

170

MINUTES

OF THE

✕ CHATTAHOOCHEE UNITED ✕

Free Will Baptist Association

CONVENED WITH

TURNER'S CHAPEL CHURCH, TAYLOR CO., GA.,

COMMENCING

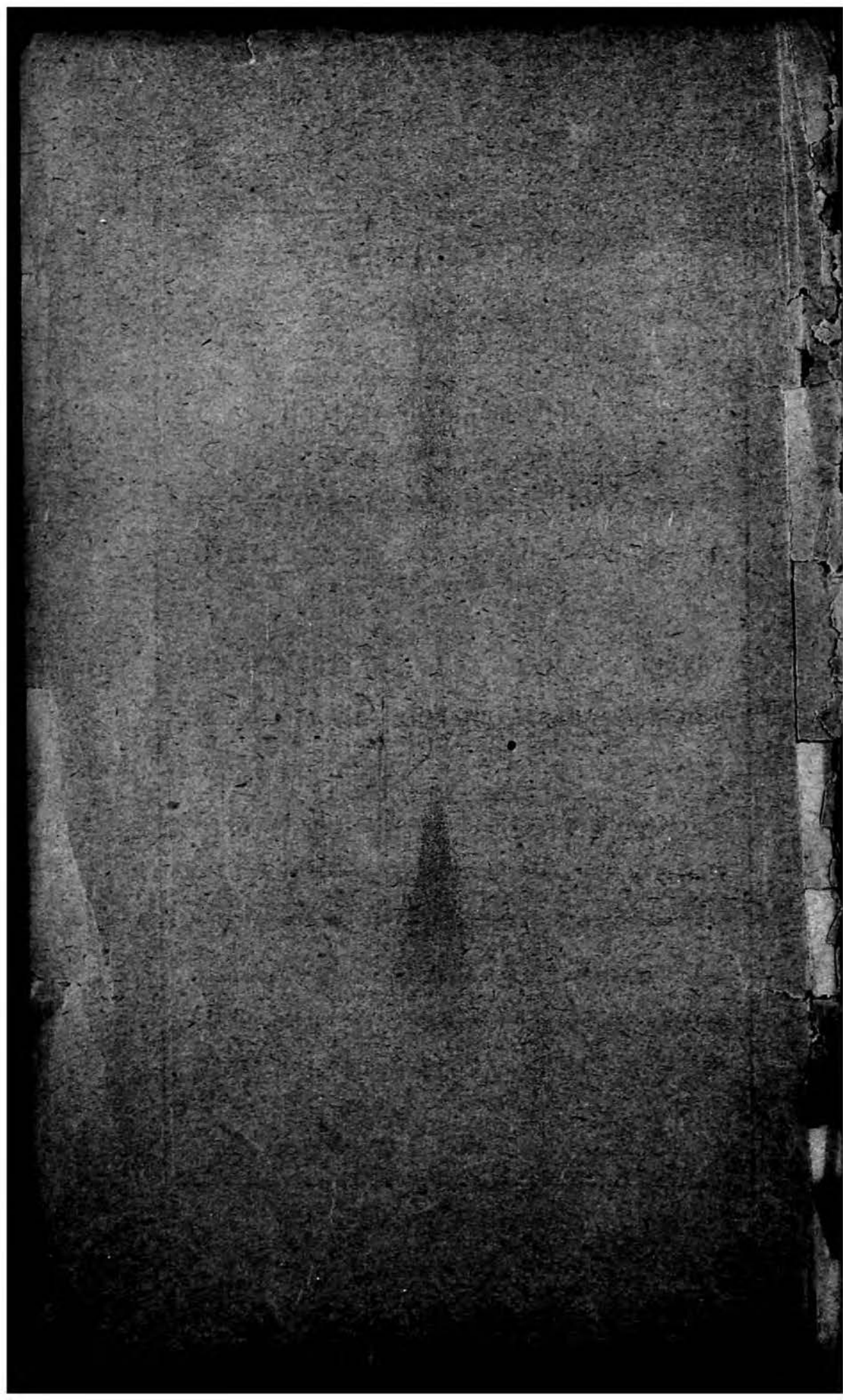
Thursday Night Before 1st Sunday in October, 1905.

OFFICERS

Rev. J. R. BROWN, Moderator, Ashburn, Ga.

Rev. W. D. GILL, Cl'k and Treas. R.F.D. 1, Tazewell, Ga.

AYDEN, N. C.
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRINT.
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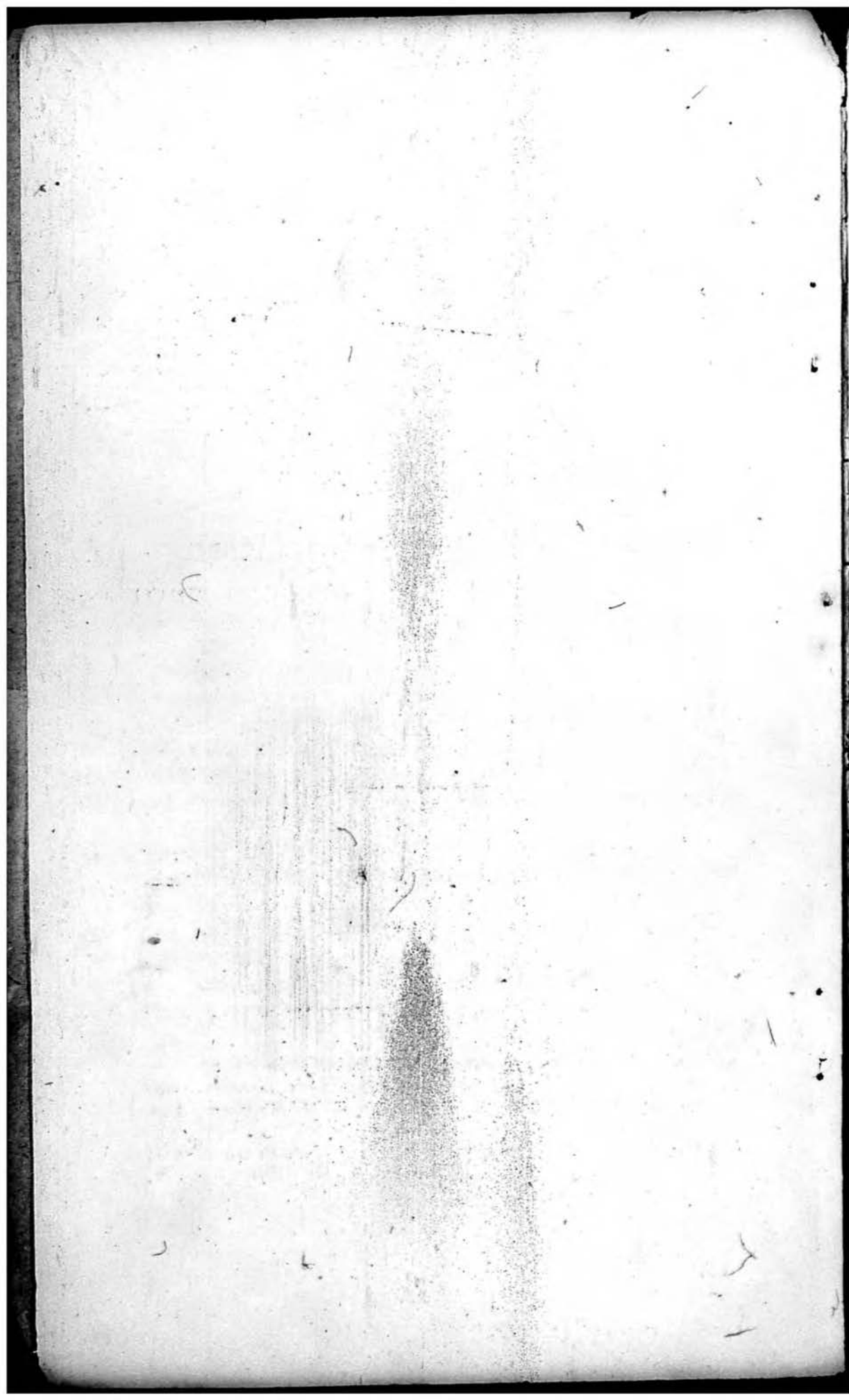
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PROCEEDINGS.

The Seventieth Annual Session of the Chattahoochee United Freewill Baptist Association convened with Turner's Chapel Church, Taylor county, Ga., commencing on Thursday night before the first Sunday in October, 1905. The introductory sermon was preached Friday at 11 o'clock, a. m., by Rev. W. H. Holmes, from II. Timothy 4:2, followed by Rev. W. D. Gill.

After an intermission of two hours for refreshments the body was called to order by the former Moderator. Rev. J. R. Brown, the former Clerk, being absent, Rev. W. C. Jones was appointed Clerk pro tem.

The first business was an invitation to visiting brethren to seats with us in the body.

The next business in order was a call for corresponding letters, and letters were received from eleven churches in the Association.

On motion of the body, Bros. J. W. Brewer and J. M. Posey were appointed to read the letters, which duty they performed, and the names of the delegates enrolled.

The body then permanently organized by electing Rev. J. R. Brown Moderator, and Rev. W. D. Gill Clerk.

Next called for petitionary letters, and received one from New Prospect church, Turner Co., Ga., and the right hand of fellowship was extended to the delegation.

Next called for corresponding messengers, and received Rev. W. C. Jones from the Georgia Union Association.

Next appointed the following committees:

On Preaching—G. W. Windom and C. G. Hinton from the church, and Bros. J. W. Brewer, C. L. Rayburn and J. R. Jordan.

On State of the Churches and Character of the Ministry—B. C. Amerson, G. H. Rivers, E. L. Elliott, A. B. Posey and C. C. McCasty.

On Finance—W. H. Holmes, J. M. Posey and J. W. Brewer.

On Obituaries and Deceased Ministers—W. H. Holmes, J. W. Carpenter and J. W. Brewer.

On Temperance—H. L. Lumpkin, W. J. Lumpkin and J. H. Little.

On Literature—W. B. Posey, W. D. Gill and H. L. Lumpkin.

To Write Corresponding Letter—W. D. Gill.

On motion the body adjourned until Saturday morning at 8 o'clock, after singing and prayer by Rev. W. C. Jones.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION.

Saturday morning at 8 o'clock the body met. Singing and prayer by Rev. J. W. Carpenter.

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended and received letters from the following churches: Bethany, Mt. Olive, Shilo, Providence and Turner's Chapel.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

ON TEMPERANCE—We, your committee, beg leave to make the following report: We urge that our people live and practice temperance more in the future than we have in the past and that our preachers preach on the subject at least twice a year and that the deacons and officers of the church assist in this great work.

H. L. LUMPKIN, Ch'n.

ON FINANCE—We, your committee on finance, beg leave to make the following report: We find paid in from the various churches for correspondence, \$25.25; we find in the hands of the treasurer, \$5.25; we find paid in for minutes, \$30.50; in hands of the treasurer, \$2.25; for building and repairing churches, \$5.90.

J. W. BREWER, Ch'n.

ON LITERATURE—We, your committee on literature, recommend that our literature published at Ayden, N. C., and urge that each member subscribe for the FREE

WILL BAPTIST paper and each of our Sabbath Schools use Free Will Baptist literature. W. D. GILL, Ch'n.

ON STATE OF THE CHURCHES AND CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY—We, your committee, beg leave to make the following report: We find all the churches in good standing; we find all the ministers in good standing. We recommend that the body hear a report from Bro. A. J. Parker, and if satisfactory with the body that his name be replaced on the ministerial roll.

B. C. AMERSON, Ch'n.

ON OBITUARIES—We, your committee on obituaries, beg leave to submit our report: We recommend that the pastors of the churches write the obituaries and hand them to the clerk for publication.

J. M. POSEY, Ch'n.

ON PREACHING—We, your committee, beg leave to make the following report: Friday, at 7:30, p. m., J. M. Posey to preach, Rev. H. L. Lumpkin to follow. Saturday at 11, a. m., J. R. Brown to preach, Rev. J. V. Klosser to follow. Saturday at 3, p. m., Rev. W. J. Lumpkin to preach, Rev. W. T. Lovick to follow. Saturday at 7:30, p. m., Rev. W. C. Jones to preach, Rev. J. W. Carpenter to follow. Sunday at 9, a. m., Rev. W. H. Holmes to preach, Rev. W. B. Posey to follow. Sunday at 11, a. m., Rev. A. J. Parker to preach, Rev. W. D. Gill to follow.

J. R. JORDAN, Ch'n.

ORDER OF PREACHING.

Friday at 11, a. m., the stand was occupied by Rev. W. H. Holmes, who preached from II. Timothy 4:2, followed by Rev. W. D. Gill.

Friday at 7:30, p. m., the stand was occupied by Rev. J. M. Posey, followed by Rev. H. L. Lumpkin.

Saturday at 11, a. m., the stand was occupied by Rev. J. R. Brown, who preached from St. John 14:6, followed by Rev. J. V. Klosser.

Saturday at 3, p. m., the stand was occupied by Rev. W. J. Lumpkin, who preached from Matt. 7:5, followed by Rev. W. T. Lovick.

Saturday at 7, p. m., the stand was occupied by Rev. W. C. Jones, who preached from Mal. 3:1, followed by Rev. J. W. Carpenter.

Sunday at 9, a. m., the stand was occupied by Rev. W. H. Holmes, who preached from Psa. 84:12, followed by Rev. W. B. Posey.

Sunday at 11, a. m., the stand was occupied by Rev. A. J. Parker, who preached from St. Luke 16:25, followed by Rev. W. D. Gill.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Miscellaneous business was called and the following business disposed of:

Appointed corresponding messengers to our sister Associations, as follows:

To the Georgia Union—Revs. J. M. Posey, W. B. Posey.

Rev. E. C. Grimsley volunteered to visit the Middle Georgia Association as correspondent.

On motion of the body, further correspondence to our sister associations shall be by sending them minutes.

On motion of the body, it was agreed that Rev. W. H. Holmes represent this body in the State Convention and his rail road expenses be paid out of the correspondence fund by the treasurer.

On motion, the body adjourned until 2 o'clock, p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session was opened with singing and prayer by Rev. W. J. Lumpkin.

The circular letter read by Rev. J. R. Brown, was ordered printed in our minutes of this session.

Agreed that this body meet with Spring Hill church, Marion county, Ga., commencing on Thursday night before the first Sunday in October, 1906; the introductory sermon to be preached Friday at 11 o'clock a. m., by Rev. H. L. Lumpkin, J. M. Posey, alternate. Delegates going by railroad will be met at Buenavista and Geneva on Thursday.

On motion, it was agreed that Rev. W. D. Gill should write the next circular letter to this body.

On motion, that Rev. J. R. Brown receive \$5.05 from this body to be delivered to Rev. J. H. Dupree, a disabled minister. Bro. A. J. Parker came before this body and asked forgiveness for his former evils and that he be restored to the ministry, which was done. Revs. J. R. Brown, A. J. Parker and W. D. Gill were chosen as a pres-

bytery to ordain Bro. J. V. Klosser, which was done Sunday Morning at 10 o'clock.

On motion, Rev. A. J. Parker was appointed to do Home Mission work, and the amount of \$6.00 was made up for him. Ordered that the clerk be paid \$12.00 for his services and that he have 500 copies of the minutes printed and distribute among the churches.

On motion, Revs. W. H. Holmes, J. R. Brown and W. D. Gill were appointed a committee to investigate the charges against Revs. J. A. Cobb and T. P. Young, also to investigate any other charge or charges that may come under their knowledge against any minister in this association.

On motion, thanks were returned to the church and community for their kindness and hospitality during our stay with them.

On motion, the association adjourned to meet with Spring Hill church at the time and place above stated.

REV. J. R. BROWN, Moderator.

REV. W. D. GILL, Clerk.

Union Meetings.

The First District meets with Shiloh Church, Macon county, Ga., commencing Friday night before the fourth Sunday in July, 1906. The introductory sermon to be preached Saturday at 11 o'clock, by Rev. J. M. King; Rev. W. D. Gill, alternate. Conveyances will meet correspondents at Oglethorpe on Friday.

The Second District meets with Providence Church, Muscogee county, Ga., commencing on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in July, 1906. The introductory sermon to be preached Saturday at 11 o'clock by Rev. W. D. Gill; Rev. H. L. Lumpkin, alternate. Conveyances will meet correspondents at Columbus on Friday.

Order of Business of Union Meetings.

The body called to order by the moderator if he is present, if not present the body may select some suitable member to act as moderator, pro tem.

Organize by prayer, and call for corresponding letter.

Election of moderator and clerk.

Invite visiting brethren to seats.

Appointment of committees.
 Call for correspondents.
 Appointment of correspondents.
 Appoint time and place of holding the next session.
 Call for reports of committees.
 Call for miscellaneous business.
 Call for reading and adopting minutes.
 Adjournment.

Ministerial Roll.

J. R. Brown.....	Ashburn.....	Ga..
T. P. Young.....	Columbus.....	"
B. F. Green.....	Butler.....	"
J. H. Dupree.....	Murphy.....	"
A. Smith, R. F. D., No. 3.....	Americus.....	"
T. P. Carr, R. F. D., No. 3.....	Reynolds.....	"
J. A. Cobb.....	Americus.....	"
Z. T. Bone.....	Butler.....	"
J. M. King, R. F. D., No. 1.....	Butler.....	"
D. Joiner.....	Columbus.....	"
J. J. Jones, R. F. D., No. 1.....	Butler.....	"
T. C. Hunnicutt.....	Skipperton.....	"
W. B. Posey.....	Reynolds.....	"
W. J. Lumpkin.....	Rabbit.....	"
E. C. Grimsley, R. F. D., No. 1.....	Juniper.....	"
W. T. Lovick, R. F. D., No. 3.....	Reynolds.....	"
W. D. Gill, R. F. D., No. 1.....	Tazewell.....	"
W. H. Emerson, R. F. D., No. 3.....	Oglethorpe.....	"
W. H. Holmes, R. F. D., No. 2.....	Pinehurst.....	"
H. C. Brown, Holt Ave., No. 10.....	Macon.....	"
H. L. Lumpkin.....	Rabbit.....	"
J. V. Klosser.....	Reynolds.....	"
W. N. Carroll.....	Columbus.....	"
J. M. Posey.....	Butler.....	"
A. J. Parker, R. F. D. No., 4.....	Reynolds.....	"
S. N. Little, R. F. D., No. 2.....	Ashburn.....	"
J. W. Carpenter, Holt Ave., No. 22.....	Macon.....	"
B. O. Brown, R. F. D., No. 1.....	Sumner.....	"

LICENTIATES.

M. L. King.....	Lake City.....	Ga.
T. J. Lee.....	Skipperton.....	"
R. A. Fuller.....	Willet.....	"
W. B. Goble.....	Columbus.....	"
W. R. Merrett.....	Reynolds.....	"
J. M. Culpepper.....	Alphonso.....	"

List of Churches, Clerks and Post Offices.

CHURCHES.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICES.
Bethel.....	C. L. Raburn.....	Oglethorpe..Ga.
New Life.....	W. J. Lumpkin.....	Rabbit..... "
Corinth.....	G. W. Pool.....	Buenavista. "
Pleasant Hill...	J. W. Brewer.....	Royal..... "
Columbus.....	E. Hobbs.....	Columbus... "
New Prospect..	A. B. Posey.....	Reynolds..... "
Oak Grove.....	J. T. Hardy.....	Lizella..... "
New Prospect..	J. W. Belflower.....	Ashburn..... "
Liberty Chapel	J. R. Hanson, Holt Ave.	Macon..... "
Trinity.....	Buford Watson,.....	Tazewell..... "
Spring Hill.....	G. D. Perry.....	Buēnavista. "
Bethany.....	J. G. Lee.....	Juniper..... "
Mt. Olive.....	G. W. Mathews.....	Reynolds..... "
Shiloh.....	O. C. Hill.....	Oglethorpe.. "
Providence.....	J. H. K. Jones.....	Columbus... "
TurnersChapel	Lester Wainright.....	Butler..... "

Corresponding Letter.

THE CHATTAHOOCHEE UNITED FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, TO HER SISTER ASSOCIATIONS WITH WHOM SHE CORRESPONDS:

DEAR BRETHREN—We have been permitted, by the goodness and mercy of God, to hold another peaceful session of our body for which we feel thankful to the Lord. The next session of our body will meet with Spring Hill church, commencing on Thursday night before the first Sunday in October, 1906, where we hope to meet again in the name of the Lord.

REV. W. D. GILL, Clerk.

OBITUARIES.

Departed this life Feb. 25th, 1905, sister Lu. Hightoner. She was 26 years old. She joined the Free Will Baptist church at Mt. Olive, Taylor county, Ga., in 1902, and lived a consistent Christian life. She was an affectionate wife, a devoted mother. She leaves a husband and two small children, whom we sincerely join in their sorrow and bereavment of their sad loss. May God bless and comfort them and lead them on to the

fair fields of eternal day, where they can join her in ascribing praise to the Son of God, who died to save us from sin.

REV. W. T. LOVICK.

Sister Virginia Lockhart was born Feb. 1st, 1880. Departed this life Jan. 16th, 1905. She leaves a husband and a little baby and a host of friends to mourn their loss. But we feel our loss is her eternal gain. She joined the church five years ago and lived a consistent member until death. To know her was to love her. May her husband live such a life that will permit him to meet her again where parting will be no more. Farewell dear sister till we meet again. By her pastor,

REV. W. H. HOLMES.

Departed this life, Sister Georgia Bass, on the 15th day of October, 1904, in Turner county, Ga. She was a consistent member of the United Freewill Baptist church at New Prospect. She lived the life of a Christian and died the death of the righteous, leaving a husband and four children and many friends to mourn their loss. We submit quietly to a wise providence, knowing that God doeth all things well, that the Lord gave and the Lord taketh away; blessed be the name of the Lord. Our loss is her eternal gain. She was born Sept. 18th, 1880. She was the daughter of Rev. S. N. Little.

Departed this life Jan. 18th, 1905, Sister Laura Springfield. She was a consistent member of New Life church, and died only as a true Christian can die. She has gone where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest.

REV. W. D. GILL.

Departed this life August 19th, 1905, in the 33rd year of her life, Sister Mary Elliott. She professed religion in early life and baptism was administered by Rev. J. R. Brown. From then until her death she was a devoted Christian and consistent member of New Life church. How true it is that in life we are in the midst of death. We can only say thy will be done, oh God, and with tears and saddened hearts, say farewell dear Mary. She has gone to a better world.

REV. W. D. GILL.

Departed this life March 12th, 1905, Sister Missouri A. Watson, wife of Bro. John Watson and daughter of Bro. B. B. Watson and Sister Frances Watson. Sister Watson was born Jan. 19th, 1867, and was a consistent member of Trinity church, Taylor Co., Ga., and lived as all true christians should live and died as only a christian can die. She leaves a large concourse of relatives and a multitude of friends to mourn their loss. Farewell dear sister till we meet again.

REV. W. D. GILL.

Sister Martha Brodnax died at her home in Columbus, Ga., June 14th, 1905. She was in her 79th year and was the widow of Rev. Jas. E. Brodnax. She has been a member of the Freewill Baptist church at Providence. From early childhood she was a devoted Christian, a loving mother and a constant friend. Six children have lost a faithful mother who was ever a fit example to live and die by, and may God help them to follow in her footsteps and meet her in the sweet bye and bye. Her Bible was her joy and song even to the last. The truth she proclaimed so was her support in death. Farewell dear mother, thou art gone home to rest, to live with the angels and dwell with the blest.

REV. H. L. LUMPKIN.

Sister Loucinda Watson was the daughter of R. W. and Sealy Watson, and was born August 11th, 1839, and departed this life April 5th, 1905, making her stay on earth 66 years, 7 months and 25 days. She was a member of Corinth United Freewill Baptist church from her youth and was a good and faithful Christian and was always ready to visit the sick and lend a helping hand to the poor and needy. Sister Watson was a great sufferer for years; no one knows how much she suffered, but having faith in her blessed Savior she bore them with patience until the death angel came and bore her away. Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep, from which none ever wake to weep; a calmed and undisturbed repose, unbroken by the last of foes.

ELD. H. L. LUMPKIN.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

J. T. Hardy, Lizella, Ga.; G. W. Fulford, Royal, Ga.; W. Q. Rayburn, Oglethorpe, Ga. A. L. Waller, Tazewell, Ga.; T. A. Britt, Columbus, Ga.; G. W. Pool, Buenavista Ga.; J. R. Baty, Smithville, Ga.

Church Organization.

Preliminaries: When several believers wish to be organized into a church, they request a council from some sister church. This council or committee (commonly called an arm) examines into the Christian character, doctrine and fellowship of the applicants, and their ability to sustain a church. If the examination is satisfactory, the organization proceeds as follows:

The Bible is presented as the only rule of faith and practice. A church covenant is read and adopted. A prayer of consecration is offered. The hand of fellowship is given. The church then proceeds to elect its officers, which are a clerk, a treasurer, a pastor, who acts as moderator in all church meetings, and a board of directors, who constitute, with the pastor, a committee to promote order, activity, attendance, and the means of grace, benevolence, and sufficient discipline in the church. Deacons should possess sound piety, good business capacity and large benevolence. They hold office at the pleasure of the church. They assist in baptism and the Lord's Supper, have the care of the poor, and conduct religious meetings in the absence of the pastor.

Letter Blank.

From.....Church,.....County, Ga.
 To the Members and Messengers Composing the Chat-
 tahoochee United Freewill Baptist Association to
 Convene with.....Church,.....County, Ga.
 We have called Bro.....for our pastor for
 the ensuing year. Spiritual condition of the church
 Time of meeting.....Sunday. Served
 by Rev..... We send as representatives.....
 Received by letter.....; received by profession
 of faith.....; received by experience.....; number ex-
 pelled....., dismissed by letter.....; paid for minutes
; paid for correspondence.....; paid for building
 and repairing churches.....; ordained ministers.....;
 P. O.....; total membership of church.....; number
 who have died.....

This done by order of the church in conference this
day of.....

.....Moderator. P. O.....

.....Church Clerk. P. O.....

CIRCULAR LETTER.

DEAR BRETHREN: Through the kind providence of an
 all wise God the time has arrived for me to address you
 through the medium of a Circular Letter. As a substi-
 tute for such I will try, by the help of the good Lord,
 to set forth some of the scriptural reasons why we as a
 United Free Will Baptist Church should be united in
 practice as well as in name. It is true there is some-
 thing in a name if the principle and practice are in har-
 mony with the name, otherwise it is as sounding brass
 or a tinkling symbol.

Let me now call your attention to the third verse of the General Epistle of Jude. "Earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints." II. John 1:7, "For many deceivers are entered into the world;" 10th verse, "If there come any unto you, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed; for he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds." Now brethren, we know that false ideas have sprung up, or at least the practice of the church is different in some if not in many instances.

We are taught in St. John 10:9, "I am the door." If Christ be the door then baptism is not nor can not be the door into the church. Yet such is being practiced and taught to the world. Brethren, these things ought not so to be. Again hear him in St. John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." However we learn from II. Peter 2:1-2, "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of."

Again brethren, the idea prevails to some extent that if a man has his name enrolled on the church book of the United Free Will Baptist denomination, that he has a perfect right to preach any and every kind of doctrine that he may think of or want to preach, without suspension or any interference by the church. Brethren, I believe from the depths of my heart that the doctrine we subscribe to, is the doctrine of Christ. If this be true, should we not earnestly contend for it? But it is said by some that they are doing no harm. The question arises here, are they doing good? I believe with all my heart, that they are doing harm. We read that there is no middle ground that we could occupy; therefore, we must be doing good or evil. If we allow these things without protest, are we not partakers of their evil deeds? While we keep them in our fellowship, are we not guilty? We learn from II. Tim. 3:2, 3, 5, "For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce

breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good. Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof; from such turn away." These would lead captive those who are weak and uninformed. They are ever learning and never able to come to a knowledge of the truth. Again, II. Cor. 6:14, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers;" 6:15, "And what concord hath Christ with Belial? What agreement hath the temple of God with idols? Wherefore, come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing, and I will receive you." Again, Gal. 1:9, "If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." Therefore brethren, let us not be tossed about with every wind of doctrine. Let us in the language of the Apostle to the Hebrews 10:23, "Hold fast to the profession of our faith without wavering," "For if we sin wilfully after we have received a knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more "sacrifice for sin." Again we are taught in Col. 2:8, Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world and not after Christ." Also we are taught in Gal. 1:7, 8, "But there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the Gospel of Christ. But though we or an angel from heaven preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."

Dear brethren, I have endeavored to try to present to you a few of the many reasons why we as a church should be united in principle, and in practice as well as in name. Now brethren, let me admonish you earnestly, contend for and accept nothing that is tainted or a departure from our faith and practice. "Be ye stedfast, unmoveable; always abounding therein." "Wherefore, let us take heed to the things that we have heard lest at any time we let them slip."

And now may God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, ever guide us; that we may be united as they are united. This is the constant and earnest prayer of your unworthy servant.

ELD. J. R. BROWN.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Chattahoochee United Freewill Baptist Association.

Resolved, That we form an association upon the principles laid down in the Holy Scriptures, to wit: Associations appear from Scripture and ecclesiastical history to have been originally formed, not from any positive injunction, either from Christ or his Apostles, but from mere expediency for the purpose of concentrating the efforts of individual churches and bringing them to bear with greater energy upon the subjects designed to be accomplished by those churches. They were also considered as advisory council, and resorted to as such, but never claimed any right of lording it over God's heritage, nor was there advice considered binding on the churches. In a word, associations were wholly dependent on churches, and churches were not dependent upon associations, and notwithstanding the power arrogated to themselves by some modern Baptist Associations, we view them as being nowhere preceded by the primitive usages of any self-created bodies.

We, the delegates from our respective churches, being authorized by said churches, do agree to form ourselves into an Association, to be known by the name of the Chattahoochee United Freewill Baptist Association, and we promise not to withdraw ourselves from this Association without first stating our reasons to the body for such intended withdrawal.

It is proposed by the Association, first, to promote revivals of religion by camp and protracted meetings. Secondly, to take an active part in Home Missions. It is not intended by this Association to discuss queries. It is not the design of this Association to interfere in any way with the independence of churches composing it. It is not intended to establish creeds, rules of discipline, or to make any law whatever to bind the churches, but to leave each church to regulate its own affairs.

We, as an Association, take the Old and New Testaments as our confession of faith, as relates to the independency.