

Constitution
of the
African Association.

of
New Brunswick.

Adopted Jan. 1, 1817.

We the subscribers do hereby covenant and agree to
Associate ourselves together under the name and style of
the African Association of New Brunswick and to be governed by
the following rules and regulations.

Article 1.

The funds of this Association shall be exclusively devoted
to the school lately formed by the Synod of New York and
New Jersey known by the name of an African School
for the purpose of educating young Men of Colour to be
Teachers and preachers to people of Colour within these
States and elsewhere.

Article 2.

Every free person of Colour becoming a member of this
Association shall pay on admission fifty Cents and a
further sum of fifty cents at the expiration of each
and every term of six months that he or she shall
continue a member thereof and every other person of
Colour who may become a member thereof shall produce
A permit from his or her Master or Mistress sign-
ifying their Approbation and shall pay at least seven-
ty five Cents per year during the time provided he or
she may remain a member.

Article 3.

The officers of this Association shall be chosen by
the Male members from the Male members only and
shall consist of a Moderator, the President, Moderators,
A Secretary and Treasurer who shall be chosen annually

especially if we have the speaks of divine grace in our
bosoms, that we can more clearly imagine what must
be the state of those who are destitute of those Gospel
lights & privileges that we now enjoy: those whose
ears see message of peace has ever yet saluted; more
guide them more to point out to them the way to im-
mortal life? Only think for a moment what must
be their situation, and I think you will never regret
what you have already done; neither will you feel
willing to stop here; no I am conscious that none of
you regret your friendly aid for the furtherance of the
gospel to your benighted Brethren; especially those
of you who have tasted of redeeming grace, who know
by experience the value of precious souls. Beloved
friends this is a laudable and a glorious cause, one
that will not only appear luminous here, but if done
with a right view and a proper spirit, will add
much to our immortal interests. O that God would
inspire each one of us with a more ardent affection
for the deplorable condition of our fellow Creatures, so
that others around us may be induced to follow our
example, and this association become an ornament
to the Africans. As you are the first united band of Africa
that has ever put forth their hands in this great work
of sending heralds of the Cross to your perishing brethren.
This is indeed Charity. Pause for a moment and
send your eyes about your City: Though under the
penalities of strict laws and in the full blaze and
sunshine of the Gospel, yet how many wretched
characters you might discover under all these restric-
tions. But suppose these restraints were removed pro-
bably? The scene would be inconceivably different, and from
a proposition of this nature we might draw some
conclusion respecting that of our own Country; those
far worse must their situation be: because the former

At A Regular meeting of the Standing committee held on the 3^d of February 1821. At the house of Caesar -- Reppley; two of the committee being absent, P. Wykes and Francis Parker was chosen in their place thus -- making a quorum. The Moderator took the chair and called to order. After reading of a letter from Gustavus W. Caesar the committee went into business there being a quorum. The committee had collected in back dues to the amount of \$3.50 and on the said meeting they paid it into the hands of the Treasurer. There being \$15.25 in the hands of the treasurer a motion was made to send it on to the School, accordingly it was agreed to put it in the charge of C. John Nelson to pay in to the treasury of the School at New-ark.

Adjourned to meet at the house of Henry Quick on the first Saturday in March

Samuel Savore

Secretary

Copy of the Letter read

Brothers and Sisters, members of the association at New-Brunswick. From an impulse of gratitude felt towards this laudable institution, I shall address the following lines. My feelings on this subject cannot be expressed. Long has that cruel yoke felt that we could not be united and that prejudice and envy dwell among us. We are let us offer the accusation and show to the public that it is false, It may perhaps be the opinion of some that I am actuated by some selfish motive which makes me so interested. If such feelings should be present with you, I would here reply, that I have two powerful motives, of which probably you are unconscious, one is the cause of our Country, the other is your reputation. Long have I wished to see a union among us people of colour of this nature. Brothers and sisters if we duly consider the great end for which we were made this aid you now offer will never be burdensome to any one of you? --

had been under restraints, and had known good from
evil: the latter never did. And here many I must ask
who in their possession of rational feeling or affections can
remain cold and indifferent towards a case like this.
One of greater moment than could not be; Here are precious
souls sinking into eternal despair not merely a few
individuals; but a whole continent with very few excep-
ted. Brothers and sisters members of this association let
this cause you now vindicate lay near your hearts—
while you meditate on Romans 10-14 and part of 15.
"How shall they call on him in whom they have
not believed and how shall they believe in him of whom
they have not heard; and how shall they hear with-
out a preacher. And how shall they preach, except they
be sent." for it is none else but the commands of God,
and the fulfilment of prophecy. You who hold offices
in this benevolent society, remember the important
charge that is upon you. One that will require your ut-
most care and attention. Remember that the eye of God
is upon you continually; and will call you to an accou-
nt, if you are negligent in your performances. Recollect
that you are acting in the cause of Christ. May the Lord
assist you in all your performances: and each one of you
be enabled to discharge your duty with fidelity and truth;
and ever guard against contention among your selves—
that fatal viper which so often lurks in and encroaches
upon human society: permit it not to dwell among you;
neither let it enter but keep it extinct. That the spirit of
peace of harmony and friendship may dwell amongst
you in all your deliberations is my sincere prayer:
yours in the bonds of brotherly and Christian love.

Gustavus T. Cresser

Conspiracy

January 11th 1821