

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**16th Annual Association**  
**of The Church of Christ**  
**KNOWN AS**  
**FREE WILL BAPTIST**

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**IN THE SALINE DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS**

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**Held with Harmony Church in Cleveland**  
**County on the 29th, 30th**

**and 31st of A** Milner, and Sister B. Stone;  
**1912**

, Eld. J. F. Brown, Eld. W.  
derson.

, Sister M. J. Lunsford, J. P.

, J. M. Ashcraft, Sister S. E.

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There not being a quorum present in the forenoon the organization was postponed until 1:30 p. m., and Bro. W. P. White filled the stand at 11:00 o'clock and preached the Annual Sermon.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**

At 1:30 o'clock the Association convened with the following churches represented.

New Hope church, H. E. Stone, R. Milner, and Sister B. Stone;  
Pine Hill, G. E. Moore, W. S. Cook.

Pilgrims Rest, Eld. J. R. Harley, Eld. J. F. Brown, Eld. W. P. White, W. B. Anderson, A. A. Anderson.

Philippi, Sister M. A. Wooley, Sister M. J. Lunsford, J. P. Lunsford, B. A. Lunsford.

Free Hill, Eld. O. A. Ashcraft, J. M. Ashcraft, Sister S. E.

Ashcraft, Sister, Sallie McKinney, Sister Ollie Ashcraft, C. A. Love.

Harmony, J. H. Meek, P. S. Young, J. N. Pate, W. H. Brown, R. F. Taylor.

Macedonia, W. C. Bryant, H. McLellan, Sister M. E. McLellan.

There being a quorum present the Association was declared in session by Elder O. A. Ashcraft. The Clerk being absent Bro. J. H. Meek was elected Clerk pro tem. The names of Messengers being enrolled the Association went into a permanent organization by electing officers for one year, which resulted in the choice of O. A. Ashcraft as Moderator, J. H. Meek Clerk and Treasurer.

### STATISTICS:

NAME OF CHURCH	RECEIVED				DISMISSED			MEMBER-SHIP			FOR MINUTES	
	By Baptism	By Letter	By Voucher	Total	By Letter	Withdrawn	Died	Total	Males	Females		Total
New Hope.....	27		1	28							28	\$1.50
Pine Hill.....									18	36	54	\$1.75
Philippi.....									10	19	29	\$1.00
Free Hill.....	3			3		1	1	2			47	\$1.05
Harmony.....			11	11		6	1	7	22	39	61	\$3.00
Macedonia.....	17			17		3	2	3			57	\$2.15
Pilgrims Rest.....								2	24	87	51	\$4.30
Gum Grove.....											23	

3rd. Called for petitionary letters. Received one, New Hope.

4th. Called for Corresponding letters. Received none.

5th. Appointment of Committees.

On Divine Service, J. M. Ashcraft, J. N. Pate.

On Temperance, H. E. Stone, R. Milner, W. S. Cook.

On Sabbath School, Walter Bryant, H. McLellan, Sister Sallie McKinney, Sister N. A. Wooley.

On Credentials, J. H. Meek, G. E. Moore, J. M. Ashcraft.

On Obituaries, C. A. Love, Sister Ollie Ashcraft, Sister M. E. Ashcraft.



On Finance, W. H. Brown, Siter Joe Lunsford, B. A. Lunsford.

Adjourned until 8:00 o'clock Friday morning.

### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

At 8:00 o'clock the Association met for business. The roll was called and quorum present.

6th. In order. Called for the report of Ministers.

J. R. Hartley's Report: "Brethren: I have pastoral care of two churches, and I am preaching at one Mission point with a view of calling a body together.

Submitted,  
J. R. HARTLEY."

W. P. White's Report: "Brethren: I have preached twenty one sermons; assisted Bro. O. A. Ashcraft in organizing one church, New Hope, at Cabool, Ark.; baptised three, and preached one funeral. Brethren pray for me.

W. P. WHITE."

J. F. Brown's Report: "Brethren and Sisters: I submit for your consideration my Ministerial work. Brethren I haven't done very much work for the last year as many of you know, on account of my dear wife, which God has called from her labors to her reward, which I believe she will receive for her work. On account of her ill health I have not done very much preaching for the last year, neither am I able or in a condition to do very much work at this time, as I have two children that I cannot leave alone.

Yours in Christ,  
J. F. BROWN."

O. A. Ashcraft's Report: "Brethren: I have pastored two churches, assisted in organizing one church; baptised twelve.

Pray for myself and family,  
O. A. ASHCRAFT."

The Committee on Divine Services report that Bro. J. R. Hartley fill the stand at 11:00 o'clock. The Association adjourned to meet at 2:00 o'clock p. m. At this time we came together for preaching. Bro. J. R. Hartley preached.

### AFTERNOON SESSION—Friday.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

7th. Order called for the Reports of Committees.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools: "We your committee on Sabbath Schools would respectfully submit the following as our report: We find that only one church is running a Sabbath School and that is New Hope church. Brethren we ear-

nestly request that each church organize a Sabbath School.

Respectfully submitted,

B. H. McCLELLAN,  
WALTER BRYANT,  
SALLIE McKINNEY,  
N. A. WOOLEY,

Committee."

#### Report on Obituaries:

"We your committee on Obituaries submit the following report: We learn from the statistics that it has pleased God in his infinite wisdom to call from us in the last year four of our beloved Sisters, viz: Fannie Harris and S. J. Brown from Pilgrims Rest, S. F. Clark from Harmony, Fannie McKinney from Free Hill. We find that they were strong in the faith of the Lord and Jesus Christ and counted worthy members of the Free Will Baptist church.

Respectfully submitted,

C. A. LOVE,  
OLLIE ASHCRAFT,  
LIZZIE ASHCRAFT,  
Committee."

#### CREDENTIALS.

Your Committee on Credentials would submit the following: We find from examination that there are seven ordained Ministers in the Saline Association of Free Will Baptists, viz:

J. M. Patrick, Rowell, Arkansas,  
O. A. Ashcraft, Herbine, Arkansas,  
J. R. Hartley, Ripley, Arkansas,  
J. F. Brown, Ripley, Arkansas,  
W. P. White, Cahool, Arkansas,  
G. E. White, Calmer, Arkansas,  
J. J. McDaniel, Herbine, Arkansas.

Unordained one, viz:

Horrace Glover, Calmer, Arkansas. All of whom are, so far as we are able to learn, in good standing and strong in the Free Will Baptist faith, except one, J. J. McDaniel, who has departed the faith and joined himself to some other body of a different faith.

J. M. MEEK,  
J. M. ASHCRAFT,  
G. E. MOORE,  
Committee.

## TEMPERANCE.

We, your committee, beg leave to submit for your consideration, our report on intemperance: We condemn Intoxication in all its form. It is the cause of two-thirds of all the crimes done to-day, for drinking in any form leads to un-Godliness, and we would further advise and admonish all to vote and use all honorable means to elect men of Temperance that will do all in their power to enforce the law, and would further advise and pray that all Christian people would abstain from intoxicating drinks of all kinds and not visit saloons. We submit this in all-charity.

H. E. STONE,  
R. MILNER,  
W. S. COOK,  
Committee.

## FINANCE.

We, your committee on Finance, submit the following report:

	For Minister	For Clerk	For Delegates to State Ass'n.
New Hope .....	\$1.50	\$ .50	\$ .00
Pine Hill .....	\$1.00	\$2.00	\$ .75
Philipi .....	\$1.00	\$ .50	\$ .00
Free Hill .....	\$1.05	\$ .25	\$ .00
Harmaney .....	\$1.50	\$1.40	\$1.50
Macedonia .....	\$2.15	\$ .50	\$ .00
P'lgr'ms Rest .....	\$3.00	\$ .75	\$1.30

We, your committee, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct statement of the funds of various kinds for the various purposes mentioned that have come into our hands.

W. H. BROWN,  
B. A. LUNSFORD,  
SISTER JOE LUNSFORD,  
Committee.

Motion to adjourn until 8:00 o'clock Saturday morning.

## SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Now on Saturday morning, August 31, 1912, the Association met pursuant to adjournment and after reading and prayer the house was called to order by the Moderator.

8th                      ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The Moderator called for questions. There being none he called for Resolutions.



Resolution No. 1. Resolve that there be more interest taken in our Sabbath Schools and that the fathers and mothers go with their children and take part in the work, and that we adopt our own Sabbath School literature, published by our own publishing companies, in each church throughout the Saline Association District.

R. MILNER.

Resolution No. 2. Resolve that we pay our Pastors for each day that they are away from their family and preaching.

R. MILNER.

Resolution No. 3. Resolved that this Association send one of our preachers to preach to the Brethren and Sisters at Grem Grove as they have no pastor. By H. E. Stone by motion that Elder J. R. Hartley go and preach to them.

Resolution No. 4. Resolve that we send out a Home Missionary so he can go and preach to weak churches and organize new churches where it seems best.

R. MILNER.

Motion to table the Resolution.

Resolution No. 5. Resolve that each Pastor in the Free Will Baptist ranks in the Saline Association preach one sermon to each church on the half of the ministry each year, and that they teach their Deacons their duties pertaining to their office, and this Association request that they call for a freewill offering each month to be placed in the church Treasurer to be paid out by the order of the church.

J. R. HARTLEY.

Resolution No. 6. Resolve that each church say how much that they will pay to their pastor when they call him.

W. P. WHITE.

Resolution No. 7. Resolve that this Association withdraw from Bro. J. J. McDaniel and revoke his credentials as he has departed from the faith and doctrine of the Free Will Baptist and that the clerk of this Association notify the County Clerk of Cleveland county to make the records of his office show that his credentials are revoked.

J. H. MEEK.

Resolution No. 8. Resolve that this Association send a committee to visit Bro. J. M. Patrick and if he stands in need that they notify the clerk so he can notify the different churches in the Saline District and call for a freewill offering to administer to his necessities. By W. P. White. By motion, J. H. Meek and J. M. Ashcraft go as a committee to see Bro. J. M. Patrick, and

motion to spread this upon our records and send a copy to Bro. J. M. Patrick.

Resolution No. 9. Resolve that this Association do not send a delegate to the State Association, but that the Clerk send a letter.  
R. MILNER.

Resolution No. 10. Resolve that this Association rescind the funds for the delegate to the state Association and place it to the publishing of the minutes of this Association

J. H. MEEK.

By motion of the 16th Annual Association of the Saline District that Bro. W. P. White be restored to his ordination and this Association make an order for the Clerk of Lincoln county, Arkansas, to make his records in his office show the same, and give to the said W. P. White a certified copy of his credentials.

#### LEADING PRINCIPLES OF WHAT WE BELIEVE.

1st. We believe that there is only one true and living God revealed to us—Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

2nd. We believe that the Scriptures comprising the Old and New Testament are the Word of God and the only correct rule of faith and practice.

3rd. We believe that man was created holy and good; but by transgression fell from the Holy State and became dead in sin.

4th. We believe that sinners are justified through faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.

5th. We believe in Baptism by burial only. The Baptism, the Lord's Supper and Foot Washing are ordinances of the church and instituted by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

6th. We believe in the second coming of Christ, the resurrection of the dead, the reward of the just and the punishment of the wicked.

#### CONSTITUTION OF ASSOCIATION.

Article 1. The Annual Association of the Church of Christ in the Saline District of Arkansas, shall be composed of the church officials, of Ministres of the Gospel of this church together with delegates sent from the different churches to represent them in Association. Delegates not to exceed three from for the first fifty members and one from each twenty-five additional or fraction thereof, whose names shall accompany the Association Letters as delegates.



Article 2. The Association when assembled for organization shall proceed to make the choice of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer by vote of the Association who shall hold their respective offices for one year. The Moderator shall preside in the chair during the Association meeting and preserve order. He shall see that the constitution and rules of the Association are strictly observed. He shall take opinion of the Association on all questions properly brought before it. The Clerk shall enroll the names of all delegates (including ministers and officials) from different churches, and make a proper and correct minute of the proceedings of the Association.

Article 3. Each church shall be free and independent in matters of church government. But the Association may withdraw any church that departs from the principles of the New Testament Scriptures, as are recorded in the King James Translation. This body shall only be an advisory body.

Article 4. This Association declines any fellowship with any society or institution of men, of whatever name called, which is without authority from the Scriptures of divine truth. Nor will she knowingly correspond, or receive correspondence, from any Association which holds such in her correspondence.

Article 5. All matters of difficulty between churches, or in an individual church, that cannot, after due effort, be reconciled shall be brought before the Annual Association for their deliberation. But she will not take cognizance of either of the above cases unless due course of procedure shall have first been taken.

Article 6. Churches of our Faith who have no creeds, other than the King James Translation of the Holy Scriptures, and have accepted no other Church name than the Church of Christ, and practice the Ordinance of the Church as we do, may be admitted into our body by producing a letter, and by being represented in person, according to Article (1) one of this Constitution, if found orthodox and orderly.

Article 7. The churches of this district shall faithfully represent them according to this Constitution by letter giving the number received in the church from each source in separate columns, giving the number baptized, received by letter, dismissed by letter, withdrawn from, or died during the year.

Article 8. Should any church fail to represent herself more than twice in succession, this body shall then have the right to send solicitors to visit said church and inquire into the matter, and make a report to the next Association meeting. This article shall be construed to apply to ministers of the Gospel the same

as to Churches, when they fail to represent themselves in the Association more than twice in succession, or send a report of their work.

Article 9. Should a Minister belong to any church in our (reformation) or district, depart from the faith or principles of doctrine of the New Testament Scriptures of the King James version, the Church shall deal with them as respects the exclusion of him and drawing in of credentials, provided she call two or more sister churches in the Association to assist her in the proceedings, and said churches when assembled in association may proceed to hear the charge and take action on exclusion and drawing in of credentials. And should application be made for restoration, the church should proceed in the like manner as in the exclusion and drawing in of credentials.

Article 10. There shall be a book provided by the Association for its sole use, in which shall be recorded all the proceedings of this Association, and the minutes of same shall be printed and sent out to the respective churches according to the amount sent in for the printing of minutes.

Article 11. The Association shall have rules to be governed by while in session, which shall not conflict with any article in this Constitution. Said rules, when adopted, may be amended from time to time by a majority of the members of Association present at any annual assembly of this Association.

Article 12. The Annual Association may amend or repeal any part of this Constitution at its annual meeting, provided two-thirds (2-3) of the churches in the district are represented in said Association, and provided two-thirds (2-3) of the Ministers and Church Officials are present, and provided further that two-thirds (2-3) of the members present shall vote for said amendment or repeal.

Adopted unanimously.

Names of persons who voted for Constitution:

Eld. J. M. Patrick, Moderator; J. F. Brown, J. W. Veasey, R. E.; H. W. Wood, W. L. Cook, J. B. D. Williams, Clerk; J. R. Hartley, D. Busby, J. E. Railey, D. R. Smith, J. W. Clark; W. C. Davidson, O. A. Ashcraft, J. H. Meek, R. E.; J. D. Smith, R. E.; A. C. Rogers, J. A. Brown, R. E.; C. W. Raney.

#### RULES OF ASSOCIATION.

1st. The Moderator shall fill the Chair and preserve order in the Association.

2nd. The privilege and authority of the Moderator shall be respected by all members. Yet, he shall not be arbitrary in exer-



cising them. He shall decide all questions or order and propriety. But the decision of the Association shall be binding on all parties.

3rd. The Moderator shall vote in no case unless the Association be equally divided, in such cases he shall cast the deciding vote. He shall have the privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he shall first call some one else to the chair.

4th. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall arise from his seat and address the Moderator. He shall not be interrupted, unless he departs from the subject or makes use of personal reflections. He shall not speak more than twice on any subject without permission of the Moderator, unless to explain.

5th. No member shall leave the house without permission from the Moderator.

6th. When a question is presented for discussion, it shall be written and handed to the Clerk and read. Then the person putting in such question shall have the opening and concluding remarks, and the Moderator shall take the decision of Association on all questions.

7th. Motions, if seconded, must be considered unless withdrawn by the one making them.

8th. All resolutions must be written and handed to the Moderator, who shall read over them and hand them to the Clerk for public reading.

9th. All questions brought before the Association, shall be in writing, and none but Bible questions shall demand attention, and in no case will the Moderator receive a question that is not a Bible question. Questions must come through some member of the Association, or they will not be discussed.

Adopted unanimously.

#### PERMANENT ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1st. The house called to order by Moderator.
- 2nd. Enrolling names of messengers.
- 3rd. Organize by electing officers.
- 4th. Report of churches heard.
- 5th. Call for corresponding letters.
- 6th. Visiting brethren invited to take seats with us.
- 7th. Call for petitionary letters.
- 8th. Appointment of committees.
- 9th. Report of committees.
- 10th. Questions for discussion.
- 11th. Resolutions.



## RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Resolution. No. 11. Resolve that this Association extend our heart-felt thanks to the Brothers and Sisters and the good people at and around Harmony for their hospitality shown us while here with them.

J. R. HARTLEY.

Resolution No. 12. Resolve that we hold our next Association at New Hope church at Cabool, Cleveland county, Ark.

R. MILNER.

By motion the Association now adjourned to meet with New Hope, at Cabool, Cleveland county, on Thursday before the 1st. Sunday in Sept., 1913, at 10:00 o'clock a. m. J. R. Hartley to preach the Introductory, W. P. White Alternate.

The parting hand was extended after which the Association closed with prayer by O. A. Ashcraft.

J. H. MEEK,  
Clerk and Treasurer.

O. A. ASHCRAFT,  
Moderator.