

**SOME PASSAGES IN THE HISTORY OF THE  
FIRST CHURCH IN CONNEXION WITH THE  
SHEPARD CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY IN  
CAMBRIDGE: TOGETHER WITH ITS  
CONFESSION OF FAITH, FORM OF  
ADMISSION, ECCLESIASTICAL PRINCIPLES,  
AND RULES, AND NAMES OF MEMBERS**

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Some Passages in the History of the First Church in Connexion with the Shepard Congregational Society in Cambridge: Together with Its Confession of Faith, Form of Admission, Ecclesiastical Principles, and Rules, and Names of Members by Various

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# VARIOUS

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SOME PASSAGES

IN THE

HISTORY OF THE FIRST CHURCH,

IN CONNEXION WITH THE

SHEPARD CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY

IN CAMBRIDGE: *Mass.*—A

TOGETHER WITH ITS

CONFESSION OF FAITH, FORM OF ADMISSION,  
ECCLESIASTICAL PRINCIPLES, AND RULES,

AND

NAMES OF MEMBERS.

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"THAT THOU MATEST KNOW HOW THOU OUGHTEST TO BEHAVE THYSELF  
IN THE HOUSE OF GOD, WHICH IS THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD,  
THE PILLAR AND GROUND OF THE TRUTH."—1 Tim. iii. 15.

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CAMBRIDGE:  
THURSTON AND TORRENT

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1842



## ADVERTISEMENT.

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THE following Confession of Faith, Form of Admission, Ecclesiastical Principles, and Rules, were prepared in accordance with a vote of the Church, and after mature, thorough, and prayerful examination were unanimously adopted, and, together with some historical notices, ordered to be printed for the use of the members. The work is now presented to the Church with the earnest prayer, that through the influence of Divine Grace, it may be instrumental in bringing us all in "the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness whereby they lie in wait to deceive; but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."

*Cambridge, July, 1842.*

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SOME PASSAGES  
IN THE  
HISTORY OF THE FIRST CHURCH  
IN CAMBRIDGE.

"I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience,  
and thy works; and the last to be more than the first." — Rev. ii. 19.

WHAT hours of temptation may overtake these churches, is not for us to say ; only the Lord doth many times so order things, that when his people have made a good CONFESSION, they shall be put upon the trial one way or other, to see whether they have, or who among them hath not, been sincere in what they have done. The Lord grant that our loins may be so girt about with truth, that we may be able to stand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. —  
*Preface to the Confession of Faith adopted by the Churches of Massachusetts, in 1680.*

SOME PASSAGES  
IN THE  
HISTORY OF THE FIRST CHURCH  
IN CAMBRIDGE.

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THE settlement of Cambridge, originally called Newtown, was commenced in the Spring of the year 1631. The town was considerably enlarged by the arrival of a number of emigrants, called the Brain-tree company, in August, 1632. As the quiet enjoyment of religious privileges was the great object of their removal to this place, their first work was to erect a house for public worship, and adopt measures for the establishment of the ministry and the ordinances of the gospel among them. It was the common remark of the early settlers of New England, that a country destitute of the gospel ministry resembled paradise without the tree of life.

Many of the emigrants had, while in England, belonged to the congregation of the Rev. Thomas Hooker, a preacher of great celebrity, who, to escape fines and imprisonment for nonconformity, had fled into Holland. Being greatly attached to him, and