# **MINUTES**

OF THE

Twenty-Fifth Annual Session

OF THE

# Jasper Free-Will

# BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH

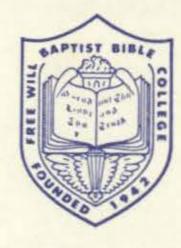
Free Water Church, Marion County, Ala., September 30th and October 2d, 1911.

#### OFFICERS.

Rev. E. C. Thomas	 Moderator.
John W. Roberson	 Clerk.
John A. Nelson	 Treasurer.

The next session of this Association will convene with Union Hill Church, 2½ miles South of Hackleburg, on the I. C. Rail Road, Marion County, Ala. The same to convene on Saturday before the First Sunday in October, 1912.

GOLDSBORO, N. C. NASH BROS., PRINTERS AND BINDERS, 1912



# FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Wayne	Martin
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#### PROCEEDINGS.

Proceedings of the Twenty-fifth Annual Session of the Jasper Free-Will Baptist Association convened with Free Water Church, Marion county, Ala., September 30-October 2, A. D. 1911.

Prayer by Rev. John Moore.
Introductory Sermon by Rev. E. C. Thomas.
Prayer by Rev. J. L. Conner and Benediction.
Recess of one hour for dinner.

# AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met pursuant to adjournment. After song and prayer by Rev. J. W. Porter of the Vernon Association, it was announced that the body was ready for business.

Rev. J. L. Conner, Moderator, and J. W. Roberson, Clerk,

being present took their seats.

The Moderator called for business and it was transacted as follows:

1. Appointed Rev. E. C. Thomas and Rev. W. D. Martin

Reading clerks.

MOIT RISCOGIATION

2. Called for letters and they were handed in and contents noted, as per statistical table, and the delegations were seated.

3. Called for petitionary letters and received one, from Mountain Home Church, of the Bear Creek Association.

On motion, the Church, Mountain Home, be received into this Association and Brother Robert Mullens be seated as delegate from Mountain Home Church; whereupon the Moderator and Clerk extended the right hand of fellowship to Bro. Mullens.

4. On motion, it was agreed to permanently organize the body, which was done by electing Rev. E. C. Thomas, Moderator; J. W. Roberson, Clerk, and J. A. Nelson, Treasurer for the next Associational year.

5. Called for Correspondence from sister Associations and received as follows:

From Morning Star—Brother P. H. Pike and Rev. John Moore.

From Vernon—Rev. J. W. Porter and Brother G. C. Crews.

From State Line-Rev. J. G. Boyett.

These brethren were cordially received and seated.

6. On motion, the Moderator appoint all committees, and the following were appointed, to-wit:

On Preaching—Brethren E. F. Franks, J. T. Tharp, J.

A. Nelson with the Deacons of this Church.

7. On Documents and Order of Business—Brother J. J. Erwin, Rev. J. L. Conner, Rev. G. C. Elliott, Moderator and Clerk.

8. On Sabbath Schools-Brethren W. A. Smith, Robert

Mullens and Guss Ivey.

9. On Literature—Brethren Wade M. Fowler, Robert Pickard and N. P. Hutcheson.

10. On Deceased Ministers and Members—Brethren W. J. Underwood, W. J. Crenshaw, T. L. Pratt and Rev. J. E. Cochran.

11. On Finance—Brethren W. J. Lacy, W. S. Flippo, P. R. McCaig and J. H. Crow.

12. On Associational Funds-Brethren W. C. Pearce, S.

G. Walker, W. P. Taff and Rev. G. W. Flippo.

13. Committee on Preaching reports as follows: Rev. J. G. Boyett, of the State Line Association, preach to-night; Rev. John Moore, of the Morning Star Association, preach to-morrow at 9 o'clock, a. m.; Rev. J. W. Porter, of the Vernon Association, preach at 11 o'clock, a. m.; Rev. J. L. Conner preach at 4:30 p. m.

14. On motion, the report is adopted and the Committee

retained.

15. On motion, the Association adjourns to meet Monday morning at 8 o'clock. Prayer by Bro. J. J. Erwin. Benediction by Rev. J. L. Conner.

#### ORDER OF SUNDAY SERVICES.

At 9 o'clock, a. m., Rev. John Moore, of the Morning Star Association, preached a very able and instructive sermon to a very large and well behaved audience. Text: "Heaven."

At 11 o'clock, a. m., Rev. J. W. Porter, of the Vernon Association, preached a very interesting and instructive sermon to an immense audience.

#### OUR LORD'S SUPPER.

After preaching our Lord's Supper was administered and Christians of different denominations partook with us. At 4:30 o'clock, p. m., Rev. J. L. Conner preached a soul-stirring sermon to a large and well attentive audience, at the close of which much joy was felt and expressed.

# MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 2D, 1911.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. The congregation sang a Hymn, after which prayer was offered by Rev. J. G. Boyett.

Rev. E. C. Thomas, Moderator, called the Association to

order.

The Clerk called the roll and the Ministers and Delegates answered to their names.

The Moderator announced a quorum present and that the Association was ready for business, which was transacted as follows:

1. On motion, Rev. S. B. Ramsey's name be dropped

from our Minutes as a Minister of this Association.

2. On motion, Saturday's proceedings were read and adopted.

At 10 o'clock Rev. John Moore preached, out in the grove, to a very anxious audience.

3. Called for Ministers of other denominations to seats

with us. None present.

4. Reports of Committees was called for in regular order and presented as follows, to-wit:

#### ON DOCUMENTS AND ORDER OF BUSINESS.

We, your Committee on Documents and Order of Business, submit the following report:

We find five petitionary letters asking for the next Association, and

we recommend that the body decide where it shall be held.

We recommend that the Clerk superintend the printing of the Minutes and that he have \$6.00 for his services, and that the Moderator have \$6.00 for his service, out of the Associational funds.

We recommend that the Churches of this Association contribute to the State Convention and that we represent by delegate, and that this Association pay traveling expenses of her delegates out of the Associational funds.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. ERWIN, Chairman.

On motion, the report is received and adopted and the committee discharged.

#### ON DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE.

We, your Committee on Denominational Literature, report as follows: We do not know of any thing better to recommend than the Free Will

Baptist; and we recommend that our Sabbath Schools all use Free Will Baptist Literature, and all other religious literature they see fit; and we recommend that a careful and prayerful study of the Holy Scriptures Respectfully submitted, be observed.

W. M. FOWLER, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and adopted and the committee discharged.

# ON MINISTERIAL CHARACTER.

We, your Committee on Ministerial Character, beg leave to report as follows:

We find all our Ministers in good standing, and we urge that it is their duty to attend each session of the Association as much as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. INGLE. W. T. KEETON, G. W. MOORE, JESSE TYRA, Standing Committee.

On motion the report is adopted and committee retained.

# ON DECEASED MINISTERS AND MEMBERS.

We, your Committee on Deceased Ministers and Members, report as follows:

Since our last Association, Death has summoned from the Church Militant on earth, to the Church Triumphant in Heaven-from New Hope, Rev. H. B. Fowler died February 8th, 1911, aged about 65 years; from Union Chapel. Brother William A. Eads, aged 41 years, 7 months and 22 days; from New Oak Grove, Sis er Amey Howard, aged 76 years; also Sister Lizzy Bridgman, aged 21 years, 1 month and 10 days; also Sister Rena Williams, aged about 61 years; from Liberty, Brother W. H. Flurry, aged 32 years, 5 months and 17 days; also Sister Viola Wilson; also Brother G. C. Estes died October 1st, 1911.

Respectfully submitted, W. J. UNDERWOOD, Chairman.

On motion, the report is adopted.

## ON ASSOCIATIONAL FUNDS.

We, your Committee on Associational Funds submit the following report: We find paid in from the various Churches \$24.25. Respectfully submitted.

W. C. PEARCE, G. W. FLIPPO, S. G. WALKER, W. P. TAFF, Committee.

On motion, the report is adopted and committee discharged.

# ON FINANCE.

We, your Committee on Finance, beg to report as follows: We find paid in by the various Churches as Minute Funds.. .... \$19 65 Personal contribution ..... 3 01

Respectfully submitted,

W. S. FLIPPO, Chairman.

On motion, the report is adopted and the committe discharged.

On motion, we adjourn one hour for dinner.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

After singing a Hymn and prayer by Bro. A. H. Lay, the Moderator announced ready for business.

#### ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, report as follows: We find our Sabbath Schools on the increase and recommend that our people co operate with the State organization of Sabbath Schools and make report of work done, and amount collected and expended; the number of pupils enrolled. Also that Ministers encourage the work in their churches and encourage the study of the Holy Bible, for the Divine Teacher said, "Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal W. A. SMITH, Chairman. life." Respectfully submitted,

On motion, the report is adopted and committee discharged.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT.

The amount on hand October 3d, 1910, was	\$ 80 6	12 40
Total		52 25
Grand total	\$ 110	77
Paid out to R. C. Flippo.       \$ 5 00         Paid out to J. A. Nelson       5 00         Paid out to J. L. Conner       6 00 -	<b>—</b> 16	00
Balance on hand October 2d, 1911	\$ 94 surer	

On motion, report is adopted.

Rev. J. R. Ford and Rev. W. D. Martin presented themselves, by letter and recommendation, as candidates for ordination and after examination as to their knowledge of the Holy Scriptures and Articles of our Faith, and being adjudged worthy, were ordained by a Presbytery composed of Revs. J. L. Conner, John W. Moore of the Morning Star Association, G. C. Elliott and R. C. Flippo.

On motion, Rev. A. H. Lay have Ordination Papers signed by Moderator and Clerk of this Association.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

1. Resolved, That any Minister of this Association who is found guilty of circulating false reports, by pen or otherwise, on a brother Minister which is liable to impair his usefulness and destroy his influence shall be deemed guilty of a disciplinary offence, and after discipline has been used if he does not show signs of penitence and reformation he shall be excommunicated from the Association and published in our denominational literature.

2. It is agreed to retain a financial system, as we see the great need of such, and we recommend that each member of this Association pay, annually, 50 cents in connection with the minute funds, and ask all our ministers to use their best efforts in the collection of these funds; and it is further understood that our Treasurer keep a true record of all funds paid in, and how the same are paid out; such funds to be disposed of through the Moderator and Clerk being authorized by the Association; said funds to be used for no other purpose than the up-building of the Jasper Free-Will Baptist Association, i. e., aiding distressed and disabled Ministers and poor widows and orphans

3. Be it resolved, That members shall not hold their membership out of the Church over one year after date, and they are under the jurisdiction of the Church to which they be-

long.

4. Be it resolved, That any Minister of the Jasper Free-Will Baptist Association who desires to set forth the full functions of the Gospel the same shall be made known to the Annual Association by a recommendation from the Church or Churches to which they belong, and if on examination, they shall be found worthy, the Association may ordain them; but all ordinations must be done at the Annual Association.

5. On motion, Rev. J. R. Halladay be, and he is hereby appointed to write a circular letter to be appended to the

Minutes of 1912, choosing his own subject.

6. On motion, each Minister report annually the amount of money he has secured, the number of miles traveled, number of sermons preached, number of public prayers, number of marriages, number of visits to the sick, and number of burial services attended during the associational year.

7. On motion, the Moderator is authorized to appoint

delegates to our Sister Associations, as follows:

To the State Convention-Bro. W. J. Crenshaw and Rev. J. L. Conner.

To Bear Creek Association-Bro. Wade M. Fowler and

Rev. J. E. Cochran.

To Little Brown's Creek Association-Bros. John Keeton and J. T. Tharp.

To State Line-Bro. W. A. Smith and A. H. Lay.

To Morning Star-Revs. J. L. Conner, E. C. Thomas and W. B. Benson.

To Cahaba—Bros. S. G. Walker and J. L. Treece.

To Vernon-Bro. J. A. Nelson and Rev. G. C. Elliott. 8. On motion, Association donated Rev. R. C. Flippo

\$5.00 out of the Treasury.

9. By a majority vote it is decided and agreed that the next session of the Association be held with Union Hill Church, two and one-half miles South of Hackleburg Station, on the I. C. Rail Road, Marion County, Ala.; the same to convene on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1912; and that Rev. George W. Flippo preach the Introductory Sermon, Rev. J. J. Wesley, alternate.

10. On motion, the Treasurer is authorized to loan the money in the treasury at 8 per cent. interest with note and

security.

11. On motion, the Treasurer be allowed \$5.00 annually for his services.

12. It is ordered that our Articles of Faith and Rules of

Decorum be appended to our Minutes.

13. On motion, it is agreed that the Clerk superintend the printing of our Minutes and that he have \$6.00 for his service.

14. On motion, the following resolution was adopted, to-

wit:

Resolved, That this, the Jasper Free-Will Baptist Association, assembled at Free Waters Church, do hereby tender our sincerest love and respect to the officers and delegates of this august body, and to the good sisters for their kind and friendly assistance in every way within their power; and that,

Whereas, It has pleased God to call from the Association Militant to the Association Triumphant, Bro. Geo. C. Estes, and, Whereas, we bow in humble submission to His divine will and we humbly pray God to take care of the grief-

stricken widow and orphans of Bro. G. C. Estes.

REV. J. L. CONNER. Respectfully submitted,

15. On motion, the Association adjourned to meet at

the time and place above named.

Prayer by Rev. J. L. Conner. Closing exercises conducted by Rev. E. C. Thomas with appropriate remarks. A hymn was sung and the parting hand was taken amid tears and joy.

REV. E. C. THOMAS, Moderator.

JNO. W. ROBERSON, Clerk.

# ORDAINED MINISTERS AND POST OFFICES.

Rev. R. A. Nix, Rosco, Texas, r. f. d. No. 2.

Rev. G. C. Elliott, Guin, Ala., r. f. d. No. 1. Rev. John L. Conner, Guin, Ala., r. f. d. No. 1.

Rev. J. J. Wesley, Guin, Ala.

Rev. W. H. Ingram, Brilliant, Ala., r. f. d. No. 1.

Rev. J. R. Halladay, Cordova, Ala.

Rev. G. W. Flippo, Guin, Ala., r. f. d. No. 3.

Rev. Jas. E. Cochran, Winfield, Ala., r. f. d. No. 3.

Rev. W. M. Busby, Nauvoo, Ala., r. f. d. No. 1. Rev. E C. Thomas, Winfield, Ala, r. f. d. No. 4.

Rev. W. B. Benson, Carbon Hill, Ala.

Rev. R. C. Flippo, Guin, Ala.

Rev. W. E. M. Cofield, Bear Creek, Ala.

Rev. A. H. Lay, Hackleburg, Ala., r. f. d. No. 2.

Rev. J. N. Ford, Hackleburg, Ala., r. f. d. No. 2.

Rev. W. D. Martin, Guin, Ala., r. f. d. No. 3.

## MINISTER'S REPORTS.

Since the last session of our Association I have preached 26 sermons, offered 30 public prayers, traveled 670 miles, visited the sick room 15. times, delivered 2 exhortations, married 3 couples. Received for my service from Pleasant Ridge \$9.25, from Mountain Home \$3.91, from Mount Joy \$3.00; for marriage \$2.50. Total \$38.66.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. E. C. Thomas.

My ministerial work is as follows: I have three regular appointments each month. I have visited the sick room 8 times; attended 3 burial services. Respectfully submitted, Rev. J. R. Ford.

#### RULES OF DECORUM.

Article 1. The Association shall be called to order by the Moderator who presided at the last session; former Clerk also officiating until the body is fully organized.

Art. 2. The Association shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.

Art. 3. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by ballot at each session of the Association. A majority of votes by the delegates present elects.

Art. 4. The names of delegates from the different churches shall be enrolled and called as often as necessary during the session.

Art. 5. A majority of delegates present shall rule in all cases except the reception of members, then it shall be unanimous.

Art. 5. The Moderator shall not be entitled to vote, except in case of a tie, and then he shall give the deciding vote. He shall also speak on any question after others have spoken, provided he appoint some one to the chair while he is speaking.

Art. 7. Only one person shall speak at the same time, and he shall arise and address the Moderator, and after recognition by the Moderator, proceed.

Art. 8. No brother shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject under discussion, or use words of personal reflection.

Art. 9. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association, nor more than fifteen minutes at a time.

Art. 10. No person shall laugh or talk during the time the debates are going on.

Art. 11. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave of the Moderator.

#### CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This Association shall be known as the Jasper Freewill Baptist Association of Alabama, and being composed of ministers and delegates from the different churches forming the same, each church being entitled to three delegates.

Art. 2. This body shall be considered an advisory council.

Art. 3. All questions of doctrine and matters of general interest shall be decided by a two-thirds vote of the Association, and the decision shall be final.

Art. 4. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, which shall be chosen by a majority vote at each session of the Association.

Art. 5. The Association shall meet annually at such time and place as may be agreed upon by a previous annual session and shall not adjourn finally, until all the business is transacted.

Art. 6. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt its Articles of Faith and conform to its usages.

Art. 7. We agree as churches of this Association to use our best influence to promote the interest of all moral and benevolent institutions, such as the Temperance Cause, Sunday Schools, Missionary Work, etc.

Art. 8. No member of this Association shall be eligible to the office of Moderator more than two successive sessions, unless no other member be competent to act in that capacity.

Art. 9. Any church of this Association failing to be represented for two years in succession, the same shall be dropped from our minutes.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH.

OF GOD—Article 1. We believe there is one, and but one living and true God. Who is in personality, the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost. Equal and harmonious in every Divine perfection.

OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES—Art. 2. We believe that God is the Author of the Holy Bible, and that its teachings constitute the only infallible doctrine for the government of his church.

OF ORIGINAL APOSTASY—Art. 3. We believe that Adam was created holy; but by voluntary transgression fell into depravity, and consequently involved his posterity in sin,

OF FREE GRACE—Art. 4. We believe that the Grace of God comprehends all spiritual blessings. That the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation. That the Holy Spirit not only reproves the world of sin, but is the means whereby sinners are converted, regenerated and saved.

OF CHRISTIAN FAITH—Art. 5. We believe that Christian Faith is belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Redeemer of the world, and we believe in the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures. That "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God."

OF REPENTANCE—Art. 6. We believe that Repentance is sorrow for sin, and the kind of sorrow which constitutes godly repentance must be preceded by effectual conviction for sin.

OF FREE AGENCY—Art. 7. We believe that the human will is free, and that men have ability to accept or reject the conditions of salvation as they are revealed in the Holy Scriptures.

OF PERSEVERANCE—Art. 8. We do not believe under the Gospel dispensation that any soul is elected to eternal life unconditionally; but those who by faith persevere to the end will be saved. That it is possible for men who have been converted, to "Make shipwreck of the Faith," turn again to sin and be finally lost!

OF GOOD WORK—Art. 9. We believe that good work is the result of Faith, and not of necessity. That those who have Faith will do anything pleasing or acceptable unto God.

OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM—Art. 10. We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer in the names of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. That baptism cannot be Scripturally administered without Faith in the subject who receives it.

OF THE LORD'S SUPPER—Art. 11. We believe the Supper was instituted by our Savior as a commemmorative ordinance. That the bread and wine represent his body and blood. That it was instituted for Christians and that all Christians should unite in observing that sacred service, regardless of names or denominational distinctions.

OF THE SOUL—Art. 12. We believe that man is a living soul. That the body will die, but that the soul is immortal. That death is the separation of the mortal and immortal parts of human beings.

OF THE RESURRECTION—Art. 13. We believe in the Resurrection of the dead. When the resurrection shall take place the soul and body will reunite and form an immortal being. That the righteous will be received into a state of everlasting happiness, to reign with God forever and ever. But the wicked will be bound hand and foot and be cast into outer darkness. "The wicked are driven away in their wickedness, but the righteous have hope in their death."

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#### CHURCHES, PASTORS, CLERKS AND POSTOFFICES.

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES.	PASTORS.	CLERK AND POSTOFFICE.
Free Water, Marion County Liberty, Marion County Pleasant Ridge, Itawamba, Miss. Shady Grove, Franklin County Pearce's Chapel, Marion County.	J. L. Conner  J. R. Haladay.  J. W. Alexander  W. B. Benson  J. T. Harris	F. P. Elliott, Guin, Ala., R. 1. J. R. Dutton, Nauvoo, Ala. J. R. Benson, Nauvoo, Ala. J. H. Taylor, Glen Allen, Ala., R.2 J. L. Eads, Glen Allen, Ala. W. H. Kennedy, Hackleburg, Ala. J. R. Franks, Guin, Ala., R. 3. J. E. Smith, Guin, Ala., R. 3. W. B. Dickinson, Dennis, Miss N. P. Hutcheson, Phil-Campbell J. W. Roberson, Pearce's Mills. W. J. Crenshaw, Pocahontas, Ala. W. M. Fowler, Nauvoo, Ala. W. P. Taff, Cardova, Ala., R. 1.

# STATISTICAL TABLE.

NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Baptized.	Rec. by letter.	Dis. by Letter.	Restored.	Died.	Excluded.	Days of meeting.	No. members.	For Minutes.	Associational Funds,
J. W. Pyron, T. A. Berryhill, M. M. Vaughn. J. A. Keeton, J. T. Tharp. W. J. Lacy, N. Hutcheson, G. Burleson, J. Crow. J. L. Crow. Geo. Millwood. W. J. Crenshaw. Guss Ivey, W. M. Fowler. Not represented W. P. Taff, S. G. Walker. By letter and contribution R. Pickard, R. Mullons.	9	2	1			i i	2 1 1 4		\$ 2.10 1.00 .40 1.00 1.15 1.00 1.35 1.50 1.10 2.00 1.40 1.10 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1	\$ 1.75 1.50 1.00 1.00 1.25 50 1.50 3.50 2.30 .25 1.85 1.00 5.25 1.00 5.25 1.75