

MINUTES

W. M. Stewart

OF THE

Fifty-First Annual Session

OF

-Cumberland - Association-

OF

Freewill Baptists.

Held With Orlinda Church, Robertson Co.,
Tenn., October 25, 26 and 27, 1894.

REV. G. R. HEAD, Moderator.
W. B. STEWART, Ass't; J. E. HUDGENS, Clerk.

GENERAL BAPTIST PUBLISHING HOUSE,
OWENSVILLE, IND.

PROCEEDINGS.

Minutes of the Fifty-first annual session of the Cumberland association of Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ, held with Orlinda church, Robertson county, Tennessee, Oct. 25, 26 and 27, 1894.

The association convened with Orlinda church, Robertson Co., Tenn., Oct. 25, 1894.

The Introductory sermon was delivered by Rev. W. B. Stewart, from Amos 4 and 12.

The association organized by electing Rev. G. R. Head, moderator, Rev. W. B. Stewart, assistant moderator, and J. E. Hudgens, clerk.

Singing and prayer by Rev. Lawrence Hosa. The association was then declared ready for the transaction of business.

Letters were received and read, as will be found in Statistical table.

Petitionary letters were then called for. Received one from Ebenezer church, Hamilton Co., Tenn.; received and ordered placed on our roll.

Corresponding letters were then called for, and received one from Stone association of Freewill Christian Baptists of Tennessee, and correspondence ordered.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

Devotional Exercises.—Frank Roney, Charley Dowel, Wm. Spain.

Obituaries.—Rev. G. W. Binkley, Rev. W. B. Stewart, J. H. Mayo.

Literature.—Rev. J. E. Curtis, T. B. Harris, J. W. Carter.

Missionary Work.—Jno. R. Gower, Wm. Stewart, Wm Etherly.

Sunday-school.—Henry J. Groves; E. Wash Patterson, H. E. Murphy.

Miscellaneous.—Geo. W. Denny, A. S. F. Douglas, W. Joe Bobbitt.

Temperance.—Rev. Geo. W. Binkley, J. Earnest Curtis, J. M. Walker.

Finance.—W. W. Sterry, Rev. G. A. Davis, E. E. Cherry.

Adjourned to Friday morning at 9 o'clock.

FRIDAY—MORNING SESSION.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional services by Rev. J. W. Winters.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Called for report of standing committees; received none.

The Special committees reported as follows, the reports being adopted and committees discharged:

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

DEVOTIONAL EXERCISES.

Rev. G. A. Davis will fill the stand Thursday night; J. E. Hudgens, Friday at 11 o'clock a. m.; Rev. W. B. Stewart Friday night, followed by Rev. Wm. Rogers; Rev. Wm. Rogers Saturday at 11 o'clock a. m.; J. E. Hudgens Saturday night, followed by Rev. G. A. Davis, and Rev. Geo. W. Binkley Sunday at 11 o'clock, a. m. — Frank Roney, Charley Dowel, Wm. Spain.

OBITUARIES.

Resolved, That we, as an association, have abundant reason to praise and thank God for his mercy and forbearance to us; that we thank God that death has not broken our ministerial ranks since our last association, yet he in his wisdom, has called some of our laymen from the walks of men to their reward. Let us who survive them, imitate their virtues and bury their faults in oblivion, and extend to their families our heartfelt sympathies and condolence, and submit all things to "Him that doeth all things well," knowing that "all things work together for good to them that love God."—Rev. W. B. Stewart, Rev. Geo. W. Binkley, J. H. Mayo.

—3—
LITERATURE.

WHEREAS, We have no church paper published in our midst, and whereas, the Free Baptists, of Georgia, are publishing an excellent paper, the "Harvest Gleaner" and the General Baptists of Indiana are publishing an excellent paper, "The Messenger," therefore, be it

Resolved, That we adopt the "Harvest Gleaner" as our church organ, should it continue to be published, and if not, the "Messenger" be substituted therefor.

That we patronize the Free Baptist S. S. Literature, published at Boston, Mass.

That we recommend the "Morning Star" and "Young Peoples' Weekly" as good religious papers.—
Rev. J. E. Curtis, J. W. Carter, T. B. Harris.

MISSIONARY WORK.

Resolved, That we, as an association, favor missions, both home and foreign. Be it further

Resolved, That the moderator of this association appoint a Home Mission board, to consist of five, at the present sitting of this body; that said board organize by electing a chairman, secretary and treasurer, and that they employ a home missionary, if practicable, to travel within the bounds of this association, or wherever said board may see proper to send him, and that he take collections whenever and wherever he may deem prudent and report to treasurer of said board the amount collected; and that the pastors of churches make at least one public collection at each of their churches this year for support of said missionary, and that any funds already collected, be paid to the treasurer of aforesaid board, to be used for the support of said missionary.—Jno. R. Gower, W. J. Stewart, Wm. Eatherly.

The moderator appointed the following as the Home Mission Board: J. R. Gower, J. H. Mayo, T. B. Harris, J. M. Walker, Wm. Stewart.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

Resolved, 1. That Sunday-schools be organized in all our churches where they have not been organized, and that pastors use their influence to keep them running throughout the year.

2. That we regard them as helpful to our churches and that it is the imperative duty of our churches to encourage their development in every possible way.

3. That the churches report to the association the amount of Sunday-school work done by them.

4. That we use the Free Baptist literature in our Sunday-schools.—H. J. Groves, E. Wash Patterson, H. E. Murphy.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Resolved, 1. That we indorse the present rule that the stewards of the various churches, use every available means to secure remunerative salaries for their pastors.

2. That it is the duty of our churches to look after the poor and destitute members of the same, and assist them.—A. S. F. Douglass, G. W. Denny, W. Joe Bobbitt.

TEMPERANCE.

Resolved, That we, the Cumberland association of Freewill Christian Baptists, in association assembled, in common with other Christian organizations, recommend temperance for the individual, and we as a church, use our influence for the promotion of the temperance cause.

2. That we recommend that all ministers of this association give special attention to its evils, and that an unceasing effort be made by them to impress these truths upon their hearers.—Rev. J. Earnest Curtis, Rev. Geo. W. Binley, J. M. Walker.

FINANCE.

The committee reported \$21.97 collected for printing minutes of this association.

Resolved, That it the duty of churches to elect good

men for stewards, to look after the support of their pastors, to enable them to give more time to the work of the gospel ministry.—W. W. Sterry, Rev. G. A. Davis, E. E. Cherry.

The ministers handed in their reports of their years work, to-wit:

REPORTS OF MINISTERS.

Rev. W. M. Rogers. —sermons preached during the year 538; miles traveled 5,509; conversions 334; am't of money received \$860.07.

Rev. G. R. Head.—Sermons preached 45, prayers (public) 61; exhortations 10; received into church 14; baptized 9; miles traveled 173; received \$49.55.

Rev. G. A. Davis.—Sermons preached 109; members received 72; visits 65; funerals preached 1; baptized 10; received \$18.92.

Rev. G. W. Binkley.—No churches in charge; sermons preached 40; miles traveled 503; amount received \$23.42.

Rev. J. S. Defoe —Churches in charge 3; sermons preached 27; amount received \$95 56

Rev J. E. Hudgens.—Churches in charge 3; sermons preached 90; received into church 12; Baptized 8; funerals preached 5; couples married 3; received \$150; (AND GOT MARRIED).

The following resolutions were adopted:

RESOLUTIONS.

1 That we continue our Ministers', Deacons' and Stewards meeting

2. That the first M D. and Stewards' meeting be held with Pleasant Valley church, Stewart Co, Tenn, on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in June, 1895, at 10 o'clock, a m

3 And the second M, D. and Stewards' meeting be held with Good Spring church, Cheatham County, Tenn., on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in September, 1895, at 10 o'clock, a m

4 That the Home Mission board be allowed to draw on associational treasurer to amount of \$47 25.

The following named churches paid amounts set opposite their names into the Home Mission fund, by their representatives, to-wit:

Rock Spring	-	\$10 00	Heads church	-	\$10 00
Bethlehem	-	5 00	Good Spring	-	1 45
Mt. Zion	-	1 30	N. Nashville	-	5 00
Hickory Grove	-	2 00	Bethel	-	5 00
Orlinda	-	5 00	Oak Grove	-	2 50

5. That the clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes, and receive \$5 for services

6. That Rev. G. A. Davis preach the Introductory sermon at the next session of this association; Rev. W M Rogers, alternate.

7 That we drop the names of the following churches from our church roll: Old Zion, Liberty, Collisons' Chapel, Grange.

8 That we tender a vote of thanks to the brethren and friends in the vicinity of Orlinda church, for their kindness, hospitality and courtesy to this body during its sitting.

9 That we adjourn to meet with Rock Spring church, Dickson Co., Tenn, on Thursday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1895, at 10 o'clock, a m.

REV. G. R. HEAD, Moderator.

REV W. B. STEWART, Ass't Moderator.

J. E HUDGENS, Clerk.

MINUTES OF PRESBYTERY.

Oct 27, 1894

The Presbytery convened on above date, and organized by electing Rev. G W. Binkley, Moderator, and J E Hudgens, clerk. Prayer by Rev G. R. Head.

Rev G A Davis presented a letter from Mt Storm church, requesting that he be received as a regular member of this presbytery, which petition was granted and he received as such.

Ordered that the names of W. F. Presley, J T. and H. C. Brake be dropped from our roll and that a committee of three be appointed to investigate the

charges preferred against Rev. H. C. Pace, Rev J. P. Weyel and Rev. Thomas Hazlewood. The moderator appointed the following committee: A. B. Jackson, Dover, Tenn; E. M. Sweeney, Dry Fork, Davidson Co., Tenn; Chas. Henderson, Jordonia, Tenn.

Ordered that any ordained minister, who shall absent himself from this body for two successive years, without making report to same, his name shall be dropped from our roll.

No further business appearing, adjourned to meet with Pleasant Valley church, Stewart Co., Tenn., on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in June, 1895, at 10 a. m.

REV. G. W. BINKLEY, Moderator.

J. E. HUDGENS, Clerk.

P. O. OF MINISTERS.

Rev. J. E. Hudgens (Clerk),	- - -	Sycamore, Tenn.
" G. R. Head	- - -	Turnersville, "
" G. W. Binkley,	- - -	Pinnacle, "
" W. B. Stewart,	- - -	Halfpore, "
" J. L. Welch,	- - -	Fredonia, "
" J. A. Albright	- - -	Daniel, "
" Thos. Hazlewood,	- - -	Jordonia, "
" W. D. Haliburton,	- - -	Daniel, "
" J. P. Weyel,	- - -	Morney, "
" C. H. Pickle,	- - -	Lickton, "
" W. M. Rogers,	- - -	Office C, Nashville, "
" J. S. Defoe,	Nashville Cotton Mills,	"
" J. Brake,	- - -	Cumberland City, "
" G. M. Adcock,	- - -	Dickson, "
" J. W. Gardner,	- - -	Morney, "
" G. A. Davis,	- - -	Bumpass Mills, "
" Lawrence Hosa,	- - -	Turnersville, "
" J. E. Curtis,	- - -	Bordeaux, "
Bro. E. F. Miles,	- - -	Ashland City, "
" T. Watts (Treasurer),	- - -	Pleasant View, "
" S. W. Patterson,	- - -	Sobel, "
" R. S. Demumbran,	- - -	Marrowbone, "
" J. R. Gower,	- - -	Port Royal, "

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	DELEGATES.	By experience	By letter	By recommendation	Restored	Dismissed	Excluded	Died	Total	For minutes	Day of meeting
Rock Spring.....	H J Groves, E W Patterson, J T Justice, W A J Hagewood, B H Hagewood.	7	...	2	...	...	...	2	150	\$1 65	3
Heads	R R Gower, G E Gower, T B Harris, H E Murphy	14	...	...	...	...	1	...	187	2 00	3
Bethlehem.....	Wm Eatherly, W J Stewart, E A Boyl, A H Hugens, H J Binkley, (alt)	5	1	1	...	...	...	3	124	2 00	1
Good Spring.....	A S F Douglas, R W Walker, Richard Perry, J H Mayo.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	74	1 60	3
Oakland	E M Sweeney, D A Moses, G W Chadeon	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	53	90	4
Charity	No intelligence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mt Zion.....	J T Newman, B F Binkley, Wm Harris, Z T Binkley	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	1	80	4
Oak Lawn.....	No letter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	...
North Nashville.	J E Curtis, J W Carter	4	...	6	...	...	...	...	73	1 51	...
Olivet	Jno R Gower, W H Potts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	1 00	4
Pickles Chapel.	No intelligence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hickory Grove.	E Murrell	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	3
Mt Storm	G A Davis, W E Davis, E E Cherry	...	2	10	...	...	1	...	61	1 26	2
Bethel	W Joe Bobbit, Geo W Denny	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	37	2 00	2
Mt Pleasant.	C C Caygle, J W Gardner, J H Abernathy	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	21	1 00	1
Shady Grove....	(by letter) G M Edgen, D P Sensing, J D Eiroud	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hopewell	No intelligence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pleasant Valley..	J W Winter, Geo Barker, M T Trump	8	...	3	...	...	...	...	75	1 00	2
Greenwood	Wm Dowel, L Shannon, Dr Jess S	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	69	2 00
Pleasant Hill....	J R Green, J M Cherry, S M Wallace	10	...	3	20	...	...	...	1	45	75
Oak Grove.....	J K Milliken, W W Sterry, S H Mil	4	6	2	...	...	...	...	41	1 00	1
Everet	No delegates	10	6	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	2

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

FIRST DAY.

1. Reading letters from various churches.
2. Calling for petitionary letters.
3. Calling for corresponding letters from sister churches.
4. Appointment of committees.
5. Adjournment.

SECOND DAY.

1. Calling the roll.
2. Reading minutes of previous meeting.
3. Hearing reports of standing committees.
4. Hearing reports of special committees.

Form of Church Letter to Association.

We, the Freewill Christian Baptist church of Christ, at — church, — county, Tenn., to the Cumberland association of Freewill Christian Baptist church of Christ, when convened with — church, — Co., Tenn. We have chosen our messengers, to-wit:

—, —, —; our statistics are as follows:
Received by experience —; by letter —; by recommendation —; by restoration —; dismissed by letter —; excluded —; died —; total number in fellowship —; our day of meeting is —; our present pastor is —; this done by order of the church, on the — day of —. —, Moderator.
—, Clerk.

GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION.

ART 1. Each church in this association shall be entitled to two delegates and one additional delegate for every additional fifty 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 the number received by experience, letter, recommendation, restoration. Also number dismissed by letter, excluded and died since last association, and the total number enrolled.

3. This association shall possess no power to infringe on the inherent rights of churches.

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 delegate, if they have been regularly organized upon a profession of our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, 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 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 ministers of the gospel, and deacons, who shall come with recommendations from their churches, and to try all ordained members for un-Christian conduct, who have been tried by their churches and found guilty. 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 all ordained members present, and they shall elect a moderator and clerk from among themselves for the time being, who shall hold their offices until their successors are elected. It shall be the duty of said presbytery to examine all applicants for ordination sent up with recommendations from their churches composing this association; if found competent, shall ordain and set them apart for the work by prayer and laying on of hands. Said presbytery shall have full power to try all ordained members for un-Christian conduct, and on proper testimony, their decision shall be valid.

10 It shall be the duty of each minister who shall organize a church, to ordain deacons for the same. It shall be his duty also, to ordain deacons where a vacancy occurs in his charge.

11. No member shall be ordained until he can fill the requirements in Paul's first letter to Timothy, 3d chapter, and this shall be tested by the presbytery. Said presbytery shall have full power to propound scriptural questions as they shall see proper, and all candidates shall be required to answer them satisfactorily.

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. Representatives from five churches shall constitute a quorum to transact business, and no business shall be transacted without a quorum.

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, voting in behalf of the amendment.

18. When this association shall have convened, it is the privilege of all ordained members belonging to the Cumberland association of Freewill Baptists, to sit in council with us and propose resolutions, coming before this body as though 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, without leave of the moderator.

Any member who shall wilfully 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.

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 Judgment 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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OWENSVILLE, IND.

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