

Fredonia Baptist Church  
Letters, Reports, Receipts  
**1850s**

Transcribed by Marsia Painter with Doug Shepard and Wendy Straight.  
Transcriber's Note: Some punctuation has been added and some spelling has been corrected.  
Last names and years have been set in bold font. Items are not necessarily in chronological order.

For the following items, please see the **1860s** Letters, Reports, and Receipts:  
*Item 49* **1854** Request of Baptist Church in Ellery for council to ordain G.W. **Varnum**  
*Item 204* **1859** Letter of Notification for Frances W. **Post**  
*Item 209* **1856** Letter of commendation and dismissal for Francis **Bradley**  
*Item 218* **1854** Envelope addressed to Mrs. Harriet **Jennings**

*(Item 1)*

May the 16; **1850**

Beloved Brothers and sisters in Christ with pleasure I sit down to write a few lines to let you no that I have not forgotten you I desire to se you again perhaps many of you pass me not knowing whare we live we live in Wesleyville(?) I remember how many happy meetings we have had sitting together now we are parted for a while but if we prove faithful we soon meet again whare parting will never will be this is my prayer before the throne of grace that God would save us one and all pray for me that this may be our happy lot I have the priviledge of going to meting in this place we have some good meetings but the Baptist Church is my home I have attended the Baptist Church when I could and Baptist sin[g]lings schools whitch has ben vary pleasing to me and my Children has attended the [s]chools with me it would be vary pleasing to me if you would forward a letter for that is the way to come into the Church I do not want to climb up some other way I had a good letter that I gave to Elder **Bishop** when I joined there. I remain your well wishing sister and I hope that I shall remain so til death separates us O pray for me and my familee that we may be happy in this world and the world to come. Hannah **Johnson** to all inquireing Friends and to the Church to read  
Sister **Johnson**(?)

Howard M. **Jones**

*(Item 2)*

The standing committee report that they have examined the record of Mr. **May**'s exclusion, & find that it was regular & so far as they can learn, fully warranted & therefore recommend that the ch. decline to take action on Mr. **May**'s request, [the following crossed out] until he shall make satisfactory confession.

*(Item 3)*

The Baptist Church in the City of Bridgeport, under the Pastoral care of  
To Any Baptist Church of the same faith & order Sendeth Greeting.

Dear Brethren,

This is to Certify, that Mrs Harriet **Jennings** is a member in good standing and full fellowship with us, and at her own request we grant her this Letter of Dismission, for the purpose of uniting with you.

We most affectionately recommend her to your Christian fellowship and watch care, praying that the Lord may crown your union with mutual and eternal blessings.

Done by order and in behalf of the Church, at a regular Ch meeting, held Bridgeport, Augt 4 **1854**

John Scott

Church Clerk.

Recd. Nov. 4/54

*(Item 3a)*

Reply of S. **May** to Report of the Committee as Read in Ch. Meeting Dec 12, **1854**

Read by Clk in Ch Meeting Dec 12. **1854** after which on Mo. D.A. **Woodruff** seconded by H.A. **Buck** Resolved, That in view of the charges sustained against Bro Stephen **May**, and the railing accusations made by him against the Committee of the Church and its members, in his written reply to the Report of Committee, this day read in Church meeting at his request, this Church withdraw from him the hand of fellowship.

(Item 3b)

To the Baptist Church in Fredonia, of which the undersigned is a Member, Brethren, Whereas there is a prejudice against me in the Chh. which is believed by some to have its origin in the differences existing between Mr. C. **Roberts** and myself, which I deem untrue, and hope to show because this prejudice existed more than three years before he was known in this community, which is the sole cause of the offensive document purporting to be a Report of a Committee appointed by the Chh. and read in Chh. meeting by G.W. **Lewis** on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Nov. last. Therefore I ask your patience while I trace the events of the past six years which have a bearing on the matter in question.

At the time when efforts were being made for the adjustment of the difficulties between the two bodies claiming to be the first Baptist chh. of Pomfret and the formation of a new chh. I was solicited to become a constituent member, and as I had stood aloof from both parties during eight years, and having a strong desire for the prosperity of the Baptist interest, I complied with the oft repeated solicitation and became a member. At that time, I regret to say it was obvious there was little union of sentiment and less unanimity of feeling existing between members of the chh. Arminianism, Campbellism and soon after Millerism found advocates in the chh. Among them Campbellism was the most prominent which seemed to be fast gaining advocates in the body.

One of the members who openly advocated the Campbellite sentiments had a large number under his tuition at that time as we had no Minister during that year after the first of April. There were a number of candidates for the Pastoral office, but they were rejected mainly thro' the influence of those adhering(?) to Campbellism. And indeed every opportunity was seized on during the year to poison the minds of the youth with this antichristian doctrine and sentiment by G.W. **Lewis**. Against this as a member of the Baptist chh. and a Christian, I deemed it my duty to stand up and bear testimony, having a strong desire for the purity and oneness of the Baptist sentiment, without which no church can be successful. It was stated repeatedly by the leaders of this party that it was not necessary for the church to have a Minister. That the New testament was all we needed.

I opposed this sentiment often and referred to the directions given in the Scriptures on this point, and quoted such language as the following. How can they hear without a preacher etc. which will be recollected by some of the members. I pursued this course during the year on account of which Mr. **Lewis** and his adherents took offence. In the spring of 1849 Elder **Griswold** took the pastoral charge of the Chh. As a man, a citizen, a Christian and a minister, he was universally beloved and respected. The congregation greatly increased in numbers and the Chh was edified. Soon after the settlement of Eld. **Griswold**, one of the members of the chh. Dea **Hamilton** became a Millerite having embraced all the false doctrine of that deluded sect, and at the first meeting afterwards he avowed and advocated these false sentiments and said at the same time there could be no objection to his continuing his membership inasmuch as there were members of the Chh. who were not Baptists, thereby intimating that one error justified another, but I opposed his course and was happy to find I was sustained by the Pastor and some of the members of the chh. This opposition I continued as often as these errors were repeated and sustained by G.W. **Lewis**.

In thus doing what I deemed my duty in opposing error and heresy I laid the foundation for the prejudices against me by Members of the Chh. which have been industriously augmented by Campbellite influence. This state of things increased to such a degree that G.W. **Lewis** refused to instance common civility towards me during more than two years. He seemed determined that Dea. **Hamilton** should be retained a member of the chh. and intimated that the greater the diversity of sentiment in the chh. the sooner he could organize a Campbellite society and build up an interest on the ruins of the Baptist Chh. and this in five years he boasted he would do. At the close of the first year of Eld. **Griswold**'s services there was a chh meeting to discuss the subject of continuing him as Pastor of the Chh. G.W. **Lewis** opposed the motion urging as a reason that, Eld **Griswold** was not a grammarian, was ignorant of the Scriptures, and thus incapable of teaching, and that if he were retained he, would not give anything towards his support. A subscription was liberally sustained by all with the exception of Mr. **Lewis** and those under his influence, and Eld. **Griswold** continued his pastoral labors during the summer but said the Campbellite influence was against him and paralyzing all his influence and efforts.

About this time the case of Dea. **Hamilton** was bro't before the chh. meeting by D. **Barrell**, nine months had passed since Dea. **Hamilton** had maintained his erroneous sentiments. The chh. had had hopes of his abandoning them, but their hopes were vain. A sharp debate took place between Mr. **Barrell** & **Lewis**.

Mr. **Lewis** alleged that the chh. had no right to exclude one on account of his sentiments. Mr. **Barrell** said that Dea. **Hamilton** was fully established in his views, would make no concession and did not wish to be retained a member of the chh. On the other hand Mr. **Lewis** insisted that he should be retained a member, and seemed very angry, using insolent language and created a great degree of excitement. At this time I confess I was excited in some measure and said there was no difference between Campbellism Mormonism and Millerism, for they were all disorganizers in

everything pertaining to chh order. This gave great offence to Mr. **Lewis** and his party. He seemed in a great rage and determined to have revenge. Soon after this I requested a chh meeting to take into consideration his conduct and antichristian sentiments. At four different covenant meetings I made this request, but some of his party opposed it – I therefore each time asked for a letter of dismissal affirming that my sentiments would not justify me in continuing in a chh. where such false views and erroneous practices were sustained, that I wished to be separate from all heresy and false doctrine. But a deaf ear was turned to all my requests, and as Mr. **Lewis** became acquainted with and understood all my objections to him he grew more revengeful. In the spring of **1851** Elder **Kingsbury** assumed the Pastoral charge of the chh. But he had been here but a few months before Mr. **Lewis** commenced an unprovoked attack on him, accusing him of falsehood and lying, but soon found he had commenced on the wrong man. He did not find him the patient inoffensive Eld. **Griswold**. He was met by prompt and energetic decision and he cowered down under the influence of truth.

In the spring of **1854** I commenced a labour with C. **Roberts**, in accordance with the rule contained in the 18<sup>th</sup> of Matthew. But he refused to hear me, I then took one more with me but he refused to hear him. I then told it to the chh. and – they refused to hear me. I then asked for an unprejudiced committee to investigate my charges against C. **Roberts** together with my conduct towards him and requested at the same time that the investigation should be confined to the difficulty existing between us. All matters of deal(?) had been adjusted between us. All that now existed was in regard to Christian conduct towards each other. A Committee was appointed, and the first named on that committee was G.W. **Lewis** who owned he was prejudiced against me and yet was Chairman of that Committee. I knew he was my enemy and the enemy of the chh. and the enemy of the Baptist denomination and yet he was appointed to and accepted the responsible station of carrying out the discipline of the Baptist chh. and he himself not a Baptist and no feelings of interests in common with Baptists. The Committee reported that the labour was not in accordance with the gospel “rule” But they had no evidence [crossed out or written over: to warrant such a report]. I said it was taken in accordance with such rule But the Committee were not appointed for the purpose of deciding on the merits of the labour that was no part of their business whether the labour was taken in accordance with Gospel rule or not They transcended their power. As the facts existed they were in duty bound to hear the evidence and make a just report in writing. To hear the amount of evidence introduced on each charge – The Chh. then would have been enabled to act understandingly. If from the evidence adduced the chh had come to the conclusion that I had done wrong I should like a Christian confessed my faults. If there had been an honest and Christian course pursued all difficulty might have been amicably adjusted and the church have been in peace and harmony. But the scripture saith not in vain “one sinner destroyeth much good.” And he that speaketh as man never spake said “beware of the leaven of the Pharisees which is hypocrisy.” It is plain to be seen how much good has been prevented by the influence in the chh. The Report of Committee was accepted and the Committee was discharged. A new Committee of five members was appointed, but for what purpose I was not informed as I was not present at the time. Sometime in July the Chairman of the Committee told me the appointment was made to investigate the difficulties between C. **Roberts** and myself. About the first of September, I met the Committee with Mr. **Roberts**. The charges I had preferred against him were talked over and as he made no concessions I offered to prove my charges at any time they might appoint. But no time was appointed as they did not wish me to bring any evidence. Soon after this meeting I called on the Chairman of the committee to ascertain when the Committee would be ready for the evidence. His reply was “They do not wish any evidence.”

From that time I supposed the subject was given up as I heard nothing more about it until the 10<sup>th</sup> of November. It had been kept a profound secret from me. I did not suppose a report could or would be made without the evidence on both sides and the accuser and the accused were had face to face. It seemed to me they did not act in good faith. It looks like a premeditated plan to deprive me of my rights as it was kept a secret from me and I was not allowed to bring any evidence and no intimation given that a report was being made. About the 8<sup>th</sup> of Nov. I was informed by the chh. clerk that a chh. meeting was appointed to be held on the tenth of Nov. but did not intimate to me the object of the meeting. I supposed it to be an ordinary business But greatly to my surprise on that day a report as foreign from the facts in the case as falsehood is from the truth was made. This committee as individuals had made “full inquiries” from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July until the 10<sup>th</sup> of Nov. to ascertain whether I was morally or had cheated any body, but failing to find anything against me, they seized hold of a case which had been adjusted four years before. I allude to the case of Br. J. **Porter**. The case between us was a legal one and was amicably adjusted and in accordance with his own proposition. Hence the inference is plain that this Committee were not governed by the Gospel “Do unto others as ye would they should do unto you” but was actuated by prejudice and prepossession and in opposition to Apostolic injunction. Do no thing by partiality “Prefer not one above another,” But the report is at war with every principle of our holy religion because it is founded in error partiality and untruth.

The Committee say in their report that they have spared no efforts to obtain a true statement of all the facts bearing on the differences between Brn. **May** and **Roberts**. This is the first count. I ask, is this position true or false? If

rejecting offered evidence and obtaining false statements from interested individuals constitute the effort, then this position is true, otherwise it is false. Then the judgement founded on this position must necessarily be false, a true Judgement is founded on true testimony. The Committee go on further to say that “having as individuals made full inquiries, find themselves unanimous in the conclusions forced on their minds by their investigations.” What investigations had they had? They had rejected offered testimony. They had sought and took ex parte statements. – In this it is presumed they were “unanimous.” But does unanimity in a wrong constitute a right? In the 2<sup>nd</sup> count of this report the Committee go on to say, “They have made repeated efforts to induce these Brethren mutually to adjust their differences and to settle between themselves but have not been successful, But we have had no differences to settle since our arbitration. All matters were then adjusted by three members of the chh. by mutual agreement and Mr. **Roberts** was on the stand one whole day and testified to all the facts relative to himself. The charges I had previously preferred against Mr. **Roberts** for immoral conduct were not included in our settlement by arbitration. In the third count, the Committee say they are satisfied that Br. **May** made such promises in his letters to Br. **Roberts** and held out such inducements in conversation with him as led him to believe that it would be greatly for his interest and the interest of his family to leave his former place of residence where he was doing well and remove to Fredonia”

The letters referred to here were before the Arbitrators and passed on by them, and the conversations alluded to were testified to by Mr. **Roberts** on the trial – How came this committee in possession of the conversations between Mr. **Roberts** and myself? If they obtained them of Mr. **Roberts**, it could not be received as testimony unless I was present and gave my assent to it. But I was not present on any such occasion. The committee say that “I held out inducements in my letters and conversation for Mr **Roberts** to leave where he was doing well.” Mr. **Roberts** was a hired servant by the year and liable to be turned out of employment at the end of the year. He had no property and had no way to make any. My compassion on the Motherless children when I was there in the spring of **1850** induced me afterwards to write to him what I had thoughts of doing for the benefit of those children and not him or his other children. So far from that, I told him plainly I did not design to give him any thing. But what I left would be for the benefit of those Motherless children. His reply was, he did not expect me to give him any thing.

I also wrote, I had thoughts of purchasing a farm and he might come and live on the farm and we would live together, He should do the work under my direction and we would divide the profits as he would with any other man, so that I could have something to bestow on other needy ones and assist in the education of motherless children. I did purchase a farm for \$3500, Team tools, and cows and furnished provisions for his family for more than a year. And what did I receive in return for my expense and labour? Nothing but abuse which I could have shown by ample and competent testimony – What I did for him the first year amounted to more than \$600. and so much over and above what I ever thought of doing. I carried out every suggestion that I ever made and arrangement for the benefit of his children. The conduct of Mr. **Roberts** and his Wife was such and their abuse, claiming the exclusive ownership of my property, - Threatening personal violence and driving me out of my house, was the cause of the arrangements being broken up. Mr. **Roberts** continued on the farm during the next year and the avails of which I received nothing. The Committee go on to say that for more than “one year Br. **May** was satisfied with Br. **Roberts.**” – Which is not true even for one month – “Nor can your committee learn that by anyone’s conduct on the part of Br. **Roberts** or nonfulfillment of his part of the engagement that he has rendered void the positive and repeated obligation which Br. **May** voluntarily entered into with him” (This may all be true for they refused to hear the testimony which he freely acknowledged to several persons and which the Committee cannot regard in any other light than as a contract as [in different handwriting: binding as] one written and sealed and which could not be violated without involving a great moral wrong.” Suffice it here to say that there was no contract made with him of any name or nature and this he testified to before the arbitrators. In the fourth count, the Committee say, “They believe Br. **May** has violated his contract and that the work of reconciliation rests with him, and in order to effect which it became his duty fully to satisfy Br. **Roberts** for the injuries sustained by him, and to remunerate him for the loss and disadvantage which such violation has caused him to suffer” – In answer to this let me here say that inasmuch as there was no contract there was none to violate and that “the work of reconciliation” rests with him and not with me for he and his Wife have been the cause of breaking up the arrangements and making the difficulty. The Committee further say that I have deprived him of the use of a good farm worth \$2500.”

I utterly deny ever having either directly or indirectly made him a promise of a farm or that I ever had the intention or intimated an intention of giving him or his family one dollar of my property while I lived.

It may seem strange to some that the Committee have in their report entirely justified Mr. **Roberts** in all these transactions, and yet my charges against him lay before them and proof offered to substantiate those charges. The last item of the Report, which I deem worthy of notice is the suing of Br. J. **Porter**, It is true there was a matter of difference existing between us which was tried in court and settle by mutual agreement, since which there has been no difficulty between us and that was four years ago. That there has been a great moral wrong connected with these

transactions I freely admit, But the wrong rests entirely with Mr. **Roberts** inasmuch as he was the cause of breaking up the arrangements and thereby depriving his children of what I intended to leave them. I think therefore it must be obvious to all that the premises being false the conclusions must be so too. The whole transaction of the committee seems to me to be most extraordinary. Instead of eliciting the truth and correcting errors wherever they may be found, It seems to have been the object of the Committee to find occasion for my removal from the chh. under the impression that I should be formidable in opposing the errors so strenuously maintained by one at least of the members of the Committee. My interest has been identified with the Baptist cause for more than fifty years. Believing it to be the cause of God; any innovation raises all the energies of my soul in its defence. I have seen the progress of error for these many years in this place with painful emotions and as opportunity offered I have lifted up my voice against it and for this cause do I now stand before you accused and persecuted. Thus much I deemed it my duty to say in answer to the document purporting to be a report of a committee of the chh. I am aware that in many things I have offended and done wrong, which I regret most sincerely and ask forgiveness. But so far as this report of the Committee is concerned it seems to me that it bears on its face the impress of partiality and falsehood. In closing the remarks I have to offer I desire distinctly to disavow all intention of dictating to the chh the course it shall pursue, or to ride over the chh as has been suggested. I have never entertained any such tho't, I think I possess a strong desire for the prosperity of the chh – and would not willingly do anything to retard its progress in the way of holiness and happiness.

It must be obvious to all that oneness of mind, unanimity of feeling and concert of action are indispensable to the promotion of peace and good will among Brethren. “One Lord, one faith one baptism.” I pray that they all may be one” are scriptural injunctions embodying the sentiments I would here set forth. Diversity of sentiment on the fundamental principles of the Gospel, produces disunion, discord, and strife, confidence is destroyed and how can they strive together for the faith of the gospel? The strife is between themselves. The Holy Spirit is compared to a dove, which will not remain where there is strife and confusion, The Scripture saith not in vain “If any man hath not the spirit of Christ he is none of his. Without the Spirit of Christ there is hatred. The Apostle says “whoso hateth his brother is a wanderer and if any man saith he loveth God and hates his brother is a liar, for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen “We know we have passed from death into life because we love the Brethren”-

In reviewing carefully and prayerfully and often the acts for which I am arraigned before you as a culprit I possess the smiles of an approving conscience. The Apostle Peter saith “The Lord knoweth how to deliver Godly out of temptation and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished, for if our heart condemn us God is greater than our heart and knoweth all things Beloved if our heart condemn us not then have we confidence towards God, No one should presume to judge between God and the conscience of his fellow. If Christ justifies, who dares condemn. The Gospel is our only rule of action, from its teachings I perceive in myself a wide departure as well as in others I desire and pray that all things may be overruled for the best good of those who trust in him, that his chh. throughout the world may be built up in the faith and order of the Gospel. That this end might be attained the chh. should be purified from all things that disturb its peace and harmony, for as it was anciently so is it now. He that was borne after the flesh persecuteth(?) him that was born after the Spirit, Nevertheless what saith the Scriptures. Cast out the bond(?) Woman and his son for the son of the bond woman shall not be (?) with the son of the woman. There are two passages of scripture which I desire read before the chh now. Which I think appropriate on this occasion. 2<sup>nd</sup> Thess. 2<sup>nd</sup> ch. 3 – 12. 2<sup>nd</sup> Pet. 2<sup>nd</sup> ch 11-19 I prize above all price the privileges connected with membership in a well regulated chh. It is the only solace left me in my declining years, and, yet I would greatly prefer to forgo its pleasures and immunities, than connive at spiritual wickedness in high places. “Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness but rather reprove them. As there is an individual who is a member of the chh. and whose sentiments are not in accordance with the truths of the Gospel and who is not a Baptist I cannot conscientiously remain a member of the chh. unless that individual is removed. I ask therefore a letter of dismissal.

**Stephen May**

*(Item 3c)*

The Baptist Church in Stockton

To the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church in Pomfret

Dear Brethren,

Permit us to address you on a subject which we deem of no small importance, as concerning the peace and honor of our beloved Zion. We allude to unsettled differences existing between yourselves and the Baptist Church in Sheridan.

We are in receipt of a communication from the Sheridan Church requesting us to appoint a delegation to meet with them in council on the 30<sup>th</sup> of this month, with a view to the adjustment of this matter. To this request we have responded by a written communication and the appointment of a Committee to be present at the time and place appointed under special instructions to not act in the case except in agreement with the facts and views below stated. A day or two previous to the sitting of our Association we received a request from your body inviting us to unite with you in a labor with the Sheridan Church for receiving to their fellowship an excluded member of your body. Judging then that there was not sufficient time for a fair investigation of the case before the Session, we pledged that, if the matter could not be mutually adjusted between the parties, or would comply with your request at a proper time; and we now hold ourselves committed to an effort, with the Brethren of your Church, if you shall see fit to accept such a course, for the settlement of this difficulty, and which precluded our adopting the form of action probably contemplated by the Church in Sheridan.

Painfully mortified at the thought of any dissension among the Churches of our Association, and exceedingly anxious that every cause of grief may be speedily removed, and believing ex-parte(?) advice to heal or constitutional action to expel should be only tolerated as a last resort, and believing, from our knowledge of the case, and an acquaintance with the Churches affected, that each can act in the spirit of Christian courtesy and kindness, we do, on this occasion, most earnestly and affectionately entreat our Brethren of the 1<sup>st</sup> Pomfret Church to appoint a wise and strong committee, and meet their Brethren at Sheridan and other friends who may meet them on that day, and, by a friendly interchange of views of the matter of difference, attempt a mutual disposal of the case; it being distinctly understood that no committee or Church are in any sense bound by any advice given or action taken on the case.

Fervently praying and trusting that you may see fit to yield to our request, we have appointed Eld. **J. Howard**, together with Dea. Chester **Thompson**, Samuel **Shepard**, Harlow **Crissey** a committee to associate with your delegation, should you appoint one, in such mutual measures, and such only, as may be attempted for a harmonious ending of the difficulties. Done by order of the Church, and by them approved this 24<sup>th</sup> day of Dec. **1856**.

Samuel **Crissey** Clerk protem.

Stockton

Dec 1<sup>st</sup>(?)

Baptist Church

Fredonia

N.Y.

*(Item 4)*

The 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Dunkirk N.Y.

2

The Baptist Church in Fredonia

Dear Brethren

This is to certify that the Rev. Chas **Thompson** is a member with us in good And regular standing And at his own request is dismissed from us to unite with You

By Order of the Church

Dunkirk N.Y. April 1<sup>st</sup> **1840**

Jno (?) **Patterson** Clerk

*(Item 5)*

The 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Dunkirk N.Y.,

2

The Baptist Church in Fredonia

Dear Brethren

This is to certify that Sister Rebecka **Williams** is a member with us in good and regular standing, and at her own request is dismissed from us to unite with You.

By Order of the Church

Dunkirk N.Y. April 1<sup>st</sup> **1840**

Jno (?) **Patterson** Clerk

*(Item 6)*

The First Baptist Church of Christ of Pomfret to

Any other Church of the same faith and order

Sendeth Greeting:

This certifies that Sister Esther **Apthorp** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend her to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that she has united with you, her relation to us will cease.

Done by order of the Church.

Dated Fredonia Chau. Co. N.Y. 25. Mch **1849**

None – Pastor. A.Z. **Madison** Clerk.

This certifies that [blank] has been received from the [blank] Baptist Church in [blank] as a member of the [blank] Baptist Church in [blank] on a letter bearing date [blank] 18\_\_

Dated [blank] 18\_\_.

Clerk.

*(Item 7)*

The Washington-Street Baptist Church, Buffalo,

To the Baptist Church in Fredonia, N.Y.

Sendeth Christian salutation:

Dear Brethren:

This Certifies, That Br. Eduard **Dudley** is a member in good standing and full fellowship with us; and, at his request, at a Covenant meeting held on the thirtieth day of March, **1849** this Letter of Dismission was granted for the purpose of uniting with you.

We most affectionately recommend him to your Christian fellowship and watch care, praying that the Lord will crown your union with mutual and eternal blessings.

Done by order and in behalf of the Church, at Buffalo, this thirtieth day of March **1849**

Jas. O.(?) **Brayman** Church Clerk.

*(Item 8)*

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** seven dollars and seventy five cents money in his hand as treasurer Erie Asson. Sept 8<sup>th</sup> **1853** as audited at Randolph.

Viz For A.B. Miss'y. Union \$5.00

" Am & For Bible Society 2.75

\$7.75

Cassadaga Feb. 7, **1854**

H **Crissey** Treas

Pr Jason **Crissey**

*(Item 9)*

Reverend(?), Wyoming March 24, **1852**. Of the Forestville Bapt. Chh. The sum of Twenty four 42/100 dollars for the Am Bapt. Miss'y. Union, and if \$5.74 more if forwarded to me they will be entitled to nominate a Life Member, the balance having been paid by other churches in the Erie Association

S.M. **Pryvat**(?) Agent

A.B. M. Union

\$24.42

*(Item 10)*

This certifies that Minerva P. **Griswold** has been received from the Pomfret Baptist Church in Fredonia as a member of the John Street Baptist Church in Hamilton C.W. on a letter bearing date Oct 19<sup>th</sup> **1851**

Dated Hamilton CW Oct 26<sup>th</sup> **1851**.

Thomas A. **Haines**

Deacon

*(Item 11)*

St. Ann Sept 15<sup>th</sup> **1850**

The Baptist Church of Christ in the Village of St. Ann to any other Church of the same faith & order Sendeth Christian salutation.

This certifies that Sr Polly **Jakeway** is a member in good standing with us as such we cordially recommend her to the fellowship of any sister Church where her lot may be cast; with liberty to join: & when we are informed of such an union we shall consider her dismissed from us

In behalf of the Church    A. **Mosher** – (Clerk)

*(Item 12)*

This may certify that Bro. J.B. **McClanathan** & Sr. Nancy **McClanathan** are members of the Baptist Church in Forestville, N.Y. in good & regular standing, and as such, at their own request, They are cordially & affectionately recommended to the fellowship & watch care of the Baptist Church in Fredonia, with liberty to unite, and when received by them, & we notified, they will be considered dismissed from us.

Done by order and in behalf of the Church.

Given at Forestville,            D.E. **Ellis** Clerk

June 4<sup>th</sup> **1853**

Recd. Augt. 6, **1853**

*(Item 13)*

This certifies that Sister Naomi **Millar** is a member in good standing in the Baptist Church in Stockton and as such is recommended to the fellowship and watch care of any Baptist Church of our Faith and order with whom she may wish to unite and when she has so done we shall consider her dismiss from us

Done by order of the Church April 13 **1850**

A.P. **Leach** Chh Clk

Recd. May 31./51(?)

*(Item 14)*

This certifies that Sr Aurelia **Cotton** has been received from the First Baptist Church in Pomphret as a member of the Forestville Baptist Church in Hanover on a letter bearing date April 5<sup>th</sup> **1850**

Dated Forestville May 4<sup>th</sup> **1850**

J.B. **McClanathan** Clerk.

*(Item 15)*

The Baptist Church at Delanti to the Baptist Church in Fredonia Sendeth Christian Salutation

Dear Brethren You are respectfully requested to send your Pastor with delegates to meet this church on the first Wednesday in May next at 1 O'clock P.M. for the purpose of an examination of Br E.M. **Say** in view of the ministry

Done by order and in behalf of the Church this 12 day of April **1851**

A.P. **Leach** Chh Clk

*(Item 16)*

**1866** Elder **Glons**(?) do to Wm **Taylor** (?) \$1.50

Recd (?) Wm **Taylor**

*(Item 17)*

This certifies that Sister Amelia **Phillips** has been received from the first Baptist Church in Pomphret as a member of the Forestville Baptist Church in Hanover on a letter bearing date Dec. 1. **1849**

Dated Forestville June 1. **1850**

JB **McClanathan** Clerk.

*(Item 18)*

This is to certify that Sister Lavinia M. **Forbes** is a member with us in good standing in the Baptist Church in Smithville and in full fellowship with us and as such we cheerfully recommend her to any other Church of the same faith and order, done by order in behalf of the Church this 15<sup>th</sup> of Sep **1850**

W. **Grant** Chh Clk

Smithville Chenang, C, N.Y.

*(Item 19)*

The Baptist Church of Sharp(?) Run(?) at its branch(?) to any church of the same faith and order Send Christian salutation

This is to commend our beloved Brother Lewis M. **Walker** & Lucinda his Wife as members in good Standing & full fellowship with us, & also give them liberty to unite with any other church of the same faith & standing, hoping & praying they may, be useful members in Zion wherever there lot may be cast.



By order & in behalf of the Church  
AH C (?) Ch Clerk  
Allen Township Union County

*(Item 20)*

Your Committee, appointed to nominate two Brethren to serve the Church as Deacons, Respectfully report,  
That we harmonize in presenting the names of our beloved Brethren Charles **Bachelor** and Dwight A. **Woodruff** to  
serve the Church in that capacity.

Fredonia 28. Augt. **1850**

Clark C. **Woodruff**

J.R. **Parker**

David **Barrell**

*(Item 21)*

The Baptist in Black Rock N.Y.

To any Church of the same faith and order –

This may certify that Sister Polly **Coonrod** is a member with us in good and regular standing and as such is at her  
request dismissed from us and recommended to any Church of the same faith and order with us

When received into connection with you her particular relation to us will cease

By order and in Behalf of the Church

L. **Upham**(?)

Church Clk

Black Rock Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> **1849**

Recd. July 6. **1850**

*(Item 22)*

The Baptist Church of Stockton

To the Baptist Church in Fredonia Sendeth Christian Salutation

This certifies that Sister Lucinda **Keith** is a member of this Church in good standing

Wishing to unite with you we cheerfully commend her to your watch care and fellowship. An when she has so done  
we shall consider her dismissed from us.

Done by order of the Church

April the 21 **1850** A.P. **Leach** Chh Clk

*(Item 23)*

Recd July 7, **1850**

The Mayville Baptist Church to any sister church of the same faith and practice Greeting

Our Brother Abner **Tiffany** having asked of us commendation and dismissal We certify that he is a member with  
us in good standing and as such recommend him to any sister church with permission to unite therewith and at his  
request is dismissed from us

Mayville April 20<sup>th</sup> **1850**

Josi.(?) **Brooks** Chh Clerk

*(Item 24)*

This may certify that Sister Tabbathy **Eddy** is a member in good standing in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Baptist Chh of Butternuts(?) and  
would commend her to the fellowship of any such Chh – and when joined and we duly notified shall consider her  
dismissed from this done by Order and in behalf of the Chh this 27<sup>th</sup> of April **1835**.

James **Mircik**(?) Chh Clerk

Recd July 6, **1850**

*(Item 25a)*

Rejected Report

The committee appointed to visit Br John **Hamilton**, respectfully report, That they had an interview with him a few  
evenings since. Br **Hamilton** kindly received your committee, and seemed glad of an opportunity to lay before us,  
[The following nine words are in different handwriting] with also an opportunity to lay before &c – Oh. & through  
us before the church, his views on the doctrines of the Bible, especially on those points wherein his belief differs

from formerly – He gave us a history of the circumstances that attended his first hearing & embracing the sentiments of the Adventists – He first attended their meeting as an act of courtesy to some former friends, who were stopping with him – he became interested in their preaching, & embraced their sentiments, & finally and believing it might be the last time he before (?) associated with them in the sacrament at Laona, and remarked that he seldom or never enjoyed so much at a communion season as then – He justifies himself for the act of communing with them, so far as his belief of the instructions of the Bible are concerned, for he does not believe there should be any bars to communion, with all whom we believe to be Christian but thinks all Christians should commune together, & he repeated the remark, that he was no longer a Close Communionist – He however did not justify himself in the act of communing with them, to the grief of his Brethren, while he was in church relation with those who were grieved, still he thought they had no right to be grieved, that the wrong in belief, was in them and he(?) should be willing & expect to abstain from com. with Adventists while he was a member of Bap Ch though by it had (?) not in him – He believes in Baptism by Immersion, a number of that ch though by it had (?) a great privilege, but that it is not a prerequisite to the Lords table – or rather, that it is not essential in others, in order for him to commune. He does not believe in any creed for a church, or any other organization of a church, than for Christians to associate together in a community & take the Bible for their guide. He believes in the final destruction or annihilation of the wicked, in the unconscious state of the righteous dead, in open or mixed communion, in short – in all the sentiments embraced by the Adventists – In answer to inquiry, whether he considered it any privilege to have a connexion with a Baptist Church, he said, it was no privilege & he did not desire such a connexion, if it was in any manner or degree to curtail or prevent his free expression of his views of Bible truth, in all places, & under all proper circumstances. Yet in all case he would use bible language.

Fredonia 8 Augt. 1850,

David **Barrell**

J.R. **Parker**

Committee

Resolved that the hand of fellowship be withdrawn from Brother John **Hamilton** he having communed with the people calling themselves 2<sup>nd</sup> Adventists and in having embraced sentiments contrary to the Articles of Faith of this Church and of Baptists generally we holding that our articles of Faith and Practice are founded upon the bible.

*(Item 25b)*

Accepted Report

The committee appointed to visit Bro **Hamilton** respectfully report, That they had an interview with him a few evenings since. Bro **Hamilton** kindly received your Committee and seemed glad of an opportunity to lay before us, and wished also an opportunity to lay before the Church his views of the doctrines of the Bible, especially on those points wherein his belief differs from what it was formerly. He gave us a history of the circumstances that attended his first hearing and embracing the sentiments of the Adventists. He first attended their meeting as an act of courtesy to some former friends, who were stopping with him, he became interested in their preaching, - embraced many of their sentiments and, believing it might be the last time he should have an opportunity, he associated with them at the Communion at Laona, and remarked that he seldom or never enjoyed so much at a communion season as then. He justifies himself for the act of communing with them, so far as his belief of the instructions of the Bible are concerned, for he does not believe there should be any bars to communion, with all whom we believe Christians, and he repeated the remark that he was no longer a Close Communionist. He however did not justify himself in the act of communing with them to the grief of his Brethren, while he was in church relation with those who were grieved, still he thought they had no right to be grieved, that the wrong in belief was in them and not in him, He however said he should be willing, and expect, to abstain from communion with the Adventists, that he might not grieve his brethren while he was a member of the Baptist Church altho' he should thereby lose a great privilege, He believes in only one baptism, by immersion, but because other Christians do not believe that is the only mode, - he does not think he or any Christian should, for this reason, refuse to eat the Lord's Supper with them, He does not believe any church should have a creed, But that all Christians should associate together in a community and take the Bible for their guide. He believes in the final destruction of the wicked, - that they will be raised from the dead, and at the judgment condemned to be utterly consumed, so that there will not remain root or branch. He believes the righteous dead are unconscious until the resurrection, that the Lord Jesus will speedily appear, call them to life and with them inherit the Earth, His views respecting the atonement of Christ, the necessity of faith, repentance, and obedience to him in Baptism – in a change of heart and in the influence of the Holy Spirit he says are not changed, In answer to inquiry whether he considered it any privilege to have a connection with a Baptist Church, he said it would be no privilege nor would he desire such a connection, if it was in any manner or degree to curtail or prevent



Fredonia May 5<sup>th</sup> **1850** M (?)  
A **Stoddard** pd 100  
Eld **Griswold** Am =\$8.00

(Item 31)

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. Erie Bap. Asson. Thirty three Dollars and twenty three cents for the N.Y. State Bap. Miss'y. Convention,

Viz. Funds Contributed by 1<sup>st</sup>. Bap. Ch. of Pomfret \$13.02

Do. Do. " 1. " " Hanover 5.00

Do. Do. " 1. " " Perrysburg 8.00

Do. Amt. of Contribution Sept. 4, **1850** 7.20

\$33.23

Cherry Creek Sept 5. **1850**

A.D. **Taylor** Agent

(Item 32)

\$30.00 Received Sept 17, **1850** of A.Z. **Madison** Treas of the Erie Association Thirty Dollars for the Am. Bap. Home Mission Society.

David **Searl** (Agent

(Item 33)

\$3.45 Received July 21. **1850** of the Bap. Church of Forestville for the American Bap. Home Mission Society Three Dollars Seventy five cents

David **Searl** (Agent

(Item 34)

[printed on the left side] American Baptist Missionary Union,  
No. 38 Somerset Street, Boston.

Baptist Missionary Rooms,

Boston, Sept 6<sup>th</sup> **1855**

\$50.25

The Treasurer of the American Baptist Missionary Union acknowledges the receipt of Fifty Dollars & twenty five cents per Mr. A.Z. **Madison** from sundry Life Members &c connected with the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church Pomfret N.Y. – in Fredonia N.Y. – for the deficiency. Particular to be given in the Missionary Magazine for Nov. **1855**.

F.A. **Smith** Afrr(?) Preag(?)

Jno W. J. **Foley**

[written 90 degrees to the rest of the writing, and parallel with the printed name and address of the missionary union]

10 J.R. **Parker**

10 Geo. W. **Lewis**

10 Eliza W. **Lewis**

10 Jno. **Hamilton** Jr.

10 A.Z. **Madison**

.25 Elizabeth **Roots**

50.25

(Item 35)

Received of A.Z. **Madison** Treasurer of the Erie Baptist Association Twenty Dollars and fifty nine cents being the amount of funds contributed by the Churches for printing Minutes.

Fredonia Sept. 17. **1850**

J.J. **Fuller**

Clerk of the Association

(Item 36)

Sept 5<sup>th</sup> **1850**

Br A.Z. **Madison**

Please to pay Br J.J. **Fuller** Thirty dollars of the funds of the Erie Bap Association which are to be in this Association according to the (?) of the Missionary Committee.

Nathan **Wood**

Clerk (?)

(Item 37)

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. in Goods and cash Thirty Dollars on the above order

Fredonia Sept 7<sup>th</sup> **1850**

J.J. **Fuller**

Goods & Cash Sheridan 10.24

Goods Cherry Creek 2.52

Cash of AZM 17.24 = \$30.00

(Item 38)

[note in the margin reads] Not put in my a/c on Bk

Recd. of the Bap Chh. & Congregation in Forestville the Sum of Fifteen Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$15.50) it being the Amt. of their contributions for the Am. Bap. Missy Union on Sabbath May 5<sup>th</sup> **1850**.

Forestville May 5<sup>th</sup> **1850** Miles (?)

Bible 10.70 15.50

Page 15 Two Bed quilts \$7.00  
22.50

(Item 39)

Recd. Clear Creek Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> of A.Z. **Madison** Treasurer of the Erie Baptist Association for A.B. Miss. Union One hundred and forty two dollars & 11/100.

Franklin **Kidder**

Agent of A.B. Miss. Union

(Item 40)

Recd. Clear Creek Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>. **1851** of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. Erie Bap. Asson. Ninety Seven Dollars and forty cents for the Am. & For. Bible SO.

\$97.40

James **Rud**(?) Agent

(Item 41)

\$7.20 recd. of the Erie Baptist Association for the American Baptist Publication Society seven Dollars & Twenty cents

Cherry Creek Sept. 5, **1850**

Per (?) Hearry **Smith** Agent

(Item 42)

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. of Erie Association Ten Dollars & thirty eight cents, the Amount of a contribution by said association for the benefit of Mrs. J.J. **Trumbull** who is mysteriously left in the care of a large family in circumstances of want within our bound.

Cherry Creek Sept 4, **1850** Bartimus Boomo(?)

(Item 43)

Recd. of the first Baptist Chh Pomfret for the A.B.P. Society – nine Dollars & Eighty four cents

Fredonia Sept 15<sup>th</sup>(?) **1850**

H. **Smith** Agent

\$9.84

(for Report of **1851**)

*(Item 44)*

Custom House  
Buffalo No 5/51

Dr Sir

Your "argument" with Mr **Turner**(?) is not in the possession of Messr(?) Smith Thomas &c. I have concluded not to pay them the money in my hands until I learn something from you. The "firm" will give a receipt to you for the am't paid and you will have to apply to(?) Mr **Turner** for the argument. Please write me soon.

Yours truly

A.Z. **Madison** Esq.  
Fredonia N.Y.

Seymour **Bennett**

*(Item 45)*

The Baptist Church of Christ in Niles to any Church of our faith and order this may Certify that Sister Mary **Williams** is a member of our Church in good and regular Standing as such we recommend her to any Church of our faith and order with liberty when united and we notified we shall consider her dismissed from us done by order and in behalf of the Church

May 5. 1857.

C. **Hammond** Ch Clk

*(Item 46)*

This may certify that Sister Martha R. **Batcheller** is a member of the Baptist Church of Arcade in good & regular standing: we, therefore commend her to the confidence & fellowship of any sister church where in providence her residence may be.

Done by order & in behalf of the Church.

Arcade April 9<sup>th</sup> 1850

Ira **Sheddy** Clerk

Recd

*(Item 47a)*

To the first Baptist Church in Pomphret

The Baptist Church in Sheridan sendeth a Christian salutation Greeting

Dear Brethren we request you to send your beloved Pastor and Delegates to sit with us in council for the examination of Brother A.J. **Wilcox** and if thought proper and best to assist in setting him apart for the Gospel Ministry by Ordination on Wednesday the 25 of June Inst.

Done by order and in behalf of the Church.

Sheridan June 9<sup>th</sup> 1851

J.A. **Jones** Ch Clerk

*(Item 47b)*

Sab. June 15, 1851

Ch. appointed the following Bren delegates to above named Council – delinquents to appoint substitutes

Rev. Arnold **Kingsbury**

L.B. **Grant** – delin – apd C.C. **Woodruff**

Chas. **Batcheller**

D.A. **Woodruff** appd. A.C. **Guild**

T.B. **Sweet**

Chas **Parker**

*(Item 48)*

The Baptist church of Christ at Glens Falls to any sister church of the same faith & order,

Dear Brethren

This is to certify that Sister Frances **Lewis** is a member of good standing with us and as such we would Recommend her to the watchcare & fellowship of any sister church of the same faith & Order and by her request is now dismissed from us.

Done by Order of the church

J. **Skym** Ch. Clk.  
Glens Falls Aug (?) **1851**.

Recd. Sept 6. **1851**  
AZM Clk

*(Item 49)*

The Baptist Church of Binghamton To any sister church of like faith & order greeting:  
This certifies that Brother Caleb **Roberts** is a member with us in good & regular standing and at his request we grant him this letter of dismission  
By order of the church this 14<sup>th</sup>(?) day of September **1851**  
J.N. **Ring** Clerk

*(Item 50)*

The First Baptist Church of Christ of Pomfret to  
Any other Church of same faith and order  
Sendeth Greeting:  
This certifies that Brother John **Devine** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend him to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that he has united with you, his relation to us will cease.  
Done by order of the Church.  
Dated Fredonia N.Y. April 5<sup>th</sup>. **1851**  
A.Z. **Madison** Ch Clerk

This certifies that [blank] has been received from the [blank] Baptist Church in [blank] as a member of the [blank] Baptist Church in [blank] on a letter bearing date [blank] 18\_\_  
Dated [blank] 18\_\_.  
Clerk.

*(Item 51)*

Letter of Dismission.  
The South Baptist Church in the City of Albany,  
To the Baptist Church at Fredonia  
Sendeth Christian salutation:  
Dear Brethren,  
This Certifies, That Rev. A. **Kingsbury** is a member with us in good and regular standing, and at his request is recommended to your Christian watch and care.  
When he is received into fellowship with you his particular relation to us will cease.  
By order of the Church.  
Alansing C. Churchill Church Clerk.  
N.B. This Letter is valid for six months only.  
Albany, April 20<sup>th</sup> **1851**

Recd May 31./51

*(Item 52)*

The Baptist Church of Christ in Dewitsville to any other Church of the same faith and order Sendeth Greeting:  
This certifies that Sister Eliza M. **Brown** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend her to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that she has united with you, her relation to us will cease.  
Done by order of the Church.  
Dated at Dewitsville April 20 **1856**.  
**Denton** Clerk.

Recd May 31./56

(Item 53)

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. Erie Bap. Asso. Eight Dollars & twenty(?) six cents for the N. Yk. Bap Education Society – being amt. of a contribution.

Fredonia Sept 3 **1851**

L.S. **Stowell**

(Item 54)

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treasr. of Erie Bap. Assn. Eight and 26/100 Dollars for the New York Bap. Union for Ministerial Education.

Fredonia Sep. 3<sup>rd</sup> **1851**.

C.N. **Chandler**

(Item 55)

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. Erie Asson. Four dollars and forty six cents being Amt. of collection Sept. 4, **1851** for past & prospective postages incurred by the corresponding Secretary

\$4.46 J.C. **Allison**

Delanti Feby 10, **1852**

(Item 56)

Received, Fredonia, Oct 9. **1851**, of A.Z. **Madison** Twenty Dollars for printing 700 copies of Minutes of Baptist Association

**McKinet**(?) (?)

(Item 57)

To Mr. A.Z. **Madison**,

Dr. (?) , I have recd, enclosed from you \$.41 from Dayton(?) & Poland(?) Bap.t. Chhs. For Missions in the A.B.F.M. Society. Will you do us the favor to examine this circular & so far as the Institution is found worthy, lend to it your influence? Resp,y (?)

Jan. 26. '50

C.J.(?) **Grosvenor**

(Item 58)

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treasurer of the Erie Baptist Association fifty cents contributed by two sisters **Bowen** of Randolph Church for Am B.M. Union in Sept **1849**.

Fredonia Feb. 19. **1850**.

J.B. **Burrows**

Treas

H Mi So

(Item 59)

\$22.98 Recd. Fredonia Sept 30<sup>th</sup>(?) **1851** of A.Z. **Madison** twenty two 98/100 Dollars in full for moneys collected & of the (?) Erie Baptist Association for printing the minutes of its last 2 sessions

C.B. **Cinmly**(?)

(Item 60)

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treasurer of the Erie Baptist association Twenty five Dollars and Sixty five cents being Donations & collection for the Am. Bap. Free Missry Society. Viz:

Cherry Creek Ch 5.12

F. Ville 2.00

Poland 3.85

Sheridan 3.00 = \$25.65

Contribution 11.68

Fredonia Sept. 4, **1851**

Seth **Green**(?)

Agent



(Item 61)

The First Baptist Church of Christ of Pomfret to  
Any other Church of same faith & order

Sendeth Greeting:

This certifies that Sister Harriet **Chapin** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend her to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that she has united with you, her relation to us will cease.

Done by order of the Church.

Dated Fredonia N.Y. May 26<sup>th</sup>. **1850**

A.Z. **Madison** Ch Clerk

This certifies that [blank] has been received from the [blank] Baptist Church in [blank] as a member of the [blank] Baptist Church in [blank] on a letter bearing date [blank] 18\_\_

Dated [blank] 18\_\_.

Clerk.

(Item 62)

Letter of Dismission.

The South Baptist Church in the City of Albany,  
To the Baptist Church at Fredonia

Sendeth Christian salutation:

Dear Brethren,

This Certifies, That Sr. Mary C. **Kingsbury** is a member with us in good and regular standing, and at her request is recommended to your Christian watch and care.

When she is received into fellowship with you her particular relation to us will cease.

By order of the Church.

Alansing C. **Churchill** Church Clerk.

N.B. This Letter is valid for six months only.

Albany, April 20<sup>th</sup> **1851**

Recd May 31/51

(Item 63)

Buffalo, August, 8<sup>th</sup> **1856**

The Niagara Square Baptist Church, in Buffalo, N.Y., to any Church of the same Faith, Greeting ---

Dear Brethren,

We hereby certify that Sister Margaret **Bell** is a regular member with us, and at her request do cordially dismiss her from this Church, and recommend her to your fellowship. When united with you her membership with us will cease. This certificate is designed to be valid for one year from date.

J.D. **Sprague** Ch Clerk

(Item 64)

	For. Missions	Home Mission	Bible Union	Publication Society	State Convention	Free Mission	Minutes	Total
Cassadaga Ch.							1.50	
Cherry Creek "	1.25	8.20					3.25	
Dayton "							1.45	
Dunkirk "	3.50				25.00		2.00	
27.75 Ellory Center "	6.30	17.50					2.50	
7.83 Forestville	13.75	13.75					5.00	

14.40	Fredonia	257.28	122.00	20.00		5.00
	1st Hanover "		3.00	1.00		3.35
3.06	Hanover Center "		10.05			2.35
	Leon "		10.00	5.00	6.75	1.25
	Napoli "		13.00			1.50
	" Sally <b>Grozer</b>		50.00			
	Perrysburg "					2.45
	Poland "		6.85			1.50
	Randolph "					1.50
	Revd. G.W.					
	<b>Varnum</b>		5.00			
18.00	Sinclairville "	20.00	6.00			1.25
	Stockton "	26.28				5.00
	<b>C. Thompson</b> "		30.00			
	Nathan <b>Mixer</b>					
	Forestville	3.00	2.00	3.00		
	F.G. <b>Ellington</b>		5.00			0.25
14.71	Collections at assn.		25.54	20.35 Pubn So		
21.30	" Widow & Orphans Fund					10.04
	<b>Wm Cranston</b>				1.00 Fr. Mission	
	Amelia <b>Merrill</b>		7.00			
	Revd. J.C. <b>Allison</b>		1.00			

(Item 65)

The S.E. Stockton Baptist Church to the  
Baptist Church of Christ in Fredonia  
Sendeth Greeting.

Dear Brethren

We request you to send to us your Pastor with chosen Brethren to sit with us in council at our Meeting house the 15<sup>th</sup> of Sept. at 1 o'clock P.M. to take into consideration the Propriety of ordaining Brother Alexander A. **Mear** to the work of the gospel Ministry and if thought expedient to assist in ordination.

Done by order and in behalf of the Ch. this  
30<sup>th</sup> day of August **1852**

C. **Fish** Ch. Clk

(Item 66)

The First Regular Baptist Church in Spartanburgh to any Sister church of the same faith and practice Greeting, We certify that Bro Edward O. **White** is a member with us in good and regular standing and as such we cheerfully recommend him to the fellowship of any Sister church, with liberty to unite therewith and when so united dismissed from us.

Done in covenant meeting Spartanburgh, March 20 \*18528

A.J. **Millard** Ch'h Clerk

(Item 67)

The first Baptist Church in Hanover to the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church in Pomfret Sendeth Christian salutation this is to notify you to call on Deacon N. **Hopper** for Refreshments on your way to the Association Respectfully Yours N. **Hopper**  
Clk

Hanover August 14, **1852**

[Note on back reads]

Dea N. **Hopper**

Letter Augt. 14/52

Subject forgotten

Disappointment the result

[Letter addressed to]  
Mr A.Z. **Madison** Fredonia  
Chautauqua Co NY

*(Item 68)*

This certifies that Sister Sarah Ann **Haskins** is a member in good standing of the second Baptist Church in Stockton and as such we commend her to any other Church of our Faith and order with which she may wish to unite and When thus united we shall consider her dismissed from us. Done by order of the Church this 12<sup>th</sup> day March **1843**  
A.P. **Leach** Ch Clk

*(Item 69)*

The Baptist Church of Christ at Glens Falls to any sister church of the same faith and order,  
Dear Brethren,

This is to Certify that Sister Fanny **Lewis** is a member in good and regular standing with us and as such we recommend her to the watchcare & fellowship of any sister church of the same faith and order, and by her request we now consider her dismissed from us.

Done by Order of the Ch.  
John S. **Ryon**(?) Ch Clk  
Glens Falls Mar 30, **1852**

*(Item 70)*

This may certify that Sister Jane **Colburn** is a member of the Second Baptist Church of Hanover, N.Y. in good standing; and as such, she is, at her own request, cordially recommended to the fellowship & watchcare of the Baptist Church in Fredonia N.Y. & when received by them, her particular relation to this Church will be dissolved. Given by order & in behalf of the Church.

Forestville, April 3<sup>rd</sup> **1852**  
D.E. **Ellis** Clerk

*(Item 71a)*

Rev. J.W. **Lowe**  
of M.E. Church  
to Mrs E.B. **Sweet**  
Mch 8. **1852**  
Recd. Mch 27, **1852**

[Copy]

To Rev. J.W. **Lowe**, Pastor of the M.E. Church Fredonia NY  
Christian Brother,

Herein please receive our acknowledgement of the presentation of your certificate dated Mch 8. **1852** by Sister Elizabeth B. **Sweet** on the 27, inst.

In accordance with the usage of the Baptist Church Sister **Sweet**, was, on the 28<sup>th</sup> Mch inst. duly received into the fellowship and membership of the first Baptist Church of Pomfret.

With fraternal regard Yours &c  
A.Z. **Madison** Ch Clk  
Fredonia Mch 29 **1852**

*(Item 71b)*

This certifies that the bearer, Elisabeth B. **Sweet**, is in good and regular standing in the Methodist E Church in Fredonia; and now wishes to withdraw from her communion. Sister **Sweet** is recommended to any other branch of the church of Christ.

Fredonia Mar. 9 – **1852**  
J.W. **Lowe**  
Pastor of the M E Church Fredonia N.Y.

(Item 72)

Lockport, June 11<sup>th</sup>. **1852**.

Deacon **Barrell**

Dear Brother, Leaving Fredonia as suddenly as I did, and receiving no word from me, has no doubt been strangely thought of, and well it – may, for I have done wrong but suffice it to say that – I may yet be seen with the following of Christ, - still walking before my associates as a humble follower of Christ and striving to show the world that I am born of God, and bound for the kingdom of Eternal Life. You will please forgive me for not informing you of my present situation, and (?) , I am studying medicine with my father, and I wish to cast in my lot with God's proper in this place. The reason that I have not asked the Church of Fredonia for a letter is; the first Baptist Church dissolved and a new Church sprang up. The Second Baptist Church, and doubts were entertained of its acceptance into the Association, and I thought I would not join until it was a member of that body. The Association was held at Akron, 16 miles from this place, which I attended, and we had a happy time I assure you. If you think your unworthy brother would have his request granted, he would humbly beg that a letter might be sent him, that he may be admitted in the Church at Lockport, that at his home, he may have a home with the people of God. Br. **Barrell** will please excuse this writing as I am quite sick.

From your obedient Servant with respect

Edwin A. **Teall**

(Item 73)

Elizabeth M. **Plank**

Letter from

Sixth St. Bap. Ch.

N. Yk City

Recd. Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, **1850**

Miss Elizabeth M **Plank**

Fredonia N.Y.

(?) Politeness of D. **Barrell** Esq

The Sixth Street Bap Church in New York City

To the Baptist Church in Fredonia, New York

Dear Brethren:

This is to Certify, That Str. Elizabeth M. **Plank** is a member in good standing with us, and at her own request, is hereby permitted to unite with you; whereby her immediate relation to us will cease. When her membership shall have been thus transferred, and we notified of the same, we shall no longer consider her under our particular watch-care and discipline.

In behalf of the Church,

Henry **Lloyd** Church Clerk.

24<sup>th</sup> September **1850**

This letter shall be valid only 3 months from date.

(Item 74)

This may Certify that Br A.B. **Post** & Wife are members of the first Baptist Church of Christ in Portland in good and regular standing as such we cordially recommend them to any Sister Church of our faith and order.

Done by order and in behalf of the Church this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June **1853** Salem roads

N. **Mason** Ch. C.I.k.

(Item 75)

This certifies that Br O. Adams **Buck** has been received from the first Baptist Church in Pomfret as a member of the first Baptist Church in Jonesville on a letter bearing date April 6<sup>th</sup> **1850**

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January **1852**

Yours with Christian regard, G.F. **Hoyt**

(Item 76)

We will send you some insurance money soon 2.75

Mr A.Z. **Madison**

Dear sir

This was handed to me by Mr T.A. **Hanes** which I am requested to forward to you, Likewise would state as requested by Mrs **Griswold** that she would like a letter of dismissal & recommendation to join the ch of which I am Pastor. Obtain it on Sabbath next of commencement.

This certifies that Revd. Salem T. **Griswold** has been received from the First Baptist Church of Pomfret as a member of the John Street Baptist Church in Hamilton Con. West on a letter bearing date Augt 9<sup>th</sup> **1850**

Dated Hamilton Oct 12, **1851**

Thomas A. **Haines**

Deacon

Revd. S.T. **Griswold** has been appointed the Pastor of the above church.

P.G. Gan(?) may hand Mrs G letter to (?) and he will forward it in his (?) Y.Y.G.(?)

*(Item 77)*

This certifies that Bro John **Forbs** and Sister Lavinia **Forbs** has been received from the first Baptist Church in Pomfret as members of the Baptist Church in Batavia on a letter bearing date March 30<sup>th</sup> **1851**

Dated Batavia November 29<sup>th</sup> **1851**

Daniel **Putnam** Clerk.

*(Item 78)*

This may certify that the bearer Spencer **Goldsmith** is a member in good standing of the Baptist Church of Sheboygan Falls and as such we recommend him to the Christian fellowship and watch care of any church of our faith and order where God in his providence may cast his lot. In behalf of the church

A. **Lull**(?) Pastor

Sheboygan Falls Sept 8 **1851**

*(Item 79)*

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. Erie Bap. Asson. Sixteen Dollars and seven cents the Amt. Contributed by the Stockton Bap Ch. in Feb. last for the Am. Bible Union, to apply of Life Membership of Rev. Bliss C. **Willoughby**, which sum I agree to forward to the Treasurer of said Am Bible Union. Geo W. **Lewis**

Fredonia June 14<sup>th</sup>, **1852**

\$16.07

*(Item 80)*

109.93

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treasurer of the Erie Bap. Association One Hundred and Nine Dollars and Ninety three cents for the Am. Bap. Home Mission Society Viz.

Recpts previously given to Churches \$86. Returned

Cash paid in by chhs. to Collection 23.43

2 pr Socks apprizd .50

\$109.93

Fredonia Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> **1851**

David **Searl** (Agent

*(Item 81)*

[printed on the left side] American Baptist Missionary Union,

No. 81 Washington St, (Room 8 Joy's Building,) Boston.

Baptist Missionary Rooms,

Boston, July 11. **1851**

\$8

The Treasurer of the American Baptist Missionary Union acknowledges the receipt of Eight Dollars from Rev V.(?) **Bemis** of which \$3.17 is from the Clear Creek Bap Ch & \$4.83 is from the Leon Bap Church N.Y. for the Siam Mission

Richd. E. **Eddy** Treasr

A.B.M. Union

*(Item 82)*

[printed on the left side] American Baptist Missionary Union,  
No. 81 Washington St, (Room 8 Joy's Building,) Boston.

Baptist Missionary Rooms,  
Boston, July 9. **1851**  
\$4

The Treasurer of the American Baptist Missionary Union acknowledges the receipt of Four Dollars from the Baptist Church in Forestville N.Y. per Rev Nathan **Wood** for the Siam Mission.

Richd. E. **Eddy** Treasr  
A.B.M. Union

*(Item 83)*

Black Rock March 22<sup>nd</sup>

Dear Br **Madison**

As it will probably never be any privilege to meet with the Society as one of its members I have thought best to request a letter of dismissal with (?) to unite with another church.

When I left I received from my Pastor the Rev. A.C. **Barrell** a letter of commendation, which letter on account of the distance, and inconvenience of going, I have never used. But I live in hope that ere long I may again be within the sacred influences of the Church.

The contrast between the cold & fashionable churches of Buffalo and the humble, devoted one of Fredonia has been one great barrier to my union with them.

I have felt a shrinking from uniting with a church where I am one alone – a stranger uncared for. I longed for the piety and loving kindness of my own home church in Fredonia.

It pains me to ask for my dismissal for in so doing I feel that I become a voluntary exile from your hearts & prayers. And it is with emotions such as a child feels when for the last time he bids adieu to the loved home circle that I now pen these lines.

Commend me still to the prayers of the Beloved Church and believe me dear Brother yours with the love of a Christian

Helen M **Lewis**

To A.Z. **Madison** Ch. Clk

1<sup>st</sup> Bap ch of Pomfret

[Note] Helen M. **Lewis**

Mch 22. **1850**

Request granted

Apl 5. **1850**

*(Item 84)*

The Regular Baptist Church of Jamestown to her Sister Church at Fredonia

Sendeth Greeting.

This may certify that Sister Hannah **Gilbert** is a member in good standing with us, and as such we cheerfully commend her to your fellowship and watch care, with liberty to unite with you, and when united and we are notified shall consider her dismissed from us.

Done by order and in behalf of the Church.

G.B. **Ford** chh. clk

Wm **Look**. Pastor

Jamestown April 1, **1850**(?)

*(Item 85)*

The Regular Baptist Church of Christ in Dewittville to any other Church of the same faith & order Sendeth Greeting:

This certifies that Sister Malinda **Brown** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend her to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that she has united with you, her relation to us will cease.

Done by order of the Church.

Dated Dewittville June 7 **1857**.

**H Damon** Clerk.

Recd. Decr, 5. **1857**

*(Item 86)*

Salmon Creek June 17. 56

The First Baptist Church in Parma to any other Church of like faith, and order

This is to certify that Lewis M. **Randal** and Mary his wife are members with us in good and regular standing and as such we commend them to your fellowship and watchcare and when united with you they will be considered as dismissed from us.

By order and in behalf of the Church

Daniel **Much** Ch Ck

*(Item 87)*

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. Erie Baptist Association Seven Dollars & nine cents as named in the written order Delanti Feb. 11, **1852**

Jesse **Elliot**

*(Item 88)*

Received, Wyoming April 20 **1852** of the Forestville Baptist Church the sum of Six Dollars for the Am. Bapt. Miss'y Union, \$5.74 of which was advanced and reported & credit of the church on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March, and the remainder 26 cts & this credit in new a/c. Rev. Nathan **Wood** & be constituted a Life Member of the Missy Union on donation from the Erie Association

5.74 P.M. **Osgood** Agent

.26 A.B.M. Union

\$6.00

*(Item 89)*

\$25.86.

Received, at Randolph, Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>, **1853**, of A.Z. **Madison**, Treasurer of the Erie Baptist Association, for printing the Minutes of the Sixth Anniversary of said Association, Twenty Five Dollars and Eighty six cents.

Johnson **Howard**

Clerk of Erie Baptist Association.

*(Item 90)*

Enclosed is \$30. thirty dollars, being the amount of sales of Bibles & testaments since my last report – I would recommend that Br G.W. **Lewis**, or Br John **Hamilton** Jr be appointed as Depository agent, as I have no place of business now as formerly – The Bibles are now at their Store.

Fredonia 9. Feby. **1852**

David **Barrell**

*(Item 91)*

Treasurer of Bible Society in Erie Asson. Aux.y. to A. & F. Bible So.

\$7.09 Pay Revd Jesse **Elliott** Seven Dollars & nine cents for bibles left in the depository – pay this amount from the sum sent to you from me

Fredonia 10 Feby. /52 D. **Barrell** Deposty agt

*(Item 92)*

The Cassadaga Baptist Church to whom these lines may be presented

Sendeth greeting

This may Certify that Brother Henry **Morrison** is a member with us in good standing and as such we cheerfully recommend him to the watch care of any Sister Church with liberty to unite with the same and when united shall consider him dismissed from us.

Done by order and in behalf of the Church this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August **1853**(?)

A.B. **Fisher** Chh Clk

*(Item 93)*

The Fredonia Bap. Ch. to any Sister Ch. sendeth Christian salutation.

This is to certify that the bearer Sister C.B. [Clarinda **Barrell**, most likely] is a member in good standing & fellowship with us & as such we commend her to any to whom this may come – at her request we also give her liberty to unite with any other church of the same faith & order with us.

By order & in behalf of the Ch

A.Z.M. asst. Ch. Clk

The above is given by the Asst. Clk, as the Clerk of the Ch. is the husband of Sister B.

*(Item 94)*

Almond, May 27<sup>th</sup> **1854** This certifies that Mrs Polly **Nixon** is a member of the Regular Baptist Church of Christ in Almond N.Y. in full fellowship; and she is cordially commended to the watch, care, and fellowship of any Church in sister relation where God in his Providence may cast her lot, with Liberty to unite with such Church. Signed by Authority of the Church at Covenant Meeting this day

L.S. **Rathbun** Chh. Clk

*(Item 95)*

The Sheridan Baptist Church of Christ to any Sister Church of the Same Faith and Order

This may Certify that Sister Betsey **Fuller** is a member of the Church in good standing and as such we commend her to you with Liberty to unite and When Notified of their exception [sic] shall consider Her dismissed from us

Done by Order and Behalf of the Church

Sheridan June the 25<sup>th</sup> **1853**

D.H. **Wattermon** Pastor

Orange (?) Clerk

*(Item 96)*

The Baptist Church Mariah NY

To any church of the same faith & order

Send Greeting

Dear Brethren

This certifies that brother David J. **Cook** is a member of this church in good & regular standing (by his own request) as such we cheerfully recommend him to your Christian regard & fellowship, with liberty to unite with you & when so united & officially informed we shall consider him as dismissed from us

By order & in behalf of the church

Done at Mariah Baptist Church

Dec 14<sup>th</sup> **1851**

G.B. **Bills** Pastor

*(Item 97)*

Mrs Sally **Emmons'** address Ch Letter sent Decr. 7, **1854**

*(Item 98)*

Adrian(?) March 13<sup>th</sup>

Mr **Madison**,

As Father's time is wholly occupied in a series of meetings which have been very interesting, there having been a number of conversions and a large number still anxiously seeking Christ, he wished me to write in regard to our church letters which were lost in unpacking our goods. You would oblige us very much by sending letters by the first mail in order to present them at the next covenant meeting. All send a great deal of love to your family.

Respectfully yours

Ella A.J. **Kingsbury**



Tell Sarah – Mary has not forgotten that she is indebted to her for a very kind letter and will answer it soon.

*(Item 99)*

This certifies that Brother Gilbert **Chapin** has been received from the first Baptist Church in Pomfret as a member of the Regular Baptist Church in Ripley Center(?) on a letter bearing date April 30 **1853**

Dated Ripley June 5/53

E.C. **Wattles** Ch. Clerk.

*(Item 100)*

Albany 2<sup>nd</sup> November **1855**

The Pearl Street Baptist Church in the City of Albany

To the Baptist Church at Fredonia N.Y.

Sendeth Christian Greeting

Dear Brethren

This is to certify that Sister Mrs Caroline **Jones** is a member with us in good and regular standing and at her own request is dismissed to your body. We commend her to your Christian fellowship Watch and Care and trust that her connection with you may result(?) in mutual good.

By order of the Church

Theodore(?) V. Van Heusen C Clerk

*(Item 101a)*

Letter of Dismission.

The South Baptist Church in the City of Albany,

To any Church of the same faith and order

Sendeth Christian salutation:

Dear Brethren,

This Certifies, That Brother Emery A. **Merrifield** is a member with us in good and regular standing, and at his request is recommended to your Christian watch and care.

When he is received into fellowship with you his particular relation to us will cease.

By order of the Church.

Joseph **Nellegar** Church Clerk.

N.B. This Letter is valid for six months only.

Albany, March 20<sup>th</sup> **1853**

*(Item 101b)*

Dr. E.A. **Merrifield**

Letter S. Ch. Albany

Recd Apl 2<sup>nd</sup> **1853**

By virtue of the within letter of commendation Dr. E.A. **Merrifield** was received into fellowship with “the first Baptist Church of Pomfret,” at Fredonia Chautauqua Co. N.Y. in the Covenant Meeting held April 2<sup>nd</sup>. **1853**.

A.Z. **Madison** Ch. Clk.

*(Item 102)*

The Baptist Church in North East Dutchess Co. N.Y.

To any sister church of the same faith & order

This Certifies, that Rev Charles B. **Keyes**, Lydia L. **Keyes**, and Sarah E. **Keyes**, are all Members of this church in good standing and full fellowship. At their request, we give them this letter of dismission from our watchcare and Membership. We commend them to our brethren & sisters, with whom their lot may be cast.

By order of the Church.

Attest

W. **Winchell**(?) Ch Clerk

North East N.Y.

Dec 17/53

*(Item 103)*

Waukegan Jn 26<sup>th</sup> 53

Dear Sir

We are at Waukegan now and wish our letters to be sent to us.

Plas direct them to Waukegan Lake Co Ill

E.B. **Farnham**

Mr A.Z. **Madison**

Recd Feb 1. & sent Letter for all Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*(Item 104)*

The committee appointed to confer with Mr W.S. **Lake** on his application for membership with this church respectfully report

That they have had interviews with him, and after mature deliberation, are compelled to report, that Mr **Lakes** views of Bible truth are so much at variance with this church, and with our denomination, that we cannot recommend his reception.

Fredonia Feby. **1853**

D. **Barrell** – Chairman

A. **Kingsbury**

J.R. **Parker**

*(Item 105)*

The Fredonia Baptist Church, to any church of the same faith & order, sendeth Christian salutation,

This is to certify that our beloved Brother Josiah **More** is a member in good standing & full fellowship with us, & as such we commend him, and at his request give him liberty to unite with any other Church of the same faith & order with us.

By order & in behalf of the church.

Fredonia 12. Feby. **1848** D. **Barrell** Ch. Clk

*(Item 106)*

1<sup>st</sup>. Baptist Church of Pomfret

In Covenant Meeting Augt. 6, **1853**,

Resolved that Br. Hiram H. **Sweet** be solicitor of funds for the Am. Home Mission Society, he to be constituted a Life Member of said Society in case thirty Dollars shall be collected.

A.Z. **Madison** Ch. Clk

*(Item 107)*

1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret In Covenant Meeting Augt. 6, **1853**

Resolved that Br. A.Z. **Madison** be a solicitor of funds for the Missionary Convention of the State of New York, he to be constituted a Life Member of said Convention if funds sufficient shall be collected.

Almond Z. **Madison** Ch. Clk

*(Item 108)*

\$30.00 Fredonia Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> **1853**

Received of A.Z. **Madison** for the American Bible Union Thirty Dollars being Amount collected in the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church and Congregation for the past year for that institution

Geo W. **Lewis** Agent

*(Item 109a)*

A. **Wheelock**

Recpt. \$37.50

Jan'y 1, **1859**

*(Item 109b)*

Rev. A. **Wheelock**

Recpt \$72.50

Jan'y 17, **1859**

(Item 109c)

Rev. A. **Wheelock**

Recpt. \$50.00

Mch 21/59

(Item 109d)

Rev. A. **Wheelock**

Recpt \$10. pd by D.B. on subsc.

May 23<sup>rd</sup>/59

(Item 110)

	Fr. Miss So(?)	Home M	
1 <sup>st</sup> Perrysbg.	1. Quilt(?)	2.00 Cash	
		\$250	
Forestville Sew. Circle	1. Quilt	4.00	
Do. Do.	1. Quilt	3.00	
Do. Do.	2 pr cot socks (?)	50	
Do D	1 " Wool Do (?)	38	
Do Do	1 a Cot Socks (?)	<u>37</u>	
		Free Miss 8.25	
Poland White(?) So.	2. Towels at(?) . 50		
	2 pr Pillow Cas. 100		
	1 pr Cot Socks 38		
	1 " Cot Socks 25		
	1 pr Pillow Cases Plain 31 = 2.44		
		Conv.	
Stockton Ch.	1 pr wool Socks 31	38	
	1 " Do (?)	31	
	2 - Collars (?)	<u>31</u>	
		\$1.00	

(Item 111)

30.07

4.69

34.76

2.44 = \$37.20

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. Erie Bap. Assn. Thirty four Dollars and Seventy six cents cash and Two dollars & forty four cents in goods as appraised – in all Thirty seven & 20/100 Dollars for the Am. Bap. Free Mission Society.

D. **Morse** F.M. Agent

Randolph Sept 8<sup>th</sup>. **1853**

Cherry Creek Ch. \$16.

Clear Crk	"	1.
Forestville	"	3.
1 <sup>st</sup> . Perrysburgh	"	4.
Poland	"	2.45
Randolph	"	2.00
Stockton"	1.37	
E. <b>Devine</b>		25
Bal. in Treas.y		<u>4.69</u>
Cash		\$34.76

Poland White(?) So	2 Towels 2/	.50
	2 pr Pillowcases 4/	1.00

1 " Cot. Hose 3/	.38	
1 " " Socks 2/	.25	
1 " Plain Pillowcases 2/	<u>.31</u>	
		\$2.44
Amt Cash		<u>34.76</u>
		\$37.20

(Item 112)

Recpts given Chs. \$36.09  
 Cash Left 1. Recd. 31.21 = \$87.30  
 Goods 7.00 = 7.00  
 \$94.30

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treasr. Erie Bap Association Eighty seven Dollars and thirty cents Cash & Recpts as above and Goods appraised at Seven Dollars for the Am. Bap. Home Miss. So.  
 Nashville Sept 1. **1852**  
 David **Searl** (Agent)

(Item 113)

Recpt \$38.08  
 Cash 34.26  
 72.34  
 Goods 6.44

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treasr. Erie Bap. Asson. Seventy two Dollars as above in Cash & Recpts, and also Six Dollars & forty four cents in Goods as appraised for the Am. Bap. Free Missy So.  
 Nashville Sept 1, **1852**  
 L. **Ewer**  
 Agent

(Item 114)

Recd. as above in goods from Stockton Church Nine dollars & twenty five cents and also Cash added to collection twenty five cents  
 \$9.25 L. **Ewer**  
.25 Agent  
 \$9.50 Fredonia Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> **1852**  
75.78  
 \$88.28

(Item 115a)

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treasr. of Erie Bap Asson. Sixty six Dollars & Sixty one cents cash and Ten dollars & seventy five cents in Goods (as appraised) in all – the sum of seventy seven Dollars and thirty six cents for the Am. Bap. Home Mission Society.  
 Randolph Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>. **1853**.  
 \$66.61 Wm **Sawyer** Agent Amer Bap Home Miss Society by Alonzo **Wadhams**(?)  
10.75  
 \$77.36

Cherry Creek Ch.	\$6.37	
Forestville "		11.25
1 <sup>st</sup> . Perrysburgh "	2.00	
1 <sup>st</sup> Pomfret "		31.75 of which \$30. for Hiram H. <b>Sweet</b> L.M.
Sheridan "	1.11	
Stockton "	7.00	
Forestville Sewing Circle	<u>7.13</u>	
Cash		66.61
		<u>10.75</u> Goods

\$77.36

Forestville Sewing Circle

1. Quilt is	4.00	Also Recpts Viz.	
1. Do	3.00	Stockton	2.97
2. pr Cot. Socks 2/	.50	Sinclairville Ch.	7.09
1 " Wool Do 3/	.38		77.36
1 " Cot Hose	37		

(Item 115b)

\$7.09 Sinclairville Sept 5. **1853**

Received of the Baptist Church of Sinclairville Seven Dollars and nine cents for the A.B.F.(?) Mission.

Wm **Sawyer**

Agent

(Item 115c)

[This is a partially obscured receipt dated Aug 21 **1853**, with handwriting like Item 115b, and signed by **Sawyer**, Agent]

(Item 116)

\$4.00 Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treasurer of Erie Bap. Asson. Four Dollars in full for binding & Sticking 800 Copies Minutes of said Association 5<sup>th</sup> Session **1852**

Fredonia Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>. **1852**

V.(?) **Millet**

(Item 117)

54.47

1.22

55.69

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. Erie Asso Fifty four Dollars and forty seven cents for the Am. & For. Bible Society Sinclairville Feb 8<sup>th</sup> **1853**

\$55.69

Recd. Sinclairville Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> **1853** of A.Z. **Madison**, Treasurer of the Erie Association fifty five & 69 dollars for the Am. & For. Bible Society.

Jesse **Elliot**, Agent

(Item 118)

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Twelve Dollars Money belonging to the Bible Depository fund of Erie Bap. Association.

Fredonia Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>. **1853**

J. **Hamilton** Jr

Depository Agt

(Item 119)

Recd of A.Z. **Madison**  
contribution of Asso. in

H. **Crissey** (?)

Ellington Sept 7<sup>th</sup>. **1854**

Treas. of Erie Asson. Five & 27/100(?) dollars Cash in his hands being the **1853** for Widow & orphan fund.

(Item 120a)

4.75 R (?)

1.50 cash

6.25

Received of Rev. V. **Bemis** from the Leon Baptist Church, the sum of Four dollars 75/100 for the American Baptists Missy Union

S.M. **Osgood**, Agent

A.B.M. Union

(Item 120b)

3.00 (?)

6.78 Rut (?)

350

10.28

Also from the Clear Creek Church for the same, the sum of Six dollars 78/100.

Sept. 7 **1853**

S.M. **Osgood** Agent

(Item 121)

Cash \$42.38

Recpts 5.03+8.69 = 13.72

Goods 1.00 = \$57.10

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treasr. Erie Bap. Association Forty two & 38/100 Dollars Cash – thirteen & 72/100 Dollars in Recpts taken up, and One dollar in Goods, as appraised for the Bap. Missy Convention of the State of New York. Randolph Sept. 8, **1853**.

Franklin **Kidder**

Agent.

(Item 121)

Cassadaga Ch. Recpt 5.08

Stockton Ch Do 8.69

\$13.72

Cash

1. Hanover Ch. 2.50

Napoli " 5.00

1. Perrysbg " .50

Poland " 1.50

1. Pomfret " 12.00 of which \$10. for A.Z.M. L.M.

Sinclairville " 5.25

Stockton " 3.38

Little Valley" 12.00

Bro Brownell **Elly** 2.57

42.38

Stockton Ch 1 or wool socks 3/ 38

1 " Do " 2/a 31

2 Collars 1/3 31

Goods \$1.00

Recpts 13.72

Cash 42.38

\$57.10

(Item 122)

The Baptist Church in Busti,

To her sister Church in Fredonia sendeth Christian love

Dear Brethren,

The council called by us in August last as in consequence of the death of Mrs. J. **Southland** indefinitely deferred.

The difficulty still exists, and we very much need advice. The praise of the Harmony Association demands the advice of sister churches on a question of Gospel discipline – We wish you to send your pastor & brethren to meet with us, in Council on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> day of December inst. at five o'clock P.M. without fail.

Done by order of the church the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of Dec. **1853**

Elroy(?) **Davis** Chh. Clerk

Wrote Dec 16<sup>th</sup>.

(Item 123)

Mendon Nov 27, **1852**

Brother **Madison**,

Dear Sir

I wish letter of dismissal and recommendation from the Church for myself, wife and daughter. I do not know where we shall unite but we probably shall not return to Fredonia therefore we think it desirable to have our letters. If you will lay the above request before the church at your next meeting you will much oblige us  
I remain Yours Truly,  
**C.W. Wheelock**

*(Item 124)*

This certifies that Mary Jane **Gilbert** is a member of this church in good standing as such we Recommend her to the fellowship of any sister church with liberty to unite and when so united will be considered dismissed from us  
Done by order of the Baptist church Springfield Erie Co Penna this 12<sup>th</sup>(?) March **1853**  
Heman **Burness**(?) chh clk  
Recd July 21 **1853**

*(Item 125a)*

This may Certify that Brother Abner **Fay** is a member of the first Baptist Church of Christ in Portland in good Standing, as such we cordially recommend him to any Sister Church of the same faith and order and when united with such Church and we are officially notified of the same we shall consider him dismissed from us  
Done by order and in behalf of the Church this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April **1853**  
Salem x roads [Brocton] N. **Mason**, Ch, Clerk

*(Item 125b)*

This may certify that Sister Sarah **Fay** is a member in good Standing of the first Baptist Church of Christ in Portland as such we cordially recommend her to any Sister Church of our faith and order and when united with such Church and we are officially notified of the same we shall consider her dismissed from us  
Done by order and in behalf of the Church this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April **1853**  
Salem x roads [Brocton] N. **Mason**, Ch, Clerk

*(Item 126)*

The Mayville Baptist Church of Christ in Mayville, To Any  
Sister Church of the same faith and practice  
Sendeth Greeting:

This certifies that Eppenetus **Winsor** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend him to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that he has united with you, his relation to us will cease.  
Done by order of the Church.  
Dated Mayville, Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>. **1854**.  
Jesse **Brooks** Clerk.

*(Item 127)*

St. Paul Oct 4<sup>th</sup> **1857**

The Baptist church at St. Paul M.I.  
To the Baptist church of Fredonia N.Y.  
Greeting,

Dear brethren

We hereby inform you of the reception of Sister Maria C. **Madison** upon the credit of your letter of dismissal dated June 6th **1857**, and trust that the relation thus formed may be mutually pleasant & beneficial.

In behalf of the Church.  
Jno. R. **Madison** Ch. Clk

*(Item 128)*

This First Baptist Church of Christ in Portland to any  
Sister church of the same Faith and practice  
Sendeth Greeting

This certifies that Sister Julia M. **Daily** is a member of this church in good standing and as such we cheerfully commend her to your Fellowship with liberty to unite with you and when united & we notified her relation to us will cease

Done by order of the church  
Salem x roads [Brocton] June 10, **1854**  
N. **Mason**, Clerk

*(Item 129)*

**1857**

Melissa **Batcheller**  
Letter asking Dismn.  
Feb 16. **1857**  
Granted Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>

Mr. **Madison**  
Fredonia N.Y.  
Politeness of Miss **Walker**.

Ellicottville Feb 16<sup>th</sup> **1857**.

Mr **Madison**

As secretary of the first Baptist church in Fredonia I request of you, to obtain for me, a letter of dismissal from the church and send me.

I probably shall not spend much more of my life in Fredonia and prefer to have my name recorded in the church where I may ch[o]ose to reside.

Please send to Ellicottville Catt. Co. N.Y.

Truly Yours,

Melissa **Batcheller**

Unan. Vote for com to invite Eld **Smith** to become our Pastor  
Granted Feb 22/57

*(Item 130)*

The Baptist Chh in Geneva Ohio

To any sister Church

Sendeth Christian Salutation

Dear Brethren

This may Certify that Sister Elizabeth **Webster** is a member in regular standing with us and as such at her request we cheerfully grant her this letter of Commendation and dismission

Done by order of the Church at our regular Covt. Meeting

Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> **1853**(?) H. St. Austin Ch. Clerk

Recd. July 1, **1854**

*(Item 131)*

**1858**

Sept 5. Recd Mrs. Asenath **Barber**

The Baptist Church in Stockton to The 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church in Pomfret:

This certifies that Sister Asenath **Barber** united with us by letter from the church in Paris January 12<sup>th</sup>. **1824**, that she was a member in good standing with us when she removed from this vicinity, and if you find her in gospel order, we commend her to your fellowship and watch care, and when received by you, we shall consider her dismissed from us.

By order of church

Calvin **Smith**: - Clerk.

Stockton August 7. **1858**

Recd. Sept 5, **1858**

To Membership

Letter Recd Augt 11, **1858**



*(Item 132)*

This may certify, that this sister(?), Mrs. Amanda **Walker**, has been a worthy member of the Baptist Church of Flint, Michigan, and much(?), at her request receives this letter of commendation & dismissal.

She has long maintained an excellent Christian Character in this place, and is much(?) cordially and affectionately commended the confidence & fellowship of the Baptist Church in Fredonia, N.Y. or any Sister Church, where in the Providence of God her lot may be cast.

By order & in behalf of the church, and Dated Flint, June 3. **1854**.

L.D. **Morse**,  
Church Clerk.

*(Item 133)*

This certifies that Br Aaron **Clark** & Sr. Almary **Clark** are members of the Baptist Church at Forestville N.Y. in good & regular standing and as such they are hereby cordially recommended to the fellowship & watchcare of any Sister Church wherein in the Providence of God their lots may be cast & when recd. and we notified they will be considered dismissed from us.

Given by order & in behalf of the Church

Forestville May 6. **1854**

D.C. **Ellis** Ch. Clk.

*(Item 134)*

Report of Committee in case of Bro. Stephen **May**

Nov 10, Dec 12, **1854**

Read at a Church Meeting held Nov 10<sup>th</sup> **1854**

Also at Ch Meeting held Dec. 12, **1854** with the addition appended

Your Committee would report, - that they have spared no effort to obtain a true statement of all the facts bearing upon the differences between brn. **May** and **Roberts**, in order to form a correct judgment of the cause of such difference and after hearing as individuals made full inquiries, find themselves unanimous in the conclusions forced upon their minds by their investigations.

They have made repeated efforts to induce these brethren mutually to adjust their differences and to settle between themselves, but these efforts have not been successful.

They are satisfied br **May** made such promises in his letters to br **Roberts** and held out such endorsements in conversation with him as led him to believe it would be greatly for his interest – and for the benefit of his family, to leave his former place of residence where he was doing well, and remove to Fredonia, and when, after earnest and repeated solicitations of br **May**, he did remove here at a considerable sacrifice, abundant evidence is formed that for more than one Year bro **May** was entirely satisfied with the part he performed, - Nor can your Committee learn that by any mis-conduct on the part of bro **Roberts** or non-fulfillment of his part of the engagement he has rendered void the positive and repeated Obligation which br. **May** voluntarily entered into with him, which he freely acknowledged to several persons, and which the Committee can not regard in any other light – than as a contract as morally binding as one written, and sealed, and which could not be violated without involving a great moral wrong, The Committee believe bro **May** has violated this contract, and the work of reconciliation now rests with him, in order to effect which it becomes his duty fully to satisfy bro. **Roberts** for the injuries sustained by him, and to remunerate him for the loss and disadvantage which such violation of obligation has caused him to suffer He has thereby been deprived of the use of a good farm worth Twenty five hundred Dollars, which bro **May** had promised to him during his life, and which was to become the heritage of his wife and children when, death, should take from them their natural protector and support, From the possession and enjoyment of a home, and the anticipation of educating and supporting his family in comfort, while he lived, and the hope of leaving them secure from want, at his death bro. **Roberts** has been cast into the wide world with his large family, and with no means for their support but the blessing of God on the labor of his hands

These considerations influence your committee to believe that only a large sum could fully compensate him for the loss he has sustained, and the least amount which could be accepted by bro **Roberts** and which they regard as justly due from bro **May** would be Five Hundred Dollars and the costs of the suit

The Committee would further report that – they find no justification for bro. **May** in having brought suits at law first against Bro. Joseph **Porter** and afterwards against bro. **Roberts**, in direct violation of the spirit of our religion and

the plain instructions of the Apostle in the 6<sup>th</sup> Chap of 1<sup>st</sup> Cor. Neither can they find excuse for the hard and unchristian feelings entertained by him against bro **Roberts**, or for the severe language and “railing(?) accusations” with which he speaks of him and which they think entirely discordant with the meekness of Him who said Bless them that curse you and pray for them that despitefully use you and persecute you

Your Committee have discovered a general and so far as they have learned, a unanimous sentiment in the community, sympathizing with bro **Roberts** as the injured party, and strongly condemning the conduct of bro. **May** towards him, and they cannot resist the conviction that his whole course has brought great reproach upon religion, and a lasting injury to the cause of Christ

Geo. W. **Lewis**

Charles **Batcheller**

J.B. **McClanathan**

J.R. **Parker**

D.A. **Woodruff**

The Committee would disclaim any desire or intention to review or in any-wise interfere with the decision of the arbitrators who decided the Legal differences between brn **May** and **Roberts** if they had been at liberty to have investigated all the moral bearings of all matters involved in the differences between them, their decision might have been different.

*(Item 135)*

This is to Certify that Sister Phebe **Allen** is a member in good and regular Standing in this Church and as such we recommend her to the watch care and fellowship of any Sister church of our faith and order with Liberty to unite with them and when so united we shall consider her dismissed from us

Done by order and in behalf of the First Baptist Church of Christ in Dunkirk NY

Oct 7<sup>th</sup>, **1854**

Levi **Parsons**

Church Clerk

*(Item 136)*

The Baptist Church of Christ in Clear Creek to any Sister Church of the same faith with us; greeting.

This is to certify that Brother Russel B. **Clark** his wife Sister Maria D.B. **Clark** and their daughter Sister Henrietta M. **Clark** are members with us, in good and regular standing, as such we cheerfully commend them to the watchcare and fellowship of any church of our faith and order with liberty to unite and when joined and we duely [sic] notified shall consider them dismissed from us

Done by Order of the Church

Oct 15<sup>th</sup> **1859**

Avery **Randal** Chh Clk

*(Item 137)*

The Baptist Church in Norwich N.Y.

To any other Church of the same Faith,

Greeting:

Dear Brethren:

We hereby certify that Sr Alice M. **Eddy** is a regular member with us, and at her request is hereby dismissed from this Church and cordially recommended to your fellowship.

When united with you her membership with us will cease. This Certificate is designed to be valid for one year from date.

By order of the Church.

Norwich, Dec 28<sup>th</sup> **1858**

J.(?) H. **Prentice** Church Clerk.

Recd. Feb 5. **1859**

*(Item 138)*

The First Baptist Church in Rochester, N.Y.,

By this Certifies to the Good Standing and Full Fellowship of

Bro. R.F. **Powers**

with us. At his own request, we give him this letter of dismissal, and affectionately commend him to the fellowship of any church of our faith and order.  
By order and in behalf of the Church.  
H.W. **Dean**, Church Clerk.  
Rochester, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> **1854**.

*(Item 139)*

Cherry Creek June 11<sup>th</sup> **1859**

The Baptist Church of Cherry Creek to any other Church of the same faith and order Greeting  
This may certify that Sister Orselia **Babcock** is a member of this Church in good standing & as such we commend her to the fellowship of any Sister Church with which she may wish to unite & when she has so done shall consider her dismissed from us.  
Done by order & in behalf of the Church  
E. **Northrup**(?) Church Clk

(Now Orselia **Mount** wife of Hezekiah M)

*(Item 140)*

Hamilton Butler Co Ohio

Mr **Whelock**

Mrs & Miss **Dickey** have settled in Hamilton Ohio & desire that you will please send them a certificate of Church Membership, so that they may enjoy the privilege of the same, in

This place,

Pleas answer soon & oblige them

Respectfully

Mrs L.A. **Pease**

Written by Request

Dec 12/59

*(Item 141)*

**1854** May 6<sup>th</sup>. Heard request of Miss Julia C. **Steele**, who has been baptized and united with the Methodist church at Fort(?) He(?) to become a member with us. She also gave a short relation of her experience & views as a Baptist, and on motion of Bro. **Barrell** 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bro **Parker** that she be recd. (the vote to be taken tomorrow before Communion service)

Closed. Doxy

Sab P.M. May 7, **1854** Before Com. service, Elder **Kingsbury** explained the case of Sr. Julia C. **Steele** & on the motion of yesterday, the Ch. Resolved to receive her as a Member.

He then extended right hand of fellowship to Sisters Polly **Butterfield** & Julia C. **Steele**

Added by

May 7./54

To Kentucky

Sept 2. **1855**

Recd. Dec 5. **1859**

On letter Commendation from United Baptist Ch. of Jesus Christ at Hawesville Ky.  
Same time with Mrs. Malinda **Brown**

*(Item 142)*

Letter of Dismission.

The South Baptist Church in the City of Albany,

To any Church of the Same Faith & order

Sendeth Christian salutation:

Dear Brethren,

This Certifies, That Sister Sophia **Moyer** is a member with us in good and regular standing, and at her request is recommended to your Christian watch and care.

When she is received into fellowship with you her particular relation to us will cease.

By order of the Church.

Joseph **Nellegar** Church Clerk.  
N.B. This Letter is valid for six months only.  
Albany, April 1<sup>st</sup>, **1855**.

*(Item 143)*

Amboy Lucas Co Seyong(?) Po Ohio

Dea B. **Archer**  
Dea O. **Hitchenke**  
Randolph N. Y.  
June J. **Cook**.

**1856**

David J. **Cook**  
Moriah Ch.  
Recd. Mch 1/56

*(Item 144)*

The First Portland Baptist Church of Christ  
To any Sister Church of the same faith and practice

Sendeth greeting:

This may certify that Sister Eliza **Bloomer** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, we cheerfully commend her to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when so united and we notified her relation to us will cease

Done by order of the Church

Salem x roads [Brocton] Oct 8<sup>th</sup> **1854**

N. **Mason**, Clerk.

*(Item 145)*

Letter of Dismission.

The South Baptist Church in the City of Albany,

To any Church of the Same Faith and order

Sendeth Christian salutation:

Dear Brethren,

This Certifies, That Brother Joseph **Moyer** is a member with us in good and regular standing, and at his request is recommended to your Christian watch and care.

When he is received into fellowship with you his particular relation to us will cease.

By order of the Church.

Joseph **Nellegar** Church Clerk.

N.B. This Letter is valid for six months only.

Albany, April 1<sup>st</sup>, **1855**.

*(Item 146)*

Sr. Emily **Webster** from Stockton Ch.

Recd Mch 3<sup>rd</sup> **1855**

Mrs. Emily **Webster**  
Church Letter

The Stockton Baptist Church to the Baptist Church in Fredonia

Greeting,

This certifies that sister Emily **Webster** is a member with us in good & regular standing & as such we would cheerfully commend her to your Christian fellowship & regard with liberty to unite & when she has so done will be considered dismissed from us.

Done by order of the Church

E. **Thompson** Clk.

Stockton N.Y.  
May 13<sup>th</sup>/ 54

*(Item 147)*

The Mayville Baptist Church to any Sister Church of the same faith and practices Greeting  
Our sister Sarah Ann **Eddy** having asked of us commendation and dismission We certify that she is a member with  
us in good standing and as such recommend her to any sister church with permission to connect herself therewith  
and at her request is dismissed from us  
Mayville April 20<sup>th</sup> **1850**  
Jesse **Brooks** Chh Clerk

Recd July 7, **1852**

*(Item 148)*

The Baptist Church in Stockton to any sister church in our fellowship  
This certifies that sister Almira **Webster** is a member in good standing with us and we recommend her to the  
fellowship of any church where God in his providence may cast her lot.  
Done by order of the church  
Stockton July 7, **1855**  
Calvin **Smith**, Clerk

*(Item 149)*

This may certify That Bro. Ira **Fuller** is a member of the Baptist Church of Forestville, in good standing, and as  
such, he is hereby cordially commended to the fellowship of the first Baptist Church of Pomfret, or any sister church  
with liberty to unite, and when received into fellowship will be dismissed from us. By order & in behalf of the  
Church.  
D.E. **Ellis**, Ch. Clerk.  
Given at Forestville, March 25, **1855**.

*(Item 150)*

The Washington St Baptist Ch of Buffalo  
To the First Baptist Ch of Pomfret  
This certifies that a letter of dismission & recommendation bearing date of Mch 4/55 and signed by A.Z. **Madison**  
Church Clk was presented to us by Sister Frances June Kennedy upon which she was recd into membership with us.  
– please consider this due notice.  
By order  
James F. **Chard**(?)  
Church Clk  
Buffalo N.Y. May 5/55

*(Item 151)*

The Baptist Church in Busti  
To her sister Church in Fredonia,  
Greeting,  
We request you to send your Pastor and brethren to advise us in an important matter of discipline which involves the  
prosperity and peace of a sister Church and the entire Association to meet with us the 25<sup>th</sup> of August instant at one  
o'clock P.M.  
In behalf of the Church  
Elmry(?) **Davis** Clerk  
August 8<sup>th</sup> **1853**

*(Item 152)*

To the first Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Brotheren [sic], as you have withdrawn the hand of fellowship from me (I think without any just cause) I therefore  
humbly ask the church to join with me in a mutual council beyond prejudice and excitement that all the  
circumstances that led to this result might be examined and amicably adjusted according to the Gospel.

Pomfret Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> 1855      Stephen **May**

*(Item 153)*

The First Baptist Church of Portland to the Baptist Church of Fredonia Sendeth Christian Salutation  
Dear Brethren You are respectfully requested to meet this Church on the 13<sup>th</sup> of July next at 10 O'clock A.M. by  
sending your Pastor with delegates For the purpose of an examination of Br B.F. **Mace** in view of the Ministry Done  
by order and in behalf of the Church Salem x roads [Brocton] June 28<sup>th</sup> 1852  
N. **Mason** Ch. Clk

*(Item 154)*

Hawesville Hancock County Ky  
The United Baptist Church of Jesus Christ at Hawesville.  
To any Baptist Church of the same faith Greeting  
This is to Certify that Sister Louise M. **Steele** is a member with us in good standing and full fellowship and having  
removed from under our watchcare, and on her application This letter of Dismission is granted her. And we  
recommend her to your fellowship and Christian regard, and when she becomes united to you as a Member she will  
be dismissed from us.  
Done & Signed by order of the Church. Saturday Sepr. 13 in(?) 1856  
James E. **Stone** Clerk of the Church

*(Item 155)*

The First Baptist Church of Christ in Portland to any Sister Church of the same Faith and practice  
Sendeth greeting  
This certifies that Brother (?) **Daily** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully  
commend him to your Fellowship with liberty to unite with you and when united and we notified His relation to us  
will cease.  
Done by order of the Church  
Salem x roads [Brocton] June 10<sup>th</sup> 1854  
N. **Mason**, Chh Clerk

*(Item 156)*

Buffalo, August 8<sup>th</sup> 1856  
The Niagara Square Baptist Church, in Buffalo, N.Y., to any Church of the same Faith, Greeting ---  
Dear Brethren,  
We hereby certify that Bro Lewis **Bell** is a regular member with us, and at his request do cordially dismiss him from  
this Church, and recommend him to your fellowship. When united with you his membership with us will cease. This  
certificate is designed to be valid for one year from date.  
J.D. **Sprague** Chh Clerk.

*(Item 157)*

The Washington Street Baptist Church, Buffalo.  
To The Any Ch of the same faith &c  
Sendeth Christian Salutation:  
Dear Brethren:  
This Certifies, That Bro David **Barrell** is a Member in good standing and fellowship with us; and at his request, at a  
----- meeting held on the 5 day of June this Letter of Dismission was granted for the purpose of uniting with you.  
We most affectionately recommend him to your Christian fellowship and watchcare, praying that the Lord will  
crown your union with mutual and eternal blessings.  
Done by order and in behalf of the Church, at Buffalo,  
this 5 day of June 1857  
James F. **Chard** Church Clerk.

*(Item 158)*

To the First Baptist Church of Pomfret  
Beloved brn & Sisters: After Mature Reflection & guided as I hope by the Spirit of God, I have decided to Change  
my field of Pastoral labor:

I therefore resign into your your [sic] hands, the pastoral Care of your body said designation to take effect the last Sabbath of the present month

My fervent prayer is And shall be that the Great Head of the Church may speedily direct you to the Choice and settlement of Another Pastor whose qualifications worth & usefulness shall far excel any which your present one may possess. Soliciting a place in your prayers for myself & mind.

I am Yours in the bonds of Christian affection

**C.N. Chandler**

Fredonia Nov 13 1856.

*(Item 159)*

[printed on the left side] American Baptist Missionary Union,  
No. 38 Somerset Street, Boston.

Baptist Missionary Rooms,

Boston, Mar 31<sup>st</sup> 1856

\$101.75/100

The Treasurer of the American Baptist Missionary Union acknowledges the receipt of H.J. **Miner** Esq's Drfr on American Exchange Bank. N.Y. for One Hundred & One 75/100 Dollars (of wh. \$25. is f. Sab. Sch. to sap(?) John **Hamilton** Jr. in Assam Orph Sch.) from the Bap. Ch. Fredonia N.Y. to constitute Emery A. **Merrifield** M.D. a Life Member, per Rev. C.N. **Chandler** Pastor.

F.A. **Smith** Acct Trear

A.B.M. Union

*(Item 160)*

The Baptist Church in Sinclairville, To the Baptist Chh. in Fredonia.

Dear brethren,

This is to certify that Maria **Chandler** is a member in regular standing with us, and at her request, and with our cordial consent is at liberty to transfer her membership to you.

By order & Request of the Church

W.H. **Husted**, Pastor

Sinclairville Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> 1855.

*(Item 161)*

The Sheridan Baptist Church.

This is to certify that Br. Henry C. **Fuller** is a member of this church in good standing; and as such we would most cheerfully recommend him to any church of the same faith and order, with liberty to unite, and when united dismissed from us.

Done by order and in behalf of the church.

Sheridan April 25<sup>th</sup> 1855

O. **Mallett**, CH. Clerk

*(Item 162)*

This is to certify that sister Martha E. **Maryfield** is a member of the Baptist Church of Christ in Winfield in good and regular standing and as such we cheerfully recommend her to any church of our faith and order with the priviledg [sic] to unite and when united and we notified shall consider her dismissed from us

Done by order and in behalf of the Church

L. **Phillips**

Church Clerk

West Winfield Nov 10<sup>th</sup>/ 55

*(Item 163)*

The Randolph Baptist Church of Christ.

To the Baptist Church in Fredonia; sends Greeting.

This Certifies that sister Jane J. **Cook** is a member with us in good and regular standing; and as such we recommend her to your watch & care, with permission to unite, and when so united, shall consider her dismissed from us.

Done by order & in behalf of the Church  
Randolph Catts Co. N.Y.  
Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> **1856**  
James W. **Price** Chh. Clk

*(Item 164)*

Letter of Dismission.

The Baptist Church of Christ in Portland Village,  
To any other Church of the same Faith and Order. Sends Greeting.

Dear Brethren,

This Certifies That Sister C. **DWitt** is a Member of this church, in good and regular standing, and as such we affectionately recommend her to your Christian regard and fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when so united, will be considered dismissed from us.

By order and in behalf of the Church.

G.K. **Stiles** Church Clerk.

Cortland, N.Y. Oct 19<sup>th</sup> **1850**

*(Item 165)*

The Baptist Church of Christ in Dewittville [Dewittville] to  
any other Church of the same faith and order

Sendeth Greeting:

This certifies that Sister Ellen M. **Brown** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend her to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that she has united with you, her relation to us will cease.

Done by order of the Church.

Dated at Dewittville April 20<sup>th</sup> **1856**.

Fowler(?) **Denton** Clerk.

Recd. May 31, **1856**

*(Item 166)*

The First Baptist Church in Rochester, N.Y.,

By this Certifies to the Good Standing and Full Fellowship of

Sr. Mary Ann **Dickey**

with us. At her own request, we give her this letter of dismission, and affectionately commend her to the fellowship of any church of our faith and order.

By order and in behalf of the Church.

H.W. **Dean**, Church Clerk.

Rochester, June 22 **1854**.

*(Item 167)*

The First Baptist Church in the City of Troy,

To the Baptist Church in Fredonia

Dear Brethren:

This Certifies that sister Lucy **Miller** is a Member with us in regular standing; and at her own request, is recommended, and dismissed to your Christian Fellowship and Care.

When we hear of her connexion with you, (of which please give us immediate information,) her particular relation to us will cease.

By order of the Church.

D. **Markic**(?) Clerk.

Troy, Dec 1<sup>st</sup> **1854**

N.B. The above is good for [blank] months from date.

*(Item 168)*

Cleveland, O. April 18<sup>th</sup> **1856**

The first Baptist Church of Cleveland to the Baptist Church of Fredonia sendeth Christian Salutation



This certifies that Frederick **Surbridge** is a member with us in good standing and in compliance with his own request is commended to membership with you  
If brother **Surbridge** is received into your fellowship and the enclosed letter of acknowledgement is returned to us within Six months we shall consider him as no longer under our watch care and discipline  
In behalf of the Church  
Josiah **Humphery** Clerk

*(Item 169)*

Buffalo June 13 **1856**

The Niagara Square Baptist Church in Buffalo New York to any church of the same faith, greeting.

Dear Brethren

We hereby Certify that Brother Matthew **Fuller** is a regular member with us and that in **1848** he was in good standing. Since that time he has been absent from our midst, and we have no Knowledge of his present life and example as a Christian, But with the above word of explanation, and hoping that he is still a humble follower of our Master, we, at his request, do Cordially dismiss him from this Church, and recommend him to your fellowship. When united with you, his membership with us will cease.

By order of the Church

**J.D. Sprague**

Clerk

*(Item 170)*

At a conference of Brethren from several different Churches of the Erie Baptist Association who chanced to be present at Sheridan on the 30<sup>th</sup> of Dec.(?) **1858**, the differences known to exist between the 1<sup>st</sup> Bap. Ch. in Pomfret and the Bap. Ch. in Sheridan having become a subject of remark, the following resolutions were unanimously passed Viz:

Resolved, That we recommend to the Bap. Ch in Sheridan that they rescind the vote whereby a br. Stephen **May**, an excluded member from the 1<sup>st</sup> Bap. Ch. in Pomfret was received to membership in that body, to the grief of the Brethren from whom the said Stephen **May** had been excluded, and that we also recommend to the 1<sup>st</sup> Bap. Ch. in Pomfret that they submit the case of the said Stephen **May**, as touching(?) their proceedings in the matter of his exclusion, to the investigation and advice of chosen Brethren.

Resolved further, That the Clerk be instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the 1<sup>st</sup> Bap. Ch. in Pomfret.

S.(?) **Howard**, Clerk

Sheridan Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>. **1858**

*(Item 171)*

Fredonia Sept 10. **1860**

Bro. G.W. **Varnum**,

You will recollect that I mentioned to you that some of our brethren were confident that Rev J.F. **Bishop** was not a member of this Church prior to his being invited to remain as the Pastor, and there was some mistake in the record as read & submitted to the association. I wondered how it could be so, and have examined in regard to it.

It was my mistake.

That Record of Feb 11. **1837** is this.

“Heard Letter recommending Bro John E. **Bishop** &c” which I mistook for John F. **Bishop**. By the list of names, I find the two, & this record must relate to another person. You will therefore oblige me by drawing lines through that record, & also the subsequent remark by me, where I say, “It will be seen by prior Resolution, that he had been a member of the church more than a year.” So that it may be considered expunged.

*(Item 172a)*

The first Baptist Church of Pomfret,

To the Baptist Church in Stockton, to its committee appointed to meet at Sheridan on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>. Decr. inst. Viz:

Rev. I. **Howard** Dea. Chester **Thompson**, Samuel **Shepard** & Harlow **Crissey**,

Dear Brethren

Your letter of 24 Dec. inst. was duly received and contents noted; and we hope with Christian courtesy, appreciated.

In a meeting of the brethren of this Church duly convened for the purpose of considering the same on the 28<sup>th</sup> inst. after consultation.

Resolved, That we send a communication to the Baptist Church in Stockton or its Committee named in the letter of 24<sup>th</sup> inst. informing them that, whenever we shall be duly notified that the Sheridan Bap. Church has rescinded its Resolution by which Stephen **May** to them known to be an excluded member from this church, was received into their fellowship, and Membership, we will not decline such investigation of our acts by which the hand of our fellowship was withdrawn from him as shall strictly conform to the Constitution of the Erie Baptist Association. By order and in behalf of the Church.  
A.Z. **Madison** Clerk

*(Item 172b)*

Fredonia Decr. 29. **1856**

Rev. J. **Howard** & others Committee,  
Dr. Brn.

On the first page of this sheet you will see the Resolution of the 1st. Bap. Ch. of Pomfret in reply to your late letter regarding the matter in difference with the Sheridan Bap. Ch.

To explain, I will say, that on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Nov. last this Ch. replied to a letter from said ch. dated Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>/56 inviting us to join in a mutual Council.

The Reply will probably be presented to you which will show you how we stood then and now on that point.

In our Resolution herewith sent to you, we concede no more in reference to any council, but if two churches of the Erie Baptist Association unite in complaint against us, and the association shall appoint a proper and competent committee to confer with us agreeably with the 7<sup>th</sup>. & 8<sup>th</sup> Articles of the Constitution, we shall not decline the attempt to give satisfaction to such committee.

Fraternally Yours &c

A.Z. **Madison**

*(Item 172c)*

Sheridan Ch. Reply to Com. & Ch. as to the reception of Stephen May.

The Baptist Chh. of Sheridan

To the " " " Pomfret

Dear Brethren,

We received through your committee, a communication stating that you were grieved with us for receiving Father(?) **May** in to our chh. knowing the fact that he had been excluded from yours & as you speak of your information being founded on report it is but just to you, That we admit the charge, as far as his reception is concerned. The difference between us, if on farther investigation a difference shall be found to exist – is with references to the propriety, of our receiving him under the circumstances. To err is human & we would not be sanguine that we acted wisely in the matter, but we endeavored to act deliberately & on more mature reflection, we see no cause to retract the steps we have taken – unless it be, that it would have been showing more respect to you as a church, had we have visited you by committee before his admission into the chh. In acting in this matter we took some pains to gather all the leading facts in the case. We had before us the report of your examining committee on the case of Father **May** – his reply to that report – which we learn he was requested to make in writing, by your then Pastor.

We were furnished with a copy of your chh. record relating to the act of exclusion – we had a full & what seemed to us a clear statement of all the facts relating to the controversy between Father **May** & the Chh. at Fredonia. We had moreover, some of us at least, conversation with some of the leading members of your chh. & from which we learned that if Father **May** had a home in some neighboring chh. they would have no objection. We read too, your answer to his request for counsel given some eighteen months after the request was made: and from all the facts before us, the conviction forced itself upon our minds – 1<sup>st</sup> that his exclusion was hasty & in part at least the result of excited feelings – 2<sup>nd</sup> that the chief causes of that act was from difference of opinion existing between Father **May** & some leading members of the chh. relating to doctrine & practice. 3<sup>rd</sup> He is an old man borne down with infirmities of many years, & whether deserving or not, he had a place on our beloved Zion over fifty years before his exclusion. Now Dear Brethren we feel that under circumstances like these, that charity which covers a multitude of sins should lead to much forbearance a patient investigation before excluding from the chh. – especially if it is as you seem to think, that, that exclusion must be a final separation between him and the denomination, with whom, & for whose interests he has labored for more than half a century. And now in conclusion – “Let there be no contentions between us for we are brethren. Our Chh. is few in members, weak in gifts, & liable to err in judgment & we are willing if your matter of grief is too much for you to bear as a burden, to leave the whole matter of difference to chosen brethren. Let Father **May** have a fair trial by counsel & the acts of Sheridan Chh. in his reception with us be

thoroughly investigated & we will try on our part to be governed by Ch. apostles rule confess your fault one to another & pray one for another that ye may be healed.”  
O. **Mallet**. Chh. Clerk.

*(Item 173)*

**1856**

Letter of 1<sup>st</sup>. Bap. Ch. of Pomfret presented to Erie Bap. Assn. Sept. 1. **1856** showing decision to not represent in assn. Also request to be dismissed from assn. with reasons.

The First Bap. Ch. of Pomfret,

To the Erie Bap. Assn.

Dear Brn,

We bid you a Cordial welcome to our House of Worship & to the hospitalities of our homes: And our sincere, fervent prayer is that the Great Head of the Church may eminently Crown your Anniversary with His refreshing presence and blessing.

It is with sincere regret that we feel impelled, for the reasons which follow, to Announce to you our decision, in Consistency with what we regard to be due to our own self respect & to the principles of the gospel which should govern the Churches of Christ in their Action, not to represent ourselves in your body at its present session.

And also our decision, for the same reasons, to request a dismissal from your body,

These reasons in brief are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> A Sister Church, during the Associational year just Closed, has received into its membership, An individual previously excluded from the fellowship of this Ch. with the full knowledge of such exclusion.

2. On the presentation to the said Ch. of our grievance with them, for this act they not only failed to remove its cause, but justified their cause,

3<sup>rd</sup> On an Application to several Chs. Of the Assn to unite with us in presenting a complaint to your body, Against the said Ch. in accordance with and meeting as we believe the requisitions of your Constitution – such application failed – the said Chs. Severally declining to accede to our request.

In taking our leave of you, we would only renew our Request for a dismissal from your Body at the proper time during your present Session.

Fredonia Sep. 1<sup>st</sup> **1856**.

By order of the Ch.

L.B. **Grant** Ch. Clerk Protem

*(Item 174)*

Dea. J.R. **Parker**

Dear Bro.

The verbal request of the Ch. at Fredonia, prepared through yourself to this Ch. was laid before this body yesterday, together with the accompanying copy of complaint to the Association, regarding the Sheridan Ch., and, after such deliberation on the subject as might be had under the circumstances, a resolution was moved, as expressive of the sense of the meeting, and unanimously adopted. I regret that, as the resolution was verbally presented, I may not be able to give you the precise language employed; but, so far as my memory serves me the following will express the sentiment which it embodied, viz:

Resolved, That, while this Ch. would regard with fraternal consideration the application of a sister Ch., the request presented is one of so serious import, and the time allowed us for acquiring a knowledge of facts in the case, adequate to enable us to act wisely, is so brief, and feeling that we should act deliberately upon a subject of so much importance, we do not feel prepared to accede to the wishes of the Brethren at Fredonia at this time. But, if the matter of difference shall fail to be adjusted between the Ch. at Fredonia and the Ch. at Sheridan, on further effort therefore, this Ch. will be disposed to entertain the request at some further time.

By order of the Ch.

J. **Howard** Pastor

Stockton Sept. 1./56

**1856**

Stockton Bap. Ch. by J. **Howard** Pastor Letter declining to Join 1<sup>st</sup> Bap. Ch. of Pomfret in Complaint agst. Sheridan Bap. Ch. to Erie Bap. Assn. regarding the reception of Stephen **May** an Excluded Member Sept. 1. **1856**

*(Item 175a)*

[Copy]

The first Baptist Church of Pomfret

To the Baptist Church of Sheridan:

In reply to your invitation to unite with you in calling a Mutual Council for the purpose of investigating the cause or causes of the exclusion of Stephen **May** from our body,

We Respectfully Represent,

1<sup>st</sup>. That we deny the right of any Church or Council to place us on trial for our acts of discipline or to sit in judgment on such acts.

2<sup>nd</sup>. That the course of your body in this matter, is an evasion of the single issue between us, namely the reception by you, to your membership, of a person known to you at the time, to be an excluded member from this church – And we cannot consent to sit in any Council or association, or do any other act, whereby we shall express our fellowship with you, until you remove the cause of our grievance with you.

3<sup>rd</sup>. That having taken the steps required by the Constitution of the Erie Baptist Association both with your body and with the said Association, to have our cause of grievance removed and our mutual fellowship continued, we decline all further action in the case.

By order & in behalf of the church.

A.Z. **Madison** Ch Clk

Fredonia Nov. 6. **1856**

*(Item 175b)*

After A.M. service, Dec 28, **1856**. Brethren called to remain. Clk. read Sheridan letter & Pom Reply & Stockton letter.

Moved that we send a communication to Stockton(?) Ch &c on the day appd. For Council at Sheridan informing them that when the Sheridan Ch. will place Mr. S.M. rescind the excl. member from this Ch. as they found him, then we will not decline any Constitution of asso. investigation of our acts in regard to the withdrawal of the [hand] of fellowship from Mr S. **May**.

2<sup>nd</sup> Dama(?)

Passed

(?)

(?)

**1856**

Copy of reply to a Letter from Sheridan Ch. as to a Mutual Council Nov. 6. **1856**

L.B. **Grant**

I. **Fuller**

I.D. **Bartholomew**(?)

J. **Travis**

J. **Ross**

H.A. **Buck**

A. **Clark**

J.B. **McClanathan**

A. **Tiffany**

J. **Rowe**

J.R. **Parker**

J. **Porter**

I.H. **Damon**

Dr. **Merrifield**

Jno. **Hamilton Jr.**

Geo. **Lewis**

A.Z. **Madison**

Pres Dec 28.

*(Item 176)*

Olean Oct 27<sup>th</sup> 56(?)

Mr. **Madison**

Dr Sir,

As our people have removed from Fredonia and I shall have no occasion to remain there any length of time, I have thought best to request a letter of dismission from the Fredonia Church for this purpose, I write you as the former and I presume the present Church Clerk. Be so kind as to comply with the request at as early a date as convenient. Please present my kindest regards to Mrs. **Madison** & Sarah with best wishes for their welfare and happiness: and remember me as a friend to yourself & family. Yours, with much esteem  
Cha. B. **Batcheller**

*(Item 177)*

The Washington St Baptist Ch of Buffalo

To the first Baptist Ch of Pomfret

This certifies that a letter of dismission & recommendation date Mch 4/55 and signed by A.Z. **Madison** Clk was presented to us by Bro & Sister **Barrell** upon which they were received into membership with us & of which please consider this due notice.

Buffalo May 7/55 James F. **Chard**(?) Ch Ck

*(Item 178a)*

The Mayville Baptist Church of Christ in Mayville, To any Sister

Church of the same faith and practice

Sendeth Greeting:

This certifies that Joel **Traverse** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend him to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that he has united with you, his relation to us will cease.

Done by order of the Church.

Dated Mayville, September 19 **1857**.

Jesse **Brooks** Clerk.

*(Item 178b)*

The Mayville Baptist Church of Christ in Mayville, To any Sister Church

of the same faith and practice

Sendeth Greeting:

This certifies that Lovina **Traverse** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend her to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that she has united with you, her relation to us will cease.

Done by order of the Church.

Dated Mayville, September 19 **1857**.

Jesse **Brooks** Clerk.

*(Item 179)*

The Mayville Baptist Church of Christ in Mayville, To any

Sister church of the same faith and practice

Sendeth Greeting:

This certifies that Paris **Winsor** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend him to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that he has united with you, his relation to us will cease.

Done by order of the Church.

Dated Mayville, June 21<sup>st</sup> **1857**.

Jesse **Brooks** Clerk.

*(Item 180)*

This Certifies that Mrs Martha **Lake** has been an acceptable Member to the Methodist Episcopal Church in Fredonia Station Erie Conference

Fredonia October 31<sup>st</sup> **1857**

Jno R. **Lyon** Pastor

*(Item 181)*

The Baptist Church of Christ at Sandy Hill to any Sister Church of the same Faith

Sister Emeline **Bond**, receives this at her own request, as a testimonial of her Christian Character or conduct and we recommend her as a sister worthy the confidence of our Brethren in Christ – and is at liberty to join any Baptist Church, of this Letter.

Done by order of the Church.

June 6(?) **1857**

R.F. **Parshall**(?) Pastor

Henry **Tefft** Ch Clerk

*(Item 182)*

Racine Feb 9. **1856**

We hereby certify that the bearer Elisha **Bissel** and his wife Elisabeth are both members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church in this city in good and regular standing; that they have maintained a consistent Christian deportment, and have been active and useful as teachers in our Sabbath School. We therefore commend them to the confidence and Christian regards of the community in which they dwell.

O.O. **Stearns**, Pastor

J.B. **Rowley** Chh Clk

H. **Griswold** Dea

*(Item 183a)*

Elbridge Sept 30<sup>th</sup> **1857**

To the Baptist Church in Fredonia

Dear Brethren,

It was with the deepest sorrow & regret that we accepted the resignation of our late Pastor Rev Alonzo **Wheelock**. The bond that unites us as pastor to people had been strengthened by time. He had won our hearts by the sympathy he had manifested for us in our sorrows – by his devotion to the cause of Christ & his earnest labour in the Gospel work. While his praise is in all the churches, he has rendered himself doubly dear to us, by the wisdom he has displayed in our counsels, by his prudence in harmonizing our discordant elements, & by his efforts in securing a basis for the erection of a new house of worship. In short – there is no one among us, who wishes to retract any thing from his well earned reputation, as a citizen, as a friend, as a Christian, & above all as a Gospel minister.

Our prayer is that his past success may be succeeded by a greater – “that his last days may be his best days” & “that many souls may be given him as stars in the crown of his rejoicing” Brethren we cheerfully commend him to your fellowship with permission to unite with you, & when so united & we are informed, he will be considered dismissed from us.

By order & in behalf of the first Baptist Church, of Elbridge.

John **Munro** Jr

Chh. Clerk.

*(Item 183b)*

Elbridge Sept 28h **1857**

This may certify that sister Elizabeth **Wheelock** is a member of this church in good standing & as such we cheerfully recommend her to any other church of this same faith & order with permission to unite with them & when so united & we are informed she will be considered dismissed from us.

By order and in behalf of the first Baptist Church of Elbridge.

John **Munro** Jr.

Chh. Clk.

*(Item 184)*

The Washington Street Baptist Church, Buffalo.

To Any Ch of the same faith &c

Sendeth Christian Salutation:

Dear Brethren:

This Certifies, That Sr Clarinda **Barrell** is a Member in good standing and fellowship with us; and at her request at a ---- meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of June this Letter of Dismission was granted for the purpose of uniting with you.

We most affectionately recommend her to your Christian fellowship and watchcare, praying that the Lord will crown your union with mutual and eternal blessings.

Done by order and in behalf of the Church, at Buffalo,  
This 5 day of June **1857**  
James **Flehard**(?) Church Clerk.

*(Item 185)*

The first Baptist church in Elmira NY  
To the Baptist Church in Fredonia

Greeting

Dear Brethren

Where as in the providence of God we have been called upon to part with our late esteemed Pastor Rev C.N.

**Chandler** This certifies That He and his Wife Sister Elizabeth O. **Chandler** are members of this church in good standing and at their own request we hereby grant them this letter of dismission and affectionately commend them to your fellowship Praying that the great Head of the Church may crown his labors of love among you with abundant success And we all at last meet in that haven of rest when parting shall be no more.

In behalf of the Church

A. **Houston**

Ch Clerk

Elmira NY Sept 29<sup>th</sup> **1855**

*(Item 186)*

The Fredonia Baptist Church to any other Church of same faith and order sendeth Christian Salutation.

This is to certify that the bearer, Sister Clarinda **Barrell** is a member in good standing & fellowship with us, and as such we commend her to any to whom this may come. At her request we also give her liberty to unite with any other Church of the same faith and order with us.

By order and in behalf of the Ch.

A.Z. **Madison** Asst. Ch. Clk.

*(Item 187)*

This may Certify that Sister Eliza **Post** is a member in good and regular standing of the first Baptist Church of Christ in Portland as such we cordially recommend her to any Sister Church of our faith and order.

Done by order and in behalf of the Church this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June **1853**

Salem x roads [Brocton] N. **Mason** Ch. C.l.k.

*(Item 188)*

The Baptist Church of Christ in Ripley Center to any other church of the same faith and order

Sendeth Greeting:

This certifies that Mariah **VanBuren** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend her to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that she has united with you, her relation to us will cease.

Done by order of the Church.

Dated Ripley Oct 12<sup>th</sup> **1851**.

E.A. **Sawin** Clerk.

*(Item 189)*

First Bap. Ch

St. Paul Min. Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> **1857**

To the First Bap. Ch. Fredonia N.Y.

This is to certify that upon(?) a recommendation from your body, Sister Eliza **Coffman** has been received a member with us. You will therefore, dismiss her name from your books.

Done by order of the Church in Covenant meeting Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> **1857**

Wm **Wakefield**

Ch. Clk.

*(Item 190)*

Fredonia N.Y. Augt. 30. **1858**,

To the Rev. Kendall **Brooks** Pastor, and brethren of the Baptist Church of Fitchburg Mass.

Dear Brethren,

Last Saturday evening I recd. a letter from brother Milton B. **Cushing** dated 25<sup>th</sup>. inst. in which he states a recent conversation with the Pastor, and his wish for a letter from the first Baptist Church of Pomfret, located at this village so that he might unite with the church at Fitchburg.

The facts are these,

On a profession of his faith Feb. 29, **1852** he was baptized and recd. to membership in this ch. His deportment was excellent as a disciple of Christ during the following three years up to Feb. 25, **1855** when he left this place for Boston Mass to change his Clerkship in a County village Apothecary More to one in the City.

He visited this, his home, where his Mother, (an exemplary member of this Church,) resides, last winter; and in conversation I learned from him that he had not united with any Ch. then, for the reason that his business required his attendance at the store on the Sabbath as well as on other days.

We have heard a good account of him during his clerkship – that he has been very strict and conscientious, though confined and debarred most privileges. In one of our meetings while he was here last he made very satisfactory remarks. He holds the letter granted him Feb. 25. **1855**

I have stated the facts & circumstances to our present Pastor, Rev. A. **Wheelock** and to some leading brethren who authorize me to say that the letter above named may be considered as renewed without Ch. action. Very truly and fraternally

Yours &c

A.Z. **Madison**

Ch. Clk

*(Item 191)*

To the Fredonia Baptist Church Fredonia N. York

Dear Brethren

This Certifies that Sister Annette **Boughton** having presented a letter of dismissal from you dated Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> **1865** has been received a member of the Wabash Avenue Baptist Church Chicago

Done by order of the Church this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of Aug **1866**

S.L. **Davis**

Ch Clerk

Chicago Sept 17<sup>th</sup>

*(Item 192)*

Elbridge Sept. 17. **1857**.

Dear Bro. **Madison**,

I have concluded to accept the call of your church to become its Pastor on the following conditions, which I presume will be acceptable to your church.

1. Instead of the engagement being for one year, &c, “ I wish it to be a permanent settlement with an annual salary of nine hundred dollars to be dissolved at any time by either party giving the other three months notice of such intended dissolution.

2. That I may disgrace neither myself, the church, nor the cause, by an unfulfilled payment of debt, I want my salary paid in quarterly installments.

During a ministry of more than thirty years, I was never to my knowledge yet reproached with an unpaid debt after the time it was promised. At my present time of life I should be sorry to fall into such a reproach.

Should the above modifications be acceptable, please inform me at your earliest convenience, & I will endeavor to commence with you my pastore(?) the first Sabbath in October next.

With fraternal regards

I am, dear Brother,

Your Servant in the Lord

A. **Wheelock**

*(Item 193)*

Hawesville Hancock County Ky

The United Baptist Church of Jesus Christ at Hawesville

To any Baptist Church of the same faith Greeting

This is to Certify that Sister Julia C. **Steele** is a member with us in good standing and full fellowship and having removed from under our watchcare. And on her application this letter of Dismission is granted her and we



recommend her to Your fellowship and Christian regard and when she becomes united to you as a member she will be dismissed from us.

Done & Signed By order of the Church Saturday Sepr 13<sup>th</sup> 1856.

James E **Stone** Clk  
Of the Church

Recd. 5 Dec 1857

(Item 194)

The 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Christ in Perysburgh to 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Christ at Pomfret

Dear Breth

We request you to send your Pastor and judicious Breth, to sit in council with us on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> day of Feb next at 10 O'clock A.M., to consider the propriety of setting apart to the work of the Gospel Ministry, By solem Ordination, Br H. **Herrick**, if thought advisable,

Done by order and in be half of the Church, this 23 day of Jan 1855

P. **Meacham**

Chh. Clk. Protem

(Item 195)

Baptist Church

1857

	In	with A.N. Clark S.G.(?)	Dr. (?)	
April 2	To(?) ½ Gall Fluid	5f	31	
" 30	" ½ " "	5f	31	
May 2	" 1 Bn. Wick(?)			06
" 7	" Camphene(?)			03
" "	" ½ Gall Fluid	5f	31	
" 14	" ½ " "	5f	31	
" 28	" ½ " "	5f	31	
June 13	" ½ " "	6f	38	
" 25	" ½ " "	6f	38	
July 11	" ½ " "	6f	38	
" 23	" ½ " "	6f	38	
" 24	" 1 Bn Wick(?)			06
Aug. 1.	" ½ Gall Fluid	6f	38	
" 12	" Turpentine & Bot	1f	19	
" "	" 2 Doz Oil Wicks	1f	25	
" 13	" ½ Gall Fluid	6f	38	
" 29	" ½ " "	6f	38	
Sept 10	" ½ " "	6f	38	
" 26	" ½ " "	6f	38	
Oct 7	" 1 Bn Oil Wick	1f	13	
" 8	" ½ Gall Fluid	6f	38	
" 17	" ½ " "	6f	38	
" "	" 1 Bn Wick		06	
" 31	" ½ Gall Fluid	6f	38	
Nov 7	" ½ " "	6f	38	
" 14	" ½ " "	6f	38	
" 21	" ½ " "	6f	38	
" 26	" ½ " "	6f	38	
Dec 3	" ½ " "	6f	38	
" 10	" ½ " "	6f	38	
" 17	" ½ " "	6f	38	
" 24	" ½ " "	6f	38	
" 28	" ½ " "	6f	38	
Jany. 4	" ½ " "	6f	38	

"	9	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
"	14	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
"	19	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
"	25	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
Febry.	2.	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
"	6	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
"	10	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
"	12	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
"	15	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
"	18	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
"	20	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
"	23	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
"	25	"	½	"	"	6f	38	
"	"	"			Putting Tops on Lamps	6f 75		
"	26	"	½	Gall Fluid		6f	38	
Mar	1	"	½	"	"	Guild 5f	31	
"	2	"	½	"	"	5f	31	
"	5	"	½	"	"	5f	31	17.69
Amt Carried Forward								

**1858** Amt Brot Forward 17.69

Mar	8 To	½	Gall Fluid	5f	31	
"	12	"	½	"	5f	31
"	15	"	½	"	5f	31
"	18	"	½	"	5f	31
"	22	"	½	"	5f	31
"	24	"	½	"	5f	31
"	27	"	½	"	5f	31
"	30	"	½	"	5f	31
April	1	"	1 Bn Oil Wicks	1f	13	
"	"	"	Turpentine		06	
"	3	"	½ Gall Fluid	5f	31	
"	12	"	½	"	5f	31
"	17	"	½	"	5f	31
"	22	"	½	"	5f	31
"	"	"	Repairing Lamp	1f	13	
"	27	"	½ Gall Fluid	5f	31	
May	1	"	½	"	5f	31
"	5	"	½	"	5f	31
"	15	"	1	" Lard Oil	10f	1 25
"	"	"	Fixing Lamp	1f	13	
"	18	"	½ Gall Fluid	5f	31	
"	22	"	Turpentine		06	
"	29	"	1 Bn Fluid Wick		06	
"	"	"	½ Gall Fluid	5f	31	
June	1	"	½	"	5f	31
"	10	"	½	"	5f	31
"	15	"	½	"	5f	31
"	21	"	½	"	5f	31
"	26	"	1 Bn Oil Wick	1f	13	
"	"	"	1 Gall Lard Oil	10f	1 25	
July	5	"	½	" Fluid	5f	31
"	7	"	1	" Lard Oil	9f	1 13
"	17	"	½	" Fluid	5f	31
"	24	"	½	"	5f	31
"	29	"	½	"	5f	31

"	31	"	1	"	Lard Oil 10f	1 25	
Aug	5	"	½	"	Fluid 5f	31	
"	14	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	20	"	1	"	Lard Oil 10f	1 25	
"	"	"	½	"	Fluid 5f	31	
"	28	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	"	"	1	Bn	Fluid Wick	06	
Sept.	3	"	½	Gall	Fluid 5f	31	
"	9	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	14	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	"	"	1	Bn	Fluid Wick	06	
"	18	"	½	Gall	Fluid 5f	31	
"	24	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	28	"			Putting Tops on Lamp	2f 25	
"	"	"	½	Gall	Fluid 5f	31	
"	30	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	"	"			Putting Tops on Lamp	2f 25	
"	"	"	2	Bn	Wicks 6		13
Oct	2	"	1	Gall	Lard Oil 10f	1 25	37.68
Amt Carried Forward							

**1858** Amt Brot Forward 37.68

Oct	5	To	½	Gall	Fluid 5f	31	
"	12	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	13	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	19	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	21	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	29	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	30	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
Nov	4	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	5	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	13	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	20	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	23	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	27	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
Dec	4	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	7	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	11	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	16	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	21	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	23	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	24	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	25	"	½	"	" 5f	31	

**1859**

Jan	1	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	4	"	½	"	" 5f	31	
"	"	"			Repairing Lamps 1f		13
"	8	"	½	Gall	Fluid 5f	31	
"	"	"	1	Bn	Wick		06
"	13	"	½	Gall	Fluid 5f	31	
<b>1858</b>					omitted in copying		
May	22	"	½	"	" 5f	31	45.93

(Item 196)

At a meeting of the Session of the Presbyterian Church held on Thursday Evening May 27, the request of brother Richard **VanScoter** to withdraw his letter presented from the Church at Burns(?), and to transfer his relation to the Baptist Church in this place was taken up.

The Session voted to grant his request, and he is hereby commended as in good standing, in the Church with which he has been connected.

E.S. **Wright**.

Fredonia May 28. **1858**. – Pastor of Presb. Church.

*(Item 197)*

**1858**

Hannah **Gilbert**

Letter Jamestown Ch

Recd Apl 3/ 58

Recd by vote

Apl 3<sup>rd</sup> **1858**

Jamestown April 1./58

Dear Br **Mattesson**,

All is right with regard to the young Lady you alluded to in your letter. Her name is Hanah **Gilbert**, The church cheerfully granted her a letter to unite with the Church of Fredonia.

Affectionately yours

William **Look**

*(Item 198)*

Baptist Church Belvidere Ills

Jany 31 **1850**

This may certify that David **Spout** was a member of the Baptist Church in this place in good and regular standing about five years since and would at-that-time or at the time he left – been affectionately recommended to the fellowship and care of any other sister church where God in his providence might have appointed his residence but as this church know nothing of his walk since he left here they have thought best to grant him a letter only in this form.

By Order of the church

S.W.(?) **Bristol** Clerk

Recd. July 31, **1858**

*(Item 199)*

The Baptist Church in Stockton

To the

Baptist Church in Fredonia

This certifies that Brother Phillip **Phillips** is a member in good standing with us, and we commend him to your fellowship and watch care, and when received by you we shall consider him dismissed from us.

By order of the Church.

Calvin **Smith** Ch. Clerk

Stockton May 9. **1857**

*(Item 200)*

Baptist Church of Christ in Forestville

This may certify that Sister Nancy **Mixer** has applied for a letter of dismissal from us which was granted. We would therefore commend her to any church of our Faith and order and when joined with them we shall consider her dismissed from us.

Done by order and in behalf of the Church this 5<sup>th</sup> day of January **1856**

John **Bartoo**(?) Ch Clk

*(Item 201)*

The Baptist Church in Waterville, N.Y., to any sister church of the same faith & order,

Dear Brethren,

This will certify that Sister Emily **Daily** is a member with us in good & regular standing; & as such is cordially commended to your fellowship & watchcare, with liberty to unite. When received by you, she will be dismissed by us.

Done by order & in behalf of the Church,

Waterville, April 11<sup>th</sup> **1858**,

Carlos **Swift**, Pastor.

[Note: In the left hand margin, the following sentence is written, perpendicular to the rest of the letter.]

This letter will remain valid for one year only.

*(Item 202)*

**1858**

Mrs. Cornelia **Post**

From Portland Ch

Recd. May 1, **1858**

[Address:] Mrs Cornelia **Post**

Fredonia Ny

The first Baptist Church of Christ in Portland to the Baptist Church in Fredonia, Send Christian Salutation

Dear Brethren

This is to certify that Sister Cornelia **Post** is a member with us in [Note: Part of this record is not readable. It looks possibly damaged by a fire.] [good standing and when united with]

You [and we so notified] we shall consider [her dismissed] from us

By order [of the] Church. Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>. **1858**

N. **Mason** Clerk

*(Item 203)*

The Baptist Church in Bethany. To Whom it May concern

Sendeth Greeting

This is to certify that Mrs Harriet **Winsor** is a member in good & regular Standing in our Church and as such we recommend her to the Christian fellowship of any People among whom her lot may be cast.

Done by order of the Baptist Church in Bethany

This 15<sup>th</sup>. day of Aug. **1858**

E.D. **Harding** Clerk

*(Item 204)*

Trustees of 1<sup>st</sup>. Bap. So. in Pomfret,

Application for change of name to the Fredonia Bap. So.

Chautauqua County

Clerks office fd(?)

Recorded April 27<sup>th</sup> AD **1859** at 8 O'clock A.M. in Liber 3 of Miscellaneous Records at Page 445-6 of 7 and

Examined

T.S. **Bly** Clerk

Due 1.00

Pd by A.Z.M. June 6/60

Filed April 27 **1859**

Chautauqua County So.

Levi L. **Pratt**, of the village of Fredonia in said County, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that he is Editor of a public newspaper called "Fredonia Advertiser" which is printed and published at Fredonia in said County; and that the foregoing Petition, affidavit and order for change of name, was published in full, in said Fredonia Advertiser, on

the fifteenth day of April inst. **1859**, as subscribed & sworn before me this 15<sup>th</sup>. day of April **1859**. } hereunto annexed.

Allen **Hinckley** {Justice of the Peace} Levi L. **Pratt**

[Note: The following is a portion of the announcement that appeared in the Fredonia Advertiser.]

To the Hon. Benjamin F. **Greene**, Justice of the Supreme Court, residing in the County of Chautauque, N.Y.

We, your petitioners, respectfully represent as follows, to wit.

That in the early settlement of the town of Pomfret, in said county, viz: On the 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year eighteen hundred and twenty-two, (nearly seven years prior to the incorporation of the village of Fredonia,) a religious society was duly organized at the present village of Fredonia, in said town, pursuant to statute, by the name of "The First Baptist Society in Pomfret" That since the date above named, the village of Fredonia has increased, and now numbers ...

*(Item 205)*

The Baptist Church of Jamestown N.Y. to any other Church of the same faith & order with Christian Salutation This may certify that Brother Charles & Sister Elizabeth **Parker** are members of this Church in good and regular standing, having requested letters of Dismission from us we cheerfully commend them to the fellowship & watch-care of any Sister Church with whom they may desire to unite and when so united we will consider them dismissed from us.

By order & in behalf of the Church

J.M. **Grant** Ch Clerk

Dated Jamestown Nov 6, **1858**

*(Item 206)*

The Baptist Church in Norwich N.Y.

To any other church of the same faith,

Greeting:

Dear Brethren:

We hereby certify that Sr. S.A. **Eddy** is a regular member with us, and at her request is hereby dismissed from this Church and cordially recommended to your fellowship.

When united with you her membership with us will cease. This Certificate is designed to be valid for one year from date.

By order of the Church.

Norwich, Dec 28<sup>th</sup> **1858**

I.H. **Prentice** Church Clerk.

Recd. Feb 5. **1859**

*(Item 207a)*

April, 10<sup>th</sup> **1853**

The Baptist Church of Christ in Evans to any Sister Church sendeth Christian salutation

Dear Brethren,

This may certify [sic] that Br John **Ross** and his wife, Sister Catharine **Ross** are members of this Church and in good standing and as such we cheerfully recommend them to any other Church of the same faith & order with liberty to unite and when united we shall consider them dismissed from us

This by order & in behalf of the Church

A.W. **Phillips**, Clerk

*(Item 207b)*

April 10<sup>th</sup> **1853**

This may certify [sic] that Sister Cornelia R. **Ross** is a member of the Baptist Church of Christ in Evans and in good standing and as such we cheerfully recommend her to any Sister Church of the same faith and order with liberty to unite and when united [and] we notified shall consider her dismissed from us

This by order & in behalf of the Church

A.W. **Phillips**, Clerk

*(Item 207c)*

April 10<sup>th</sup> **1853**

This may certify [sic] that Sister Helen **Ross** is a member of the Baptist Church in Evans and in good standing and as such we cheerfully recommend her to any Sister Church of the same faith & order with liberty to unite & when united we shall consider her dismissed from us.

This by order & in behalf of the Church  
A.W. **Phillips**, Clerk

*(Item 207d)*

April 10<sup>th</sup> **1853**

This may certify [sic] that Sister Thankful **Ross** is a member of the Baptist Church of Christ in Evans and in good standing and as such we cheerfully recommend her to any Sister Church of the same faith & order with liberty to unite & when united we shall consider her dismissed from us.

This by order and in behalf of the Church  
A.W. **Phillips**, Clerk

*(Item 208)*

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. 1<sup>st</sup>. Pomfret Bap. Ch. Thirty one and 82/100 dollars for the N.Y. State Bap.

Missionary Convention.

H. **Canus**(?) Treas

Sinclairville Sept. 1. **1858**

*(Item 209)*

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. 1<sup>st</sup>. Pomfret Bap Ch. three dollars for printing Minutes. Also one dollar for free Miss Sinclairville Sept. 1, **1858**

H. **Canus**(?) Treas

*(Item 210)*

Wyoming March 25 **1853**

Rev V. **Bemis**

In Yours of the 18 inst to Mr **Osgood** is at hand with the enclosed \$3 I make this acknowledgment of its receipt on account of Mr Os absence

Yours (?) Mrs L.M. **Osgood**

Rev V. **Bemis**

978

50

10.28

*(Item 211)*

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treasr. Erie Bap. Asson. One Hundred and ten dollars and seventy six cents for the Am. Bap. Missy Union.

\$10.76

E.C. **Lord**

Agent

Fredonia Febry 11, **1853**

*(Item 212)*

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treas. Erie Bap. Asson. twenty four & 91/100 money paid for printing Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Session.

Randolph Sept 6, **1853**

Johnson **Howard**

Clerk of Association

*(Item 213)*

Rochester Sept 9<sup>th</sup> **1858**

Dear broth **Madison**

I received your letter some weeks ago, but it was impossible to answer it at the time. We have had a sick invalid (my wife's sister) with us who was in the last stages of consumption and who required all our attention day & night – for the last two months. She has now gone to her rest; where there is no suffering and where the society & love of the Savior take the place of our Sorrows and afflictions here.

In answer to your inquiries whether I love the cause of our common Redeemer & whether God has been gracious to me a sinner I can say yes! most sincerely. I have been a constant attendant at the German Baptist or at the first Baptist Churches But have retained my membership with Fredonia Church until I could ascertain which of these churches I ought to unite with, and whether I should be permanently located in Rochester

Both of these questions were decided last April, when I wrote to Brother John **Hamilton** to present my matter before your Church, asking it to dismiss me and to grant me a letter to either of the Baptist Churches in Rochester.

Brother **Hamilton** either forgot my letter of never rec'd it.

I therefore renew my request to Fredonia Church.

I am glad to hear you have an excellent Pastor in Dr **Wheelock** & that God is crowning his labors with success.

With my best wishes for yourself and all the friends in Fredonia

I am yours truly

F.G. **Surbridge**

*(Item 214)*

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Six dollars & twenty five cents for Slip rent to July 1, **1858**. on Salary.

Fredonia July 1, **1858**

A. **Wheelock**

*(Item 215)*

The West Baptist Church of Christ in Portland to any Sister Church

Sendeth Greeting:

This certifies that Sister Anne **Lewis** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend her to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that she has united with you, her relation to us will cease.

Done by order of the Church.

Dated West Portland, Feby 12<sup>th</sup> **1855**.

Robert **Freeman** Clerk.

*(Item 216)*

First Baptist Society of Pomfret.

Received of A.D. **Post**

Four Dollars, for Pew Rent at the

1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.

Dated Fredonia Oct 17 **1858**

P **Phillips** Collector

PDJ **Cook**

*(Item 217)*

[blank form]

I promise to pay to the Trustees of The first Baptist Society in Pomfret, or Bearer,

[blank] Dollars, payable semi-annually on the first day of October and of April next, for the rent of [blank] Slip No.

[blank]

Fredonia, [blank] 185\_

*(Item 218)*

We, the subscribers, for value received, hereby promise to pay to L.B. **Grant**, J.R. **Parker** et. al. Trustees of the first Baptist Society in Pomfret, the sums set opposite our names respectively, for the purpose of making up the deficit on the salary of Rev. A. **Wheelock**, and the current expenses of said Society up to October 1<sup>st</sup>. **1858**. over Slip rent.

Dated Fredonia June 29<sup>th</sup>. **1858**.

J.R. **Parker** (Paid) 50.00

L.B. **Grant** (Paid) 50.00

D. **Barrell** x Paid 30.00(?)



A.Z. <b>Madison</b> Paid		10.00
Geo W <b>Lewis</b> paid 3.19 (?)		20.00
John <b>Hamilton</b> Jr. Society		5.00
A.B. <b>Post</b> Paid x	10.00	
Wm <b>Taylor</b>		1.00
Mr <b>McClanathan</b> Paid	5.00	
J.A. <b>Moore</b> Paid x		1.00
Lovina(?) <b>Parker</b> x		17.50
Nathan P. <b>Munger</b>		<u>1.00</u>
Amount	\$219.00	
Epenitus <b>Winsor</b> x		5.00
Francis W. <b>Post</b> Paid	x	10.00(?)
C.B. <b>Webster</b> Paid x		5.00
F.H. <b>Hamilton</b>	2.00	
D.W. <b>Buckbur</b> (?) Paid x	2.00	
A. <b>Colburn</b> Paid x		3.00
L. <b>Colburn</b> Paid x		1.00
J.H. <b>Cushing</b> Paid x		1.00
Anna <b>Stodard</b> Paid x		1.00
Alice <b>Stodard</b> Paid x		1.00
Ellen <b>Stodard</b> Paid x		.50
Flora <b>Smith</b> 70 Paid x		1.00
Mary <b>Morian</b>		.50
Alex <b>Bond</b>		1.00
Albert(?) <b>Bond</b>	.50	
Wm <b>Bond</b>		2.00
R.T.(?) <b>Bradley</b> Paid x	1.00	
[crossed out] Mrs <b>Mattison</b>	1.00	
Mrs. N.W. <b>Mixer</b> Paid x	<u>1.00</u>	
Amount	\$25.50(?)	

(Item 219)

Recd. of P. **Phillips** pr. Mrs. Nancy **Mixer** Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> Three dollars on rent of Slip No. 27. also forty five dollars cash collected by himself

Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1858

A.Z. **Madison**

Treasr.

1<sup>st</sup> Bap So

(Item 220)

Recd. of P. **Phillips** Rev. A. **Wheelock**'s Recept. to J.R. **Parker** for Thirty seven & 50/100 dollars on Salary. Date Oct. 1, 1858

A.Z. **Madison**

Treas.

Fredonia Oct. 21. 1858

(Item 221)

Recd of P. **Phillips** forty four dollars collected on Slip rents cash.

Also Eld **Wheelock**'s recept. for ten dollars paid to Mrs. **Wheelock** by Philip **Phillips**

10 Sept. 1858

Fredonia Oct. 19. 1858

A.Z. **Madison**

Treas

(Item 222)

[printed form, may be the back of a receipt]

Cook & Phillips  
Agents for J. Sage & Sons Fredonia N.Y. [blank]  
Pianoforte & melodeon Dealers  
Fredonia, N.Y.

No 12.  
A.Z. **Madison**  
Recpt \$37.50  
For J.R.P. house rent  
Oct. 21/58

*(Item 223)*  
Recd. of P. **Phillips** fifty nine dollars collected on Slip rent.  
A.Z. **Madison**  
Treas  
Fredonia Augt. 13. **1858**

*(Item 224)*  
Recd. of P. **Phillips** pr Ira **Fuller** \$3.00 John **Chandler** \$5. Eppenetus **Winsor** \$5. & A.Z. **Madison** \$6.25 in all  
Nineteen & 25/100 dollars on the rent of Slips due Oct. 1. **1858** the same being receipted by me to the parties  
A.Z. **Madison**  
Treas. B. So  
Fredonia Oct. 11, **1858**

*(Item 225)*  
\$30.00  
Recd. of P. **Phillips** Collector of Bapt Society Thirty Dollars. To apply on Rev A. **Wheelock**'s Salary.  
A.Z. **Madison**  
Fredonia Sept 6<sup>th</sup> **1858**

*(Item 226)*  
Recd. of P. **Phillips** Collector 1<sup>st</sup> Bap. So. in Pomfret Forty one dollars Cash (also payt. Due 1. July from Self for  
which I gave collector Elder **Wheelock** recpt. Six & 25/100 dollars,) in all \$47.25/100 dollars, funds collected on  
Slip rents.  
Fredonia July 3<sup>rd</sup> **1858**  
A.Z. **Madison**  
Treas. of sd.(?) So.

*(Item 227)*  
Recd. of P. **Phillips** Col. Eld Al **Wheelock**'s Recpt. to J.R. **Parker** on Slip rent amt. Twenty eight & 85/100 dollars.  
Fredonia July 3<sup>rd</sup> **1858**  
A.Z. **Madison**  
Treas.

*(Item 228)*  
Trustees of the Fredonia Baptist Church  
Pay to Mrs Martha **Lake** on order Eight dollars and eighty seven Cents and charge to account of your obedient  
Servant  
Fredonia June 9<sup>th</sup> **1859** I.H. **Damon**

*(Item 229)*  
Recd. of P. **Phillips** Collector 1<sup>st</sup> Bap. So. Pomfret Twenty two dollars cash collected on Slip rent to apply on Rev.  
A. **Wheelock**'s salary.  
Fredonia July 14, **1858**

A.Z. **Madison**

Treas. of So.

(Item 230)

Recd. of P. **Phillips** Collector Bap So. Thirty Six dollars.

Fredonia July 28, **1858**

A.Z. **Madison**

Treas

(Item 231)

Recd. of P. **Phillips** Collector Bap. So. Eighteen 50/100 dollars cash & Eld. A. **Wheelock**'s Recpt. to J. **Hamilton** Jr. Bro. Eighteen & 50/100 dollars.

Cash \$18.50

Recpt 18.50 A.Z. **Madison** Treas.

37.00

Fredonia July 20, **1858**

(Item 232)

# Changed to "The Fredonia Baptist Church" May 25, **1859**.

**1862** June 14<sup>th</sup>

Report of Committee in case of Dr. E. **Johnson**

Rev. A. **Wheelock** Chn.

[The following two sentences are in A.Z. **Madison**'s late handwriting.]

This same matter had up again years later on the motion of Jno **Hamilton** Jr. but still in status quo(?).

Dr. J. repudiated the doings of J.H.Jr.

To the Fredonia Baptist Church:

Dear Brethren

Your committee appointed on the application of brother Elias **Johnson** to have the act of his exclusion from this church passed Ap. 5. **1850** rescinded, have attended to the duty assigned them, & beg leave to present the following as their report.

They find the records of this Church present the following as the act complained of.

"Whereas, brother Elias **Johnson** assented to the union of the two bodies now constituting the #First Baptist Church of Pomfret#, thus identifying himself as a member of the same the 4<sup>th</sup> of March **1848**, & yet has not traveled with the church in gospel order since that time, but has openly declared to a committee appointed by the church to visit him for his delinquency that he has no fellowship for the church, that he does not regard it a Church, & wishes nothing to do with it as a church, therefore, Resolved, that this church withdraw from brother Elias **Johnson** the hand of fellowship."

Bro. **Johnson** appeared before your Com. & urged the rescinding of the above ac for the following reasons.

1. "That the committee referred to above professed not to visit him for his delinquency, & denied that they came to prosecute against him any disciplinary labour, but simply to ascertain from him his position in relation to this church.
2. That in giving his name with others for membership in the new church, he did it with the understanding that before the organization should be consummated, a Council would be called to give it recognition; & as that was not done, he did not regard it a church, nor consider himself a member of it.
3. That the committee who visited him did not cite him to appear before the church, & that he was excluded without any previous disciplinary labour with him.
4. That he wished the above act of exclusion annulled on account of the odium which, in the estimation of the public, it casts upon him as an excluded member, & not for the purpose of restoring him to the fellowship of the church, as he considers himself never a member of it. In case the act of his exclusion be annulled, the question of his future union with the church he says must be reserved for his subsequent consideration & choice.

After obtaining from brother **Johnson** the above items, your committee examined the church records, & found that the plan for the union of the two churches in one was not that it should first be recognized by a Council called for that purpose, but simply, that each church should adopt the Basis being previously agreed to by each church

separately, it was formally adopted by a union meeting of the two bodies, Feb. 14. **1848**; that according to an arrangement previously agreed upon, in a meeting called for the purpose Feb. 26. **1848**, & subsequently in the covenant meeting held Mar. 4. **1848**, the members of the two churches present were interrogated, & each one there who assented to it, & only such, was enrolled as a member of the union church. Among those whom your records say thus gave his assent was our brother Elias **Johnson**. From these records too, it appears that brother Johnson for some months after the union of the two churches in one was consummated seemed to regard himself as a member by cordially acting with the brethren as such in the church meetings. For instance: upon his request a special church meeting was called. Ap. 14. **1848**. At that meeting on motion of brother **Johnson**, an applicant was received into the church as a member. At a subsequent meeting (May 22. **1844**.) a report of a committee was made to the church in relation to a preacher the acceptance of which was moved by our brother **Johnson**. Subsequent to this he introduced to the church an Agent to preach & take a collection for the Grand (?) Mission in Canada East. These several acts embraced a period of about 5 ½ months. Such acts, so far as known to your committee were never assumed, or allowed in a Baptist Church, by any one but a member of the church. From the above facts, the membership of brother **Johnson** in this church at the time referred to appears therefore evident; & if so, he was subject alike to its privileges, & to its watch-care, & discipline.

As brother G.W. **Lewis** is the only one of the committee now living here who laboured with brother **Johnson** before his exclusion, your committee called on him for his testimony as to the character of that labour. Your Records say that committee was appointed "To visit delinquent members & to report at the next church meeting." Brother **Lewis** says that committee visited him for that purpose, & laboured with him earnestly, & long, to persuade him to take up his walk with the church, but that their endeavours were vehemently repelled; that he repudiated the church, & declared he would have no thing to do with it; that the committee left him with the full conviction that nothing more could be done with any prospect of gaining him, & agreed so to report to the church. Brother **Lewis** says that committee knew they were appointed to visit brother **Johnson** as a delinquent member, & is sure they did not tell him they had not come for that purpose, has no recollection of telling him they had not come to labour with him as such, & thinks they did not. He says the committee found brother **Johnson** in a state of mind exceedingly morose & bitter against the organization, & on the introduction of the subject talked very hard & severe, & he thinks if anything of the kind was said, it was simply some kind remark calculated to soften down his asperities & induce him to listen to the persuasions of the committee.

The above are all the facts in the case your committee have been able to obtain. They have all come into the church since the exclusion of brother **Johnson**, & of course know nothing of it except what they have learned in this investigation. From the above exhibit, they see not how, for the reasons urged, the request can consistently be granted, & would recommend therefore that, if the above is all the testimony that can be adduced on the subject, the request be dismissed.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Fredonia June 16<sup>th</sup>. **1862**

A. **Wheelock**

Joel **Traverse**

S.S. **Crissey**

*(Item 233a)*

Chautauqua County, So:

I Almond Z. **Madison** of the village of Fredonia in said County, being duly sworn, do depose and say, that I am now and have been from the year **1848**, the Clerk of the Trustees of the first Baptist Society in Pomfret. That at the last annual meeting of said Society held for the Election of Trustees &c on the 8<sup>th</sup>. day of June **1858** a Resolution was unanimously passed, of which an exact copy is embraced in the foregoing petition of the trustees; and that the persons whose names are signed to said petition, are the present trustees of said society, as appears on the records of the same.

A.Z. **Madison** Clerk

Subscribed & Sworn to

Before me this 9<sup>th</sup> day of

April **1859**.

Allen **Hinckley** Justice

Of the Peace

On reading the foregoing petition & affidavit – it is ordered that from and after the twenty fifth day of May **1859**, the corporation now known by the name of “the first Baptist Society in Pomfret” be & the same shall be known by the name of “The Fredonia Baptist Society”

Dated Fredonia April 9. **1859**

**B.F. Greene**

To the Hon. Benjamin F. **Greene**, Justice of the Supreme Court, residing in the County of Chautauque, N.Y.

We, your petitioners, respectfully represent as follows, to wit.

That in the early settlement of the town of Pomfret, in said county, viz: On the 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year eighteen hundred and twenty-two, (nearly seven years prior to the incorporation of the village of Fredonia,) a religious society was duly organized at the present village of Fredonia, in said town, pursuant to statute, by the name of “The First Baptist Society in Pomfret” That since the date above named, the village of Fredonia has increased, and now numbers a population of about three thousand, while in the same time, the villages of Dunkirk, Laona, Shumla, Milford and Cordova, have all grown up to their present respective dimensions, within the bounds of the same town of Pomfret.

That now, to strangers and persons residing at a distance, the name Pomfret is comparatively unknown while the village names Dunkirk, Fredonia, &c. are extensively known and recognized somewhat as Rochester is better known than Brighton.

That at the last annual meeting of said society, held pursuant to legal public notice, for the election of Trustees &c, on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, **1858**, the following resolution was passed unanimously, Viz:

“Resolved that the present Trustees memorialize the Legislature for a change of the name of this, “The first Baptist Society in Pomfret,” to “The Fredonia Baptist Society.”

That we, the present Trustees of said Society, have so memorialized the Legislature, and have since been advised of the existence of certain past enactments providing for changes of name, and rendering all such legislation unnecessary; and that all acts of the present Legislature for such purpose had been, or would be, vetoed by Governor **Morgan**; And that said name has not heretofore been assumed by any other existing religious corporation in this State.

Now therefore, We, the said Trustees as aforesaid, on account of the incongruity and inconvenience above suggested, do hereby make application to your Honor, to grant an order allowing said religious Corporation, to assume the aforesaid name, “The Fredonia Baptist Society,” as the name by which, and no other, it shall hereafter be known, agreeably with the provisions contained in the 323<sup>rd</sup> Chapter of the Laws of New York passed June 4<sup>th</sup> **1853**, and the Act therein referred to, being Chapter 464. of the Laws of New York passed Decr. 14, **1847**.

**L.B. Grant**

David **Barrell**

**J.R. Parker**

John **Hamilton Jr.**

Aaron **Clark**

**A.B. Post**

Trustees of the first Baptist Society in Pomfret.

*(Item 233b)*

[clipping from the Fredonia Advertiser]

To the Hon. Benjamin F. **Greene**, Justice of the Supreme Court, residing in the County of Chautauque, N.Y.

We, your petitioners, respectfully represent as follows, to wit.

That in the early settlement of the town of Pomfret, in said county, viz: On the 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year eighteen hundred and twenty-two, (nearly seven years prior to the incorporation of the village of Fredonia,) a religious society was duly organized at the present village of Fredonia, in said town, pursuant to statute, by the name of “The First Baptist Society in Pomfret” That since the date above named, the village of Fredonia has increased, and now numbers a population of about three thousand, while in the same time, the villages of Dunkirk, Laona, Shumla, Milford and Cordova, have all grown up to their present respective dimensions, within the bounds of the same town of Pomfret.

That now, to strangers and persons residing at a distance, the name Pomfret is comparatively unknown while the village names Dunkirk, Fredonia &c., are extensively known and recognized somewhat as Rochester is better known than Brighton.

That at the last annual meeting of said Society, held pursuant to legal public notice, for the election of trustees &c, on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, **1858**, the following resolution was passed unanimously, viz:

“Resolved that the present Trustees memorialize the Legislature for a change of the name of this, “The first Baptist Society in Pomfret,” to “The Fredonia Baptist Society.”

That we, the present Trustees of said society, have so memorialized the Legislature, and have since been advised of the existence of certain past enactments providing for changes of name, and rendering all such legislation unnecessary; and that all acts of the present Legislature for such purpose had been, or would be, vetoed by Governor **Morgan**; and that said name has not heretofore been assumed by any other existing religious corporation in this State.

Now therefore, we, the said Trustees as aforesaid, on account of the incongruity and inconvenience above suggested, do hereby make application to your Honor, to grant an order allowing said religious corporation to assume the aforesaid name, “The Fredonia Baptist Society,” as the name by which, and no other, it shall hereafter be known, agreeably with the provisions contained in the 323<sup>rd</sup> Chapter of the Laws of New-York passed June 4<sup>th</sup>, **1853**, and the Act therein referred to, being Chapter 464. of the Laws of New-York passed Dec. 14, **1847**.

L.B. **Grant**,

David **Barrell**,

J.R. **Parker**,

John **Hamilton**, Jr.,

Aaron **Clark**,

A.B. **Post**,

Trustees of the first Baptist Society in Pomfret.

Chautauque County, (?):

I, Almond Z. **Madison**, of the village of Fredonia, in said county, being duly sworn, do depose and say: that I am now, and have been from the year **1848**, the Clerk of the Trustees of the First Baptist Society in Pomfret. That at the last annual meeting of said Society held for the Election of Trustees, &c., on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, **1858**, a Resolution was unanimously passed, of which, an exact copy is embraced in the foregoing petition of the Trustees; and that the persons whose names are signed to said petition, are the present Trustees of said Society, as appears on the records of the same.

A.Z. **Madison**, Clerk.

Subscribed, and sworn

to before me, this 9<sup>th</sup>

day of April, **1859**.

Allen **Hinckley**,

Justice of the Peace.

On reading the foregoing petition & affidavit, it is ordered, that from and after the twenty-fifth day of May, **1859**, the corporation now known by the name of “the First Baptist Society in Pomfret” be, and the same shall be known by the name of “The Fredonia Baptist Society.”

B.F. **Greene**

Dated Fredonia April 9, **1859**

*(Item 234)*

This certifies that Sister Harriet E. **Gilbert** is a member of this church in good standing as such we Recommend her to the fellowship of any Sister church with liberty to unite and when so united will be considered dismissed from us Done by order of the Baptist Church in Springfield Erie Co Penna this 19<sup>th</sup> Jan **1859**

Heman **Burup**(?)

Chh clk

*(Item 235)*

The Baptist Church in South East Stockton to the Baptist Church in Fredonia Sendeth Christian Salutation

Dear Brethren We invite you to send your Pastor and Chosen brethren to sit with us in Council On Wednesday preceding the third Sabbath in November next at Eleven Oclock A.M. for the purpose of Examining and if thought proper Ordaining Brother O. **Putnam** for the Gospel Ministry.

Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> **1855**.

By Order Of the Church

O. **Fish**(?) Ch Clk

*(Item 236)*

This is to certify that Sister Mary Ann **Wright** is a member of the Baptist Church of Sheridan in good standing when it disbanded. Done by order of the Church  
Sheridan Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> **1858**  
O. **Mallett** Ch. Clerk

*(Item 237)*

The Baptist Church in Forestville Chautauque Co. N.Y. to any Sister church of the same Faith & Order Greeting  
This may certify that Brother Willis **Hyatt** is a member with us in good & regular standing and as such we recommend him to your Fellowship & when united & we duly notified shall consider him dismissed from us.  
Done by order & in behalf of the church This the 5<sup>th</sup> day of February **1858**  
E.M. **Dormer** Ch Clk

*(Item 238)*

The First Baptist Church in Erie Pa. to any other church of the same faith & order sendeth greeting.  
This may certify that Br. Willard **Hyatt** is a member in good standing & full fellowship of the first Baptist Church in Erie Pa & in compliance with his request we affectionately commend him to your fellowship with liberty to unite with you, and when so united his particular relation to us will cease.  
Should no union be formed within one year from date then this letter shall be null and void.  
Done by order & in behalf of the church this 31<sup>st</sup> day of Decb **1858**.  
Joseph **Kound**(?)  
Chh Clk.

*(Item 239)*

River Falls Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, **1859**  
This is to certify that Clarra **Glass** is a member, in good standing, of the First Regular Baptist Church, and in compliance with her own request is affectionately recommended and dismissed to your fellowship.  
If notified within six months of her union with you, we shall consider her as dismissed from us; otherwise this letter shall be null and void.  
In behalf of the Church.  
H.K. **White** C.h. Cl.

Wife of Willard **Hyatt**

*(Item 240)*

The Mayville Baptist Church of Christ in Mayville, To any  
Sister church of the same faith and practice  
Sendeth Greeting:  
This certifies that Sally **Winsor** is a member of this Church in good standing, and, as such, we cheerfully commend her to your fellowship, with liberty to unite with you, and when the accompanying certificate is filled out and returned to us, showing that she has united with you, her relation to us will cease.  
Done by order of the Church.  
Dated Mayville, November 26<sup>th</sup> **1854**.  
Jesse **Brooks** Clerk.

This certifies that [blank] has been received from the Mayville Baptist Church in Mayville as a member of the Baptist Church in [blank] on a letter bearing date Mayville, [blank] 18\_ \_.  
Dated [blank] 18\_ \_.  
[blank] Clerk.

*(Item 241)*

Oneida March 13. **1859**  
Received of the First Baptist Church of Pomfret, per A.Z. **Madison** Esq, ten dollars for Baptist Missionary Convention of the State of New York  
John **Smitzer** Secretary

Dear Bro. **Madison** – Yours of the 9<sup>th</sup> inst. is just received with the draft enclosed, for which please find a receipt above, You will also please accept my personal and official thanks for the same, and communicate the same to your Brethren and Sisters.

Please also present my kind regards to Bro **Wheelock**, and say to him that I am glad he gave me the information contained in his note, and accept my best wishes for your prosperity both spiritually and pecuniarily

Fraternally Yours

John **Smitzer**

*(Item 242)*

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treasr. Erie Bap. Association Sixty three Dollars & fifty one cents, for the Am. & For. Bible Society, Sixty Dollars of which is to constitute Rev. B.C. **Willoughby** & Br. Thomas B. **Sweet** Life Members A & F. B. So

Delanti [Stockton] Feby 11, **1852** Jesse **Elliot**, Agent.

\$63.51

Recd. of A.Z. **Madison** Treasr. of Erie Bap. Asson Two Dollars for the AM Bap. Free Mission Society.

Seth **Ewer**(?)

Agent

Delanti Feby. 11. **1852**

*(Item 243)*

Received Rochester March 4, **1852** of A.Z. **Madison** Esq. Treasurer of the Erie Baptist Association the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Six Dollars 84/100 for the Am. Bapt. Miss'y Union, = \$100 of which is to constitute Almond Z. **Madison**, a Life Member of said Society and the remainder to be applied to a sum(?) constituting a Life Member the nomination hereafter

P.M. **Osgood** Agent

A.B.M. Union

*(Item 244)*

[booklet of blank letters of commendation and dismission]

The Fredonia Baptist Church:

To any other Church of the same faith,

Sendeth Christian Salutation:

Dear Brethren

This certifies that ----- is a member in good and regular standing with us, and at ---- request, made at a ----- meeting, held -----18 --- this letter of dismission was granted to ---- for the purpose of uniting with you.

We cordially commend ----- to your Christian fellowship.

When united with you, ----- membership with us will cease.

By a standing Resolution of this Church, letters of dismission and recommendation are valid for one year only from their respective dates.

Done by order, and in behalf of the Church at Fredonia, Chautauque Co., N.Y., this

----- day of -----18 ---

----- Church Clerk.

*(Item 245a)*

First Baptist Society of Pomfret.

Received of J.R. **Parker**

Thirty seven 50/100 Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.

Dated Fredonia, January 1<sup>st</sup> **1859**

\$37.50

A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

*(Item 245b)*

First Baptist Society of Pomfret.





[On the left hand side, perpendicular to the rest of the text.]  
One Hundred Dollars Constitutes a Life Director.  
Payable at one time, or in annual instalments, if desired.

[On the right hand side, same direction as previous.]  
Thirty Dollars Constitutes a Life Member.  
Payable at one time, or in annual instalments [sic], if desired.

(Item 248a)

First Baptist Society of Pomfret.  
Received of A.C. **Guild**  
Nine 66/100 Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret. [crossed out Pomfret and wrote Fredonia]  
Dated Fredonia, May 31<sup>st</sup> **1859**  
\$9.66                    A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

(Item 248b)

First Baptist Society of Pomfret.  
Received of A.Z. **Madison**, Treasurer  
Twenty One 27/100 Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, June 3rd **1859**  
\$21.27                    A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

(Item 248c)

First Baptist Society of Pomfret.  
Received of A.Z. **Madison**, Treasurer  
Two Hundred Nineteen 75/100 Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, July 9<sup>th</sup>. **1859**  
\$219.75                    A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

(Item 248d)

First Baptist Society of Pomfret.  
Received of A.Z. **Madison** Treasurer  
Forty Eight 5/100 Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, July 18. **1859**  
\$48.05                    A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

(Item 249)

L.B. <b>Grants</b> recpt for J.B. <b>McClanathan</b>	9.00	
A.Z.M. Slip rent to July 1. /59	6.25	
A. <b>Mixer</b> do	4.00	
Geo <b>Tate</b> do	1.30	
E. <b>Winsor</b> do	5.00	
P. <b>Phillips</b> do	6.00	
S. <b>Robbins</b> do	2.50	
P. <b>Manton</b> do	3.00	
D.B.s collections	<u>11.00</u>	
	\$39.05	<u>39.05</u>
		\$48.05

Pd to Eld W. July 18/59

(Item 250a)

First Baptist Society of Pomfret.

Received of J.R. **Parker**  
Ten Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, August 9<sup>th</sup>. **1859**  
\$10.                   A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

*(Item 250b)*  
First Baptist Society of Pomfret.  
Received of Willard **Webster**  
Four 94/100 Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, August 6<sup>th</sup> **1859**  
\$4.94                   A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

*(Item 250c)*  
First Baptist Society of Pomfret.  
Received of A.Z. **Madison**, per D. **Barrell** Collector  
Twenty Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, October 22 **1859**  
\$20.                   A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

*(Item 250d)*  
First Baptist Society of Pomfret.  
Received of A.Z. **Madison**  
Twenty Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, Nov. 21. **1859**  
\$20.                   A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

*(Item 250e)*  
First Baptist Society of Pomfret.  
Received of A.Z. **Madison** Treasurer  
Thirteen 79/100 Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, Nov. 25. **1859**  
\$13.79                A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

*(Item 250f)*  
First Baptist Society of Pomfret.  
Received of A.Z. **Madison** Treasurer  
Ninety Eight 95/100 Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, April 23<sup>rd</sup> **1859**  
\$98.95                A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

*(Item 250g)*  
First Baptist Society of Pomfret.  
Received of A.Z. **Madison** (per David **Barrell**)  
Seven Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, September 1<sup>st</sup> **1859**  
\$7.00                   A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

*(Item 250h)*  
First Baptist Society of Pomfret.

Received of A.Z. **Madison**  
Seventeen Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, September 5<sup>th</sup> **1859**  
\$17.00            A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

*(Item 250i)*

First Baptist Society of Pomfret.  
Received of A.Z. **Madison** by D. **Barrell**  
Eighty two Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, October 4<sup>th</sup> **1859**  
\$82.                A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

*(Item 250j)*

First Baptist Society of Pomfret.  
Received of A.Z. **Madison**  
Fourteen 25/100 Dollars, for Salary as Pastor of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pomfret.  
Dated Fredonia, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>. **1859**  
\$14.25            A. **Wheelock** Pastor.

*(Item 251)*

The Baptist Church of Christ in Dunkirk  
To any Sister Church of our faith and order  
This may certify that Sister Aurilla **Draper**(?) is a member of this Church in good Standing and as such we  
recommend her to the watch care and feliship [sic] of any Church whare [sic] her lot may be Cast with liberty to  
unite and when united shall consider her dismissed from us.  
Done by order of the Church  
Dunkirk July 4. **1849**  
Levi **Parsons** Ch. Clerk

*(Item 252)*

This certifies that Hezekiah **Mount** is a member in regular standing in the Free communion Baptist Church in  
Cherry Creek and Vilenova [sic] June 4<sup>th</sup> **1842**  
John **Mather**(?) Church C

*(Item 253)*

Fredonia 5<sup>th</sup> March **1860**  
Trustees of the Fredonia Baptist Society  
Please pay to Geo W **Lewis** or bearer Ten Dollars and change to the same account of  
Your Obedient Servant  
I.H. **Damon**

On Geo **Lewis** rent to Apl 1/60

*(Item 254)*

Fredonia April 18<sup>th</sup> **1860**  
Trustees of the Fredonia Baptist Society  
For value received please pay to Geo. W. **Lewis** or bearer Twenty Dollars on account of my services in taking care  
of the Church up to first April **1860**  
I.H. **Damon**

*(Item 255)*

Fredonia June 21 **1859**  
Geo W. **Lewis**

Please pay to Fredonia Baptist Society on Pew rent Three Dollars and change to acct of Your Obedient Servant  
A. **Barrell**(?)  
[written perpendicular to and across the rest of the writing is the following]  
Accepted payable  
1 July **1859** Geo W **Lewis**

*(Item 256)*

A.Z. **Madison**,  
Secy' & Treasurer of Baptist Church  
To Fredonia Advertiser, Dr.  
**1859**. Sept. 29. To Printing 1 Ream (Circular) Letters \$35.0  
Blank letters Commendation & Dismission  
Fredonia, April 24, **1861**.  
Recd. Payt.  
Pratt & Co.

*(Item 257)*

Trustees of Baptist Society  
Pay to Geo W **Lewis** or bearer Ten Dollars and change to account of  
Your Obt. Servant  
I.H. **Damon**  
Fredonia April 4<sup>th</sup> **1859**

*(Item 258)*

The first Baptist Church in Westfield Chautauqua Co NY  
To any sister Church of the same Faith & practice Greeting  
This is to certify that Sister Lois **Norton** is a member of this Church in good standing and at her request do grant this  
Letter of dismission and commendation commending her to your fellowship and watchcare with liberty to unite with  
you  
By order of the Church  
Westfield Dec 31, **1859**  
H **Halr**(?) Ch Clk

*(Item 259)*

Mary **Taylor**  
Letter recd. Aug 31/61  
on her return from  
Missouri & she  
again a Member here  
AZM Clk

Returned Augt 31/61

The Fredonia Baptist Church:  
To any other Church of the same faith,  
Sendeth Christian Salutation:  
Dear Brethren

This certifies that Sister Mary **Taylor** is a member in good and regular standing with us, and at her request, made at  
a Covenant meeting, held 3. September **1859** this letter of dismission was granted to her for the purpose of uniting  
with you.

We cordially commend her to your Christian fellowship.

When united with you, her membership with us will cease.

By a standing Resolution of this Church, letters of dismission and recommendation are valid for one year only from  
their respective dates.

Done by order, and in behalf of the Church at Fredonia, Chautauque Co., N.Y., this  
3<sup>rd</sup>. day of Sept. **1859**

A.Z. **Madison** Church Clerk.

(Item 260)

Crosby **Sweet**  
Recd. Mch 3<sup>rd</sup>. **1860**

Crosby **Sweet**  
Ch. Letter.

The First Baptist Church, Belvidere,  
Ill., to the Baptist Church,  
In Fredonia N.Y.

Sends Affectionate Greeting:

This Certifies that Bro. Crosby **Sweet** is a member with us, in good and regular standing, and at his request is affectionately dismissed, and recommended to your Christian Fellowship and care.

By order and in behalf of the Church.

D.E. **Ellis** Ch. Clerk.  
Belvidere, Nov 5 **1859**

(Item 261)

Thos. B. **Sweet**  
Recd. Mch 3. **1860**

Thos. B. **Sweet**,  
Ch. Letter.

The First Baptist Church, Belvidere,  
Ill., to the Baptist Church,  
In Fredonia N.Y.

Sends Affectionate Greeting:

This Certifies that Bro. Thos. B. **Sweet** is a member with us, in good and regular standing, and at his request is affectionately dismissed, and recommended to your Christian Fellowship and care.

By order and in behalf of the Church.

D.E. **Ellis** Ch. Clerk.  
Belvidere, Nov 5 **1859**

(Item 262)

Cash pd. to A.Z.M. Viz.

<b>1858</b>	Dec 24	D. <b>Barrell</b>	rent to Jan 1./59	\$6.25	
"	"	25 A.Z. <b>Madison</b>	" "	6.25	
"	"	27 Josiah <b>Moore</b>	" "		5.00
<b>1859</b>					
	Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup>	A.B. <b>Post</b>	" "	<u>4.00</u>	
					21.50

Amt. Cash handed by P. **Phillips** as collected by him, Jan 16. eve 51.00

\$72.50

J.R. **Parkers** Recpt. 37.50

\$110.

Recd. from P. **Phillips** collector One hundred and ten dollars as above named for part salary of Elder A. **Wheelock** from Oct. 1./58 to Jan 1./59

A.Z. **Madison** Treasurer 1. Bap So.

Fredonia Jan 17<sup>th</sup>. **1859**

Also three dollars (\$1.00 Mrs **Fisher**, \$2. R. **Porter**)

Jan 19. **1859** AZM

(Item 263)

Recd of P. **Phillips** Rev. A. **Wheelock**'s Recpt to J.R. **Parker** for rent of house to Apl. 1<sup>st</sup>. **1859** Thirty seven & 50/100. Also I.H. **Damons** order on Society to G.W. **Lewis** for ten dollars, to acct. for.

A.Z. **Madison**

Treas

\$47.50 Fredonia Apl 14, **1859**

(Item 264)

Recd. of P. **Phillips** Collector L.B. **Grants** Recpt for nine dollars paid by J.B. **McClanathan** dated Apl 2, **1859** – on Rev A. **Wheelocks** salary

Fredonia April 15, **1859** A.Z. **Madison** Treasr

(Item 265)

Recd. of P. **Phillips** Col. Chk. On Fredonia Bank Eighteen & 20/100 Dollars collected by him for Slip rents.

A.Z. **Madison** Treasr

Fredonia Apl. 15, **1859**

(Item 266)

Recd. of P. **Phillips** colr. ten dollars being the Amt. of my subscription for deficiencies Salary & expenses from Oct 1, **1857** to Oct 1, **1858**.

A.Z. **Madison**

Fredonia Oct. 20. **1858**

(Item 267)

\$34.50

Recd. of P. **Phillips** Collector 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Ch. per Mrs H. **Morgan** Feb 25 \$5. A.C. **Guild** Mch 17 \$5.00 D. **Barrell** do 6.25 D. **Barrell** Mch 19 Excess. \$10. Elijah **Clark** Mch 28 \$2.00 A.Z.M. do \$6.25 for Slip rent & subscription to Apl. 1, **1859**. in all thirty four dollars & fifty cents.

Fredonia Mch. 23<sup>rd</sup>. **1859** A.Z. **Madison** Treasr.

(Item 268)

[Written in the left margin]: Note: This subscription is to be good only on condition the whole Fifty dollars be subscribed.

Fredonia Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. **1859**

We, the Subscribers, hereby promise to pay to A.Z. **Madison** Treasurer of the Fredonia Baptist Society, or bearer, the sums set to our several names respectively, to defray the expense of apparatus for Gas with which to light the Lecture room of the Baptist Church in this village.

		\$
X David <b>Barrell</b>	pd.	5.00
X A. <b>Wheelock</b>	pd.	5.00
J.H.Jr.		5.00
X L.B. <b>Grant</b> Paid		10.00
X L.M. <b>Walker</b> pd AZM		5.00
I.H. <b>Jennings</b>		2.50
X Alvah <b>Colburn</b> authorized (\$3.) pd.		3.00
Jno. M. <b>Van Kleek</b> do.		1.00
Joshua F. <b>Brown</b> do.		.50
Joseph <b>Moier</b> do.		1.00
A.Z. <b>Madison</b> Look	4f(?)	3.00
X Geo W. <b>Lewis</b> pd Augt 14/60		5.00
A.J. <b>Wright</b>		2.00
X Bro. <b>More</b> Paid to A.Z.M. by Eld W.		2.00
X Ira <b>Fuller</b>	pd.	1.00
X Herodotus <b>Smith</b>		.50
X Bro. <b>Gilbert</b> pd. A.Z.M.		.50
X Aaron <b>Clark</b> to pay in work pd. in work		2.00

Levi <b>Doolittle</b>	1.00
X E. <b>Winsor</b> pd. at corp. elec. To A.Z.M.	1.00
A.C. <b>Guild</b>	1.00
W. <b>Lewis</b>	1.00
X David J. <b>Cook</b> pd to AZM by Eld W	1.00
Theo <b>Wheelock</b>	.50
X John <b>Champlin</b> Mch 24. pd	1.00
X Jno R. <b>Madison</b> Paid	1.00

Jay 12 Eld W. pd AZM \$1.00 recd. of some one on subs. & forgotten who.

*(Item 269)*

Subscriptions for Gas Light fixtures. Bill \$70.2.

J. <b>Hamilton</b> Jr	\$5.00
L.B. <b>Grant</b>	10.00
L.M. <b>Walker</b>	5.00
J.H. <b>Jennings</b>	2.50
Jn. M. <b>Van Kleek</b>	1.00
Joshua F. <b>Brown</b>	.50
Joseph <b>Moir</b>	1.00
A.Z. <b>Madison</b>	3.00
Geo W <b>Lewis</b>	5.00
A.J. <b>Wright</b>	2.00
Herodotus <b>Smith</b>	.50
Levi <b>Doolittle</b>	1.00
E. <b>Winsor</b>	1.00
A.C. <b>Guild</b>	1.00
Willard <b>Lewis</b>	1.00
Theo B. <b>Wheelock</b>	.50
Joel R. <b>Parker</b>	
Julius J. <b>Parker</b>	
Geo. W. <b>Tefft</b>	
Lovina <b>Colburn</b>	
C.E. <b>Barclay</b>	
Alfred <b>Wiggins</b>	
D. <b>Barrell</b> pd	5.00
A. <b>Wheelock</b> pd	5.00
A. <b>Colburn</b> pd	3.00
Josiah <b>Moore</b> pd	2.00
Ira <b>Fuller</b> pd	1.00
J.G. <b>Gilbert</b> pd	.50
Aaron <b>Clark</b> pd wk	2.00
D.J. <b>Cook</b> pd	1.00
J. <b>Champlin</b> pd	<u>1.00</u>
	\$18.50

*(Item 270)*

A.Z. **Madison**

To L.L. **Pratt** & Co

To publishing petition affidavit & order for change of name of the first Baptist Society in Pomfret to The Fredonia Bap. So.

Fredonia April 15, **1859**

Recd. payt in full

**Pratt** & Co.

*(Item 271)*



Westfield March 15<sup>th</sup> **1850**

Bro. A.Z. **Madison**

Clk 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Ch of Pomfret

I received your epistle dated March 14 Which by order of the Church was wishing to know my wishes &c I am fully aware of the situation of the Church and know that it is nesisary [sic] to know its members. The circumstances with us in this place are that there is no Baptist Church in Westfield but a few scattering members of the same. We are in Hopes for the time is not far distant when we may have an organized body to unite ourselves to; or together; I would therefore say to the Church that I altho not with them am nevertheless considering myself as one of its members and have intended to visit the church soon and state my situation to the Brethren. My Prayers are for the welfare of the Church of god and the upbuilding of the Cause of Christ and his kingdom, but as we are living so far from you it is impossible to enjoy the privilege of the Church and therefore will ask of them a letter that will enable me to unite with some other body, my wife, Jane **Shattuck**'s wishes are the same.

Alvin **Shattuck**

Jane **Shattuck**, by husband

*(Item 272)*

Sinclearville Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> **1855**.

Dear bro. **Madison**

Sister Clarissa **Jones** desires me to write to the chh. in Fredonia, of which she is a member, & request for her a letter of dismission with a view to join us.

During her residence here, her deportment as a Christian has been exemplary.

Will you please lay the request before the Church at the earliest opportunity. I intended to have mentioned this matter to you or bro. **Kingsbury** at the Association, but forgot it.

An early reply is desired.

Please give our regards to bro. **Chandler**'s family and accept the same for your own.

Yours truly,

W.H. **Husted**

*(Item 273)*

At the 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our present Erie Baptist Association held at Stockton Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>. 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> **1855**, the following resolution was passed, Viz:

“Resolved, That we recommend to the Pastors and Deacons of the Churches of this Association, or whomsoever the Churches may appoint, to collect all the reminiscences of importance in their respective churches, from importance in their respective churches, from their origin down to the present date; and that the same be presented at our next annual meeting, on a separate slip of paper from the Annual Epistle, to be preserved by the officers of the Association, for the use of the Denomination.”

Also, another resolution was passed at the 12<sup>th</sup>. Anniversary held at Forestville Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> **1859**, Viz:

“Resolved, That the Churches that have not yet responded to the resolution passed at a former session of this body, to present it with a history of their being, are requested to do so at our next session.”

In compliance with the foregoing request the Fredonia Baptist Church through its Clerk respectfully and fraternally responds. And would inform the brethren composing this body, that the peculiar circumstances of the case have retarded an earlier response; and that, within the year now closing, an ancient copy of a book of records, has accidentally come into the possession of the Clerk from which he has gleaned the following statistics, from the early beginning down to the year **1832**; and those of later date, down to **1848**, from other sources; and those still subsequent and to the present time from his own records as Clerk of the Church.

The earliest date of the old Record above referred to, is November **1805**, When it is said, that Fredonia, (then known as “Canadawa,”) and the Country around, was a wilderness, and five Baptist brethren and four sisters having removed to the vicinity, they convened together, without any knowledge that there was ever a religious assembly here before.

They deemed it best, and then agreed to meet on “the Lord’s Day,” to recommend the cause of Christ and confirm each other in the faith.

In the year of **1806**, one more was added to their number.

On the 14<sup>th</sup>. March **1807**, the brethren and Sisters entered into an agreement, to meet every last Saturday in each month, to renew covenant.

September 8<sup>th</sup>. **1808**, they agreed to adopt the Articles of faith and Covenant which were printed for Elder Peter P. **Roots** at Utica in **1806**.

At a meeting held at brother Zattu **Cushing**'s October 12<sup>th</sup>. **1808** the brethren agreed to send for a Council, to see if it could fellowship them as a Church in sister relation?

Accordingly, letters were sent to Elders Joel **Butler**, Hezekiah **Eastman** and Joy **Handy**.

October 20<sup>th</sup>. **1808** a meeting was held at brother **Cushing**'s, when they were examined by the beforementioned Elders, and received into fellowship, as "the first Baptist Church in Pomfret."

(Record deficient for some five years.)

At a meeting held at brother John **Van Tassell**'s, Elder Joy **Handy**, Moderator, November 9<sup>th</sup>. **1813**,

1 Voted that Brother Zattu **Cushing** serve the Church as Deacon.

2 Voted that there be a contribution every last Saturday in each month for the support of the Lord's Table, and that the Clerk keep a record of the money, and by whom paid.

3 Voted that we raise money by subscription, to provide furniture for the Lord's Table.

(This is the first record indicating that Elder J. **Handy** was the Pastor.)

November 5<sup>th</sup>. **1814**, 1<sup>st</sup>. Voted Arva O. **Austin** Moderator.

2 Voted that Eliphalet(?) **Burnham** be Clerk.

Mch 5, **1816**. At a church Meeting held at the house of Zattu **Cushing** for the purpose of forming some regulations in the Church.

1<sup>st</sup>. Voted Ebenezer **Webster** Deacon.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Voted to attend our stated Chh. Conference precisely at one o'clock (O.K.) and meeting to be opened precisely at half past one provided two persons belonging to the Church are present. They may pray, talk their minds and return home.

3. As Elder **Handy** knowing our sentiments and prospects to his support as well as his Brethren, We view it our duty therefore leave it him to go or stay, but to stay if consistent with his mind.

4.(?) each brother keep a record of all the property he pays to the (?) and return it the first of April next to the Clerk, and that (?) provisions shall be carried to the Elder by the first of (?) next, for the ensuing year, or, if after that time, to be same price it was going at the 1<sup>st</sup>. of June.

5. This Meeting dissolved.

(Bro. **Webster** is still living, & has held from the above date the office of Deacon more than 44 years to the present time.) He is now infirm, almost deaf & nearly disabled.

May 26<sup>th</sup>. **1821**, At Elder Joy **Handy**'s request Voted to discharge him from the exclusive Pastoral care of the Church.

June 21<sup>st</sup> **1821**, A Council set off sundry brethren & Sisters of this church as "the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bap. Church in Pomfret." (At Laona, I suppose.)

August 12<sup>th</sup>, **1822**, Church Voted to receive Eld. Elisha **Tucker** as our Minister, and he was also received as a member of the Church at same date.

June 4<sup>th</sup>, **1823**, Voted, that Elder **Tucker** visit New York, Boston, Providence, Salem and other places on his route, to solicit aid to finish our Meeting House, as soon as he can leave home.

July 21, **1823**, Voted that the Clerk sign a letter in behalf of Church for Elder **Tucker** to present to our Sister Churches and friends, to solicit funds to finish our Meeting House.

December 4, **1823**, Installed Elder Elisha **Tucker** Pastor; and, at same time Dedicated the Meeting House to the worship of God. July 17. **1824** Agreed to give Elder **Tucker** \$400. per. An.

(Records again deficient for nearly five years.)

[The original Chautauqua Association organized in **1823**.] and the same dissolved in **1843**.

June 1, **1829** Commenced the troubles & afflictions in regard to Speculative Free Masonry, which were protracted and severe, dividing the Church into two, for a season.

A Council was held February 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> **1831**, and a special Church Meeting held March 2<sup>nd</sup> **1831** approved the Result of the Council, and adopted the renowned Whitesboro resolutions.

A Special Church Meeting held Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>. **1833**, which rescinded the above act.

In May **1830** the brethren and sisters of the Church who resided in Dunkirk and vicinity were dismissed for the formation of a Baptist Church at that place.

About Decr 7, **1831** Rev. E. **Tucker** & wife were dismissed by letter.

Indeed During his Pastorate of over nine years the church experienced a mixture of joy and trouble.

Decr. 31, **1831** Voted to appoint a Committee to procure temporary preaching and to procure a Minister to preach stately.

In August **1832**, a new Book of Records was commenced by Rev. Jirah D. **Cole**, who, (I suppose,) was then the Pastor & M.D. **Harmon** Clerk.

May 1<sup>st</sup>. **1833** Abijah **Young** was chosen Clerk. M.D. **Harmon** resigned.

Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>. **1835**, Rev. J.D. **Cole** dismissed by letter. During his pastorate, amidst many and various trials and afflictions, there seemed to be much revival influence, and many additions to the Church by baptism as well as by letter.

November 16<sup>th</sup>. **1835** David **Barrell** Church Clerk.

March 12<sup>th</sup>. **1836** Rev. Beriah N. **Leach**, was received as a member of the church, and became the Pastor.

About same time a parsonage lot was purchased of Capt. Saml. **Johnson** and a dwelling-house erected thereon for the use of Elder **Leach**. Same afterward sold.

April 15, **1836** Resolutions were passed for more systematic, energetic and increased benevolence in the church to promote the cause of the evangelization of the Nations in view of the waste of more than \$1500, annually in this State to sustain Agents.

In the months of Dec. **1836** and January **1837** Elder Lewis **Leonard** labored five weeks here in midst of a constant revival which continued to June or July following.

[The following two sentences are crossed out.] Feb. 11, **1837** Heard Letter recommending Bro Jno E. **Bishop** with his desire to be recd. into membership. Resolved that he be received.

In **1837**, as well as in some other years, the Church was harassed with many aggravated personal differences amongst members, causing great grief to the body and still, there were frequent additions by baptism & by letter.

Feb. 19. **1838**. Eld B.N. **Leach** resigned as Pastor, his labors to close in April next.

March 3, **1838**, Resolved to grant his request.

March 19. **1838**, Invited Elder John F. **Bishop** to remain as Pastor of this Church at Salary of \$500.

[The following sentence is crossed out.] It will be seen by prior Resolution that he had been a member of the church for more than a year.

March 31. **1838** Rev. B.N. **Leach** & wife dismissed by letter.

March 29, **1838**, Rev. Jno. F. **Bishop** assumed the Pastoral Charge of the Church, and received the hand of fellowship from Rev. B.N. **Leach**.

February 1<sup>st</sup>. **1839**, in Church Meeting, Elder **Bishop** stated his feelings regarding certain reports concerning himself, and requested a Committee appointed to inquire into the matter; and here opens the well-known, severe and protracted difficulties, in relation to him, which again rent & divided the church, then consisting of some 300 to 400 members, each party claiming to be the Church, and assuming its name in different organizations, causing more or less distraction in sister Churches and indeed in the Community, generally throughout the entire region, this continuing until the 12<sup>th</sup> day of February **1848** when the two bodies again became united on a basis written by Elder S.P. **Way** in a council of brethren of which the following is a verbatim copy, Viz:

“Fredonia Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> **1848**.

Whereas there has existed in Fredonia two bodies claiming to be the 1<sup>st</sup>. Baptist Church in Pomfret, and their separation come to be a matter of universal grief and an embarrassment to the success of the gospel here; and as further agitation of the causes of their separation would not be for the peace of Zion, Therefore,

Resolved, That from and thereafter the separate and united adoption of this, these two bodies, now known, as “The 1<sup>st</sup>. Bap. Church in Pomfret” and “The Fredonia Baptist Church”, be and become one, under the name of “the 1<sup>st</sup>. Bap. Church of Pomfret.” leaving the painful past as it is, and never call it up, or refer to it as a difficulty or grief: transferring the books and papers of each to a Clerk mutually elected, and a new book opened for the records of the Church, and the present Pastors to be continued under present arrangements, till the first of April next – to preach alternately, as they may agree for their convenience, and the Desk thereafter supplied as the Church may determine: And for the perpetuity and peace of this union we will labor and pray.”

Each body adopted the foregoing basis in their separate meeting simultaneously on Saturday Feb 12, **1848**.

On the 13. Feb. **1848** (Sabbath) the two bodies met in the Meeting House for worship, and listened to two discourses from Rev. B.C. **Willoughby** & one in the evening from Rev. Sabin(?) **McKinnee** of the Presb. Ch. his congregation also being present.

On Monday Feb. 14, **1848**, a joint meeting was held when it was mutually Resolved to adopt the basis above named. At same Meeting Brethren Ebenezer **Webster**, John **Hamilton** and Joel R. **Parker** were unanimously elected Deacons.

Feb. 26, **1848** A.Z. **Madison** was duly elected Church Clerk.

May 13. **1849** After efforts of more than a year to secure a Minister in which time we had trouble(?) supplying or reading, Rev. Salem T. **Griswold** commenced his labors as the first Pastor of the united Church. [The following is crossed out: as united the preceding year and over, supplied by various Ministers, and reading sermons.] Salary \$400. Moving Exps. \$40.

Augt. 9. **1850**. Rev. S.T. **Griswold** dismissed by letter on his resignation.

There were seven persons baptized during his pastorate and several additions by letter; and there had been seven baptized subsequent to the Union and prior to his settlement as Pastor. His last(?) residence had been Knoxville, N.Y.

May 4 **1851** Rev A.K. of the So Bap Ch Albany N.Y. visited us on our request

May 31. **1851** Rev. Arnold **Kingsbury** & wife were recd. as members [crossed out: from the So. Bap. Ch. Albany N.Y.] of the Ch. and he entered upon his labor as Pastor of the Church, Salary \$600.

About Sept. **1851** apparent increase of religious interest in the Church, and on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January **1852**, a series of meetings commenced and a general revival ensued resulting in the baptism of Sixty nine, and several additions by letter, during his stay as Pastor.

July 7<sup>th</sup>, **1853**, Dedication of the New Brick Church lately erected – Sermons by Revs. A. **Kingsbury**, V.R. **Hotchkiss** of Buffalo and J.H. **Walden** of Dunkirk.

Sept. 1, **1853** Rev A. **Kingsbury** & wife dismissed by letter pursuant to his resignation as Pastor July 24, **1855**.

October 6<sup>th</sup>, **1855** Rev. C.N. **Chandler** & wife received as members from Elmira N.Y. and he commenced labor as Pastor. Salary of \$1000. During his Pastorate increased efforts & there were two persons baptized & several recd. by letter.

Nov 21, **1855** Public Installation of Rev C.N. **Chandler** as Pastor. In Increased efforts as to discipline of delinquent members. Fourteen excluded.

Nov. 29, **1856** Rev. C.N. **Chandler** & wife dismissed by letter pursuant to his resignation as Pastor, as read to church by J. **Hamilton** Jr. Nov. 16, **1856**.

October 3<sup>rd</sup> **1857** pursuant to prior engagement, Rev. Alonzo **Wheelock** commenced his labors as Pastor of the Church, he having just arrived from Elbridge N.Y. His salary \$900. per annum with three months notice for dissolution from either party to the other.

His faithful ministrations, lucid bible instruction and consistent Christian life and example have been blessed here.

About 2. Mos. after he came Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. **1857**, he baptized one, and Feb. 7. **1858**, five others, and in succession from time to time, others also, to the number of sixty-four down to the present time.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> day of May **1859**, The name of our Society was changed by law from “The first Baptist Society in Pomfret” to “The Fredonia Baptist Society.”

And at the same date, the name of our Church was changed by a Resolution passed in Church Meeting, from “The first Baptist Church of Pomfret,” to “The Fredonia Baptist Church.”

Not more than one, or two at most, of the original members of **1808** now remain. Indeed, of the 205 (121+84) members returned by the [lists] for use Clerks to the present one at the Union in Feb. **1848**, only 80 are now left as members – so rapidly does time work its changes! WE are almost another people even so soon! Removals & death have thus severed us.

Judging from the records & traditions, we arrive at the conclusion that from the first organization of the Church Oct 20, **1808**, to the present time, with perhaps the exceptions of about the first decade, or ten years, when the brethren were few and contaminating influences less, peace and Christian love predominated in their hearts while living amidst the perils of war and deprivation which then surrounded them, our last decade and a little over, has been the most peaceful, as regards both personal differences, and also schisms in the body, of any period of the same length in the entire history of “the first Bap. Church in Pomfret.

In all this dozen years, we have not been without trouble & afflictions in various ways, and as Christians, to meet and to bear properly our lot we mourn over want of assimilation to the Lord Jesus, yet, in view of his goodness and mercy, we feel to “thank God and take courage.”

For the design originally contemplated in the first above Resolution of this body, the foregoing is fraternally submitted.

By order of the Church

A.Z. **Madison** Clk

Fredonia Sept. 1. **1860.**

P.S. I learn from the records that at first, a Clerk was appointed same as Moderator at each business Meeting & that the persons named below have at some period of time, earlier or later, held the office of Church Clerk Viz:

Eliphalet **Burnham**

Joseph **Sprague**

James **Bennett**

John **Bond**

James **Hull** (asst clk)

Nathl. **Crosby**

Jaims **Handy**

John Z. **Saxton**

James **Mark**

Martin D. **Harmon**

Abijah **Young**

David **Barrell**

John **Saxton** (asst clk)

Thos G. **Abell**

J.B. **Pixley** (asst clk)

Lewis B. **Grant**

Almond Z. **Madison**

O. Adams **Buck** (asst. clk)

Deacons

Zattu **Cushing**

Ebenezer **Webster**

Nathaniel **Crosby**

Reuben **Buck**

Joseph **Porter**

Levi C. **Selleck**

Joel R. **Parker**

Anson C. **Guild**

John **Hamilton**

Thomas B. **Sweet**

Arthur B. **Post**

David **Barrell**

Lewis B. **Grant**

Russel **Webster**

D.A. **Woodruff**(?)

Ministers besides those named

Judah L. **Richmond**

Ebenzer(?) **Loomis**

Almond C. **Barrell**

Bliss C. **Willoughby**

& other for short periods

H. **Sullivan**

Wm **Storrs**

Jno D. **Pope**