

MINUTES
—OF THE—
FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION
—OF THE—
Cumberland
Association,
—OF—
FREEWILL CHRISTIAN BAPTIST
Held With Bethel Church, Cheatham
County, Tenn., Oct. 22, 23, 24,
1902.

E. F. MILES, Moderator, Hamble, Tenn.
J. E. HUDGENS, Clerk, Sycamore, Tenn

1903
WILLIAM T. CLARK, PRINTER,
ASHLAND CITY, TENN.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS.

FIRST DAY.

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

SECOND DAY.

1. Calling the roll.
2. Reading the minutes of previous meeting.
3. Hearing reports of standing committees.
4. Hearing reports of special committees.
5. Hearing Resolutions.
6. Miscellaneous Business.

FORM OF CHURCH LETTER.

We, the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ at—
church,—county, Tenn. To the Cumberland Association
of Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ, when, con-
vened with—church—county, Tenn. We have chosen
our messengers, to wit:—, —, —. Our statistics are
as follows: Recieved by experience,—by letter;—;
by recommendation —; by restoration,—. Dismissed by
letter,—; excluded,—; died,—. Total number in fel-
lowship,—. Value of church property,—.—. Our
day of meeting is—Our present pastor is—. This done
by order of the church on the — day of—,

———— Moderator.
———— Clerk.

FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The Fifty Ninth Annual Session of the Cumberland Association of Freewill Christian Baptist met with Bethel Church, Cheatham County, Tenn., October 22, 23 and 24, 1902, and was called to order by Rev. J. E. Hudgens.

A committee on credentials consisting of G. V. Frey, E. F. Miles and W. F. Presley, was appointed. The committee reported twenty churches represented by letter and delegates.

Permanent officers: E. F. Miles, Moderator; G. V. Frey, Assistant Moderator; J. E. Hudgens, Clerk; G. W. Fambrough, Assistant Clerk.

Rev. M. S. Crow delivered the introductory sermon. Text: "What Hast Thou Done?" Gen. 4th chapter and 10th verse.

Received and read a communication from Rev. G. W. Binkley, stating that ill health prevented his being present, and expressing fraternal greetings to this body. In acknowledgement of which, Resolved that we as an Association sympathize with him in his afflictions, and that we deplore our loss in the deprivation of his presence and counsel, and that we commend him to that "One who knoweth how to temper the wind to the shorn lamb, and who is too wise to err and too good to do wrong," in the fond hope of meeting him in heaven.

A motion prevailed to fix the business hours of this sitting of the Association at 9 a. m. to 11 a. m. and then adjourn for devotional services and refreshments. Afternoon session convene at 2 o'clock and adjourn at 4 o'clock. The Association then adjourned for refreshments.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met at 2. p.m.; prayer by Rev. J. E. Hudgens. A motion prevailed to suspend the regular order of business and receive Rev. G. H. Austin and wife, of Mt. Union Association of General Baptist, to seats in council with us.

Letters from the churches were called for and received as will be found in Table of Statistics.

The call was made for petitionary and corresponding letters. None received.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

The Moderator appointed the Special Committees as follows:

Petitions and Requests—C. H. Pickle, W. F. Presley and D. T. Armstrong.

Obituaries—W. S. Nicholson, C.E. Stewart and G.V. Frey.

Literature—J. E. Curtis, G. H. Austin and L. B. Shannon

Missions—C. H. Pickle, E. F. Miles, M. S. Crow, J. J. Wall and Charlie Dowell.

Temperance—J. E. Hudgens, D. T. Armstrong and J. N. Horner.

Sunday Schools—S. A. Myatt, W. D. Shannon and R. Murrel.

Finance—Wm. H. Harrison, W. H. Patterson, R. M. Luter.

Adjourned to 9 a. m. Thursday, Oct. 23d.

THURSDAY MORNING, OCT. 23, 1902.

Met at 9 a. m. Prayer by Rev. E. F. Miles. The roll was called and a quorum present. The Rules of Decorum were read by the clerk. The order of business was suspended and J. B. Patton, of Ashland City, Tenn., was elected Associational Treasurer for this Associational year.

Reports of standing committees were called for and the committee that was appointed to sell the property at the White House made a verbal report by Charlie Dowell, that said property had been sold for \$100.00. The report was adopted and the committee directed to pay the proceeds of said sale to the Associational Treasurer.

The committee appointed to have the Discipline for this Association printed, made verbal report by G. V. Frey, that the manuscript was ready, but the means had not been forthcoming to defray the expense of printing, hence the delay. A motion to use the funds paid to the Associational Treasurer by the White House committee for the purpose of having the Disciplines printed prevailed, and the committee was continued.

An article of historic interest was read by G. V. Frey, after which the Association adjourned to 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met at 2 p. m. Prayer by G. W. Carney. Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

Special committees were called, and the following reports were received:

Petitions and Requests—Jesus said "Come unto me all ye that labor." Therefore we recommend that Pleasant Grove church be admitted into this Association and their delegates seated.

2nd. We recommend that this Association accept the gift by Sister Susan Walden of a lot in South Nashville, and that a committee be appointed to investigate the feasibility of undertaking to build a house of worship on said property, and should they so find it they are authorized to build and report to this Association at its next sitting.

Committee.

The committee on Worship submitted the following report: Rev. W. F. Presley, preach at Bethel Wednesday evening; Rev. G. H. Austin, Thursday at 11 a. m.; Rev. J. N. Horner, Thursday evening; Rev. W. M. Rogers, Friday at 11 a. m.; Rev. G. V. Frey, Friday evening. Rev. C. H. Pickle was appointed to preach at Neptune Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Rev. J. N. Horner, preach at Neptune Friday evening and J. E. Hudgens at Clifton at the same hour.

Committee.

The Committee on Obituaries reported as follows:

Whereas, the last enemy, death, since our last Annual Association has visited our ranks and removed our reverend and much beloved Bro. G. R. Head to join the "General Assembly of the Saints" Above. He having died July the 5th. 1902; Therefore Resolved,

1st. That in the death of Bro. Head, the Association has sustained an irreparable loss. That we will sorely miss his Sainly presence and wise counsel in our ecclesiastical gatherings, and in our churches, but that we bow submissively to the will of Him who is "too good to do wrong and too wise to err," feeling that our loss is his gain. That we tender to his bereaved companion our heartfelt sympathy and condolence.

2nd. That as we find from the reading of the church

letters that a number of our lay members have been called from labor to reward, that we tender to their surviving relatives and friends our sincere condolence and point them for comfort and consolation to Him who came to bind up the broken hearted. Committee.

Literature.—The following was submitted:

1st. The Bible is the Book of all books, and we urge the systematic study of the same by the ministry, officers and laity of this Association.

2nd. That we recommend the Dunn-Butler system of Theology as a text book, which is second to none, and the reading of ecclesiastical history as much as practicable.

3d. That we adopt the Freewill Baptist, published at Ayden, N. C. as our church paper, and that we recommend the Morning Star, published at Boston, Mass. and the Free Baptist and Messenger as wholesome literature, all of which are imminently worthy our support. Committee.

The report submitted by the committee on Missionary Work was tabled and the report which was adopted last year was readopted for this year to wit: That the Missionary preacher be instructed to go where he deems necessary or desires. Rev. M. S. Crow was elected to this work.

Temperance.—The committee on Temperance submitted the following report which was adopted;

Resolved, That as an Association, we in common with all christian denominations, apprized of the baneful effects of the liquor trafic on the citizenship of our country morally intellectually and financially. We oppose the trafic in all its multitudinous forms, and recommend total abstinence for the individual and that we use our influence to suppress said trafic. Committee.

Sunday School Committee—The committee on Sunday schools made the following report, which was adopted:

Whereas, Sunday Schools are indispensable factors pertaining to the successful training of the children of our country, who are the hope of our Church and State, Therefore, be it,

Resolved, That our pastors and members use every effort in their power to establish and maintain Sunday Schools in all our churches. That as loyal men and women we

will see that our children attend Sunday School when practicable. That we insist that our schools use our own literature, and that the schools select their officers from the church, and that each school be requested to make an annual report of their work to this Association. Com.

Finance Committee—The Finance Committee reported \$31.68 collected for the purpose of printing the Minutes of this sitting of the Association. Committee.

MINISTERIAL REPORTS

W. F. Presley.—Churches in charge, 2; conversions, 42; additions to churches, 52; baptized, 25; sermons preached, 90; miles traveled, 590; prayer meetings, 55; funeral services, 9; marriages, 10; received for services \$107.25.

J. Brake.—Miles traveled on foot, 118; sermons preached 27; visits to churches, 12; marriages, 6; received, \$12.80.

M. S. Crow.—Churches in charge, 3; sermons preached, 68; conversions, 44; received into the church, 21; baptized, 14; marriages, 1; for services, no account kept.

J. W. D. Shannon.—Sermons preached, 21; exhortations, 13; miles traveled, 286; conversions, 6;

S. B. B. Holt.—Sermons preached, 15; Marriages, 1; miles traveled, 120; received for services \$5.26.

L. B. Shannon.—Churches in charge, 1; sermons preached, 100; additions to church, 12; baptized 3, miles traveled 840, conversions 49, received for services \$59.00.

C. H. Pickle.—Conversions, 50; added to the church, 50; baptized 50, funerals 4, marriages 3, miles traveled about, 6000; received for services, \$275.90.

G. W. Binkley.—Churches in charge 1; sermons preached 40; added to church 1, baptized 1, funerals 17, marriages 2, miles traveled 500, received for pastoral work, \$28.48, for miscellaneous work, \$11.49

W. M. Rogers, Home Missionary.—Sermons preached, 333; conversions, 69; miles traveled, 5077; received, \$757.15; Mission money collected as follows: Cofer's Chapel, \$6.80; Rock Spring, \$14.29; Indian Mornd, \$6.75; Pleasant Hill, \$5.50; Throckmorton School House, \$5.65; Brandon's Chapel, \$9.63; Head's Church, \$0.50; Bethel Church, \$9.30; Total \$58.33.

RESOLUTIONS.

1st. Resolved, That we continue to correspond with sister Associations.

The Moderator made the following appointments of corresponding delegates:

Western Division of the Stone Association W. F. Presley and J. E. Hudgens.

General Association of General Baptist, G. V. Frey and W. M. Rogers.

Mt. Union Association of General Baptists of Kentucky, G. W. Carney and M. S. Crow. This Association convenes with Clifton Church, Allen County, Ky., on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in September, 1903.

Eastern Division of the Stone Association, J. E. Curtis and L. B. Shannon.

Cape Fear Conference of Freewill Baptists of North Carolina, S. A. Myatt and W. A. Brown.

2nd. Resolved, That the clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes of this session of the Association and that he be allowed \$8.50 for his services.

3d. Resolved, That we tender a vote of thanks to the brethren and friends in the vicinity of Bethel Church, for their hospitality towards this delegated body during its present sitting. And that we express our very great appreciation of the presence and counsel of Bro. and Sister G. H. Austin. We would also, express our very hearty thanks to Bro. and sister Armstrong for the very great help in the musical exercises of this Association.

4th. Resolved, That it shall be the duty of any preacher, being called to the pastoral care of any church within the bounds of this Association, to call the stewards of said church to meet at the beginning of the Associational year for the purpose of making necessary arrangements for the support of the pastor of said church, and at the beginning of each subsequent quarter thereafter said Stewards shall report to the church the amount collected and by whom said amount has been paid.

5th. Resolved, That the above resolution be published in the Minutes each succeeding year.

6th. Resolved, That J. E. Hudgens preach the introductory sermon at the opening of the next Annual Session and that W. F. Presley be his Alternate.

A letter was here received from W. A. Brown, of Nashville, Tenn., and was read before the Association.

The Association then adjourned to meet with Antioch Church, Dickson County, Tenn., two miles east of Vanleer, on Wednesday before the 4th Sunday in October 1904 at 10 A. M.

E. F. MILES, MODERATOR.

J. E. HUDGENS, CLERK.

Names of Churches and Their Delegates

Antioch—James Baker, W. M. Story, W. H. Hambleton.
Beautiful Home—No intelligence.

Bethel—W. J. Robbitt, G. W. and W. E. Fambrouge, H. Frazier and Robert Herald.

Bethlehem—W. H. Binkley, J. H. Felts, J. N. Harrington
A. E. Boyte, W. W. Davis, J. B. Patton and W. T. Sanders.

Brandon's Chapel—A. Stewart E. E. Cherry, J. J. Wall.
Charity—No intelligence.

Cofer's Chapel—D. T. Armstrong, John Frenzley, Frank
Howington, A. C. Sadler, Ella Armstrong, W. S. Harrison.

Cross Roads—J. N. Horner, Winfield Clifton, Gabe Caul.

Good Spring—No intelligence.

Greenwood—J. E. Bradley, W. T. Dowell, and J. W. D. Shannon.

Harpeth Valley—W. H. Pack and A. J. Inglen.

Head's—John Gower, John Lawrence, G. F. Gower, C. R. Farmer, R. M. Luter, J. L. Lawrence and L. C. Haynes.

Herrican Chapel—L. D. Dodson and J. N. Horner.

Hickory Grove—J. A. Clifton, V. N. McCorpin and W. M. Murrell.

Hopewell—Dave Davidson, J. S. Crotzer, Wm. King and
A. E. Rhinehart.

Indian Mound—C. A. Mooney and C. A. Wolf.

Maple Valley—A. B. Travis and W. H. Reeves.

Mt. Liberty—No intelligence.

Mt. Pleasant—J. L. Cagle, L. P. Abernathy and C. C. Cagle

Mt. Zion—H. J. Rose, J. H. Read, T. C. Binkley, and
A. Rediker.

New Hope—Charlie Binkley and Arthur Beunet.

Oakland—Charlie Henderson and George Chadeoin.

Oak Lawn—J. H. Fox, G. O. Nichols, Hudson Teasley, D. Harris, and E. C. Watts.

Olivet—J. R. Gower.
 Pleasant Hill—H. W. Rawls and C. T. Wallace.
 Paradise Ridge—
 Pleasant Valley—D. A. and F. A. Hembre, R. R. Oliver.
 Rock Spring—J. W. D., J. B. and C. J. Hagewood, W. H.
 and Millard Patterson.
 Shady Grove—D. P. Sensing and J. D. Monroe.
 Smith's Grove—Robt Phillips and H. C. Abney.
 Stony Point—J. E. Williams, W. J. Lewis, C. W. Waynick
 Walnut Grove—No Intelligence.
 Pleasant Grove...Robt. Heflin and Hardy Felts.

Minutes of the Annual Presbytery.

The Presbytery convened at the close of the Association October 24, 1902. W. F. Presley was elected Moderator; J. E. Curtis, Assistant Moderator; E. F. Miles, Clerk, and J. E. Hudgens, Assistant Clerk.

The Moderator called for Unfinished Business. • None was presented.

NEW BUSINESS.

Under this head a certificate charging Bro. J. W. Carter with unchristian conduct was presented from Cofer's Chapel and a committee was appointed to investigate the charge and report to the next Annual Presbytery. The committee consists of D. T. Armstrong, W. Harrison, and J. A. Sullivan.

The Ordaining Counsel reported that two petitions had been received, one from Rock Spring Church for the ordination of Bro. S. W. Patterson, and one from Cross Roads Church for the ordination of Bro. J. N. Horner. Each was recommended by their respective churches to the full worth of the Ministry, and that after due examination they recommended their ordination. A minority report was received asking that Bro. Horner be refused ordination, but upon motion the majority report was adopted, and after Rev. J. E. Curtis read the charge they were duly ordained according to our custom by prayer and laying on of hands.

The Presbytery adjourned to meet at the close of the next Annual Association.

W. F. PRESLEY, MODERATOR.

E. F. MILES, CLERK.

Articles of Faith.

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

ART. 2. We believe that the Scripture 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, that 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 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 partaker of the Holy Ghost, if he shall fall from grace, it is impossible to ever 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 saint's 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 believers to attend 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 induced 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 a passive state, and thereby adopting them heirs of His kingdom.

Government and Constitution.

Article 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 appointments, 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. This 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 are walking according to the gospel order.

7. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the the consideration of the Association, except 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 the association.

9. For the purpose of ordaining ministers of the gospel, and deacons who shall come with recommendation from their churches, and to try all ordained members for unchristian conduct, 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 church

es, 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 unchristian conduct, and on 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 of Paul's 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 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 for the transaction of 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 at any time and place it may think proper, so as to confine it among the churches composing the same.

17. Amendments may be made in 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 Baptist 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 made 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 reflections 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.

No member shall absent himself without leave from the Association. Members shall use the word "brother" or "brethren" in all debates.

The names of the members of this body shall be enrolled by the clerk, and called over as often as necessary, providing 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 the revision by a majority of members voting for revision.

Post Office Address of Ministers.

Ayers, J. W. Pleasant View, Tenn.
 Binkley, G. W., 1508 Florence Street, Nashville, Tenn.
 Brake, J., Cumberland City, Tenn.
 Brown, W. A., Station C., Nashville, Tenn.
 Carney, G. W., Marrowbone, Tenn.
 Carter, J. W., 1702 Polk Street, Nashville, Tenn.
 Chadwick, J. A., Dickson, Tenn.
 Crow, M. S., Dull, Tenn.
 Curtice, J. E., Bordeaux, Tenn.
 Duncan, A. D., Station 2, Nashville, Tenn.
 Free, E. M., Bumpas Mills, Tenn.
 Gardener, J. W., Morney, Tenn.
 Haliburton, W. D. Daniel, Tenn.
 Hazlewood, Thos., Jordonnia, Tenn.
 Hembree, W. F., Cumberland City, Tenn.
 Holt, S. B. B., Jordonnia, Tenn.
 Hudgens, J. E., Sycamore, Tenn.

Hunt, G. W., Nashville, Tenn.
Miles, E. F. Hamble, Tenn.
Myatt, S. A., Dickson, Tenn.
Nicholson, James, Jordonia, Tenn.
Pickle, C.H. Bumpas' Mills, Tenn.
Presley, W. F., Station 2, Nashville, Tenn.
Patterson, S. W., Sobel, Tenn.
Rogers, W. M., Office C., Nashville, Tenn.
Shannon, L. B., Dover, Tenn.
Shannon, J. W. D., Bob White, Tenn.
Wagoner, W. B. Erin. Tenn.
Winters, J. W. Stewart Station, Tenn.
Horner, J. N. Dickson, Tenn.



