### MINUTES

OF THE

## SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

# MOUNT MORIAH

Free Will Baptist Association

WAS HELD WITH

# UNITY GROVE CHURCH

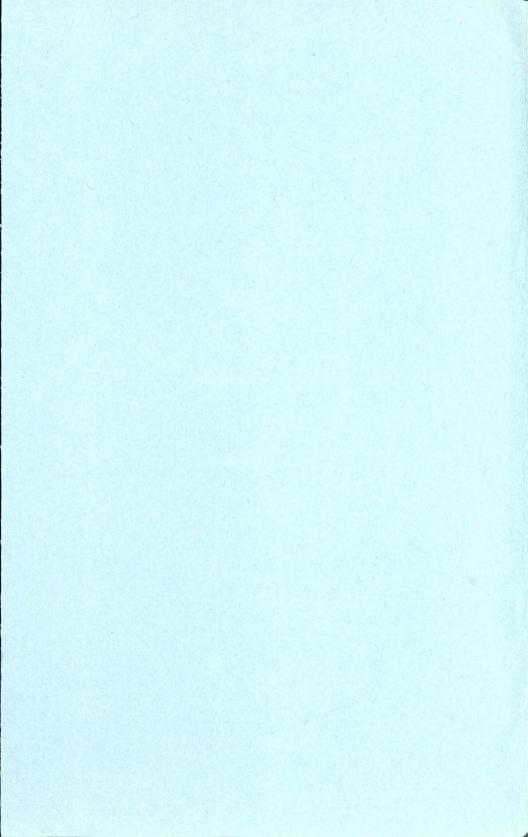
OCTOBER 8, 9, 10, 1921

### OFFICERS:

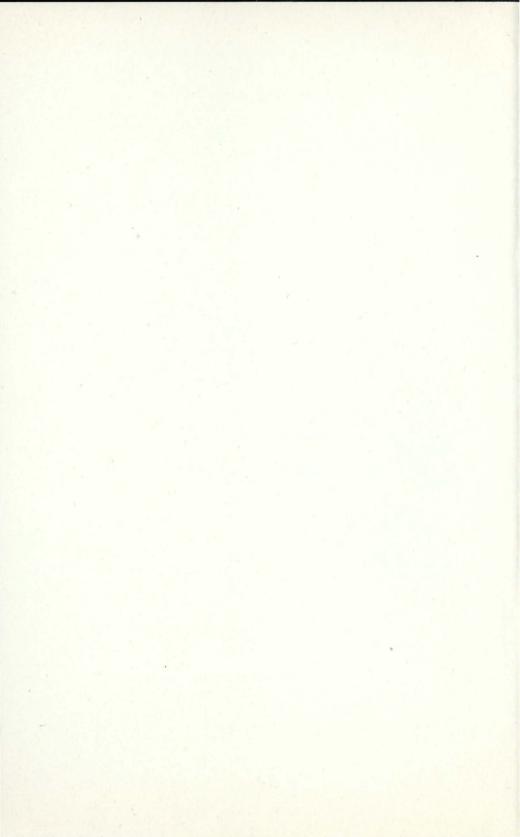
REV. M. MONTGOMERY, Moderator J. H. HARLESS, Clerk

The next session will be held with Mt. Zion Church, Tuscaloosa County, Ala., beginning on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1922

The Frazer Press, Inc., Printers. Tuscaloosa. Ala.







#### PROCEEDINGS:

The Seventy-First Annual Session of the Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Association was held with Unity Grove Church, Lamar County, Alabama, October 8, 9 and 10, 1921. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. J. D. Byars, text: "Salvation for all," second, "The great multitude of the saved," after preaching an internal. sion of one and one-half hours were taken for recreation and refreshment.

In due time the ministers and messengers repaired to the house and after reading the 24th Psalm, and prayer by Rev. G. D. Hollis, the association was called to order, by the former Moderator, the former Clerk serving until the body was fully organized.

The following business was transacted: First letters from the various churches were called for, handed in, and read and names

of delegates enrolled, as per statistic table.

Second. Proceeded to elect Moderator and Clerk, whereby Rev. M. Montgoemery was elected Moderator, and J. H. Hraless, Clerk. Third. Extended an invitation for the reception of new churches,

none presented.

Fourth. Call for corresponding messengers from sister associations, whereby Rev. D. G. Hollis, Rev. M. L. Hollis, Rev. T. J. Adair, were present from the Vernon Associations.

The following committees were appointed: First, On Documents and Order of Business—Rev. J. D. Byars, Rev. W. J. Harbin, Rev. J.

M. Spencer, with Moderator and Clerk. Second. On Devotional Services—J. M. Stokes, J. A. Poole, with deacons of Unity Grove Church.

Third. On Temperance—Rev. Woods Springfield, Rev. W. E. Har-

bin, Rev. T. V. Wheat.

Fourth. On Sabbath School-Rev. G. F. Carmach, W. J. Holliman, M. J. Sanford.

Fifth. On Finance—W. V. Curry, Lee McAdams, T. J. Shipp. Sixth. On Deceased Members—W. V. Poole, I. B. Robertson, J. S. Loftis.

Seventh. On Moral Reform-J. A. Hickman, L. Lawson, B. L. Hamby.

Eighth. On Resolutions, and Querries—J. T. Williams, M. St.

John, M. T. Montgomery.

The Committee on Devotion made their report as follows: That Rev. W. J. Harbin preach at 9 a. m.; Rev. M. Montgomery, 11 a. m.; and Rev. J. M. Spencer, 2:30 p. m. on Sunday, and that Rev. M. L. Hollis, preach the Valedictory Sermon.

SUNDAY SERVICES. After song service by Rev. Woods Springfield, and prayer by Rev. T. L. Walker, the 9 a. m., services were preached by Rev. W. J.

Harbin, text, Romans 8-14.

The 11 o'clock services were preached by Rev. M. Montgomery, text, Acts, 8-33. In his humiliation judgment was taken away. Rev. J.M. Spencer preached at 2:30 p.m., text, 1st Peter, 4. "I would see Jesus," text, Acts 7-56, "Behold I see Heaven and the son of man standing on the right hand of God."

#### MONDAY MORNING.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, after reading 2nd chapter of St. James, by the Moderator, and prayer by Rev. T. Adair, the following business was transacted: First, Roll Call Churches and the Delegates from the various churches answered their anmes, as listed in statistical table. Second: Minutes of Saturday were read and adopted. Third: The following reports were handed in and read.

We, your Committee on Documents and Order of Business, beg

leave to report as follows:

First: We recommend that we proceed after the usual order of business.

Second: We recommend that the Secretary be elected Treasurer, and that he receive \$12.00 for his services, and that he superintend the printing of the minutes.

Third: We recommend that the next session of this Association

be held with Mt. Zion Church, Tuscaloosa County, Ala.

Fourth: We recommend that Rev. Woods Springfield preach the introductory sermon, and that Rev. W. J. Harbin be his alternate.

Fifth: We recommend and insist that each church elect a treasurer, and that he report to Association, through the Secretary, what has been collected, for ministerial and other purposes, during the year.

Report received and considered in sections, after which it was

adopted as a whole and the committee discharged.

REV. J. D. BYARS, Chairman.

#### ON TEMPERANCE.

Whereas the evils of intemperance is growing more and more, in every way, we recommend that we take the admonition of the Apostle Paul, and live temperate in all things, especially let us abstain from the use of intoxicating drinks, and use our influence against the making and selling of the same, and that we discourage the drinking of soft drinks in every way, we further recommend that our pastors preach a temperance sermon once a year in all their churches, that our young people may learn of the growing evils of intemperate habits.

Report received, and the committee discharged.

REV. WOODS SPRINGFIELD, Chairman.

#### SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to report as follows: That inasmuch as the Bible teaches us to train the children in the way they should go, and when they are old they will not depart from it, therefore being aware of the neglected practice along this line, and knowing the evils to which they are subject to we therefore suggest that Sunday Schools be organized, which will help to lead them to Christ and later to the church, we insist that the parents read the Bible in their homes, and teach the children a Scripture lesson as often as possible. Report received and the committee discharged. REV. G. F. CARMACH, Chairman.

#### ON FINANCE.

We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to report as follows: That we have collected at this session for Minute Funds, etc., \$54.55, report received and the committee discharged.

W. V. CURRY, Chairman.

#### ON DECEASED MEMBERS.

We, your Committee on Deceased Members beg feave to report as follows: Since our last session, we find that thirteen of our members have fallen asleep, as follows: Mt. Moriah, Bro. W. Y. Coward, Macedonia, F. M. Hydrick, Louis Hollomon, O. B. Fields, and Sisters

Claudie Stokes; Shiloh, J. C. Hickman; Antioch, T. A. Perkins; Union D. L. Bailey; Hattie's Chapel, W. F. Harrell; Union Hill, A. C. Perrigen; Unity Grove, D. A. Wheeler and C. D. Johnston; Sulphur Springs, Minerva Fields.

Report received and the committee discharged. W. V. POOLE, Chairman.

#### MORAL REFORM.

We, your Committee on Moral Reform beg leave to report as follows: Seemingly the minds of the young are inclined to seek after worldly amusements, which are inclined to corrupt their morals, we recommend that the church take a closer oversight over them, and that they condemn all and everything that has the least influence towards corrupting the morals or stagnating the brain, so that it would render them unfit for usefulness as Christians, we recommend the encouragement of home discipline for the benefit of our young folks and the establishment of Sunday Schools, and Bible reading, we should condemn such worldly amusement as dancing, gambling of any form either by chance, matching, raffling, or marble, card playing, or hanging around railroad stations, or any place where business does not call them. Report received and committee discharged.

J. A. HICKMAN, Chairman.

#### REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We, your Executive Committee beg leave to report as follows: 1st. We find the Christian character of our ministers good, and seemingly doing more than their financial ability will support.

2nd. We find a majority of the churches in excellent condition and moving forward. We recommend that each member look close at himself, and see if I am doing what I can to help my pastor, and if I am interested in the support of the ministry it will come largely through the preacher, we recommend that we all study the following Scripture, earnestly and prayerfully. 1st Corinthians 9-14; Heb. 7-2; Cor. 9.7; 1st Cor. 9.17; Acts, 20.35; Luke, 12, C. 1st Tim., 6.10, Heb. 13.16; 2nd, Cor. 8.12. Report received and the committee discharged. J. A. HICKMAN, Chairman.

#### RESOLUTIONS AND PRAYERS.

Your Committee on Resolutions and Querries beg feave to report as follows: That this body tender its sincere thanks to the Unity Grove Church, and the good people of the community, for the able manner in which they supported this association during our stay with them. Report received and committee discharged.

M. T. MONTGOMERY, Chairman.

#### FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT.

This Association recommends that each church elect three of its most prominent members, as a financial committee, the members of same assess themselves according to their circumstances, and then offer the opportunity to all members to assess themselves according to their circumstances. Report adopted.

Moved to elect three delegates to convene with Vernon Association, whereby Rev. J. D. Byars, J. T. Johnston, Rev. G. F. McCor-

mach, were elected.

Moved to elect three delegates to meet with the State Convention wherby W. V. Curry, T. J. Shipp, and J. H. Harless, were elected.

There being no further business the Valedictory Sermon was preached by Rev. M. L. Hollis, text, Psalm, after which the parting hand was taken, to meet with Mt. Zion Church, on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in October, 1922; Rev. M. Montgomery, Moderator, J. H. Harless, Clerk.

#### LIST OF ORDAINED DEACONS.

Woods Springfield, Ethelville, Ala.; J. D. Byars, Millport, Ala.; J. E. Mathis, Millport, Ala., R. F. D. No. 3; W. J. Harbin, Samantha, Ala., R. F. D. No. 1; M. Montgomery, Buhl, Ala.,; T. V. Wheat, McConnell's, Ala., R. F. D. No. 1; W. R. Robertson, Reform, R. Robertson, Reform, R. Robertson, R. Robertson No. 2; J. M. Spencer, McConnell's, Ala., R. F. D. No. 1; C. E. Best, Bankston, Ala.; O. M. Archa, Samantha, Ala., R. F. D. No. 1; T L. Walker, Gordo, Ala., R. F. D. No. 1; W. E. Harbin, Samantha, R. F. D. 1.

#### LICENTIATES

C. L. Wing, G. F. Carmach, L. A. Williamson. ROLL OF DECEASED ORDAINED MINISTERS. Ellis Gore, W. R. Latham, J. S. Hinton, W. B. Montgomery, I. T. Neighbors.

#### ROLL OF DELEGATES

Mt. Moriah: R. L. Burgis, Vonner Coward, and John Lancaster; Macedonia: W. C. Smith, Lee McAdams, J. M. Stokes; Shiloh: J. A. Poole, Earnest Talley, J. A. Hickman; Tabernacle: B. L. Hamby, M. T. Montgomery, J. S. Loftis; Antioch: W. J. Holliman, DeLain Williams, J. T. Williams; Union: W. V. Curry, W. V. Poole, T. M. Huggins; Phillips Chapel: W. L. Sanford, W. O. Falls, M. J. Sanford; Hattie's Chapel: M. St. John, J. L. Cabaniss; Mt. Zion: J. H. Harless, T. J. Shipp; Union Hill: William Harris, J. T. Guy; Pleasant Hill: J. G. Pearson, R. B. Tilley; Friendship: L. Lawson, Uriah Holloway; Unity Grove: J. H. Cole, L. O. Rainwater, I. B. Robertson; Pleasant Ridge by Letter; Sulphur Springs: J. R. Hall, J. W. Shirley, P. A. Crawford. Crawford.

#### PROCEEDING OF UNION MEETING.

The Thirtieth Annual Session of the Union Meeting of the Mt. Moriah Free Will Baptist Association was held with Friendship Church, Fayette County, Ala., on Saturday before the Fourth Sunday in July 1921.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. J. M. Spencer, text, John 6-69, "That we believe and are sure thou art Christ," Acts.24-15, "There shall be a resurrection both of the just and unjust," followed by Rev. J. D. Byars, subject, "Christian Knowledge," after which one and one-half hours were taken for recreation, and refreshments.

At the appointed time the ministers and messengers reassembled in the house, after which the body was called to order by the former Moderator after reading the 107th Psalm, and prayer by Rev. T. V. Wheat, the former Clerk serving until the body was fully organized.

1st. The letters from the various churches, were called for, handed in and read, and names of delegates listed as per statistic

table.

2nd. Proceeded to elect Moderator and Clerk, whereby Rev. J. D. Byars, was elected Moderator, and J. H. Harless, Clerk.

3rd. The following committees were appointed:

1st. On Document and Order of Business-Rev. M. Montgom-

ery, Rev. T. V. Wheat, C. L. Wing, with Moderator and Clerk. 2nd. On Devotions—T. J. Shipp, P. J. Frasier, C. L.

Walter Phillips and L. Lawson.

3rd. On Evangelism-J. M. Stokes, P. A. Crawford, F. H. Ham. 4th. On Resolutions and Querries-Rev. J. M. Spencer, Rev. L. A. Williamson.

5th. The Committee on Devotion made their report as follows: That Rev. J. D. Byars preach at 11:00 in the morning, and Rev. M. Montgomery preach 3:00 p. h. Sunday and Rev. J. D. Byars preach the Valedictory Sermon.

#### SUNDAY SERVICES.

The congregation assembled at the church 9 a.m., after which song services were conducted by various leaders, until the preaching hour, Rev. J. D. Byars preached at 1 a.m., subject "Salvation," text Acts 16.30, "What must I do to be saved." References. Matt. 10.19, Mat. 10.20, Luke 11.13, Luke, 17.20, John 6.45, John 6.63, Rom. 8.5, Rom. 8.6, 1st Cor. 12.6, 2nd Cor. 3.4, 2nd Cor. 3.5, GaI. 5.18, Eph. 5.9

Rev. M. Montgomery preached at 3 p. m. to a large concourse of records who gives their undivided attention to his called discourse.

people, who gave him their undivided attention to his able discourse.

#### MONDAY MORNING.

Monday morning met pursuant to adjournment, after reading the 37th Psalm by the Moderator, and prayer by T. J. Shipp the following business was transacted:

1st. Minutes of Saturday read and adopted, roll call of churches, delegates of the various churches answered to their names as per statistical table.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

We, your Committee on Document and Order of Business beg leave to report as follows: 1st. That we proceed after the usual order of business. 2nd. We recommend that the next session of the Union meeting be held with Phillips Chapel Church, Tuscaloosa County, Ala., commencing on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in July 1922, and Rev. J. E. Mathis preach the introductory sermon, and W. E. Harbin be his alternate. 3rd. We recommend and insist that each church represent by delegates. Report received and committee discharged.

REV. M. MONTGOMERY, Chairman.

#### ON EVANGELISM.

We, your Committee on Evangelism beg leave to report as follows: We recommend that the churches raise all the funds that they can, and send to Association for this purpose, we recommend that the churches take up a collection at various times for same. We further recommend that the ministers encourage the churches. We further recommend that each church elect a treasurer to look after the finance of their church. Report received and committee discharged. J. M. STOKES, Chairman.

#### ON RESOLUTIONS AND QUERRIES

We your Committee on Resolutions and Querries beg leave to report as follows: 1st. What would be the best method of teaching

young people of our churches. 2nd. Resolved that this body tender its sincere thanks to Friendship Church and the good people of the community for the able manner in which it supported the Union meeting and their kindness shown us during our stay. Report received and committee discharged.

REV. J. M. SPENCER, Chairman. Their being no further business the Valedictory Sermon was preached by Rev. J. D. Byars, text, Mark 6th 22. "Ask of me whatsoever thou will and I will give it thee." After which the parting hand was taken to meet with Phillips Chapel Church on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in July 1922.

REV. J. D. BYARS, Moderator, J. H. HARLESS, Clerk.

#### ROLL OF DELEGATES.

Mt. Moriah: C. L. Wing; Macedonia: J. M. Stokes; Shiloh: Not represented; Tabernacle: P. J. Frasier, P. Montgomery, Bob Ramsey; Antioch: R. D. Belk, F. H. Ham; Union: By Letter; Phillips Chapel: W. L. Sanford, J. M. Lynn, M. J. Sanford; Hattie's Chapel: By Letter; Mt. Zion: J. H. Harless, S. S. McGee, E. J. Shipp; Pleasant Hill: By Letter; Friendship: L. Lawson, Archie Mattox, Walter Phillips: University Chapter 1, 194 Phillips; Unity Grove: Not represented; Pleasant Ridge: By Letter; Sulphur Springs: W. Y. Woodham, P. A. Crawford.

### LIST OF MINISTERS ATTENDING MEETING.

J. D. Byars, M. Montgomery, J. M. Spencer, T. V. Wheat, W. E. Harbin.

### CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This Association shall be known as the Mt. Moriah Freewill 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 quistions of doctrine and matters of general interest shall be settled by two-third 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 mett 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.

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

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 Moderator be confined to ministers and delegates composing the Associa-

tion.

#### 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 insrired 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 u, 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 afith 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 men 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 h eshall 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, ebrews 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 Gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, and exercising the gifts, right 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

CHURCHES, COUNTIES, STATE	PASTORS	CLERKS, AND THEIR POSTOFFICES	Baptized	Received by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Restored	Deceased	Excluded	Meeting Day	No. Members	Minute Fund
		C. C. Gore, McShan, Ala.	2	2 0	0	0	1	0	2	103	\$3.50
Macedonia, Pickens County, Ala	J. D. Byars	J. S. Stokes, Millport, Ala	13 6	0	0	2	4	0	3	236	5.00
Taharnacla Tuggaloga Co Ala	W E Harbin	J. H. Zeanah, Gordo, Ala. Rt. 1 J. T. Cunningham, Coker, Ala	2	2 3	0	0	0	2	1	109	5.00
Antioch, Favette County, Ala.	J. D. Byars	F. H. Ham, Belk, Ala	22	3	0	0	1	1	2	115	5.00
		W. V. Poole, Gordo, Ala., Rt. 2	13	5	0	0	1	1	2	90	3.50
		W. L. Samford, Fayette, Ala., Rt. 7	12	4	0	0	0	8	4	140	5.00
		J. O. Perringer, Reform, Ala., Rt. 2	3	1	2	0	1	0	3	76	2.00
		C. Traweek, Samantha, Ala., Rt. 2	9	1	0	0	0	0	3	83	5.00
		U. M. Springer, Ethelville, Ala	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	82	5.00
Pleasant Hill, Tuscaloosa Co., Ala	Wood Springfield	A. E. Morgan, Holman, Ala.	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	00	3.00
Friendship, Fayette County, Ala	J. M. Spencer	J. C. Phillips, Bankston, Ala., Rt. 2	8	0	0	0	0	0	2 4	32	1.50
Unity Grove, Lamar County, Ala	W. E. Harbin	G. P. Robertson, Millport, Ala. Rt. 2	8	0	0	0	2	2	4	98	2.50
		G. Strickland, Moore's Bridge, Ala A. Harbin, Samantha, Ala., Rt. 1	7	0	0	0	1	0	2	120	3.55
Sulphul Springs, Tuscalousa Co. Ala.	w. E. Halbin	A. Harvin, Damanulla, Ala., Itt. 1	104	199	- 1	2	13	11.4		1483	
			104	44	4	4	19	14	į	1.499	54.55

