

MINUTES

— OF THE —

Old Mount Zion Association

— OF —

Free Will Baptists,

— HELD WITH —

WILLOW SPRING CHURCH,

— OF —

Benton County, Ark.

COMMENCING ON

Friday, Sept. 6th, '89.

ROGERS, ARK.:
REPUBLICAN JOB PRINT.

1889.

Arthur Lee Holloway

MINUTES

THE Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder James Curnutt, from the 3rd chapter of the second epistle of Peter, and second verse.

1st. Called for letters from the different churches, and their messengers invited to seats.

2nd. Called for newly constituted Churches. Received two:—Big Spring Church, Benton county, Ark., and Salem Church, at War Eagle Mills, Arkansas.

3d. Called for corresponding letters. Received one from Union Association by the hands of Elder James Curnutt and A. B. Carlock.

4th. The Association then organized by electing Elder J. R. Guinn Moderator, and W. J. Blackburn, Clerk.

5th. The Association then appointed Elder James Curnutt, G. W. Lynch and Samuel Ruddick, with the Moderator and Clerk, to frame a bill of arrangements. Appointed Bro's S. H. Brown, J. Sparks and G. F. Brewer to arrange preaching. The Association then adjourned till 8:30 o'clock Saturday morning.

SATURDAY MORNING, 8:30 A. M.

Association met pursuant to adjournment, and after prayer by Eld. J. R. Guinn, the bill of arrangements was called for, read, received and the committee discharged.

Resolved, that we have our minutes printed; that we

have three hundred copies printed; that we reserve fifty copies for our sister association; that Eld. W. J. Blackburn superintend the printing and distribution of the same.

Resolved, that we keep up correspondence with our sister association; that Eld. W. J. Blackburn write the corresponding letter to Union Association; that Eld. J. R. Guinn and W. T. Blackburn bear the same to Union Association.

Resolved, that our next Association be held with New Hope Church, Benton County, Arkansas, four miles north of the old Van Winkle saw mill, near White River, commencing on Saturday before the second Sabbath in September, 1890; that Eld. James Curnutt preach the introductory sermon, and that Eld. J. R. Guinn be his alter-nate.

Resolved, that the thanks of this Association be given to the citizens of this vicinity for their kindness to us during the Association.

Adjourned to meet with New Hope Church, on Saturday, at 11 o'clock A. M., before the second Sabbath in September, 1890.

J. R. GUINN, Moderator.

W. J. BLACKBURN, Clerk.

| MINISTERS. | AGE. | POST OFFICE ADDRESS. |
|--------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|
| S. W. Blackburn..... | 80 | War Eagle Mills, Benton Co., Ark. |
| W. J. Blackburn..... | 63 | " " " " " " |
| J. R. Guinn..... | 68 | Aurora, Madison County " " |
| G. W. Lynch..... | 42 | Chilly, " " " " |
| J. M. Martin..... | 39 | Fancher " " " " |
| R. J. Shaw..... | 40 | Drakes Crk " " " " |
| Ezekiel Hendrickson..... | 69 | Springtown, Benton " " " |
| Wm. Ellington..... | 46 | " " " " " " |
| LICENSED MINISTERS: | | |
| A. A. Marks..... | 50 | Farmington, Washington Co., Ark. |
| A. M. Whitely..... | | Drake's Creek, Madison " " |
| Calaway Roberts..... | | War Eagle Mills, Benton " " |

CONSTITUTION.

From a long series of experience, we, the Church of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptized upon the profession of our faith in Christ, are convinced of a necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate Union and Communion amongst us and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other. We therefore propose to keep order and rules of our association according to the following plan or form of government.

I. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union, not exceeding three messengers from each church, and producing letters, they shall be entitled to seats.

II. Letters from the different churches are to express their number of fellowship, the number received by experience, letter or recommendation, dismissed, excluded, restored, and those that have died since the last Association.

III. The members thus chosen and convened to be denominated the "Old Mt. Zion Association of Free Will Baptists," be composed of sundry churches in the State of Arkansas; the Association to have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor to have ecclesiastical power over churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church acting disorderly.

IV. The Association to have a moderator and clerk, who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

V. New churches to be admitted into the Association which are to petition by letter and delegates, and if, on examination, they are found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received by the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

VI. No question presented by the delegates of any church shall be discussed in the Association, unless it has been thoroughly discussed in their own church.

VII. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

VIII. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of the Association in proper

tion to the members in each church, the contribution being at the direction of the Association.

IX. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes.

X. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association closes.

XI. Amendments to this plan of government may be made at any time when a majority of the members may deem it necessary.

XII. The Association, in case of the failure of any church to attend, may inquire into the cause.

RULES OF ORDER.

I. At every sitting, business shall be opened or concluded by prayer by the Moderator, or whoever he may require.

II. Ministers present, invited to seats with us, may debate on all subjects, but vote on none.

III. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator, and personal reflection shall be avoided in all debates.

IV. No motion shall be discussed without being seconded.

V. If when a motion has been made and seconded, and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question: "Shall this question be discussed?" which, if negatived, shall be dismissed.

VI. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points it shall be divided, at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.

VII. Motion made and lost shall not be recorded on the minutes unless so ordered at the time.

VIII. No one shall speak more than twice on any subject without special leave from the Moderator.

IX. All questions shall be decided by a majority of members present.

X. No member shall absent himself without leave from

the Moderator. If so, his name shall be left off the minutes.

XI. The minutes shall be privately read and corrected before the rising of the Association.

XII. That in the future sessions of this Association arrangements be made so as to insure two sermons or other devotional exercises, which will be equivalent thereto, during each day of the session.

XIII. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair, immediately after the organization of the Association.

XIV. Alteration may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

I. We believe in the only true and living God, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one.

II. We believe that the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments is the word of God, and the Gospel by Jesus Christ, is the only rule of faith and practice.

III. We believe in the fall of Adam, and that by his transgression, all his posterity fell and were made sinners.

IV. We believe in the corruption of human nature, and the inability of man to recover himself by his own free will and ability.

V. We believe that Jesus Christ, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man, and that through His mediatorial death, the way of salvation is made possible, for God to have mercy upon all who come to Him upon gospel terms.

VI. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the imputed righteousness of Christ, and that good works are the fruits of faith and follow after.

VII. We believe that saints persevere in grace and not one of them will be finally lost.

VIII. We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and the happiness of the

IX.—We believe the visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women who have obtained fellowship with each other and given themselves unto the Lord, and one another having agreed to keep up a Godly discipline, according to the rules of the gospel.

XI. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper and the washing of the feet are ordinances of the gospel of Jesus Christ to be continued until His second coming.

XIII. We believe that none but true believers are fit subjects to commune at the Lord's table.

XIV. We believe that the Lord's day ought to be observed and set apart for the worship of God, and no work or worldly business ought to be transacted thereon—works of piety, mercy and necessity excepted.

TABLE SHOWING THE CONDITION OF THE CHURCHES.

| CHURCHES. | NAMES OF DELEGATES. | Total..... | Dead | Excluded..... | Dismissed by Letter..... | Withdrawn..... | Received by Letter.. | Rec'd by Experience |
|--------------------|--|------------|------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Mount Zion..... | John Sparks, W. T. Blackburn..... | 69 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 1 | 15 |
| Sugar Creek..... | J. S. Ford, S. Baudie, Hugh Wilson..... | 51 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Big Fork..... | J. R. Guinn..... | 43 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Salmon..... | G. W. Blackburn, W. J. Blackburn, J. K. Sharp..... | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Willow Spring..... | G. F. Brewer, J. O. Hawthorn, E. Boydston..... | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Highland..... | A. A. Marrs, James Shelley..... | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hickory Grove..... | G. W. Lynch, D. W. Lynch..... | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| New Hope..... | S. H. Brown, G. C. Bland..... | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Big Spring..... | Wm. Ellington, E. Hendrickson, J. E. Morgan..... | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |