

Luther Reed

MINUTES

OF THE

Sixty-Sixth Annual Session

OF THE



Cumberland Association

OF

➤ **Freewill Christian Baptist** ➤

HELD WITH

Oak Lawn Church, Cheatham County, Tenn.

October 13, 14 and 15, 1909

J. E. HUDGENS.....MODERATOR
Ashland City, Tenn.

G. E. STEPPEE.....CLERK
CUMBERLAND CITY, TENN.

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CLARKSVILLE, TENN.:
W. P. TITUS, PRINTER AND BINDER
1909

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, to wit.....

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....19....

.....Moderator.
.....Clerk.

Sixty-Sixth Annual Meeting.

The Annual Association of Freewill Christian Baptist met in its Sixty-Sixth Session, with Oak Lawn Church, Cheatham County, Tenn., October 13th, 14th and 15th, 1909. Rev. W. M. Brumit, the retiring Moderator, presided until officers were elected, with Rev. J. E. Hudgens as Moderator; Rev. W. M. Brumit, Assistant Moderator; G. E. Steppee, Clerk; J. H. Oliver, Assistant Clerk; G. W. Fambrough, re-elected Treasurer.

Business hours were fixed at, from 9:30 a. m. to 11:00 a. m.; 1:00 p. m. to 3:30 p. m.

In absence of Rev. G. W. Carney, Rev. G. E. Steppee preached the Introductory Sermon. Text: St. John 3: 14-15, "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Committee on Devotions appointed by Assistant Moderator—Rev. D. T. Armstrong, Thomas Watts, W. M. Walker.

Adjourned to 1:00 p. m.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

After partaking of a bountiful repast, house called to order at 1:00 p. m.

Devotions led by Rev. A. D. Duncan.

Minutes of preceeding meeting read and approved.

Reading church letters, and their statistics may be found on page 00 in the regular table.

Letters from sister Associations called for. None responded.

The following committees were appointed:

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS—Rev. D. T. Armstrong, G. W. Fambrough, R. M. Luter.

MISSIONS—G. T. Harris, Rev. W. W. Davis, Rev. J. L. Welch.

TEMPERANCE—Rev. E. S. Pruitt, Rev. G. E. Steppee, Rev. W. M. Rodgers.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—Dr. G. W. Boyte, J. T. Newman, James Majors, Rev. J. W. Ayers, Rev. M. S. Crow.

LITERATURE—Rev. J. E. Hudgens, Rev. A. D. Duncan, G. W. Hyde.

EDUCATION—Rev. W. M. Brumit, G. E. Gower, G. T. Harris.

OBITUARY—Rev. J. H. Oliver, Rev. C. H. Pickle, C. A. Moery.

FINANCE—W. I. Barton, J. W. Lillie, Charley Gupton.

Petitionary letters called for. Two received, one from Mt. Hermon Church, Montgomery county, and one from Craigfield Church, Williamson county, and they were handed to the proper committee.

The Ordaining Council appointed—Rev. J. E. Hudgens, Rev. C. H. Pickle, G. W. Fambrough, R. R. Gower, Andrew Rediker.

An address was given by the Moderator.

Committee on Devotions reported:

Wednesday night, at Oaklawn, Rev. A. D. Duncan; at Heads, Rev. J. L. Welch; at Glenwood, Rev. W. M. Brumit.

Thursday, 11:00 a. m., at Oak Lawn, Rev. J. E. Hudgens; 7:00 p. m., at Oak Lawn, Rev. W. G. Sullivan and Rev. M. S. Crow; at Heads, Rev. W. M. Brumit; at Glenwood, Rev. J. L. Welch.

Friday, 11:00 a. m., at Oak Lawn, Rev. J. L. Welch; 7:00 p. m., Rev. W. M. Brumit.

Adjourned to 9:30 a. m. Thursday.

THURSDAY MORNING.

House called to order, after thirty minutes spent in singing and rejoicing. Quorum present.

Minutes read and adopted.

The following committees reported:

MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions recommend that we continue to keep a missionary in the home field, and that he give his special attention to all weak churches.

Second—That he be empowered to hold an election in each church within the bounds of the Association, in regard to grouping the churches.

Third—That he preach in those churches having no pastors, and help them in obtaining regular pastors.

Fourth—That the churches in this Association give liberally to the support of our missionary.

Fifth—That said missionary organize churches wherever he sees fit, and report to next Association.

Signed by committee,

REV. J. L. WELCH.

G. T. HARRIS.

REV. W. W. DAVIS.

TEMPERANCE.

We submit the following on Temperance, one of the greatest vital questions of our day:

We praise God that sunny Tennessee is now one of the Prohibition States. All honor to those noble, self-sacrificing men and women who in the past have worked so faithfully in this cause, and ceased not until the victory is won. Nevertheless they, nor us, as an associated body, should be unmindful of the power of the re-organized enemy; the enemy of the souls of men, of the home, of society, and progress.

Resolved, First—That we as an associated body give our protest to the bringing into the State and home such liquors as the civil law forbids.

Second—That by precept and example we show to the world our God-given right to be temperate in all things.

Third—That we spare neither vigilance nor means to keep our State in the forward march for National Prohibition.

Ablely discussed by G. E. Steppee, A. D. Duncan, C. H. Pickle and W. M. Rodgers before being adopted by unanimous vote.

Adjourned to 1:00 p. m.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

After devotions, roll called; quorum present.

Minutes read and approved.

A communication was read from Rev. A. R. Massa, of Stone Association, in which greetings were sent, and request that this Association change the time of its annual meeting.

A motion was adopted that we meet on Wednesday before the first Sunday in November of each year.

PETITIONS AND REQUEST.

Committee on Petitions and Request make the following report:

We have a petition from Mt. Hermon Church, Dickson county, and one from Craigfield Church, Williamson county, Tenn. We recommend that they be received into this Association and their delegates be welcomed and seated in council with us.

G. W. FAMBROUGH.

D. T. ARMSTRONG.

R. M. LUTER.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to be heard:

We recognize that Sunday Schools are indispensable in the churches in disseminating Gospel truth, and as an aid to the church.

We recommend that each church continue the Sunday Schools as a power for good.

We further recommend that pastors and deacons spare no effort to make them all that a Sunday School should be; and that the Sunday Schools use our literature.

We recommend that we have Sunday School reports from the various churches at our next Association.

J. T. NEWMAN.

G. W. BOYTES.

JAMES MAJORS.

M. S. CROW.

J. W. AYERS.

This report was ably discussed by Mr. Starkey Hogan, with an appeal for funds to complete Shady Grove Church.

Regular order of business was suspended and a collection of \$22.25 was contributed, and ordered given to Mr. Hogan.

LITERATURE.

Committee on Literature reported:

The Bible, the book of all books, is the very best text-book for a Theological student, and we earnestly recommend its systematic study to any aspirant for the Gospel ministry. As a basis on examination, we recommend the Dunn-Butler System of Theology.

We also recommend that each candidate for Gospel ministry pass an examination on this basis before the Ordaining Council. The study of Ecclesiastical History, to enrich the mind, and enlarge the conception of one's duty to God and man, is recommended; also that The Freewill Baptist, of Ayden, N. C., be adopted as the official organ of this Association.

We recommend that a song book be adopted for use in all our churches.

J. E. HUDGENS.

A. D. DUNCAN.

G. W. HYDE.

A motion prevailed in which the Gospel Voice Hymnal was adopted as our standard song book, and recommended to be used by all the churches.

Committee on Obituary submitted the following:

OBITUARY.

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

Whereas, Death has not claimed any from our ministerial ranks, and but twenty-three of our lay members, who have gone to their eternal reward; ,

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

C. A. MOERY.

J. H. OLIVER.

C. H. PICKLE.

FINANCE.

Finance Committee reported \$30.65 collected for printing the Minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To balance on last year's report.....	\$16.21
To sales of Disciplines.....	2.24
Total.....	<u>\$18.45</u>

EDUCATION.

We, your Committee on Education, submit the following:

It is a deplorable fact that our ministers are far deficient in their educational qualifications compared to other denominations. We earnestly request that the Association admonish

all candidates for Gospel ministry that they make every effort to obtain an English education.

We suggest that the churches assist worthy men in their efforts along these lines, and that individual lay members help such young men, and that they secure the coöperation of other churches, in order that the standard of education in our ministerial ranks be raised to its proper place.

W. M. BRUMIT.

G. T. HARRIS.

G. E. GOWER.

Rev. E. S. Pruitt was elected Home Missionary. His address is No. 1024 Tenth avenue, North, Nashville, Tenn.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. *Resolved*, That this Association by a rising vote express our thanks to this church, with other denominations and friends, who have so generously given this delegated body and visiting friends their unbounded hospitality.

2. *Resolved*, That Rev. D. T. Armstrong, Rev. W. M. Brummit, alternate, preach the Introductory Sermon at our next session.

3. *Resolved*, That our Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes, and that he be allowed \$10.00 for his services.

Resolved, That we continue to correspond with sister Associations.

A. That Rev. W. M. Rodgers correspond with General Baptist.

B. That Rev. D. T. Armstrong correspond with Eastern Division of Stone Association.

C. That Rev. A. D. Duncan correspond with Western Division of Stone Association.

D. That Rev. J. E. Hudgens correspond with Cape Fear Conference of Freewill Baptist, of N. C.

NEXT PLACE OF MEETING.

Selecting place for next meeting of the Association. Pleasant Hill, Mt. Zion, Cofer's Chapel and Oakwood were nominated. Pleasant Hill has the honor of entertaining next year.

The motion to adjourn to meet with Pleasant Hill Church, Stewart county, Tenn., on Wednesday, before the first Sunday in November, 1910, at 10:00 a. m., was carried.

All delegates who wish to go by railway should buy tickets to Cumberland City, Tenn., who will be conveyed by carriage to the church, if they ten days before notify Rev. A. D. Duncan, Indian Mound, Tenn. Pleasant Hill is twelve miles west of Indian Mound, three miles north west of Dover.

Singing the Doxology. Benediction.

J. E. HUDGENS, Moderator.

G. E. STEPPEE, Clerk.

Annual Presbytery.

The Annual Presbytery convened on October 15th, at 10:00 a. m. at the close of the Association. Opened with prayer by Rev. E. S. Pruitt.

Bro. W. W. Davis, the former Moderator, was re-elected, and Bro. A. D. Duncan, Assistant Moderator. G. E. Steppee, Clerk; Bro. James H. Oliver, Assistant Clerk.

Unfinished business called for.

The Clerk, last year, was authorized to write credentials for two of our ministers, who had not received them from the proper Clerk. They could not be written on account of lack of proper information.

A motion was adopted that the brethren furnish the present Clerk with the desired information.

The credentials of J. E. Powers and Dell Upton are demanded and they be excluded for contempt.

Bro. E. S. Pruitt appointed to wait on L. B. Shannon in regard to his credentials.

The Clerk was authorized to obtain the credentials of J. E. Powers.

The names of brethren having license to preach be inserted in the Minutes.

The name of W. E. Hemfree ordered discontinued.

Adjourned to 1:00 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After devotions led by Bro. J. L. Welch, the Ordaining Council made the following report:

We received recommendations from Cofer's Chapel for ordination of Bro. J. L. Welch, from Hope Well, for Bro. J. R. Elliott, and from Brandon's Chapel, for Bro. W. M. Castile. After examination of the brethren we recommend them to the Presbytery for ordination.

Bro. J. E. Hudgens appointed to give the charge, from I Timothy, 3: 1-7, and the charge to the two Deacons, John J. Gower, of Head's Church, and Joseph J. Felts, of New Hope Church, was from the 8th to the 15th verses of same chapter. Bro. Jesse E. Hudgens leading the consecration prayer.

Benediction and adjournment, to meet at close of next Association.

W. W. DAVIS, Moderator.

G. E. STEPPEE, Clerk.

Deacons.

Bethel—G. W. and W. E. Fambrough, W. J. Bobbitt, J. M. Smith, Jr.

Bethlehem—W. H. Binkley, W. T. Sanders, J. H. Felts, E. A. Boytes.

Cofer's Chapel—J. R. Parkinson, Wm. Harrison, Rufus Manners, J. Sullivan, Edgar Parker.

Oakwood—W. W. Clinard, J. R. Mayo.

Mt. Zion—J. T. Newman, George T. Harris, A. Rediker, H. V. Abernathy.

Heads—G. E. Gower, J. L. Laurence, H. E. Murphy, H. F. Green.

Reports of Ministers.

Churches in charge, 4; sermons preached, 104; conversions witnessed, 34; received into church, 25; miles traveled unknown; visited 306 homes.

D. T. ARMSTRONG.

Churches in charge, 3; preached 185 sermons; traveled 2,500 miles; marriages, 6; preached funerals, 12; received into

church, 25; baptized, 15; conducted 10 prayer meetings; organized 5 Sunday Schools; witnessed 30 conversions; homes visited, 195. Received for services, \$50.85. W. W. DAVIS.

Churches in charge, 3; sermons preached, 142; conversions witnessed, 42; received into church, 6; baptized, 10; funerals preached, 4; miles traveled, 1,700. Received for services, \$183.50. A. D. DUNCAN.

Churches in charge, 1; sermons preached, 32; received into church, 3; baptized, 1; marriages, 2; funerals conducted, 4; prayer meetings conducted, 22. Received for services, \$31.20. E. M. FREE.

Churches in charge, 1; sermons preached, 24; conversions witnessed, 5; marriages, 3; funerals, 4. Received for services, \$10.86. JAMES H. OLIVER.

Sermons preached, 238; organized 1 church; miles traveled, 4,180. Collections, \$662.69. W. M. RODGERS.

Having no churches in charge, my time has been given in assisting pastors and in evangelistic work. Have been happy, and blessed of God in the service. G. E. STEPPEE.

Reports of Licentiates.

Churches in charge, 1, beginning on the second Sunday in March; have preached 165 sermons; conducted 28 prayer meetings; witnessed 91 conversions; received into church, 19; funerals conducted, 6; miles traveled, 1,200. Received for services, \$239.65. J. L. WELCH.

Churches in charge, 1; sermons preached, 85; conversions witnessed, 30; received into church, 8; funerals conducted, 3;

Sunday Schools organized, 3. Received for services, \$38.00.

J. R. ELLIOTT.

Sermons preached, 35; conversions witnessed, 4; miles traveled, 238. Received for services, \$2.00.

C. R. GUPTON.

Sermons preached, 96; conversions witnessed, 5. Contributions received, \$17.44.

W. T. HAGEWOOD.

Report of Home Missionary.

Sermons preached, 375; conversions witnessed, 630; received into church, 280; baptized, 163; organized 1 church; marriages, 4; funerals conducted, 4; miles traveled, 5,502; Received, \$772.75. Eleven churches contributed \$119.35 of the amount: Bethlehem, \$27.60; Cofer's Chapel, \$4.60; Harpeth Valley, \$8.25; Hopewell, \$9.00; Heads, \$23.75; Pleasant Hill, \$5.00; Rock Springs, \$1.00; Shady Grove, \$7.25; Oak Lawn, \$17.00; Oakwood, \$5.50, Coopertown, \$10.40.

Places in which revival meetings were conducted in Tennessee: Baxter, Allgood, Poplar Grove, Cumberland City, Mills, Cookville, Glen Raven, Oak Plains, Walton Chapel, Boiling Springs, Sylvia, Cross Roads. In Kentucky: Hillsdale, Salmons, Black Jack,

E. S. PRUITT.

Churches and Their Delegates.

Bethel—Henry Nicholson, R. M. Fambrough, W. I. Barton.

Bethlehem—C. W. Perry, A. H. Hudgens, H. W. Binkley, Jesse Harris.

Brandon Chapel—George F. Heyer, J. C. Morgan, S. G. Wall.

Cofer's Chapel—Lonzo Manners, J. H. Roberts, Sister E. S. Pruitt.

Craigfield—J. D. Sullivan.

Charity—R. S. DeMumbreun, W. M. Simpkins.

Cross Road—George Murrell.

Good Spring—J. M. Davis, Thomas Barnes.

Heads—G. W. Hyde, H. E. Murphy, G. E. Gower.

Hickory Grove—A. J. Myatt.

Hopewell—S. T. Welch, T. W. Coakley.

Indian Mound—C. A. Moery, H. P. Smith.

Maple Valley—James Gafford.

Miller's Chapel—J. W. Walton, W. J. Miller.

Mt. Hermon—E. P. Wood, W. J. Devers.

Mt. Zion—Dr. G. W. Boyte, J. H. Ried, A. Rediker.

New Hope—J. J. Felts, C. E. Binkley.

Oakland—A. T. Carney, G. W. Chadowen.

Oak Lawn—E. C. Watts, P. G., W. H., and G. W. Walker.

Oakwood—R. E. Justice, R. M. Luter, W. W. Clinard.

Pleasant Hill—J. M. Taylor, W. M. Castile, Vernon Tyrie.

Rock Spring—D. Hagewood, H. J. Groves, B. Proctor, M. M. Carroll.

Shady Grove—J. A. Majors, H. P. Holt, W. B. Felts, Janie Majors.

Spring Hill—G. W. Springer.

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

Stony Point—W. J. Lewis, Wencè Lillie.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES.	POSTOFFICES ALL IN TENNESSEE.	Received by Experience.....	Received by Letter..	Received by Recommendation.....	Restored.....	Dismissed by Letter.....	Excluded.....	Transferred by Req't	Deceased.....	No. of Members....	Day of Meeting.....	Church Property....	Printing Minutes..
Antioch.....	Vanleer.....	4	1			3			1	50	2	\$ 600	2 00
Bethel.....	Cheap Hill, R. D. No. 1.....	26							4	160	2	1,000	2 50
Brandon's Chapel.....	Ashland City, R. D. No. 1.....			2	1				1	250	1	800	1 00
Charity.....	Bumpus Mills.....					2				122	4	1,200	3 00
Cofer's Chapel.....	Ashland City, R. D. No. 3.....	31	2	6		4	9	4	1	25	3	100	3 00
Craigfield.....	Nashville, N. Arther ave.....	10				1	3			143	2	2,500	1 15
Cross Road.....	Bonaqua, R. D. No. 1.....		4						1	10	3	300	1 00
Good Spring.....	Dickson.....								1	37	3	300	1 00
Greenwood.....	Ashland City, R. D. No. 2.....								1	44	3	1,000	2 35
Harpeth Valley.....	Cross Plains.....	7				3	1		2	214	3	1,000	2 50
Heads.....	Deep Springs.....	7	1						2	29	2	200	85
Hickory Grove.....	Cedar Hill, R. D. No. 5.....									48	3	600	80
Hopewell.....	Dickson, R. D. No. 3.....								2	31	1	300	1 00
Hurricane Chapel.....	Hickory Point.....								1	64	4	800	50
Indian Mound.....	Tennessee City, R. D. No. 1.....					3	2		1	28	1	300	1 00
Maple Valley.....	Indian Mound.....								1	13	3	300	1 00
Miller's Chapel.....	Pardue, R. D. No. 1.....								1	49	1	500	2 00
Mt. Hermon.....	Pardue, R. D. No. 1.....	13							1	106	2	1,500	1 70
Mt. Pleasant.....	Turbine.....	15	4						1	36	2	500	1 25
Mt. Zion.....	Morney.....	1							1	78	2	600	1 80
New Hope.....	Joelton, R. D. No. 2.....								1	169	4	1,000	95
Oak Grove.....	Joelton, R. D. No. 2.....	20		4					1	63	1	750	80
Oakland.....	Charlotte, R. D. No. 2.....	4	3						1	186	3	800	1 00
Oak Lawn.....	White's Creek, R. D. No. 25.....	8	2						1	193	3	1,000	50
Oakwood.....	Pleasant View.....								1	66	2	200	1 00
Olivet.....	Cedar Hill, R. D. No. 5.....						2		1	45	2	250	65
Paradise Ridge.....	Port Royal.....									31	1		
Pleasant Hill.....	Joelton.....	2								44	4		
Rock Spring.....	Dover, R. D. No. 1.....	18											
Scott's Chapel.....	Sobel.....	5		7									
Shady Grove.....	Cumberland City, R. D. No. 1.....	3											
Smith's Grove.....	Woodford, R. D. No. 1.....	1											
Spring Hill.....	Indian Mound, R. D. No. 1.....												
Stony Point.....	Ridge Top.....												
Walnut Grove.....	Vanleer, R. D. No. 2.....												
	Stewart.....												
Total.....		175	26	17	4	23	2469						

Addresses of Ministers.

Armstrong, D. T., 1508 N. 12th Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Ayers, J. W., Ashland City, Tenn.
Brake, J., Cumberland City, Tenn., R. D. No. 1.
Brumitt, W. M., Cumberland City, Tenn.
Brown, W. A., Station B, care R. E. Lee, Nashville, Tenn.
Carney, G. W., Ashland City, Tenn., R. D. No. 3.
Castile, W. M., Bumpus Mills, Tenn.
Chadwick, J. A., Dickson, Tenn.
Crow, M. S., Charlotte, Tenn., R. D. No. 2.
Davis, W. W., Ashland City, Tenn., R. D. No. 2.
Donnegan, T. J., Dickson, Tenn., R. D. No. 5.
Duncan, A. D., Joelton, Tenn.
Elliott, J. R., Adams, Tenn.
Free, E. M., Bumpus Mills, Tenn.
Gardner, J. W., 1501 12th Avenue N., Nashville, Tenn.
Hazlewood, Thos., Jordonía, Tenn.
Holt, S. B. B., Jordonía, Tenn.
Horner, J. N., Dickson, Tenn.
Haliburton, W. D., Cumberland City, Tenn.
Hudgens, J. E., Ashland City, Tenn., R. D. No. 1.
Hunt, G. W., Nashville, Tenn.
Miles, E. F., Pardue, Tenn., R. D. No. 1.
Myatt, S. A., Dickson, Tenn., R. D. No. 4.
Nicholson, James, Jordonía, Tenn.
Oliver, J. H., Indian Mound, Tenn.
Pickle, C. H., White's Creek, Tenn.
Presley, W. F., Station 2, Nashville, Tenn.
Pruitt, E. S., 1024 Tenth Avenue, Nashville, Tenn.
Rogers, W. M., 1715 Hamburg street, Nashville, Tenn.
Steppee, G. E., Cumberland City, Tenn., R. D. No. 2.
Wagoner, W. B., Erin, Tenn.
Welch, J. L., 1508 N. 12th Avenue, Nashville, Tenn.

LICENTIATES.

Burgess, A. J., Tennessee City, R. D. No. 1., Tenn.
Gupton, C. R., Neptune, Tenn.
Hagewood, W. T., Hamble, Tenn.
Neal, D. C., Ashland City, Tenn., R. D. No. 1.
Shannon, J. W. D., Hickory Point, Tenn.

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 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 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 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 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.

