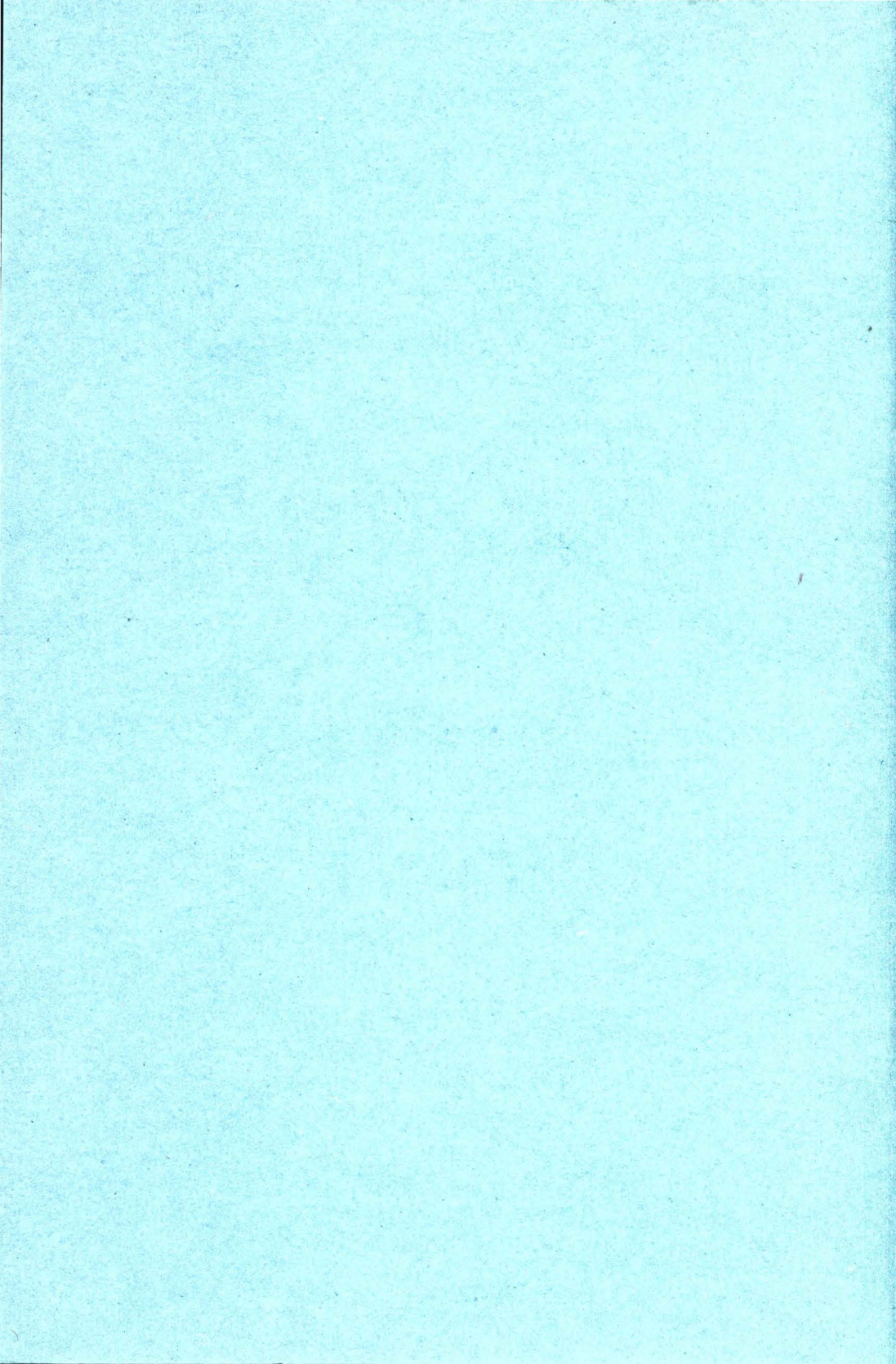


MINUTES
OF THE
Sixty-Ninth Annual Session
OF THE
MOUNT MORIAH
Free Will Baptist Association
WAS HELD WITH
PHILIPS CHAPEL CHURCH
October 11-12-13-1919

OFFICERS:
T. L. WALKER, Moderator
J. H. HARLESS, Clerk

The Next Session will be held with Antioch Church, Fayette County, Alabama
Beginning on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1920



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MINUTES OF THE MOUNT MORIAH FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The 69th Annual session of the Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Association was held with Phillips Chapel Church, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, October 11, 12 and 13, 1919. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. J. M. Spencer. Text: Romans 6th chapter, 23rd verse. After preaching, an intermission of an hour and half was taken for recreation and refreshments.

In due time the ministers and messengers repaired to the house, and after reading the 12th chapter of Romans and prayer by the Moderator, the Association was called to order by Rev. T. L. Walker, the former Moderator—the former clerk serving until the body were fully organized.

First: Letters from the various churches were called for, handed in and read, and names of delegates enrolled as per statistical table.

Second: Proceeded to elect Moderator and Clerk, whereupon Rev. T. L. Walker was elected Moderator and J. H. Harless, Clerk.

Third: Extended an invitation for the reception of new churches. None presented.

Fourth: Called for corresponding messengers from sister associations. None present.

The following committees were appointed:

On Document and Order of Business—Rev. J. E. Mathias, Rev. M. Montgomery, Rev. W. J. Harbin, with Moderator and Clerk.

On Devotional Services—M. St. John, J. A. Hickman, with deacons, of Phillips Chapel Church.

On Temperance—Rev. W. E. Harbin, J. S. Loftis, T. J. Shipp.

On Sabbath School—C. L. Wing, J. J. Connell, Sterling Crawford.

On Finance—L. W. Smith, J. M. Stokes.

On Deceased Members—J. T. Cunningham, J. G. Pearson and L. Lawson.

On Publication, Education and Literature—Rev. J. H. Newton, J. A. Hickman, P. J. Frazier and Rev. J. M. Spencer.

On Moral Reform—B. D. Williams, E. L. Stapp and J. C. Hardy.

On Resolutions and Queries—Rev. T. V. Wheat, W. V. Poole, J. M. Lynn and M. J. Stanford.

The Committee on Devotion made the report as follows:

That Rev. J. H. Newton preach at 9 in the morning on Sunday and W. J. Harbin preach at 11 a. m.

Moved that we adjourn till 8 o'clock Monday morning.

SUNDAY'S SERVICES.

Rev. J. H. Newton preached at 9 from the 11th chapter of Mark, 24th,

25th and 26th verses, subject: Prayer. Rev. W. J. Harbin preached at 11 a. m. From St. John, 14th and 11th verse. After these services, the Lord's Supper was taken and the congregation was dismissed for the day.

MONDAY MORNING SERVICE.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment; after a scriptural lesson and prayer by the Moderator, the following business was transacted:

First: Roll call of churches.

Second: Minutes of a Saturday read and adopted.

The reports of Committees were called for, handed in and read.

Report of Committee on Document and Order of Business.

We, your Committee on Document and Order of Business, beg leave to report as follows:

1st. We recommend that we proceed as the usual order of business.

2nd. We recommend that the Secretary be elected Treasurer and that he superintend the printing of the minutes and that he receive ten (\$10.00) dollars for his services.

3rd. We recommend that the next session of the Association be held with Antioch Church, Fayette County, Alabama.

4th. We recommend that Rev. M. Montgomery preach the introductory sermon and Rev. J. E. Mathis be his alternate.

5th. We recommend that we elect three delegates to the State Conference and that the Association pay their expenses.

6th. We recommend that the ministers make a report at the Association of their work and the amount received for same.

REV. J. E. MATHIS, Chairman.

The report received and the committee discharged. After considering it by sections, the whole was adopted.

Report of Committee on Temperance.

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

We recommend that we all be more temperate in our daily life, that we abstain from all appearance of evil, that our Christian influence may not be hindered, that we may prove that good and pure will of God, that we abstain from all intoxicating drinks such as strong drinks and also soft drinks, that the world may know we have Jesus Christ with us.

REV. W. E. HARBIN, Chairman.

Report received and the committee discharged.

Report of Committee on Sabbath School.

We, your Committee, beg leave to report that inasmuch as the Bible teaches us to train the child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it, therefore, being aware of the negligence practiced along this line and knowing the evils to which they are subjected we therefore suggest that Sunday Schools be organized in which the word of God be taught which will enlighten the mind and lead them to Christ and future use in the church.

C. L. WING, Chairman.

The report received and committee discharged.

Report of Committee on Finance

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

Collected at this session for minute fund.....	\$59.55
Charity fund	2.25
On hand in treasury.....	1.00

Total\$62.80

Report received and committee discharged.

L. W. SMITH, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Deceased Members.

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

Since our last session, we find that 20 of our members have fallen asleep, as follows:

Mount Moriah—Ida Coward.

Macedonia—Ila Watkins, Trannie Fields, Susie Dean, Bro. S. B. McAdams.

Tabernacle—Sister E. A. Loftis, Lizzie Montgomery, S. L. Sturdivant, Bro. W. J. Driver.

Antioch—Della Taylor, Mattie Alexander.

Union—Lillie Lindsey.

Phillips Chapel—Bro. G. W. Phillips, Victor Falls and Sister Nannie Lowrey.

Mt. Zion—Bro. G. B. Spencer.

Pleasant Hill—Bro. J. M. Brown.

Unity Grove—Bro. T. B. Cole, Sister M. E. Parker.

Pleasant Ridge—J. H. Winters.

Report received and committee discharged.

J. T. CUNNINGHAM, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Publication, Education and Literature.

We, your Committee on Publication, Education and Literature, beg leave to report as follows:

Seeing the great need of a Christian education, also realizing the responsibility that rests upon us as a church to be leaders in this enlightened age, being able also to teach others, we therefore, earnestly beseech our brethren and sisters to put forth a prayerful and devoted effort to establish a Christian education as far as possible.

1st. We recommend that this honorable body require every preacher to preach a sermon on Christian education, and take a collection for same. We further recommend that the month of May be set apart for the work that is, each Sunday, at the various churches.

2nd. We further recommend that the Moderator of this Association be prepared to preach a sermon on Christian education at each session as we meet from year to year.

3rd. We recommend that this body elect a committee of one minister and two laymen to investigate the school at Ayden, N. C., that this might formulate some plan to establish a Christian school in the State of Alabama for our people and to report at the next session of this association.

4th. We further recommend that our Clerk have the minutes printed at a publishing house at Ayden, N. C., and have a copy sent to him for approval before the whole list is sent out, also that our churches use the Sunday School literature, published at Ayden, N. C., also that our preacher and members subscribe to the Free Will Baptists Paper so that we can get better acquainted with each other in this great work of evangelizing the world for our God who has done so much for us.

Report received and committee discharged. After considering it by sections, the whole was adopted. ELDER J. H. NEWTON, Chmn.

Report of Committee on Moral Reform.

We, your Committee on Moral Reform, beg leave to make the following report:

Seemingly, the minds of the people, more especially the minds of the young, are inclined to seek after worldly amusements which are inclined to corrupt their morals.

We recommend the church to take a closer oversight over them, and and that they condemn all and everything that has the least influence toward corrupting the morals or stagnating the brain so that it would render them unfit for usefulness as Christians. We should condemn such worldly amusements as dancing, gambling in any form, either by chance, matching, raffling marble playing on Sunday or hanging around railroad stations, or where business does not call any one.

Report received and committee discharged.

B. D. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Resolutions and Queries.

We, our Committee on Resolutions and Queries, beg leave to report as follows:

We resolve that this body tender its sincere thanks to the Phillips Chapel Church and the good people of the community for the able manner in which they supported this association and for their kindness during our stay with them.

Report received and committee discharged.

REV. T. V. WHEAT, Chairman.

Report of Executive Committee.

We, your Executive Committee, beg leave to report as follows:

1st. We find all the churches doing very well.

2nd. We find the christian character of our ministers in excellent shape and all of them doing all they can considering their financial circumstances.

3rd. We recommend that a fund be raised through the various churches to carry the gospel to new places and not as an evangelist to the old churches.

4th. We further recommend that any minister knowing of any place report the same to the committee and let them send a minister there and pay them a reasonable fee for their services.

Report received and the committee discharged.

J. A. HICKMAN, Chairman.

Moved to elect delegates to the State Convention to be held at Townley, Alabama, beginning on Thursday night, before the first Sunday in November, 1919, whereby W. A. Harris, L. E. Parker and J. H. Harless were elected.

There being no other business the parting hand was taken and the association adjourned to meet with Antioch Church, Fayette County, Alabama, on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1920.

REV. T. L. WALKER, Moderator.

J. H. HARLESS, Clerk.

List of Ordained Ministers.

Wood Springfield, McShan, Ala.; J. D. Byars, Millport, Ala., Rt. 1; J. E. Mathis, Millport, Ala., Rt. 3; W. J. Harbin, Samantha, Ala., Rt. 1; M. Montgomery, McConnells, Ala., Rt. 1; T. V. Wheat, McConnells, Ala., Rt. 1; W. E. Harbin, Samantha, Ala., Rt. 1; J. M. Pinkerton, Athens, Texas; W. R. Robinson, Reform, Ala.; J. M. Spencer, McConnells, Ala.; C. E. Best, Bankston, Ala., Rt. 2; J. H. Newton, Ethelville, Ala., Licentiate—J. W. Shirley, Samantha, Ala.

Roll of Deceased Ordained Ministers.

Ellis Gore, W. R. Latham, J. S. Hinton, W. B. Montgomery, I. T. Nabors.

Roll of Delegates.

Mt. Moriah—R. L. Burgess, C. L. Wing, Varner Coward.
Macedonia—J. M. Stokes, W. C. Smith, J. S. Fields.
Shiloh—J. A. Hickman, Luther Burkhalter, Albert Burkhalter.
Tabernacle—J. T. Cunningham, J. S. Loftis, P. J. Frazier.
Antioch—B. D. Williams, G. F. Carmack, J. T. Williams.
Union—W. V. Poole, J. D. Vaughn, J. S. Curry.
Phillips Chapel—J. M. Lynn, M. J. Sanford, J. D. Montgomery.

Hattis Chapel—M. St. John.
Mt. Zion—J. H. Harless, T. J. Shipp, L. W. Smith.
Union Hill—W. A. Harris, V. L. Robinson, J. T. Lancaster.
Pleasant Hill—J. G. Pearson, Edgar Watts, Virtis Tilly.
Friendship—L. Lawson, Archie Maddox, Walter Phillips.
Unity Grove—I. B. Robertson, E. L. Stapp, G. P. Robertson.
Pleasant Ridge—J. C. Hardy, W. T. Driver, H. G. Strickland.
Sulphur Springs—J. R. Hall, Sterling Crawford, P. A. Crawford.

PROCEEDINGS OF UNION MEETING.

The 28th Annual Session of the Union Meeting of the Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Association was held with Union Hill Church, Pickens, County, Alabama, on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1919. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Wood Springfield. Text: 2nd Timothy, 11th chapter, 8th verse. After which an intermission of one and one-half hours were taken for recreation and refreshment. At the appointed time the ministers and messengers re-assembled in the house and the body was called to order by the former Moderator—the former Clerk serving until the body was fully organized. Proceeded with the following business:

1st. Call for the letters of the various churches, which were handed in and read.

2nd. Proceeded to elect Moderator and Clerk, whereby Rev. W. E. Harbin was elected Moderator and J. H. Harless, Clerk.

3rd. The following committees were appointed:

Committee on Document and Order of Business—Rev. J. E. Mathis, Rev. J. M. Spencer, Rev. T. V. Wheat, with Moderator and Clerk.

Committee on Devotion—T. J. Shipp, P. A. Crawford, with deacons of Union Hill Church.

Committee on Resolutions and Queries—P. J. Frazier, R. L. Burgess, J. A. Hickman.

Committee on Devotion made their report as follows:

Rev. W. E. Harbin preach at nine in the morning Sunday. Rev. J. D. Byars at eleven o'clock. Rev. W. R. Robinson preached at three in the afternoon.

Moved to adjourn until Monday morning at eight o'clock.

Sunday's Services.

Rev. W. E. Harbin preached at nine in the morning from 13th chapter of St. Luke and 24th verse. Rev. J. D. Byars preached at eleven in the morning from 1st Corinthians, 3rd chapter, 21st, 22nd and 23rd verses. Rev. W. R. Robinson preached at 3 p. m. from St. John, 11th chapter, 3rd verse.

Monday Morning.

The Union Meeting met Monday morning, pursuant to adjournment. After reading the 19th Psalm and prayer by Rev. T. V. Wheat, the body was called to order.

1st. Minutes of Saturday read and adopted.

2nd. Roll call of delegates. The delegates of the churches were called and answered to their names.

3rd. Call for report of Committee on Document and Order of Business.

We, your Committee on Document and Order of Business, beg leave to report as follows:

Whereas, there has been no petition for convening of the next session of the Union Meeting, and since the routine of business is in line with that of the Association and since it convenes at a time of the year that it is very burdensome on both man and beast and on any community to prepare for sustaining the same, we recommend that we suspend the Union Meeting and that we send the proceedings of this session to our church paper for publication and condense the expenses of the printing of our minutes, and let us strive to make the work of our State Conference and our Association more interesting and profitable.

Report received, but not adopted, but amended so as to read that the next session of this Union Meeting will be held with Mount Moriah Church on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1920, and that Rev. J. M. Spencer preach the introductory sermon and Rev. M. Montgomery be his alternate.

REV. J. E. MATHIS, Chairman.

We, your Committee on Evangelism, recommend that each church raise all the funds they can and send the amount to the association for evangelism.

We recommend that each church take up a collection every meeting day in each month.

We recommend that all pastors help in this collection.

W. B. CURRY, Chairman.

Report of Committee on Resolutions and Queries.

We, your Committee on Resolutions and Queries, report:

Resolved, that this body tender its sincere thanks to Union Hill Church, and the good people of the community for the able manner in supporting the Union Meeting and the kindness shown us during the stay with them.

Report received and committee discharged.

P. J. FRAZIER, Chairman.

There being no further business, the valedictory sermon was preached by Rev. T. V. Wheat, after which the parting hand was taken to meet with Mount Moriah Church, on Saturday, before the fourth Sunday in July, 1920.

REV. W. E. HARBIN, Moderator.

J. H. HARLESS, Clerk.

Roll of Delegates.

Mt. Moriah—R. L. Burgess, C. L. Wing, John Lancaster.

Macedonia—W. W. Mathis, J. M. Fields, Billy Parker.

Shiloh—J. A. Hickman.

Tabernacle—J. T. Cunningham, P. J. Frazier, W. A. Montgomery.

Antioch—Not represented.

Union—J. A. Pearce, N. B. Jones, W. B. Curry.

Phillips Chapel—J. M. Lynn, J. H. Sanford.

Hattis Chapel—M. St. John.

Mt. Zion—T. J. Shipp, J. H. Harless, L. W. Smith.

Union Hill—E. L. Peringen, J. T. Lancaster, V. L. Robertson, W. A. Harris.

Pleasant Hill—J. G. Pearson.

Unity Grove—T. A. Guin, J. B. Cole, Alfred Robertson.

Pleasant Ridge—J. C. Hardy, Jones Strickland, H. E. Winters.

Sulphur Springs—J. R. Hall, P. A. Crawford, Sterling Crawford.

Roll of Ministers Attending Meeting.

Wood Springfield, J. D. Byars, J. E. Mathis, T. V. Wheat, W. E. Harbin, W. R. Robinson, J. M. Spencer.

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 matters 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 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 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

intitled 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 Moderator be confined to 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 conduct, creeds and opinions will be tried.

Art. 3. We believe that man was created holy under the law of his Maker, but from voluntary transgression 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 unalterable decree; but salvation is offered in the Gospel free to all, and if sinners are lost forever it will be their own fault.

Art. 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 act 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, but his Creator, to act in a given 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 for admonition and exhortation. Hebrews 11:12-13; Romans 12:14; Mark 14:12; Ezekiel 18:24; Rev. 2:3; Ezekiel 33:13 and 28; 1st Tim. 4:1; Hebrews 3:5; 1st Cor. 10:12 and 22; 1st Peter 1:10.

Art. 10. We believe that the visible church of Christ is a congregation of believers, associated by covenant in faith and fellowship of the Gospel, 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 the bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ preceded 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, 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.

STATISTICAL TABLE

[illegible]



