

State Office
Ga. Union Assn.
ORG. 1895

MINUTES

—OF THE—

SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE

Ga. Union Association

Convened with Pleasant Hill Church in
Dooly county, Ga., Saturday,
October, 13th, 1900,

W G BARBER,
Clerk,
Hawkinsville, Ga.

LUE NOBLES,
Moderator
Vienna, Ga.

ASSOCIATIONAL ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Organize.
2. Call for letters from sister churches.
3. Elect Moderator and Clerk.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
6. Call roll and read decorum.
7. Appoint committees.
8. Appoint correspondents to sister associations.
9. Call for correspondents from sister associations.
10. Call for reports from committees.
11. Appoint time and place for holding the next session.
12. Call for miscellaneous business.
13. Adjournment.

CHURCH CONFERENCE.

1. Prayer (unless divine service has just been concluded and generally then.)
2. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
3. Open the door for reception of members, read minutes of last conference.
4. Call for absentees.
5. For acknowledgement.
6. For reference or deferred business.
7. For matter of dealing which are in order to come before the church.
8. For miscellaneous business.

MINUTES

Of the Sixth Annual session of the
GEORGIA UNION ASSOCIATION OF FREE
WILL BAPTIST.

Convened with Pleasant Hill church,
Dooly county, Georgia, Saturday morn-
ing October 13th, 1900. After singing and
prayer by request Rev E W Wright came
forward and preached the introductory
sermon from Prov. 22nd chapter and 28th
verse; closed by Rev W C Jones. Ad-
journed for refreshments till 2 o'clock.

Re-assembled at the appointed time.
After singing and prayer by Rev S J
Noble the Georgia Union Baptist Assoc-
iation was called to order by the former
Moderator, Rev Lue Nobles, the former
clerk being present.

The Moderator called for letters from
sister churches; appointed brethren to
read them.

Free Will Union—Delegates—W W Pot-
ter, Zack Newman and W G Barber.

Double Branch—J W Dawson and
Clifford Danaway.

Pleasant Hill—J E Rogers and C H
Rhodes.

Loves Chapel—H J Smith, D Y Wil-
iams and J R Yarn.

Oak Grove—No letters—Represented by

Brother J R Martin.

Officers Elected—Rev Lue Nobles Moderator, W G Barber, Clerk for the ensuing year. Upon motion Rev S J Nobles was elected Assistant Moderator.

Petitionary called for, received one. Invited visiting brethren to seats with us. Rev E W Wright and Rev D Arnett and Bro J R Lacy was received by extending right hand of fellowship.

Read decorum, appointed committees.

On Preaching—C H Hobbs, J E Rogers and J W Dawson.

On Sabbath Schools—Rev S Y Nobles, J R Lacy and D Y Williams.

On Ministry—D Y Williams, J R Yann, and J E Rogers.

On State of Churches—C H Hobbs, W W Potter, Clifford Dunaway, Rev G W Nobles.

On temperance—Rev E W Wright, D Y Williams, Rev G W Nobles and Rev Lue Nobles.

On Finance—J E Rogers, C H Hobbs, Zack Newman, Rev E W Wright.

On Obituaries—Rev S J Nobles, Rev E W Wright, Rev D Arnett.

Correspondents to Sister Associations—Cgechee, S J Nobles; Liberty, S J Nobles, G W Nobles, Thos McGlamory, D Y Williams, J D Smith; Chattahoochee, Thomas McGlamory, W C Jones, J E Rogers.

Colled for correspondents from Sister Associations.

Received correspondents from Liberty Rev E W Wright, Rev D Arnett, and Bro J R Lacy by extending the right hand of fellowship by the whole body.

A pointed time for this body to meet time, 9 o'clock a m, and 2 p m.

Preaching on Sunday a m by Rev J E

Thompson, text Rev. 3rd chapter and 8th verse, followed by Rev E W Wright. 3 p m Rev V C Jones, text, St. John 21st chapter, 6th verse, followed by Rev S J Nobles, after which adjourned till 9 o'clock Monday morning.

MONDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK, OCT. 15TH.

After singing and prayer the Association was called to order by the Moderator. Call for reports of committees.

On State of Churches—Your committee on state of churches beg leave to make the following report: We find the spiritual condition of most of our churches good, while some are not doing so well, and we pray to God that we may have the blessing of God in our midst.

Respectfully submitted,

C H HOBBS,
W W POTTER,
CLIFFORD DUNAWAY,
REV G W NOBLES.

On State of Ministers—Your committee on state of Ministers beg leave to make the following report: We find that our ministers are but few and the harvest is great and let us pray God to send laborers in the field, and by doing so God will bless us.

Submitted,
D Y WILLIAMS,
J R YANN,
J E ROGERS.

On Sabbath Schools—Your committee on Sabbath schools beg leave to make the following report: We find but few of our churches who have a Sabbath school, and we urge that our preachers and leading members be more zealous in the future than ever in the past in advocating Sabbath schools; we believe that a Sabbath school is the work of the Lord.

and the life of the church, and therefore we believe that it should be advocated till every church in our Association becomes the home of a living Sabbath school, and lets begin at once to advocate this cause and lets keep on till we have won the victory and have a Sabbath school in every church in our Association

Respectfully submitted,

REV S J NOBLES,
J R LACY,
D Y WILLIAMS.

Committee on Finance—We have received from the various churches:

For Minutes,	- - -	\$ 10 00
For home mission, received and paid out,	- - -	12 00
In hands of treasurer,	- - -	8 40

Total \$ 18 40

J E ROGERS,
C H HOBBS,
Z NEWMAN,
REV E W WRIGHT.

On Temperance—Your committee on temperance beg leave to make the following report: We trust brethren will be more temperate in future than they have been in the past. We exhort all who love the Lord Jesus and wait for His appearing to be temperate for only such can win the Prize of his calling. Brethren, let us turn loose any and all intoxicating liquors and pray God to speed the day when the intoxicating liquors shall stop being made. Brethren, this is very important, and we, as children of God should begin to take steps against such and begin to advocate temperance instead and then we are a going to find a great

change. Now let us look well to this and awake out of sleep and begin crying to the Lord for His blessings.

Respectfully submitted,

REV W C JONES,
" E W WRIGHT,
" G W NOBLES,
D Y WILLIAMS.

On Obituaries—Your committee on obituaries beg leave to make the following report: We find that God in his all wise wisdom has seen fit to take from our midst our dearly beloved sister, Mary Mitchell. She joined the Free Will Baptist church at Free Will Union church in Pulaski county about seven years ago, and remained there a consistent member until her death. We regret her loss, but hope that our loss is her eternal gain.

Also, God, in his wisdom has seen fit to take from our midst our dearly beloved brother, Charley Hardy, who was a consistent member of Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist church in Dooly county. Brother Hardy was one among our best workers in the church. He was always ready to take hold and go ahead in the service of the Lord at all times and at all places, and when he was taken his testimony was good. He stated that the Pearly Gates were open for him and he requested that his father-in-law, Rev G W Nobles, meet him in Heaven.

We find that our beloved brother, William Davidson, departed this life November 8th, 1899. Bro Davidson was a faithful member of the Free Will Baptist church seven years. He died in the triumph of a living faith. He left a wife and four little children, besides parents and a multitude of friends to mourn his

loss, but our loss is his eternal gain.
"He is gone to that bright world above,
To dwell with Christ is perfect Love."

Respectfully submitted,

REV S J NOBLES,

" E W WRIGHT.

" D ARNETT.

Appoint Place for Holding Next Session—Our next Association will be held at Double Branch church in Dooly county, Georgia, Thursday night before the second Sunday in October, 1901.

Called for miscellaneous business.

Executive Committee -Rev S J Nobles, Thomas McGlamory and W G Barber.

Elected-Rev S J Nobles as treasurer for the ensuing year.

Upon motion paid clerk \$4.40 for services.

Union Meetings—On motion it was agreed to have one union meeting, to be held at Loves Chapel church in Dooly county, to commence Saturday before the fifth Sunday in June, Rev W C Jones to preach the introductory.

On motion it was agreed to have 200 copies of our minutes printed.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered the good people surrounding Pleasant Hill church in Dooly county, for their hospitable entertainment of this body during this session.

After which by singing the Parting Hymn, adjourned in order, to meet at the place mentioned above,

W. G. BARBER, REV. LUE NOBLES,

Clerk, Moderator.

Hawkinsville, Ga. Vienna, Ga.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1st. The Scripture—The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by inspiration of God, and are binding on all as our only rule of faith and practice. There is only one living and true God, infinite in all His attributes; the Creator, Preserver and Governor of this Universe, revealed to us in the scriptures as Father, Son and Spirit.

2nd. Christ—He is God manifest in the flesh, being in his divine nature true God, in his human nature true man, united in the person of the Messiah as Mediator for the redemption of the world.

3rd. The Holy Spirit—He possesses all personal divine attributes, being the Reformer, Comforter and Sanctifier of men.

4th. Divine Purposes and Providence—The purposes of God are eternal and immutable, and his wise and Holy providence is over all beings and all things to secure his own glory and the highest welfare of his creatures.

5th. Original State and Fall of Man—Man was created upright, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. All his posterity inherit his fallen nature, which is cherished by indulgence; so that all who come to years of moral accountability, sin and come short of the glory of God.

6th. Atonement—Christ, in His great passion, offered Himself as a sacrifice for our stead and thus by His life

suffering and death made an atonement which is full and free to all, and opens the way to salvation.

7th. Grace—No man can, by his own works, merit or obtain salvation, which is wholly of grace, and through which all spiritual blessings are bestowed upon us.

8th. Conditions of Salvation—There are repentances implying Godly sorrow for, open confession and other renunciation of sin, faith, or the unreserved committal of the mind and heart to receive, obey and trust in Christ, and regeneration by the Holy Spirit, whereby the soul is freed from the dominion of sin and brought into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

9th. Election—God has not fixed the future state of men by any unconditional decree, but determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation.

10th. Perservance—None will be finally saved but those who, through grace, persevere in holiness to the end.

11th. Salvation Free—God desires the salvation of all, the gospel invites, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take the water of life freely.

12th. Freedom of the Will—The human will is not controlled by any fatal necessity or external force, but is free and self-determined, having power to yield to gracious influences, or resist them and perish.

13th. Gospel Ordinances—Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetrated under the gospel of universal

obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14th. The Sabbath—The Christian Sabbath is a divine institution binding on all, and should be observed by abstaining from secular business and amusements, and consecrated to the worship of God and spiritual improvements.

15th. The Resurrection—Final Judgment and final retribution. Christ will make his second appearance at the end of the world, when the dead will be raised, the judgment sit, the wicked banished to endless suffering.

ASSOCIATIONAL DECORUM.

Article 1st. Each session of this Association shall be called to order by the former Moderator when present, when absent, Clerk, and in his absence, seniority of years as member of this Association.

Art. 2nd. Each session and adjourned sitting of this Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

Art. 3rd. In absence of the former Clerk it shall be the duty of the Moderator pro tem to appoint a Clerk pro tem.

Art. 4th. It shall be the duty of the presiding officer at this point to call for corresponding letters and have the same read and it shall be the duty of the Clerk pro tem to record the names of delegates.

Art. 5th. After reading letters the Clerk shall proceed to call the roll and correct names, and mark absentees.

Art. 6th. It shall be the duty of the body at this point to elect a permanent Moderator and Clerk, which shall be done by nomination and rising vote. Provided there are no objections, and in case there be an objection the case shall be de-

ecided by a majority of votes.

Art. 7th. Each church composing this Association with a membership of forty or less number, shall be entitled to two delegates, and for each additional twenty members or fractional part thereof, one delegate.

Art. 8th. One-half of the legal number of delegates shall be sufficient to constitute a quorum, but a less number may meet and adjourn from time to time.

Art. 9th. This Association may determine the time its daily sessions shall commence and close.

Art. 10th. It shall be the duty of each member of this body to be present at the time appointed for the daily session and any one wishing to retire shall first obtain permission of the Moderator.

Art. 11th. No member shall take final leave of the conference during its session without first obtaining permission from the body.

Art. 12th. Every member wishing to speak in conference shall first address the Moderator.

Art. 13th. No person shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes at any one time, nor more than twice on any one subject without leave of the body.

Art. 14th. No person shall be disturbed while speaking unless it be necessary to call him to order.

Art. 15th. No debate shall be allowed on any subject unless it first be preceded by a move and a second.

Art. 16th. The yeas and nays may be taken on any question before the conference by the request of one-fifth of the members present.

Art. 17th. All talking and whispering

during the business of the conference shall be suppressed by the Moderator.

Art. 18th. This Association may hold correspondence by messenger or otherwise with other religious institutions as it may deem advisable.

Art. 19th. These by-laws of this Association shall be read at each yearly association, near its commencement.

Art. 20th. These by-laws may be altered or amended by a majority of votes at any regular session of this association.

Art. 21st. There shall be an executive committee of three discreet brethren appointed annually by the Moderator, or elected by the body, who shall properly be the Association on recess, whose duties it shall be to superintend and say what disposition shall be made of the finances belonging properly to the Association, and the treasurer shall be one of the number. Respectfully submitted, received and adopted.

J. F. HAMBRICK, }
W. T. GRIFFIN, } Committee
J. H. COOKE, }

CHURCH COVENANT.

Having given ourselves to God through Jesus Christ, and adopted the foregoing articles as our confession of faith, we now give ourselves to each other by the will of God, and agree to the following Church Covenant:

1st. We solemnly covenant before God that we will strive by his assisting grace to exemplify our profession by a corresponding practice. We covenant and agree as members of the church and as Christians, to watch over each other in love for mutual upbuilding in gospel faith,

endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, to be careful of each others's reputation, to confess our faults one to another, to strengthen the feeble and kindly admonish the erring, and to labor together for the building up of church and the denomination, and the salvation of sinners.

2. We promise that we will faithfully and constantly maintain secret and family prayer and religiously instruct those under our care.

3. We covenant and agree to use our influence to sustain the regular public worship of God contributing according to our ability and circumstances for the support of the ministry and other church expenses among us; that we will be benevolent to the needy, and especially to the poor of our own church.

4. We also promise that, so far as we shall be able, we will attend upon public worship, the social meetings of the church and report ourselves regularly at the monthly conferences; and that we will walk in all the ordinances of the Lord's house.

5. We covenant and agree that we will abstain from all vane amusements and sinful conformity to the world; that we will not traffic in, use, nor furnish to others intoxicating drinks as a beverage; and that we will sustain the benevolent enterprises of our denomination and church, as Missions, Education, Sabbath Schools, Moral reform and all others which tend to the glory of God and to the welfare of men, and may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; that we may join the glorified around the

throne of God in ascribing blessing and honor and glory and power to Him that sitteth on the throne and unto the Lamb forever. Amen.

CHURCH DECORUM.

1. The church may choose a pastor annually at the last regular Conference in Associational year; or, if they prefer it, may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time, to continue from year to year, so long as they may deem it proper to keep up the connection.

2. When it becomes necessary, a pastor may be chosen at any other time, but if the choice be made at a special Conference the time must be appointed at a monthly meeting of the church.

3. The pastor shall be Moderator of the church, but when he is absent, or does not sit as Moderator, being present, some suitable brother shall be appointed to sit in his place.

4. There shall be two or more deacons in the church, whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and disbursement of all contributions made by the church for the pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and wine in the administration of the Lord's Supper.

5. The deacons shall also take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper, and endeavor to ascertain the cause that the same may be laid before the church in conference, if necessary.

6. Some suitable member shall be appointed Clerk, and it shall be his duty to do all the recording and other writing pertaining to the business of the church, and to preserve a file of the minutes of

the association.

7. When a new Clerk is appointed, all the books, minutes, etc., belonging to the Clerk shall be immediately delivered to him by his predecessor. Also it shall be the duty of the church clerk to revise the church roll at least once a year. When we have lost sight of a member by absence or otherwise we leave their names on the old roll to be reinstated upon proper showing being made. It shall be the duty of the pastors to instruct the deacons and clerks of their churches in regard to money for missions.

8. When the church deems it necessary, a committee of not less than three male members, well acquainted with the business, shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to give advice to the brethren who apply to them relative to cases of dealing, etc., with the church.

9. The church shall hold a two days' meeting, monthly, embracing Saturday and the Lord's day following, the first of which shall be the regular time for Conference.

10. It shall be the duty of every member, male and female, to attend each Conference meeting, if they can; for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a certain manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline and the rules of holy living. Also it shall be his duty as pastor to preach a missionary sermon at least quarterly.

11. Any male member who shall fail to attend three successive Conferences, and any member whatever, who may be generally remiss in attending the meetings of the church, according to the covenant (Article 10) shall be cited to ap-

pear in Conference and answer for his neglect; but the church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.

12. Conferences shall be opened and conducted as follows:

1. Prayer (unless divine service has just been concluded and generally then.)

2. Invite visiting brethren to seats.

3. Open the door for reception of members, read minutes of last conference.

4. Call for absentees.

5. For acknowledgement.

6. For reference or deferred business.

7. For matter of dealing which are in order to come before the church.

8. For miscellaneous business.

13. Visiting brethren, as helps called in from sister churches, shall be allowed to speak and make motions or seconds, but not allowed to vote.

14. An orderly member of the Baptist church who does not hold this church in fellowship, may be received into the church without a letter, when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unimpeachable, and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he desired to join this or some sister church. All other persons must join by letter or baptism.

15. No member shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present; but unreasonable objection shall not be valid, and unless withdrawn the member who makes them shall be liable to be taken under dealings by the church.

16. When the Moderator calls for absentees the Clerk shall inform the church what male members have been absent from three successive Conferences and the

Moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to cite each of them to the next Conference.

17. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing to attend at his trial, provided his residence be known to the church.

18. When a witness, or a member of the church, is introduced he shall not be examined until the question has been put to the church: Will you hear the testimony of this witness?

19. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgement shall be mounted in the church book.

20. Members dismissed from this church by letter, who become disorderly or continue to hold their letters without a good reason, shall be cited to Conference to answer for their conduct.

21. Expelled members may be restored to fellowship on their petition, if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented of their former evil.

22. A vote shall not be taken upon any question without a move and second and in all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.

23. No motion shall be made while a move and second is before the conference.

24. It shall be considered disorderly for any member to absent himself from Conference when an important question is to be decided; but a member, upon his request, may be exempted by the church from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

25. No member shall leave the house during Conference without a sufficient cause, nor engage in conversation or whis-

pering, without being subject to be called to order by the Moderator.

26. All discussions in Conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling; those who speak must arise to their feet and address the Moderator, and keep to the point in debate.

27. No one shall speak more than three times on the same motion without permission from the Moderator, nor shall the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.

28. When the Moderator speaks in debate he must nominate some brother, Moderator in his stead.

29. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it is necessary to call him to order.

30. It shall be the rule of the church to attend to the administration of the Lord's Supper at least four times a year, and the expenses to be paid by the church.

31. Members not in good standing shall not commune, but the administration shall not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.

32. Feet washing shall be attended to as the church sees proper.

33. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on proper occasions.

34. The Decorum may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any two successive monthly Conferences.

STATISTICS, 1900, GEORGIA UNION ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY	Val Ch Prop.	CLERKS AND POST OFFICES.	Miss'n	M't Sn	B'p'm	Letter	Faith	M'nb'r	E'p'l'd	For Min'tes	Paid Pastor	Died
Free Will Union	Pulaski	\$200	G. W. Stephenes, Hawkinsville.	\$.	2	6	..	2	51	..	2 00	\$25 00	1
Double Branch	Dooly	...	A. J. Dunaway,	..	4	6	1	..	..	..	2 00	25 00	...
Love's Chapel	Dooly	100	J. N. Sangster, Vienna,	..	3	1	5	1	34	1	3 00	29 00	...
Pleasant Hill	Dooly	300	J. E. Rogers,	..	2	1	..	1	28	..	2 00	15 00	2
Oak Grove	Dooly	....	J. R. Martin,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 00	.....	...
		\$600		12	14	6	4	113	1	\$ 10	\$94 00		3

PASTORS:—E. W. Wright, Free Will Union, Pulaski county; E. L. St. Clair, Double Branch, Dooly county; E. L. St. Clair, Loves Chapel, Dooly county; G. W. Nobles, Pleasant Hill, Dooly.