

Minutes Of The 26th Session
Of The
**JOHN THOMAS
ASSOCIATION**

of the
Free Will Baptists
OF VIRGINIA

WHICH CONVENED WITH THE
Valley View Church
CLINTWOOD, VIRGINIA
SEPTEMBER 9-12, 1948



MONROE HUBBARD, Moderator
W. R. BISE, Assistant Moderator
EVERETTE JOHNSON, Clerk
TED BISE, Treasurer

The next session will meet with the Ephesus Church,
Swords Creek, Va., beginning on Thursday before the
second Sunday in September, 1949.

PROCEEDINGS

Twenty-Sixth Annual Association of The John Thomas Association Freewill Baptists

The Twenty-Sixth Annual Association of the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists convened with the Valley View Church, at Clintwood, Va., on Thursday, September 9th to 12th, 1948.

Introductory message delivered by Bro. Asa Hughes, pastor of Valley View Church. He read for lesson 16 verses of 15th chapter of St. John. Bro. Hughes called for prayer by Bro. Emory Vanover. Bro. Hughes used for his text the 9th verse of lesson read. This was a wonderful message and a great manifestation of the Holy Spirit.

THURSDAY EVENING SESSION, 2 P. M.

Conference opened with singing. Clerk having charge of Conference, read for lesson the 4th chapter of 2nd Corinthians. Called for prayer by Bro. J. C. Rasnick. Clerk declared Conference opened for any such lawful business that might come before the Association. The first item was enrolling of delegates, ministers, visiting ministers and corresponding messengers.

They were as follows:

Delegates from Dickenson County Quarterly Meeting and the churches they represented:

FEUTHER'S CHAPEL—Mrs. E. A. Reedy, Alma Bise, Ocie Carty, Henry Carty.

CLINCHCO CHURCH—Mrs. Everett Johnson

MILL CREEK CHURCH—Fern Mullins, Mae Vanover, Zella Lambert.

MIDDLE BRANCH CHURCH — Ritter Lambert, George Lambert.

LICK FORK CHURCH—Ruby Dotson

RUGBY CHURCH—Lila Salyers

PINE GROVE CHURCH—Mrs. O. A. Kiser.

FERBIE CHURCH—John Meade. Also, Draxie Trivitt, Clara Robinette and E. W. Stanley.

NEW DURM DELEGATES—Walter Whited, Corbett

Ray, Milburn Hess, W. D. Whited, M. F. Hess, Cleve Dye, Ella Dye, Ida Whited.

LETCHER COUNTY DELEGATES—Joe Toth, Lawrence Childress, Daniel Green Lura Lowe, Paul Sweeton, Carl Deprice, Liza Mahan, Mrs. Luther Dingus, Albert Haynes, Lena McPeaks, Cora Able.

DICKENSON COUNTY MINISTERS—Hubert Cox, W. R. Bise, Asa Hughes, George Mooney, Henry Smith, Monroe Mullins, Fred Taylor, Lonzo Edwards, Quentin Keith, C. E. Reedy, Luther Taylor, Josh Rose, Vernon Kiser, E.M. Rose, Willard Martin, E. C. Kiser, Walter Hughes, Emory Vanover, Everett Johnson,

NEW DURM MINISTERS—J. C. Rasnake, Harley Dye, Gonian Kelly, M. P. Ball, E. E. Edwards

LETCHER COUNTY MINISTERS—Hobart Spriggs, Alva Dingus, L. D. Mahan, Monroe Hubbard, Everett Potter, Albert Dingus, C. W. Ison, Ersel McPeaks,

VISITING MINISTERS—Kyle Hubbard, M. W. Remines, Ray Gardner, W. B. Powers

Corresponding Messengers

E. J. Kilgore, from the Southwest Virginia Association, Walter Glover, from the Clinch Valley Association.

Next item of business was election of Moderator. By move and second, Monroe Hubbard was elected Moderator, W. R. Bise Assistant Moderator.

Moderator taking charge of Conference, proceeded by election of officers. By move and second, the Association voted to retain Everett Johnson, Clerk, and Ted Bise, Treasurer.

The Moderator was given power by Conference to appoint committees as needed.

Supply Of Pulpit

B.M. Lane, Chairman; Gladys Holbrook, Mae Vanover

Next was the reading of last year's minutes. They stood approved as read. The Moderator invited visiting brethren to sit with us as advisory members. Executive board members from their quarterly meeting were as follows:

LETCHER COUNTY—Luther Dingus.

NEW DERM Q. M.—M. F. Hess, Walter Whited.

DICKENSON COUNTY—N. B. Lambert; Corbett Deel

Conference adjourned until 9:30 P. M., Friday morning.

PREACHING SERVICE, THURSDAY EVENING, 3:30 P. M.

Committee appointed for this hour of service: Harley Dye and Henry Smith, Bro. Dye reading part of the 14th chapter of St. John for a lesson, calling for prayer by Bro. Bise.

Bro. Dye using for text, "Let not your heart be troubled." This was a wonderful message brought by Bro. Dye and Bro. Smith. It was a very comforting message to the children of God, and a great manifestation of the Holy Spirit was present.

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE, 7:00 P. M.

Committee appointed Bro. Kyle Hubbard and M. P. Ball for this hour of service. Bro. Kyle Hubbard read for lesson a part of the 5th chapter of Romans. Prayer by Bro. Fred Taylor. Bro. Hubbard used for his text, "Tribulation Worketh Patience."

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION 9:30 A. M.

Conference opened with singing. Assistant Moderator having charge of conference, read for lesson 14 verses of the 15th chapter of John. Prayer by Sister Madell Dings. Moderator having charge of conference, declared it open for such lawful business as might come before the Association.

The first item was enrolling delegates, ministers, visiting ministers and corresponding messengers.

Moderator called for a song and the right hand of fellowship was given to visiting brothers and sisters.

Next item was calling for letters from different quarterly meetings. Dickenson County responding, their letter was as follows:

To the John Thomas Association which will convene with the Valley View Church, Clintwood, Va., from the 9th to 12th of Sept., 1948:

GREETINGS:

We, the Dickenson County Conference, met with Middle Branch Church on Friday before the 4th Sunday of July and organized by electing W. R. Bise, moderator; Clyde Reedy, assistant moderator; Clinton Lambert and N. H. Stanley clerks. The following delegates were from their respective churches:

1. Charlie's Chapel—Absent
2. Clinchco—Mrs. Everett Johnson, Maxie Sloan and Muncy Mullins

3. Cold Spring—Mr. and Mrs. Carl Deel and B. L. Grizzle
4. Count's Chapel—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Puckett
5. Duncan Gap—Mrs. Ervin Hall
6. Davis Chapel—Present by letter
7. Flemingtown—Present by letter
8. Ferby—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Meade and John Meade.
9. Georges Fork—Rossie Browning
10. Hamilton Chapel—Absent
11. Honey Camp—Absent
12. Hubbard's Chapel—R. C. Berry
13. Lick Fork Church—Connie Browning and Ruby Dotson
14. Martin's Chapel—Arlin Rose and Dallas Martin
15. Middle Branch—Mrs. Ritter Lambert, Jim Chambers, Homer Kiser, and Gaines Lambert.
16. Mill Creek—Mae Vanover, Fern Mullins, Zella Lambert.
17. Pine Grove—Mrs. O. A. Kiser
18. Pine Creek—Absent
19. Pippins Chapel—Mr. and Mrs. Albert Pippin and Dewey Salyers.
20. Puthers Chapel—Mrs. E. A. Reedy and Alma Bise
21. Rachel's Chapel—Rufus Keith
22. Rugby Church—Lila Salyers and Jess Ring
23. Tarpon—H. B. Cox and C. C. Riner
24. Union Light Church—Present by letter.
25. Yates Chapel—Present by letter.
26. Valley View Church—Mrs. Agnes Vanover, Mrs. Kenneth Rowlett

Our standing is as follows:

Number of Churches ..	26
Number of Members	1349
Number of Sunday Schools	21
Number of Ordained Ministers	31
Number of Licentiates	4
Value of Church Property	\$22,700.00

Done by order of Dickenson County Quarterly meeting.

W. R. Bise, Moderator
 Clyde Reedy, Ass't Moderator.
 N. H. Stanley, Clerk
 Clinton Lambert, Clerk

By move and second this letter was accepted and passed by the Moderator. Moderator called for the next letter, with New Durm responding as follows:

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptist,
GREETINGS:

We, the Russell County New Durm Quarterly Meeting, met with Fullers Church the 6th through 8th of August, 1948, and appointed the following delegates to the Association:

M. F. Hess, Milburn Hess, Lula Hess, Ellen Dye, W. D. Whited, Grover Sykes, Daisy McGlothlin, Leonard Dye, Dave Owens, Walter Whited, Gus Hess, Cleve Dye, Ella Dye, Mrs. W. D. Whited, Mrs. Grover Sykes, E. R. Rasnake, S. S. Hood

Our standing is as follows:

Number churches	7
Number members	192
Number Sunday Schools	2
Number ordained ministers	10

Done by order of New Durm Quarterly Meeting.

J. C. Rasnake, Moderator

Faye Hess, Clerk

By move and second, this letter was accepted and passed by Association.

Letcher County's letter being absent, was carried over until Saturday. At this time the Moderator called for letters from Corresponding Messengers. Bro. E. J. Kilgore, of the Southwest Virginia Association, brought us a letter, as follows:

May 14-15, 1948

GREETINGS:

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists while in session with Valley View Church, Clintwood, Va., Sept. 12, 1948.

We, the Southwest Virginia Association, while in session with the Meades Chapel at Herald, Va., have chosen as corresponding messengers Bro. E. J. Kilgore, Elders Ray Gardner and W. B. Galloway, Bro. Jasper Shell and Sister Ethel Robbins, whom we pray may sit with you as advisory members. Our standing is as follows:

Number Quarterly Conferences	2
Number of Churches	32
Number of Members	1810

Number died this year	10
Number ordained Ministers	36
Number dismissed this year	33
Number Licentiates	10
State of Religion	Good
Number Sunday Schools	31
Number Youths Leagues	4
Sunday School Membership	2202
Membership Youth Leagues	99
Number of Ladies' Auxiliaries	6
Membership of Ladies' Auxiliaries	120

Done by order of the Southwest Virginia Association
May 14, 1948, while in session with Meades Chapel, at
Herald, Va.

Our next Association will convene with the Oak
Grove Freewill Baptist Church, at Big Stone Gap, Va.,
on Friday and Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in May,
1948.

Moderator, Elder C. B. Dickenson, Wise, Va.

Ass't Moderator, Elder Mack Butler, Dungannon, Va.

Clerk, Elder Paul Miller, Big Stone Gap, Va.

Ass't Clerk, Bro. Lester G. Ketron, Herald, Va.

This letter was read, accepted and passed by the As-
sociation.

Bro. Kilgore also gave a talk in connection with the
letter, which was enjoyed very much. His oral report
was also accepted by the Association. It always lifts our
hearts to a higher plane of living to have messengers
come in and sit with us and to advise us in our work.
Bro. Kilgore has meant much to us in this great work
of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Next was hearing from our messengers that visited
other sister associations. Bro. Hubbard and Sister Van-
over gave us a good report from the Southwest Virginia
Association. These talks were enjoyed and accepted by
the Association. At this time Corresponding Messengers
were appointed to the following associations:

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION—R. J. Lam-
bert, Alva Dingus, J. C. Rasnake, W. R. Bise, Emory
Vanover, Everett Johnson.

CLINCH VALLEY ASSOCIATION—W. R. Bise, Alva
Dingus, Gladys Holbrook, Arthur Holbrook, M. F. Hess,
J. C. Rasnake, Harley Dye.

The Clinch Valley Association will convene with the Pendleton Church, at Fort Blackmore, Va., Rt. 1, on Friday before the 2nd Sunday in August, 1949.

The Southwest Virginia Association will convene with Oak Grove Freewill Baptist Church at Big Stone Gap, Va., on Friday before the third Sunday in May, 1949.

KENTUCKY STATE ASSOCIATION—Albert Dingus, Emory Vanover, Everett Johnson.

Committee appointed L. D. Mahan and Albert Dingus to bring the message at 11 o'clock. Prayer was requested;; Bro. Kilgore to lead the prayer and Aunt Mary Powers to conclude the prayer.

By move and second, our conference adjourned until 2 o'clock Friday evening.

FRIDAY MORNING SERVICE 11 O'CLOCK

Preaching by Bros. L. D. Mahan and Albert Dingus, Bro. Mahan reading for lesson 11 verses of the 7th Chapter of Matt. beginning with the 7th verse. Prayer by Bro Kilgore and Aunt Mary Powers.

Bro. Mahan used for his text, "Therefore, whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock."

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION, 2:00 P. M.

Conference opened with singing, Moderator having charge of Conference, read for lesson the 54th Chapter of Isaiah. Calling for volunteer prayer, Sister Holbrook leading in prayer.

Moderator calling for such lawful business as might come before the Essociation, the enrolling of delegates, ministers, visiting ministers and corresponding messengers.

Next was questioning the different quarterly meetings as to their quota of minutes. They were as follows:

New Durm Quarterly Meeting	150
Letcher County Quarterly Meeting	300
Dickenson County Quarterly Meeting	450
TOTAL	900

The clerk was empowered to draw on the treasury for expense of minutes.

Next was report of Executive Committee. Their report

was as follows: We, the Executive Committee, recommend that the Association buy a typewriter for the work of the Association.

N. B. Lambert, Chairman
Luther Dingus
Cleve Dye

By move and second, conference was adjourned until 9 A. M. Saturday morning.

Friday Evening Preaching Service—3:00 P. M.

Committee reported that Bro. Fred Taylor and Bro. Emory Vanover bring the message at this hour.

Congregation singing, Bro. Taylor read for lesson 15 verses of the 2nd chapter of St. Luke. Prayer by Bro. George Mooney. Bro. Taylor used for his text "Come for all things are now ready."

This was a very impressive message by Bro. Taylor and Bro. Vanover. There was a great witness of the Holy Spirit among the children.

Friday Night Service—7:30 P. M.

Committee appointed C. E. Reedy and J. C. Rasnake for this hour. Bro. Otis Keith and wife singing "When He Reached Down For Me." Bro. Reedy reading for lesson a part of the 12th chapter of Hebrews, also two verses of the 12th chapter of Hebrews. Prayer by Bro. S. M. McFall. Bro. Reedy using for text, "Faith." This was a wonderful message.

Saturday Morning Session—9:30 A. M.

Conference opened with singing. Moderator having charge read for lesson a part of the 7th chapter of John. Prayer by Sister Bolling, from Kentucky. Moderator calling for any such lawful business that might come before Association. Continued enrolling delegates, ministers, visiting ministers and corresponding messengers. Next was calling for letter from Letcher County Quarterly Meeting. Their letter was as follows:

To The John Thomas Association, Greetings:

The Letcher County Conference met with the Allegheny Church from the 22nd to 23rd of August, 1948, and appointed the following delegates to the association:

Albert Haynes, Daniel Green, Cora Able, Hilt Taylor, Myrtle Campbell, Lena Dingus, Ruby Steffee, Joe Toth, Lawrence Childress, Helen Bolling, Sanford Swindall,

Charley Combs, Paul Sweeton, Jannie Steffee, Nola Short, Beulah Toth, Carl Depriest, Lena McPeaks, Frank Sturgill, C. C. Tackiett, Eliza Mahan, Leatha Branham, Spisy Moore, Haskew Hayes, Hobart Spriggs, Lura Lowe, Dawson Mullins.

Our standing is as follows:

Number Churches	8
Number Members	496
Number Sunday Schools	8
Number on Roll in Sunday School	900
Average Attendance	700
Ordained Ministers	25
Value of Church Property	\$16,000.00

C. W. ISON, Moderator

JOHNNY SYKES, Clerk

By move and second, this letter was accepted and passed by the Association. Next was reading of Treasury report. After expenses of last year there was a balance of \$151.92
 New Durm paying this year 15.00
 Letcher County paying this year 25.00
 Dickenson County paid last year for two years.

Balance in Treasury \$191.92

Next was clerk and treasurer settling accounts for this year, iwth the exception of the minutes, ministers cards and mailing fees. There was as follows:

Paid for typewriter by check	\$75.00
Paid for clerk's work by check	20.00
Paid out to date	\$95.00
Leaving a balance in treasury	\$96.92

This year's minutes, ministers' cards and mailing fees to be paid from this balance (\$96.92).

This bringing to a close the work of the John Thomas Association, it was adjourned until Thursday before the 2nd Sunday in September, 1949, when it will reconvene with the Ephesus Church, better known as "Pole Cabin Church", at Swords Creek, Va., unless called together by moderator.

Next was the organizing of the Ministers' Conference. By move and second the Association voted to retain the same clerk and moderator for this conference. Moderator calling for letters from different ministers' confer-

ence. Dickenson County responding. Their letter was as follows:

We, the Dickenson County Ministers' Conference, met with the Middle Branch Chuurch on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in July, 1948, and orzanized by electing W. R. Bise moderator, Clyde Reedy assistant moderator, and Clinton Lambert, N. H. Stanley as clerks.

The following ministers were present:

W. R. Bise, Asa Hughes, E. C. Kiser, George Mooney, Clyde Reedy, Luther Taylor, Quentin Keith, Ervin Hall. Vernon Kiser.

Vernon Kiser was received back into the ministers' conference. Ervin Hall was ordained by W. R. Bise, Clyde Reedy and Luther Taylor. By move and second, all ministers were voted in good standing.

The Conference instructed the clerk to interpret rule four of the By-laws of the Minsiters' Conference, that is: "If a minister attends any conference during the year, he be counted in good standing for that year. If he fails to attend, or send a written report, the rule will be followed to the letter in the fear of God."

By move and second, the Conference adjourned until Saturday before the 4th Sunday in July, unless called together by the moderator.

W. R. Bise, Moderator
Clyde Reedy, Assistant Moderator
N. H. Stanley, Clerk
Clinton Lambert, Clerk

By move and second, this letter was accepted and passed by Association. By move and second, ministers' conference adjourned until 2 P. M. Saturday evening.

Saturday Morning Service—11 A. M.

Committee appointed Bro. Monroe Hubbard and Bro. C. W. Ison for this hour of service. Bro. Remines to open prayer and Sister Culbertson to conclude the prayer.

Singing by Bros. Johnny Sykes, Willard Martin, Paul Sweeton and Carl Depreice, also by Bro. Ben Powers and Bro. and Sister Rose. Read for lesson 16 verses of 3rd chapter of John. Used for text "Ye muust be born again."

Saturday Evening Session—2 P. M.

Conference opened with singing and Assistant Moderator reading for lesson the 23rd Psalm. Prayer by Bro. L. D. Mahan, assistant moderator, having charge of conference declared it open for any such lawful business that might come before the Association.

The first item was finishing the work of the Ministers Conference. Bro. Willard Martin, by request of Assistant Moderator and clerk, asked for a letter from the Ministers' Conference.

By move and second this request was granted. Bro. Martin, and the clerk was asked to write his letter of dismission.

Moderator taking charge, continued with the work. Calling for letter from New Durm ministers' conference. It was as follows:

The New Durm ministers' conference met with Fuller's Chapel August 7, 1948, and organized by electing J. C. Rasnake moderator and Faye Hess as clerk. Five ordained ministers being present. Their names were called and each one voted upon. Their characters were passed as good. Five ministers being present, their characters were passed as good. Minister's names were as follows:

J. C. Rasnake, Harley Dye, Elmer Hess, Gonian Kelly, W. E. Rasnake, M. P. Ball, R. S. Ball, H. H. Ball, Lee Wilson, Mose Napier.

J. C. Rasnake, Moderator
Faye Hess, Cler

This letter was accepted and passed by Association.

Next was reading of Letcher County's letter from ministers' conference. It was as follows:

The Letcher County Ministers' Conference met with the Allegheny Church on Saturday, Aug. 22, 1948, and organized by electing C. W. Ison moderator, and Johnny Sykes clerk. The following ministers were voted on and characters passed as good:

Hubert Hill, Emory Vanover, Joe Backer, D. D. Moore, Percy Elkins, Albert Dingus, Porter Brewer, C. C. Flanery, Monroe Hubbard, C. W. Ison, L. D. Mahan, Ersel McPeaks, F. M. Rose, A. L. Dingus, W. M. Elkins, V. C. Morris, Charles Graham, Ezra Johnson, Everett Potter,

Clyde Huff, John Akers, Robert Madden.

C. W. ISON, Moderator
JOHNNY SYKES, Clerk

By move and second this letter was accepted and passed by Association. Next item was questioning whether or not Association change ministers' cards. By move and second of Association it was voted to change the cards and clerk was given power to have 1000 cards printed. The same ordaining councils were retained for another year.

Bro. Walter Glover brought a letter from The Clinch Valley Association. It was read as follows:

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists, Greetings:

We send as corresponding messengers Bro. Walter Glover. Our standing is as follows:

Number of churches	12
Number of members	1029
Number ordained ministers	14

Every branch of the work is moving forward. We send Bro. Glover with a message of love. Our next Association will convene with the Pendleton Church, Fort Blackmore, Va., Rt. 1, on Friday before the 2nd Sunday in August, 1949.

Done by order of the Clinch Valley Association while in session with the Pine Grove Church, Fort Blackmore, Va., August 6th to 8th.

R. A. Dingus, Moderator
L. E. Sexton, Clerk

This letter was accepted and passed by the Association. This finishing the work of the ministers' conference by move and second it was adjourned until Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in September, 1949, when it will reconvene with the Ephesus Church (Pole Cabin church) at Swords Creek, Va., unless called together by the moderators.

Conference was closed with prayer by Bro. C. O. Caudle from Dunham, Ky.

Saturday Evening Preaching Service—3 P. M.

Preaching by Bro. Ray Gardner from Wise County.

He read for lesson, beginning with the 28th verse and reading the remainder of the 13th chapter of Luke. Prayer by Bro. Clint Lambert and Sister Goldia Kiser. Bro. Gardner used for text "Watch."

This was a wonderful hour of service of which the children of God were feasting from that heavenly manna coming down from God out of Heaven.

Saturday Night Service—7.30 P. M.

Committee appointed Bro. Lonzo Edwards and Bro. C. W. Ison for this hour of service. Reading for lesson the 16th chapter of Romans Prayer by Bro. Willard Kiser and Bro. Rufus Keith. Using for text "Power of God."

Sunday Service—11 A. M.

This was a general memorial of all those who had fallen asleep. Those taking part in this service were Bros. Bise, Bro. Vanover, Bro. Hughes. They continued using "Faith" as their subject This was mentioned often during the preaching services of the Association. We would like very much to have kept a record of all those that pass away during the coming year, that their names may be mentioned in the memorial next year.

The Association takes th's means of thanking the people in and around Clintwood for their kindness in taking care of the people during the Association.

Ministers' Reports

Report of Everett Potter

Churches pastored	None
Sermons preached	30
Revivals held	1
Conversions witnessed	4
Number baptised	1
Burials attended	6
Memorials held	4
Prayer services held	10

Report of L. D. Mahan

Churches pastored	2
Sermons preached	71
Conversions witnessed	11
Number baptised	1
Burials attended	4
Memorials held	4
Couples married	1
Miles traveled	1000
Amount received from all sources	\$49.85

Report of L. D. Coleman

Sermons preached	70
Churches pastored	1
Revivals held	1
Professions witnessed	10
Number baptised	8
Additions to church	10
Miles traveled	200
Money received	\$55.00
Memorials held	3

Report of E. E. Edwards

Sermons preached	90
Revivals held	helped
Professions witnessed	25
Miles traveled	1500
Money received	\$20.00

Prayer services held	15
Memorials held	10

Report of J. C. Rasnake

Sermons preached	99
Churches pastored	2
Revivals held	4
Professions witnessed	79
Number baptised	14
Additions to church	16
Funerals preached	8
Miles traveled	1250
Money received	\$471.38
Memorials held	9

Report of W. E. Rasnake

Sermons preached	23
Churches pastored	1
Professions witnessed	14
Number baptised	5
Additions to church	4
Funerals held	2
Miles traveled	300
Money received	\$98.99
Memorials held	5

Report of Clyde Huff

Sermons preached	100
Churches pastored	3
Revivals held	2
Professions witnessed	50
Number baptised	20
Additions to church	12
Churches organized	1
Funerals held	8
Miles traveled	2500
Money received	\$20.00
Prayer services held	100
Memorials held	2

Obituaries

THURMAN SILCOX

Thurman Silcox was born in Dickenson County, Virginia, May 11, 1879, and departed this life May 26, 1948, making his stay on earth 69 years and 15 days.

He was a son of Joseph and Laura Silcox. He was united in marriage to Jane Lambert in 1902. To this union was born seven children, five girls and two boys: Myrtle, Snoda, Palmer, Georgia, Aster, Neva and Clifton, all of whom are living. He leaves fifteen grandchildren, four great grandchildren, five brothers, a good companion and many friends and relatives to mourn his passing.

The comforting part is, in 1943 he gave his heart to God and was baptised and united with the Freewill Baptist church at Middle Branch. We feel assured that he was living a true devoted Christian life. He was always found in his place at church and on time. He suffered nearly six months before his passing, and bore his suffering with patience. He was meditating with God, and pleading with all who were in darkness to get on the right road.

During his sickness his conversation was on God and heavenly things. He called his companion to his bedside and kissed her and told her his suffering would soon be over;; that he was going where little Benny and many of his friends had gone, and where the congregation would never break up. While he had strength to talk he said, "How beautiful it is in Heaven this morning."

He loved his country, his neighbors and his family. Many times while his two sons were serving over seas, and during his sickness we could see tears run down his face. He is now resting from his labors on earth. God called him home, for He knew best. The voice we longed to hear is stilled in sleep. He always had a smile for everyone. If we will be faithful to God, we will see him smiling again.

He is just sleeping a sleep of rest until Jesus comes to awaken him. The vacant place in our home can never be filled.

WRITTEN BY HIS COMPANION
AND CHILDREN

JOHN HENRY WRIGHT

John Henry Wright was born May 30, 1880, son of L. M. and Mary Wright, died January 24, 1948, making his stay on earth 67 years, seven months and 24 days. He was married to Martha Lafferty June 7, 1907. To this union was born seven children, of which six are living. One infant daughter preceded him in death.

He was covered April, 1932, and was baptised May 1932, by Rev. E. A. Reedy and W. R. Johnson. He joined the Clinchco Freewill Baptist Church and later when the Tarpon church was organized he moved his membership here and was a charter member of this church.

He was also a deacon of this church and the Sunday School superintendent as long as he was able. He was a faithful Christian, a good neighbor and a friend to every one. He leaves a wife and six children, two sisters and one brother, seven grandchildren, as well as a host of friends to mourn his loss.

We feel that our loss is his eternal gain.

Written by N. H. STANLEY and
GLADYS HOLBROOK

MRS. N. E. NUCKLES

In memory of my sister, Mrs. N. E. Nuckles, who died Dec. 7, 1947. She was born Sept. 3, 1891, making her stay here fifty-six years. She leaves to mourn her loss a husband and five children, three sisters, two brothers and a host of friends.

Dear Sister, how we miss you since you have gone away,

We want to meet you in heaven some bright, eternal day.

How gladly we will meet you with wings to bear us home,

She is up there in heaven awaiting us to come.

She would have stayed with us but was called to go

And join that band of angels, with wings as white as snow.

While weeping in her home, we promised in our hearts

That we would meet her up in heaven where we would never part.

Sister gone to live with Jesus on that bright eternal shore,

O children, won't you meet your mother where these heartaches will be no more?

Composed by Mrs. Laura Rasnake
Drill, Va.

CHRISS GUS

Chriss Gus was born August 15, 1898, in Greece. Passed this life January 25, 1948, making his stay on earth near 50 years. He came to this country at the age of 9 years, spending most of his life in Pineville, Ky., before coming here. He was married to Zella Robinson on Jan. 13, 1934, at Clintwood, Va. To this union was born seven children: George, Jr., Olive Marie, Zella Christine, Angelia Thesia, Chriss, Jr., Jimmy Ray and Barbara Ruth.

Bro. Gus professed faith in Christ the latter part of 1946, and was buried with Christ in baptism by Bro. Willard Martin and Bro. W. J. Mercer at Clinchco. He lived a faithful, devoted Christian life until Jesus called for him.

He was a loving, devoted husband and father, a good neighbor and friend. He leaves to mourn his loss, his wife, children and a host of friends. Just before he fell asleep he gave this testimony: He saw a very pretty room and it had pretty windows in it and it was the most beautiful place he ever saw.

This is just a reminder that God lets his children see beyond this vale of tears the grandeurs and beauties of HEAVEN, just before they fall asleep. We feel that our loss is Haven's gain.

Written by Friends of Bro. Gus

PFC. EDWARD REEDY

Pfc. Edward Reedy, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Reedy, of Stratton, Va., enlisted in the service of his country July 9, 1940. Took his training at Fort Jackson, S. C. He sailed from there to Hawaii Island; from there to New Guinea. He saw action in many places. He was with General MacArthur in the jump off in Beak Island, starting the drive back to the Philippines.

Edward was a kind and loving boy and had many friends. He was killed by Japanese machine gun fire on

June 28, 1944. His remains were sent back home July 1, 1948, and buried at Peuther Chapel cemetery beside his father, who passed away Oct. 13, 1931.

Edward left to mourn his loss a mother, six sisters and four brothers. He was a twin to Mrs. Flora McCoy. May our loss be Heaven's gain.

Written by his sister, Mrs. Julia Robinson.

PRICY ANN DEEL

Pricy Ann Deel, mother of Mrs. John Vanover, Corbett Deel and several brothers and sisters, was born November 26, 1865, and departed this life October 24, 1919. She was converted in 1910 and was baptised and united with the Christian Church at Grundy, Va. She lived a true and faithful life until death.

She was one of those mothers that didn't fear death, because she loved to talk of heavenly things and about Jesus. All through her sickness this was her conversation. She was a very devoted mother and was faithful to the church and her Christian worship. She had no respect of persons. She didn't know but very little about the Freewill Baptist worship but had met Bro. E. A. Reedy a few times during her illness. We feel like if mother had known the Christian fellowship of the Freewill Baptist worshippers she would have taken her stand with them, for she believed in a Christian religion she could feel, as she had the old time shouting religion. She arranged her own memorial, this starting the "Deel Memorial." She told the children to meet in memory of her as often as we could on the Lord's Day, for in the Lord's House was where she wanted to be when Sunday came. We've been a little slow in writing this obituary, but I find Mother's memorial is the oldest in Dickenson County. It isn't the best, but among the best. And as long as God permits us to live we will meet each year on the 4th Sunday in June and Saturday before, in memory of our dear mother. Pray for the Deel children that each one may live a devoted Christian life that we all may meet mother in Heaven, as this was her prayer.

CLEVELAND DEEL

Cleveland Deel was born about 1885 in Dickenson County, at Mill Creek; departed this life April 30, 1948.

He was married to Waulsey Boyd on Feb. 28, 1912. To this union was born nine children, four boys and five girls: Carrie Fuller, Snodia Damron, Ernest (Bud) Deel, Oma Hill, Emory Deel, Minnie Bell Wolford. Three small sons preceding him to the Great Beyond. He professed faith in Christ in 1915, and united with the church of Christ at Grundy, Va.

He leaves to mourn his passing his children, three brothers, Paul, Corbett and Harrison; four sisters, Linda Yates, Vinie Edwards, Mae Vanover and Ruby Anderson; 12 grandchildren and a host of friends and relatives.

He was a loyal, devoted husband and father. He was a true, kind and loving brother. All his friends and neighbors knew that his family has been his main aim in life. We feel assured that our loss has been Heaven's gain by the testimony he left for us, for in his passing he cast his eyes upward and seemed to be viewing that beautiful place called Heaven.

Written by the Deel Children and his
Uncle John Deel.

