

Summary
Vol 4 - 1873
MANUAL

OF THE

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

OF

STRATFORD, CONN.,

CONTAINING AN

HISTORICAL SKETCH, CONFESSION OF FAITH,
COVENANT, FORM OF ADMISSION,
RULES, ETC.

ALSO,

A CATALOGUE OF ITS MEMBERS.

1869.



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HISTORICAL SKETCH.*

I.—ORGANIZATION.

The precise date of this, the first Church of Christ in Stratford, and the names of the original members, cannot be ascertained. All business relative to the settlement, support and dismissal of ministers, and to the building and repairing of meeting houses, was transacted in town meeting until the year 1721, and no regular town record, prior to 1650, exists.

Nor does any record of the Church, prior to 1675, now exist. The settlement of the town began in 1639, and took definite form as a plantation in 1640. In all probability the Church was organized as early as this, for the Rev. Adam Blakeman, its first pastor, was then in the town, as his presence is certified by an order of the General Court, dated June, 1640, directing him and others to settle the boundary line between Stratford and Fairfield.

The Church was certainly in existence in 1644, as in that year the General Court appointed William Judson and John Hurd, "members of the Stratford Church," to collect the contributions for indigent students at Cambridge College.

II.—PASTORS.

1. REV. ADAM BLAKEMAN.

The Rev. Adam Blakeman was born in Staffordshire, Eng., A. D. 1599, and was matriculated at Christ's College, Oxford, May 28th, 1617. He was a preacher for some years in Leices-

* This sketch is taken substantially from materials gathered by Rev. B. L. Swan, while pastor of this Church.

ershire and Derbyshire, and in 1638 came to New England. He was one of the original company of settlers in Stratford in 1639-40, and was minister of the Church until his death, September 7th, 1665. Just previous to his death, the 20th of April of that year, the Rev. Israel Chauncey became, by vote of the town, his assistant. Mr. Blakeman held a prominent position among the Colonial ministers. Cotton Mather says (*Magnalia*, B'k 3d, Chap. 7,) that many of his people came with him to this country, and that Hooker once remarked, "If I might have my choice I would live and die under Mr. Blakeman's ministry."

2. REV. ISRAEL CHAUNCEY.

The Rev. Israel Chauncey was a native of Massachusetts, and the son of Rev. Charles Chauncey, President of Harvard College. He was born at Scituate, Mass., 1644, graduated at Harvard College, 1661, was chosen assistant to Mr. Blakeman in the ministry, and upon Mr. Blakeman's death was called in June 1666, to the pastoral charge. He probably studied medicine as well as theology for a period after his graduation, for while settled over this Church he was not only appointed Chaplain to the army, but ~~had~~ as it is recorded in the Colonial History—"The council appointed Mr. Chauncey to be one of the council of the army in the room of Mr. Hooker, and also that he should go forth with the army as their Chirurgeon." On the blank leaf of the only manuscript sermon now preserved, are written two of his medical prescriptions.

Mr. Chauncey had the reputation of being a very learned, able and devoted pastor.

Professor Kingsley says—"He had a high reputation for scholarship." He was one of the founders of Yale College, and was, probably, the presiding officer at the first meeting of those interested in its formation, as his name stands first upon the list.

He was chosen Rector or President of the College, Nov. 11th, 1701, but the honor he declined. He died March 4th, 1703.

Upon Mr. Chauncey's settlement, an active opposition developed itself, which culminated in the division of the Church. The seceders, after a protracted controversy, which embroiled the spiritual peace of the whole colony, became organized under the ministry of Rev. Zechariah Walker, who was ordained their pastor, May 5th, 1670.

He, with his flock, soon after, in 1672, removed to colonize what is now the town of Woodbury. As the accounts of this unhappy controversy, found in various historical records, are so incorrect, and as especially so is that given in the "History of Ancient Woodbury," which has doubtless been the source of the others, it is deemed advisable to append a true statement of the matter, gathered from reliable sources. [*See appendix at the close of the "Sketch."*]

After Mr. Chauncey's death, the church and town, in April, 1703, "chose Capt. Judson and the two deacons to supply the pulpit, and to obtain help of the elders of the County to keep a day of fasting and prayer for God's direction in seeking a minister." For six years the church was without a settled pastor.

3. REV. TIMOTHY CUTLER, D.D.

A call was extended to Dr. Cutler, Sept. 16th, 1709, and in or near the December of that year he was ordained. He was born in Charlestown, Mass., June 1st, 1684, and graduated at Harvard College in 1701. "He was reputed as the most celebrated preacher of the Colony," and during the ten years of his pastoral office was held in high esteem. In 1719 he was chosen President of Yale College, and the "appointment was considered auspicious for the institution, for he was a man of profound and general learning." In 1722, professing a preference for the Church of England, and renouncing his connection with the churches of the Colony, he was requested to resign his position as President of the College. Soon after, he was settled over Christ's Church in Boston. He died August 17th, 1765.

Soon after the dismissal of Dr. Cutler, in 1719, a call was

extended to Rev. Samuel Russel, (grad. Yale Col. 1712,) but as there was a large minority in opposition to him he did not settle, though, for three years, he supplied the pulpit and had the pastoral care of the Church. In November 1721, for the first time in the settlement of the town, the town as such, ceased to determine, by vote, the affairs of the Congregational parish. This change arose from the introduction of an Episcopal Church, which, although it had been in embryo for some years previous, took permanent form now through accessions derived from the controversy with Mr. Russel.

4. REV. HEZEKIAH GOLD.

In February, 1722, in view of the condition of the Church, and of the "present sickness and many sudden deaths," a day of fasting and prayer was appointed. The next day, (Thursday,) by a unanimous vote, a call was extended to Rev. Hezekiah Gold. He was the son of Nathan Gold, of Fairfield, (Dep. Gov., 1707, and Chief Justice, 1712,)—was born 1694, and graduated at Harvard College 1719, and was ordained over the Church on the first Wednesday in June, 1722. His ministry was distinguished by numerous accessions to the Church. In 1722-3, sixty persons, and from 1731 to 1746, two hundred and sixty-four persons were received. Among these were the Rev. Nathan Birdseye and David Wooster.

President Edwards in his account of the "Great Awakening," makes honorable mention of Mr. Gold and his ministry.

On Monday afternoon, October 27th, 1740, Mr. Whitefield preached for Mr. Gold. His text was—"Turn ye to the stronghold, ye prisoners of hope." The sermon was blessed to the conversion of several souls.

Difficulties arising from the restiveness of opponents of what was termed "New Light Proceedings," *i. e.* of the Revival preaching and methods of that day, at length culminated in the dismissal of Mr. Gold, July 3d, 1752. He died in 1761.

The Church remained without a pastor two years.

5. REV. IZRAIAH WETMORE.

Mr. Wetmore was the son of Hezekiah Wetmore of Middletown, was born in 1728, was graduated at Yale, 1748, and was ordained pastor over this Church, May 16th, 1753. He was active and zealous in the affairs of his country, and during the Revolution, from its very commencement, preached earnestly and boldly for its Independence. His sermons are preserved in large numbers. He resigned his charge in 1780, and is said to have expected an appointment to the Presidency of Yale College. In 1785 he was settled over the Church in Trumbull. He died in 1798. He lies buried, as does also Mr. Gold, in the burial ground of Stratford.

Again was the church left pastorless, and now for a period of four years and four months.

6. REV. STEPHEN WILLIAM STEBBINS.

Mr. Stebbins was the son of Stephen Stebbins; was born in East Long Meadow, Mass., June 26, 1758, and was graduated at Yale College 1781. He was ordained pastor of this Church, July 7, 1784. Just before his ordination the Church made declaration of Independency and reaffirmed the half-way Covenant. He was dismissed Aug. 1813, and afterward settled in West Haven.

7. REV. MATTHEW R. DUTTON.

Mr. Dutton was born in Watertown, Ct., June 3d, 1783, was graduated at Yale College, 1808, and was ordained in Stratford, September 20th, 1814, having declined an urgent call from the Church in Portsmouth, N. H. Mr. Dutton continued pastor, universally esteemed and beloved, until the autumn of 1821, when he accepted the appointment of "Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy," in Yale College. He died July 17, 1825.

When Mr. Dutton was called to the Church, its spiritual con-

dition was very low. Various causes, long operating, had greatly adulterated the doctrinal belief of many members. Some of the most prominent had become believers in Universalism. The enforcement of discipline for errors in belief had become wholly impracticable. Mr. Dutton, as a condition ~~for~~ accepting the call, stipulated for an open thorough re-confession by the Church, of sound doctrine, and an assent to a solemn covenant to enforce discipline. The Confession of Faith and the Covenant now in use were at that time adopted, and only those who would assent to it were enrolled as members of the Church. Mr. Dutton's ministry was blessed to the spiritual life and efficiency of the Church. In 1821, on one Sabbath, seventy persons were added to the Church.

8. REV. JOSHUA LEAVITT, D.D.

Dr. Leavitt was born in Heath, Franklin Co., Mass., Sept. 8, 1794, and was graduated at Yale College, Sept. 1814. He was ordained over the Church in February, 1825, and was dismissed in 1828 to become Agent of the American Seamen's Friend Society in New York. Since then he has been connected with the religious and secular press, and also with several institutions of Christian benevolence and moral reform.

9. REV. THOMAS ROBBINS.

Mr. Robbins was born in Norfolk, Conn., August 11th, 1777, entered Yale College in 1792. At the close of Junior year he left and joined the Senior Class in Williams College, where he was graduated in August, 1796. In September following he took the same degree, B. A., in his former class at Yale. In 1803, he was ordained Missionary of the Home Miss. Society, to the northern part of Ohio, where he labored until impaired health obliged him to return. In May, 1809, he was installed pastor over the Church in East Windsor, Conn., where he continued until 1827, when he was dismissed at his own request.

In February, 1830, he was installed pastor over this Church, and on September 9th, the following year, he was dismissed. He removed to Metapoisett, Mass., where for fourteen years he remained pastor. Resigning his pastoral charge and office, he became Librarian of the Conn. Hist. Soc., and lived in Hartford. He died at Colebrook, Sept. 13, 1856, in the 80th year of his age.

10. REV. FREDERICK W. CHAPMAN.

Mr. Chapman was born in Canfield, Trumbull Co., Ohio, Nov. 17, 1806, was graduated at Yale College in 1828, was ordained and installed pastor of this Church, September 5, 1832, and was dismissed April 16, 1839. Subsequently he was settled over the Church at Deep River, and still later over the Church at Glastenbury. He is still living, but without a pastoral charge.

11. REV. WILLIAM BOUTON WEED.

Mr. Weed was born in New Canaan, March 22d, 1811, and was graduated at Yale College, 1830. For several years after his graduation he devoted himself to teaching. He was converted under a sermon which he heard at Chillicothe, Ohio, from the text, "Be ye thankful." In 1836, he began the study of law, but abandoned it for the ministry and was ordained at Stratford, Dec. 4th, 1839.

During his ministry, which was a most successful one, and one greatly blessed to the Church, Mr. Weed received many flattering calls to other pastorates. At length, thinking that a new field of labor might conduce to the invigoration of his enfeebled health, he accepted the invitation of the First Church in Norwalk, Conn., where he was installed June 27th, 1855. He died Dec. 3d, 1860.

Mr. Weed was held in prominent regard by the ministers and churches of the State, as a man of eminent ability, and his teachings are gratefully remembered by those who were

permitted to receive them. A book of his sermons, to which is prefixed a biographical notice, has been published.

12. REV. JOSEPH R. PAGE.

Mr. Page was born in New Brunswick, N. J., and at the time of his invitation to Stratford was pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Perry, Wyoming Co., N. Y., where he was ordained, Feb. 6th, 1839. He was installed pastor of this Church, Feb. 11, 1857. In Oct. 1858, he was dismissed, and soon assumed again the pastoral charge of his former Church in Perry, where he still lives.

13. REV. BENJAMIN L. SWAN.

Mr. Swan was born in Medford, Mass., July 31, 1813; entered College in the Junior Class, but was providentially hindered from completing the course; received the honorary degree of A. M. from Yale, in 1844. He was ordained pastor of the Church in Fair Haven, Conn., 1836; was installed pastor of the Church in Litchfield, Conn., in 1846. In 1856 he received a call from the Second Congregational Church in Bridgeport, Conn., which he declined, but preached for that Church till Sept. 1858, when he accepted the invitation of this Church. He was installed, Oct. 1858, and was dismissed in 1863. He is now pastor of the Presbyterian Church, in Oyster Bay, Long Island.

14. REV. LEWIS CHARPIOT.

Mr. Charpiot was installed pastor of this church, May 25th, 1864, and was dismissed April 12th, 1866.

15. REV. WILLIAM K. HALL,

Was installed Oct. 24th, 1866.

III.—ELDERS AND DEACONS.

1. ELDERS.

But one ruling elder seems ever to have held office in this church. He was PHILIP GROVES, who died in 1676. He was Deputy to the General Court for the town of Stratford, as early as 1652. In 1654, he was chosen "Assistant," and as such "was empowered to marry persons."

2. DEACONS.

The earliest named officers of this class on record are JOHN BIRDSEYE and JOHN WILCOXSON; the former is referred to as *Deacon* in 1678, and the latter in 1679, but neither of them could have been the first incumbents after the organization of the church, as Mr. Birdseye was born in 1641 and died in 1698, and as Mr. Wilcoxson was born in 1634 and died in 1690.

3. Thomas Wells is mentioned as a deacon in 1707; died in 1721.
4. Robert Walker is next named as a deacon in 1722; died in 1743.
5. John Thompson is also mentioned as a deacon in 1722; died in 1765.
6. Job Peck is also styled "Deacon" on his grave stone, though no record of his appointment is extant, died in 1782.
7. Elnathan Wheeler, appointed in 1751, died 1761.
8. Isaiah Brown, " " 1755, " 1793.
9. John Judson, " " 1773, "
10. Ebenezer Coe, " " 1784, " 1820.
11. Nathan McEwen, " " 1791, " 1810.
12. Samuel Ufford, " " 1802, " 1821.
13. Agur Curtis, " " 1804, " 1838.
14. Philo Curtis, " " —, " 1852.
15. Agur Curtis, " " —, " 1868.
16. David P. Judson, " " 1837.
17. Agur T. Curtis, " " 1858.
18. Lewis Beers, " " 1858.
19. Charles C. Wells, " " 1867.

IV.—ADDITIONS TO THE CHURCH AND REVIVALS.

No connected or complete record exists of the accessions to the church. The following facts have been obtained from different sources.

From 1676 to 1681, - - - 35 were added.

From 1681 to 1700, - - - 157 were added.

Of these in 1698, 22 were added, and one Sabbath in one of these years, 74 persons "stood up and avowed the covenant." In 1722-3, under the ministry of Mr. Gold, 60 persons were received into membership, and

From 1740 to 1743, - - - 31 persons were received.

Of these 31, it is interesting to know that 28 were under 30 years of age, and 16 of these under 21 years. This occurred during the "Great Awakening" of President Edwards' day.

During the whole period from 1722 to 1746, 324 were added to the church.

In 1821, under the ministry of Mr. Dutton, 70 persons were received into the church on one Sabbath.

In 1831, under the ministry of Mr. Chapman, there was a season of great religious interest, and upwards of seventy were at that time more or less awakened, but how many of these became members of the church is not known.

In 1843-4, under the ministry of Mr. Weed, forty-three were added to the church.

In 1858, under the ministry of Mr. Page, thirty-eight were added to the church.

In 1867-8, forty-three have been added to the church.

V.—MEETING-HOUSES.

The first house for public worship was erected near what is now called "Sandy Hollow." This fact in reference to it is of interest, and deserves to be remembered. It possessed a bell, with which the people were summoned to worship. How it

came to be thus favored is not known, for it was the only church in all the colonies where the people were not called together by "drum, the blowing of shell or horn." In 1681 this house was removed and its materials sold at auction.

The second house for public worship was built on Watch House (now Academy) Hill. In 1689 this house was, by vote, fortified for the security of the women and children against any attack that might be made by the Indians.

The third house for public worship was built in 1743 and stood where the Academy now stands until 1785, when it was destroyed by lightning.

The fourth house for public worship was built in 1786. It occupied the site of the present house.

The fifth and present house for worship was dedicated on the 27th Oct., 1859.

Appendix.

The cause of the opposition and the final secession was not the "*disagreement relative to the half-way covenant*," as has been often stated, nor was it primarily or at least chiefly of any distinct *ecclesiastical* nature.

Mr. Chauncey was settled under an agreement propounded by the town and Church, June 1, 1666, (see Record p. 217—entitled Ch. Covenant,) to practise what was long known as the "half-way covenant," and after his decease it was stipulated in the several calls given to candidates for settlement, that they should "accept on the foundations of Church discipline in the way of Mr. Chauncey."

Again, from several papers now in the archives at Hartford, which relate to this difficulty, it appears:

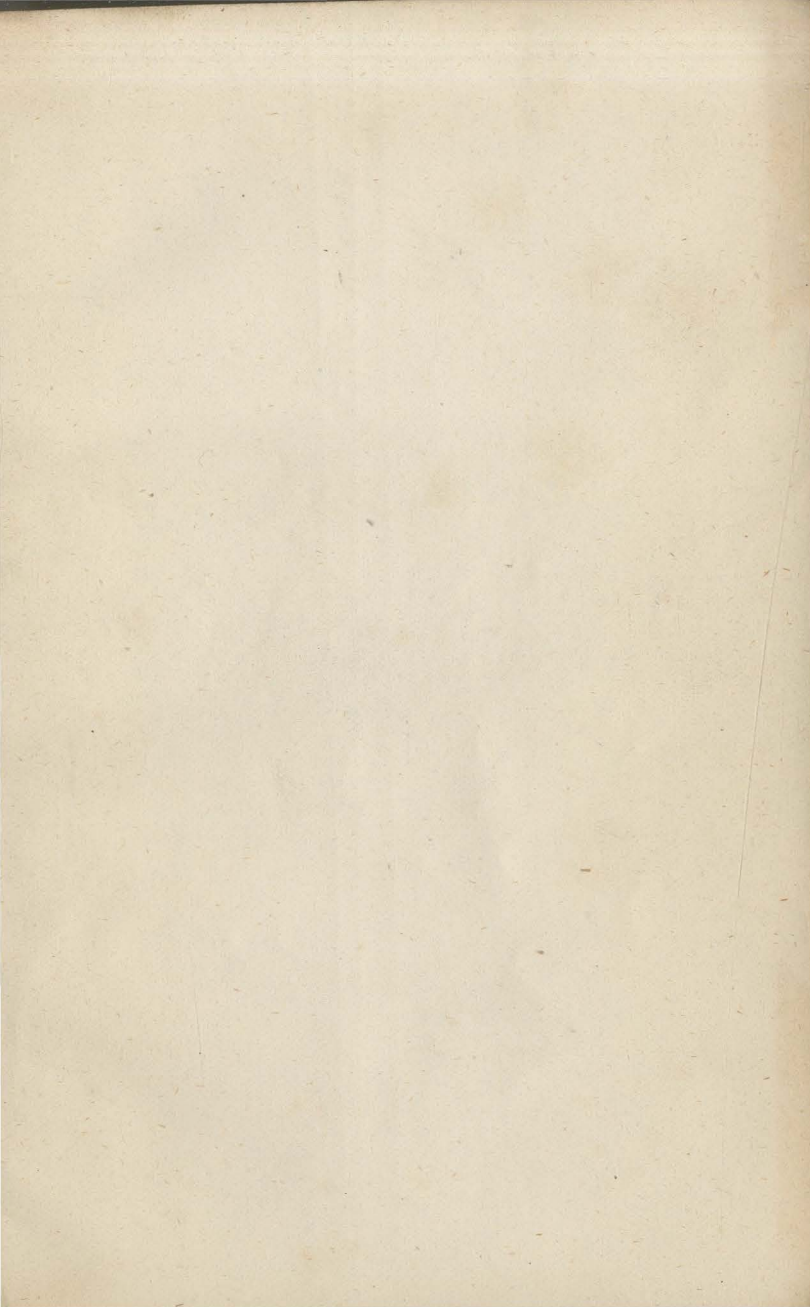
1. That personal feuds and grievances were made part of the difficulty.
2. The parties at variance never assign disagreement as to the proper recipients of baptism as their point of controversy. The minority refer to "objections" they had to "the settlement of Mr. Chauncey," to a dispute "as to who should examine candidates for admission to communion" to their "own right of communion." The church declares itself to be acting in reference to the "established order and dispensation of the worship of God."

Again, the church says, "What are our differences?" We conceive them to be of *civil concernment*." "You charge us with irregularity in the election of officers."

3. The mode of discipline as between Congregationalism and Presbyterianism.

4. The advice given by the Governor and the gentlemen deputed to act with him in March, 1668, for the quieting of all difficulties between the Church and the dissentients turns not at all upon baptismal questions, nor upon any other than those of qualifications for voting on ecclesiastical and other matters.

5. This difficulty was of a nature to involve the excision of the Woodbury party. When, some years later, several of them returned, they were entered upon the record as "restored to good standing."



OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH.

1868.

PASTOR.

WILLIAM K. HALL, (installed Oct. 24, 1866.)

DEACONS.

DAVID P. JUDSON, appointed 1837.
AGUR T. CURTIS, " 1858.
LEWIS BEERS, " 1858.
CHARLES C. WELLS, " 1857.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

DEA. DAVID P. JUDSON.	REV. EDWARD B. EMERSON.
" AGUR T. CURTIS.	PETER P. CURTIS.
" LEWIS BEERS.	FREDERICK SEDGWICK.
" CHARLES C. WELLS.	GEORGE T. JUDSON.

SAMUEL L. BOOTH.

TREASURER.

DEACON LEWIS BEERS.

CLERK.

FREDERICK SEDGWICK.

Form of Admission.

TO BE USED IN RECEIVING THOSE WHO UNITE WITH THIS CHURCH
UPON PROFESSION.

Beloved in the Lord:

You have presented yourself (selves) before God and this assembly to make profession of your religious faith, and to unite with the visible church of Christ. We trust that having well-considered, you justly appreciate the nature of this most solemn transaction, and that in humble dependence upon Divine Grace, you are prepared to present yourself (selves) "a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God," through Jesus Christ.

Confession of Faith.

I. You believe that there is one God ⁽¹⁾ in three persons, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, ⁽²⁾ the Creator of all things ⁽³⁾ the Lord and Governor of all worlds.⁽⁴⁾

(1) Deut. vi. 4; xxii. 39. Isa. xlv. 22. Gal. iii. 20. Jam. ii. 19.

(2) Matt. xxviii. 19. Luke i. 35. John v. 17-23; 1 John v. 7.

(3) Gen. i. 1. Neh. ix. 6. Heb. iii. 4. Acts xvii. 22-28.

(4) 2 Chron. xx. 6. Psal. xlvii. 2. Psal. ciii. 19.

II. You believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and inspired by the Holy Spirit ⁽¹⁾ and that they contain in them all things necessary for our belief and practice in order to salvation.⁽²⁾

(1) Rom. iii. 1. 2. Gal. i. 11. 12. 2 Tim. iii. 16. 2 Peter i. 21.

(2) Deut. iv. 2. Isa. viii. 20. John v. 39; 2 Tim. iii. 16, 17.

III. You believe in the fall of man in the first Adam, ⁽¹⁾ and his recovery by Jesus Christ, the second Adam, ⁽²⁾ according to the Scriptures.

(1) Rom. v. 12-19. Eph. ii. 1-3.

(2) Rom. v. 17-21. Gal. iv. 4, 5.

IV. You believe that our first parents, by eating the forbidden fruit, lost the moral image of God and fell into a state of sin and misery, ⁽¹⁾ in consequence of which all their posterity are by nature destitute of true holiness ⁽²⁾.

(1) Gen. iii. 1-6; 1 Cor. xv. 20, 21.

(2) Ecc. vii. 29; Rom. vii. 8. Rom viii. 7, 8. Eph. ii. 1.

V. You believe that Jesus Christ, at once the Son of God, and the Son of Man, ⁽²⁾ having perfectly obeyed the law of God, voluntarily offered himself on the cross a sacrifice for sin, ⁽³⁾ and that his atonement and righteousness constitute the only ground of justification in the sight of God, ⁽⁴⁾ and that through Jesus Christ, God offers forgiveness to all men, and that every sinner who turns to God by repentance and faith in his Son, is freely pardoned and will be saved. ⁽⁵⁾

(1) Matt. xiv. 33; xxvii. 43, 54. John iii, 18, xx. 31.

(2) John i, 51, vi. 62. Gal. iv. 4. 1 Tim. ii. 5. Heb. ii, 14, 16.

(3) Rom. v. 19. Phil. ii. 8. Heb. v. 7-9; ix, 26; x. 5-9.

(4) Rom. iii. 20, 24. Gal. iii, 13. Heb. ix, 22.

(5) Acts xiii. 39. Acts xvi, 31. Rom. v. 1; x. 9. Eph. ii. 5.

VI. You believe that the Holy Spirit restores the image of God in all them that believe, ⁽¹⁾ whereby also they are kept through Faith unto Salvation ⁽²⁾.

(1) John iii. 5, 6, 8; vi. 44, 63, 65.

(2) John x. 28. Rom. viii, 38, 39. 1 Peter i. 3-5,

VII. You believe it is the duty of Christ's disciples to associate themselves for worship and communion, for mutual watchfulness and improvement, ⁽¹⁾ for the administration of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, ⁽²⁾ and for the perpetuation and extension of his kingdom among men; and that any association of believers for these purposes, is a Christian church.⁽³⁾

(1) Matt. xvi. 8; xviii, 17. Acts ii. 47. 1 Cor. i. 2.

(2) Matt. xxvi, 26-30; xxviii. 19.

(3) Matt. xviii. 19. Acts ii. 47, xvi. 5.

VIII. You believe in the immortality of the soul, ⁽¹⁾ and that there will be a day of Judgment, when the bodies of the just and the unjust shall be raised, and the whole human race appear before the bar of Christ ⁽²⁾; the event of which will be, that the righteous shall enter into life eternal, but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment ⁽³⁾.

(1) Dan. xii, 2. Acts iv, 2; xxiii. 6; xxiv. 15. 1 Cor. xv. 15, 24.

(2) Ecc. xi. 9; xii. 14. Matt. xii, 36. Acts xvii. 31. Rev. xx. 11, 12.

(3) Matt. xix, 29; xxv, 46. Mark. ix. 45, 48. Rom. ii. 7, vi. 22.

Thus you believe.

(You will now enter into solemn covenant with God and this Church.)

Covenant.

You do now, in the presence of God, and before angels and men, with seriousness, and, as you hope, with sincerity of soul, avouch the Lord Jehovah to be your Sovereign Lord, your Father, Redeemer and Sanctifier, and your Supreme Good through Jesus Christ; and you solemnly devote and give up yourself to his fear and service.

You engage, with dependence upon Divine Grace, in the most sacred ties to observe all God's commandments, seeking his glory by a conscientious performance of all Christian duties, and by a serious attendance on the ordinances of Christ to be enjoyed in this Church, and in this particular Church, until you shall be dismissed from the same.

You promise to submit to the government and discipline of this Church, and to support the same, according to the Gospel. Thus you promise and covenant.

(Here the ordinance of baptism, unless previously received, will be administered.)

In consequence of these professions and engagements, we, (here the members of the church will rise,) the members of this Church, do promise that by Divine assistance we will treat you as a member of the same body with ourselves, watching over you for your good, with a spirit of meekness, love and tenderness, and earnestly praying that God would dwell among us and command his blessing upon us, even life forevermore, through the merits and intercession of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Form for the Baptism of Children.

You, in presenting these children for baptism, profess yourselves believers in the covenant, which God hath established with his people, promising to be a father to them and to their seed after them. You covenant, on your part, in the presence of God and these witnesses, to train these children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, to instruct them in the knowledge of Divine Truth, as you may have opportunity, but especially in the way of salvation through Jesus Christ, and with Divine help to walk before them in the excellence of the Christian life. You do now solemnly dedicate them to God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, to be his forever, promising by all means in your power, in reliance upon his grace, to seek their renewal and sanctification, that they may be prepared to take their places in full in Christ's visible church on earth, and at last in his glorified Church in Heaven. Do you thus profess and promise?

(The ordinance will here be administered.)

Standing Rules.

1. All male members of this Church, who have attained eighteen years, and are not under process of discipline by the Church, are entitled to vote in all its meetings.

2. The officers of the church shall consist permanently of the pastor, deacons and clerk, to which shall be added five brethren to be elected annually upon nomination by a committee appointed for the purpose.

3. It shall be the duty of the *deacons* to assist in the distribution of the elements at the celebration of the Lord's Supper; to take care of the poor; to visit the sick, and generally to afford such assistance to the pastor in the discharge of his parochial duties as the interest of the church may require.

4. It shall be duty of the *Standing Committee*:

a. To examine and propound for admission to the church applicants for the same.

b. To inquire and examine as to any delinquent or unruly members of the Church, receiving any complaints that may be made against them, and if there is cause, reporting all such for the action of the Church.

c. To decide as to what objects of benevolence shall be annually presented to the Church.

d. To deliberate and determine in regard to all such matters connected with the good of the Church as shall seem to them reasonable and just.

5. When a person proposes to unite with this Church by letter, the same shall stand propounded two weeks; also when members of this Church request letters of dismission to other Churches, notice of their intention shall be given two weeks previous to any action upon the same.

6. Members of the Church in removing from the town are *expected* to transfer their membership to some other evangelical Church within one year from the time of their removal, and

letters will not be granted to persons who have delayed applying for them for more than one year, unless reasons satisfactory to the church shall be assigned.

7. Members of other churches resident among us, who shall have communed with us for one year, will be *expected* to present letters of dismission from the churches to which they belong, unless satisfactory reasons for the omission of such a step be presented to the Standing Committee.

8. The annual meeting of the Church shall be held on the day of the Preparatory Lecture next before the communion in May, when the election of the Standing Committee shall be first in order, and then that of the Superintendent of the Sabbath School, after which any matters concerning the welfare of the Church may be introduced and transacted.

9. The Confession of Faith, Covenant, and Standing Rules shall not be altered except by a two-thirds vote at any annual meeting, or a special meeting called for the purpose by notice from the pulpit.

Standing Appointments.

1. Public worship commences at 10.45 A. M., and at 2 o'clock P. M., throughout the year.

2. The Sabbath School is held every Sabbath at the close of the morning worship.

3. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is administered the first Sabbaths in January, March, May, July, September, and November, in the place of the regular afternoon service.

4. A lecture preparatory to the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is given on the Friday afternoon preceding.

Friday preceding first Sabbath in January, March, and November, at 2 o'clock.

Friday preceding first Sabbath in May, July, and September, at 3 o'clock.

5. The ordinance of infant baptism is administered on the Communion Sabbaths of May, July, September, and November, immediately after the opening of the morning service.

N. B. Parents will give notice to the pastor of their intention to present children for baptism during the week preceding the designated Sabbath. Also the names of the children presented for baptism, together with those of their parents, should be given in writing to the pastor, that the record of them may be correct.

6. Meetings for prayer and social worship are held on Sunday evenings, and on Wednesday evenings, in the Conference Room.

7. The Concert of Prayer for Missions is attended on the evening of the first Sabbath of each month.

8. Contributions are annually made as follows, and usually upon the second or third Sabbath of the designated month:

For the American Bible Society in January.

For the Home Missionary Society in April.

For the American and Foreign Christian Union in June.

For the Am. Board Com. For. Missions in July.

For the American Seamen's Friend Society in August.

For the Sabbath School Library in September.

For the Tract Cause in October.

For the American Missionary Association in November.

A collection is also taken at the monthly concert of prayer for missions—which is equally divided between the Foreign and Home Missionary Societies. Also at each communion of the Lord's Supper a collection is taken, the proceeds of which are applied to the incidental expenses of the church and to the support of the poor.

CATALOGUE OF MEMBERS.

The *date* of admission is opposite the name.

Received (l) by letter, (p) by profession of faith.

A.

Adams, Mrs. Thos. (Eunice B.) p 1843
Allen, Mrs. Edward P. (Julia G. Hale) l 1861

B.

Barnum, Samuel p 1858
Barton, Mrs. Rev. John W. (Annette L. Emerson) l 1862
Batterson, Mrs. Sillick (Emma Bailey) l 1844
Batterson, Mrs. Wm. H. (Mary E. Wheeler) l 1861
Bayard, William T. p 1868
Beach, Miss Susan l 1851
Beardsley, Mrs. George (Anna Sophia Booth) p 1843
Beck, Miss Almema M. p 1867
Beers, Lewis p 1827
Beers, Mrs. Lewis (Susan Ufford) l 1832
Beers, Edmund S. p 1858
Benjamin, Mrs. Sherman (Catharine Drew) p 1832
Birdsey, Mrs. Nathan B. (Mary Anne Wheeler) l 1862
Birdsey, Mrs. Philo (Sarah E. Deforest) l 1852
Blakeman, Treat p 1825
Blakeman, Mrs. Treat (Rebecca Ann Curtiss) l 1851
Blakeman, James p 1828
Blakeman, Mrs. James (Cornelia Salmon) p 1828
Blakeman, Minott Ami p 1867
Blakeman, Mrs. J. Henry (Amelia J. Burr) l 1867
Blakeman, Mrs. Gould, (Harriet Birdsey) p 1831
Blakeman, Miss Betsey C. p 1855
Blakeman, Miss Myra C. p 1866
Blakeman, Carlos Dwight p 1867
Blakeman, Mrs. Anson H. (Fanny Wakelee) l 1862

Blakeman, Beard p 1821
Blakeman, Sylvester l 1861
Blakeman, Mrs. Sylvester (Caroline Mallett) l 1861
Blakeman, Miss Rhoda J. p 1832
Blakeslee, Charles W. p 1867
Booth, Mrs. Josiah (Mary Curtiss) p 1817
Booth, Mrs. Josiah (Elizabeth A. Osborn) p 1867
Booth, Samuel L. p 1831
Booth, Mrs. Sam'l L. (Catharine S. Brinsmade) l 1848
Booth, Mrs. Albert (Caroline Beardsley) p 1853
Booth, Mrs. Charles W. (C. Lavinia Canfield) p 1868
Booth, Miss Hannah l 1850
Booth, Nathan Birdsey p 1831
Booth, Mrs. Nathan B. (Sophia E. Curtis) l 1844
Booth, Miss Avis S. p 1867
Booth, Charles F. p 1867
Booth, Stephen Sterling p 1867
Booth, Mrs. Stephen S. (Harriet Beach) p 1867
Booth, Charles B. p 1867
Bridge, Mrs. Dan'l (Mary Lummus) l 1868
Bridge, Miss Harriet E. p 1868
Bridge, Miss Marie E. p 1868
Brooks, Isaac p 1843
Brooks, Mrs. Isaac (Sarah Lewis) p 1832
Brooks, Miss Susan p 1832
Brooks, Miss Selene A. p 1864
Brooks, Miss Emilia A. p 1853
Buddington, Samuel C. p 1843
Bunce, Samuel R. p 1858
Bunce, Mrs. Samuel R. (Myra P. Thomas) l 1851
Burritt, Mrs. Philip (Alice Coe) l 1844
Burritt, Mrs. Charles P. (Mary E. Burton) p 1852
Burritt, Mrs. James (Betsey Fairchild) p 1831

Burritt, Wilson	p 1858	Curtis, Miss Myra	p 1867
Burritt, Mrs. Wilson (Abigail Crane)	l 1850	Curtis, Peter P.	p 1832
Burritt, Robert W.	p 1834	Curtis, Mrs. Peter P. (Mary E. Fitch)	l 1843
Burritt, George	p 1852	Curtis, Miss Mary P.	l 1866
Burritt, Mrs. George (Catharine J. Curtis)	p 1852	Curtis, Miss Sarah F.	p 1867
Burritt, Lewis	p 1858		
Burritt, Mrs. Lewis (Cordelia Plumb)	p 1858	D.	
Burritt, Miss Cornelia	p 1858	Dayton, Miss Annie	p 1827
Burritt, Miss Sarah H.	p 1867	Dayton, Miss Betsey	p 1854
Burton, Mrs. Albert (Maria D. Booth)	p 1832	Dayton, Robert	p 1843
Burton, Miss Amelia C.	p 1858	Deforest, Mrs. Wm. S. (Helen Coe)	l 1843
Butler, Miss Mary Virginia	p 1867	Devine, Miss Mary A.	p 1866

C.

Clark, Mrs. David C. (Mary A. Deforest)	l 1843
Clark, David Henry	p 1867
Close, Mrs. John W. (Susan A. McEwen)	p 1832
Coe, Miss Sally A.	p 1849
Coe, Mrs. William (Cordelia M. Curtis)	p 1864
Coe, Miss Emily F.	p 1864
Cook, Mrs. Henry H. (Mary E. Barnum)	p 1858
Cook, Miss Emma	p 1867
Culver, Miss Harriet M.	p 1867
Curtis, Mrs. Deacon Agur (Alice Peck)	p 1815
Curtis, Alfred	l 1866
Curtis, Mrs. Alfred (Altha J. Stratton)	l 1866
Curtis, Marcus	p 1832
Curtis, Sheldon P.	p 1832
Curtis, Mrs. Sheldon P. (Sarah M. McEwen)	p 1832
Curtis, Agur Treat	p 1843
Curtis, Mrs. Agur Treat (Jane A. Warner)	p 1843
Curtis, Miss Henrietta	p 1843
Curtis, Samuel E.	p 1843
Curtis, Henry	l 1849
Curtis, Mrs. Henry (Catharine R. Booth)	p 1833
Curtis, Mrs. Walker (Julia A. Staples)	l 1836
Curtis, Miss Cornelia I.	p 1853
Curtis, Miss Mary T.	p 1867
Curtis, Mrs. Willis (Mary R. Wells)	p 1858
Curtis, Mrs. Elihu (Clemence Peck)	l 1830
Curtis, Mrs. Wm. (Helen Birdsey)	p 1825
Curtis, Mrs. Thaddeus B. (Jane Olmstead)	p 1843

Edmonds Mrs. Charles (Sarah McEwen)	p 1832
Ely, Mrs. Wm. N. (Anna G. Hale)	p 1858
Emerson, Rev. Edward B.	l 1862
Emerson, Mrs. Rev. Edward B. (Anne Lummus)	l 1862
Emerson, Miss Mary S.	p 1862
Emerson, Samuel F.	p 1867

F.

Fairchild, Mrs. Isaac (Betsey Smith)	p 1843
Fairchild, Mrs. John C. (Mabel McClure)	l 1837
Fairchild, Thomas B.	p 1853
Fairchild, Mrs. Thos. B. (Susan A. Fairchild)	p 1853
Fairchild, Samuel Wm.	p 1867
Fellows, Mrs. F. H. (Elizabeth Fairchild)	l 1868

G.

Gorham, Miss Sally	p 1825
Gorham, Miss Anne	l 1834
Gorham, Charles R.	p 1831
Gorham, Mrs. Charles R. (Sarah Brooks)	p 1832
Gorham, Mrs. Judson (Nancy Staples)	l 1836
Gridley, Rev. Frederick	l 1868

H.

Hale, Mrs. Merwin, (Mary Gorham)	l 1854
Hall, Mrs. Rev. Wm. K. (Annie B. Bond)	l 1867
Hawes, Mrs. Wm. P. (Priscilla)	l 1844
Hawes, Miss Eliza M.	p 1853
Hawley, Mrs. Charles (Nancy Curtis)	l 1865
Hawley, Eli C.	l 1865

Hawley, Mrs. Eli C. (Sarah A. Coan) 1 1865
 Hubbard, Mrs. Timothy B. (Cecilia C.) 1 1868
 Hubbard, Miss Josephine C. 1 1868
 Hubbard, Miss Sarah Eliza 1 1868
 Hubbell, Miss Susan p 1825
 Hubbell, Miss Harriet p 1832
 Hubbell, Miss Maria p 1833
 Hubbell, Mrs. Lewis (Julia A. Tait) 1 1846

J.

Jamison, Joseph 1 1857
 Jamison, Mrs. Joseph (Catharine Read) 1 1857
 Johnston, Mrs. Ruth 1 1850
 Judson, Mrs. Abner) Maria Hubbell) p 1821
 Judson, Curtis p 1843
 Judson, Mrs. Curtis (Delia Stowe) p 1832
 Judson, David P. 1 1831
 Judson, Mrs. David P. (Elizabeth S. Gridley) 1 1854
 Judson, Miss Angelina p 1837
 Judson, George T. p 1843
 Judson, Mrs. George T. (Mary A. Fairchild) p 1843
 Judson, Miss Mary Fanny p 1867
 Judson, Mrs. Stiles (Caroline E. Peck) p 1853

L.

Lacy, Mrs. David (Laura Burr) 1 1820
 Law, Miss Mary p 1855
 Lester, Champion 1 1856
 Lewis, Mrs. Abram (Maria Curtis) 1 1851
 Lewis, Miss Emma Jane p 1867
 Lilliston, Mrs. Benedict (Merilla Nettleton) p 1843
 Loomis, Gideon 1 1868

M.

McEwen, Abijah p 1834
 McEwen, Mrs. Abijah (Mary Anne Jones) p 1832
 McEwen, Miss Kate L. p 1866
 McEwen, Samuel Wm. p 1867
 McEwen, Miss Mary E. p 1867
 Miller, Mrs. Robert (Elizabeth Curtis) p 1841
 Mintun, Mrs. John (Mary E. Clark) p 1867
 Mitchell, Rev. John 1 1853
 Mitchell, Mrs. Rev. John (Mary Anne Tomlinson) 1 1845
 Mitchell, Miss Henrietta R. 1 1867

N.

Northrup, Mrs. Nicholas (Harriet M. Wheeler) p 1832

O.

Orters, Mrs. Leonard (Jane Hart) p 1867

P.

Park, Miss Martha A. p 1862
 Pauling, Albert Julian p 1867
 Peck, Benedict 1 1856
 Peck, Mrs. Benedict (Abigail Wheeler) p 1840
 Peck, Mrs. Wm. J. (Elizabeth M. Sherman) 1 1857
 Peck, Miss Maria 1 1866
 Peck, Miss Eliza 1 1866
 Pendleton, Miss Julia p 1840
 Pendleton, Miss Caroline 1 1845
 Pixley, Peter C. 1 1854
 Platt, Mrs. Henry (Sarah Burwell) 1 1850
 Platt, Miss Mary A. p 1858
 Platt, Mrs. Robert S. (Louisa E. Wheeler) p 1865

Q.

Quinn, James p 1867

R.

Reeve, Mrs. Francis L. (Catharine Everitt) 1 1857
 Remsen, William H. p 1865
 Remsen, Mrs. Wm. H. (Henrietta Lane) p 1865
 Rider, Benjamin G. p 1867
 Ritchie, Miss Sarah A. p 1867

S.

Searing, Mrs. Augustus P. (Delia Butler) 1 1859
 Sedgwick, Frederick 1 1849
 Sedgwick, Mrs. Frederick (Caroline Swan) 1 1852
 Sheldon, Roswell B. p 1858
 Sheldon, Mrs. Roswell B. (Mary L. Hendrick) p 1858
 Sheldon, Miss Emily P. p 1858
 Sheldon, Miss Olivia p 1864
 Smith, Edward 1 1852
 Smith, Mrs. Edward (Elsie A. Chapel) 1 1852
 Smith, Mrs. Watson H. (Asenath A. Sumner) p 1864

Smith, Mrs. S. D. (Mary C. Smith) p 1868
 Sniffen, Mrs. Wm. (Harriet R. Barnum) p 1858
 Spall, George H. p 1867
 Spencer, Gustavus p 1867
 Spencer, Mrs. Gustavus (Mary C. Hurlburt) l 1867
 Stagg, Joseph H. p 1833
 Stagg, Mrs. Joseph H. (Ellen B. Curtis) p 1831
 Stagg, Miss Caroline E. p 1864
 Stagg, Mrs. Moses C. (Emily A. Budington) l 1842
 Sterling, Mrs. John Wm. (Catharine T. Plant) l 1833
 Sterling, Miss Catharine M. p 1860
 Sterling, John Wm. p 1865
 Sterling, Miss Cordelia p 1862
 Strong, William l 1854
 Strong, Mrs. William (Mary E. Chatfield) l 1854

T.

Thompson, Curtis p 1858
 Thompson, John W. p 1868
 Tomlinson, Mrs. Huntington (Eliza Mills) p 1825
 Tomlinson, Miss Sarah l 1859
 Tomlinson, Miss Rebecca H. l 1862
 Tomlinson, Mrs. Wm. H. (Elizabeth A. Baldwin) l 1857
 Tucker, John l 1845
 Tucker, Mrs. John (Catharine Wilcox) l 1845
 Tucker, Miss Catharine Jane p 1858

U.

Ufford, Mrs. Isaac (Phebe Day-ton) p 1834
 Ufford, Miss Mary Anne p 1832
 Ufford, Miss Catharine p 1834
 Ufford, Mrs. Henry (Hannah Smith) l 1824

W.

Walk, Miss Ellen N. p 1867
 Walker, Miss Maria p 1825
 Wardwell, Samuel l 1856
 Wardwell, Mrs. Samuel [Betsey Booth] l 1856
 Wells, Miss Polly p 1815
 Wells, Mrs. Eli [Elvira Curtis] p 1825
 Wells, Lewis p 1841
 Wells, Mrs. Lewis [Phebe Curtis] l 1843
 Wells, Charles C. l 1857
 Wells, Samuel N. p 1858
 Wheeler, Everitt p 1831
 Wheeler, Mrs. Everitt [Maria Curtis] p 1821
 Wheeler, Mrs. Henry G. [Martha A. Burr] l 1864
 Wheeler, Mrs. David [Betsey Birdseye] p 1825
 Wheeler, Mrs. Franklin [Elizabeth Benjamin] p 1858
 Wheeler, Miss Ellen p 1855
 Wheeler, Agur W. p 1852
 Wheeler, Eli p 1831
 Wheeler, Mrs. William [Elizabeth Wakelee] p 1858
 Wheeler, Wm. Ezra p 1865
 Wheeler, Miss Fanny S p 1865
 Wheeler, Miss Lucy B. p 1852
 Wheeler, Mrs. Charles [Ruth A. Nichols] l 1852
 White, Benjamin F. p 1858
 White, Mrs. Benjamin F. [Mary Brush] l 1858
 Whiting, Seymour l 1853
 Wilcox, Joel l 1859
 Wilcox, Mrs. Joel [Phebe Grey] l 1859
 Wilcox, Hanford l 1859
 Wilcox, Mrs. Hanford [Mary Jane Burr] l 1859
 Wilcox, Mrs. George [Eliza J. Perry] l 1838
 Wilcox, Miss Julia M. p 1864
 Wilcox, Miss Helen Augusta p 1867
 Wilcox, Miss Fannie A. p 1868
 Wilmot, Miss Louisa A. p 1860
 Wright, Miss Anna G. p 1865

Males, -
 Females,

Total,

Summary.

76

190

266

