

Minutes
of
The First Annual Session
of
The Liberty Association
of
Free Will Baptist
When convened with the
Free Will Baptist Mission
Hazel Park, Michigan

May 3—5 1951

OFFICERS

Rev. Malcom Rodgers, Moderator

Rev. E. J. Marine, Ass't Mod.

Miss Elsie Hawkins, Clerk

Mrs. Mattie Shelton' Ass't Clerk

Next Session to convene with the Free Will
Baptist Temple, Detroit, Mich. May 1 - 3, 1952
Inductory Message by Rev. N. P. Gates.

On Thursday, May 3rd, 1951, 7:30 p.m., a goodly number of Ministers, Deacons and messengers composing The Liberty Association of Free Will Baptist, met with the F.W.B. Mission in conjunction with the Ten Mile Free Will Baptist Church of Hazel Park, Mich. When convening in their first Annual Session.

Came together by singing; led by the Moderator, Rev. N. P. Gates, followed with prayer by Rev. Henry Howard. After which, the assembly engaged in a few minutes of devotion led by Bro. James A. Nabors, followed with the introductory message delivered by Rev. E. J. Marine, using for Scripture lesson Matt. 5:10-19, Text "Ye Are The Salt Of The Earth." A good service was enjoyed by all present. Dismissed by Bro. Linzele Shepherd.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Pursuant to adjournment, the Moderator called the assembly together by singing at 9:00 a.m., and the reading for Scripture lesson 2nd ch. Phil., prayer by Bro. John Crozier.

First item of business, the Moderator called for letters from the various churches representing to-wit: Ten Mile Free Will Baptist Church, Free Will Baptist Mission, Free Will Baptist Temple and the Maple Grove Free Will Baptist. Letters were read and delegates seated in conference (See list of delegates). Prayer of consecration led by Rev. Malcom Rodgers.

Next item of business was the appointing of the several committees, as follows:

Committee on Divine Services — Bro. John Crozier, Sis. Mary Stanley and Sis. Anna Wright.

Business Committee — Rev. Claud Wright, Rev. E. J. Marine and Bro. Hurshel Stanley.

Committee on Obituary — Sis. Stella Stamper, Sis. Lillie Kelly and Sis. Rosie Roberson.

Committee on Finance — Bro. James A. Nabors, Sis. Hazel Johnson and Sis. Jewel Roberson.

In due time, the Committee on Divine Service announced Bro. Claud Wright to bring the 11:00 Message.

Next item of business, was the election of officers for the ensuing year, resulting in the selection of Rev. Malcolm Rodgers, Moderator; Rev. E. J. Marine, Assistant Moderator; Sis. Elsie Hawkins was selected as Clerk; Sis. Mattie Shelton, Assistant Clerk.

At this interval, the assembly was graced with the presence of the following visiting Ministers: Rev. Frank Pritchard, pastor of the Free Will Baptist Chapel; Rev. Jake Adkins, pastor of the River Rouge Church, present with him was the Rev. Johnson Meador, from Crab Orchard, West Va., presently engaged with the River Rouge Church in a revival campaign; Rev. Raymond Riggs, pastor of the Highland Park F.W.B. Church, present with him was the Rev. Harold Pitts from Ala., who is presently engaged with the Highland Park Church in a revival effort. The same being received as honorary guest.

At this interval, a motion was sustained to adjourn the business until the afternoon session, giving way for the worship hour.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICES

Came together by singing led by Rev. N. P. Gates, Prayer by Rev. Harold Pitts. After which, a round of testimonies were given by each of the guest ministers. This was followed by special numbers rendered by a duet composed of Miss Elaine Wright and Marjorie Miller, singing "My-Dream Home In Glory," and the original Gates Gospel Quartet, composed of Rev. N. P. Gates and wife, Rev. Raymond Riggs and W. E. Gates; assisted at the piano by Miss Marjorie Miller, rendering the following: "I'm Redeemed," "I'd Rather Be An Old Time Christian (Than Anything I Know)" and "I'll Fly Away." At which time, "The Holy Ghost descended upon us in a Hallelujah Time of Rejoicing the hearts of all present."

The Message of the hour was delivered by Rev. Claud Wright, using for Scripture lesson Matt. 13:24-51; Text, "Have Ye Understood These Things." Services were dismissed by Rev. Raymond Riggs.

NOON HOUR

A bountiful feast and refreshments was served by the good sisters of the host church, which, needless to say was enjoyed by all. Thanks being offered by Rev. Harold Pitts.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Came together by singing, led by Bro. W. E. Gates, Prayer by Rev. John Gallagher, followed by the Moderator reading from I Cor. 15:45-58. Prayer by Rev. Johnson Meador.

First item of business claiming our attention for this session, was the matter of selecting a Presbytery Board. And, that according to the Constitution, they should be, preferably Ministers, chosen by the body. Whose tenure of office shall be ranging from one to five years. And, that inasmuch as Rev. N. P. Gates Senior Minister, having served in this capacity the previous year (from the beginning of the Ass'n), it was agreed that he should be retained for the remaining four years of the unexpired term of five years; Rev. E. J. Marine, five years; Rev. Henry A. Howard, three years; Rev. John Q. Gallagher, two years; Rev. Malcom Rodgers, one year.

Next item, was to select an Executive Board, ranging through the years in like manner as the Presbytery Board, however, not confined to ministers only; resulting in the election of the following: Rev. Claud Wright, five years; Bro. James A. Nabors, four years; Rev. N. P. Gates, three years; Bro. E. L. York, two years, Bro. Hurshel Stanley, one year.

At this interval, it was suggested by Rev. Marine, and elaborated upon by the body, that a General Fund should

was found to be unconstitutional, and was rescinded before it reached the committee room.

At this interval, the committee on Divine Service announced Rev. Johnson Meador to bring the Message at the three o'clock hour.

be appropriated; which, by reference to the Constitution,

Next item, was the matter of setting the First Quarterly Conference, as also the next Annual Session; Resulted in the selection of the Free Will Baptist Temple of Detroit, for place to convene the two sessions (This, however, was in accordance to the fact, They having the only request, so stated in their letter). Nominations were now in order for the selection of Messengers for the inductory messages at the subsequent settings of the Conferences; Resulted in the selection of Rev. Malcom Rodgers at the Quarterly Session; Rev. N. P. Gates was chosen for the Annual Session.

At this interval, a motion was sustained to adjourn the business session until 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning. Inasmuch as there being several candidates, set apart for Ordination and Licensing, the Moderator instructed such to meet with the Presbytery Board for examination at 7:00 p.m. Dismissed by Rev. N. P. Gates.

THREE O'CLOCK SERVICES

Came together by singing, led by Bro. James A. Nabors, Prayer, after which Rev. Meador took the stand, using for subject, "There Is Sunshine In Every Cloud." A great inspirational message was graciously received, in Spiritual manifestation. Services was closed by the right hand of fellowship, and dismissed by Rev. Meador.

EVENING WORSHIP

While the Presbytery Board, now in session, the congregation was called together by singing, led by Bro. W. E. Gates, Prayer by Rev. Wright.

After a great time of devotion, the Moderator called for the Ordination Service; At which time the following candidates, having been chosen by their respective churches, and subsequently examined by the Presbytery Board, found to be orthodox, presented themselves for the final public examination and approval, presided over by Rev. N. P. Gates, chairman of the Board; Rev. Claud Wright, to the Ministry; Bro. Hurhsal Stanley and Bro. Leslie Gallagher to the office of a Deacon, respectively (Free Will Baptist Temple); and Bro. John Crozier, to the office of Deacon (Free Will Baptist Mission). These all found worthy, and orthodox received the laying on of hands and prayer; Rev. Gallagher, Rev. Rodgers and Rev. Gates wording the prayer. Candidates' wives, respectively by their sides; including the following: Sis. Anna Wright, Sis. Mary Stanley, Sis. Grace Gallagher and Sis. Floy Crozier). This was followed by Christian hand shake and a time of rejoicing.

Services continued by the rendition of special numbers by the Gates Gospel Quartet and the Girls Duet of the Ten Mile Church. Message by Rev. Malcom Rodgers, on the Ordinances. After which a great number participated in the Communion and washing of each other's feet. A great time of singing and praising the Lord was experienced by all present. Dismissed by Rev. E. J. Marine.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Came together by singing, led by Ralph Clouse, Scripture lesson by the Moderator reading I Tim. 6:1-8, Prayer by Bro. Burris.

At this interval the Moderator called for the Roll Call, which response was given, with the exception of the following absentees: Rev. Gallagher, Rev. Howard, Bro. Stanley, Sis. Anna Wright, Sis. Elaine Crozier, Sis. Stella Stamper and Sis. Hazel Johnson.

Next item, Call for Committee Reports, See reports:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE ON DIVINE SERVICES

Committee on Divine Services in their final announcement, selected Rev. N. P. Gates as the speaker for the 11:00 o'clock hour. Committee now having filled charge, was complimented for their splendid service and was discharged.

(See Committees).

COMMITTEE ON OBITUARY

We your committee on obituary, is pleased to make the following report:

That our heavenly Father, in His kind providence has seen fit to spare the flock, in that no deaths have been reported among us, except to extend our sympathy to the Maple Grove Church in their loss of a departed friend. With an expression of a heart of gratitude to the committee for their splendid service, and a heart of thanks unto God, the committee was duly discharged.

(See Committees).

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

We your Committee on Finance submit the following report, having received for this session from the various churches, as follows:

Free Will Baptist Temple \$4.00; Free Will Baptist Mission \$15.00; Ten Mile F.W.B. Church \$6.00; Maple Grove Church \$5.00. Total \$30.00. Being informed that the Maple Grove Church had exceeded all others in their offering for the year, and that the approximated cost of printing the Minutes would aggregate, conservatively around \$80.00 for 400 Minutes (Since the prices of material and printing have constantly been advancing), that the total amount received through the year (\$70.00) was inadequate to meet these expenses, additional contributions were made, bringing the total in the amount, as follows:

Free Will Baptist Temple	\$25.00
Free Will Baptist Mission	20.00
Ten Mile Free Will Baptist	20.00
Maple Grove Free Will Baptist	20.00

Grand Total\$85.00

Report received, and the committee was duly discharged.

(See Committees).

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

We your Committee on arrangement of business, not having anything in particular to report, in that whilst no approach to new matters has been attempted that would claim our attention, except the suggestion relative to "a General Fund" (See Record elsewhere), the same being found to be contrary to the "will and testament" of the Constitution and was therefore rescinded. Suffice us to submit the following resolution:

RESOLUTION OF RESPECT

Be it resolved that we give a rising vote of thanks to the good people of the host church, Free Will Baptist Mission for their kind hospitality in the way and manner in which they have entertained and cared for this session of the association.

(See Committees).

At this interval, the Moderator announced a few minutes intermission, giving way for the programs of the league workers in the F. W. B. L.

LEAGUE PROGRAM

Came together by singing, led by Ralph Clouse. The first to appear on the program was, "Cripple Joe," by the Free Will Baptist Temple, under the direction of Sis. Gladys Manier.

Next to appear on the program was, a Junior Group

"Bible verses"; followed with songs by the Senior Group of the Free Will Baptist Mission, under the direction of Helen Grice.

Next to appear on the program was, "The Beauty of Humility" by the Ten Mile F.W.B. Church, consisting of an opening song "It Won't Be Very Long," Prayer by Bro. Eldon Pearce, followed with the current League lesson, under the direction of Bro. Ray Maxwell.

11:00 WORSHIP HOUR

At the close of the League Program Rev. Gates brought the closing message; using for subject "Spiritual Greatness." Scripture lesson Matt. 18:1-6; Text—Thy Kingdom Come. Matt. 6:10. At this interval, the Presbytery Board retired to the counsel for the examination, and granting of a license to Bro. Clyde Burris, to the Gospel Ministry.

The Minutes of these proceedings were read, and approved with commendation to the clerk for her efficient work.

A motion was sustained to adjourn until the time and place of the next Annual Session, when to convene with the Free Will Baptist Temple, on Thursday evening 7:30, May 1-3, 1952.

Conference was brought to a close by singing, "God Be With You 'Til We Meet Again." Dismissed by Bro. Beecher Cope.

REV. MALCOM RODGERS, Moderator.
MISS ELSIE HAWKINS, Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. N. P. Gates, 19405 Danbury, Detroit, Mich. Rev. Malcom Rodgers, 387 W. Evelyn, Hazel Park, Mich. Rev. John J. Gallagher, 5648 W. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, Mich. Rev. E. J. Marine, 992 E. Coy, Hazel Park, Mich. Rev. Henry A. Howard, Hazel Park, Mich. Rev. Claud Wright, Hazel Park, Mich.

LICENTIATES

Rev. Clyde Burris, 87 E. Brockton,
Royal Oak (Twp.), Mich.

DEACONS

Name	Church	Address
Y. V. Hayley	Free Will Baptist Temple	4770 Mitchell, Detroit
Hurshal Stanley	Free Will Baptist Temple	3718 Townsend, Detroit
Leslie Gallagher	Free Will Baptist Temple	18826 Keystone, Detroit
W. E. Gates	Ten Mile Free Will Baptist	1478 E. Meyers, Hazel Park
Chas. E. Miller	Ten Mile Free Will Baptist	1419 E. 9 Mile, H. Park
E. L. York	Ten Mile Free Will Baptist	337 W. Lincoln, R. O. Twp.
Rabe Pearce	Ten Mile Free Will Baptist	1938 Ardmore, Ferndale
Henry Finney	Free Will Baptist Mission	1897 Saratoga, Ferndale
J. O. Butcher	Ten Mile Free Will Baptist	1244 E. Jarvis, H. Park
Enoch Ellis	Ten Mile Free Will Baptist	963 E. Elza, Hazel Park
John Crozier	Free Will Baptist Mission	30480 Brush, Royal Oak

DELEGATES

TEN MILE CHURCH: Rosie Roberson, Annie Wright, Mattie Shelton, Elaine Wright and Jewel Roberson.

FREE WILL BAPTIST TEMPLE: James A. Nabors, Lillie Kelly, Mary Stanley, Elsie Hawkins and Fay Stanley.

FREE WILL BAPTIST MISSION: Elaine Shepherd and Floy Crozier.

MAPLE GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST: Stella Stamper and Hazel Johnson .

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **GOD.** We believe in one true and living, Triune God; composed of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, equal in divine Essence, Purpose, Power and Glory.—St. John 1:1, 1 Cor. 8:6; St. John 10:30.

2. **Christ.** We believe that Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God. Was with the Father and the Holy Spirit at the time of the Creation, left the Courts of Heaven and came to this earth. Took upon Himself the form of humanity, sin excepted, by being born of the Virgin Mary, manifested His power, was crucified, placed in Joseph's tomb, rose from the dead the third day, completed the great plan of salvation, walked and talked with His disciples, publicly ascended up to Heaven, and that He will descend again to gather His jewels home.—Isaiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-19; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-12; Mark 15:22-47.

3. **HOLY SPIRIT.** We believe that the Holy Spirit has visited true believers in all ages, and especially since the ascension of the SON back to the Father, and His coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up His office work among all nations of people, as a Divine Reprover, Comforter and Guide.—Judges 6:34; 11:29; St. John 16:8-14; Isaiah 63:10-12; Ephesians 4:30; Acts 8:17-20; Ezek. 36:27; Joel 2:28.

4. **THE BIBLE.** We believe the Bible, which is composed of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, was given by Inspiration of God, is our way-bill from earth to heaven, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.—2 Peter 1:19-21; 2 Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matt. 21:42.

5. **THE FALL OF MAN.** We believe that GOD created man good, gave him a just law by which he should be governed; with promise of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of souls, voluntarily transgressed the law of GOD, fell, with their posterity, under the just penalty of the same, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave them the hope of salvation through the coming of CHRIST.—Gen. 1:27; 2:16-17; Psalms 51:5; Gen. 6:5; Rom. 5:12-19; John 3:6; Eph. 2:3.

6. **REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION.** We believe that Jesus Christ by His birth, death, burial, resurrection and ascension paid the purchase price for the redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come upon Gospel terms; and a law of adoption into the Kingdom of Heaven, and an eternal inheritance into the glorified Kingdom above.—Heb. 9:12; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; St. John 3:16; Isaiah 15:22.

7. **CONDITIONS OF SALVATION.** We believe that all persons, dying in infancy and all idiots are saved by the atoning merits of the

Son of God without any act on their part that persons coming to the years of accountability, transgressing the law of God, must upon their part, exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father and by the Holy Spirit they pass through the ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the Lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ—John 3rd chapter; Matt. 19:13-22; 1 Cor. 7:10; Luke 18:16-17; St. John 4:11-16; Psalms 98:3.

8. **SALVATION FREE.** We believe that God desires the salvation of all Christ died for all; and whosoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the Gospel.—1 Peter 1:9-25; 2:9-25; Revelation 22:17.

9. **BAPTISM.** We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in which are represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also represents our death to sin, and only those who have come under the presbytery of the elders are qualified to administer the same.—Matt. 3:14-16; 3:5-6; 1 Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt. 28:19.

10. **COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING.** We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of the Gospel of Christ; the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour to commemorate His broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world, and to show our remembrance of Him till He comes. All Christians have a right to the Lord's Supper and should be invited; "Let a man examine himself and so let him eat."

The washing of the feet was instituted by our Lord at the same time that the Supper was instituted as an act of humility to show our love for each other, and both ordinances should be perpetuated by all Christians until His second coming.—Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-17; Matt. 26:26-29.

11. **THE SABBATH.** We believe that the Christian Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest and for the worship of God; that we should abstain from all sinful amusements and secular employments, works of mercy and piety excepted.—Exodus 20:11; 31:12-18; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Matt. 28:1; Luke 23:56; Acts 13:42-48; Mark 2:27.

12. **CALL TO THE MINISTRY.** We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and power of grace, impress His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call becomes irresistible with personal contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise the native gifts according to the Scriptures, with a full reliance upon Him, He accompanies them in person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the way of truth and to bless their labors according to His purpose.—Jonah 1:1; Jer. 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 1:22-26; Matt. 28:19.

13. **THE INVISIBLE CHURCH.** We believe that the Invisible or Spiritual Church is the redeemed in the aggregate, is the family of

God, is composed of all true Christians of every congregation from righteous Abel to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue and people.—Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; 1 Pet. 2:5; Eph. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Matt. 16:18.

14. **THE VISIBLE CHURCH.** We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, having obtained fellowship with the Lord and with each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and doctrine according to the rules of the Gospel.—2 Thess. 1:1; Acts 16:5; 3 John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Revelation 1:4-20.

15. **PERSEVERANCE.** We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace and in the knowledge of the truth, and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life, and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from His hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who sidestep and wilfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty, they would backslide if persistently continued, would be eternally lost.—2 Pet. 1:12; 2 Cor. 9:10; 2 Peter 1:4-8; 2 Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy; 2 Peter 1:8-9; 1 Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; 1 John 5:16; Heb. 6:1-6; 1 Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Matt. 12:31-32.

16. **CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH.** We believe that Christ is the Head of the Church, and that the government of the local church is with the body.—Col. 1:18-19; Matt. 16:18; Heb. 12:23; Matt. 21:42; Eph. 1:22; Acts 16:4-5.

17. **SANCTIFICATION.** Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration, and the Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life, constantly growing in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. 6:11; 2 Thess. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; 2 Thess. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; 2 Tim. 2:20-21.

18. **THE RESURRECTION.** We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the righteous and the wicked. When the resurrection shall take place, the soul and body shall be united, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God for ever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment.—Matt. 28:6; John 5:28-29; 1 Cor. 15:51-58.

19. **THE SOUL.** The soul is endless, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery, according to the spiritual character here possessed.—Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16:19-25; Matt. 10:28.

20. **JUDGMENT.** We believe that there will be a general universal judgment, when all men shall be judged according to their works, whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into eternal happiness.—2 Thess. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; 2 Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13; Acts 17:31.

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit," in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls, and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CONSTITUTION of THE LIBERTY ASSOCIATION of FREE WILL BAPTIST

1. This Association, when properly convened, shall consist of a Moderator, and Ass't Moderator; Clerk, and Ass't Clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present. The duty of the Moderator shall be to keep the Association in order, state questions fairly and take the vote thereon; to have no vote unless the Association be equally divided, in which case he shall have the deciding vote.

The duty of the Clerk shall be to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Association. The Assistants to the Moderator and Clerk shall be to assist, or occupy their respective seats when vacant, or otherwise necessary.

2. This Association shall be composed of ordained Ministers, Deacons and Licentiates, together with messengers duly chosen by the church of their membership in our union, whom the members judge best qualified to represent them. Said messengers bearing letters certifying to their appointment.

Said Ministers and Licentiates shall be men of good report, within, and without, of honest integrity and full of the Holy Ghost, meeting the qualifications to that of I Tim. 3. Coming under the hands, or approval of the Ordaining Council. Pastors shall be chosen by the suffrage of the church, or churches they serve; whose tenure of service shall be faithfully maintained until terminated, and that effected only by a 60 days notice of said intention, and the selection of an active Minister within the bounds of this Association to succeed him. It is agreed, however, one may be selected from other sources, being approved by the Ordaining Council of this Ass'n.

3. In the letters from the churches shall be expressed their respective number in fellowship, and the number received, dismissed, excluded or died since the last setting of the Association, day of church meeting, Pastor and Clerk.

4. No query shall be received by this Association from any church until it has been acted upon by said church and referred to the Association. In which case the Association shall take up the matter, acting as an advisory counsel to promote peace and harmony according to true discipline of Divine grace.

5. Every church in this Association shall be entitled to a representation of Messengers not exceeding five; together with said clerk and ordained authority.

6. This Association shall maintain a Presbytery Board selected from the ordained authority, preferably Ministers: five in number; also an Executive Board consisting of five, selected from the body, whose tenure of office shall be ranging from one to five years. The Association shall select, annually, to supply the vacancies as they occur.

7. Every motion, when in order and properly sustained, shall be acted upon unless withdrawn by the mover: that is to say, to present matters for discussion, trying the merits of the same, and, if found worth and orthodox, to adopt it.

8. This Association shall not exercise power so as to lord it over God's heritage so as to infringe on the internal rights of any. Maintaining the rights and privileges, and relationship to each church to that of individual members: that is to say, if a church trespasses against a sister church, the church injured shall try to reclaim them by Gospel steps; whereupon, if a reconciliation cannot be effected, the said church in default shall be dropped from our counsel.

9. We agree to do all regular business by a majority of members present.

10. Any church may be admitted into this Association by a petitionary letter and messengers, if however, said church is found to be orthodox and orderly. Such admission shall be manifested by the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to said messengers.

11. This Association shall sit as an advisory council, to advise, if prudent, in all matters of difficulty; to ascertain the cause of non-representation, to select from this body such committees deemed necessary to the functioning of the body; to invite and entertain counsel with all brother ministers commensurate with safety; to exclude, or disannul any member not conforming to the Rules of Decorium, and shall report his, or their conduct to the church of which they hold membership.

12. This Association shall not, at any time, engage in what may seem to be of a commercial nature. However, it shall be the duty of each church to provide means to defray current expenses of the Association.

13. This Association possesses appellate jurisdiction in all matters concerning the Ministers of the council, as touching their qualification, of his manly character and general conduct; strict adherence to the principles and doctrine of faith and practice, not deviating from that set forth in the Articles of Faith of Free Will Baptist. Particularly that of the plan of redemption, of the Christian fellowship in the unity of Spirit and the bonds of peace; or failing to keep the Ordinances, and the perseverance in faith, ready to be revealed in glory at the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ; when both saints, and the wicked dead shall be resurrected, the saints to everlasting life, and the wicked to eternal damnation. church.

14. The Lord's Supper and feetwashing shall be administered at each annual setting of this Association.

15. This Association shall advise, or recommend the support of denominational enterprises according to the ability, or means otherwise provided, and under the jurisdiction of the local

16. This Association shall possess the rights to repel, or exclude anyone coming unto us preaching, or advocating any other doctrine than that set forth in the original Articles of Faith of Free Will Baptist.

17. This constitution shall not be changed, or amended, only by a three-fourths majority of Ministers, as also the Deacons, and likewise the duly elected representatives at the regular annual setting of the Association.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association, when convened, shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall arise to his feet and address the moderator.

3. Each person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in speech, except by the moderator, until he gets through; nor shall the moderator interrupt him unless he breaks order.

4. The person speaking shall adhere to the question and shall in no wise cast reflections on any person who may have spoken before him.

5. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.

6. No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.

7. Members shall address each other by the appellation of brother or brethren, or sisters.

8. No members of this Association shall absent himself when the association is sitting in conference without leave of the moderator.

9. The names of the members of this association shall be enrolled and called over as often as the association thinks is necessary.

10. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the moderator.



ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order by moderator.

2. Call for letters from churches.

3. Election of moderator and clerk.

4. Read Rules of Decorum.

5. Appointment of Committees: Divine Service, Finance, Obituary, Arrangement of Business.

6. Call for corresponding letters.

7. Call for petitionary letters.

8. Unfinished business.

9. New business.

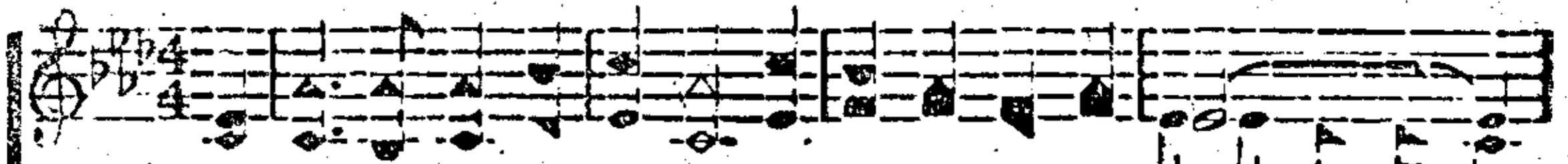
Feet Washing

St. John. Ch 13

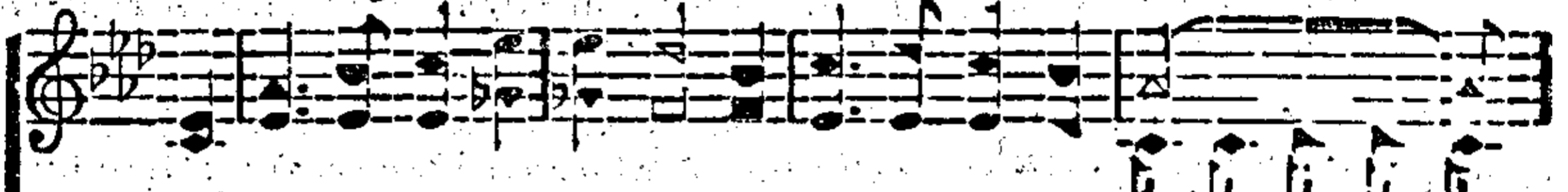
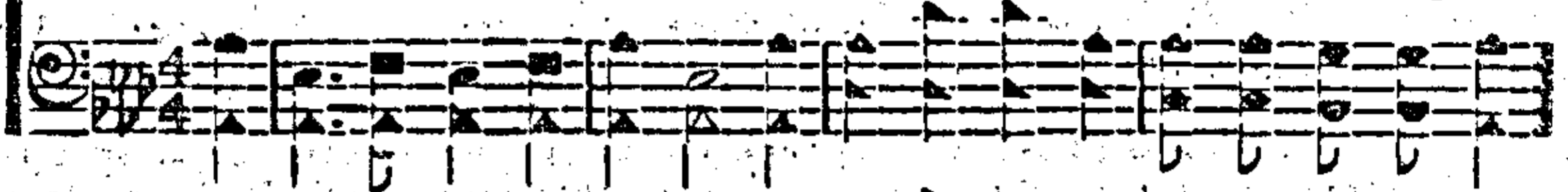
Rev. R. F. Smallwood, Arr. Rev. N. P. G.

Rev. N. P. Gates

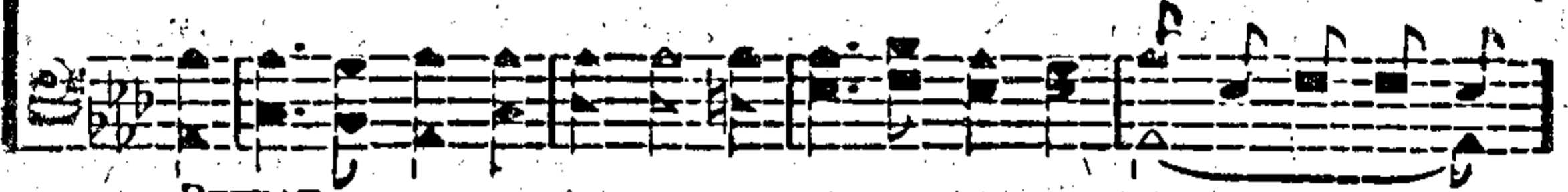
Rev. B. E. Smallwood owner. owner. Coldwater, Mo.



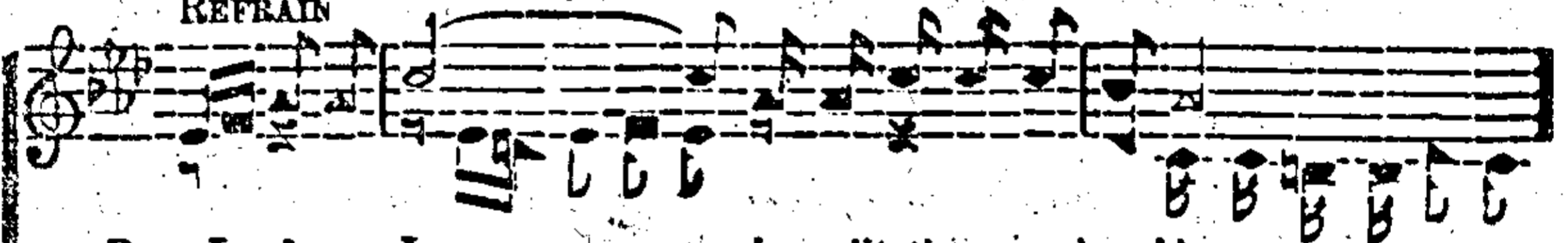
1. I want to be like Je - sus, His word my soul to keep (His word to keep)
2. Ye call me Lord and Mas - ter, 'Well done!' for so I am; (for so I am;)
3. If I your Lord and Mas - ter, and now have washed your feet;
4. I gave you this ex - am - ple, that you, my will re - plete; (my will replete)



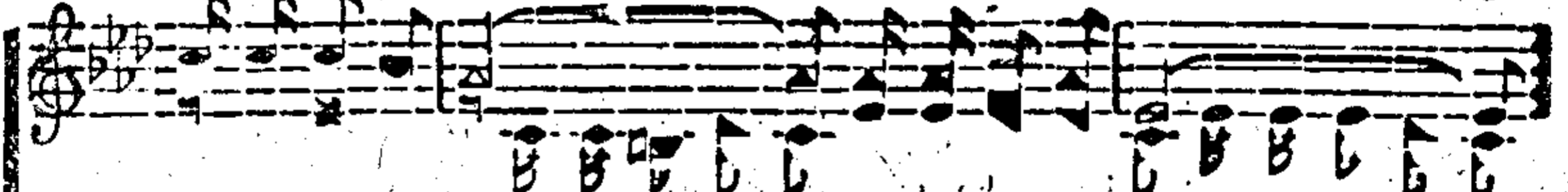
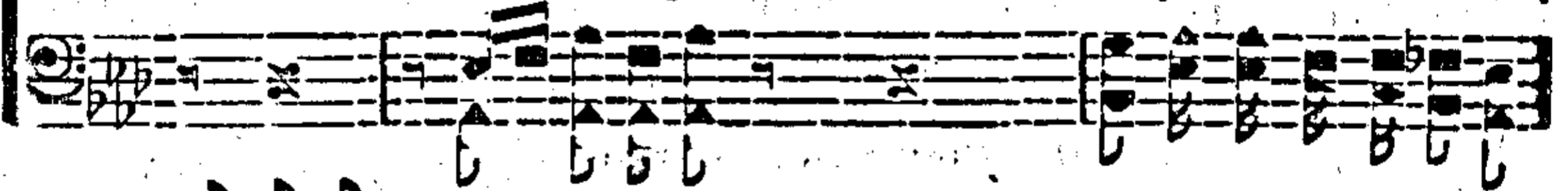
And hum - bly, like Him kneel - ing, and wash my brother's feet (my brother's feet)
And giv'n you this ex - am - ple, to do as I com - mand; (as I com - mand)
That all who fol - low aft - er, this serv - ice to re - peat, (I now re peat,)
To fol - low this commandment, and wash each other's feet (each other's feet.)



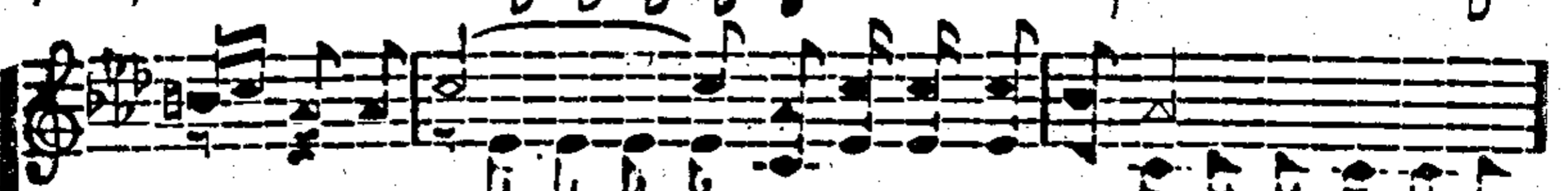
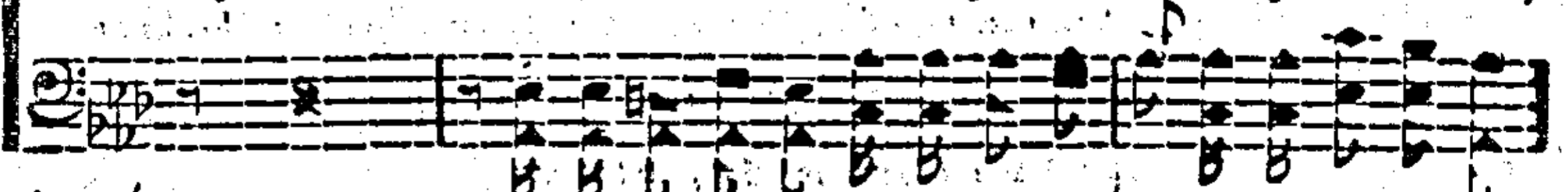
REFRAIN



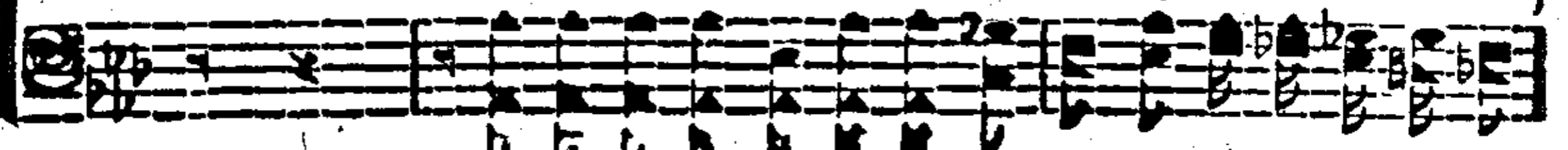
Dear Lord may I be a lit - tle more humble,
Dear Lord may I show just a little more love,



Dai - ly fol - low Thee (Daily follow Thee) and may not retreat (may I not retreat)



Ere I should cause my broth - er to stumble (far from heavn's Dove,



Feet Washing

May I hum-bly kneel and wash His feet
 May I hum-bly kneel wash my brother's feet.

When Our Lord Returns

Rev. N. P. G.

Rev. N. P. Gates owner, Detroit, Mich.

Rev. N. P. Gates

1. When our Sav-ior, new in glo-ry, comes a-gain; how sweet the sto-ry! For those
 2. Those now wait-ing for His coming, faith-ful-ly the race are running, Look-ing

D. S.—When we

wait-ing for His coming on that day (that happy day) All the saints will rise to meet Him
 for His promised coming on that day While we look for His returning,

rise to meet the Savior in the air; (up in the air) All the saints in white adorning

and with joy we'll gladly greet Him, Then to reign with Him in glo-ry far a-
 con-stant-ly in faith we're yearning! For that home in glory-land so far a-

will a-rise on that glad morn-ing, And for-ev-er live in glo-ry bright and

FIN. REFRAIN

D. S.

way..... Won't that be a hap-py day? When from earth we'll fly away,
 so far a-way.

fair, so bright and fair.

STATISTICAL TABLE

<i>Church</i>	<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Enroll- ment</i>	<i>Non-Res. Inact.</i>	
Free Will Baptist Temple — Rev. N. P. Gates		29	/ 19	Sis. Grace Gallagher, Clerk.
Ten Mile Free Will Baptist — Rev. Malcom Rodgers		47		Sis. Genevie Miller, Clerk.
Free Will Baptist Mission — Rev. E. J. Marine.....		48		Sis. Ida Marine, Clerk.
Maple Grove Free Will Baptist — Rev. H. A. Howard		10		Sis. Ann Frendt, Clerk.