

MINUTES
— OF THE —
Fifteenth Annual Session
— OF THE —
STATE LINE
Freewill Baptist Association.

— CONVENED WITH —
Freewill's Rest Church, Jackson County, Florida,
October 11th and 12th, 1900.

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OFFICERS:

REV. G. W. CHERRY, Moderator.
JEFFERSON D. STEPHENS, Clerk.
REV. G. L. LOVE, Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Calvin Dykes, R. G. Hatcher, G. W. Cherry, J. M.
Chance, W. Clark.

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The next session of this Association will convene with
Antioch Church, Holmes County, Florida, on Thursday, at
11 o'clock A. M. before the second Sunday in October, A. D.
1901. Located 6 miles South of Geneva, town, on the West-
ville and Geneva road.

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MARIANNA:
THE TIMES-COURIER, JOB PRINT,
1900.

PROCEEDINGS:

Pursuant to adjournment, the Fifteenth Annual Session of the State Line Freewill Baptist Association convened with Freewill's Rest Church, Jackson County, Florida, on Thursday before the second Sunday in October, A. D. 1900.

Introductory services directed by Rev. G. L. Love, from Matthew 28ch. 19 and 20 verses. Rev. G. W. Cherry, who was nominated to conclude the services, was not present in time to take part in the opening ceremonies.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

According to announcement, the body assembled in the church and joined in singing hymn "A charge to keep I have," after which the former clerk, in the absence of the former Moderator, read from the sacred pages the 13th Chapter of Romans, after which the body humbled with Rev. John Robinson in Divine Supplications.

Rev. G. L. Love, in the absence of the former Moderator, was, on motion, made Moderator Protem.

The house was then called to order by the Moderator Protem, after which business was dispatched in the following order, viz:

1. Letters from the various Churches were called for, handed in and read by Rev. J. I. Hatcher and Bro. J. W. D. Stephens, and their state minuted.

The Churches and Delegates were then enrolled as follows:

1. Hickory Grove.—J. W. Rodgers, H. T. Tindal, R. G. Hatcher, J. W. D. Stephens, J. M. Robinson.

2. Ardilla.—Delegates not present.

3. Union Springs.—J. T. Eubanks.

4. Pilcher Pond.—Mason Chason, R. L. Adkins.

5. Freewill's Rest.—L. C. Messer, W. H. Cox, A. Tison.

6. Springfield.—C. M. Wetherington, J. F. Nowell and M. Nall.

7. Rocky Grove.—J. J. Baxter, J. C. Baxter, M. J. Mercer, Chas. Baxter.

8. Howards Grove—Aden Daniels, W. L. Rhodes, L. R. Merritt, O. M. Rhodes.

9. New Pilgrim—R. P. McGriff, John Joiner.

10. Prospect—J. W. Conner, J. S. Conner, E. B. Green.

11. Pittman Creek—G. R. Faulk, Z. B. Hagins.

12. Antioch.—No delegates present.

13. Spring Hill—J. B. Whitaker.

14. Friendship—F M Hatcher, John Marlo.

15. New Harmony, Geneva Co.—J. B. Bryan.

16.. Pleasant Ridge—H. W. Morrison, J. D. Olford.

17. Pine Hill—Noah Adkins.

18. New Harmony, Henry Co —William Hicks, J. G. Granger, H. Merritt.

On motion the churches and delegates were received with the stipulation that those delegates who are not present their names should not appear on the roll.

On motion, of Rev. J. I. Hatcher, that Bro. Hagins be substituted to fill the vacancy of Bro. Hatcher from Pittman Creek Church

On motion, of Rev. J. I. Hatcher, Bro. Nowell was placed on the roll as a delegate from Springfield to fill a vacancy in the delegation.

On motion, of Rev. J. I. Hatcher, that Bro. Chas. Baxter from Rocky Grove Church be substituted to fill the vacancy caused by the absence of Bro. W. J. Rodgers.

On motion. of Bro. J. M. Robinson, that Brethren L. R. Merritt and O. M. Rhodes be substituted to fill vacancies caused by absent Brethren from Howard Grove Church.

After which the body was permanently organized by electing Rev. G. W. Cherry, Moderator. and Jefferson D. Stephens, Clerk

The Moderator after complimenting the body proceeded to appoint committees.

The various committees were then appointed as follows, viz:

1. On Divine Services—Brethren J. M. Robinson, J. T. Eubanks, R. L. Adkins, J. J. Baxter, L. C. Messer.

2. On Suggestions—Brethren J. A. Robinson, J. I. Hatcher, J. B. Bryan, M. Nall.

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3. On Sabbath Schools—Brethren G. L. Love, W. L. Rhodes, J. S. Conner, G. R. Faulk.

4. On Temperance—G. W. Cherry, J. W. D. Stephens, L. C. Messer, J. D. Marlo.

5. On Finance—Brethren J. W. Rodgers, W. L. Rhodes, J. A. Robinson, R. P. McGriff, Frank Hatcher.

6. On Nominations—Brethren J. I. Hatcher, J. C. Baxter M. J. Mercer, C. M. Wetherington.

7. On Documents—Brethren R. G. Hatcher, J. F. Nowell, O. M. Rhodes, A. W. Daniels.

8. On Obituaries—Brethren J. W. Conner, Z. B. Hagins, Mason Chason, Chas. Baxter.

9. On Education—Brethren J. W. D. Stephens, G. W. Cherry, E. B. Green, John Joiner, J. I. Hatcher.

10. On Missions—Brethren A. C. Mercer, G. L. Love, Frank Hatcher.

After the appointment of the various committees the body, on motion, of Bro. J. W. Rodgers, adjourned to meet Friday morning at 8:30 o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

According to previous arrangements, the body re-assembled in the church, and was called to order by the Moderator by reading 12 chapter of Romans and singing hymn, "O for a heart to praise my God." After which we humbled with Rev. C. M. Whittle in Divine Supplication.

The Moderator invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

Renewed the call for letters from the various churches that were not handed in on yesterday, and received two, to-wit: Spring Hill and Friendship.

Called for petitionary letters, and received three, to-wit: New Harmony, Pleasant Ridge, Pine Hill.

On motion, received those two that have delegates present.

On motion, that Rev. J. B. Bryan act as delegate from New Harmony, after which it was received.

On motion, of Rev. J. A. Robinson, that while we extend the right hand of fellowship to the Petitionary Delegates that we also extend same to Rev. R. L. Medlock an ordained

minister who has joined our Denomination. Sang hymn, "Amazing grace how sweet the Sound" while the body extended the right hand of fellowship to the Petitionary Delegates and the above named minister of the Gospel, duly seating them in the body.

On motion, of J. M. Robinson, called the roll, marked absentees and read the Decorum.

Called for correspondents from Sister Associations. Rev. J. B. Bryan of the S. E. Association present and on motion, of Rev. A. C. Mercer, he was received as a correspondent from the S. E. Association.

After which the body sang hymn "Jesus Lover of my soul" while extending him the right hand of fellowship, duly seating him in the body.

On motion of J. T. Eubanks that we correspond with sister Associations.

The following brethren were either appointed or volunteered:

To the S. E. Association—Rev. G. W. Cherry and J. W. Conner.

To the Evergreen Association—Rev. J. I. Hatcher and A. W. Daniels.

To the Martin Association—J. T. Eubanks and Rev. A. C. Mercer.

To the Chattahoochee Association—J. T. Eubanks, and Eld. D. L. Chandler.

To the Liberty Association—On motion, of J. M. Robinson, tabled the question.

CALLED FOR REPORT ON DIVINE SERVICES.

We your committee on Divine services, beg leave to make the following report, to-wit:

Friday morning at 11 o'clock Rev. L. L. Burteshaw to preach followed by Rev. J. A. Robinson.

Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock Rev. J. B. Bryan, from the S. E. Association to preach followed by Rev. A. C. Mercer.

At night at 7:30 o'clock Rev. G. L. Love to preach at L. C. Messer's followed by Rev. R. L. Medlock.

Saturday morning at 9 o'clock A. M. Rev. C. M. Whittle to preach followed by Rev. J. I. Hatcher.

Saturday at 11 o'clock, A. M. Rev. G. W. Cherry to preach.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. ROBINSON, Chairman Com.

On motion, the report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

ON FINANCE.

We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to submit the following report, to-wit:

Received for Association purposes, - \$17.60

Received for minutes, - - - - - 17.30

Total, - - - - - \$34 90

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. RODGERS, Chairman Com.

On motion, the report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee on Documents, beg leave to submit the following report, to-wit:

We ask the Association to let the same literature stand as it is. We also recommend that our churches use the Manley's Choice Hymn Book. We also recommend that our Clerk have nothing published that is tabled or lost by the body.

We also recommend that this Association use every means possible to get more funds that we may have better printing matter done than we have had heretofore.

Respectfully submitted,

R. G. HATCHER, Chairman Com.

On motion, the report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

ON EDUCATION.

We, your Committee on Education, beg leave to submit the following report, to-wit:

We insist that our people make energetic efforts to gain

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a fair education for themselves and their children enabling them to read and understand the revealed misteries of God, a legacy given to us recorded in the Bible. A loss of Educational interests means a decline of Christianity and a revival of heathanism.

Wisdom is a paramount virtue, a virtue for which Solomon had a profound deference.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. D. STEPHENS, Chairman Com.

On motion, the report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to submit the following report to-wit:

We find but five Sabbath Schools during the year. We the Committee beg leave to say that we suggest that each delegate and Pastor do insist that our churches go to work now to establish in each church a Sunday School, because we are to bring our children up in the admonition of the Lord and to teach them to know the commandments.

G. L. LOVE, Chairman Com.

On motion, the report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

ON OBITUARIES.

We, your Committee on Obituaries, beg leave to submit the following report, to-wit:

We find five deaths in our body since the last session of this Association, and we recommend that their obituaries appear in our minutes.

J. W. CONNER, Chairman Com.

On motion, the report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

ON SUGGESTIONS.

We, your Committee on Suggestions, beg leave to submit the following report, to-wit:

1st. We suggest that this Association formulate some plan to unite our Sister Associations with us in establishing a printing press in our midst, which will be of more impor-

tance in righting of our brethren than any other thing we can fall upon; also it will enable us all to understand the Freewill Doctrine, Principals and practices more than any other thing.

2nd. Stricken out.

3rd. We suggest that this body raise a capital to send a Missionary in the field as soon as possible.

4th. Stricken out.

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. ROBINSON, Chairman Com.

On motion, of Rev. A. C. Mercer, the report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged with the following amendments:

1st. That sections two and four be stricken out.

2nd. That we use the "Freewill Baptist" published at Ayden, N. C., for the present. The Secretary is E. T. Phillips, Ayden, N. C.

ON NOMINATIONS.

We, your Committee on Nominations, beg leave to make the following report, to-wit:

We nominate Antioch Church, Holmes County, Florida, for the next session of this Association.

We nominate Bro. J. I. Hatcher to preach the introductory sermon and Bro. C. M. Whittle to close.

We nominate J. W. D. Stephens to write the Circular Letter.

Respectfully submitted,

J. I. HATCHER, Chairman Com.

On motion, the report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to make the following report, to-wit:

Whereas the liquor traffic is the greatest evil of the day, it is the king evil of all evils. It ruins a boy and blights his character; it ruins a man and destroys the peace of his wife and children; it blights the church and causes man to lie to man and to the church, to his wife, and to God. It is against society and humanity, and God's word is pronounced

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upon a man that puts the bottle to his neighbor's lips. Hab. 2 chapter 15 verse.

This great evil has mortgaged more farms, desolated more homes, made more tramps, paupers and criminals, than other causes combined together. No matter what may be the wisdom of the financial question or the wisdom of the church so long as we legalize and patronize the grog shop, so long wretchedness and want abound, and, therefore we call on all those who are on the Lord's side to help us to fight this great evil. Brethren it paralyzes and pauperizes the church. The statistics show 240,000 saloons in the United States. 95 per cent of the church members drink whiskey.

Brethren, it seems that the Gospel has been starved out and the saloon kept alive, let us reverse and starve the saloon and keep up the church. The amount spent for whiskey in one year is \$1,000,000,000. The church is the road to heaven and the saloon the road to hell.

G. W. CHERRY, Chairman Com.

On motion, the report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

After which on motion, of Rev. J. I. Hatcher, the body adjourned for refreshments until two o'clock P. M.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

According to announcement the body re-assembled in the church and joined the Moderator in singing hymn "I love Thy Kingdom Lord."

The Moderator then read the 24th Psalm.

After which we humbled in divine supplication with the Moderator.

Renewed the call for the letters which have been called for and which have not been handed in. Received one, to-wit: New Harmony.

On motion it was received.

Called for the reading of the Circular Letter. No letter present, Rev. Calvin Dykes, the one nominated to write it, was given further time to prepare and send it to the Clerk for publication.

CALLED FOR TREASURERS REPORT.

Received for minutes.....	\$15.90
Received for Associational purposes....	12.35
Received for Missions.....	1.00
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Total amount collected.....	\$29.25
Paid for printing minutes.....	\$21.00
Paid Clerk for his services.....	10.00
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Total amount paid out.....	\$31.00
Remainder in hand of Treasurer in 1899	\$21.75

G. L. LOVE, Treasurer.

On motion, the report was received.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on Missions, beg leave to submit the following report, to-wit:

As we find no capital on hand by which we can send a Missionary in the field to labor, we will suggest for the benefit of suffering humanity who are laboring under sin and a burden of guilt that we, the church members of the several churches now composing this Association, do hereafter exert every means and exercise all of our energies to the best of our ability to support our Pastor to where he can go on into perfection and preach the Gospel on the borders of our Association, and thereby let the Doctrine of Freewillism be wider and better known than it is now, by which the strong holds of satan may be torn down and denounced forever, and the true Doctrine of Christ, for the betterment of humanity and the moral principles of Christianity may grow and flourish by the Divine efforts of Christ's colaborers in this part of his moral vineyard. Also, that this Association try to unite with Sister Associations to establish a printing press in our midst by which we may better know each other, and know better what we are doing, and know who are using every means to pluck his fellow brethren as "brands from the Eternal Burning" commensurate with the Doctrines and principles of Freewillism. We, also, suggest that this body discuss the subject fully and settle for the best.

A. C. MERCER, Chairman Com.

On motion, the report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

On motion, of Bro. J. J. Baxter, that we do not pay the Dothan Home Journal any further sum for printing of the proceedings of the Association of 1899, and, also Associational Letters.

On motion, of Bro J. W. Rodgers, the Moderator appointed the delegates to meet with the Convention, or General Association that convenes with Hickory Grove Church, Jackson County, Florida, Friday before the third Sunday in November, A. D., 1900. The delegates appointed comprise the following brethren, to-wit:

Jefferson D. Stephens, J. W. Rodgers, H. G. Green, Eld. D. L. Chandler, Rev. C. M. Whittle, Rev. G. W. Cherry, Frank Hatcher.

On motion, of Bro. J. J. Baxter, that we use sufficient amount of the funds now in the Treasury, that was collected for missions, for the purpose of defraying our prorata share of publishing the minutes of the General Convention.

At this juncture the query was put whether or not this Association endorsed the idea of purchasing a printing press.

Whereupon Bro. J. W. Rodgers moved, which was duly seconded, that we endeavor to get a printing press.

On motion R. G. Hatcher, at his request, was excused for the remainder of the day.

On motion, of Rev. G. L. Love, that we take up the case of Rev. J. B. Kerns and dispose of it.

Rev. J. B. Kerns was charged with unchristian conduct and adultery.

On motion, of Bro. J. W. Rodgers, that we erase the name of Rev. J. B. Kerns from the list of Ordained Ministers.

On motion, of Rev. J. A. Robinson, that we hear the Ministers' report of their years work.

During the past Associational year I have had the pastoral care of one church and have preached 38 sermons as best I could, and closed 14 sermons; Organized one church; Baptized 22; Received by confession 5; Preached one funeral; Conducted 4 Burial Services; Married 5 couples; Received by Letter one.

May the Lord bless our efforts for good.

REV. J. A. ROBINSON.

STATE OF ALABAMA, }
HENRY Co. }

October 10th, 1900.

I have served 2 churches, this year; Baptized 4; Received by Letter 3; Received by Confession 4; Restored 1; Married 1 couple; I have preached 50 sermons as best I could.

G. L. LOVE.

I have been the Pastor of one church; preached 28 sermons; married 2 couples; miles traveled unknown; Received by confession 2; Baptized 2.

Respectfully yours,

J. B. MILLS.

I have served 2 churches as best I could owing to my health. I have preached 40 sermons; Baptized 4; Received by confession 1; Miles traveled 566. My P. O. Eunola, Ala.

C. M. WHITTLE.

On motion, it was carried, that those who have not their reports ready will prepare and send them to the Clerk for publication.

On motion, of Rev. J. I. Hatcher, that we pay our Clerk \$10.00 for his services.

On motion, of Bro. J. W. Rodgers, that we empower the Clerk to do the best he can in having the minutes of the Association published.

On motion, of Rev. J. I. Hatcher, that we empower the Clerk to draw on the Treasury, on the amount for Association purposes if necessary.

On motion, of Rev. J. I. Hatcher, that we tender our heartfelt thanks to this church and community for their kind hospitality shown us during our stay with them.

On motion, of Bro. Z. B. Hagins, that this body convene with Antioch Church in its next Annual Session.

On motion, of Bro. J. T. Eubanks, adjourned, and will meet with Antioch Church, Holmes County, Florida, on Thursday at 11:00, A. M., before the second Sunday in October, A. D. 1901.

Sang hymn, "Am I a Soldier of the Cross," while all took the parting hand in hope of heaven and immortal glory.

JEFFERSON D. STEPHENS,

Clerk.

REV. G. W. CHERRY,

Moderator.

STATISTICS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The State Line Freewill Baptist Association was organized at Howard Grove Church, November 20, 1886.

Year.	Moderator.	Clerk.	Church.	No.
1886.	D. L. Chandler.	Calvin Dykes.	Howard Grove.	449
1887.	D. L. Chandler.	Calvin Dykes.	Beulah.	577
1888.	R. M. Gray.	Calvin Dykes.	Macedonia.	403
1889.	R. M. Gray.	Calvin Dykes.	Friendship.	516
1890.	R. M. Gray.	Calvin Dykes.	Lovewood.	443
1891.	R. M. Gray.	Calvin Dykes.	Prospect.	339
1892.	R. M. Gray.	Calvin Dykes.	Silver Run.	444
1893.	D. L. Chandler.	J. D. Stephens.	Hickory Grove	450
1894.	R. M. Gray.	J. D. Stephens.	Spring Hill.	422
1895.	D. L. Chandler.	J. D. Stephens.	Pittman Creek.	503
1896.	Calvin Dykes.	J. D. Stephens.	Howard Grove	568
1897.	D. L. Chandler.	J. D. Stephens.	New Hope.	653
1898.	D. L. Chandler.	J. D. Stephens.	Rocky Grove.	633
1899.	D. L. Chandler.	J. D. Stephens.	Prospect.	671
1900.	G. W. Cherry.	J. D. Stephens.	Freewills Rest.	803

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS AND
POST OFFICES.

1. R. M. Gray, Geneva county, Alabama.
2. D. L. Chandler, Pansey, Henry county, Alabama.
3. Calvin Dykes, Ashford, Henry county, Alabama.
4. J. I. Hatcher, Bascom, Jackson county, Florida.
5. G. L. Love, Howard, Henry county, Alabama.
6. W. S. Cook, Pansey, Henry county, Alabama.
7. J. D. Sowell, Eunola, Geneva, county, Alabama.
8. J. B. Mills, Dothan, Henry county, Alabama.
9. G. W. Cherry, Dothan, Henry county, Alabama.
10. W. W. Tremontana, Eunola. Alabama.
11. Jordan Murdock, Ashford, Henry county, Alabama.
12. C. M. Whittle, Eunola, Geneva county, Alabama.
13. J. A. Robinson, Marianna, Jackson county, Florida.
14. H. G. Wiggins, Dothan, Henry county, Alabama.
15. J. D. Berry, Eunola, Geneva. county, Alabama.
16. Elbert J. Davis, Izagone, Holmes county, Alabama.
17. Jasper C. Thomas, Clio, Barber county, Alabama.
18. J. E. Lock, Ardilla, Henry county, Alabama.

19. W. J. Murdock, Ashford, Henry county, Alabama.
20. R. L. Medlock, Marianna, Jackson county, Florida.
21. R. L. Hunter, Columbia, Henry county, Alabama.

LICENTIATE.

1. F. M. Swails, Hartford, Geneva county, Alabama.
2. S. Hunter, Columbia, Alabama.
3. W. P. Benefield, Art, Dale county, Alabama.
4. A. C. Mercer, Gordon, Henry county, Alabama.
5. W. P. Benefield, Peach, Dale county, Alabama.
6. J. D. Pearce, Cottonwood, Henry county, Alabama.
7. Wm Bruner, Asa, Geneva county, Alabama.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Organize.
2. Call for letters from the different churches.
3. Elect Moderator and Clerk.
4. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
5. Call for petitionary letters.
6. Appoint Committees.
7. Call the roll and read the decorum.
8. Call for correspondents from sister Associations.
9. Appoint correspondents to sister Associations.
10. Call for report of Committees.
11. Call for circular letter.
12. Call for Treasurer's report.
13. Call for miscellaneous business.
14. Adjournment.

CONSTITUTION.

The Constitution of the Association is as follows:

Article I This Association shall be composed of delegates annually sent from the churches based on it.

Article II. The delegates from each church shall bear a letter signed by the clerk of the church certifying the appointment to which shall be subjoined a table stating the members baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excluded, died within the last Associational year, the total membership and ordained and licensed ministers, the name of the church and pastor, and the time of their monthly

meeting and the name of their nearest postoffice.

Article III. Any church wishing to become a member of this body must bring a letter of dismission from some other orderly Association, or if it be a newly constituted body, it must send by delegation, a letter stating the name of the minister, by whom it was constituted and if it is found to be sound, it shall be received.

Article IV. Each church shall be entitled to two delegates for the first twenty-five members, and then one delegate for the fractional part of twenty-five.

Article V. It is expected that the churches composing this body will send delegates and contributions for minutes every session, and that no church will withdraw from the Association without assigning a reason for the intended withdrawal.

Article VI. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator and Clerk. The Moderator shall preside over the body and enforce the rules of the Constitution and decorum, but shall not be allowed to vote except in case of a tie, on any matter.

Article VII. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to minute the proceedings of the body in session, and to superintend the publication of the same, and to do such other writing pertaining to the business of the body.

Article VIII. The Clerk shall, also, preserve a file of the Minutes of the Association, which he shall deliver to his successor when he goes out of office.

Article IX. The Association shall meet annually, according to adjournment, and shall have power to transact all business pertaining to the general good of this body.

Article X. The Constitution, and, also, the Decorum of the Association may be altered or amended during any session of the body by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates present.

DECORUM OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Article 1. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the deliberations of the body in session, preserve order, submit motions, or other matters. He may have the

same right of speech as any other member, provided the chair be occupied, but is not allowed to vote except the body be equally divided, in which case he shall cast the deciding vote.

Article 2. The Treasurer shall keep a correct account of all the money coming into his hands, and the matter in which it is disbursed. He shall only pay out money upon the order of the Association of all funds received and disbursed by him, showing the balance, if any, on hand.

Article 3. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the notice of the body, unless withdrawn.

Article 4. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Article 5. The Moderator and Clerk shall be elected by ballot annually.

Article 6. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at the same time, and said speaker shall first address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted while speaking, except by the Moderator.

Article 7. The names of the delegates shall be enrolled and called as often as the body may deem proper.

Article 8. The Moderator shall not interrupt the speaker while speaking, unless he departs from the subject in debate.

Article 9. All officers shall be elected by ballot, except the Executive Committee. It shall be appointed.

Article 10. If newly constituted churches, or others desire to be admitted into this union, they must petition by delegates and letters, and if found on examination to be orthodox and orderly they shall be received by the Association, and such reception shall be manifested by giving the right hand of fellowship.

Article 11. The pastors of each church shall have power to form a Presbytery and ordain deacons for the church; also to examine preachers who may apply for such; also to examine ordained ministers who make application to our order, and, if found sound, shall be set apart in rank, but not to be re-ordained.

Article 12. We, therefore, resolve that no church nor minister shall be received into this Association that refuse to

comply with the ordinance that is given us in the gospel; this decorum may be altered or amended as the body may see proper.

CHURCH DECORUM.

1. The church may choose a pastor annually, at the last regular conference in the associational year, or, if they prefer it, may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time to continue from year to year, so long as he may deem it proper to keep up the connection.

2. When it becomes necessary, a pastor may be chosen at any other time; but if the choice be made at a special conference, the time must be appointed at a monthly meeting of the church.

3. The pastor shall be the Moderator of the church, but when he is absent, or does not sit as Moderator, being present, some suitable brother shall be appointed to sit in his place.

4. There shall be two or more deacons in the church, whose duty it shall be to superintend the collections and disbursements of all contributions made by the church for the pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and the wine in the administration of the Lord's Supper.

5. The deacons shall also take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper, and endeavor to ascertain the cause, that the same may be laid before the church, in conference, if necessary.

6. Some suitable member shall be appointed Clerk, and it shall be his duty to do all the recording and other writing pertaining to the business of the church, and to preserve a file of the minutes of the Association.

7. When a new Clerk is appointed, all the books, minutes, etc., belonging to the Clerk shall be immediately delivered to him by his predecessor.

8. When the church deems it necessary, a committee of not less than three male members, well acquainted with the business, shall be appointed, whose business it shall be to give advice to brethren who apply to them relative to cases of dealing, etc., with the church.

9. The church shall hold a two day's meeting monthly.

embracing Saturday and the Lord's day following, the first of which shall be the regular time of conference.

10. It shall be the duty of every member, male and female, to attend each conference meeting, if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a special manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline, and the rules of holy living.

11. Any male member who shall fail to attend three successive conferences, and any member whatever, who may be generally remiss in attending the meetings of the church, according to the covenant, Article 10, shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his neglect, but the church may exempt members from this rule, if necessary.

12. Conferences, after prayer or divine services, shall be opened and conducted as follows: 1. Inviting visiting brethren to seats with us. 2. Open the door of the church for the reception of members. 3. Call for the reading of the minutes of the last conference. 4. Call for absentees. 5. For acknowledgments. 6. For references or deferred business. 7. For new matters of dealing which is to come before the body. 8. For miscellaneous business.

13. Visiting brethren, as also helps called in from sister churches, shall be allowed to speak or make motions or seconds, but not allowed to vote.

14. An orderly member of the Baptist church, which does not hold this church in fellowship may be received into the church without a letter, when it is made apparent that his christian character is unimpeachable, and that he has applied for a letter, and could not obtain it because he desired to join this or some sister church. All other persons must join by letter or baptism.

15. No member shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present; but unreasonable objection shall not be valid, and unless withdrawn, the mem'r who make them shall be liable to be taken under dealing by the church.

16. When the moderator calls for absentees, the clerk shall inform the church what members have been absent from three successive conferences and the moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to see each of them to the next conference.

17. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing to attend his trial, provided his residence be known to the church.

18. When a witness not a member of this church is introduced, he shall not be examined till the question has been put to the church, "Will you hear the testimony of this witness?"

19. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgment shall be minuted in the church book.

20. Members dismissed from the church by letter who become disorderly, or continue to hold their letters without a good reason, shall be cited to conference to answer for their conduct.

21. Expelled members may be restored to fellowship on their petition, if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented of their former evil conduct.

22. A vote shall not be taken upon any question without a move and second, and in all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.

23. No motion shall be made while a move and second is before the conference.

24. It shall be considered disorderly for any member to absent himself from conference when an important question is to be decided, but a member upon his own request may be exempted by the church from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

25. No member shall leave the house during conference without sufficient cause, nor engage in conversation nor whisper, without being subject to being called to order by the moderator.

26. All discussion in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling. Those who speak must arise to their feet and address the moderator, and keep to the point in debate.

27. No one shall speak more than three times on the same motion without permission from the moderator, nor shall the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.

28. When the moderator speaks in debate, he must nominate some other moderator in his stead.

29. No one shall be interrupted while speaking, unless it is necessary to call him to order.

30. It shall be the rule of the church to attend to the administration of the Lord's Supper at least four times a year, and the expenses are to be paid by the church.

31. Members not in good standing shall not commune, but the administration shall not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.

32. Feet washing shall be attended to as the church sees proper.

33. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on proper occasions.

34. The decorum may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any two successive monthly conferences.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1st. Of God:—We believe that there is one and only one living and true God, infinite in all his attributes, the Creator, Preserver and Governor of the Universe, revealed to us in the Scriptures as the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, 1st ch., Tim, 17th v; Isaiah 45 ch. 22 v. St. John 17 ch. 3rd v. St. John 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

2nd. The Holy Scriptures:—We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by inspiration of God and are binding on all as our infallible rule of faith and practice. 2nd Tim. 3rd ch. 16th v. Romans 15th ch. 4th v. 4th ch. 23, 44 vrs. Peter 1st ch. 21st v.

3rd. Of Christ:—We believe He is God manifest in the flesh, being in his divine nature true God in human nature, true man, uniting the person of the Messiah and Mediator for the redemption of the world. Luke 2nd ch. 4th to 12th vs. inclusive, Matt. 1st ch. 18, 19, 20 and 21 vs.

4th. Of the Holy Spirit:—We believe that He is the third person in the Holy Trinity and possesses all personal divine attributes, being the Reprover, Comforter and Sanctifier, St. John 14th ch. 25th v., 15th ch. 26th v., 16th ch. 7th 15th vs. inc.

5th. Of Salvation:—That the blessing of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel, that it is the immediate duty of all to receive it by cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of any so long as the Spirit continues to strive with them, but their own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ. Rom. 1st ch. 16th vs. Phil. 2nd ch. 12th v. Heb. 2 ch 3rd v.

6th. The Fall of Man:—We believe that man was created sinless but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation, all his posterity inherited this fallen nature, and all that come to years of accountability will sin and come short of the Glory of God, except that they receive salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ. Gen. 3rd ch. 6th vs. 1st ch. 26th vs. 5th ch. 1st vs. 9th ch. 6th vs. Cor. 11th ch. 7th vs., Roman 3rd ch. 28th vs., Mark 16th ch. 16th v., Acts 10th ch. 43 vs.

7th. The Atonement: We believe that Christ in his great compassion offered himself as sacrifice in our stead, therefore God desires the salvation of all and the Gospel invites all and whosoever will may come and partake of the Word of life freely. 1st Cor. 1st ch. 7th vs., Eph. 5th ch. 2nd v., Heb. 2nd ch. 9th vs., 26th vs. Rom. 5th ch. 15th vs., Rev. 22nd ch. 17th vs.

8th. Of Election:—We believe that God has not fixed the future state of man by any unconstitutional degree, delivered from the beginning to save all who comply with the terms of salvation. John 8th ch. 31st v. Luke 11th ch. 28th vs. Acts 10th ch. 35th vs. Deut. 11th ch. 26th, 27th and 28.

9th. On Perseverance:—We believe that none will be finally saved but those who through grace, persevere in holiness to the end. John 8th ch. 31st vs. Tim. 1st ch. 19th vs., 2nd Peter 2nd ch. 21 and 22nd verses.

10th. Gospel Ordinances:—We believe that baptism or the burial of believers in water and the Lord's supper and the washing of the Saints feet are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel of universal salvation and to be observed by all true believers. Reference for Baptism John 3rd ch. 5th vs. Rom. 6th ch. 4th vs. Reference for the Lord's Supper. Matt. 26th ch. 26th 27th and 28th vs. Reference for washing the Saint's feet, John 13th ch. 5th to 17th vs.

11th. The Lord's Supper;—We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Savior as a commemorative ordinance, that the bread and wine represent His body and blood that it was instituted for Christians and that all Christians should unite in performing the sacred service regardless of name, denomination or distinction. Gal. 6th ch. 4th vs. Matt. 7th ch. 10th vs. Rom. 4th ch. 3rd and 4th vs.

12. Of The Resurrection:—We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgement, and when the resurrection takes place, the soul and body will re-unite and form an immortal being that the righteous will be received into everlasting happiness, and the wicked will be driven to everlasting darkness, where they will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. John 5th ch. 28th and 29th vs., Acts 24th ch. 15th vs. Isaiah ch. 17th vs. Heb. 9th ch. 27th verse.

Statistics of the State Line Freewill Baptist Association.—1900.

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES	NAMES OF DELEGATES	PASTORS.	CLERKS & POST-OFFICES.	Baptized	Received by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Received on Confession	Restored	Died	Excluded	Days of Meeting	No. of Members	Paid for Minutes	Paid for Assl. purposes	Paid for Missions	Value of Church	Of Church Property
Hickory Grove, Jacksnn Co. Fla.	J. W. Rodgers, H. T. Tindel, J. M. Robinson, R. G. Hatcher, J. W. D. Stephens	Sam Ely	Jeff. D. Stephens, Bascom, Fla.	2	1					4	4	76	\$ 1 50	\$ 1 50		\$ 500	\$ 50
Howard Grove, Henry Co., Ala.	Aden Daniel, W. L. Rhodes, L. R. Merritt, O. M. Rhodes	G. L. Love	M. L. Bowen, Howard, Ala.	4	2	6	2	1		1	4	142	1 75	1 50		240	60
Prospect, Henry Co., Ala.	J. W. Conner, J. S. Conner, E. B. Green	G. W. Cherry	W. W. Clark, Dothan, Ala.	10	1	6	8	1	1	3	3	102	1 50	1 00		350	50
Spring Hill, Henry Co. Ala.	J. B. Whitaker	No Pastor	A. Z. Culbreth, Godfrey, Ala.						1	3	3	34	1 00	75			
Rocky Grove, Jackson Co., Fla.	J. J. Baxter, J. C. Baxter, M. J. Mercer, Chas. Baxter	W. J. Murdock	M. J. Mercer, Greenwood, Fla.				2	1		4	4	51	1 00	1 00		260	
Freewill's Rest, Jackson, Co.	L. C. Messer, W. H. Cox, A. Tison	Sam Ely	H. G. Green, Dellwood, Fla.	2	2					3	3	35	1 50	1 00		125	50
Springfield, Henry Co., Ala.	C. M. Wetherington	D. L. Chandler	M. Nall, Ashford, Ala.	1	1			1		1	3	34	1 00	1 00			
Union Springs, Henry Co., Ala.	J. T. Eubanks	W. J. Murdock	D. V. Olive, Columbia, Ala.					3		2	2	37	50	60			
New Harmony, Henry Co., Ala.	William Hicks, J. G. Granger, H. Merritt	G. L. Love	A. J. Granger, Granger, Ala.			2	2			2	2	29	1 00	50		50	20
Antioch, Holmes, Co., Fla.	No delegate present	J. D. Sowell	A. M. Ganey, Pitts, Fla.	3			3			4	4	19	50	50			
Ardilla, Henry Co., Ala.	No delegate present	G. W. Cherry	C. R. Cobb, Ardilla, Ala.	2	12	1	3			1	1	24	75	75		200	25
New Pilgrim, Henry Co., Ala.	R. P. McGriff, John Joiner	Calvin Dykes	F. J. Thomas, Columbia, Ala.							1	1	18	50	1 00		150	15
Friendship, Geneva, Co., Ala.	F. M. Hatcher, John Marlo	N. Whittle	John Hatcher, Eunola, Ala.	3	3	1				1	1	28	1 00	1 15			
Pilcher Pond, Jackson Co., Fla.	Mason Chason, R. L. Adkins	J. A. Robinson	Mason Chason, Marianna, Fla.	19	1		5		1	1	1	38	1 55	1 00			
Pine Hill, Jackson Co., Fla.	Noah Adkins	J. A. Robinson	Noah Adkins, Marianna, Fla.	3	7					4	4	10	50	50			
New Harmony, Geneva, Co., Ala.	J. B. Bryan	J. B. Bryan	C. C. Brown, Eunola, Ala.	32			20					52	1 25	1 25			
Pittman Creek, Holmes, Co., Fla.	G. R. Faulk, Z. B. Hagins	J. B. Bryan	W. McDonald, Izagora, Fla.			1			1	3	3	47	50	1 10			
Pleasant Ridge, Geneva, Co., Ala.	H. W. Morrison, J. D. Olford	J. B. Bryan	J. D. Olford, Asa, Ala.	18	3	7	1					27	1 00	50			
Totals,				97	26	22	54	8	4	14		803	\$18 30	\$16 60		\$1 815	\$ 270