

MINUTES

OF THE

Tenth Annual Session

OF THE

Missouri State Association

OF

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH

Flat River Church, Flat River, Mo.
October 24-28, 1923.

The next Association will convene with Niangua Church
at Niangua, Missouri, at 7:30 p. m., on
Wednesday before the fourth
Sunday in October,
1924.

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Missouri State Association

OF

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

OFFICERS:

T. C. Ferguson, Moderator,	Springfield, Mo.
J. L. Yancey, Ass't. Mod.,	Fredericktown, Mo.
B. F. Brown, Clerk-Treas.,	Tecumseh, Okla.
W. C. Hill, Ass't. Clerk,	1026 S. 8th St., St. Louis, Mo.

EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION BOARD:

James F. Miller,	Greentop, Mo.
John S. Hickman,	R 3, Hartville, Mo.
Selph Jones,	Hartville, Mo.
Ira Waterman,	Eldridge, Mo.
T. C. Ferguson,	Springfield, Mo.

STATE EVANGELISTS:

T. C. Ferguson,	Springfield, Mo.
Prior L. Price,	Jamesport, Mo.
W. C. Hill,	1026 S 8th St., St. Louis, Mo.

PROCEEDINGS

At 7:30 o'clock p. m., October 24, 1923, the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists met with Flat River Church, at Flat River, Missouri, in its Tenth Annual Session.

Wednesday Evening.

Session opened with song and prayer service.

Moderator T. C. Ferguson, took charge and proceeded to direct the services for the evening.

Moderator appointed as temporary committee on Divine service: Bros. Jesse Walker, J. M. Henderson, and John Williams.

Bro. Allen Shaffer, in a few well chosen words, expressed the welcome of Flat River Church to all visiting Brethren. Response by B. F. Brown.

Committee on Divine service chose Bros. A. Campbell and J. L. Yancey to preach the introductory sermon, Bro. A. L. Broyles being absent.

Bro. Campbell read for a lesson, the second chapter of Ecclesiastes, and took for a text Matt. 11:28. Two good discourses followed, and were enjoyed by all. An altar call followed the sermon and resulted in three conversions. Two were added to the church.

Adjourned to meet at 8:30 a. m., Thursday. Prayer by T. C. Ferguson.

Thursday Morning.

Session opened with song by congregation and prayer by F. A. Semino. Scripture reading Psalm 103 and prayer by the Clerk, B. F. Brown.

A quorum to transact business was found to be present and was so declared by the clerk. The Moderator was then called to the chair; who, after offering prayer, proceeded with the regular order of business.

Minutes of Wednesday evening session were read and approved.

Letter from Indian Creek Association read, received and delegate seated.

Letter from Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association read, and motion carried to receive the letter and seat any of the delegates that should come.

Officers for ensuing year elected as follows:

Moderator, T. C. Ferguson.

Ass't. Moderator, J. L. Yancey.

Clerk-Treas., B. F. Brown.

Ass't. Clerk, W. C. Hill.

Member Executive Board for 5 years, James F. Miller.

Member of Tristate Advisory Council, M. B. Clift.

Moderator appointed as Committee on Divine Service:
J. M. Henderson, John Williams, Mrs. Nettie Rogers, G. A. Halbhook.

Committee on Divine service reported T. C. Ferguson to preach at 11 o'clock.

11:00 o'Clock Thursday.

Divine services conducted by T. C. Ferguson. Scripture reading Psalm I and Isaiah XII. Text Isaiah XII.

Thursday Afternoon.

Praise by congregation. Scripture reading Psalm 23, by Moderator. Prayer by Prior L. Price.

Minutes of morning sessions read and approved.

Letter from S. E. Missouri Yearly meeting read, received, and delegates seated.

Reading of By-Laws and Constitution by Moderator.

Moderator appointed the following committees:

Committee on Business: J. L. Yancey, W. C. Hill, Allen Shaffer, John F. Miller.

Committee on Temperance: Prior L. Price, Jas. F. Miller, Mrs. G. W. Henderson.

Committee on Publication: B. F. Brown, T. J. Mann, Mrs. S. M. Woods.

Committee on Education: B. F. Brown, W. C. Hill, Allen Shaffer.

Committee on Divine service reported Bros. W. C. Hill and Jas. F. Miller to preach at 7:00 p. m. Thursday.

The following from the Business Committee was adopted as by-law No. 13: All business coming before this Association shall be decided by secret ballot when there is any opposition or objection.

Moderator declared that nominations were in order for State Evangelists, the same to serve without salary, but to get their support from the field.

The following brethren were nominated and elected by acclamation, to serve as state evangelists the ensuing year: T. C. Ferguson, Prior L. Price, and W. C. Hill.

Motion carried to adjourn till 9 a. m. Friday.

Closing prayer by Moderator.

Thursday Night Session.

Session opened with a song service led by Prior L. Price.

Two brethren, J. W. Briley and Wm. Lake, were ordained and set apart by prayer and laying on of hands, to serve as deacons in Cherryvale Church, at Leadwood, Mo.

Mr. Marsh, Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., gave an address of welcome, extending to us the welcome of the town of Flat River. This address was much appreciated.

Preaching services were conducted by Bros. W. C. Hill and Jas. F. Miller. Text, Daniel 5:5. An altar service followed the preaching service and three young ladies professed Christ. And two were added to the church. The session was rather long, but was intensely interesting from start to finish.

Com. on Divine service announced that S. M. King and J. L. Yancey would preach a 11:00 o'clock Friday.

Session closed with prayer and praise unto the Heavenly Father.

Friday Morning Session.

Session opened with singing by congregation. Prayer by L. N. Beard, and scripture reading from John XIV by Moderator.

Minutes of Thursday p. m. and night sessions read and approved.

Com. on Divine service announced that Eld. Prior L. Price would fill the stand at 7:00 p. m., Friday.

The balance of a freewill offering taken Thursday night was turned in as Association general funds, in amount, \$4.30.

Report of Chairman of Executive Board: We have had no meeting of the board the past year, but we have tried, by correspondence and otherwise, to do what we could for our work in the state. We have done what we could to advance our denominational enterprises, and to keep the work moving in peace and harmony.

T. C. FERGUSON, Chairman.

Report of T. C. Ferguson as State Evangelist: I have devoted nearly all my time the past year to evangelistic work. I have, by God's help and the help of others, had a very prosperous year. I have held revival meetings, the past year, in churches in five different Associations in the state. I have also held revival meetings in four different states. I have seen many souls saved, and I have baptised and taken many people into our churches.

I find our work in some places in our state is on the background, and in other places our work is prospering and growing fast. I believe our work, in general, in the state is on the up-grade. There has been quite a number of new churches organized, and several new church houses have been built the past year. A new church house is now being built in the town of Hartville, the county seat of Wright county. I organized the Hartville church a few years ago. Several houses have been bought and remodeled into church houses. Quite a number of new preachers have been ordained or licensed to preach the Gospel. I find that the S. E. Mo. Yearly Meeting has nearly doubled its membership the past year.

T. C. FERGUSON, State Evangelist.

Report of Clerk-Treasurer: I failed to get the minutes printed, but it was not all my fault. I gave the manuscript over to the Morning Star, and paid \$3.00 to apply on the printing. I waited till in July only to find that there was no prospect of getting them printed. I might have had the work done elsewhere, but it was late, the funds were insufficient, and I had no money to put in to help out; moreover there is three years' services (\$15.00) I never claimed because there has been a lack of funds. I really had only about \$10.00.

Treasurer's Report.

Oct. 1, 1922, Balance	\$ 6.37.
" 20, " C. W. Mo. & S. E. Kans. Ass'n.	8.50.
" 20, " Indian Creek Ass'n.	4.00.
" 20, " Union Association	11.00.
" 20, " Laclède Co. Ass'n.	3.00.
" 20, " Esther Washburn	.50.
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Total Receipts	\$33.37.
Expenditures:	
Clerk Hire	\$5.00.
Paid on Minutes	3.00.
Total Expenditures	\$ 8.00.
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Oct. 24, 1923, Balance	\$25.37.

The following from the business committee was adopted as resolutions:

Be it resolved that we have 300 copies of the minutes printed, and mailed out by our clerk as soon as possible.

Be it resolved that we take an offering Friday night to pay for printing minutes, clerk hire, and other expenses.

Be it resolved that we take a special offering Saturday night to help Bro. Brown on his expenses.

Motion carried to adjourn till 2.30 p. m.

Closing prayer by Moderator.

11:00 o'Clock Services.

Divine services conducted by Bros. S. M. King and J. L. Yancey. Text, I Pet. 1:19.

Friday P. M. Session.

Praise by congregation. Scripture reading from Romans VIII. Prayer by J. J. Wood.

Minutes of morning sessions read and approved.

A communication from N. E. Mo. Association was read and the following resolutions were adopted in answer to their communication:

Be it resolved that we, the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists, leave the feet washing question where the Treatise leaves it.

Be it resolved that we ask the Executive Board of the Co-operative General Association to meet for the purpose of taking care of the mortgage on the Morning Star Publishing House in such manner as will satisfy the Nebraska Brethren.

Reported from the business committee and adopted item by item:

I. We see great wrong in forbidding, by the state laws of the great Commonwealth of Missouri, the reading of the Holy Bible in our public schools.

Be it resolved, therefore, that we, the people of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists, in conference assembled, this October 24-27, 1923, do pledge ourselves to use our influence, so far as we have opportunity, to reinstate the reading of the Holy Bible in our Public Schools.

II. We see that great harm results from teaching the Darwin Theory of Evolution, in that it denies the story of God's creation as told in the Bible.

Be it resolved, therefore, that we condemn this Darwin Theory of Evolution.

Motion carried to convene the next session of this Association with Niangua Church, at Niangua, Webster Co., Mo. The Ass'n to convene on Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in October 1924. W. C. Hill to preach the introductory sermon, Jas. F. Miller to be his alternate.

Committee on Divine service announced that Bros. T. J. Mann and Fred Brotherton would fill the stand at 11:00 o'clock Saturday.

Adjourned to meet at 9:00 a. m. Saturday. Closing prayer by T. C. Ferguson.

Friday Night Session.

Session opened with a spirited song and prayer service.

A free will offering was taken to apply on Association expenses amounting to \$8.31.

Preaching services by Elder Prior L. Price. Lesson John 1:1-12. Text Luke 20:25.

This was another good service and two precious souls found the way of life.

Committee on Divine service announced that Jas. F. Miller would conduct the covenant meeting at 2:30 p. m. Saturday, and that B. F. Brown would preach Saturday night.

Session closed with rejoicing, praise, and prayer unto God.

Saturday Morning Session.

Praise by congregation. Scripture reading Isaiah XII by Moderator. Prayer by F. A. Simino.

Minutes of Friday p. m. and night sessions read and approved.

Motion carried instructing the clerk to write to the chairman of the Executive Board of the Co-operative General Association and request that he call a meeting of the board at an early date and renew the Fuller mortgage.

Report of Committee on Publication: It is evident that our denomination needs a circulating medium in which the prominent interests and concerns of our denomination may be announced, and thus brought to all parts of the field; for this enables us to move together and accomplish a greater work. We realize, too, the need of religious literature in our homes.

We believe that the "Morning Star" published at Oklahoma, can be made to satisfactorily serve as a medium and also carry much good reading matter.

Be it resolved, therefore, that we pledge our support the "Morning Star" in every way we can, and all our people everywhere be urged to stand by our paper. Report adopted.

B. F. BROWN, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Temperance: Seeing the evil results of intemperance, and realizing the great need of the suppression of the rum traffic in our country: Be it resolved that we, the people of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists, in conference assembled at Flat River, Missouri, this, October 24-27, 1923, pledge ourselves to give our full and uncompromising support to the 18th amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

Be it further resolved that we give the president of our beloved country our sympathy and hearty support in his efforts to support the 18th amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

Be it also resolved that we are in favor of more strenuous efforts in the suppression of illicit stills and illegal sale of intoxicating liquors.

PRIOR L. PRICE, Chairman.

11:00 o'Clock Session.

Divine services conducted by T. J. Mann and Fred Brotherton. Lesson Acts X. Subject, salvation.

Committee on Divine service made its final report as follows:

Preaching services, Saturday night, B. F. Brown and W. C. Hill.

Sunday at 11:00 o'clock, F. A. Simino and S. M. King.

Sunday night, T. C. Ferguson.

Bro. Price to go to Oak Grove church Sunday at 11:00 and Sunday night.

Saturday P. M. Session.

Session opened with song and scripture quotations by the congregation, and prayer by Ed. Gamblin.

Minutes of morning sessions read and approved.

Report of Committee on Education: Report adopted by unanimous vote. Realizing the great need of a better educated

ministry, and the maintenance of a Christian institution of learning, and believing that more and better preparation is desired for our preachers, we offer the following resolutions:

Be it resolved that we, as a body, believing it to be to the best interest of the cause, and the upbuilding of our denomination, encourage all candidates for the ministry to take a course in theology, or to at least take the correspondence course as outlined by our "Bible Correspondence School," or its equivalent.

We realize the great worth of Tecumseh F. W. B. College to all to whom its influence may reach, in that it is a school in which students may obtain an education, and thus equip themselves for their life work under Christian influences, and be protected from the vices and dangers which usually surround students attending school away from home.

Be it resolved, therefore, that we do all we can, in every way we can, to make our school what it ought to be. And that we recommend the Seminary at Ayden, N. C., as an institution of learning.

B. F. BROWN, Chairman.

Motion carried directing the clerk to have letter heads printed.

Moderator appointed W. C. Hill and Prior L. Price to draft closing resolutions to be read Sunday night.

The business of the session being finished, we all engaged in a covenant meeting led by Jas. F. Miller. A good spiritual meeting followed.

Divine services were conducted Saturday night, Sunday morning, and Sunday night. Preaching Saturday night by Bros. Brown and Hill. Text, Prov. 4:23.

Flat River church has a good Sunday School, enrolling about 200, and on this Sunday 167 were present. Preaching service following the S. S. was conducted by Bros. Simino and King. Lesson James II. Text, James II:26. This was a fine service. Several were baptised in the afternoon.

Preaching services Sunday night were conducted by Bro. Ferguson. The interest was good from the first, but kept growing better to the last, and taking it all the way through, we had a splendid time; for the Lord was with us.

Closing resolutions were read at the Sunday night service.

Finally adjourned to meet at Niangua, Missouri, Wednesday night, before the fourth Sunday in October, 1924.

T. C. FERGUSON, Moderator. B. F. BROWN, Clerk.

From 1922 Minutes:

Brought in by the Business Committee and adopted as a resolution:

Resolved that we advise all of the churches belonging to this Association to close their doors against all preachers who do not believe in an organic church, or who cannot show papers of good standing from their denomination.

Brought in by the Business Committee and adopted as by-laws:

By-law No. 10. All active officers of this Association shall be nominated from the floor and elected by ballot, except when the rules are suspended, then election shall be by acclamation.

By-law No. 11. All committees shall be appointed by the Moderator, but any appointment may be changed by a two-thirds vote of all members voting.

By-law No. 12. This Association shall not be located with any church except upon invitation from the church.

**ROLL OF STANDING MEMBERS AND DELEGATES
ATTENDING THE 1923 SESSION.**

Ministers:	Deacons:	Delegates:
T. C. Ferguson.	Allen Shaffer.	Jewel Ferguson.
J. L. Yancey.	John F. Miller.	Mrs. Mary Irwin.
A. Campbell.	John Williams.	Mrs. Nettie Rogers
W. C. Hill.	Audrey Snyder.	Mrs. G. W. Hender-
F. A. Simino.	J. W. Briley.	son.
T. J. Mann.	Wm. Link.	Mrs. S. M. Wood.
Prior L. Price.	Jesse Walker.	Willard Lackey.
Jas. F. Miller.	Joe Williams.	J. C. Johnson.
Ed. Gamblin.	W. L. Wood	Mrs. Nela Gross.
J. J. Wood.	Charles Huey.	Eunice A. Miller.
Fred Brotherton.	Pearl Hilderbrand.	Mrs. Luther Elders.
L. N. Beard.	W. J. Coffey.	M. A. Paterson.
S. M. Ferguson.	G. A. Halbrook.	A. J. Lumpkins.
S. M. King.	Ed. Mund.	Mrs. Jennie Link.
M. A. Conley, (Li- centiate.)	J. M. Henderson.	
	A. J. Long.	

**MINISTERS BELONGING TO MO. STATE ASSOCIATION.
Northeast Missouri Association.**

J. F. Duckworth,	Greentop, Mo.
Jas. F. Miller,	Greentop, Mo.
W. D. McFarland,	R3, Lavonia, Mo.
Lem Pearce,	Stahl, Mo.
Charley Phillips,	Stahl, Mo.

Licentiates:

C. Miller,	1309 Ofallen St., Saint Louis, Mo.
J. H. Waters, Ed. Gamblin,	Fredericktown, Mo. 1518 Chouteau Ave., Saint Louis, Mo.
Walter Harkins, M. A. Conley,	Flat River, Mo. Flat River, Mo.

Clerk:

John F. Miller,	Fredericktown, Mo.
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Northwest Missouri Association.

(1922 Report.)

C. E. Mann,	Kirksville, Mo.
Cora Mann,	Kirksville, Mo.
Prior L. Price,	Jamesport, Mo.
G. S. Latimer, Clerk,	Pattonsburg, Mo.
S. B. Lewis,	Pattonsburg, Mo.
W. H. McKown,	Carlow, Mo.
W. B. Fadley,	Weatherby, Mo.
J. A. Bethel,	St. Joseph, Mo.
J. W. Stephenson,	St. Joseph, Mo.
G. W. Hensley,	Grant City, Mo.

Union Association.

(1922 Report.)

J. F. McCall,	Locust Grove, Okla.
J. T. Cole,	Locust Grove, Okla.
W. H. Williams,	Grove Spring, Mo.
J. W. Love,	Grove Spring, Mo.
L. J. Gearing,	Hartville, Mo.
J. W. Houseley,	Norwood, Mo.
H. M. Cope,	Hartville, Mo.
A. J. Kelsey,	Hartville, Mo.
M. B. Clift,	Marshfield, Mo.
J. F. Holcomb,	Marshfield, Mo.
J. H. Claxton,	Competition, Mo.
J. H. Plunk,	Mt. Grove, Mo.
C. N. Fendley,	Macomb, Mo.
Roy Preston,	Norwood, Mo.
Clarence Ussery,	Norwood, Mo.
G. W. Scott, Jr.,	Huggins, Mo.
B. S. Moody,	Norwood, Mo.
Silas Matney,	Cedar Gap, Mo.
Shed Medlock,	Cheney, Mo.
A. J. Barnett,	Norwood, Mo.
A. M. Holford,	Cold Spring, Mo.

L. M. Morler,
J. W. Silvey,
G. W. Scott, Sr.,
Ora C. Keller,
E. Carpenter,
Z. Williams,
N. E. Snyder,

Avy, Mo.
Seymore, Mo.
Manes, Mo.
Denlow, Mo.
Seymore, Mo.
Cabool, Mo.
Huggins, Mo.

Licentiates:

Selph Jones,
William Wood,
Albert Barnett,

Hartville, Mo.
Norwood, Mo.
Norwood, Mo.

Clerk:

J. S. Hickman,

R3, Hartville, Mo.

Niangua Association.

(1922 Report.)

N. J. Breshears,
Willie Rush, Clerk,
J. P. Highfull,
W. M. Phillips,
Emeel Burton,
Lee Spain,
A. L. Jones,
W. S. Gaskill,
C. A. Hefton,
W. R. Agee,
Geo. Sturdevant,
W. M. Sutton,
W. F. Millard,
W. I. Jones,
E. T. House,

Long Lane, Mo.
Louisburg, Mo.
Springfield, Mo.
Long Lane, Mo.
Long Lane, Mo.
Avo, Mo.
Charity, Mo.
Mansfield, Mo.
Phillipsburg, Mo.
Clever, Mo.
Tildon, Mo.
Long Lane, Mo.
Brice, Mo.
Charity, Mo.
Urbana, Mo.

Laclede County Association.

(1922 Report.)

W. T. Janes,
Lem Waterman,
Ira Waterman, Clerk,
Charlie Waterman,
F. M. Phelps,
H. F. Weaver,
Wm. Bingham,
Jasper Lewis,
M. E. Brasher,
Frank Edwards,
Mary Edwards,
M. M. Kelley,

Safe, Mo.
Eldridge, Mo.
Eldridge, Mo.
Des Moines, Iowa.
Springfield, Mo.
Bentonville, Ark.
Tulsa, Okla.
Grace, Mo.
Abo, Mo.
Nebo, Mo.
Nebo, Mo.
Parsons, Kans.

A. L. Broyles,
 C. A. McAllister,
 M. H. Reed,
 Wm. West,
 J. R. Reid,
 S. N. Reid,
 John Lopp,
 Wm. Fincher,
 C. T. Neece,
 C. E. Cornlison,
 Wm. Sheets,
 L. H. Jones,
 L. A. Miller,
 Richard Stevens,
 J. W. Curron,
 R. W. Bingham,
 T. J. Peterson,
 M. T. Lomenick,
 A. J. Chambers,
 W. P. Mankin,
 L. Milligan,
 W. W. Butts,
 H. M. Cantrell,
 C. M. Rector,
 J. E. Burney,
 Melvin Bingham,

Lyons, Mo.
 Falcon, Mo.
 Warsaw, Mo.
 Fristo, Mo.
 Abo, Mo.
 Abo, Mo.
 Fristo, Mo.
 Lebannon, Mo.
 Rocket, Mo.
 Lebannon, Mo.
 Agnes, Mo.
 Falcon, Mo.
 Cross Timbers, Mo.
 Abo, Mo.
 Russellville, Mo.
 Drynob, Mo.
 Oakland, Mo.
 Fate, Mo.
 Agnes, Mo.
 Dove, Mo.
 Competition, Mo.
 Crittenden, Mo.
 Bagnell, Mo.
 Des Moines, Iowa.
 R5, Hartville, Mo.
 Tulsa, Okla.

CONSTITUTION.

1. This Association shall be called the Missouri State Association of Freewill Baptists.

2. The object of this Association shall be for the bringing together the Freewill Baptists of the State of Missouri in one great annual gathering, so they can get better acquainted with each other and for the upbuilding of the Freewill Baptist churches of Missouri and the salvation of souls.

3. This Association shall be composed of duly elected delegates from the Quarterly Meetings, Yearly Meetings, and Associations. Each body shall be entitled to one delegate for every fifty members or major fraction thereof, with the deacons, licensed, and ordained ministers.

4. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, who shall also be Treasurer and shall superintend the printing of minutes at \$5.00 per annum and hold their office until their successors shall be elected; a Board of Trustees of five members whose terms of office

shall be as follows: One for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, one for five years, and at the expiration of each of these terms, one is to be elected for a term of five years, and who shall hold their office until their successors are elected; and further, if any vacancy occur between sessions of the Association, the Board shall fill such vacancy or vacancies until the next session of the Association, who shall perform the following duties: First—Shall be the legal corporation of the Association with the corporate name of The Board of Trustees of the Missouri State Association of Freewill Baptists; to be a Board of Missions and Church Extension to secure, hold, use, and convey funds in money, homes or lands for the propagation of the gospel in connection with the Freewill Baptist Denomination. Second—To receive, hold, manage, use, control or convey any property intrusted to the Association for and in accordance with the purpose of the donors. Said Board of Trustees shall also compose the Home Mission Board. They may be chosen from ministers, deacons or delegates.

5. This Association shall not usurp any authority over the Quarterly Meetings, Yearly Meetings, and Associations that shall be under its supervision, but shall be an advisory body to help them.

6. Seven or more ordained ministers or deacons from two or more bodies belonging to this Association shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

7. The Clerk or Assistant Clerk and in their absence the senior minister in age shall call the Association to order for business and call the Moderator or his assistant to the chair, and if neither Moderator nor his assistant are present, then the senior minister in age shall act as Moderator. On taking the chair the Moderator shall call the reading of the letters from the different bodies composing this Association and after the letters are read he shall seat the delegates. After the delegates are seated the election of new officers shall be in order.

8. An organized Quarterly Meeting, Yearly Meeting or Association of Freewill Baptists may unite with this body at any regular session through a letter or delegate and by a two-thirds vote of all members present.

9. This Constitution may be added to, amended or changed at any regular session of this body by a two-thirds vote of all members present after a written notice of the contemplated change has been published in the Morning Star three months previous to the session at which such change is to take place.

BY-LAWS.

1. All business meetings shall be opened by singing, reading a portion of God's Word and prayer; and shall be closed by prayer.

2. No one shall speak more than five minutes nor more than twice on the same subject without the consent of the Moderator.

3. Any member of this body can appeal from the decision of the Moderator to the Association and by a majority vote thereon the objection shall be sustained or rejected.

4. No one shall leave the Association without the consent of the Moderator.

5. All who wish to speak while the Association is in session shall rise and say, "Brother Moderator," but shall not speak further until he or she is recognized by the Moderator.

6. The Moderator shall stop all discussions when not carried on in a Christian spirit, or when he thinks it likely to lead to discord and division.

7. The officers of this body shall submit every year a written report of the work done for this Association.

8. Each body holding membership in the Missouri State Association is requested to pay to the treasurer of the Association at least one dollar each year for each active church; the money to be used for printing minutes, and other expenses of the Association.

9. This Association may correspond by messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies.

10. All active officers of this Association shall be nominated from the floor and elected by ballot, except when the rules are suspended, then election shall be by acclamation.

11. All committees shall be appointed by the Moderator, but any appointment may be changed by a two-thirds vote of all members voting.

12. This Association shall not be located with any church except upon invitation from the church.

13. All business coming before this Association shall be decided by secret ballot when there is any opposition or objection.

14. These by-laws may be amended or changed at any regular business session by a majority vote.

FREEWILL 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 all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusement, 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 faithfully to discharge our obligation in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotion, 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. 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 bond 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 able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principles 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.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sabbath Schools and evangelical 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.

FREEWILL BAPTIST ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. **The Bible.** The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. **God.** There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of

the universe, and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

3. Christ. Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The Mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified and is our ever present Saviour and Lord.

4. The Holy Spirit. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all attributes of God. He is the reprover, comforter, guide and sanctifier of men.

5. The Government of God. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. The Sinfulness of Man. Man was created innocent but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity therefore inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.

7. The Work of Christ. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of Salvation by faith.

8. The Terms of Salvation. The conditions of Salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ, our Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. Election. God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. Freedom of the Will. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

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

12. Perseverance. All believers in Christ, who through grace, perseverance in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

13. Gospel Ordinances. Baptism, or the immersion of the believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14. The Christian Sabbath. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employment and amusements for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

15. Resurrection, Judgment, Final Retribution. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done ill to the resurrection of judgment; there the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."