

MINUTES
OF THE
SIXTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Cumberland ✠ Association
OF
FREEWILL CHRISTIAN BAPTIST,

HELD WITH
Stony Point Church, Vanleer, Dickson County, Tenn.

OCTOBER 23, 24 AND 25, 1907.



D. T. ARMSTRONG.....MODERATOR
1508 N. Florence Street, Nashville, Tenn.

G. E. STEPPEE.....CLERK
Cumberland City, Tenn.

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CLARKSVILLE, TENN :
W. P. TITUS, PRINTER AND BINDER,
1907.

Order of Business.

WEDNESDAY.

1. Devotional exercises.
2. Calling roll.
3. Election of officers.
4. Reading letters from various Churches.
5. Calling for petitionary letters.
6. Calling for corresponding letters from Associations or Churches.
7. Appointment of committees.
8. Adjournment.

THURSDAY.

1. Devotional exercises.
2. Calling roll.
3. Reading minutes of previous meeting.
4. Hearing reports from standing committees.
5. Hearing reports from special committees.
6. Hearing resolutions.
7. Miscellaneous business.
8. Adjournment.

FRIDAY MORNING.

1. Devotions.
2. Calling roll.
3. Reading minutes.
4. Hearing resolutions.
5. 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, when convened with.....Church,
County, Tenn. We have chosen our Messengers, towit....

Our statistics are as follows: Received by experience
...; by letter...; by recommendation...; by restoration...;
dismissed by letter....; excluded....; died....; transferred
by request....; total number in fellowship....; church
property \$....; our day of meeting is....; our pastor is....;
Done by order of the church on the....day of...., 190..

.....Moderator.

.....Clerk.

Sixty-Fourth Annual Meeting.

The Sixty-fourth Annual Session of the Cumberland Association of the Freewill Christian Baptists met with Stony Point Church, Dickson county, Tennessee, October 23-25, 1907.

The retiring Moderator, Rev. J. E. Hudgens, being absent, Rev. C. H. Pickle called the house to order, and was elected Moderator pro-tem and G. E. Steppee, Clerk pro-tem.

Permanent officers elected: Rev. D. T. Armstrong, Moderator; Rev. J. E. Hudgens, Assistant Moderator; Rev. G. E. Steppee, Clerk; G. W. Hyde, Assistant Clerk; G. W. Fambrough, Treasurer.

On motion, the regular hours of business were fixed at: Morning session, 9 a. m. to 11 a. m. Devotions and refreshments, 11 a. m. to 1:30 p. m. Afternoon session, 1:30 to 3:30.

Rev. J. E. Hudgens was elected to preach the introductory sermon. Psalms, 133: 1.

Adjourned to meet at 1:30 p. m.

Wednesday Afternoon.

House called to order by Moderator; roll called; quorum present; reading minutes of preceding meeting.

Church letters called for, and 25 responded. Their statistics can be found in the regular table.

The following committees were appointed by the Assistant Moderator:

DEVOTIONS—G. W. Carney, M. S. Crow.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS—W. M. Brumit, M. S. Crow, W. M. Rodgers.

On motion, regular order of business was suspended and the visiting brethren were invited to seats.

The Assistant Moderator introduced the following brethren, and welcomed each on behalf of the Association, with words suitable to the occasion:

Rev. J. M. Emanuel, National Evangelist, Macon, Ga.; Revs. W. B. Gentry and A. R. Massa, from Stone Association, Cookeville, Tenn.; Rev. J. N. C. Fain, from Beech Creek Association, Hohenwald, Tenn.; Rev. George E. Moore, Dickson, Tenn.

Corresponding letters called for, and one received from Stone Association by Rev. A. R. Massa:

We, the Stone Association of Freewill Christian Baptist, when convened with the Allen's Chapel Church, Overton county, Tenn., to the Cumberland Association of Freewill Christian Baptist, when convened with the Stony Point Church, Dickson county, Tenn.:

Dear Brethren—We have chosen our messengers, to-wit: Rev. A. R. Massa and Rev. W. B. Gentry to represent us in your body. The statistics of our Association are as follows:

No. of churches.....	37
Ordained ministers.....	33
Licentiates.....	10
Members, about.	3000

Our General Association meets with the Caney Fork church, five miles southeast of Cookeville, on Thursday before the third Sunday in March, 1908. We have one mission preacher in the field, to-wit: Rev. J. W. Stone. His post office is Bloometon, Tenn.

We ask your body to represent with our General Association when convened in March. Pray for us. Our post office is Cookville, Putnam county, Tenn. This is done by order of the Association, and signed by order of same on the 19th day of October, 1907.

REV. L. F. SMITH, Moderator.

G. B. BROWN, Clerk.

The following letter of greeting was read and ordered spread upon the minutes:

To the Cumberland Association, when convened with Stony Point church, Dickson county, Tenn., Greeting:

As I cannot be with you during this session, I send a word of christian salutation. Nothing would afford me more pleasure than to be present during this session. But

a wise Providence seems to have decreed otherwise. I am serving my third year as pastor at Auburn, which year will end May 1, 1908. Upon the whole, this has been a very good year for the Lord's work with us. There has been a better attendance and interest in Sunday school than the church has enjoyed for several years, from which we hope and expect to reap fruit for the kingdom.

I rejoice with you at cheering reports of gracious revivals at Heads, Oak Lawn and other points in the Association. "Not by might, but by my spirit," saith the Lord. Let's ever pray the Lord to teach us the secret of this great truth.

Brethren, I beseech you, in the name of Jesus, whatever of petty differences of opinion on points of doctrine or polity, or local church difficulties may be presented, subordinate personal opinion or ambition, or selfish ends—all, to the one end, unity and harmony of spirit, for Christ is not divided. Let our attitude toward other names and sects be one of broadest charity, and if may be, unity.

We rejoice with you that there is concerted action and united prayer for the union of many denominations, and a universal desire that the prayer of the Savior may be realized in this generation, that they may all be one.

Again, we rejoice with you at the almost phenomenal growth of our denominational enterprises in India. Thus imbued with the spirit of missions and unity, let us lift up our eyes and behold how large a place the Lord is preparing for us, and with united voice say we can possess the land.

In conclusion, through this medium, I greet all our friends and acquaintances, and hail you as disciples of our common Lord, happy on your way to the better country. Let our daily prayer be "Lord bless us, that we may be a blessing to others."

Hoping, under the providence of God, to be permitted to sit in your counsels in your annual gatherings again,

"If not, let us meet beyond the river, where the surges
cease to roll,
Where, in all the bright forever sorrow ne'er shall press
the soul."

Your brother in Christ,

G. V. FREY.

Regular order of business resumed. Other committees appointed:

OBITUARIES—J. H. Oliver, G. E. Gower, J. W. Walton.

LITERATURE—W. M. Brumit, J. M. Emanuel, W. B. Gentry, G. W. Fambrough, Geo. E. Moore.

MISSIONS—W. W. Davis, G. W. Carney, W. M. Rodgers,

TEMPERANCE—G. T. Harris, A. R. Massa, G. F. Heyer.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—J. E. Hudgens, J. H. Coakley, A. H. Hudgens.

FINANCE—W. W. Clinard, E. S. Pruitt, J. N. Horner.

Committee on Devotions report: Rev. W. B. Gentry preach here tonight, 7:30. Rev. J. M. Emanuel, Thursday, 11 a. m.; Rev. Geo. E. Moore, 7:30 p. m., Rev. J. M. Emanuel 2:30 p. m., Friday. Rev. E. S. Pruitt, 7:30 p. m., Thursday, at Patterson Chapel. Rev. J. E. Powers at Antioch, 7:30 p. m.; J. E. Hudgens at Underwood, 7:30 p. m., Thursday.

Adjourned to 9 a. m. Thursday.

Thursday Morning.

The Moderator called meeting to order.

After devotions the roll was called, a quorum being present. Minutes of yesterday read and adopted.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS.

Committee on Petitions and Requests made the following report:

We, your Committee on Petitions and Requests, have a petition from Scott's Chapel, Stewart county, Tenn., praying to be received into fellowship in the Association.

Realizing the great need of augmenting our force as an Association, and increasing the army of the Lord in these parts of his kingdom, and knowing its distance from other churches, and being self-supporting, we hereby recommend the church to the favorable consideration of this Association.

COMMITTEE.

OBITUARIES.

The Committee on Obituaries submitted the following:

We praise God for His love and goodness to the children of men.

Whereas, death has not claimed any in our ministerial ranks, and but 22 of our members, who have gone to their reward;

Resolved, That we tender to the surviving relatives and friends our sympathy, and direct them for comfort and peace to Him who is too good to do wrong, and too wise to err.

COMMITTEE.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, submit the following:

We recognize that the Sunday School is the best friend of the church, and that from its ranks the church receives its greatest number of recruits; we therefore recommend that our mightiest efforts be put forth to organize and perpetuate them in our churches. We recommend, also, that our Sunday schools adopt and use Freewill Baptist literature.

COMMITTEE.

The following report was read:

To the Cumberland Association, when convened with Stony Point Church:

Our Sunday school at Cofer's chapel, Nashville, Tenn., reports that since May 19, the average attendance of teachers is 11; enrolled, 13. Average attendance of scholars, 84; enrolled, 120. Average collection, 83 cents.

GEO. L. BENTON, Sec'y.

JOE HOOD, Sup't.

TEMPERANCE.

We, the Committee on Temperance, beg leave to submit the following on the momentous question of the day, which in the past has had its share of debate; yet it remains for us to do our christian duty, that it may not hereafter be a menace to us or to our children. Intemperance has been a curse, both to the church and the world at large. Since the law-making body of our Nation, both christians and sinners, are being aroused to the needs of the hour; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, as a Freewill Christian Baptist people, march in the foremost ranks of the great procession of Prohibition, and that we show to the world, both by example and precept, that we are unqualifiedly opposed to the liquor traffic and all its attendant evils, and that we urge a merciless war until it be driven from our fair land,

Resolved, That we recommend to the next legislature the extension of the Adams law, until every town and city in our State be free from the unlawful traffic. Further, be it

Resolved, That we, as a voting people, support no candidate who is not in favor of the above. Third, be it

Resolved, That the Freewill Baptist people endorse the bill passed by the last legislature, known as the "Anti-Race Track Gambling Bill," and being declared unconstitutional, urge that it again be sustained by our representatives in a form that accords with the constitution. Fourth, be it

Resolved, That our pastors instruct our church members as to the great and public injury of visiting saloons, or using liquors as a beverage. Fifth, be it

Resolved, That we lend our aid to all temperance societies and the anti-saloon league in their efforts to exterminate the liquor traffic.

COMMITTEE.

Adopted by rising vote, after discussion by several enthusiastic speakers. The ladies being permitted to vote responded unanimously.

LITERATURE.

In these days of public schools and cheap literature, when almost every one can and does read, and that that is read has much to do in the formation of character, it is very important, therefore, that only pure and wholesome literature be read.

We recommend, first of all, that the Bible, the Book of all Books, be read.

Second, that books published by our denomination are good and should be read.

Third, that the Dunn-Butler System of Theology is a book second to none.

We further recommend that Ecclesiastical History be read as much as practicable, and that our Sunday schools use the literature published by the Freewill Baptist Publishing Co., Ayden, N. C.

We recommend the adoption of The Freewill Baptist, published at Ayden, N. C., as the organ of our Association, and that ministers urge our people to patronize the above company when in need of literature.

Adjourned to 1:30 p. m.

Thursday Afternoon.

The house called to order by Moderator.

Roll called and quorum present. Preceding minutes read and approved.

The ordaining council was selected by the Moderator, consisting of two ministers and three deacons: Rev. W. M. Brumit, Rev. J. E. Hudgens; G. W. Fambrough, W. R. Swift, R. R. Gower.

MISSIONS:

The Committee on Missions made the following report:

Since missionary work is one of paramount interest to the church, therefore, be it

Resolved, That everything possible be done to foster the missionary spirit both at home and abroad. We recommend that pastors having charge of churches organize missionary societies in their churches for the collecting of funds for missionary work.

Resolved, That such funds be sent to the Association's treasurer, G. W. Fambrough, Cheap Hill, (R. F. D. No. 2) Tenn., who is hereby authorized to send such money to our Home missionary.

COMMITTEE.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer makes the following report:

Balance from last year's report.....	\$13 00
By G. E. Gower, for disciplines.....	95
By sale of disciplines	1 96
Total	\$15 91

G. W. FAMBROUGH.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

For printing and distributing Minutes of present Association, 25 churches responded. We received \$33.35.

COMMITTEE.

LETTERS AND REPORTS OF MINISTERS.

I, your Home Missionary, beg leave to submit the following: Sermons preached, not known; miles traveled,

2,000; conversions, 81; received into churches, 107; organized one church. Took no collections for my work.

C. H. PICKLE.

Churches in charge, 4; conversions witnessed, 68; received into churches, 35; baptized, 22; marriages solemnized, 3; funerals conducted, 2; miles traveled, 1,675. Received for services, \$172.00.

W. M. BRUNIT.

Churches in charge, 3; sermons preached, 120; conversions witnessed, 250; received into churches, 102; baptized, 67; Sunday schools organized, 5; homes visited, 135; conducted one funeral; miles traveled, 1,100. Received for services, \$168.10.

W. W. DAVIS.

Churches in charge, 1; sermons preached, 20; received into church, 30; baptized, 26; marriages solemnized, 5; funerals conducted, 3; prayer meetings attended, 16. Received for services, \$39.75.

E. M. FREE.

Churches in charge, 4; sermons preached, 110; miles traveled, not known; preached 3 funerals; witnessed 13 conversions; received into churches, 13; baptized, 11; solemnized marriages, 4. Received for services, \$72.50.

E. F. MILES.

Churches in charge, 3; sermons preached, 122; miles traveled, 760; conversions witnessed, 46; baptized, 32; prayer meetings attended, 10; received into churches, 41, by assistance of brethren. Received for services, \$196.45.

J. E. POWERS.

My work as an evangelist in Cumberland Association is reported as follows: Sermons preached, 281; conversions witnessed, 318; members received into churches, 92; funerals conducted, 2; miles traveled, 1,975. Received for services, \$601.30.

E. S. PRUITT.

My report for the year is: Sermons preached, 282; miles traveled, 7,108; conversions, 8. Received for services, \$866.42.

W. M. RODGERS.

I submit the following report: Sermons preached, 45; conversions witnessed, 10; Sunday schools organized, 1; miles traveled, unknown. For services, \$35.00.

J. W. D. SHANNON.

Brethren, with deep regret at not being able to be with you when convened with Stony Point Church, would say that I have done but little work the past year in the Lord's vineyard, on account of hindrances, but hope to be in position to give full time to the work of the ministry

soon. Pray for me. The Lord be with and bless you in Assembly.
W. A. BROWN.

The Association adjourned to 9 a. m. Friday.

Friday Morning.

The house was called to order and after devotions the roll was called and quorum present. Minutes read and approved.

The following resolutions, offered by G. W. Fambrough, were adopted:

1. Resolved that delegates be elected to represent us in the following sister Associations, and that they elect delegates to our next Association:

- (a) W. M. Rodgers to the Free Baptist of Illinois.
- (b) W. W. Davis to the General Baptist.
- (c) J. E. Powers and E. M. Free to the Eastern Division of Stone Association.
- (d) C. H. Pickle and G. E. Steppee to Western Division of Stone Association.
- (e) W. M. Brumit and M. S. Crow to the Cape Fear Conference of Freewill Baptist of North Carolina.

2. Resolved, That our clerk superintend the printing and distributing of Association Minutes, and that he be allowed ten dollars for his services.

3. Resolved, That Rev. C. H. Pickle preach the introductory sermon at the next annual session, and Rev. D. T. Armstrong as alternate.

4. Resolved, That this session, by a rising vote, express our thanks to the brethren and friends in Stony Point and vicinity for their unbounded hospitality and kindness to this delegated body and visiting friends.

5. Resolved, That the brethren in the vicinity of next meeting place of annual Association, shall be present at the church on Tuesday night to welcome and care for the delegates who may be present.

Heads, Oak Lawn and Rock Spring were nominated as place of next annual sitting of the Association. Rock Spring was elected.

Rev. E. S. Pruitt was elected Home Missionary for the ensuing year.

The time of meeting in annual session was changed to one week earlier for next year.

Adjourned to meet with Rock Spring church, Dickson county, Tenn., on Wednesday before the third Sunday in October, 1908, at 10 o'clock a. m.,

Benediction.

D. T. ARMSTRONG, MODERATOR.

G. E. STEPPEE, CLERK.

Names of Churches and Their Delegates.

Antioch—R. V. Walker, Susan Story.

Bethel—G. W. Frambaugh, W. I. Barton, Robert Herald,
W. J. Babbitt.

Bethlehem—J. Eatherly, A. H. Hudgens, W. H. Binkley,
Bud Simmons.

Brandon's Chapel—George F. Heyer, Mont. H. Morgan,
Mrs. Missouri Matthis.

Charity—Not represented.

Cofer's Chapel—James F. Hardin, Wm. Rice, E. S. Pruitt,
W. J. Gardner.

Cross Roads—J. M. Grizzle, W. A. Crow.

Good Spring—F. E. Davis.

Greenwood—Not represented.

Harpeth Valley—Not represented.

Heads—G. E. Gower, John Lawrence, G. W. Hyde, J. T.
Gower, W. B. Haynes.

Hickory Grove—J. K. Clifton, J. T. McCarpin.

Hopewell—J. H. Coakley, G. L. Watkins, Mrs. Dixie
Shannon.

Hurricane Chapel—A. J. Burgess, James Tummins.

Indian Mound—J. H. Oliver, Frank Hembree.

Maple Valley—A. L. Spann.

Miller's Chapel—J. W. Walton, Mrs. M. B. Walton.

Mt. Liberty—Not represented.

Mt. Pleasant—J. L. Cagle, C. T. Briggs.

Mt. Zion—G. T. Harris, J. C. Perry, A. Rediker.

New Hope—A. J. Carney.

Oak Grove—A. L. Ragan. Mrs. A. L. Ragan.

Oakland—Not represented.

Oak Lawn—S. C. Balthrop, E. C. Watts, W. B. Hunter,
Pearlie Hunter.

Oakwood—W. W. Clinard, W. T. Ellis, Henry Jackson.

Olivet—Not represented.

Paradise Ridge—Not represented.

Pleasant Hill—W. H. Keel, T. F. Taylor, Luther Griz-
zard, J. W. Lewis.

Rock Spring—H. J. Groves, Robert Carroll, J. M. Sutton,
Billie Proctor.

Scott's Chapel—John Bellar, T. P. Underwood.

Shady Grove—Henry Holt, Thomas Heflin.

Smith's Grove—J. H. Bryant, H. W. Abney.

Spring Hill—Not represented.

Stony Point—Mrs. Millie Finch, Mrs. Sallie Underwood.

Walnut Grove—Not represented.

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[illegible]

Minutes of the Annual Presbytery.

The Annual Presbytery convened at the close of the Association, October 25, 1907.

The retiring Moderator, Rev. W. M. Brumit, presided until the election of Rev. M. S. Crow.

Rev. W. W. Davis elected Assistant Moderator, G. E. Steppee Clerk and G. W. Hyde Assistant Clerk.

Report of Standing Committee called for. None reported.

The Ordaining Council reported as follows:

We received from the Committee on Petitions and Requests the following petitions for ordination to the Gospel Ministry:

Two from Indian Mound—J. H. Oliver and J. E. Powers.

One from Pleasant Hill—C. T. Wallace.

One from Shady Grove—J. R. Elliott.

One from Cofer's Chapel—D. T. Armstrong.

One from Hurricane Chapel—A. J. Burgess.

We, in Council, have examined the above brethren, and recommend the ordination to Gospel Ministry of the following brethren: D. T. Armstrong, J. H. Oliver and J. E. Powers, and recommend that Bros. C. T. Wallace, A. J. Burgess and J. R. Elliott continue in their use of the talents entrusted them and submit again at next Presbytery.

G. W. FAMBROUGH, Clerk. W. M. BRUMIT, Chm'n.

Adopted.

New business being called for, it was ascertained that Bro. L. B. Shannon had withdrawn from the Church of Freewill Christian Baptists, and on motion and its adoption, the Clerk was requested to demand the return of his credentials as an ordained minister. The Clerk was instructed to demand the return of Bro. S. W. Patterson's credentials as an ordained minister.

Bro. J. E. Hudgens was elected to give the charge to the brethren, from 1st Tim., 3d Chap., 1st to 7th verses, inclusive; after which the brethren, D. T. Armstrong, J. H. Oliver and J. E. Powers were duly ordained to full work in the Gospel ministry by prayer and laying on of hands by the Presbytery, Bro. J. E. Hudgens leading in the consecration prayer.

The Clerk was instructed to write and send credentials to each of the brethren.

Minutes read and approved.

Adjourned to meet at close of next session of Annual Association.

Benediction.

M. S. CROW, MODERATOR.

G. E. STEPPEE, 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 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 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 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 Chap., 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 Cor. 10: 16, 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 one delegate, and one additional delegate for every one hundred members, or fraction thereof.

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 right 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 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 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 recommendations from

their churches, and 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 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 the 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 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. Also, his duty to ordain deacons where a vacancy occurs in his charge.

11. No person shall be ordained until he can fill the requirements of Paul's letter to Timothy, chapter III, 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 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 to this form of government at any time by a majority of the members present composing the 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 made to the Moderator, and the person addressing shall arise 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, 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.

ADDRESSES OF MINISTERS.

Armstrong, D. T., 1508, N. Florence st., Nashville, Tenn.
Ayers, J. W., Ashland City, Tenn.
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