

*Take care of their minutes
To Springfield
Gordo
ala*

MINUTES

...OF...

MOUNT MORIAH

FREE WILL

**Baptist Association
OF ALABAMA**

SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

...HELD WITH...

MOUNT ZION CHURCH

Tuscaloosa County, Ala.

OCTOBER 7, 8 and 9, 1911

**NEXT SESSION TO BE HELD WITH UNION CHURCH
PICKENS COUNTY, ALA.**

The Fayette Banner Press.

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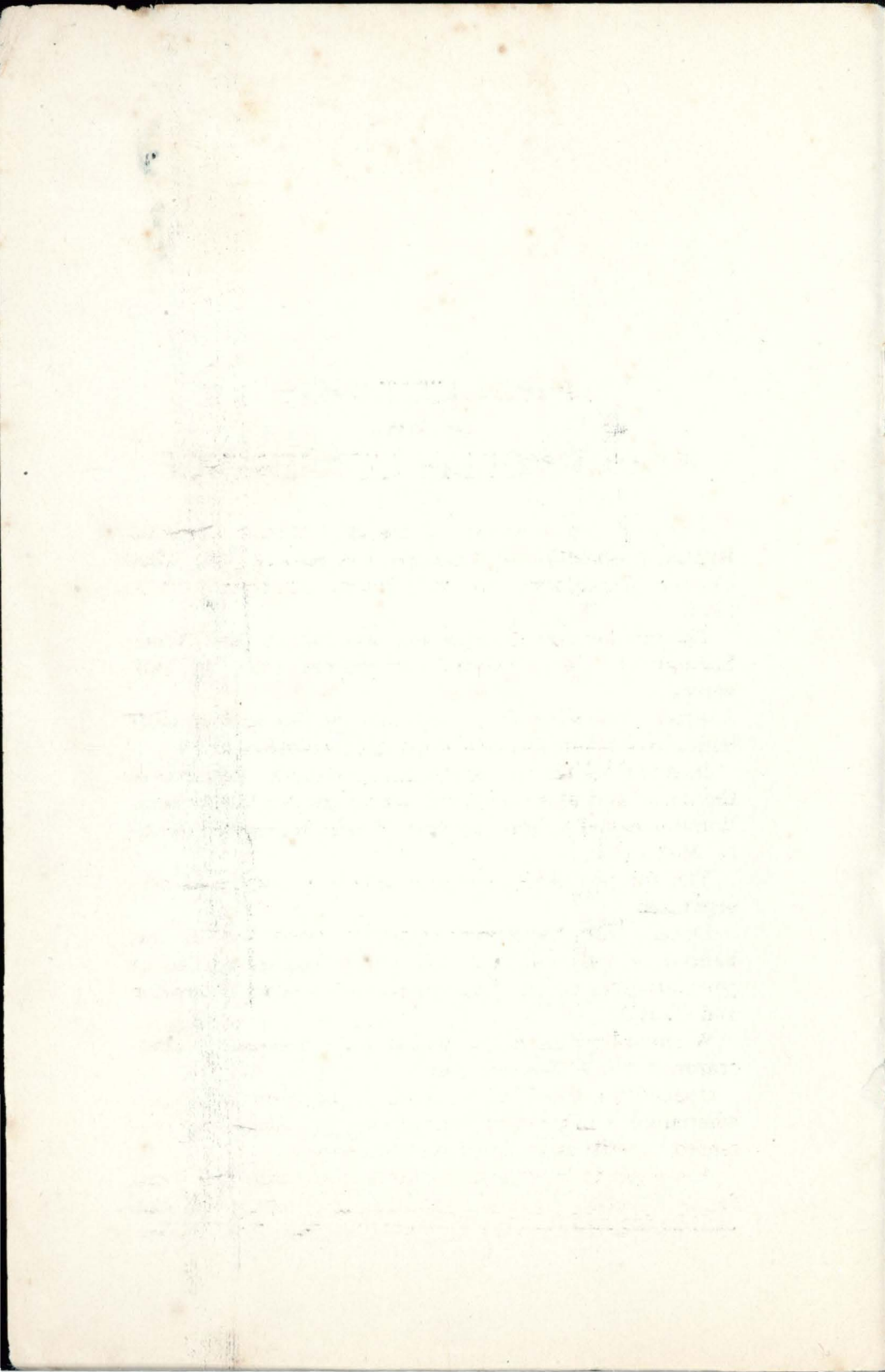
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PROCEEDINGS

..OF THE..

MOUNT MORIAH CONFERENCE

The 61st annual session of the Mt. Moriah Freewill Baptist Association of Alabama, was held at Mt. Zion Church, Tuscaloosa county, Alabama, October 7, 8, 9, 1911.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Woods Springfield. Text: Exodus 14th chapter, 13th to 15th verses.

After preaching an intermission of one and one-half hours was taken for recreation and refreshment.

In due time the ministers and messengers repaired to the house and after song and prayer service the Association was called to order by Rev. Woods Springfield, former Moderator.

The former Clerk officiated until the body was fully organized.

Letters from the various churches were called for, handed in and read and names of delegates enrolled as per statistical table. Then proceeded to elect Moderator and Clerk.

Whereupon Rev. W. B. Montgomery was elected Moderator and J. A. Boswell Clerk.

Opened the door for the reception of new churches, whereupon Unity Grove, Lamar county, Alabama, presented a petitionary letter for membership.

A motion to receive said church was made, but there being objection made a committee of investigation was appointed as follows: Rev. J. D. Byars, Rev. J. E. Mathis,

same carried, after which the report was taken up by sections, discussed and adopted as a whole.

Committee on Temperance.

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

In view of the fact that the subject of intemperance has been discussed and by an organized effort by the various denominations and thinking citizens for good morals and religion, there has been a glorious victory in putting out the sale and making of intoxicating drinks. We recommend that we use our greatest efforts and influence against the use, making and selling in violation of the laws of our state and that we see, so far as they come to our knowledge, that all persons violating laws will be prosecuted, also recommend that the ministers will be faithful in warning the members to abstain from its use as a beverage and that our churches see that the discipline is strictly executed in suppression of this evil.

J. H. ZEANAH, Chairman.

By motion report received, adopted and committee discharged.

Finance.

We, your Committee, beg leave to report that we have received:

At this session	\$25.30
In hands of Treasurer	10.08
From J. C. Winter50

Total on hand \$35.88

J. T. CUNNINGHAM, Chairman.

On motion report received, adopted and committee discharged.

Sabbath Schools.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg to report that we find but little interest taken in Sabbath Schools, but we urge our people that we organize Sabbath Schools in our churches, believing that the usefulness of our children depends largely upon their training.

We urge our ministers to impress upon our churches their duty on this line as we believe Sabbath Schools are a light to a community and a prop to a church when carried on in the right way.

J. M. FIELDS, Chairman.

On motion report received, adopted and committee discharged.

Deceased Members.

We, your Committee, beg leave to report that we find 10 of our devoted members have fallen asleep in Jesus since our last annual meeting as follows:

Mt. Moriah—S. C. Greyton, J. D. Fant.

Macedonia—R. S. Fields.

Shiloh—W. S. Sanders.

Tabernacle—Maude Montgomery.

Antioch—M. M. Lee.

Union—Matilda Pool.

Mt. Zion—C. P. Hamby.

Pleasant Hill—T. M. Bailey.

Friendship—J. Vick.

J. A. POOL, Chairman.

By motion report received, adopted and committee discharged.

Don't grieve for those who are gone,
Who are better off than we,
But cheer the drooping heart
With thoughts of eternity.

As death is but a sleep,
 A rest for the weary soul,
 A bridge to pass us over,
 To that joyous heavenly goal.

Grieve not for those who've passed
 Death's limit here below,
 And entered into glory,
 In that world we do not know,

But joyous let us live,
 As we know all things are best,
 Done by our Lord and Savior,
 Who'll give us eternal rest.

Resolutions and Queries.

Your committee begs leave to report as follows:

First. That each church in our Association make an earnest effort to raise means to support our pastors and aid in mission work and that we co-operate with our ministers by attending conference, prayer meeting, Sunday Schools, etc.

Second. That we urge our ministers to devote all the time they can to the work of the ministry and they travel as extensively as possible, and spread the good tidings of salvation.

Third. That we tender our thanks to the good people of Mt. Zion Church and vicinity and especially the sisters who have borne the burdens of the day for the kindness and hospitality shown us during our stay with them.

J. S. STOKES, Chairman.

On motion report received, adopted and committee discharged.

Publication, Education and Literature.

We, your committee, beg leave to report as follows:

First. We recommend that the printing of our minutes be done where the churches can get in possession of them sooner than we have been.

Second. Seeing that we are in a progressive age we recommend that our people take greater interest in educating and training our children as the moral training of the mind has a great tendency to cause the mind to think, the heart to feel the necessity of higher attainments and we especially urge our people to read and study the Bible, as all of needed revelation comes from God through the Bible. The demands for education were never greater than now. Young men entering the ministry should be encouraged to strive for a more thorough education.

Third. We recommend that we be very careful in selecting literature for our home reading, more especially for our children, believing that the reading of novels and histories on the life of bad characters have a tendency to lead our young minds astray.

Fourth. We recommend the Morning Star, Freewill Baptist paper, and the Messenger, published by the General Baptist Publishing House, Owensville, Ind. We also recommend that we use the Sunday School Literature published by our own denomination. Respectfully submitted,

T. A. SPRINGFIELD, Chairman.

Moral Reform.

We, your committee, beg leave to report as follows:

First. In the rural districts with common people we find some pretensions at reform; that is on the surface, but when we dig down a little we find an undercurrent that is threatening the destruction of both church and country in disregard to honor, age and virtue. Indifference towards truth and justice is getting in its work well at the present day.

Second. In a broad or national sense we find a great disposition to deceive the very elect, the reformer. There

is no cause to be alarmed. That we will have a second chance at salvation. National and city morality has been swallowed up by baseball, gambling and the young men have but little encouragement to do right at the present day, for the evil doers receive equal respect to the moral boy, thus we find that an honest, upright man is at a discount at the present day.

Third. We therefore urge our ministers to consider the above ideas and post themselves with regards to the issues that are detrimental to the morals of our country, and exert your influence in getting a home state press that we may be able to discuss our own measures. For a majority of the papers are being suppressed with donations, and will not publish anything that is detrimental to the interest of the donor.

O. B. HARDIN, Chairman.

On motion report received, adopted and committee discharged.,

Executive Committee reports that we have received \$32.50. Paid to evangelist \$26.00. Balance on hand \$6.50.

Motion to accept Bro. J. T. Cunningham's resignation from above committee carried.

Bro. N. A. McGee was appointed in his place.

Motion to elect three delegates to state convention carried, resulting in the election of A. O. Blake, J. A. Hickman, W. V. Curry; O. B. Hardin, alternate.

On motion report received, adopted and committee discharged.

Miscellaneous Business.

Union Church pays \$3 for state missions.

Motion to adjourn one and one-half hours for refreshment was carried.

Ministers and messengers repaired to the house and

after a song was sung body was declared in session. A collection for the benefit of Rev. J. S. Hinton was taken, amounting to \$11.91.

Motion was made to allowed the Secretary draw up the minute of today without being read for approval by the body, was carried.

The business now being ended motion to adjourn to meet with Union Church, Pickens county, Alabama, was carried.

W. B. MONTGOMERY, Moderator.

J. A. BOSWELL, Clerk.

Roll of Delegates.

Mt. Moriah—I. J. W. St. John, T. A. Springfield, J. T. Lancaster.

Macedonia—J. M. Fields, O. B. Halden, J. S. Stokes.

Shiloh—W. R. Burkhalter, J. A. Hickman, J. H. Zeanah.

Tabernacle—J. T. Cunningham, J. S. Loftis, J. W. Montgomery.

Antioch—J. T. Williams, E. B. Belk, L. W. Shepherd.

Union—M. V. Curry, J. A. Pool, E. S. Teer.

Phillips' Chapel—N. Watson, M. J. Sandford, J. M. Lynn.

Hattie's Chapel—A. O. Blake, M. St. John.

Mt. Zion—S. T. Shipp, J. W. E. Shelby, J. S. Montgomery.

Union Hill—W. A. Harris, J. T. Guy.

Pleasant Hill—J. G. Pearson, J. C. Hardy, A. B. Lilley.

Friendship—Not represented.

Unity—Not represented.

Unity Grove—J. R. Cole, I. P. Robertson, T. A. Guin.

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION OF THE UNION MEETING OF THE MT. MORIAH ASSOCIATION.

Met at Union Hill Freewill Baptist Church on Sunday morning, the fourth Sunday in July, 1911.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. W. B. Montgomery. Text: Psalm 107:43, St. John 13-14-15:14.

After which an hour was given for refreshments. After dinner the Moderator being absent, the body was called to order by the Clerk.

A motion was made by Rev. Woods Springfield that Rev. J. E. Mathis be elected Moderator pro tem until the body was organized.

Called for letters from the various churches, handed in and read and names of delegates enrolled as per statistical table.

The body proceeded to elect Moderator and Clerk, whereupon Rev. J. E. Mathis was elected Moderator and J. W. E. Shelby was elected Clerk.

Appointed the following committees:

On Devotion—J. Z. Pearson, with deacons of Union Hill Church.

On Documents and Order of Business—Rev. W. B. Montgomery, Rev. T. V. Wheat, Rev. Woods Springfield, with Moderator and Clerk.

On Resolutions and Queries—W. V. Curry, Rev. M. Montgomery, J. S. Loftis.

On State Mission—A. O. Blake, W. V. Curry, J. G. Pearson, J. A. Hickman, W. B. Robinson.

We, your Committee on Devotion, report that a recess of 10 minutes be taken, after which we will have a song and prayer service conducted by Rev. Woods Springfield.

A motion to adjourn until Monday morning at 8 o'clock was carried.

MONDAY MORNING, JULY 24.

Persuant to adjournment the body was called to order by the Moderator reading 15th Psalm, and prayer by Rev. T. V. Wheat.

Roll called and delegates answered to their names.

Read minutes of Sunday and they were adopted.

Called for reports of committees.

The Committee on Documents and Order of Business beg leave to report:

First. That we proceed after the usual order of business.

Second. That the next union meeting be held with the Hatties Chapel Church at Ethelville, Ala., and that Rev. J. E. Mathis preach the introductory sermon and Rev. M. Montgomery be his alternate and that we convene on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1912.

Third. We recommend that we condemn public amusements such as baseball playing, dancing, gambling and such like, as they tend to corrupt our Christian influence and cause the world to lose confidence.

REV. W. B. MONTGOMERY, Chairman.

Report received, adopted and committee discharged.

We, the Committee on Queries and Resolutions, beg to report:

Resolved, That this body tender our sincere thanks to the Union Hill Church and the good people of the community for the able manner in supporting this union meeting and for the hospitality the kind sisters have shown us during this session. Respectfully submitted,

W. V. CURRY, Chairman.

Report read, adopted and committee discharged.

We, the Committee on State Missions, beg to report:

We recommend that this Union request that the dele-

gates representing the various churches in this Association, make an earnest effort to collect 10 cents per member and send to the next Association for State Missions. We further suggest that they bring this important matter before their first conference and request that a committee be appointed to look after this matter. Respectfully submitted,

A. O. BLAKE, Chairman.

Report received. After discussion body voted not to adopt it. Committee discharged.

A motion to table query from last Union meeting was carried.

The valedictory sermon was preached by Rev. J. E. Mathis from Ephesians 5:1-2.

A motion to adjourn to meet with Hattie's Chapel, Pickens county, Alabama, on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1912, was carried.

REV. J. E. MATHIS, Moderator.

J. W. E. SHELBY, Clerk.

Roll of Delegates.

Mt. Moriah—J. F. Cowart, R. L. Burgess, T. B. Smith.

Macedonia—Rev. J. E. Mathis.

Shiloh—J. A. Hickman.

Antioch—J. T. Williams, R. D. Belk.

Tabernacle—J. S. Loftis, S. F. Shelby.

Union—W. H. Whatley, M. V. Curry, J. A. Powell.

Phillips' Chapel—Not represented.

Hattie's Chapel—M. St. John, Ollie Ponds, A. O. Blake.

Mt. Zion—R. L. Ramsay, J. W. E. Shelby.

Union Hill—J. E. Johnson, W. R. Robinson, E. L. Perigin.

Pleasant Hill—J. G. Pearson, J. C. Hardy.

Friendship—Not represented.

Unity—Not represented.

CONSTITUTION.

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

Art. 2. This body shall be considered an advisory council, but having no authority over the affairs of other churches, unless they depart from the articles of faith of this Association. In case any church departs from the articles of faith and support doctrines of heresy, or allows any ministers of her body to teach doctrines not in keeping with our articles of faith, the same shall be dealt with by this Association as it may deem proper and right, according to the teachings of the Bible.

Art. 3. Each church in this Association shall be considered an advisory board and shall control its own internal affairs in matter of discipline, etc., though the church may in extreme cases claim aid from sister churches, but the Association shall rule in all matters of doctrine and general interest.

Art. 4. All questions of doctrine and matters of general interest shall be settled by a two-thirds vote of the Association and the decision shall be final.

Art. 5. The officers of the Association shall be Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen at each session by a majority of votes.

Art. 6. The Association shall meet annually at such time and place as may be agreed upon by the previous annual session, and shall not adjourn finally until all the business is transacted.

Art. 7. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt its articles of faith and conform to its usages.

Art. 8. We agree, as churches of this Association, to use our best influence to promote the interest of all

moral and benevolent institutions, such as the temperance cause, Sabbath Schools, missionary work, etc.

RULES OF DECORUM.

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

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

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

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

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

Rule 6. The Moderator shall not be entitled to vote except in case of a tie, and then he shall give the deciding vote. He shall be entitled to speak on any question after others have spoken, provided, he shall appoint some one to the chair while he is speaking.

Rule 7. Only one person shall speak at the same time, who shall arise and address the Moderator.

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

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

Rule 10. No member shall talk or laugh during the time the debate is going on.

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

Rule 12. The Moderator shall have power to call the

Association together at any time upon a petition of two-thirds of the churches composing the Association over which he presides.

Rule 13. That the appointment of all committees by the Molerator be confined to the ministers and delegates composing the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Article 1. We believe there is one true and living God, who is the Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth, self existent Creator of all things, and revealed under the personal distinction of Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and existing in distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

Art. 2. We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, truth for its matter and salvation for its end; and it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore is and shall remain to the end of the world, the center of Christian union, the supreme standard by which all human the law of his Maker, but from voluntary transgression conduct, creeds and opinions will be tried.

Art. 3. We believe that man was created holy under fell from that holy state, in consequence of which all mankind are depraved and wholly unable of their own free will and ability, to recover from the fallen state in which they are by nature.

Art. 4. We believe that God has not fixed the future state of mankind by an absolute and unalternate decree; but salvation is offered in the Gospel free to all, and if sinners are lost forever it will be their own fault.

5. We believe that Christ, by his death and suffering, made an atonement for the sins of all mankind in general, and every individual in particular; however, that none but those who believe in Him can be partakers of the divine benefits.

Art. 6. We believe that true faith cannot proceed from the exercise of our natural faculties and powers or from the force and operation of the free will, since man in consequence of his natural corruption is incapable either of thinking or doing anything spiritually good.

Art. 7. We believe in the general application of the grace of God for fallen man sufficient to enable him morally and actually to obey the requirements of the law of liberty—James 1:25, this is to saving faith; John 1:9, however, none but those who believe or acquiesce in Christ will be saved thereby; Acts 17:32; Romans 2:9; John 3:19.

Art. 8. We believe in the free moral agency of man, by the grace of God, before and after conversion; that he is laid under no invincible necessity, by his Creator, to act in a giving way, that if he lives after the flesh he shall die, but if he through the spirit, do mortify the deeds of the body he shall live, and therefore, man is always a proper subject of admonition and exhortation. Hebrew 11:12, 13; Romans 12:14; Mark 14:12; Ezek. 18:24; Rev. 2:3; Ezek. 33:13 and 28; 1st Tim. 4:1; Heb. 3:5; 1st Cor. 10:12 and 22; 1st Peter 1:10.

Art. 9. We believe that the visible church of Christ is a congregation of believers, associated by covenant in faith and fellowship of the Gosepl, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only proper officers are bishops, pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles of Timothy and Titus.

Art. 10. We believe that Christian baptism is immersion in water in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and that believers are proper subjects.

Art. 11. We believe the Lord's Supper is a perpetual obligation, by which the members of the church in the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the

dying love of Christ preceeded always by solemn self-examination.

Art. 12. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the general judgment; and joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal upon principles of grace and justice.

Art. 13. We believe in open and mixed communion and the churches of our body are authorized, through their pastors, to invite Christians of all orthodox churches who are in good standing in their respective churches, to commune with us at the Lord's table.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES.

J. S. Hinton, McConnells, Ala.
 Woods Springfield, McShan, Ala.
 J. D. Byars, Millport, Ala.
 J. E. Mathis, Millport, Ala.
 W. J. Harbin, Kuykendall, Ala.
 J. M. Pinkerton, McConnells, Ala.
 W. B. Montgomery, McConnells, Ala.
 M. Montgomery, McConnells, Ala.
 T. V. Wheat, McConnells, Ala.
 J. R. Robertson, Millport, Ala.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

N. A. McGee, J. G. Pearson, J. A. Hickman.

Statistical Table Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Association.

CHURCHES & COUNTIES	PASTORS	CLERKS AND P. O.	Baptized	Dismissed by Letter Received by Letter	Restored	Excluded	Meeting Days	No. Members	Minute Fund
Mt. Moriah, Pickens. Co	J D Byars.....	W T Carroll, Delmavill, Ala.	0	0	2	0	2	117	\$2 00
Macedonia, "....."	J D Byars.....	J T Stokes, Millport.....	0	1	0	0	1	173	2 50
Shiloh, "....."	J D Byars.....	J H Zeannah, Gordo.....	9	1	0	0	3	99	2 00
Tabernacle, Tuscaloosa.....	W B Montgomery	J T Cunningham, May.....	0	2	0	0	1	74	2 00
Antioch, Fayette.....	W B Montgomery	R D Belk, Belk.....	3	0	0	0	0	89	2 06
Union, Pickens.....	W B Montgomery	W V Pool, Mayfield.....	0	0	4	0	1	2 75	1 50
Phillips Chapel, Tuscaloosa.....	W J Harbin.....	G W Phillips, McConnell's..	2	0	2	3	0	5 4	97 2 00
Hatties Chapel, Pickens.....	W Springfield....	L F Pridemore, Ethelville..	1	2	0	0	0	1 49	1 50
Mt. Zion, Tuscaloosa.....	W B Montgomery	N A McGee, McConnell's..	0	0	1	0	1	3 65	2 00
Union Hill, Pickens.....	W Springfield....	W A Harris, McShan.....	1	1	0	0	0	3 49	2 00
Pleasant Hill, Tuscaloosa.....	W Springfield....	R B Tilley, Holman... ..	2	0	0	0	1	2 26	1 50
Friendship, Fayette.....	J M Pinkerton....	J C Phillips, Bankston ...	0	0	0	0	1	0 4	9 1 05
Unity, Tuscaloosa.....	Not represented	Not represented							75
Unity Grove, Lamar.....	J E Mathis.....	L E Parker, Millport.....	0	0	0	0	0	70	2 50

