

Constitution
OF THE
ASSOCIATION
OF THE
NEW JERUSALEM CHURCH OF CANADA,
AND
MINUTES OF ITS FIRST MEETING,
HELD AT
BERLIN, C. W.,
JUNE 20—23 A. D. 1862.

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Printed by Rittinger & Motz, "Berliner Journal" Office,
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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Association of the New Jerusalem Church of Canada.

The scattered and isolated situation of most of the receivers of the Heavenly Doctrines of the New Jerusalem in the Province of Canada, has hitherto prevented the formation of organized societies for public worship and social intercourse on the Lord's day, excepting in six instances, of which four are in Canada West and two in Canada East. It is therefore, in the opinion of a very large majority of the known receivers of the doctrines, become highly necessary, that energetic and decided measures should be taken to bring the scattered Church into some form of open communion and joint action, in order that its members may reap in some measure the benefits of the social sphere, and that their combined efforts may be more available for the dissemination of the Heavenly Doctrines.

Impressed with this belief a number of receivers from various parts of the Province assembled at Berlin, Canada West, on Friday, the 20th of June A. D. 1862, do hereby form themselves and all others, who by their proxies are virtually present and consenting thereto, into an association to be called:

"The Association of the New Jerusalem Church of Canada" and adopt the following rules of order for the government of the same.

1. The Officers of the Association shall be :
A President,
A Recording Secretary,
A Corresponding Secretary,
A Treasurer,
and an Executive Committee consisting of 10 members

of which the President, two Secretaries and Treasurer shall be members *ex officio*.

2. The Officers of the Association shall be elected annually by open vote at the regular meetings of the Association; but casual vacancies may be filled up by the Executive Committee.

3. *The President* shall preside at all meetings of the Association and Committee, if he be present, and in his absence a President for the time being shall be chosen by the meeting.

4. *The Corresponding Secretary* shall be the medium of communication between the Association and the members of the Church at large. Moneys may be remitted to him for the purposes of the Association, and he shall pay them over to the Treasurer in three days after their receipt, and *The Treasurer* shall pay out all moneys by order of the President countersigned by the Recording Secretary.

5. *The Recording Secretary* shall keep a record of all the transactions of the Association in a Book for that purpose.

6. *The Executive Committee* shall direct all the affairs of the Association between its general meetings.

Three members shall be a quorum.

7. The Association shall meet annually at 10 o'clock in the morning on the fourth Friday in June at a place designated by the previous annual meeting.

8. The Association shall consist of all the persons, who have already voted for its formation, and of all others, who from time to time shall signify their adhesion to it and are known to be receivers of the doctrines.

9. The annual meetings of the Association shall consist of delegates of societies and of all other members who attend.

10. No member shall vote at the annual meetings of the Association, until after he shall have signed his name in the Book of the record of such meetings as a declara-

tion of his acknowledgement of the fundamental doctrines of the New Church therein written, which are :

- (1) God is one in essence and in person, and He is the Lord God the Saviour Jesus Christ.
- (2) The Word, or Sacred Scripture, is Divine Truth itself. It is written according to the correspondence of natural with spiritual and celestial things; and thus it contains three distinct senses, the Celestial, the Spiritual and the Natural, which are adapted to all the various states of angels and men ; and it is the Divine Medium by which men are associated with angels, and by which angels and men are conjoined with the Lord.
- (3) The Lord alone is the source of life the precepts of which are the Ten Commandments; these precepts are to be obeyed by man as of himself with the devout acknowledgment, that the will and the power to do them are of the Lord alone ; and thus men are regenerated and saved by the Lord by means of a life according to this precepts.

11. This Assosiation regards the payment of a part of the income of each member for the advancement of the uses of the Church as a proper and necessary acknowledgement, that we receive every blessing from the Lord; and expects that all its members will contribute to the funds of the Association as the Lord shall give them ability.

12. This constitution may be altered at any general meeting of the Association ; *Providing* that notice of the change proposed be given at the previous annual meeting and that the same be carried by a two-thirds vote.

REPORT

of the proceedings of the first meeting of the Association of the New Jerusalem Church of Canada, held in Berlin, Canada West, on the 20th to the 23rd day of June A. D. 1862.

PRESENT :

Mr. Adam Ruby,	Waterloo T'p., Waterloo Co.	
" John Walmsley,	Berlin,	do.
" Charles Krull,	do.	do.
" William Graff,	do.	do.
" Henry S. Huber,	do.	do.
" J. Webster Hancock,	do.	do.
" Robert Carr Harris,	do.	do.
" John Geo. Schwenkedel,	do.	do.
" William Benton,	do.	do.
" Henry Rothærmel,	do.	do.
The Revd. F. W. Tuerk,	do.	do.
Mr. Charles Hendry,	Conestogo,	do.
" August Stahlberg,	Waterloo Vill.,	do.
" Abr. D. Shoemaker,	Waterloo T'p.,	do.
" Nelson Ruby,	do.	do.
" George Seyler,	do.	do.
" Daniel Ruby,	do.	do.
" Philip Tuelke	do.	do.
" Fredk. Scheuermann,	do.	do.
" Gottfried Lehnen,	Woolwich,	do.
" Christopher Døering,	Philipsburg,	do.
" William Brill,	Wellesley,	do.
" Henry Strange,	Rockwood, Wellington Co.	
" Charles Llewellyn,	Guelph,	do.
" Thomas Webster,	Southampton, Bruce Co.	
" Robert B. Barber,	Strathroy, Middlesex Co.	
Revd. Richard Saul,	do.	do.
Mr. John Jacob Lehnen,	Port Elgin,	Bruce Co.
" Frederick Krull,	Nithburgh,	Perth Co.
" William Gaedtke,	do.	do.
" John Zinkann,	Lisbon,	do.

Mr. William Rothærmel,	South East Hope,	Perth Co.
" August Sehrke,	Sebringville	do.
" Johnson,	Hamilton,	Wentworth Co.
" William T. Thomas,	Toronto,	York Co.
" Edwin Gould,	Montreal,	Canada East.
" Alex. J. Auchterlonie,	do.	do.
Miss Ahrens,	Berlin,	Waterloo Co.
" Gaukel,	do.	do.
Mrs. Hancock,	do.	do.
" Harris,	do.	do.

PROXIES.

Mr. Richard Brierley,	Hamilton,	Wentworth Co.
" Robert Halson,	do.	do.
" John B. Bagwell,	do.	do.
" Thomas M. Ford,	Bayham,	Middlesex Co.
" James Ronald,	Chatham,	Kent Co.
" Amaziah Saul,	Strathroy,	Middlesex Co.
" William Hildyard,	do.	do.
" Alexander Hilton,	do.	do.
" Robert Jeffery,	do.	do.
" James Copp,	Guelph,	Wellington Co.
" Henry J. Sanders,	do.	do.
" C. F. Schwendker,	Port Elgin,	Bruce Co.
" Nathaniel E. Leeder,	do.	do.
" Carl Witting,	do.	do.
" Carl Wiedel,	do.	do.
" John Durs Born	do.	do.
" William Henry Ruby,	do.	do.
" Samuel Roether,	do.	do.
" George Roppel,	do.	do.
" John Bartels,	do.	do.
" Frederick Schwiesow,	do.	do.
" Hobe Steven,	do.	do.
" Adam J. Ruby,	Hay T'p.,	Huron Co.
" William S. Robinson,	Yorkville,	Toronto, York Co.
" Ira Gould,	Montreal,	Canada East.
" A. A. Whitney,	do.	do.

Mr. Alexander Roy,	Montreal,	Canada East.
" Charles Legge,	do.	do.
" William Shale,	do.	do.
" Thomas W. Raphael	do.	do.
" Philip le Sueur,	Quebec,	do.
" A. Touche,	do.	do.
Mrs. W. S. Robinson,	Yorkville, Toronto,	York Co.
" Martha Gould,	Montreal,	Canada East.
" E. L. Cushing,	do.	do.
" Frances Auchterlonie,	do.	do.
Miss Margaret A. Callaghan,	do.	do.
Total proxies - - -		37
Total present - - -		41
Total		78

Mr. Ruby, President of the Berlin Society, having been called to the Chair, and Mr. Hancock appointed Secretary to the meeting, a draft of the proposed constitution of the Association was read, when it was

Resolved—That this meeting proceed to organize itself into an Association: that the draft of a constitution, which has now been read, be revised by a Committee of seven of its members, and that they report thereon to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Resolved—That the following gentlemen be members of the Revising Committee:

Mr. Saul,	Mr. Strange,
" Gould,	" Lehnen,
" Tuerk,	" Krull,
" Hancock.	

The meeting then adjourned until ten o'clock the next morning.

Saturday, June 21, 1862.

Mr. Ruby in the Chair.

The minutes of the proceeding meeting were read and confirmed.

The Revising Committee brought up their report, which

was first read to the meeting by the Secretary in English and afterwards translated into German *viva voce* to the meeting, by the Revd. F. W. Tuerk.

The Constitution as drafted by the Revising Committee having been read through again, article by article, and a vote taken upon each one separately, the whole was carried unanimously with a few slight alterations and two new clauses were added by the meeting, making twelve in all.

Resolved unanimously—That the Constitution as above defined be adopted.

Resolved—That the names of friends present to day, who were not present yesterday, be added to the roll of this meeting.

The following Officers were then elected:—

President, Adam Ruby ;

Corresponding Secretary, The Revd. F. W. Tuerk ;

Recording Secretary, J. W. Hancock ;

Treasurer, H. S. Huber.

Committee in addition to the above 4 Officers, [who are members of it *ex officio*] :—

Mr. Lehnen, Port Elgin ; Mr. LeSueur, Quebec ;

“ E. Gould, Montreal ; “ Bagwell, Hamilton ;

“ Barber, Strathroy ; “ Thomas, Toronto.

Resolved—That the next annual meeting of the Association be held in Berlin.

Resolved—That the Executive Committee draw up rules of order for the conduct of the business of the Association, and present the same to the Association at its next annual meeting.

Resolved—That this meeting do adjourn until 9 o'clock on Monday morning next.

On the intervening Sunday, June 22nd, services were held in the Church of the Berlin Society, and all present appeared to feel the influence of a new life, now that the scattered Church in Canada had been brought face to face. Instead of feeling like strangers in a strange land, many

experienced for the first time after a long interval of solitary years the pure delights of Christian fellowship and all could have said devoutly and truly: "It is good for us to be here."

The morning service was conducted extemporaneously by Mr. Hancock, who spoke in English from Jeremiah XXIII, 23, "Am I a God at hand, saith the Lord, and not a God afar off?" The Church was crowded and the profoundest attention pervaded the congregation.

In the afternoon the Revd. F. W. Tuerk, the Pastor of the Berlin Society, delivered a discourse in German from Rev. III, 20: "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me," and afterwards administered the Holy Sacrament in both languages to upwards of 40 communicants. The whole service was simple, earnest and impressive.

In the evening Mr. Edwin Gould of Montreal preached from Exodus XV, 26: "If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I *am* the Lord that healeth thee." His modest, earnest and sincere intelligence produced a general conviction that, if he carries out his present intention of entering the Ministry, he will make a valuable Pastor.

On Monday morning, June 23, the Association resumed.

The President in the Chair.

The Secretary reported that the meeting had been personally attended by 41 persons, and that Proxies had been received from 37, making 78 in all.

The Executive Committee brought up a report of their business, proceedings on Saturday evening, and the advice of the meeting was held thereon.*)

*) See page 11.

Resolved—That an address be sent from this Association to the General Convention of America and to the General Conference in England.

Resolved—That the Revd. F. W. Tuerk and Mr. Hancock be a Committee to draw up the said addresses.

Resolved—That, if the funds should prove sufficient, it be an instruction to the Executive Committee to secure the services of one or more ordained Ministers, residing either in Canada or in the United States, for missionary purposes.

Resolved—That this meeting instruct the Executive Committee to take the requisite steps, to have the Revd. F. W. Tuerk empowered as an ordaining Minister at the first opportunity, if it seem to them desirable.

The thanks of the meeting were then voted to the President and Secretary for their respective services and to the Berlin friends for their kind reception of the visitors.

(Signed) ADAM RUBY,
President.

It is thought to be expedient to add to the foregoing report the Business Rules and Resolutions of the Executive Committee, drafted on Saturday, the 21st June, and settled under the advice of the Association on the Monday following.

(1) That 200 copies of the Constitution of the Association and of the Minutes of this meeting be printed in pamphlet form, both in English and German, and distributed among the known receivers throughout the Province.

(2) That two Book and Tract Depositories be opened : one in Berlin and one in Montreal.

(3) That one or more persons be employed to act as Missionaries and Colporteurs ; and that, if possible, arrangements be made to administer the Sacraments of the Church to every member of the Association and known receiver of the doctrines at least once a year.

(4) That separate accounts be kept under the following heads:—

Depository Account;
Missionary Account;
Printing and Miscellaneous Account.

(5) That societies and individuals be requested to contribute quarterly to the funds of the Association, stating to which use their donations are to be applied.

(6) That every agent of the Association be authenticated by a certificate under the hand and seal of the President of the Association, countersigned by the Recording Secretary, which may be in the terms following:

"THIS IS TO CERTIFY that Mr. . . of . . . is an authorized Agent of the Association of the New Jerusalem Church of Canada for [*here name the duties*].

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office, this . . . day of . . . A. D. 18

(Signed) A. R.,
President.

[L. S.]

(Countersigned) J. W. H.,
Recording Secretary."

(7) That until the Association shall be incorporated its seal shall be *the open Word* with the legend "*Nunc licet*" at the foot of it; and the upper part of the circle around it shall have the Inscription: "*Association of the New Jerusalem Church of Canada, instituted June 20th, 1862*", to which shall be added on its incorporation "*Incorporated [date]*."

N. B. The Treasurer having no funds at present, will be glad to receive early remittances, that the business of the Association may be commenced at once.
