MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

CAHABA RIVER

Free Will Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

Meadows Chapel, Brookside, Jefferson Co., Ala.,

OCTOBER 5th, 6th and 7th, 1907.

OFFICERS:

N. M. Davis - - - Moderator
Wm. T. Kendrick - - Clerk
J. R. Weaver - - - Treasurer

The next session of the Association will be held with Mount Pleasant Church, Perry Co., Ala., beginning Friday night before the third Sunday in Oct., 1908, 7, p. m.

> AYDEN, N. C. FREE WILL BAPTIST PRINT. 1908.

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

CAHABA RIVER ASSOCIATION.

The thirtieth annual session of the Cahaba River Free Will Baptist Association convened with Meadows Chapel, near Brookside, Jefferson Co., Ala., Oct. 5th, 1907, at 8 o'clock, a. m.

The clerk being absent, the body was called to order by the former moderator, Rev. N. M. Davis, who appointed Bro. J. R. Weaver as temporary clerk.

After the devotional exercises, the roll of churches was

called and the delegates enrolled:

Union Hill—G. D. B. Isbell, J. R. Weldon, S. H. Collins. Pilgrim Rest—W. R. Weaver, E. C. Houston.

Pleasant Valley-L. R. Kendrick, J. M. Shirley, A. J. Davis.

New Hope-J. R. Weaver.

Mount Pleasant-T. W. Jones, Jr.

Tabernacle-not represented.

Pleasant Hill-G. W. Hollis, I. H. Hollis.

Meadow's Chapel-J. D. Dempsey, J. F. Dempsey.

Welcome-J. D. Warren, A. B. Davis.

McCalla-E. T. Kendrick, J. W. Moore.

Bethel-not represented.

The moderator appointed Bros. T. W. Jones, Jr., and G. W. Hollis to read the letters from the several churches. After the reading, the body went into the election of a permanent moderator and temporary clerk, resulting in the election of Rev. N. M. Davis by acclamation as moderator, and Bro. J. R. Weaver as temporary clerk.

The moderator, after inviting visiting brethren to seats with us, called for corresponding representatives. None present.

The door of the association was opened for the reception of new churches. (No petitions.)

By motion, the chair appointed the several committees: Devotion—I. H. Hollis, J. M. Shirley and J. F. Dempsey, deacon of Meadow's Chapel.

Business-E. T. Kendrick, W. R. Weaver, J. D. Dempsey.

Family Religion—L. R. Kendrick, J. W. Moore, J. D. Warren.

Sabbath Schools—J. R. Weldon, A. B. Davis, G. D. B. Isbell.

Literature—J. M. Shirley, G. W. Hollis, A. J. Davis. Temperance—Ezekiel Isbell, A. J. Davis, T. W. Jones, Ir.

Education—T. W. Jones, Sr., G. W. Hollis, S. H. Collins.

Condition of the country—S. H. Collins, T. W. Jones, Jr., A. B. Davis.

Deceased Members—J. F. Dempsey, J. R. Weldon, J. R. Weaver.

Standing of the Ministry—J. R. Weldon, J. M. Shirley, A. B. Davis.

By motion the body was declared adjourned until 1:30, p. m.

The introductory sermen was preached by Rev. Ezekiel Isbell at 11 o'clock, a. m., text, I. Cor. 10:12. "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." Followed by Rev. N. M. Davis. Prayer by Bro A. J. Davis. The sermon was effective and well received.

Afternoon Session.

The body met persuant to adjournment. The house was called to order by the clerk. The moderator read the 19th Psalm, after which prayer was led by the moderator. After singing the moderator invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

By motion, a report was called for, from the delegates who attended the state convention. The moderator then called for a partial report from the business committee, which was read and received.

We, your committee on business, report as follows: After examining the letters from the several churches, we find one not represented—Bethel—we recommend that this body take notice of same. We find a request from Welcome church, asking that Bro. W. M. Chadwick be granted license to preach; we recommend action on same.

E. T. Kendrick, Chm.

By motion, Bros. J. F. Dempsey and W. R. Weaver were granted temporary leave of absence.

On motion by Bro. J. D. Warren, the resolution offered by Bro. J. R. Weaver to raise money for the mission fund, was adopted. (See resolution No. 1.)

Rev. L. F. Black, of the Morning Star Association, was introduced and invited to be seated with us.

On motion by Bro. G. D. B. Isbell, Bethel church was referred to the chairman of the executive committee.

On motion by Rev. T. W. Jones, the request of Bro. W. M. Chadwick for license to preach, was referred to the Ministers' Conference.

On motion by Bro. I. H. Hollis, the body adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock Monday morning, Oct. 7th.

Prayer service at 6: 30, conducted by Bro. A. J. Davis; Saturday night, preaching at 7: 30 by Rev. T. W. Jones, text, Matt. 25: 10.

Sunday morning at 9: 30, prayer service conducted by Bro. J. R. Weaver. The doctrinal sermon was preached at 11, a. m., by Rev. N. M. Davis, text, Ex. 14: 15, "Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward," tollowed by Rev. T. W. Jones. The sermon was effective, and forceably presented. At the conclusion of the service dinner was served on the ground. At 4 o'clock, p. m., preaching by Rev. L. F. Black, text, Luke 24: 29. At 7, p. m., preaching by Rev. T. W. Jones, text, Heb.

2: 3, "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation." After preaching, communion and feet-washing.

Monday, Oct. 7th.

The body met pursuant to adjournment.

The house was called to order by the clerk, all dele-

gates being present at the roll call.

The moderator read the 127th Psalm, after which prayer was led by Bro. I. H. Hollis. The moderator then invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

On motion by Rev. E. Isbell, Bro. S. W. Lane was introduced as music teacher, representing the Eureka Publishing Co.

By motion, the minutes were read, and approved.

By motion, the report of the chairman of the home mission committee was called for. He reported as tollows:

DEAR BRETHREN: For lack of sufficient means to push work, there has not been any mission work done except some investigating I had done by Rev. W. A. Nelson, and some work done by Rev. N. M. Davis near Helena, Ala. I had calls from no one in or outside of the association.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. WEAVER, Chm.

On motion, Bro. J. R. Weaver was re-elected chairman of the home mission committee.

By motion, resolution No. 2, was adopted. (See resolution, No. 2.)

By motion, the final report of the business committee was received. They report as follows:

We see the need of more ministerial work at Meadow's Chapel and recommend same for your consideration. We received a petitionary letter from Tabernacle requesting ministerial aid which we refer to you for your consideration.

E. T. KENDRICK, Chm.

By motion, the question of ministerial aid for Meadow's Chapel was referred to the chairman of the mission committee.

By motion, the request of Tabernacle for ministerial aid was referred to the chairman of the mission committee.

On motion, the body adjourned to meet at 4 o'clock, p. m.

Afternoon Session.

The body met pursuant to adjournment. The house was called to order by the clerk.

By motion, the treasurer's report was called for, which was read and received. (See report.)

On motion, the clerk was authorized to have 400 minutes printed and draw \$5.00 from the treasury for his serivce.

On motion, Revs. N. M. Davis, J. H. Grimes and WITL. Kendrick was appointed to write up the obituary of Bro. R. L. Kendrick, and have same published in the FREE WILL BAPTIST, Ayden, N. C.

Mount Pleasant church was selected as the place to hold the next annual meeting of this body.

On motion, the moderator appoint an auditing committee at each session of this body.

On motion, the selection of ministers to preach the introductory and doctrinal sermons be left with the devotional committee, to be appointed at the next session.

On motion, a vote of thanks was tendered the church and community for their good care while among them.

On motion, the body was called to prayer and thanks to the blessed Master, for his love and presence while together.

After which the body adjourned to meet with Mount Pleasant church, Perry, Co., Ala., on Friday at 7 o'clock, p. m., before the third Sunday in Oct., 1908.

REV. N. M. DAVIS, Moderator.

J. R. WEAVER, Clerk.

RESOLUTIONS BY J. R. WEAVER.

Resolved 1, That this association ask a contribution of an average of one dollar per head from each member of the several churches composing this association for the mission fund; also that the delegates of each church press the need of this contribution and the same be placed in hands of the association treasurer by Dec. 1st, 1907.

Resolved 2, That all money for the associational fund be in the hands of the treasurer by Sept. 1st, preceding each association.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Family Religion - We, your committee on Family Religion, beg leave to submit the following: We regret to say that the religious influence in a great majority of our homes is far from what it should be. The world is on a rush for conquest, power, wealth and fame. The professed Christian, to a great extent, has caught the inspiration and is trying to keep up and leaving God out of the matter. Dear brethren, let us stop and think seriously. The home is the nursery, the place to lay the foundation on which rests the hope of our country and the success of our religious work. Train a child to honor God, to love and obey his parents and when he becomes old he will not depart from it. On this foundation rests the hope of our political and religious liberty and the salvation of the world. Except God build the house, they that build it will build in vain. Let us start right, trust in the Lord and he will bring it to pass. Give him the glory and he will supply the means to carry on the great work and we can go up and possess the land.

> Respectfully submitted, L. R. KENDRICK, Chm.

SABBATH SCHOOLS —We, your committee on Sabbath

Schools, beg leave to submit the following:

The Sabbath School is the dressing chamber of the church. Its purpose connected with that of a Christian home is to teach a child that there is a God; that he is everlasting; that he is the Creator of all things; that the Bible is his word; that he is to be loved, honored and obeyed through his Son, Jesus Christ, who came into

the world, suffered and died on Calvary, that he was buried, that he arose and in due time ascended into heaven, thereby making a way of love, comfort, joy and happiness inexpressible for all those who accept the promises of his word. This knowledge, spiritually applied, gives us regeneration which exposes the hidden beauties of the diamond in the rough, giving us ornaments in the church, sunshine in place of darkness, hearts loving and trusting God, hands ready to obey his word, feet walking in the highway made by the blood of Jesus, the model character of purity and perfection. Hence the finished product of a Sabbath School thus conducted is a pure consecrated Christian character.

E. C. HOUSTON, Chm.

LITERATURE.—We, your committee on Literature, beg

leave to submit the following:

Realizing that the study of literature has a great influence in molding the mind, we recommend that parents take more care in the selection of literature for their children. We recommend the study of the Bible more in our homes as it is the best of all literature. We also recommend that each church use our S.S. literature and that the FREE WILL BAPTIST of Ayden, N. C., be adopted as our organ.

J. M. SHIRLEY, Chm.

TEMPERANCE.—We, your committee on Temperance,

beg leave to submit the following:

Temperance marks the model man, the model home and the model church; intemperance in any form will wreck every one that participates in it. To inculcate the principles of Christian temperance, we must control our habits, we must watch as well as pray, and by precept and example teach men to live above the degrading ways of intemperance. We condemn the licening or legalizing by law the sale of intoxicating liquors, and as Christians and voters, let us cast our ballots and influences against it. The religion of the Lord Jesus Christ will correct this evil of intemperance. Let us do all in our power to master this great sin and God will give us the victory.

REV. E. ISBELL, Chm.

Education.—We, your committee on Education, beg

leave to submit the following;

The call of the Master demands that we educate. Education broadens the mind and creates a growth in

We should educate ourselves literally and knowledge. spiritually. Never has knowledge been so imperitively needed as it is today. The twentieth century opened with practically every approach to success barred to him who is not equipped with accurate information of the most varied kinds. It is no longer sufficient for one to be trained merely for some special calling. He who succeeds must have that inner power which comes only from the possession of an education broad and diversified enough to enable him to overcome every obstacle in life's path. A practical education is the greatest wealth that man or woman may possess. It is a property that cannot be alienated, yet one that may be shared with others without loss. Education is the legacy that all good parents should bequeat's to their children. It is an investment that all should seek, especially the young; yet so many kinds of information are required that no school or college supplies enough. "Self made" means more than ever. Much of the most useful knowledge is that which is acquired in careful home study to which we should all devote a few moments daily.

> Respectfully submitted, REV. T. W. JONES, Chm.

Condition of the Country.—We, your committee on the condition of the country, beg leave to submit the

following:

The financial condition of our country is in a growing and thriving condition, but not as good as could be. Our country is growing spiritually better day by day, but not as fast as it should. We cannot wonder at the many disasters which has caused so much distruction of life and property. We have gone down by thousands by our disobedience. Let us first seek the kingdom of God and all things will be added May we as Free Will Baptists stand boldly for a converted church membership.

S. L. Collins, Chm.

DECEASED MEMBERS.—We, your committee on deceased members, beg leave to submit the following:

We find that six of our number have passed away, leaving the brightest hopes of a glorious future. While we bow in humble submission to him that doeth all things well, we realize that our loss is heaven's gain.

J. R. WELDON, Chm.

STANDING OF THE MINISTRY.—We, your committee on the standing of the ministry, beg leave to submit the

following:

We find that all of our ministers are in good standing, as such we recommend that certificates of good standing be granted each of them for twelve months.

J. M. SHIRLEY, Chm.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Received from R. L. Kendrick, for	rmer treasurer, \$57.1	
Received from New Hope Received from Pleasant Valley	10.6	
	1.1	
Received from Pleasant Hill		
Received from Union Hill	6.0	
Received from Welcome	3.0	
Received from Mount Pleasant	2.0)()
Received from Pilgrim Rest	.2	25
Received from McCalla	1.5	50
Received from Meadow's Chapel	1.0	00
Total	\$84.2	29
Disbursements:		
Rev. W. A. Nelson,	\$10.00	
Rev. Wood Springfield	10.00	
Rev. Wm. T. Kendrick,	6.80	
	7.17	
Rev. N. M. Davis		
Ledger,	.40	
Total,	34.3	37
Ballance on hand,	\$49.9 J. R. Weaver, Treas	

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE.

The ministers' conference convened with Meadow's Chapel, near Brookside, Jefferson Co., Ala., Saturday night, Oct. 5th, 1907. The conference was called to order by Rev. N. M. Davis.

The first business was to elect a chairman and clerk.

Rev. T. W. Jones was elected chairman and Bro. G. W.

Hollis was elected clerk.

Ministers present, J. J. Miner, T. W. Jones, N. M. Davis, Ezekiel Isbell, Wm. T. Kendrick by letter; absent, J. H. Grimes, D. L. Baker, W. J. Vest. Licentiates, W. M. Weldon.

On motion, Rev. L. F. Black of the Morning Star Association was received and invited to seat with us. Each minister was then called upon to report the work for the past year, which was responded to by all present.

On motion, W. J. Vest, and W. M. Weldon were retained on the roll for another year.

On motion, the verbal reports from D. L. Baker and J. H. Grimes was received.

On motion, this conference sustained the action of the called conference in March, 1906.

On motion, S. H. Collins and W. M. Chadwick were licensed to preach for one year as per discipline.

On motion, the conference adjourned to meet on Saturday night embraceing our next association in 1908, with Mount Pleasant church, Perry county, Ala.

T. W. Jones, Chairman.

G. W. Hollis, Clerk.

MINISTERIAL ROLL.

Rev. D. L. Baker,	Sterrett	Ala.
Rev. N. M. Davis,	Coalville	+6
Rev. J. H. Grimes	Coalville	66
Rev. T. W. Jones	Sprott	6.6
Rev. T. W. Jones	Vandiver	66
Rev. Wm. T. Kendrick	McCalla	66
Rev. J. J. Miner,	Vandiver	66
Rey. W. J. Vest	Pratt City	6.6
Licensed	Ministers.	
W. M. Chadwick		

CHURCH CLERKS AND ADDRESSES.

Pleasant ValleyA. J. DavisCoalvilleA	Ala.
Union HillSam CollinsVandiver	
Pilgrim's RestW. R. WeaverAldrich	
Mt. PleasantL. W. YoungAddler	6.6
WelcomeJ. F. Little Chadwick	"
Bethel Andrew Wallace Bethlehem	
Pleasant HillJ. II. HarrisBrompton	
New Hope	
Tabernacle,	4.6
Meadow's ChapelJ. F. DempseyBrookside	66

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. The Bible.—The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are

our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. God.—There is one living and true God, revealed in nature the Creator, Preserver, and righteous Governor of the universe, and in the Scriptures as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, yet as one God infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

3. Christ.—Christ is God manifested in the flesh; in His Divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, he is now risen and glorified and is our ever pres-

ent Savior and Lord.

4. THE HOLY SPIRIT.—The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the reprov-

er, comforter, guide and sanctifier of men.

5. The Government of God.—God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise providing for as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. The Sinfulness of Man.—Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity therefore inherit a fallen nature of each tendencies that all who come to the years of accountability, sin and become guilty before

God.

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7. THE WORK OF CHRIST.—The Son of God by his incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free,

and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. The Terms of Salvation.—The conditions of salvation: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. ELECTION.—God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become his

elect.

10. Freedom of the Will.—The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. SALVATION FREE.—God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will, may come and take of the wa-

ter of life freely.

12. Perseverance.—All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life,

have promise of salvation.

13. Gospel Ordinances.—Baptism or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.—The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employment and amusements for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.

15. RESURRECTION, JUDGEMENT AND FINAL RETRIBUTION.—The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done ill unto the resurrection of judgment; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the

righteous into eternal life." John 5:29, revised version; Matt, 25:46.

CHURCH COVENANT.

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by his grace to love and obey him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, taith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work. We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bond of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the kingdom of God may come, and his will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sabbath Schools and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	POST OFFICES.	co's.	PASTORS.	By Baptism	Rec. by Letter.	Dis.by Letter.	Excluded.	Died.	No. Members.
Pilgrim Rest	Aldrich	Shelby	I. H. Grimes	2		2			64
Pleasant Valley	Coalville	Shelby	N. M. Davis	3	2		1	3	71
Union Hill Pleasant Hill	Vandiver	Shelby	E. Isbell	9		2	2		75
Pleasant Hill	Brompton.	St. Clair	J. H. Grimes	9	5		7	1	74
McCalla,	McCalla	Jefferson.	N. M. Davis.	4			2		26
Meadows Chapel		Jefferson.	E. Isbell			.,			31
Tabernacle New Hope	Pratt City	Jefferson							12
New Hope	Belle Ellen	Bibb	N. M. Davis.	2	1	2	1		23
Welcome	Moro	Perry	N. M Davis						42
Mount Pleasant.	Moro	Perry	T. W. Jones.					2	102

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