any other church of the denomination.
A. Young, Church Clerk

Sunday May 11th. Voted a letter of dismission to Sister Sarah Clark. A letter from the church in Erie PA requesting a council. Voted that Elder Cole and Brethren P. L. Shepard and A. Young be delegates.

Covenant meeting in June. Postponed one week. Elder Cole absent. Held June 7. After the usual exercises resolved the situation of Julia Ann Morian. Received and baptized June 8.
A. Young, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting July 5th After the usual exercises the church heard the relation of Alexander King Jr. and Uriah E. Allen who were received as candidates. Voted a letter of dismission to Brother Thos. L. Somerton. Sister Esther Smith presented a letter from the church in Yates and was received.
Sunday 6 July, the above named candidates were baptized and received into the church. Voted a letter of dismission to Sisters Amanda Walker (formerly Sage). Appointed a special church meeting for Tuesday next.
A Young, Church Clerk

Tuesday 8th July. Special church meeting. Chose Elder Handy, Moderator. Voted a letter of dismission to Sister Betsey B. Sage. Voted that this church unite with the churches of Portland, Dunkirk, and Forestville in calling a convention of the Baptist churches in this county to take into consideration the propriety of forming a new association. Appointed Elders Cole and Brothers Crosby and Shepard a committee to call said convention. Meeting dissolved.
A Young, Clerk
Sunday 20 July. Voted letters of dismission to Brother Arunah Buck and Sister Sarah S. Robinson (formerly Crosby). Sunday 27 July, a letter laid before the church from the church in Villenova requesting a delegation to sit in council for the examination and ordination of Brother A. Frink. Whereupon voted, that we answer said letter by appointing Elders Cole, Handy and Johnson and Brothers Forbes and Young as delegates. A Young, Clerk

Covenant meeting 2nd August 1834. Pastor absent. Meeting opened by prayer by Deacon Webster. After the church had expressed their feelings, heard the relation of Francis P. Asherwood and Adaline his wife and Thos. Potter who were received as candidates for baptism. Voted that we appoint five delegates to convention at Ellery on the 14 instant and nominated Elder Cole, Deacon Crosby and Brothers Saxton, Sheppard and Young as delegates. Sunday August 3rd. F. P. Asherwood and Adaline Asherwood were baptized and received into the church. A Young, Church Clerk

Special church meeting 25 August 1834. On motion resolved unanimously that the church delegate to the association to be held at Asheville on the first Wednesday of September next. Voted that Elders Cole, Handy, King and Johnson, Deacon N. Crosby and Brothers Abm. Johnson, Buck, Abell and Allen be delegates to the same. Resolved that we recommend to the trustees to raise the meeting house and finish rooms below if they can obtain means by using the Society’s unappropriated property. Brothers Crosby and Buck as laboring brethren laid a statement before the church respecting Brother Jacob Morian, who had refused to meet his accuser until too late. Brother Morian made his statement of the case. On motion voted that Brother Morian be suspended from the fellowship of the church (for refusing to meet his accuser, though frequently urged so to do by the laboring brethren) until circumstances may enable to church to investigate the charges and judge of his guilt or innocence. A Young, Church Clerk

October 19th, a letter laid before the church from the church in Villenova requesting delegates to sit in council for the examination of Brother A. Frink. Whereupon voted that we answer the same by the appointment of Elders Cole, Handy, and Johnson. A letter from the Cassadaga Baptist church desiring delegates to sit in council for the purpose of examining the proceedings of that body with a view of acknowledging them as a sister church. Voted that we answer the same by appointing Elders Cole, Handy, and Johnson and Brethren Crosby and Forbes for that purpose. A Young, Church Clerk

November 1st Covenant meeting, letters presented by Henry A. Knapp and Martha his wife from the church in Buffalo, by Anson C. Guild and Miranda his wife from West Winfield and by Fanny Buck wife of Brother R. Buck from Madison, who were severally received by the church on the same. December 6th Covenant meeting letters presented by John Champlin and Keziah his wife from the church in West Winfield. Voted that they be received. A difficulty laid before the church by Brother Benjamin Sweet against Brother May. Voted to hold a special church meeting on Thursday next. December 7th. A letter presented by Belinda C. Brown from the church in Otto, Cattaraugus County and she received. A Young, Church Clerk

December 11 special meeting. Opened by prayers by Elder Johnson who was chosen moderator. Deacon Crosby from a visiting committee reported that on investigation of all the difficulties between Brother May and Brother Sweet and his family. They all expressed themselves satisfied and the parties present manifested a settlement of difficulties. Church voted satisfied. The case of Brother and Sister Randall was presented. Voted that Elder Handy, Brethren J.Z. Saxton, and Abell be a committee to visit them and learn the reasons why they absent themselves from the church and the labor to reclaim them. Voted that Elder Handy, Brothers R. Buck, Abell and A Young be a committee to visit D. J. Matteson and learn from him his views of his standing with the church. On motion resolved that the church withdraw the hand of fellowship from George W. Pierce for refusing to appear before the church when summoned and entirely
neglecting to hold any correspondence with them, and that the church be directed to write him by mail informing of the proceedings of the church in the case. Adjourned to Saturday the 20 instant.
A Young, Church Clerk

December 20. Special church meeting held by adjournment. Elder Handy from the committee appointed to visit Brother and Sister Randall, reported that they had performed that duty. Brother Randall present stated that he had no difficulty with any individual member but had had much difficulty [with] some of the proceedings of the church but after much consideration of the subject had resolved to give the church no further trouble on that ground. Sister Randall prevented by ill health but was in fellowship with the church. Voted that the church are satisfied in the case. Elder Handy from the committee appointed to visit D. J. Matteson reported that they had performed that duty and that D. J. Matteson declined to state expressly his views on the subject. Report accepted and committee discharged. Adjourned to December 29, 1834 when the meeting was held. After much desultory conversation on several subjects, Brothers Crosby and Sheppard were appointed a committee to investigate a difficulty between Brothers May and Joseph Sweet. On motion resolved that it is the sentiment of this church that members of sister churches in good standing have a right to a seat with the church in meetings of business. Adjourned.
A. Young, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting 3 January 1835. After the usual exercises the subject of a meeting of (?) was brought before the church. On motion resolved that a notice be given from the pulpit tomorrow that a meeting will commence on Thursday next to continue till Sunday evening and then be governed by circumstances. Voted a letter of recommendation and dismission to Sister Selina Boyington. Voted that the church approve of the alteration of the monthly (?) from the evening of the first Monday to the evening of the first Sunday of the month. January 4 at communion letters were presented by Brother Wm. Verrinder and Sister Keziah Barber who were received.
A. Young, Clerk

January 24th 1835. Agreeably to public notice given from the pulpit and in consequence of an engagement of our pastor for next week the church agreed to anticipate the regular communion season one week.
Covenant meeting held when the church heard the relation of Mrs. Harriet Jennings, Mrs. Harriet Catlin, and Maryann Morgan who were received as candidates.
January 25. At Communion voted a letter of recommendation and dismission to Sister Roxa Crissy, also to Brother Thomas Sweet.
Sunday March 1st. Harriet Jennings and Maryann Morgan were baptized and received to the fellowship of the church. Voted to hold a church meeting on Thursday 5 instant at 1 P.M.
A. Young, Church Clerk

Special church meeting held by appointment 5th March 1835.
Deacon Webster chosen moderator. Trustees read their report. On motion resolved that [we] are under covenant obligation to contribute for the support of all the temporal interests of the church according to the measure with which God has favored us. Voted that we have preaching the ensuing year. Voted that we raise $400 the next year for contingent expenses, one half to be paid in grain or such produce as is wanted and one half in cash, the whole to paid quarterly to the trustees. Voted that we appoint 3 assessors to ascertain the property, income and privileges and settle what is the proportion of each member. Appointed. Brethren Randall, Shepard and Young. Voted that the trustees visit Elder Cole and request him to preach for us the ensuing year.
Adjourned 2 weeks.
A. Young, Church Clerk

Sunday 8 March. A letter received from the church in Westfield requesting a delegation to sit in council on Wednesday 11th instant. Voted to answer by appointing Elder Cole and Brethren Crosby, J.Z. Saxton, and L M. Walker as delegates.
A. Young, Clerk
Special church meeting held by adjournment March 19th 1835. Elder Handy chosen moderator. Meeting opened by prayer by moderator. After much discussion and deliberation adjourned for two weeks, altered by appointment to March 30th then held. The trustees presented to the meeting the proposals of Elder Cole in answer to the request that he preach another year to us. Voted that we offer Elder Cole 400 dollars and a subscription for 20 cords of wood and appointed Brethren Crosby, Saxton, and Verrinder a committee to wait on Elder Cole with said proposals. Committee returned and stated that Elder Cole was not at home. Meeting dissolved.

A. Young, Clerk

Covenant meeting April 4th. After the usual exercises voted that we hold a special church meeting on Thursday next at 1 o'clock PM.

A. Young, Church Clerk

Special church meeting held by appointment April 9th 1835. Stephen May chosen moderator. A paper laid before the meeting by brethren which purported to be an equalization of the expenses of the church, which was read. Each member present expressed satisfaction. Voted that the clerk be authorized to draw a subscription paper and transfer the names of the members present to it, with the sums set to them. Meeting dissolved.

A. Young, Clerk

Covenant meeting, May 2nd. Voted a letter of dismission to Sister Charlotte Story. Letters presented and received by Josiah Moore and wife and Elizabeth Roots from Mendon, and by Benjamin F. Roberts from Forestville, and a letter given by the church to Marietta Simpson was returned. Sister Hannah Post dismissed.

A. Young, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting July 4th. After the usual exercises a request was made by Elvira McKnight to unite with the church, she having been baptized by the “Christians.” After hearing her relation on motion resolved that we recognize her baptism as valid. Voted that we receive her. A letter presented by Sister Hughes from the church (?). Voted that we receive her. Elder Cole requested (by letter) that the church consent that the relation subsisting between him and them (as pastor of the church) should cease after the first of September next. Voted that we accede to his proposal. Appointed Brethren Crosby, J.Z. Saxton, Sheppard, Moore and Doctor Pettit, a committee of correspondence to procure some person to visit us as a candidate for the pastoral office. Voted that the church will pay the traveling expenses of the candidates. Voted that the church withdraw the hand of fellowship from Rachel Pemberton (formerly Thompson) for unChristian conduct.

A. Young, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting 1st August. Letters presented by David Barrell and Clarinda his wife, from the church in Evans, Erie. Voted that they be received. Also a letter by Esther L(?) from the church in Claremont N.H. received. Appointed a special church meeting for Monday 10th instant at 4o’clock PM. Appointed Elder Cole and Brothers Crosby, Barrell, Sheppard, and Saxton a committee to prepare and recommend a course to be pursued by the church toward the association and appointed Deacon Crosby and Brothers Allen, Buck and Barrell a committee on delinquents.

A. Young, Church Clerk

A letter presented by Sefy Starr from the Church in Guilford and received.

Special church meeting held by appointment August 10th 1835. The committee on the association reported that it is best all things considered to represent to the association and submitted a letter. Voted to receive report and adopt the letter. Appointed Elders Cole, Handy, Johnson, and King, Deacons Crosby and Webster, and Brothers Saxton, Barrell, Sheppard, Abell, Verrinder, Champlin, and any others who may attend as delegates to association.
The request of A. Young to be discharged from further duties as clerk of the church being taken up. Voted that the church will not discharge him.

A. Young

Special church meeting held by appointment 5th October 1835. Elder Handy appointed moderator. The request of A. Young to be discharged from further duties as clerk was reconsidered. Voted that he be discharged. Chose Br. David Barrell Church clerk. A. Young appointed clerk pro tem. Voted to discharge the corresponding committee and appointed another. Chose Brothers Saxton, Pettit, May, Abell, Forbes, Guild, Buck, Deacon Webster and Elder Handy [as] committee. Voted that the corresponding committee write to Elder D. Putnam requesting him to become their pastor and offer him $400 for (?) and $50 toward the expenses of moving his family. Meeting dissolved.

A. Young, Clerk P.T.

Special church meeting held by appointment 22nd October 1835. Elder Handy moderator. Br. J.Z. Saxton from the committee of correspondence laid before the church a letter from Elder Putnam declining their application to him to become pastor of this church. Elder Cole requested to know the minds of the members of the church on their covenant obligations, when their views given individually. Voted a letter of dismission to Elder Cole. Meeting dissolved.

A. Young, Clerk P.T.

Lord’s Day, 16 November 1835. Special Church Meeting.
Heard a letter from Brother Ira Corwin asking aid to pay his doctor’s bill and to purchase clothing.
Resolved that Elder Handy and Br. Saxton be a committee to solicit aid from the brethren of the church to lend to Brother Corwin.
Heard remarks from Brother Salmon Morton in regard to his view of duty to enter on a preparatory course for the Minister, this request for license from the church to improve his gift. Also heard his views on a portion of Scripture, after which Brother Morton retired and the brethren consulted together and resolved that Brother Morton’s case coming before them at so late a period they are not prepared to grant him a license, yet would encourage so far as they are able and recommend him to a favorable reception wherever he may go. Resolved to grant Brother Morton a letter of dismission and that our Clerk be instructed to express the above sentiments in his letter dismission.
Adjourned until next Lord’s Day at 1 o’clock PM.
David Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day 23rd November 1835. Church met agreeable to adjournment.
Heard and approved the letter recommending Brother Morton to notice. Also a letter of dismission.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant Meeting December 5, 1835. Opened by prayer Elder Handy Moderator. Brothers and Sisters renewed Covenant. A good degree of union generally manifest and a desire to arise. Brother (?) expressed his dissent from the Covenant. Brother Ora Winsor and his wife Polly Ann were received to our fellowship by a letter from Mayville.
Closed by prayer. D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting January 2, 1836. Opened by prayer. Brethren and Sisters renewed Covenant.
On motion resolved that we send a messenger to Elder Leach, inviting him to come and take the pastoral charge of the Church.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lords Day January 3, 1836. Church convened for the Ordinance of the Supper. A letter was presented by Sister Elizabeth Howes from the (?) Church in Eaton(?) NY. On motion resolved that Sister Howes be received to our fellowship.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant Meeting February 6, 1836. Opened by prayer. Heard a letter from Church of Dunkirk requesting us to send our Minister and Brethren to sit in Council with them on the 10th instant to Examine Brother B.F.
Roberts with a view to ordination. Resolved that we send as delegate Reverends Leach and J. Handy and Brethren Crosby, Webster, Buck, Barrell, Shepard and Sweet. Brothers and Sisters renewed Covenant. Enjoyed a comfortable season.
A letter of dismissal was granted to Lucy Bennett. Adjourned two weeks.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Adjourned Covenant meeting 20 February 1836. Brothers and Sisters remarked of the travel of their minds, after which a letter was read recommending Brother Eber Pettit and his wife. On request it was resolved that Brother Pettit and wife be received to our fellowship. A letter was read recommending Brother Loving Crosby at his request. Resolved that he be received to our fellowship.
Heard the relation of the Christian experience of Miss Harriet Morgan, with her desire to be Baptized. Resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism and when Baptized to Membership with us. Resolved that the resolution giving Elder Leach a call to become Pastor of this Church, as he now accepts the call, be recorded on the Church book, his term of labor to commence about 1st April.
Closed by Prayer.
Davied Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day February 28, 1836. At the close of worship notice was given of a special church meeting to be held on Friday next at 1 o’clock PM.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church Meeting March 4, 1836. Opened by prayer. Elder Handy chosen moderator.
Deacon Crosby remarked that reports had been in circulation injuring the cause and against the character of Brother G. Hempstead in relation to his selling a cow to B. Robbins. Brother Hempstead being present heard his version of the story. Resolved to appoint a committee to investigate this matter and that Brothers Saxton, Buck and Moore be said committee and report hereafter.
Resolved that a letter of Dismission be granted to Sister Almira Ferris (Peck).
Heard a report of Brother Abell who was appointed to procure a place to build a parson house, that he had got Mr. S. Johnson terms for two acres of land adjoining Deacon(?) Durkee for $175 after deductions for himself and Johnson. Resolved that speedy and efficient measures be taken to raise the necessary sum to pay for the parsonage lot and the Trustees of the Society be requested to do it. Resolved that we present the thanks of this church and Society to Capt. S. Johnson for his liberality in selling us a lot for a parsonage, and in contributing so liberally to aid the Society in this object, (?) in offering us the use of a house the year ensuing for our minister, gratuitous.
David Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting March 5, 1836. Elder Handy Moderator. Brothers and Sisters renewed Covenant.
Enjoyed a pleasant interview.
On request a letter of recommendation and dismission was granted to Brother Jonathan O. Allen and his wife Harriet P. Allen and their son Uriah E. Allen.
Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant Meeting March 12, 1836.
Heard the religious experience of Miss Eunice Mack with her desire to be Baptized. Resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism and when Baptized to our fellowship.
Heard a letter recommending Reverend B. N. Leach. Resolved that he be received to our fellowship.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day March 13, 1836. Miss Eunice Mack and Miss Harriet Morgan received the Ordinance of Baptism and the right hand of fellowship of the Church.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Special Church meeting April 15, 1836. Opened by Prayer by Elder Leach.
Br. P. Nichols chosen Clerk Pro tem. The following Preamble and resolution presented were unanimously adopted. Whereas Jesus Christ by dispensation of his grace and by particular indications of his providence
is awakening energies of his people and graciously exerting them to higher and more enlarged efforts of beneficence in diffusing the light of life through our benighted world. Therefore Resolved:

I. That it is the duty of this Church to come up with appropriate promptness and energy (?) to sustain and forward the glorious enterprise of Evangelizing the nations and whereas consequence of the tardy movements of the Churches, or for want of a system of (?) efficient organization, more than $1500 [per year] is expended in our own state in sustaining agents to solicit the liberalities of the Churches.

Resolved:

II. That it is the imperative duty of this Church to occupy such high ground of (?) and systematic beneficence as will preclude the necessity of such labors and expenses as far as this Church is concerned. Resolved:

III. In order to carry the above into effect, that the male members of this Church, on solicitation, whose duty it shall be to present to every male member a subscription book for the various benevolent objects of the Church, that he may have the privilege of doing what is his privilege to aid to the message of the everlasting Gospel through the world. Also a Treasurer whose duty it shall be to keep an account of all the monies he receives and appropriate them to the various objects as specified in the subscription and report to the Church annually. Also a collector whose duty it shall be to collect subscriptions when due and pay into the treasury. The subscription for Domestic Missions shall be paid two weeks previous to the meeting of the Chautauqua Baptist Association. The subscription for Foreign Missions and for the printing of the German Bibles, shall be paid the 1st week in March. The subscription for Sabbath School and other objects the third week in April. The Solicitor, Treasurer, and Collector shall hold their appointments for one year and until others are chosen. Resolved:

IV. That we will furnish every Sunday School scholar with the New Testament, who shall be connected with our Society, and that the remainder of the subscription for Sunday School after deducting $30 for the purchase of a library for our own school shall be appropriated for the general distribution in the county. Resolved:

V. That we recommend to the Female members of this Church to adopt such an organization as they deem expedient but such an one as will give each sister in this Church an opportunity casting their mite into the Treasury of the Lord. (?) was appointed Solicitor to report to the church 3 months. G. More Buck Collector.

VI. Resolved that the Church appoint one Deacon in addition to their present number and that Elders Leach and Cole and Johnson and Brothers Webster, Crosby and More be a committee to nominate. The Committee nominated Brother Reuben Buck, whereupon it was unanimously voted that Brother Reuben Buck be a Deacon of the Church. The Brothers and Sisters voted by Ballot. Voted that Br. A. Parker be collector for the church to collect Elder Leach’s subscription for the two months labor.

Church Meeting July 25, 1836.

On Motion Resolved that we still make an effort to build a parsonage by subscription to become the property of the Society. Resolved that Brother S. May be the Building Committee. Resolved that Brother A. C. Guild be Collector. Resolved that Brethren J. Pettit, Elias Johnson and D. Barrell be a Soliciting committee to solicit subscriptions. After hearing an expression of the minds of the Brethren present, with their subscriptions taken by the committee. Resolved that the building Committee go on with their arrangements for building, and if the subscription is not filled, we will expend so far as we have means in building and trust the aid of our friends to make up the amount.

Closed.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting August 6, 1836. Opened by prayer and praise. Brethren and Sisters renewed Covenant. On request, resolved that Sister Morton have a letter of recommendation and dismission from this church. Resolved that Sister Harriet Morgan have a letter of Dismission. Resolved that Brother Linus Douglass have a letter of dismission.

Closed by prayer.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting May 21, 1836. Deacon Webster appointed moderator.

B. N. Leach, Moderator
Resolved that we appoint a committee to ( ? ) associate with the assessing committee previously appointed to assist them in arranging and rectifying the property of the church, and make out the assessment on the members of the church and that Brothers May, More and Barrell be said committee.

Whereas reports have reached the Church of bad conduct in Brother N. Wood in quarrelling on the Sabbath with (?) Lowel. Resolved that we appoint Deacon Webster and Brother Champlin a committee to investigate the matter.

Resolved that Brothers Saxton, May and Buck be a committee to visit Elder E. Johnson and enquire into the nature of his claim on the church, and the relative situation he occupies in regard to liability with the church. Adjourned.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting September 3, 1836. Opened by prayer.
Resolved that we appoint delegates to the association that our Pastor, B. N. Leach, and Brethren Sheppard, J. Pettit, J. More and L. Crosby be our delegates.
Resolved that Sister Clarke have a letter of dismission from the church.
Resolved that we hold a church meeting on the 3rd Saturday instant at 2 o’clock PM.
Brothers and Sisters renewed Covenant. Enjoyed a comfortable Season. Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church Meeting Sept. 17, 1836. Opened by prayer.
Heard the report of the committee to visit Brother Wood. Also a statement from him (he being present) of the circumstances of the affair with Mr. Lowel, together with his acknowledgements of his error. Resolved that we are satisfied with the statement made and that we dismiss the subject.
Resolved that we raise seventy five dollars to repair the house, stoves (?) and for taking care of the house. Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting December 3rd 1836. Opened by prayer.
Brethren and Sisters renewed Covenant after which heard a relation of theChristian experience of Miss Laura Scott with an expression of her desire to be Baptized. On motion resolved that we receive her as a candidate for Baptism and when Baptized to fellowship with us.
Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Mrs. Watson with her desire to be Baptized. Resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism and fellowship with us.
Heard also a relation of the Christian experience of Miss Mark and her desire for Baptism. Resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism and to fellowship with us.
Enjoyed a very pleaseant season. Closed by prayer. Resolved to hold a church conference next Saturday.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s day 4 December 1836. The following persons were baptized and received the hand of fellowship of the Church. Viz. Mrs. Watson, Miss Laura Scott, and Miss Mark.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church conference agreeable to appointment 10th December 1836. Opened by prayer. Brothers and sisters enjoyed an agreeable season in prayer and conference, after which Mrs. Parker and Moses P. Buck related the dealings of God with them and expressed their desire to be Baptized and received to our fellowship. On motion resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism and when Baptised to membership and fellowship with us.
Resolved that our church conference be established to be held every Saturday at one o’clock PM. Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church Conference December 24, 1836. Opened by Prayer.
Resolved that we hold a church meeting for business on Tuesday next at 1 o’clock PM. Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Myron Frisbee and Mrs. Newel. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism and fellowship. Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk
Church meeting, agreeable to appointment December 27, 1836. Opened by prayer. Elder Leach moderator. Heard a complaint from Br. J.Z. Saxton against Brother Alford Stoddard (See complaint on file). [Not found.]

The steps of labor admitted. Brother O. Winsor the witness. Resolved that this subject of difficulty be referred to a committee of Seven. Resolved that the moderator associate with Elder Handy and nominate this committee. They recommended as follows: Viz. Deacon Crosby, Brethren Forbes, Barrell, Buck, Champlin, Abell and T. G. Osborn as said committee. Resolved that the above named Brethren be said committee. Deacon Crosby asked Brothers Saxton and Stoddard if they would abide the decision of this committee. Brother Saxton said he would. Brother Stoddard said he was not prepared to say he would abide their decision. After deliberation and advice, Brothers Saxton and Stoddard retired and after consultation, returned and said they had agreed to submit their matter of difference and had fixed on Brothers Crosby, Abell and Forbes and Mr. Morton and Mr. Woodruff as the referees.

Whereupon the church resolved that they are satisfied with the arrangement.

Resolved that Brother May furnish wood for Elder Leach. Present his [account?]

Closed.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting December 31, 1836.

After a season of prayer, Heard our Articles of Faith and practice and Covenant. Received a letter recommending Sister Celestia Dimick. Resolved that she be received. Also a letter recommending Brother and Sister Wheeler. Brother Wheeler not present. On request of Sister Wheeler resolved that she be received.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Miss Jane Burrett with her desire to be Baptized and received to our fellowship. Resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Miss Almira Walker with her desire for Baptism. Resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Mrs. Lucretia Saxton with her desire for Baptism. Resolved that she be received as a Candidate for Baptism.

Closed by prayer.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s day 1st January 1837. The following persons received the ordinance of Baptism and hand of fellowship from the church. Viz. Mrs. Newel, Myron Frisbee, Jane Burrell and Almira Walker. Received. Rev. B.N. Leach Administrator.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church Conference 14 January 1837.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Chloe Ann Barber and Miss [name omitted] with their desire to be Baptized. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism.

Church conference 21 January 1837. Opened by a season of prayer. Heard a letter recommending Sister Elmira Hodges. Resolved that she be received to our fellowship.

Heard a letter recommending sister Roxana G. Taylor. Resolved that she be received to our fellowship.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Horace Turner and his desire to be Baptized. Resolved that he be received as a Candidate for Baptism.

Heard also the Christian experience of Reuben Tuttle, Miss Sally Ewer, and Mrs. Lucina Flint. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism.

Brothers and Sisters of the church individually expressed their desire to go forward and labor in the cause of the Lord.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s day 22nd 1837.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Elisha Flint with his desire to be Baptised. Resolved that he be received as a candidate for Baptism.
The following persons received the ordinance of Baptism. Viz. Horace Turner, Sally Ewer, Chloe Ann Barber, Lucretia Saxton, Mrs. Laura Parker.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church Conference 28 January 1837.
Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Mrs. Miriam Parker together with testimony of her having been Baptized many years ago, and not uniting with any Church, she had no letter. On her request resolved that she be received to membership with us. Heard the experience of Miss Mary Shumway with her desire for membership with us. She had been Baptized and in Connection with the Methodist Church. Resolved that she be received to membership with us. Heard the experiences of Avery D. Taylor, Andrew Brown, Norman Ladd, and Miss Calista Gay. On their request Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism and when Baptized to membership with us.
On request resolved that we give a letter of dismission to Sister Juliette Morton.
Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting 4th February 1837. Opened by prayer and praise. Heard our articles of faith and Practice. Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Joseph Bogardus, Oliver Shumway, Henry L. Crosby, Daniel Saxton, James Hilton, Wm. Stewart, Emeline Stewart, Olivia Crawford, Fanny Hilton, Aurelia Cotton, Susan Keach, Ruth Keach, Emily Betsy Patterson, Caroline Whitney, and Maria Elizabeth Lewis with their desire to be Baptized and received to fellowship with us. Resolved (individually) that they be received as candidates for Baptism and when baptized to our fellowship.
Closed this interesting meeting by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Note,
During the five weeks past, this church have held meetings almost constantly day and evening and the efforts of the church have been abundantly blessed in the salvation as we hope of many souls. Elder Leonard has labored with us with abundant success for more than two weeks.
D. Barrell

Lords day 5 February 1837. Church convened in the morning agreeable to appointment an hour previous to time for worship. After a season of prayer heard a relation of the Christian experience of James Lowel, F. W. Crosby, L. F. Ryckman, Sarah Dickerson, Elijah Clark Jr., Delia Lowel, and David H. Phelps with their desire to be Baptized. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Monthly (?) February 6, 1837.
On request Resolved that we grant a letter of dismission to Sister Sally Ewer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church Conference February 11th 1837. Opened by prayer.
Heard a letter recommending Brother John E. Bishop with his desire to be received to our fellowship.
Resolved that he be received. Heard the Christian experience of Aaron. H. Armstrong, Sally Munro, Harriet Ruff, Calfina Ruff, Sophia Stearns, Mariah Pratt, Susan Stearns, David Sweet, Sidney Stearns.
and Rachel Morse with their desire to be Baptized. Resolved individually that they be received as candidates for Baptism.
Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day 12th February 1837. The following candidates received the ordinance of Baptism and the hand of fellowship. Miss Shattuck, Rachel Morse, Ruth Keach, Henry L. Crosby, David Sweet, Harriet Ruff, Calfina Ruff, and Mariah Pratt. Church meeting appointed for next Tuesday evening.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting February 14, 1837. Opened by prayer.
Heard report from Committee appointed to visit Brother J. Hempsted. Committee have visited Brother Hempsted and have also had an interview with Mr. Munson. Mr. Munson’s story did not differ materially from Brother Hempsted’s. Committee advised Brother H. go and settle with Mr. Robbins about the Cow. Subsequently, committee had learned from Brother H. that he has been to Mr. R. to settle with him but that he thought Mr. R. unreasonable in his demands, and that he had not settled with him. Brother H. not being present it was deferred. Resolved that we receive the report as satisfactory thus far, and that Committee continue, and be prepared to report further at our next church meeting.
Heard a letter from Elder Cole, calling on the church for a balance, something over $100 which he claims to be his due. Moved and seconded that Elder Cole’s claims as presented be paid. Lost. On motion Resolved that the balance of $41.63 which was his due on settlement, be paid and $25 for his extra services and interest on the same. Resolved that Brother Isherwood circulate a subscription to raise the amount necessary to meet the foregoing resolution after he shall have collected and arranged what is now due on Subscriptions for him. Resolved that Brother J.Z. Saxton be a committee to answer Elder Cole’s letter, giving him a statement of the view of the church have of his claim. (?)
Heard remarks from J. Morian with his desire to be restored to the fellowship of the church. After some remarks and deliberation his case was deferred until our next church meeting.
Resolved that we grant letters of dismission to Brother Tuttle and family.
Adjourned that this meeting stand adjourned for one week from this evening.

Church conference 18 February 1837. Opened by prayer.
Heard our articles of faith and practice.
Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Lucina Cornwell with her desire to be received to our fellowship. Had Evidence of her previous Baptism and connection with the Methodist church. Resolved that she be received to our fellowship.
Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Benjamin Cornwell, Phebe Rust, Fanny Ketchum, Mariette Hammond, Mary Sheppard, Emily Gifford, Wm. Baldwin, Biathar Ross, and Mary Sweet, with their desire to be Baptized and received to our fellowship. Resolved (individually) that they be received as candidates for Baptism and when baptized to our fellowship.
Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day 19 February 1837. The following persons received the ordinance of Baptism. Viz. Mary Sweet, Marietta Hammond, A. H. Armstrong, Mary Sheppard, Benjamin Cornwell, Fanny Ketchum, Wm. Baldwin, Biathar Ross and Sophia Stearns. Received B. Leach, Administrator.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Adjourned Church meeting February 20th 1837. Opened by prayer.
Resolved that the case of J. Morian be deferred until our next church meeting.
Heard a complaint from Br. R. Buck against Br. Wm. Bond (see complaint on file). Resolved to review the complaint. Resolved that the complaint be referred to a committee consisting of Brothers R. Buck, J.Z. Saxton, and S. May and that they report at next church meeting. Heard remarks that this case be deferred until next church meeting. Resolved that the committee appointed to visit Br. E. Johnson be prepared to report next church meeting.
Resolved to adjourn for one week from this evening at 6 o’clock. Adjourned by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church conference 25 February 1837. Opened by prayer.
Heard a relation of the Christian experience of John Webber, Wm. Taylor, Benjamin Johnson, Helen Pettit, Aldalucia Cogswell, Elizabeth Johnson, Mary Taylor, Deborah Phelps, and Alice Blake with their desire to be baptized and received to our fellowship. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism. Heard a letter recommending Brother Wm. Walding and Sylvia his wife. Resolved that they be received to our fellowship. Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s day 26 February 1837.
The following candidates received the ordinance of baptism, viz. Wm. Taylor, Mary Taylor, Deborah Phelps, John Webber, Helen Pettit, Sidney Stearns, Andalucia Cogswell, Benjamin Johnson, Elizabeth Johnson, and Phebe Rush.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting February 27, 1837. Opened by prayer.
Appointed Brother E. M. Pettit, Clerk Pro tem.
Heard the report of committee appointed to investigate the complaint against Brother Wm. Bond. Accepted the report. Heard remarks from Brother Bond. Resolved that the conduct of Brother Bond in attempting to obtain the signature of Mr. Watson was irreligious and immoral. Resolved that this case of Brother Bond be deferred until our next church meeting.
Heard the report of committee to investigate the case of Brother Hempsted. Report accepted and committee discharged. Resolved that in view of the report of the committee the church regard the conduct of Brother Hempsted as dishonorable and unChristianlike in the transaction with Mr. Robbins. Resolved that the case of Brother Hempsted be deferred until our next church meeting.
Heard the report of the committee to confer with Brother E. Johnson. Report accepted and committee discharged. Resolved that Brother Johnson be requested to make out his a/c and present it at our next church meeting. Resolved that the church consider Brother Johnson’s 6th charge unjust. Resolved that we require the same of Brother Johnson that we do of other private members and no more as regards spiritual and temporal things. Resolved that the case of Brother Johnson be deferred until next church meeting.
Resolved to adjourn to Monday next at one o’clock P.M. Adjourned by prayer.
E. M. Pettit, Clerk Pro tem

Covenant meeting March 4, 1837. Half past 10 AM. Opened by prayer and praise.
Enjoyed an interesting conference together until near one o’clock. Adjourned for half an hour.
Met according to adjournment. Heard our articles of faith and practice and covenant.
Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Nathaniel Perkins, Justus Brooks, Darias Loomer, Jerome Saxton, Willard Webster, Esther Perkins, Mary Ann Bowman, and Emily Porter with their desire to be baptized and received to our fellowship. Resolved (individually) that they be received as candidates for baptism and when baptized to fellowship with us.
Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s day 5 March 1837. The following persons received the ordinance of Baptism and hand of fellowship of the church, viz. Nathaniel Perkins, Justus Brooks, Darias Loomer, Jerome Saxton, Willard Webster, Esther Perkins, Mary Ann Bowman, Emily Porter, Alice Blake, Sally Monro, and Sally Dickerson. Elder Leach Administrator.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Resolved that sister Julia Grant have a letter of dismission from the church.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s day March 5 1837.
Church meeting March 6, 1837. Opened by prayer.
Heard a letter recommending Justus Adams. Received to our fellowship.
Resolved that we are satisfied in the case of Brother Morian that the charge against him was unfounded and with his confession of fault in not going with the Laboring Brethren when solicited removes his suspension.
After much deliberation on the case of Brother Bond resolved that we withdraw the hand of fellowship from Brother Bond for unChristian and immoral conduct.
Heard confession of Brother J. Hempsted. Confesses his conduct has been unbecoming the Christian, that he is sorry and asks the church to forgive him. That he has confessed to Mr. Robbins and has settled with him about the cow to his (Robbins’) satisfaction. Resolved we are satisfied with Brother Hempsted confession.
In the case of Brother E. Johnson, the report of the committee was repeated. Asked Brother Johnson if he had made out his a/c agreeable to the request of the church. He answered he had not. Resolved that Brother Johnson be released from the payment of a tax made against him last summer for preaching. Resolved that Brothers Saxton, Crosby and Buck be a committee to adjust the claims of Brother Johnson on the church. Resolved that we believe Brother Johnson has no just cause of complaint in not being heard at the covenant church meeting in as much as he was bringing up private matters and not acts of the church. Resolved that the reasons assigned by Brother Johnson for not taking an active part with the church are not satisfactory.
Heard a letter recommending Brother Stork. Resolved that Elder Handy, Brothers Pettit, Sheppard, Barrell and Armstrong be a committee to confer with Brother Stork on matters relating to his uniting with the church and report next church meeting. Resolved to adjourn to next Monday 1 o’clock P.M.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church conference March 11, 1837. Opened by prayer.
Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Mrs. Deborah Keach and Theresa Martin with their desire to be Baptized. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism and when Baptized to fellowship with us.
Enjoyed a pleasant conference. Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting March 13, 1837. Opened by prayer. M. Frisbee [clerk protem].
Called on committee appointed to adjust the claims of Brother E. Johnson. Committee not prepared to report. Resolved that the same committee be continued and report next church meeting. Appointed a committee consisting of Brethren Pettit, Guild, May, Crosby, and Abell to settle with Elder Leach and to arrange for further supplies.
Resolved that collector for the building committee for parsonage be prepared to report next church meeting. Brother J. More presented a complaint against Brother J. Hempsted for profanity. Brother E. M. Pettit second laborer. Resolved that the complaint be received. After hearing statements resolved that we think the 3rd charge proven. (?)8. (?)5. Resolved to defer the complaint against Brother Hempsted until next Church meeting. Heard report of committee on Brother Stork’s letter. Resolved that Brother Stork have leave to withdraw his letter. Resolved that Brethren Crosby, Pettit and Champlin be committee to investigate the case of Brother Hempsted.
Resolved to adjourn until next week Wednesday. Adjourned by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting March 18, 1837. Opened by prayer.
But few Brothers and sisters present enjoyed a comfortable season in prayer and praise and in conversing together on the cause of Christ. Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting March 21, 1837. Opened by prayer. M. Frisbee [clerk protem].
Called on the following committees, who were not prepared to report, viz. committee on parsonage, committee on Brother Isherwood’s case and committee to settle with Elder Leach and procure further supplies. Resolved that the above committees be prepared to report next church meeting.

Heard report of committee (in part) on the case of Brother Hempsted. Resolved that committee be continued and the case deferred until our next church meeting.

Resolved that Brethren May, Randall and (?) be committee to investigate the a/c for furnishing Elder Leach wood and report next church meeting. Resolved that Brothers May, Randall and (?) be committee to make an (?) on the church for Elder Leach’s services the past year and the expenses of moving him here. Resolved that $75 for Elder Leach’s first 2 months services be added to the average above named.

Resolved that the bills of expenditure on Parsonage be handed to committee on parsonage so as to enable them to make a full report next church meeting. Resolved that a committee be appointed to wait on those Brethren who are dissatisfied with their assessment in the support and expenses of the church and to reduce the same as they think proper.

Heard the report of Committee on Elder Cole business.

Resolved that Brother John Saxton be added to Committee and be prepared to report next church meeting.

Resolved that Brother Stillman Brooks have a letter of dismission from the church at his request.

Resolved to adjourn to next Monday at 1 o’clock PM.

M. Frisbee, Clerk Pro tem

[March 25, 1837]

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Lucia Watkins and William Boyd, their desire to be received to our fellowship. Resolved that they be received as candidates for baptism and when baptized to membership and fellowship with us. Enjoyed a pleasant season together. Closed by prayer.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day March 26, 1837. The following persons received the ordinance of Baptism, viz. Emily Patterson, William Boyd, Lucia Watkins, and Theresa Martin.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

[Date unknown.]

Called on committee to settle with Elder Leach and procure further supplies to report. Committee not prepared to report. Resolved that it is the desire of the church to continue Elder Leach as pastor of the church. Resolved that the above committee continue to report at our next covenant meeting.

Heard the report in part of committee to make an (?) on the church to pay the expense of repairs. (?) (?) Resolved that the received (?) thus far, that the committee continue and revise and report next church meeting. Resolved that there be an (?) made on the church to pay the claims of Elder Cole and Brother Johnson giving those liberty to object who wish to do so. After much deliberation the case of Brother Johnson dismissed.

In the case of Brother Hempsted, Deacon Crosby one of the committee reported that he had visited E. Clark. He (C) had never heard Brother H. use profane language but had heard of him being profane and had talked with Brother H. about it and he (H) said it was wrong. C. admonished him of his error as he was a professor of religion. Brother H. confessed he was passionate and often used language unbecoming a Christian for which he is sorry. The case of Brother Hempsted dismissed.

Heard a series of resolutions presented by Brother Randall. Resolved that they lie over until next church meeting.

Elder Leach resigned his agency as having charge of the parsonage house. Appointed Deacon Crosby and Brother May as agents on the parsonage house. Appointed Brother (?) Champlin committee to obtain further subscriptions to the parsonage.

Closed by prayer.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting April 1, 1837. Opened by prayer. Heard our covenant.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of John Keach with his desire to be Baptized. Resolved that he be received as a candidate for baptism and fellowship with us.

Heard the report of committee to settle with Elder Leach and procure further supplies as part of their report. Called on Elder Leach who remarked to the church that he was willing to continue with the church
longer but that under a view of the past unceasing labor the state of his own health and that of Mrs. Leach he viewed it duty to take a journey. He designed to go a journey soon, to be absent five Sabbaths, that he hoped to be able to procure supplies in his absence. But if he should fail for a part he should not expect to have it considered as (?) time by him. Deacon Crosby of the committee reported that in their interview with Elder Leach. He (Elder Leach) thought that having the use of the parsonage house and $30 for wood he could support his family with $400 salary. After the above statement and report Resolved that it is our desire that Elder Leach continue with us. (a full meeting and a unanimous expression on the above resolution). Brethren and sisters renewed covenant enjoyed an interesting season.

Closed by prayer.

David Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s day, April 2, 1837.
John Keach and Deborah Keach received the ordinance of baptism and the hand of fellowship of the church.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting April 6, 1837. Opened by prayer.

Heard a complaint presented by Brother E. M. Pettit against Brother J. Hempsted. Resolved to review the complaint. Brother Hempsted present, called upon. He says there is very little truth in the charges presented. After much deliberation appointed Brothers May, Randal, and Sweet a committee to visit Mrs. Young, with Brother Hempsted. Adjourned for one hour.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Opened by prayer heard report of committee. Resolved that Brother Hempsted had no moral or legal right to collect his demand of Mrs. Young. Resolved that Brother Hempsted is censurable for questioning the correctness of Brother Young’s a/c. Resolved that Brother Pettit’s 3rd charge is proved. Resolved that Brother Hempsted has satisfied the church on the 4th charge. Adjourned to Monday next at 1 o’clock PM.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting April 10, 1837. Opened by prayer.

After deliberation on the case of Brother Hempsted, on motion Resolved that we withdraw the hand of fellowship from Brother Jonathan Hempsted for unChristian conduct as in the charges preferred against him by Brother Pettit and his neglecting to satisfy the church.

Heard and adopted a series of resolutions which are on next page.

On request of Brother May resolved that Elder Leach, Deacon N. Crosby and [blank] be a committee to confer with him regarding the covenant of the church.

Closed by prayer.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

In church meeting April 19, 1837.

Where as it is the sentiment of this church that every Brother should pay equal proportion of the expenses of the church according to their ability to do so, therefore:

Resolved that we appoint three assessors which shall hold their office one year or until others shall be appointed in their place.

Resolved that every brother shall by the first day of May in each year give in writing the amount of his property as near as he can over and above paying his just debts to the said assessors or some one of them.

Resolved that it shall be the duty of the assessors on or before the first day of June in each year to make an assessment from the list of property received from each brother and their estimate of the same taking into the account their ability to pay, and shall deliver the assessment to the clerk of the church for the inspection of any who may wish to examine the same for the space of 20 days.

Resolved that if any Brother shall feel himself aggrieved by the assessment so made and shall within the said 20 days aforesaid make it known to the assessors, it shall then be the duty of said assessors to examine the complaint of said brother and make alterations as to them shall be thought just and equal.

Resolved that it shall be the duty of the assessors, before they shall have made out the assessment, to solicit and obtain from the members of the Society such as may be willing to contribute towards the expenses of the church, and such contributions if any collected shall be applied in the same manner as the assessment above mentioned.
Resolved that the assessors request the trustees of the Society on or before the first day of June in each year to make out and deliver to the said assessors a statement in writing of the probable expenses of the church the year ensuing, which statement so made out and approved by the said assessors or a majority of them shall be the amount which shall be collected for the year.

Resolved that if any Brethren shall neglect to deliver to the assessors a statement as aforesaid it shall be the duty of said assessors to make out their assessment from the best information they can obtain of their ability to pay and that all moneys that shall be raised by virtue of these resolutions shall be collected by quarterly installments.

Resolved that the trustees or assessors have no power by these resolutions to assess or raise any money, except for the express purpose of sustaining the preaching of the Gospel in the Church, and also repairing and keeping clean the meeting house, together with wood and lights for said House.

Resolved that these resolutions be recorded on the church book, and that Brethren Russell, Webster, Thos. G. Abell and P. L. Shephard be the assessors for the ensuing year.

Covenant meeting May 6, 1837. Opened by prayer. Brethren and sisters renewed covenant, enjoyed a pleasant season. Heard a letter recommending Br. Joseph B. Pixley and Charlotte his wife. Resolved that they be received to our fellowship. Closed by prayer.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church conference May 27, 1837. Meeting opened by prayer. Brethren and sisters enjoyed a pleasant interview together. Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Mrs. Sarah Dickinson with her desire for Baptism and membership with us. Resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism. Closed by prayer.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting June 3rd, 1837. Opened by prayer. Heard our articles of faith and practice and covenant. Brethren and sisters renewed covenant. Enjoyed a harmonious season. Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Mrs. Roxy Sarah Norton with her desire to be Baptized. Resolved that she be received as a candidate for the ordinance of Baptism and when Baptized to our fellowship.

On request resolved that we grant a letter of recommend and dismission to Br. Myron Frisbee. Church meeting appointed on Saturday next. Closed by prayer.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lords day June 4, 1837. Mrs. Sarah Dickinson and Roxy Sarah Norton received the ordinance of Baptism and hand of fellowship of the Church. Elder Boynton, Administrator.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting June 10, 1837. Opened by prayer. Deacon Crosby appointed Moderator. Resolved that Brother James Pettit be appointed assessor in place of Brother Shephard on account of Brother Shephard’s ill health, and that the assessors be prepared to report in 2 weeks. Resolved that we appoint a collector for the Church to hold the office one year, and that it is the duty of the Brethren to pay to said collector or give their notes for the amount when they have notice of an assessment being made out. Resolved that Brother John Saxton be collector for one year. Resolved that the trustees of the Society be authorized to make a loan of $300, by mortgaging the parsonage property to pay the expense of said property.

Heard a complaint against Brother A. Stoddard, presented by Brother S. May. (See complaint on file.) [Not found.] Resolved to review the complaint. Resolved that this difficulty be referred to a committee consisting of Brothers Crosby, Pettit, Abell, Elder Handy, and Brother Barrell. Adjourned to Tuesday next at 4 o’clock PM.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk
June 13th 1837. Church met agreeable to adjournment. Opened by prayer. Called on committee in the case of Brother Stoddard to report. See report on file. [Not found.] The church urged Brothers May and Stoddard to submit their matter of difficulty embraced in the 2nd charge to some three Brethren to decide. After much deliberation they agreed to submit the case to Brethren Daniel Saxton, Josiah More and Deacon Webster. Meeting Closed. D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting July 1, 1837. Meeting opened by Prayer. A full attendance of Brothers and Sisters renewed covenant. Heard letters recommending Sister Mary Williams, Sister Diana Douglass and Brother Philip Lion. Resolved that they be severally received to our fellowship. Closed by prayer. D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting July 11, 1837. Opened by prayer. Heard a partial report from the assessors, the substance of which was that they found difficulties in attending to their duties, and insurmountable obstacles to arriving at equality in the course pursued. Resolved that the trustees circulate subscription to raise the amount necessary for Elder Leach’s salary the present year. Heard a communication from Sister Benjamin and others complaining of Brother David Meder. Resolved that we receive the communication and appoint Deacons Webster, Buck, and Crosby a committee to adjust the above. Letters of dismissal granted to Sisters Lois Norton, Fidelia Webster, and Lydia Willoughby. Closed by prayer. D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting August 5, 1837. Opened by prayer. Heard a letter recommending sister Desdamona Otis. Resolved that she be received to our fellowship. On request letter of dismissal granted to Sister Celia Cole. Appointed Reverends B. N. Leach and Joy Handy, and Brethren N. Crosby, Z. Cushing, D. Barrell, J. Petitit and Henry Crosby as delegates to the association. Resolved that we invite the association to meet with us next year. Brothers and sisters renewed covenant enjoyed a pleasant season. Closed by prayer. D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting September 2, 1837. Opened by prayer. Heard and approved the letter to the association. On request granted a letter to Sister Winchester, the wife of Alpheus Winchester. Voted that we are in Favor of the formation of a Bible Society in this association auxiliary to the parent Society. Brethren and Sisters renewed Covenant. Enjoyed a pleasant season. Closed by prayer. D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, September 3rd 1837. Heard the Christian experience of Emeline Baldwin with her desire to be Baptized. Resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism. Proceeded to the water and the ordinance of Baptism was administered unto Emeline Baldwin and [blank] Stearns. D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church conference October 28, 1837. Opened by prayer. Enjoyed a pleasant season of Prayer and praise. Heard the relation of the Christian experience of Millicent Millen with her desire to be admitted to our fellowship. Resolved that she be received to our fellowship. (Note – Miss Millen was Baptized and in the connection with the free Will Baptist Church) Letters of dismissal granted to Brother Oliver Shumway and Sister Avis (Walker) Cotrell.
Heard a letter from Church in Northeast and Ripley requesting delegates from this Church to sit in council. Resolved that in answer to the above request we send our Pastor and Brothers Loving Crosby and James Pettit.
Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church conference November 25, 1837. Opened by prayer. Brother Daniel Cross was received to our fellowship on recommendation of his letter. A committee was appointed to investigate a matter of difference said to be in existence between Brethren S. May and P. L. Shephard. Committee consisted of Brethren R. Buck, J. Pettit and Thos. Osborn.
Enjoyed a very harmonious conference.
Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting December 3, 1837. Opened by prayer. Brethren and sisters renewed covenant. Enjoyed an interesting season at the close of which Brother P. L. Sheppard presented a complaint against Brother Stephen May. Heard the complaint as follows
Charges:
1st For taking the advantage of me in matters of deal.
2nd For unChristian conduct and language concerning the same.
3rd For commencing two suits in law against me contrary to direct rule of the gospel and of this church.
4 For harsh and unChristian language on the 2nd step of labor.
5 I complain in general in behalf of the church of Brother May for having [been] so frequent contentious with the Brethren of this church and thereby a disturber of the peace of Zion. For testimony to the last charge and his general deportment in the world I appeal to the church. (copy) [Original not found.]
Providence L. Sheppard.
After hearing the complaint and having evidence [of] the first and second steps of Labor had been attended, Resolved that we receive the above complaint. Resolved that a church meeting for business [be] held on Friday next at 1 o’clock PM.
Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting December 8, 1837. Opened by prayer. Called on committee appointed November 25 to investigate a difference existing between Brothers Sheppard and May. To report: Brother J. Pettit from said Committee reported that the committee had attended to the duties of their appointment. They found a difficulty existing between Brothers Sheppard and May regarding matters of deals(?). The latter had commenced two suits in law against the former. The result of their labors with them was (?) settlement of their accounts and a discontinuance of said suits, each feeling confident they made a sacrifice. Resolved that we receive the report of the committee [as] satisfactory and that they be discharged.
Proceeded to call up the subject of the complaint by Brother Sheppard against Brother May. Brother May objected to the first charge, saying that [it was] not embraced in the steps of Labor. On Hearing Testimony of the second laborers, Resolved that the first charge be dropped. Heard remarks and evidence on the second charge. Proved that Brother May had charged Brother Sheppard with (?). Resolved that the second charge be sustained. The business of the above difficulty suspended.
Heard the following complaint presented by Brother Pattison against Brother Jacob Morian. 1st That sometime last spring he told Mr. Gray that he had [purchased] a farm formerly owned by Mr. Huchison (?) ordering him to take [his] Cattle away and uses rough language. Alleges that this statement by Mr. Morian to Mr. Gray was untrue.
2nd That he told Mr. Wood that Brother Pattison had sold some to Mr. Gray some (?). [Alleges] also was untrue.
3rd. That in his testimony before Esq. Tiff he stated in regard to [text missing] (drawn by Brother Pattison near his house) that said timber was [text missing] Mr. (?), and that he did not know the cattle. [Alleges he] did know the cattle.
4. That at the time Mr. Williams hired Brother Pattison [text missing] Dunkirk last summer Brother Morian treated [text missing] and unChristianlike manner, shaking his fist and [text missing] angrily that he must pay him money that [text missing].
5. That since laboring with Brother Morian for these offenses he has railed on him profanely calling him a liar and (?)

I do certify that I have privately labored with Brother Morian for the above offenses, but without success.
(coppy) Hyram Pattison [Original not found.]

On hearing the above complaint, together with evidence of the second labor (Brothers Lyon and Hamilton 2nd Laborers) resolved that we receive the above complaint.

The complaint against Brother May resumed. The 3rd charge Brother May admitted the charge as correct and justified the act for two reasons, 1st because it was a case in which legal questions were involved, and could not be settled in any other way and 2nd because a precedent was established in the church that no wrong was committed for one member to sue another. Brother May discussed the subject in his defense at length, was admonished once by the Church, of being in error, in charging Brother Sheppard in very strong terms, of being in fault. After which it was (?) that we view the present as an ordinary case entirely within the jurisdiction of the church insasmuch Brother May had made no effort to adjust the difficulty by taking [the steps of] labor as the gospel directs.

Resolved that we adjourn until Monday next at (?) o’clock.

Adjourned by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting December 11, 1837. Agreeable to adjournment opened by prayer.

Heard a report from Brother J. Pettit appointed to collect arrears for 1836. Resolved that we accept the report as satisfactory. On hearing a statement from Brother T. G. Abell of the amount he had paid (?), Resolved that he be released from any further payment on arrears for 1836. Resolved that Brothers J. Hilton and J. Saxton be a committee to visit such brethren as have declined to pay the amount due from them.

Adjourned to 1 o’clock this PM. Met agreeable to adjournment. Prayer by Brother Pettit.

Called up the case of Brother Morian. 1st charge not admitted. The 1st charge was waived on account of some differences of opinion in regard to the testimony offered to prove the charge. 2nd charge withdrawn. 3rd charge proven by E. P. Beckwith, together with some statements from Brother L. Crosby. After many remarks the case deferred until next church meeting. Heard a statement from Brother Saxton, asserting that Brother Morian had taken a stove away from the meeting house belonging to Brother Abell and also a quantity of stove pipe belonging to the meeting house and disposed of it to a Mr. Druse. Brother M. being present denied having sold the stove. Resolved that Brother Saxton associate with the trustees to enquire into the matter and report next church meeting.

Called up the case of Brother May. From the statement of the Brethren on the second step of labor it was shown that the 4th charge was so far sustained as that Brother May said that Brother Sheppard had lied, and in other very insignificant language, toward Brother Sheppard behaved unChristianlike. Resolved that the 4th charge is sustained. Resolved that the 5th charge or appeal be dropped and adjourned until Friday next at 1 o’clock PM.

Adjourned by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Friday December 15, 1837. Church meeting agreeable to adjournment. Opened by prayer and praise. The case of Brother May resumed. Brother May presented testimony to prove circumstances to justify his suing Brother Sheppard. Richard Barber testifies that he went with Brother May to see the damage done at one time to Brother May’s crops by Brother Sheppard’s cattle or hogs, a year ago last fall, that Brother Sheppard refused to leave it out to men to say what the damage was. Brother May was mild and calm. Brother Sheppard appeared angry that Brother Sheppard did not (?) all his fence as per Esq. Tucker’s statement he agreed to last spring. Brother May made lengthy remarks, at the close of which he protested (and wished it so recorded) against any member who had taken any part, pro or con, in the investigation of this matter from voting on the question, after which he submitted his case to the church. Subsequently Brother May made remarks on the 4th charge as follows, viz. that if he said Brother Sheppard lied as the laboring Brethren testify it was wrong. He would (?) it in any body (?).
The case of Brother Morian brought up again. Heard remarks from Brother Ebenzer Baldwin in regard to the integrity of Mr. Outhout. He (Mr. B) did not consider him a man of truth.

The case of Brother May resumed. Brethren May and Sheppard and others present not members of the Church requested to withdraw. After remarks from Brethren it was resolved that Brother May is censurable for denying that he said that Brother Sheppard had lied on the 1st Step of labor, inasmuch as if proven by two Brethren that he admitted to them that he did say so at that time. Resolved that Brother May is censurable for saying in his defense that among all his difficulties in the church he had never been the aggressor. Resolved that the deportment of Brother May while this subject has been pending is censurable in his frequent harsh epithets and language about Brother Sheppard and others. Resolved that the remarks of Brother May concerning the fourth charge are not satisfactory to the church. Resolved that we require of Brother May Christian satisfaction in reference to the resolutions of the church. Resolved that the moderator present to Brother May a copy of the resolutions of the church and inform him what the church will expect from him.

The committee appointed to enquire about the stove taken from the meeting house called on to report (see report on file) not found resolved that Brother Morian is highly guilty of immoral conduct and censurable from the church. Resolved that we withdraw the hand of fellowship from Jacob Morian for his conduct in this transaction for his denying that he had sold the stove, when he had sold it, and for his total neglect to attend to it when he saw a notice concerning it in the newspaper, and for his neglect to satisfy the church concerning it.

Resolved to adjourn to Friday next at 1 o’clock PM. Prayer by the moderator.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting December 22nd. 1837. Opened by prayer.

Heard remarks from Elder Leach as a report of his labors in accordance with his appointment to visit Br. May. He had an interview with Br. May found him convinced that his course pursued was wrong. (?) Heard from Br. May at length. He (?) the church that he now saw that his whole course [with] regard to this transaction was wrong. He had no been influenced by the Spirit of the Gospel. He has acted wrong, felt wrong and talked wrong. Heard a full account from Br. May of his exercises for the week past. He confesses his fault for his conduct in this affair. Resolved that we receive the confession of Br. May as satisfactory to the church.

Heard from May and also from Br. Sheppard that there was a difference between them in matter [of the] deal and each expressed a willingness to submit it to Brethren appointed by the Church to adjust. The moderator named, and they were appointed as follows to be said committee, viz. Brs. James Pettit, Benjamin Randall, and [crossed out] Josiah Moore, and Z. Cushing.

Whereas there have been statements made [at] church meeting derogatory to the character [of] Br. Hiram Pattison. Resolved that Brm. J. Hamilton, Loving Crosby and Graphen Sweet be a committee to enquire into the moral and religious character of Br. Pattison and report to the church.
Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting January 6, 1838. Opened by prayer and praise. Brethren and sisters renewed covenant, a large number present and much interest manifested.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Margaret Burnell with her desire to be Baptized. Resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism.

Heard letters recommending Sister Anna Mead, and Sister Aurelia Cotton and Brethren Elisha Cotton and Thomas Sweet. Resolved that they be received to our fellowship.

Resolved that we as a church feel called upon to make an extra effort in labor for the advancement of the cause of Christ among us.

Heard in part the report of referees in the matter between Brethren Sheppard and May. Committee report accepted and they discharged. Matter deferred.
Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church conference January 13, 1838. Opened by prayer. After a season of prayer and conference, heard a relation of the Christian experience of Mrs. [blank] McDonald and [crossed out]Margaret Aikins and Sally
M. Tyler with their desire to be Baptized and received to our fellowship. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism.

Heard remarks from Brother P. L. Sheppard confessing his faults in matters relating to the difficulty with Brother May. Resolved that the confession of Brother Sheppard is satisfactory to the church.

Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting February 3rd, 1838. Opened by prayer.

After enjoying a season of prayer, heard our articles of covenant. Brethren and sisters reviewed covenant, a very large number present so that but a small part only could free their minds.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Mrs. Hannah Wilcox, Miss Eveline Pier, Harriet Perry and Sally Ann Higgins with an expression of their desire to be Baptized and received to our fellowship.

Resolved individually that they be received as candidates for Baptism and when Baptized, received to our fellowship.

Heard a communication from the church at Laona, also several Brethren from that church were present and expressed their minds. See communication on file. Not found. Resolved that so far as this church is concerned we most cordially correspond in feeling with the sentiments expressed by our dear Brethren at Laona.

Resolved that Brethren Guild, Stoddard, J. Saxton, Flint, and Isherwood be a standing committee to provide a place and attend to the necessary arrangements for the ordinance of baptism.

Appointed Elder Leach and Brethren Guild, Joseph Sweet, and such other Brethren as can attend as delegates to the Bible Society to be held at Mayville on Wednesday next.

Closed this highly interesting season by Prayer and Praise.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Lord’s day February 4, 1838. The following candidates received the ordinance of Baptism, viz. Hannah Wilcox, Eveline Pier, and Sally Ann Higgins who together with those Baptized previous received the hand of fellowship of the church.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church conference February 10, 1838.

Letter of dismission granted to Brethren E. M. Pettit, his wife and daughter, also to Brother Ora Winsor and wife.

Received a recommendation from Brethren at Laona desiring this church to advise them on some points of interest to them in their advancement.

Resolved that we appoint a committee consisting of our Pastor Elder Leach, Deacons Crosby and Buck and Brethren Cushing, Pettit, Johnson and Cornell to confer with and advise those Brethren agreeable to their request. Said committee will meet at Brother Cushing’s on Friday next to confer with Brethren from Laona.

Resolved that we have a church meeting for business on Monday 19th instant at o’clock PM. The above record handed me by Brethren Guild and Br. Buck, I being prevented from attending by sickness.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting February 19, 1838. Opened by prayer.

Called on committee appointed to enquire into the reputation of Brother Hiram Pattison. They report that from those whose statements could be relied on they are informed that he has practiced dishonestly in his deal among his neighbors and that since their appointment by the church he has gone away in a clandestine manner. Resolved to receive the report as satisfactory and discharge the committee. Resolved that on the above report of our committee we withdraw the hand of fellowship from Brother Hiram Pattison.

Heard from Brother Johnson that he had in his hands certain papers regarding the report of the referees to whom was submitted the difficulty between Brethren Sheppard and May, and that Brother May declines to accept the papers or execute a receipt presented for him to sign. Brother Johnson asks what he shall do in the case. Resolved that Brother Johnson again present these papers and ask Brother May to sign the receipt and tell him that he is sent by the church to have this business finished.
Called on committee appointed to investigate the complaint against Brother D. Meder to report. Heard their report in part (verbal). Resolved that the same committee continue and investigate the matter of difficulty.

Heard further from committee appointed to visit delinquents in paying their average. Heard also from Brother L. Crosby and Brother C. Davison (delinquents) that they are willing to pay and do all they should do in their circumstances.

Heard remarks from Elder Leach regarding his [feeling], about continuing pastor of the church. He closed his remarks by asking a disclaimer from the church and have his labors close in April next. Resolved that we appoint a committee to confer with Elder Leach on his request and also to look for supplies for the desk and that Deacon Crosby, Brethren J. Z. Saxton, A. C. Guild, D. Barrell, and T. G. Abell be said committee.

Heard the report of committee appointed to confer with the Church at Laona. The committee met the Brethren from that Church, enjoyed a pleasant and harmonious meeting. Committee advised them as they were able. That church look to us for council and aid.

Closed by prayer.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church conference February 24, 1838. Opened by prayer.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Mrs. Eliza Foster and Rice Berry with their desire to be Baptized. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting March 3, 1838. Enjoyed a season of prayer. Heard our articles of faith and practice and covenant.

Heard a letter commending Sister Sarah L. Robinson and another commending Sister Achsah Ann Saxton. Resolved that they be received to our fellowship.

Heard a communication from Eli Webster confessing his fault in stopping his travel with the church. Resolved that he be restored to our fellowship. Resolved that Brother Eli Webster and Jerusha his wife have letters of dismission from this church.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Jane Langford, Harriet Langford, Betsy Norcutt, James Norton Jr., Russell Clark, and Isaac Bartholomew, with their desire to be Baptized and received to our fellowship. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism and when Baptized received to our fellowship.

Letters of dismission granted to Alexander King and family.

Heard report of committee to confer with Elder Leach on his request. Resolved by request of Elder Leach our beloved Pastor we grant him a letter of dismission from his pastoral labors about the 1st of April next.

Closed by prayer.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting March 12, 1838. Opened by prayer.

Heard in part the report (see report on file) [not found] of committee to enquire into the complaint against Brother D. Meeder. Resolved that the same committee continue and investigate the matter of difficulty.

Heard from Brother Johnson that agreeable to the requirements of the Church he had called on Brother May and requested him to accept the papers and sign the receipt according to the decision of the arbitrators. Brother May refused to comply with the request until he should see the Church together and have an opportunity to make some communications to the church. Brother May being present, he gave his receipt to Brother Sheppard and accepted his note as a final settlement of [text missing] the deal between them. Brother May asked a letter of dismission of the church. Motion to grant a letter was lost a majority voting against it. Brother May read a lengthy communication to the church (which see on file). [Not found.]

Closed by prayer.

David Barrell, Church Clerk

Church and society meeting March 19, 1838. Opened by prayer.

Committee appointed by the church to look for supplies for the desk, and the Trustees of the Society, stated that the object of the meeting was to ascertain the minds of the Church and Society in regard to inviting Reverend Ira F. Bishop to supply the desk. They had invited him to stay the week previous and an
opportunity had been presented for many of the society to hear him preach [at that time?]. After an interchange of views the committee waited on Elder Bishop and after they returned they reported that they had invited Elder Bishop to remain with us as pastor of this church and that we would raise a salary of $500 per year for his support. The invitation was for a time indefinite. On motion resolved that we approve the doings of our committee and that we sustain them in the invitation given to Elder Bishop.

Meeting closed.

D. Barrell, Clerk of Church and Society


Heard a relation of the Christian experience [of] Brother [blank] Randall together with testimony from [the] Church Clerk at Whitesboro that he had been Baptized into the fellowship of the church several years ago. Br. Randall confessed his fault and wanderings a long time past and desired that he may have a place with this church. Resolved that he be received to our fellowship.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Chas. H. Crosby, Mary Hudson, Mariah ?, Abigail More, Welty Monroe, Jane Crosby, Susan Crosby, William Turrell, Jeremiah Clark, Ressalas Dickinson, with their desire to be baptized and received to our fellowship. Resolved that they be received as candidates for baptism.

Letters of dismission granted to Reverand B. N. Leach and wife, Chloe Ann Barber, Rebecca Meder, Alice Blake, Melissa Stewart, and John Webber.

Closed by prayer.

David Barrell, Church Clerk

Reverend I. F. Bishop assumed the pastoral charge of the church and received the hand of fellowship from Reverend B. N. Leach. March 29, 1838.

David Barrell, Clerk

Church meeting April 4, 1838. Opened by prayer.

Heard from Elder Leach that he had not settled with the trustees the balance his due something over $200.

Heard a communication from Brother P. Lyon. Appointed Brethren J. Pettit, B. Randall, and James Hamilton a committee to answer to the letter.

Committee to investigate the complaint against Brother D. Meder not prepared to report. Brethren N. Crosby and R. Buck released from the above committee and Brethren J. Champlin and D. Saxton substituted.

Heard remarks from Brother May, but without any decision in his case.

Meeting closed by prayer.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting April 11, 1838. Opened by prayer.

The case of Brother May called up. Heard remarks at great length from him. He confessed he had done wrong in preferring charges against the Church. He is sorry and asks the church to forgive him. Motioned and seconded that we are not satisfied with the confession of Brother May. Motion lost. On motion resolved that Brother May be restored to the fellowship of the church.

Heard report of committee to visit Brother Lyon. Committee are satisfied that reports circulated [derogatory] to the Christian character of Brother Lyon are [not] well founded. He solicits the pecuniary aid [from] the Church, also asks license to preach. Resolved that Brother Sheppard solicit and receive aid for Brother Lyon.

Resolved that we give Brother Lyon license to [present] his gift in Preaching. The committee above named to visit him discharged.

Closed by prayer.

David Barrell, Church Clerk

Church conference April 21, 1838.

Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Mrs. Roxy Morgan with her desire to be Baptized and received to our fellowship. Resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism.

Letter of dismission granted to Sister Harriet Perry.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church conference April 28, 1838. Opened by prayer. Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Joel Greene, [blank] Greene, Mrs [blank] Orton, and Eliza Burton with their desire to be Baptized. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting May 5, 1838. Received letters from Sister Churches recommending Sisters Ann Mattison, Esther Geer, and Brother Nathaniel Hubbard and Wife. Resolved that they be received to the fellowship of this church. Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Roswel B. Morgan, Edwards Hewes, Relief Howe, Elizabeth Adams, and Marian Cheshire. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism. Resolved that Brother Aaron Osborn and Permelia his wife be considered as members of this church. Resolved that Brother Pixley be requested to establish a Sabbath School at Harmon Hill, and labor there as God in his providence may open the door.

N. Crosby, Clerk Protem

Church conference May 19 heard the Christian experience of Silas F. Baker, Willis Weed, Joanna E. Phillips, Chloe Patterson, Emily Edmunds and Harriett Venness. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting June 30, 1838. Opened by prayer. Heard a request from conference at North East, PA requesting a delegation from this church to sit in council with them with a view to fellowship as a Church. Resolved that our Pastor and Deacons Webster and Brethren Norton and Pixley be said delegates. Suggestions were made to the church that Brother Joel Greene had greatly erred and given occasion for remarks against his religious character. On motion Resolved that Brethren Buck, Guild and Pettit be a committee to visit and admonish Brother Greene of his fault. Heard and renewed our covenant. Heard the Christian experience of Miss Eunice Guest, Philinda Adams, Chloe Ann Wilbur and Hannah Sumner with their desire to be Baptized. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism. Sister Phelps received to our fellowship on the testimony of Sister Forbes, her letter having been lost. Letter from 1st church Greene Chenango, Co. Received by letter Sister Sarah Mattison. Resolved to observe in a religious manner the approaching anniversary of our independence and that Brethren J. More, J. Z. Saxton, J. Saxton, T. G. Abell, and A. C. Guild be a committee of arrangements. Received on relation of her experience Mrs. Angeline Parsons as candidate for Baptism.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Special church meeting July 4, 1838. Committee to visit Brother Greene. Report no satisfaction. Resolved to review the report and discharge the committee. Resolved that we hear Brother Greene. After deliberation, Resolved that whereas Brother Greene has been repeatedly overtaken in the use of ardent spirits, also the use of profane swearing, all due means has been taken to reclaim him, and cause him to abandon the use of ardent spirits, but without success. Resolved that we withdraw the hand of fellowship from him for the above offenses. Appointed a committee to visit Brother W. Weed to reclaim him from outbreaking sins. (?) Brethren G. Sweet, and Pettit. Appointed Brethren Porter and Champlin to visit Brethren C. Davison and A. Parker for absenting themselves from communion. Heard the report of committee to visit Brother Meder in regard to complaint preferred against him. Accepted the report. Committee discharged. Resolved that Brother Saxton copy the above report and write to Brother Meder on the subject. Resolved that Brother Hewes be a committee to circulate subscription for Elder Bishop’s support and report the names of those who decline signing.
Resolved that Brother A. C. Guild have one dollar fifty cents for each slip for cleaning and lighting the house, wood, (?) for one year.
J. Saxton, Clerk Pro tem

Church meeting July 7, 1838. Opened by prayer.
Called on committee to visit Brother W. Weed. They report that he was last seen at Dunkirk, Drunk. Resolved that we withdraw the hand of fellowship from W. Weed for intemperance and immoral conduct and that this act of the church be publicly announced from the desk.
Sister Porter appointed to visit Sister Caroline Whitney to inquire after certain reports regarding her conduct.
Called on committee to visit Brethren Davison and Parker. Report accepted so far as regards Brother Parker, reported no farther.
Resolved that Brother Cushing and Buck be committee to unite with the trustees of society and advise with Elder Bishop regarding his secular affairs and with reference to assisting him to go east for his family. Adjourned.
J. Saxton, Clerk Pro tem

Covenant meeting August 4, 1838. Prayer and praise.
Heard a letter recommending sister Alena Bishop. Resolved that she be received to our fellowship.
Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Mrs. Samantha Cogswell with her desire to be Baptized also a letter from the Presbyterian Church in this village recommending her as a member in good standing.
Resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism and membership with us.
Heard from Brother More remarks in regard to the Sabbath School in which he declines to act as Superintendent longer.
Appointed Elder Bishop and Brethren Guild, Barrell, Woodruff, J. Saxton, Johnson, and Pixley a committee to reorganize and arrange the Sabbath School.
Closed.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Special church meeting August 25, 1838. Opened by prayer and praise.
Resolved to appoint a committee to investigate the case of L. M. Randall and that Brethren Cushing and Buck be said committee.
Resolved to appoint a committee to enquire into [reports] concerning Sister Maria E. Lewis and that Brethren Pettit, Buck, and Stoddard be said committee.
Resolved to receive Charles Pettit as candidate for the ordinance of Baptism (relation of experience [given]).
Resolved that we appoint, in addition to (?) Deacons Webster and Buck and Brethren Barrell, J. Z. Saxton, (?), and Pettit as delegates to sit in association to represent this church. Resolved that Brethren Barrell, Stoddard, and Norton be a committee of arrangements to provide for the entertainment of delegates to the association and that Brethren (?) Saxton, J. Porter and E. Flint be a committee to provide for the care of the horses as delegates come in.
Resolved that Brother Pixley have an opportunity to present his Gift before the church and improve in preaching.
Closed by prayer.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting September 8, 1838.
1. Called on Committee to visit Maria E. Lewis to report. They had visited her, she utterly and totally denies the truth of the reports derogatory to her character. Resolved that the report be received as satisfactory so far and that the committee investigate the matter further.
2. Called on the committee to visit Brother L. M. Randall. Report accepted. Committee instructed to call on Brother Randall to come before the church and make explanation.
3. Resolved that Sister Hamilton be on the committee with Sister Porter to visit Sister Caroline Whitney.
4. Resolved that Brethren More and Cushing be a committee to visit Brother Bliss Willoughby for absenting himself.
5. Resolved that Brother Pettit be a committee to visit absenting Brethren.
6. Resolved that the clerk write letters to Brethren Ladd and Davis.

Church meeting September 22nd, 1838.
1. Appointed Brother J. Z. Saxton and Brother Buck to visit Jerome Saxton and enquire in regard to reports.
2. Appointed Brethren A. Stoddard and J. Hilton a committee to visit Brother D. Loomer.
3. Appointed Brethren A. Stoddard and J. Norton Jr. a committee to seat strangers.
4. Resolved that Brethren Buck and John son be a committee to visit Sister Munford.
5. Heard favorable remarks from Brethren Hubbard and Thompson in regard to Brother Pixley preaching.
6. Resolved that Brother Pixley has the approbation of the church to improve for the further satisfaction of the church under their direction.

T. G. Abell, Clerk Pro tem

Church meeting October 8, 1838.
Appointed A. C. Barrell, Clerk Pro tem
1. Heard the records of the 2 last meetings.
2. The case of Sister Lewis called up. Passed.
3. The case of Brother Randall. No further information. The committee in this case discharged.
4. The case of Sister C. Whitney. The committee report that they had visited her, but could get not satisfaction, disposition to retract, and justifies her course. Does not deny attending balls. Thinks she should repeat the same thing, should an opportunity present. Resolved that the report be accepted and committee discharged. Resolved that we as a church withdraw the hand of fellowship from Miss Caroline Whitney and that the clerk notify her of the same.
5. The case of Brother Willoughby called up but no report.
6. Committee to visit Brother Jerome Saxton not prepared to report.
7. Committee to visit Brother Corwin continued.
8. Resolved that we give Brother Justus Brooks and wife letters of dismission.
9. Committee in the case of Sister Munford continued and Brother Saxton added to that committee.
10. Committee to visit Brother Loomer report that they have visited him, that he says he belongs to the Methodist church, and (B) did not wish to hold a standing anywhere. Report of committee accepted and they discharged. Resolved that we withdraw the hand of fellowship from Darias Loomer for obstinate neglect of the church.
11. A report was communicated by Brother Johnson concerning Brother Shumway. Appointed Brethren Johnson and Barrell a committee to enquire into his case and report.
12. Committee in the case of Brother Meder report that they have visited him but nothing satisfactory. Resolved that Brother Saxton write Brother Meder that a special church meeting will be held for his case 4 weeks from next Wednesday at 1 o’clock PM.
13. Brother Guild introduced the old arrearages of the Church, [and] talk was had upon it, but nothing done.
14. Resolved that Brethren Cushing, Webster and Pettit be a committee to visit Father Adams.
15. Resolved that Brethren D. Barrell, T. G. Abell, A. Stoddard, Z. Cushing and E. Johnson be (?) committee to make arrangements for sustaining sacred music in the church.

Closed by prayer.
A. C. Barrell, Clerk Pro tem

Covenant meeting October 6, 1838.
Heard from Brethren and sisters, after which Mrs. [blank] Mabbitt gave a relation of her Christian experience and expressed her desire to be Baptized and united with us. Resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism.
Heard a relation of the Christian experience of Miss Emeline Webster (aged 13), which was very satisfactory to the church and on motion resolved that she be received as a candidate for baptism.
Letter of dismission granted to sister Margaret Burnell.

October 20, 1838.
Church conference.
Heard a relation of the Christian expression of Lemuel Webster. Resolved that he be received as a candidate for Baptism.
Heard the Christian experience of Mr. [blank] Benjamin with his desire to be Baptised. Resolved that he be received as a candidate for Baptism.
Letter of dismission granted to Sister Sarah Mack.

Church conference October 27, 1838.
On the relation of the Christian experience of Roswell W. Fitch, Resolved that he be received as a candidate for Baptism.
D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Covenant meeting November 3, 1838. Opened by prayer.
Heard the covenant and remarks from Brethren and sisters after which heard a relation of the Christian experience of Mrs. Rowland Porter, John Porter, Maria (?), Charlotte Mabbitt, Ruth Mabbitt, and Ann Martin with their desire to be Baptized and received to our fellowship. Resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism.
Resolved to defer the church meeting for business one week from next Wednesday.
Closed by prayer.
David Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting November 14, 1838. After prayer appointed J. Saxton Clerk Pro tem
1. Minutes of last meeting read.
2. Committee to visit Brother Jerome Saxton report that they had visited him and found him indisposed to say much on the subject of misconduct. Also the Committee have learned from Mr. Bosworth that Jerome has been detected in taking things which were not his own. Report of committee received and committee discharged. Resolved that Brethren Buck and Webster be a committee to make further effort to reclaim Brother Jerome.
3. In the Case of Brother Willoughby, Committee not prepared to report.
4. Committee regarding Brother Corwin continued.
5. Committee in the case of Sister Mumford discharged on learning she was not a member of this Church but had been excluded from Portland church.
6. Committee in the case of Brother D. Meder, report no satisfaction. Resolved to withdraw the hand of church fellowship from David Meder for refusing to hear the church.
7. Committee in the case of Brother Shumway continued.
8. Committee appointed visit Father Adams continued.
9. Appointed Brethren Elder Bishop, Pettit, Cushing, Randall, Barrell, and Johnson a committee to revise our articles of faith and practice and covenant for publication.
10. Appointed Brethren Randall and Johnson a committee to get our articles of covenant printed.
11. Appointed Brother J.Z. Saxton a committee to call on Brother May and enquire the reason of his long absence from the church and admonish him to his duty.
Adjourned for one week.
J. Z. Saxton, Clerk Pro tem

Church meeting November 21, 1838. Opened by prayer.
Heard the records of last church meeting.
Resolved that the committee in the case of Brother Shumway be discharged as Brother S. had united with Portland church.
Heard the report of Committee concerning Brother Jerome Saxton. They reported (one of them) that they had visited him and Brother J. said it was his duty and wanted [io] be his privilege to confess to the church. Received the report of Committee thus far. Committee continued.
Committee to visit Brother Justus Adams report they had visited him. He confessed his error to committee. Brother Adams being present confessed he had done wrong in being angry. Resolved that we receive the confession of Father Adams as satisfactory and that the committee be discharged.
Brother Willoughby being present remarked that he has seldom attended with the church. He lives remote and his health poor and he has not met with the church as often as he desired to. He regards the cause of
religion with interest and the church as a desirable home. Resolved that the remarks of Brother Willoughby are satisfactory and that the committee be discharged.

Heard remarks at length from Brother May in regard to the reasons of his not traveling with the church. One reason was he had never had knowledge of the disposition of his difficulty last spring. Resolved that we as a Church, if we were in error in not notifying Brother May that we confess that error to Brother May and remove it out of the way. On the question being asked Brother May whether he was now ready to resume his travel with the church, he answered he was not. That there were certain things which had grown out of that difficulty last winter which he must have settled before he can travel with the church. His difficulty was not with the church. Resolved that committee to visit Brother May be discharged.

Closed by prayer.

D. Barrell, Church Clerk

Church meeting December 21, 1838. Prayer by Elder Bishop.

1. Resolved that Brother John Saxton be assistant Church Clerk.
2. Heard a written complaint from Brother J. Z. Saxton against Brother A. Stoddard. Complaint received by the church. Brother Stoddard admitting the 2nd steps of labor. Resolved that we appoint a committee on the above complaint and that Brethren Z. Cushing, J. Pettit, J. More, B. Cornell and B. Randall be said committee.
3. Resolved that Brethren E. Johnson, J. Z. Saxton, and R. Buck be a committee for the church to hear complaint of Brother S. May against the church.
4. Resolved that Brother Barrell and Pettit be a committee to enquire into reports derogatory to the Christian deportment of Brethren R. Dickinson and L. B. Wheeler.

Closed.

B. Randall, Clerk Pro tem

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 complaints 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 assistant Being absent the above handed in by J.B. Pixley.

D. Barrell, Clerk

Church 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 ¾ 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


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
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.

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 Resolved that 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, wherein, 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 LaHalt, 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 Mil
er. 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 dismission.

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 Windsor 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 (?)

12th 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. Coughes’ 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 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 dismission 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

1st Resolved by the church that the confessions of Brothers Forbes and Fitch is satisfactory.
2nd Resolved that letters of dismission 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 dismission 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.


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 report (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 Aurna Buck reported that they would advise the church to drop or excommunicate him for immoral conduct. (Brother Buck not present.)

7th Resolved that Brother Aurna 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.
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) lay 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 disclaimer 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 Alford 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 convenant 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 dismission 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 dismission 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 dismission 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 dismission and commendation.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk


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.

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 dismission and commendation.
2nd Resolved that Brother Orange Mott have a letter of dismission 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 (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 dismission 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, Pettit, 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.
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 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

January 4, 1840. Church met in covenant meeting. Opened by prayer and Praise. The Brethren and sisters in the relation of their travel and exercises seemed to feel their unworthiness and a desire to be more faithful.
Brother Stephen P. **Williams** presented a letter of commendation from the Baptist church in Conventry, Chenango County, with a request to unite with this church, whereupon resolved that Brother **Williams** be received.

The clerk presented and read a letter notifying the church that the (?) and Brethren had called upon Sister churches to meet in council through their delegates at this place on the 15th instant. Letter signed by Brothers James **Pettit**, John **Saxton**, and Mr. David **Barrell** (see letter on File) [Not found.]

Closed by prayer.

L.G. **Grant**, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day January 5, 1840. The church being assembled in the Basement resolved ourselves in to a special church meeting.

Resolved that the clerk present to the (?) council to be convened on the 15th instant (as per notice of Brethren **Pettit**, **Saxton**, and Mr. **Barrell** of the 4th instant). Upon the said council being organized, the proposition and correspondence made and had with the committee of the aggrieved brethren from November 15th.

Closed by prayer.

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

Lord’s Day January 5th 1840. Church as usual assembled in communion. The covenant not having been read at covenant meeting was then presented and read.

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

Church assembled by request of the clerk in the Basement January 16, 1840. After having resolved ourselves into special church meeting, Resolved that Br. **Cornwell** be Moderator.

Resolved that Elder **Bishop**, Brethren D. **Saxton** and **Grant** be a committee to confer with a committee of the aggrieved in pursuance of a resolution passed the 15th instant by the (?) Council (see resolution on file).

[Not found.]

The following resolution was then read and almost unanimously adopted. Whereas the church having failed in their effort reconsidered by the (?) council for a Mutual Council, out of said council and their former propositions, not yet having been accepted, therefore resolved that the church propose still for their acceptance, the proposition of Nov. 20 or if they choose the following, viz. that the committee of the church and the committee of the aggrieved (?) mutually select 12 churches in our denomination without regard to location to which churches neither party may have any objection, to send their Pastor and one Lay Brother. Both parties to confine themselves to the declarations neutrally interchanged this day.

Resolved that the aforesaid resolution be presented before the (?) Council.

Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

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

The proposition passed as above was by the clerk read before the (?) Council on the same day. The (?) Council then went into secret sessions and finally the committee of the church, viz. Elder **Bishop** and the Clerk were invited to meet with the committee of the aggrieved and the committee appointed by the council, viz. Elders Galusha, Elliot, and Leach whereupon the committee of the church were notified of their proposition. In regard to the mutual selection of 12 churches was by the committee of the aggrieved accepted, whereupon the committee of the church chose

Elder Galusha of Baptist Church, Perry

“**Elliott**” ““LaGrange, Genessee

“**Winsor**” ““Cassadaga

“**Sirain**(?)” ““Clymer

“**Rathbone**” ““Ashville

“**Stoddard**” ““Busti

The committee of the aggrieved chose

Elder **Ewel**(?) of the Baptist church, Pavillion

“**Clark**” ““Leroy

“**Scofield**” ““Gerry and Charlotte

“**Dodge**” ““Mayville

“**Chapin**” ““Jamestown

“**Templeton**” ““Aurora
The committee of the church and the committee of the aggrieved then stipulated to abide the result of the decision, vacancies to be filled in the same manner as the selection of churches to meet on the 29th instant.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s day January 19, 1840. Church assembled in the basement in pursuance of notice given from the desk. Opened by prayer.
1st Resolved ourselves into special church meeting.
2nd Resolved that sister Charlotte Pixley have a letter of dismission and commendation.
3rd Resolved that there be a committee of arrangements in reference to the approaching council and that Brethren Moore, Stoddard, Armstrong, May, Forbes, and R. Webster be said committee.
4th Resolved that there be a committee appointed to collect and arrange testimony not yet obtained necessary to be presented before the council and that Brethren D. Saxton, Miller, Taylor, Hilton and J. Porter be said committee.
Dissolved. Closed by prayer.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day February 2nd 1840. In consequence of the church having to attend upon business communicated with the Council on Saturday there was no covenant meeting, therefore a notice was given by the clerk that the church would assemble in the basement after remarks upon the propriety of putting over the administration of the Lord’s supper and also after prayer. Resolved that the administration of the Lord’s Supper be put over until the first Sabbath in March.
Closed by prayer.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s day February 7, 1840. Elder Bishop Publicly tender his resignation of his charge (see his resignation on file) [Not found.]
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s day February 9, 1840. Church assembled in the basement in accordance with request from the clerk. Resolved that the members of the church in regular travel meet on Wednesday the 12 instant at one o’clock P.M. to confer with each other in reference to our matters of difficulty.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church met in special church meeting in presence of Resolution passed February 9.
Chose Brother D. Saxton as Moderator.
1st Resolved that the result of Council be read after the reading of the same a motion was made by Brother Moore and seconded by Brother Thompson to adopt the same.
The motion was put and lost.
Brethren Moore, Earl B. Thompson, Bailey, Armstrong, R. Morgan, Bartholomew, and David Sweet, and Sisters (?) and Moore, voting in the affirmative and a large member say from 50 to 60 voting n the negative.
Before the vote as above was taken Elder Bishop read a document in reference to the different points upon which he was censured by the Council (see said document on file). [Not found.]
Many remarks were also read in reference to the decision of the Council.
Elder Bishop read his letter to the church that was presented and read February 9 resigning his pastoral charge.
The clerk read a communication from Br. D. Barrell dated February 10th (see letter on file). [Not found.]
2nd Resolved that the church postpone the acceptance of the resignation of their Pastor until (?) by the church.
3rd Resolved that next week on Thursday the church and its aggrieved members meet at 10 o’clock A.M. and that said day be observed as a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer.
4th Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.
Closed by prayer.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk
February 17, 1840. Church met in pursuance of notice as given by the clerk. Prayer by Elder Winsor. A recess was had until 1 o’clock P.M. when the church assembled.

1st Resolved that Elder Winsor be Moderator. Prayer by the moderator.

2nd Resolved that we adopt the report of the council as made to the church February 6 excepting all that relates to Elder Bishop.

3rd Resolved that we adopt the report of the council in reference to Elder Bishop as far as is consistent with the following statement and confession with the following statement and confession of Elder Bishop: “I sincerely and humbly concede that there were (?) in my statements, as evidence came up before the Council on which they made out their result. Yet I distinctly state that I did not design to misrepresent in my own instance, wherein I have erred in any point set forth in the result of the Council I sincerely regret” and that this is satisfactory to the church.

4th Resolved as to the decision of the council in reference to the (?) passed upon the (?) church we feel that in many instances we have done things wrong as specified, though we did not design so to do, but wherever we have thus done, we as a body do humbly confess the same. Elder Johnson here made the confession required by the Council.

5th Resolved that the confession of Brother Elias Johnson is satisfactory. Brother Barrell’s confession was by the clerk read.

6th Resolved that the confession of Brother Barrell is satisfactory. Heard Brother A.C. Guild’s confession.

7th Resolved that the confession of Brother Guild is satisfactory. Heard Brother Avery Buck’s confession.

8th Resolved that the confession of Brother Buck is satisfactory. Resolved that all the aggrieved members of the church be restored into full fellowship.

10th Resolved that this meeting is dissolved.

Closed by Prayer.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

February 29, 1840. Church met in Covenant Meeting. Opened by Prayer. Brethren and Sisters in the relation of their exercises and feelings seemed not to be united.

It was moved and seconded that Elder Bishop’s request for a Letter of dismission and commendation as a Christian and Minister be granted. Whereupon Brethren Moore and Pettit objected. The motion was then withdrawn. After some conversation Elder Bishop withdrew his request.

Closed by Prayer.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, March 1st, 1840. By request of Brother Forbes the church was called in the Basement immediately after the close of forenoon Service. Opened by Prayer.

1st Resolved that the Communion Service be postponed until next communion season.

2nd Resolved that we appoint on Saturday the 7th instant a meeting of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer at ½ past 10 o’clock A.M.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, March 15, 1840. Church were by the clerk notified that a communication from the Church in Forestville had been received, and requested the church to meet in the Basement. Upon the church complying with the request.

1st Resolved that we organize into Special Church Meeting. The clerk then read the said communication from the Forestville Church which was to notify this church that they had appointed a committee to visit on Tuesday 17th instant, to learn whether or not we were corrupt(?) in sustaining our Pastor. (See letter on file.) [Not found.]

2nd Resolved that we appoint a committee of 7 to wait upon the committee from the Forestville Church and also to attend to all committee or churches that may hereafter visit us in relation to the same subject (if any).
3rd Resolved that Brethren T. Osborn, D. Saxton, Miller, Stoddard, Forbes, Hilton and Grant be said committee.

4th Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, March 29, 1840. The church at intermission was assembled in the basement at the request of Elder Bishop.

1st Resolved that we organize a Special Church Meeting.

2nd Resolved that in view of circumstances the church omit the next Covenant meeting and communion (next Saturday and Sunday) and that the clerk give public notice of the same. Public notice was by the clerk duly given.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, April 5, 1840. The church upon request of the clerk was assembled in the Basement. Prayer by Elder Bishop.

1st Resolved that we organize into a Special Church Meeting.

2nd Resolved that we accept the report of the majority of the committee of the Forestville Church, a copy of which is as follows.

Fredonia, March 17, 1840.

The Committee appointed by the Baptist Church at Forestville on the 9th of March instant to visit the Sister Church in Fredonia, would respectfully report that they have endeavored(?) to discharge the duty assigned them in regard to the matter alluded to in the resolution of their appointment.

After prayerful examination of the facts and circumstances that came up before them in regard to the matters alluded to in said resolution, the committee have come to the following conclusion.

1st That the said Sister Church in Fredonia have become corrupt in practice in violating the gospel (?) in receiving charges against their Pastor for trial without the presentation of the requisite testimony.

2nd They have erred in suffering their Pastor to be put upon Public and painful trial, previous to and without gospel labor.

3rd Delegating their power of discipline to any body of men, and binding themselves to adopt their decision right or wrong, thereby violating the Constitution of the Chautauqua Baptist Association.

The committee would further report that after examining the testimony that was presented them in relation to the state of the said Church and its Pastor, they find no further cause of grief, provided the above mentioned corruptions are removed by suitable retractions.

Signed D. Woodbury, Wm. Willcox, B. Willoughby, J. Fuller, (?) Hide(?).

Signed David Woodbury, Chairman

William Willcox, Clerk

The above certified to be a true copy by David Woodbury.

Previous to adoption of the above the clerk read the following:

At a meeting of Brethren from Forestville, Stockton and Portland Churches, to examine the ground on which the Church stand in regard to the adoption of the result of the late Council, and their action in regard thereto, and also in relation to the action of the church, and its members prior to the Council aforesaid; and on hearing the facts in the case,

Resolved that we agree with the report of the committee of the Forestville Church of March 17, 1840.

Resolved that if the Church comply with said report, that we recommend to Fredonia Church to invite Brethren from all of the churches in this association to assemble in conference in this place to hear and advise them in their present situation.

Signed Bethel Willoughby, Chairman

Walter Cushing

Charles Batchellor

Harlow(?) Crissey

Elijah Fay

(?) Crissey(?) Jr.(?)

3rd Resolved, in compliance with the advice of the above Brethren we invite all the Churches in this association to send their Pastor and one or two good lay Brethren, or if they have no Pastor send two or three good lay Brethren, to meet here on Wednesday the 15th instant at 10 o’clock A.M. and that the clerk write to the said churches.
4th Resolved that the clerk be instructed to request of Brother Barrell a copy of the Letter of Elder Galusha and Eliot that he may have received since the dissolution of the Council that convened January 29, so far as they pertain to our matter of difficulty, also copies of Letters that were presented upon Elder Bishop’s trial against him.

5th Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, April 12, 1840. Church met in the basement by request of Elder Bishop. Prayer by Elder Bishop.

1st Resolved that we organize into Special Church Meeting.

2nd Resolved that the church appoint a committee of seven Brethren to ascertain precisely the number of male members belonging in any way to the church, and the exact number of he same, who have signed a certain Paper, to adopt the action report of the late Council directly contrary to the signed vote of the church, on that subject and that said committee, affectionately admonish all members who have thus done, that the same is a grief to the church, and labor with them to reclaim them to the ground the church are on as to the report of the County and report to the church.

3rd Resolved that Brethren Forbes, J. Miller, Hilton, E. Webster, P.L. Stephens, J. Parker, D. Saxton be said committee.

4th Resolved that it was the understanding of the church in the vote of Restoration of the aggrieved members of the 17th of February that said members should come back into the church on the ground of and be in fellowship with the previous vote of the church in regard to the adoption of the report.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church Assembled in Covenant Meeting, May 2nd, 1840. Opened by Prayer and Praise.
The Brethren and Sisters present generally manifested a good degree of union. The meeting was Divinely graced by the presences of the Head of the Church.
Closed by Prayer.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, May 3rd, 1840. Church assembled to celebrate the death of the Savior in partaking of the Communion.
Sister Abigail Williams presented a letter of commendation from the church of Coventry with a request to unite with the church. Resolved that she be received.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, May 31. Church were assembled in the Basement.
Heard a request from Sister Joanna Brunson requesting a Letter of dismission and commendation. Voted that her request be granted.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

June 6, 1840. Church assembled in council meeting. Opened by Prayer and Praise.
Owing to circumstances the minds and feelings of the Brethren and Sisters was somewhat disturbed.
Closed by Prayer.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, June 7. Church assembled around the communion table.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

July 4, 1840. Church assembled in Covenant Meeting.
Received Covenant. A good degree of union seemed to prevail.
Closed by Prayer.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, July 5. Church assembled to partake of the Lord’s Supper. There seemed to be a communion of and with our souls.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk
Church assembled in Covenant Meeting, August 1st, 1840. Opened by Prayer and Praise. Brethren and Sisters proceeded with the relation of their exercised [etc.] after which Sister Asenith Morrison presented a Letter from the Laona Church desiring to unite with us. Upon motion, Resolved that she be received. On motion resolved ourselves into a Special Church Meeting.

1st Resolved that we represent ourselves by delegation and Letter to the coming session of the Chautauqua Association.

2nd Resolved that Elder Bishop and Brethren Ebenezer Webster, John Miller, Daniel Saxton, Alford Stoddard, L.B. Grant be the delegates.

3rd Resolved that we send three Dollars toward defraying the expenses of Printing Minutes.

4th Resolved that the meeting be dissolved.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk


L.B. Grant, Church Clerk


1st Resolved that we organize into Special Church Meeting.

2nd Resolved that Brother John Miller be Moderator.

3rd Resolved that we appoint a committee of six Brethren to visit the Brethren of the Church and ascertain who are in fellowship with the Church in relation to our present difficulty.

4th Resolved that Brethren Ebenezer Webster, Forbes, Thos. Osborne, Hilton, Stoddard and Shepherd be said committee.

Dissolved.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, August 30, 1840. Church met in Special Church Meeting. Opened by Prayer by Deacon E. Webster.

1st Resolved that her request be granted.

2nd Resolved that there be two more(?) Brethren delegated to the Association.

3rd Resolved to Brethren Forbes and J.R. Parker be said committee. The clerk read a letter designed to be presented by the delegates to the association.

4th Resolved that we accept the same.

5th Resolved that this meeting be dissolved.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

September 5, 1840. Church assembled in Covenant Meeting.
A good degree of union manifested. Opened and closed by Prayer.
Sister Sarah Shepherd requested a letter of dismission and commendation. Voted that her request be granted.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, September 6, 1840. Church assembled in communion. Received Covenant.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Covenant Meeting, October 3, 1840. Meeting opened by Prayer and Praise.
Brethren and Sisters proceeded in the relation of their feelings. There seemed an increasing interest of feeling with a desire to renew their Covenant obligation.
Heard the Christian experience of Jonathan Phelps with a desire to unite with the Church. Upon motion resolved that he be received as a candidate.

Heard a request from Brother Aaron Osborn and Sister Caroline Randall for Letters of dismission and commendation. Upon motion Resolved that their requests be granted.
Closed by Prayer.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, October 18, 1840. Church by request of the Pastor assembled at intermission. Heard the Christian experience of John Adams, Philip Palmer, Robert H. Jones, and Betsy Adams. Upon motion resolved that each be received as a candidate for Baptism. Brethren Adams and Jones were Baptized and received into our fellowship.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church conference, October 24, 1840.
Heard the Christian Experience of Joel Parker with a request to unite with the church. Upon motion resolved that he be received as a candidate for Baptism and when Baptized to be in fellowship with us.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, October 25, 1840. Philip Palmer and Joel Parker were Baptized and received into the fellowship of the Church.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Covenant Meeting, October 31, 1840. Opened by Prayer and Singing. Proceeded to renew Covenant. Rather(?) an increased religious feeling with a good degree of union in the church. Heard the Christian Experience of Sister Eliza B. Sanford, with a desire to unite with the Church, and having satisfactory evidence of her having been Baptized by a Methodist into their connection, on motion resolved that she be received into our fellowship. Also heard the Christian Experience of Sister Teft(?) with a desire to unite with us, she having been Baptized into the Methodist connection. Upon motion resolved that she be received into our fellowship. Heard the Christian Experience of Brother Joel Bliss with a desire to unite with the church, with evidence of his having been Baptized into the Presbyterian connection. Also heard a relation of his Backsliding and return to his duty. Upon motion resolved that he be received into our fellowship. Heard the Christian Experience of Mary Ann Brewster with a desire to be Baptized. Upon motion resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism, and when Baptized a member in fellowship with us. Sister Harriet Shattuck returned a letter that she had secured(?) from the church with a desire to reunite(?) with us. Upon motion resolved that she be received. Closed by Prayer.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, November 1st, 1840.
Jonathan Phelps and Mary Ann Brewster were Baptized and received into the fellowship of the church. Church on same day assembled in communion. A good attendance and a pleasant time.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church Conference, November 7, 1840.
Heard the Christian Experience of Brother Elijah Bliss with a desire to be received into our fellowship. With evidence of his having been Baptized by the Presbyterian, upon motion resolved that he be received into our fellowship. Heard the Christian Experience of Miriam Wheeler and Mary Ann Wood with a desire to be received a candidate for Baptism. Upon motion resolved that they be each received a candidate for Baptism and when Baptized a member of this church and in fellowship with us.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, Nov. 8, 1840. Sisters Miriam Wheeler and Mary Ann Wood were Baptized, and received into the fellowship of the Church.
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church Conference, November 14, 1840. Opened by Prayer and Singing.
Heard the Christian Experience of Mr. John Whitney and Miss Almira Russel and Rosetta Ellis with a desire to unite with the church. On motion resolved that they be severally received as candidates for Baptism, and when Baptized to be members of this church in fellowship.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, November 15, 1840. John Whitney and Almira Russel and Rosetta Ellis were Baptized and received into the fellowship of the Church.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church Conference, November 21, 1840.

Heard the Christian Experience of Norman Andrews and Hannah Olive Stearns with a desire to unite with the church. Upon resolution resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism and when Baptized to be members of the Church.

Heard a request from Sister Mary Ann Wood for a letter of dismission and commendation. Upon motion resolved that her request be granted.

Resolved that there be a committee appointed to visit the church to improve upon its spirituality.

Resolved that Brethren Ebenezer Webster, John Miller, Forbes, R.B. Morgan, D. Saxton, Thos. Osborn and Phelps be said committee.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, November 22, 1840. Norman Andrews and Hannah Olive Stearns were Baptized and received into the fellowship of the Church.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church Conference, November 28, 1840.

Heard the Christian Experience of Abarine Shaw and Laura Richardson with a desire to be united with us. Upon motion resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism and when Baptized to be members of this Church.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, November 29, 1840. A. Shaw and Laura Richardson were Baptized and received into the fellowship of the church.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Covenant Meeting, December 5, 1840. Opened by Prayer and Praise, after which Brethren and Sisters proceeded to relate their Christian exercises and feelings.

Heard the Christian Experience of Sister [blank] Barrus with a desire to be united with this church and heard from her that she had been Baptized by the Free Will Baptists which statement was satisfactory to the Church. Upon motion resolved that she be received into our fellowship.

Also heard the Christian Experience of Anna Williams, Washington Basteto and Orastus H. Burrows with a desire to unite with us. Upon motion resolved that they be severally received as candidates for Baptism and when Baptized to be in full fellowship with us.

Closed by Prayer.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, December 6, 1840.

Anna Williams, Washington Basteto and Orastus H. Burrows were Baptized and received into the Fellowship of the Church.

The church assembled as usual around the communion table.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church Conference, December 12, 1840.

Heard the Christian Experience of Marvin Randall with a desire to unite with the Church. Upon motion resolved that he be received as a candidate for Baptism, and when Baptized to be a member of this church in fellowship with us.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk
Lord’s Day, December 13, 1840. Church was called together at intermission. 
Heard the Christian Experience of Willson Taylor with a desire to unite with the church. Upon motion resolved that he be received as a candidate for Baptism and when Baptized to be a member of this church in full fellowship with us, after which repaired to the water where Marion Randall and Willson Taylor were Baptized into the fellowship of the Church. 
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church Conference, December 19, 1840. 
Heard the Christian Experience of John Morgan with a desire to unite with us. Upon motion Resolved that he be received as a candidate for Baptism. Brethren C. Morgan and D. Saxton were appointed a committee of admonition to visit Br. Lemuel Webster. 
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, December 20, 1840. 
Heard the Christian Experience of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Sellick with a desire to unite with us. Upon motion resolved that they be received as candidates for Baptism, soon after which assembled at the water where was Baptized Brother John Morgan and Brother and Sister Levi Sellick into the fellowship of the Church. 
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church Conference, December 21(?), 1840. 
Reports in circulation implicating Brother Robert F. Jones. On motion resolved that Brethren L.M. Randall and L.B. Grant be a committee to visit an labor with Brother Jones and report to the Church. 
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church Conference, January 9, 1841 
1st Resolved that the church appoint Brethren E. Webster, Forbes, T. Osborn, Hilton, Stoddard and Grant a committee to procure a new Blank Book and to transfer from our Church Records all they may deem expedient, and specially to regulate(?) and revise the list of names, and report to the Church. 
2nd Resolved that a committee of three be appointed to examine with respect to the case of [blank] Lewis, who desires to become a member of this church by giving them satisfaction as to his past backsliding and loss of standing as a church member. 
3rd Resolved that Brethren E. Webster, Forbes and John Adams be said committee. 
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church Conference, January 23, 1841. After devotional exercises, 
Heard the Christian Experience of Brother [blank] Lowel, with a request to unite with the Church. 
Resolved that he be received as a member upon his Christian Experience and the Testimony of Brethren of the Presbyterian Church. Heard(?) and(?) Lowel as to his having a letter which was not present, and also as to his past and present moral standing. 
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Church Conference, January 30, 1841. After devotional exercises, 
Heard the report of the Committee to visit Br. Lewis. Accepted the report and adopted it. See report on file. [Not found.] 
Also the report of the committee to visit and labor with Brother Robert Jones. Accepted and adopted the same. Resolved that the hand of fellowship be withdrawn from Brother Jones for immoral conduct. 
Heard and accepted the report of Br. D. Saxton in the case of Brother Lemuel Webster. Committee not successful in reclaiming him. Resolved that Brethren Forbes and R. Morgan be a committee to visit and admonish Brother Lemuel Webster. 
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, January 24, 1841. 
Heard the Request of Sister Hannah Stearns for Letter of dismission and commendation. Resolved that her request be granted. 
L.B. Grant, Church Clerk
Covenant Meeting, February 1, 1841. Meeting opened by Prayer and Praise. Brethren and Sisters proceeded in the relation of their exercises and Christian travels. Heard a request from Augusta Whitney with a relation of her Christian Experience, desiring to unite with the Church. On motion resolved that she be received as a candidate for Baptism and when baptized a member of this church. Closed by Prayer.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, February 7, 1841. Sister August Whitney was baptized and received into the fellowship of the Church. After the public services of the day, the church met in communion, an uncommonly large attendance.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk

Lord’s Day, February 14, 1841. Brother Jonathan W.(?) Good(?) presented a Letter of dismission and commendation from the Baptist Church Laona desiring to unite with us. Upon motion Resolved that he be received.

L.B. Grant, Church Clerk [End of Fredonia Baptist Church Record Book B]