

Minutes
OF THE
FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
CUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION
OF
Freewill, Christian Baptist Church of Christ.

HELD WITH
Oakland Church, Davidson Co., Tenn.

October 16 to 19, 1890.

NASHVILLE, TENN.
FREEWILL BAPTIST PUBLISHING CO.
1890.

MINISTERS' POST OFFICE ADDRESSES.

Rev. G. R. HEAD,	Turnersville,	Tenn.
" G. W. BINKLEY,	Pinnacle,	"
" W. B. STEWART,	Henrietta,	"
" J. L. WELCH,	Pleasant View,	"
" H. C. PACE,	Blue-Creek,	"
" J. T. BRAKE,	Erin,	"
" H. C. BRAKE,	Cumberland Iron Works,	Tenn.
" J. A. ALBRIGHT,	Daniel,	Tenn.
" THOS. HAZLEWOOD,	Jordonia,	"
" W. D. HALIBURTON,	Daniel,	"
" J. P. WEYEL,	Morney,	"
" C. H. PICKLE,	Lickton,	"
" W. M. ROGERS,	Station C. Nashville,	Tenn.
" J. S. DEFOE,	Nash. Cot. Mills,	"
" A. D. WILLIAMS,	D. D. Drake,	"
" J. E. HUDGENS,	Clerk, Sycamore,	"
Bro. E. F. MILES,	Ashland City,	"
" T. WATTS,	Treas., Pleasant View,	"
" S. W. PATTERSON,	South Side,	"
" R. S. DEMUMBRAN,	Marrowbone,	"
" J. R. GOWER,	Port Royal,	"

Minutes.

The Association convened with Oakland church, Davidson county, Tennessee, October 16, 1890. The introductory sermon was delivered by Rev. H. C. Pace.

The Association was organized by electing A. D. Williams, D. D., moderator, Rev. G. R. Head, assistant; Rev. J. E. Hudgens, clerk, Z. Binkley, assistant.

After singing and prayer, the Association was declared ready for the transaction of business.

Letters were received and read from the various churches, as will be found in the table of statistics.

Petitionary letters were then called for, and received two—one from Pickle's Chapel, and one from Hickory Grove, and both churches were received and their delegates invited to seats.

Corresponding letters were then called for, and none received.

The following committees were then appointed by the Moderators.

Devotional Services, Bros. Henry Carney, George Carney and J. T. Justice.

Finance, Bros. J. M. Walker, C. E. Stewart and W. H. Binkley.

Obituaries, Bros. J. E. Hudgens, J. E. Dean and J. H. Edwards.

Literature and Union, Revs. G. R. Head and W. M. Rogers, and Bros. G. F. Gower, W. T. Sanders and J. R. Gower.

Church Polity, W. T. Harris, Rev. H. C. Pace and C. E. Stewart.

Missionary Work, J. R. Gower, Rev. W. M. Rogers and J. T. Newman.

Sabbath Schools, Revs. G. W. Binkley, C. H. Pickle and J. P. Weyel.

The Committee on public worship reported as follows—J. E. Hudgens to preach Thursday night, Dr. A. D. Williams Friday at 11 o'clock, Revs. C. H. Pickle and W. M. Rogers Friday night, Rev. W. M. Rogers Saturday at 11 o'clock, J. S. Defoe Saturday night, and Dr. A. D. Williams and J. E. Hudgens Sunday at 11 o'clock.

After singing and prayer, adjourned to Friday morning, October 17, at 9½ o'clock.

October 17th, 1890

The Association was called to order by the moderator. Singing and prayer by Rev. W. M. Rogers.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The case of the first Nashville church was called. The committee made their report, and the church was reinstated and the delegates invited to seats.

Ordered that we correspond with the Stone and Tennessee River Associations, and that Rev. G. W. Binkley write and bear the letter to the Stone, and Rev. W. M. Rogers to the Tennessee River Association.

Then called for the report of special committees.

The Committee on Literature and Union made the

following report, which was adopted with the following amendment:

LITERATURE AND UNION.

Resolved, That we rejoice in the success that has been attained by the Herald and Enterprise, and its present promise of permanence and enlarged usefulness.

Resolved, That we commend the ability and discretion with which Dr. Williams has conducted it.

Resolved, That we are glad for Bro. Hudgens' connection with it, and hope he may become still more closely associated with it.

Resolved, That we give the paper our fullest confidence and heartiest support, and commend it to the support of the General Association and the brethren generally.

Resolved, That we accept the very ready sale of the pamphlets on "The Lord's Supper" and "What Freewill Baptists Believe," as a proof of a demand among us for more denominational literature.

Resolved, That we thank God for the increasing favor manifested by the brotherhood generally toward the union of all white Liberal Baptists of the South in one unitary and coöperative association.

Resolved, That we favor heartily the establishment of a denominational Publishing House, to publish the Herald and such other publications as our cause demands--all to be under the supervision and control of the General Association.

Resolved, That we will contribute for this purpose according to our ability.

Resolved, That we represent ourselves in the coming General Association, and elect brethren, J. R. Gower, Dr. A. D. Williams and Rev. J. E. Hudgens as delegates to it.

Resolved, That we advise all our churches to patronize the Freewill Baptist Sunday School Literature published at Boston, Mass.

Rev G. R. HEAD,
J. R. GOWER,
G. F. GOWER.

Rev. W. M. ROGERS,
W. T. SANDERS,
Committee.

Resolved, That Bro. J. B. Patton and Rev. J. S. Defoe be made Alternates to the General Association, with the power of substitution.

The committee on Church Polity made the following report which was adopted:

Whereas we find there is a great need of system in our church government, therefore be it

Resolved, That each church have written in its church register the church constitution, and that pastors be requested to bring this matter before their respective churches.

W. J. HARRIS,
Rev. H. C. PACE,

C. E. STEWART,
Committee.

MISSIONARY WORK.

The committee on missionary work made the following report, which was adopted.

1. *Resolved*, That this Association be divided into three divisions, to be known as first, second and third, and that there be a mission board, consisting of three, appointed for each division. First division to be composed of the following churches; Head's, Olivet, Oak Lawn, Good Spring and Bethlehem; second division to include all churches south and east of first division; third division to consist of Rock Spring and all churches not included in the first and second divisions.

2. *Resolved*, That these boards, first, second and third, be required to organize as early as practicable, and visit or correspond with all the churches in their respective bounds, and ascertain what each church will pay for home mission work for the ensuing year. In case there can be sufficient funds raised to employ a missionary, said board to be authorized to employ one, a part, or all of his time, wheresoever his work is most needed.

We would also recommend that pastors of different churches take up at least two public collections during the year for home mission purposes, the amount received to be delivered into the hands of said mission boards, and receipts given for the same.

3. *Resolved*, That missionary societies be formed in all the churches, and especially request the coöperation of the sisters and Sunday school children in the grand work. All funds collected to be placed in the hands of the above-named board or boards, and that they give receipts for all money received by them, and take receipts for all money paid out by them, and report their work to the next association.

4. That, as far as possible, the mission boards provide pastoral or missionary service for all the churches not otherwise provided for, and provide fields of labor for all unemployed ministers.

5. *Resolved*, That each minister in this Association report the amount of missionary work done by him at our next annual meeting.

6. *Resolved*, That we have a chairman elected for the whole mission board.

J. R. GOWER,
W. M. ROGERS,

J. T. NEWMAN,
Committee.

The committee on Sabbath Schools made the following report which was adopted:

Resolved, That we recommend the organization of Sabbath Schools in all our churches where they have not already been organized; and whereas, we deem them auxiliary to the churches, we recommend that churches foster and encourage their development. We would further recommend that pastors of churches deliver Sunday School lectures, and thereby forward the great work.

Rev. J. P. WEYEL,	}	Committee;
" G. W. BINKLEY,		
" C. H. PICKLE,		

The committee on Obituaries made the following report, which was adopted:

Resolved, That we as an Association have abundant reason to thank and praise God for his goodness and mercy toward us as an Association. The angel of death has not entered our ministerial ranks since our last Annual Association. God in his wisdom has called some of our laymen to their rewards, and let us imitate their virtues, and bury their faults in oblivion, and extend to their families our heart felt sympathies.

Rev. J. E. HUDGENS,	}	Committee.
J. E. DEAN,		
J. H. EDWARDS,		

A committee was appointed to nominate the mission board, which reported the following names, and the same were elected, namely—

Chairman of the whole board, A. D. Williams.

First Division, J. E. Hudgens, W. J. Harris, G. F. Gower.

Second Division, J. S. Defoe, C. H. Pickle, Joseph Hood.

Third Division, H. C. Pace, J. T. Justice, and J. T. Taylor.

Adjourned to tomorrow morning. at 9½ o'clock.

SATURDAY, OCT. 18, 1890.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Rev. T. B. Hazlewood.

SUPPLIES.

The Mission Board made their report which was adopted.

1. That Rev. C. H. Pickle supply the destitute places in the third district.
2. That Rev. J. L. Welch be requested to supply New Charity.
3. That Rev. E. F. Miles supply Grange Hall.
4. That Rev. H. C. Pace supply Old Zion.

Resolved, That each mission field be earnestly requested to raise the largest amount possible for the support of its minister.

Resolved, That each church having a pastor be requested to take a mission collection at its April meeting.

Collected Five Dollars for home missions.

The committee on finance reported \$19.52.

The following Resolutions were adopted; namely:—

First, That we continue our quarterly meetings.

Second, That the names of Shady Grove, Sinking Spring and second Nashville Churches be erased from the roll.

Third, That the churches be requested to state in their church letters the amount paid their pastors for their services, and amount expended for Sunday School purposes.

Fourth, That it shall be the duty of ministers of this Association to furnish said Association with a written report of their year's work.

Fifth, That we continue to have our Confession of Faith, Government and Constitution, and Rules of Decorum printed in our minutes.

Sixth, That a committee be appointed to draft resolutions by which ministers shall be governed in receiving members, and in administering baptism, also to recommend a form of Church Letter to the Association. The committee made the following report, which was adopted:

Seventh, That the candidate for membership shall be asked the following questions:

1. Do you feel and believe that God for Christ's sake has pardoned all your sins?

2. Are you willing to comply with all the ordinances of the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ?

Eighth, That the following ceremony shall be used when administering baptism:

"In obedience to the command of our blessed Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, I baptize thee, my——, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost—Amen."

Ninth, That the form of Church Letter to the Association shall be as follows:

We, the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ at——,——County, Tenn., to the Cumberland Association when convened with——Church,——, Tennessee:

DEAR BRETHREN:—We have chosen our messengers, to wit:——to represent us in your body. The statistics of our Church are as follows: Increase by experience——; by letter——; by recommendation——; by restoration——. Our decrease by letter——; by exclusion——, by death——. Total number in fellowship——. Our day of meeting is the——Sabbath; our present pastor is——; our postoffice is——,——County, Tenn.

This done by order of the Church, and signed by order of the same on the——day of——, 18——.

——, Moderator.

——, Clerk.

Rev. G. W. BINKLEY, Rev. G. R. HEAD, } Com,
and Rev. J. E. HUDGENS, }

Tenth, That J. R. Gower and J. E. Hudgens superintend the printing and distributing the minutes.

Eleventh, That the Ashland quarterly meeting be held with Bethlehem Church, Cheatham County,

Tenn., on Saturday before the 1st. Sunday in May, 1891

Twelfth, That the Dover quarterly meeting be held with Liberty Church, Stewart County, Tenn., on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in May 1891.

Thirteenth, That the next Annual Association be held with Head's Church, Robertson county, Tenn., on Thursday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1891.

Rev. J. R. Welch was elected to preach the introductory sermon, and Rev. J. S. Defoe alternate.

The Association tendered a vote of thanks to the brethren and friends in the vicinity of Oakland for their hospitality.

The Association adjourned to meet with Head's Church, Robertson County, Tenn., on Thursday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1891.

A. D. WILLIAMS, Moderator.

G. R. HEAD, Ass't. Moderator.

J. E. HUDGENS, Clerk,

Z. BINKLEY, Ass't. Clerk.

The Presbytery.

OCTOBER, 18, 1890.

The Presbytery convened on the above date, and organized by electing Rev. G. R. Head moderator and J. E. Hudgens clerk.

A petition was received from Bethlehem Church for the ordination of E. F. Miles and J. E. Hudgens as elders, and also for the ordination of Wm. Eatherly and W. H. Binkley as deacons of the said church.

W. H. Binkley and J. E. Hudgens being present, were ordained by prayer and the laying on of the hands.

The credentials of W. M. Rogers were presented and ordered confirmed.

The case of Rev. W. T. Moseley was called and a committee appointed to investigate the matter, and report to a subsequent meeting of the Presbytery.

The Presbytery adjourned to meet at the call of the moderator.

G. R. HEAD, Moderator.

J. E. HUDGENS, Clerk.

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Confession of Faith.

ART. 1. We believe in one true and living God, The Father the Son and Holy Ghost.

ART. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the old Testament are the words of divine inspiration given to Abraham's children, and that the New Testament contains the only proper rules for the faith of the Christian churches.

ART. 3. We believe in the depravity of man, and man's inability to recover himself from his fallen condition without a Divine Mediator.

ART. 4. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, according to the Scriptures, suffered and died upon the cross, and thereby made a full atonement for every human being; and by his obedient life, satisfactory death, and triumphant resurrection and glorious ascension, ever advocating at his Father's throne, hath brought in an everlasting salvation for every sinner that will repent, believe, and obey his word.

ART. 5. We believe that the faithful Christian will never fall from grace, notwithstanding we believe in the free moral agency of man after justification, and that there is a possible danger of falling into sin and being finally lost.

ART. 6. We believe, according to the Scriptures—Paul's letter to the Hebrews, 6th. chapter, 1st. to 7th. verses—that after a man has been made partaker of the Holy Ghost, if he shall fall from grace, it is impossible ever to renew him again unto repentance, or restore him again unto the favor of God.

ART. 7. We believe Baptism and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and the washing of the saints' feet, are all ordinances ordained and instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects, and the proper mode of baptism is immersion, and that it is the duty of all believers to attend to these ordinances.

ART. 8. We believe in the general Judgement and the joys of the righteous, and that the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

ART. 9 We believe, according to the Scriptures—1st Corinthians, 10th chapter, 16th verse—that each individual, having been inducted into the kingdom of Christ by an operative influence of the Holy Ghost, and having faith to exercise the free dictations of his own conscience, is in communion with saints.

ART. 10. We believe in the justification of infants by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ, in passive state, and thereby adopting them heirs of his kingdom.

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Government and Constitution.

1. Each church in this Association shall be entitled to one delegate, and one for every additional twenty-five members or fraction thereof; and such delegates, producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

2. In the letter from each church shall be expressed their number, in good standing, by experience, by letter, by recommendation, restored, dismissed by letter, excluded, and dead, since last Association.

3. The members of this Association shall possess no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor infringe on the inherent rights of the church.

4. The Association when convened shall be governed by a regular and proper code of rules, which they are authorized to establish for themselves.

5. They may elect a Moderator, Secretary and Treasurer from among themselves, and they shall hold their offices until their successors are elected.

6. New churches may be received into the Union, who shall petition by letter or delegates, if they have been regularly baptised upon a profession of our faith in the Lord Jesus, and walking according to gospel order,

7. Every motion made and seconded shall be in order, and shall come under the consideration of the Association, except when withdrawn by consent.

8. This Association shall furnish each church with the Minutes of their proceedings, in proportion to the amount of money sent by each church; and, in order to enable the Association to print their Minutes, it is expected that each church will send up such sums of money as they think proper, and when received it shall be placed in the hands of a Trustee appointed for that purpose, and may be disbursed by order of said Association.

9. For the purpose of ordaining elders there shall be an annual Presbytery which shall convene at the close of the Association, at the same time and place. Said Presbytery shall consist of three or more ordained elders and deacons; and they shall elect a Moderator and Clerk from among themselves for the time being. It shall be the duty of said Presbytery to examine all applications that may be sent up with recommendations from their respective churches composing the Association. If found competent, shall ordain and set them apart for the work by prayer and laying on of hands; and said Presbytery shall have full power to try all ministers and deacons of the order for unchristian conduct, and on proper testimony their decision shall be final; and for the purpose of trying ministers for unchristian conduct, the Moderator shall have full power to convene said Presbytery in extraordinary session and on proper testimony their decision shall be final.

10. For the purpose of ordaining deacons, it shall be the duty of the pastor of the church where a vacancy may occur to call a Presbytery, which shall consist of two or more ordained ministers and deacons, who shall examine every application, and if found competent, ordain and set them apart for the work by prayer and laying on of hands.

11. No minister shall be ordained until he can preach and defend the Freewill Baptist doctrine, and not until he can fill the requirements in Paul's first letter to Timothy, third chapter, from the first to the eighth verses; and this shall be tested by the Presbytery.

12. This Association may exclude from its body any church that walks disorderly, or teaches heresy.

13. All questions coming before this Association shall be determined by a majority, except excluding churches, which shall receive the concurrence of two-thirds.

14. A majority of the members present shall be a quorum to do business.

15. The Minutes of this Association shall be read before them, and revised and corrected, if need be, and signed by the Moderator and attested by the Clerk.

16. This Association may adjourn to any time and place it may think proper, so as to confine it among the churches composing the same.

17. Amendments may be made to this form of government at any time by a majority of the members present composing this Association and voting in the behalf of the amendment.

18. When the Association shall have convened, it is the privilege of all ordained ministers belonging to the Cumberland Association of the Freewill Baptists to sit in council with us and propose resolutions and vote in admittance, coming before this body as if they were delegated by the church.

Rules of Decorum.

This Association shall be opened by singing and prayer. Only one person shall speak at a time. All addresses made by the members shall be to the Moderator, and the person addressing shall rise to his feet.

The brother shall not be interrupted during his speech by any one except the Moderator, except he violates order. The person thus speaking shall strictly confine himself to the subject in debate, nor cast any personal reflection toward any member of this body who has spoken previously.

No person shall be allowed to speak more than three times, on any one subject without leave of a majority of the Association.

No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speaking.

Members shall use the word "brother" or "brethren" in all debates.

No member shall absent himself without leave from the Association.

The names of the members of this body shall be enrolled by the clerk, and called over as often as necessary, provided a call be made by a member of the Association.

No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any time, with out leave of the Moderator.

Any member who shall willfully and knowingly violate any of these rules shall be reported by the Moderator, and be subject to the censure of the Association.

Adopted in council this Saturday before the first Lord's day in October 1867, as a standing decorum, though subject to revision by a majority of members voting for revision.

Table of Statistics.

CHURCHES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES,	DAY OF MEETING					
		FOR MINUTES.....	TOTAL.....	DIED.....	EXCLUDED.....	DISMISSED.....	RESTORED.....
		BY LETTER.....	BY EXPERIENCE.				
Liberty	G. M. Taylor						
Good Spring	J. M. Walker, John Proctor, J. H. Edwards, J. E. Dean, A. F. Douglass	10					
Head's Church	T. B., W. J. & J. T. Harris, V. H. Head, J. T. Winters, W. H. Balthrop	17	8				
Winchester	Wm. Xadherly, A. E. Boyd, H. J. Binkley, Paul Perry, W. H. Binkley, N. S. ...	1					
Rock Spring	S. W. Patterson, B. Hagewood, H. Hagewood, J. T. Justice	8					
Oakland	Henry, D., and Isaac Carrey, F. W. Boyd, Riley Chadoin	5					
Cnarity (New)	No intelligence						
Mou nt Zion	W. S. Simpson, J. T. Newman, J. H. Read, B. F. Binkley, J. A. Relts.	18	10	1	4		
Collison's Chapel	No intelligence.						
Grange	No intelligence						
Old Zion	No intelligence						
Oak Lawn	Burgess Harris, C. E. Stewart, P. F. Rubel, Thomas Watts.	6	11				
North Nashville	Rev. W. M. Rogers, J. C. Hood [37 baptized.]	65					
Olivet	J. R. Gower, M. C. Gower	6					
Pickle's Chapel	John T. Lanier, J. M. Woodruff						
Hickory Grove	Rev. C. H. Pickle						
Mt. Storm	Rev. H. C. Pace						
	Miscellaneous						
Totals	(Whole Total members, 1254.)	71	24	2	7	4	11
							1981

The Christian Herald,

And Enterprise,

Devoted to the interests of the white Freewill and other Liberal Baptists of the South, who believe in Free Will, Free Salvation, and Free Communion; and advocating the Union of all of them in

One Unitary Organization.

Believing that such Union, on the basis of uniting on points concerning which we are agreed, and leaving points of difference to the several local bodies, will add greatly and in very many and different ways to our

Efficiency, Strength, and Prosperity.

The patronage of all persons sympathising with this grand movement is respectfully solicited.

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- One Dollar and a Half per annum;
 - One Dollar and a quarter, if paid within six months;
 - One Dollar, if actually in advance.
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