

MINUTES
OF THE
Nineteenth Annual Session
OF THE
STATE LINE
Free Will Baptist Association,
CONVENED WITH THE CHURCH AT
HOWARD'S GROVE, HOUSTON CO., ALA.,
OCTOBER 6th and 7th, 1904.

OFFICERS:

REV. JEFFERSON D. STEPHENS,	MODERATOR,
J. W. D. STEPHENS,	CLERK,
REV. G. L. LOVE,	TREASURER.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

CALVIN DYKES, R. G. HATCHER, G. W. CHERRY, G. L. LOVE, AND W. CLARK.

The next session of this Association will convene with New Pilgrim Church, Houston County, Ala., at 11 O'clock A. M. on Thursday before the second Sunday in October, A. D. 1905.

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AYDEN, N. C.

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Proceeding of the State Line Association.

The Nineteenth Annual Session, of the State Line Free Will Baptist Association, convened with Howard's Grove Church, Houston County, Ala., on Thursday at 11 o'clock a. m., before the 2nd Sunday in October, A. D. 1904.

The introductory services were conducted by Rev. R. L. Hunter from the 11th chapter of Luke, followed by Rev. Jefferson D. Stephens. The Association then had an intermission of about one hour and a half for refreshments.

THURSDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The body reassembled with the former Moderator and Clerk present. After singing, the moderator read the 37th Psalm. Prayer by Rev. Calvin Dykes.

Letters from the various churches were called for, handed in and read by Rev. Calvin Dykes and Bro. R. G. Hatcher.

The churches and delegates are enrolled as follows:

1. Howard's Grove—J. F. Capps, Westly Toler, Joseph Whitaker, E. R. Williams, J. F. Johnson, L. R. Merritt, J. B. Williams and Ed. Dykes.

2. Ardilla—J. R. Searsey.

3. Hickory Grove—R. G. Hatcher, A. Holland, H. T. Tindell, A. Z. Hatcher, J. W. D. Stephens, J. J. Hatcher and John Rogers.

4. New Home—A. Z. Culbreth and E. P. McNeal.

5. Prospect—C. L. Hays, J. B. Prevatt, W. W. Clark, W. A. Cherry, J. W. Conner and A. C. Cobb.

6. Springfield—J. A. Givens, M. Nall and B. L. Cain.

7. Pilchia Pond—J. D. Medlock and I. R. Medlock.

8. Rocky Grove—R. T. Baxter, T. Z. Evans, Julius Baxter and G. B. Baxter.

9. Union Spring—F. J. Whitaker, W. H. Jenkins and D. V. Olive.

10. New Pilgrim—J. F. Thomas.

11. Damascus—J. E. Jordan and J. J. Mercer.

12. New Harmony—J. D. Calloway and J. F. Fillin-gin.

The letters failed of adoption because of the alleged disorder of Springfield church.

A motion was made to ascertain whether or not the body endorsed the action of the body last session in the case of W. H. Rhenan. It was carried by a vote of 17 to 14.

On motion the body adjourned until 8 o'clock Friday morning.

FRIDAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. After singing, "How sweet the name of Jesus sounds," the moderator read the 4th chapter of James for a morning lesson. After which, the body humbled in prayer with the moderator.

On motion by Calvin Dykes, the letters from the various churches were received and adopted as read on yesterday.

The moderator appointed a committee on divine services as follows: A. Holland, W. H. Jenkins and J. F. Nowell.

Upon motion, the body proceeded to elect a moderator and clerk.

Brethren C. Dykes and R. G. Hatcher were appointed to count the ballots.

Jefferson D. Stephens was re-elected Moderator and J. W. D. Stephens was re-elected Clerk, which permanently organized the body.

Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.

Upon motion of Bro. J. B. Prevatt, the roll was called.

On motion of Bro. A. Holland, we fill vacancies in the delegations with members present from their respective churches.

Call for petitionary letters. One received from Damascus.

On motion, it was received and adopted and her delegates seated in the body.

The corresponding letter from New Harmony was also handed in at this junction, which was duly received and adopted.

The various committees were then appointed as follows:

1. On Temperance—Bros. G. W. Cherry, J. F. Capps J. R. Searcy and A. Holland.

2. On Nominations—Bros. C. Dykes, R. G. Hatcher, E. R. Williams, E. P. McNeal and A. C. Cobb.

3. On Finance—Bros. R. G. Hatcher, J. F. Johnson, F. J. Whitaker, J. F. Thomas, R. L. Hunter and W. S. Cook.

4. On Missions—Bros. W. J. Mims, J. D. Medlock, J. A. Givens, J. B. Prevatt, Westly Toler and J. E. Jordan.

On Documents—Bros. D. L. Chandler, J. I. Hatcher, J. J. Mercer, W. J. Murdock and J. M. Murdock.

6. On Education—Rev. R. L. Hunter.

7. On Sabbath Schools—Bros. J. W. Conner, H. T. Tindell, A. Z. Hatcher, Joseph Whitaker, J. B. Williams, C. L. Hays and M. Nall.

8. On Obituaries—Bros. W. A. Cherry, W. W. Clark, B. L. Cain, J. R. Medlock, Julius Baxter, T. Z. Evans and D. V. Olive.

9. On Suggestions—Bros. C. Dykes, D. L. Chandler, A. Z. Culbreth, G. B. Baxter, W. H. Jenkins, J. D. Calloway and W. G. Guy.

10. On Character of Ministers—Bros. A. Holland, T. Z. Evans, R. G. Hatcher, A. Z. Culbreth and Westly Toler.

Afterwhich, the clerk called the roll and read the decorum.

Call for correspondents from sister associations. Three were found to be corresponding, viz: Martin—H. F. Yates; Choctawhatchee—C. C. Harris and W. H. Chandler; Liberty—W. H. Reneau and Sam Carroll.

On motion, all were received except Bro. W. H. Reneau who was considered in disorder. He was received later in the session.

The corresponding brethren were given the right hand of fellowship while the body sang, "Jesus lover of my soul."

On motion of Rev. W. J. Murdock that we correspond with sister associations.

On motion, the moderator appoint correspondents when volunteers did not offer.

The following brethren either volunteered or were appointed delegates.

To Southeastern—Rev. G. W. Cherry and J. R. Searcy.

To Martin—W. H. Jenkins, W. J. Murdock and J. D. Pierce.

To Liberty—J. D. Calloway, J. F. Capps and L. R. Merritt.

To Choctawhatchee—D. L. Chandler and C. G. Ray.

To Midway—Rev. J. M. Murdock.

To Salem—J. A. Robinson and J. D. Medlock.

On motion of Rev. G. W. Cherry, we correspond with distant associations by sending minutes.

On motion of Rev. G. W. Cherry, correspond with Chattahoochee with minutes.

On motion of Rev. W. J. Murdock, correspond with the Georgia Union with minutes.

On motion of G. W. Cherry, the body adjourned for preaching.

The body was dismissed till 1:30 p. m.

FRIDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The association reassembled pursuant to adjournment. After singing, the body humbled in prayer with Rev. J. J. Burtshaw.

Renewed call for corresponding and petitionary letters.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

The reports of committees were called for.

The full report of the committee on divine services which was called for and read at various times is as follows:

DIVINE SERVICES—We your committee on divine services submit the following report: Friday at 9 a. m., J. I. Hatcher to preach and C. Dykes to close. Friday at 11:30 a. m., H. F. Yates to preach and W. J. Mims to close. Friday at 2:30 p. m., J. A. Robinson to preach and W. S. Cook to close.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. HOLLAND, Chairman.

The report was received and adopted.

SABBATH SCHOOLS—We your committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to make the following report, to wit: We find only one Sabbath School in the last associational year. We recommend that each church have a Sabbath School. We urge that each delegation in this body insist upon their church to have a Sabbath School for the benefit of the church and the community. We recommend the Free Will Baptist literature.

J. W. CONNER, Chairman.

On motion of Bro. A. Holland the report was received and adopted and the committee discharged.

OBITUARIES—We your committee on obituaries beg leave to make the following report, to wit: We find there has been eight death's since the last session, and we ask that their obituaries appear in our minutes.

W. A. CHERRY, Chairman.

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

EDUCATION—We your committee on education submit the following report, to wit: We heartily endorse any movement for the betterment and improvement of our people intellectually as well as spiritually. Educated talent is wanted and also very much needed to promulgate and direct the cause of Christ. Education alone does not make christians. Nay, but it does increase the christians power for good. Public schools are established throughout our country for the purpose of educating our children, and we do request and impress that our people take advantage of this great blessing and educate their children. We also insist that our children have wholesome literature, such as religious newspapers published by the Free Will Baptist, etc. Such influence will be elevating and inspiring to a higher plane of social life, which will make worthy men and women of our children.

R. L. HUNTER, Chairman.

On motion of Bro. J. B. Prevatt, the report was received and adopted and the committee discharged.

DOCUMENTS—We your committee on documents make the following report: In looking over our association we find very few of our people reading of religious literature, therefore we urge upon our brethren to read the FREE WILL BAPTIST paper, and we further urge our churches to use all religious means to the uplifting of the cause.

D. L. CHANDLER, Chairman.

On motion of Rev. G. W. Cherry, the report was received and adopted and committee discharged.

TEMPERANCE—We your committee on temperance beg leave to make the following report, to wit: Whereas, we are thankful to know that our people's eyes are

being opened on the subject of intoxicating liquors and that they are quitting the intoxicating drink, especially the best men of our land and country. We suggest that all of our preachers, deacons and members do everything that lies in their power against the sale of intoxicating drink or the use of it in any way, as it destroys the influence of our church and brings disgrace on ourselves and family, church and country. Using the time and the means that God gives us to serve Him, and puts it into the service of the devil. Let us be temperate in all things, for we are not our own. Our time and service belongs to God, and for the good of humanity. Let Christ be all, and in all.

G. W. CHERRY, Chairman.

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

MISSIONS—We your committee on missions, submit the following report: One church has been organized in the bounds of our association this year. We know of no other mission work being done. We recommend that every minister preach on missions at least once a year.

W. J. MIMS, Chairman.

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

FINANCE—We your committee on finance, beg leave to make the following report, to wit:

Received for minutes,	\$14.80;
Received for associational purposes,	10.75;
Total,	\$25.55;

R. G. HATCHER, Chairman.

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

On motion of Bro. H. F. Yates, the committee on divine services relieved Rev. G. W. Cherry from preaching at 2:30 p. m. and then changed their report to read as published.

SUGGESTIONS—We the committee on suggestions submit the following report, to wit: We suggest that the churches of the State Line Association comply more fully with the ordinances as they are laid down in the decorum. We further suggest that this body prescribe

the duty of the executive committee. We suggest that we have a union meeting in the bounds of our association.
 CALVIN DYKES, Chairman.

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

NOMINATIONS—We the committee on nominations submit the following report, to wit: We nominate Bro. Calvin Dykes to preach the introductory sermon and J. M. Murdock to close. Also we nominate Bro. R. L. Hunter to write the Circular Letter. We nominate New Pilgrim church for the next session of this association.
 CALVIN DYKES, Chairman.

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

CHARACTER OF MINISTERS—We your committee on Character of Ministers beg leave to report: We find all of our ministers in good standing.

A. HOLLAND, Chairman.

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

TRASURER'S REPORT.

Received for minutes,	\$12.80;
Received for associational purposes,	12.35;
Total,	28.15.
Paid clerk for services,	10.00;
Paid for publication of minutes,	13.50;
Paid express on minutes,	1.55;
Paid postage on minutes,	1.31;
Total,	\$26.36.
Amount at present in hand of treasurer,	\$39.14.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Bro. G. W. Cherry, moved that some one define the duties of the executive committee.

On motion, Bro. J. F. Johnson was excused from the body.

On motion of Bro. A. Holland, that the moderator appoint a committee to describe the duties and refine the power of the executive committee.

The following named brethren compose the committee: R. G. Hatcher, J. A. Robinson, Westly Toler, G. W. Cherry, D. L. Chandler, J. W. D. Stephens and Calvin Dykes.

On motion of G. W. Cherry, that the moderator appoint a delegation to the General Association.

The following delegation was appointed: G. W. Cherry, D. L. Chandler, J. I. Hatcher, Calvin Dykes, W. J. Mims, R. L. Hunter.

Bro. R. L. Hunter was added to delegation by motion of the body.

On motion of Bro. Joseph Whitaker that Bro. W. H. Reneau make a statement of his case to the body.

Whereupon, Bro. W. H. Reneau made acknowledgements to the body, stating that he had offended the State Line Association and was sorry for it, and asked their pardon.

On motion of Bro. J. W. Conner, Bro. W. H. Reneau's acknowledgements were received.

The body then sang, "Jesus lover of my soul," while extending the right hand of fellowship to Bro. W. H. Reneau as a correspondent to the Liberty Association.

On motion, Bros. W. H. Reneau and Sam Carroll were excused for the remainder of the session that they might depart for their home.

Bro. W. S. Cook was excused for the remainder of the afternoon.

On motion of Bro. J. B. Prevatt, pay clerk \$10.00 for his services.

On motion of Bro. D. L. Chandler, that the Union Meeting convene with Springfield church on Friday at 11 a. m., before the 2nd Sunday in July A. D. 1905.

On motion of Rev. G. W. Cherry, that the committee appointed to define the power of the executive committee meet with the above meeting, at the time and place mentioned.

Bro. J. A. Robinson failed to have the Circular Letter prepared, and on motion of Bro. J. B. Prevatt that he write one and forward it to the clerk for publication.

The treasurer failed to have his report present, and on motion of Bro. J. B. Prevatt that he send his report to the clerk to be published.

On motion, Bro. D. L. Chandler read a report of the loss that Bro. J. A. Robinson had sustained by fire.

On motion of Bro. J. B. Prevatt, a collection was made and \$10.50 was raised, which was supplemented with \$10.00 from the treasury.

On motion of Rev. G. W. Cherry, that the treasurer, Rev. G. L. Love, be placed on the executive committee to fill the place of J. M. Chance.

On motion of Rev. G. W. Cherry, the heartfelt thanks of the association was tendered to Howard's Grove church and community for the kind hospitality shown the body during its stay with them.

On motion of Rev. G. W. Cherry, that the clerk of each church prepare obituaries and send the clerk for publication.

A collection of \$2.70 was made for visiting brethren. It was divided between Bros. C. C. Harris and W. H. Chandler of the Choctawhatchee Association.

On motion of Bros. J. A. Robinson, Rev. D. L. Chandler was paid \$5.00 for organizing Damascus church.

On motion of Bro. J. W. Conner the Association adjourned to meet with New Pilgrim church, Houston County, Ala., at 11 o'clock, a. m., on Thursday before the second Sunday in October, A. D. 1905.

The session was brought to a close by taking the parting hand and humbling in divine supplication to God for his rich and ever abundant blessings.

REV. JEFFERSON D. STEPHENS, Mod.

J. W. D. STEPHENS, Clerk

OBITUARIES.

MARTHA ANN BUTLER.

Sacred to the memory of our beloved sister, Martha Ann Butler, who was a member with us at Howard's Grove church and we trust a consecrated Christian. She leaves a faithful husband and five children to mourn her departure. Born Aug. 6th, 1867, departed this life Dec. 24th, 1903. Our loss is heaven's gain. May the God of heaven bless the bereaved family. So mote it be.

A. J. CHERRY.

In loving remembrance of our brother, A. J. Cherry. Born Sept. 15th, 1831, and departed this life, May 16th, 1904. He was a consistent member of the Free Will Baptist church for many years. He was found at his post in his church, in the association and in his

community. He was a good father, a good husband and a good Christian. To know him was to love him. He leaves a wife, four children and many friends to mourn his departure. We sympathize for the loving companion who was so faithful to him until death. May we all strive to meet him on Canaan's shore, where we shall part no more.

"A precious one from us is gone,
A voice we loved is still,
A place is vacant in our home,
Which never can be filled."

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, from henceforth, yea saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

MARY JANE MCNEAL.

Sacred to the memory of our beloved sister, Mary Jane McNeal. She was a faithful member at New Home church. She had been a member of the Free Will Baptist church for about twenty five years. She leaves a husband, five children, a sister, three brothers and a host of friends and relatives to mourn her departure. Peace be unto her, and that we may meet again in the far beyond. She was born Oct. 21st, 1856, died Feb. 1st, 1905.

BENNIE WHITAKER.

Sacred to the memory of our beloved brother, Bennie Whitaker. He was a faithful and devoted member of the Free Will Baptist church at Union Spring. Joined the church under the administration of Rev. W. J. Murdock. He leaves a father and mother, brothers and sisters to mourn his departure. May they strive to meet him in heaven, where we believe he has gone. Peace to his sleeping dust.

MAGGIE WEBB.

Sacred to the memory of our beloved sister, Maggie Webb. She was a faithful and devoted member of the Free Will Baptist church at Union Spring. She joined the church under the administration of Rev. D. L. Chandler. She leaves a husband and two children to mourn her departure. May they strive to meet her in

heaven, where we believe she has gone. Peace to her sleeping dust. Died Sept. 27th, 1904. Age 28 years, 1 month and 8 days.

MARY J. HATCHER.

Sacred to the memory of Sister Mary J. Hatcher. Deceased was a devoted member with us at Hickory Grove. Joined at Hickory Grove in June, 1887. She leaves a husband, 8 children, relatives and friends to mourn her departure. Peace be to her. Born May 26th, 1864. Departed this life Apr. 26th, 1906. Age 39 years and 11 months.

E. HATCHER.

Sacred to the memory of Bro. E. Hatcher. He was a member with us at Hickory Grove. He joined at Hickory Grove in July 1891. Was married in Jan. 1886, and leaves a wife, children, relatives and friends to mourn his departure. Peace be to him. Born July 20th, 1872. Departed this life May 7th, 1904. Age 31 years, 9 months and 17 days.

Statistics of the Association.

The State Line Free Will Baptist Association was organized at Howard's Grove church, Nov. 20th, 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.....	408
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.....	Freewill's Rest.....	803
1901.....	Calvin Dykes.....	J. W. D. Stephens.....	Antioch.....	916
1902.....	Calvin Dykes.....	J. W. D. Stephens.....	Union Springs.....	946
1903.....	J. D. Stephens.....	J. W. D. Stephens.....	Hickory Grove.....	827
1904.....	J. D. Stephens.....	J. W. D. Stephens.....	Howard's Grove.....	787

1905 - J. D. Stephens, J. W. D. Stephens New Pilgrimage 745

Referenced

Wla

- 1 H. L. Love, Howard's Grove, Cottonwood
2 W. F. Haskins, Hickory Grove, Woodville Fla.

List of Ordained Ministers and their Postoffices.

- 3 1. J. D. Stephens, Hickory Grove, Marianna, Fla.
4 2. J. B. Mills, Ardilla, Dothan, Ala.
5 3. D. L. Chandler, Springfield, Ashford, Ala.
6 4. W. I. Mims, Springfield, Webb, Ala. Gordon, Ala.
7 5. ~~G. L. Love, Howard's Grove, Ashford, Ala.~~
8 6. Calvin Dykes, Howard's Grove, Ashford, Ala.
9 7. W. J. Murdock, Howard's Grove, Ashford, Ala.
10 8. J. M. Murdock, Howard's Grove, Ashford, Ala.
11 9. J. I. Hatcher, Hickory Grove, Bascom, Fla.
12 10. ~~A. M. Nowell, Union Springs, Gordon, Ala.~~
13 11. W. S. Cook, Union Springs, Pansy, Ala.
14 12. R. L. Hunter, New Pilgrim, Columbia, Ala.
15 13. J. A. Robinson, Pilchia Pond, Marianna, Fla.
16 14. G. W. Cherry, Prospect, Dothan, Ala.
17 15. ~~H. G. Wiggins, Prospect, Wright, Fla.~~
18 16. C. M. Whittle, New Hope, Eunola, Ala.
19 17. ~~J. E. Lock, Ardilla, Ardilla, Ala.~~

LICENTIATES.

- 1 1. J. A. Livens, Springfield, Ashford, Ala.
2 2. J. G. Harris, Prospect, Dothan, Ala.
3 3. I. S. Hunter, New Pilgrim, Columbia, Ala.
4 4. J. D. Pearce, New Harmony, Cottonwood, Ala.
5 5. C. G. Ray, Ardilla, ~~Howard's Ala~~ Dothan, Ala.
6 6. A. B. Rodney, Prospect, Webb, Ala.
7 7. W. H. Lashley, Pilchia Pond, Cona, Fla.
8 8. A. C. Cobb, Prospect, Dothan, Ala.

Order of Business.

1. Organizing.
2. Calling for letters from the different churches.
3. Electing Moderator and Clerk. officers.
4. Inviting visiting brethren to seats with us.
5. Calling for petitionary letters.
6. Appointing committees.
7. Calling the roll and reading the Decorum.
8. Calling for Correspondents from sister associations.
9. Appointing correspondents to sister associations.
10. Calling for reports of committees.
11. Calling for Circular Letter.
12. Calling for Treasurer's report.
12. Calling for miscellaneous business.
14. Adjournment.

CONSTITUTION.

The Constitution of the Association is as follows:

ART. 1. This Association shall be composed of delegates annually sent from the churches based upon it.

ART. 2. 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 number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excluded, died within the last Associational year, the membership, and ordained and licentiate ministers, the name of the church and pastor, the time of their monthly meeting, and the name of their nearest postoffice.

ART. 3. Any church wishing to become a member of this body must bring a letter of dismissal from some other orderly association, or, if 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.

ART. 4. 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.

ART. 5. It is expected that the churches composing this body will send delegates and contributions for the minutes every session, and that no church will withdraw from the association without assigning a reason for the intended withdrawal.

ART. 6. 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 he shall not be allowed to vote, except in the case of a tie, on any matter.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to record the proceedings of the body when in session, and to superintend the publication of the same, and to do all other writing pertaining to the business of the Association.

ART. 8. The Clerk shall also preserve a file of the minutes of the Association, which he shall deliver to his successor when he vacates the office.

ART. 9. The association shall meet annually, according to adjournment, and shall have power to transact all business pertaining to the general good of this body.

ART. 10. The Constitution and also the Decorum of

the association may be altered or amended during any session of the body by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present.

DECORUM OF THE ASSOCIATION.

ART. 1. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the deliberations of the association when in session, preserve order, and submit motions or other matters. He may have the same right of speech as any other member, provided the chair is occupied, but he shall not be allowed to vote, except when the body be equally divided, in which case he shall cast the deciding vote.

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

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

ART. 4. The association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

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

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

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

ART. 8. The Moderator shall not interrupt a speaker while speaking, unless he departs from the subject under debate.

ART. 9. All officers shall be elected by ballot except the executive committee, which shall be appointed.

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

ART. 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 re-ordained.

*Insert This
Art. in church
Decorum be-
low 3rd*
①

ART. 12. We, therefore, resolve, that no church nor minister shall be received into this Association that refuses to comply with the ordinance which is given us in the Gospel. This Decorum may be altered or amended as the association may see proper.

CHURCH DECORUM.

1. A 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 a church.

3. The pastor shall be the moderator of a 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. *Insert Art. 11 here.*

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

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

7. -6. Some suitable member shall be appointed clerk, and it shall be his duty to perform all the recording and other writing pertaining to the business of a church, and to preserve a file of the minutes of this association.

8. -7. When a new clerk is appointed all the books, minutes, etc., belonging to the clerk shall be immediately delivered to him by his successor.

9. -8. When a church deems it necessary a committee of not less than three male members well acquainted

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with the business, shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to give advice to brethren who apply to them relative to cases of dealing, etc., with the church.

10. ~~9.~~ Each church shall hold a two days monthly meeting, embracing Saturday and the Lord's day following, the first of which shall be the regular time of conference.

11. ~~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.

12. ~~11.~~ Any male member who shall fail to attend three successive conferences, and any member whosoever that may be generally remiss in attending the meetings of a church according to the Covenant (article 10), shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his neglect; but a church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.

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

14. ~~13.~~ Visiting brethren and also helps called in from sister churches, shall be allowed to speak and make or second motions, but shall not be allowed to vote.

15. ~~14.~~ Any orderly member of the Baptist church which does not hold this church in fellowship, may be received into a 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.

16. ~~15.~~ No member shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present; but unreasonable objections shall not be valid, and unless withdrawn by the member who makes them, such member shall be liable to be taken under dealing by the church.

17. 16. When the Moderator calls for absentees the clerk shall inform the church what members have been absent for three successive conferences, and the moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to see each of them to the next conference.
18. 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.
19. 18. When a witness, not a member of the church is introduced, he shall not be examined until this question has been put to the church: "Will you hear the testimony of this witness?"
20. 19. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgment shall be minuted in the church book.
21. 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 misconduct.
22. 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.
23. 22. A vote shall not be taken on any question unless it has been moved and seconded, and upon all important questions must be taken by rising to the feet.
24. 23. No other motion shall be entertained while a question with a move and second is before conference.
25. 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.
26. 25. No member shall leave the house during conference without sufficient cause, nor engage in conversation or whisper, without being subject to a call to order by the Moderator.
27. 26. All discussions 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.
28. 27. No one shall speak more than three times on the same question without permission from the Moderator, nor the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.

29. ~~28.~~ When the Moderator speaks in debate he must nominate some one to act in his stead as Moderator.

30. ~~29.~~ No one shall be interrupted while speaking, unless it be necessary to call the speaker to order.

31. ~~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, the expenses of which are to be paid by church.

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

33. ~~32.~~ Feet-washing may be attended to as the church may see proper.

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

35. ~~34.~~ This 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.

1. 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.—Tim. 1:17; Isaiah 45:22; St. John 17:2; St. John 1:2-3.

2. THE HOLY SCRIPTURES.—We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God, and are binding on all as our infallable rule of faith and practice.—II Tim. 3:16; Romans 15:4 and 4; 23-24; Peter 1:21.

3. OF CHRIST.—We believe He is God manifest in the flesh; being in His divine nature the true God, in human nature the true man, uniting in person of the Messiah and the Mediator for the redemption of the world.—Luke 2:4-12 inclusive; Matt. 1:18:19-20-21.

4. 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 14:25; 15:26 and 16:7-15, inclusive.

5. OF SALVATION.—That the blessings 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.—Romans 1:16; Phil 2:12; Heb. 2:3.

6. 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 who 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. 3:6 1:26, 5:1 and 9:6; Cor. 11:7; Rom. 3:28; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:43.

7. **THE ATONEMENT.**—We believe that Christ in His great compassion offered Himself as a 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.—1 Cor. 1:7; Eph. 5:2; Heb. 2:9-26; Rom. 5:15; Rev. 22:17.

8. **OF ELECTION.**—We believe that God has not fixed the future state of man by any unconstitutional decree delivered from the beginning, except to save all who comply with the terms of salvation.—John 8:31; Luke 11:28; Acts 10:35; Deut. 11:26-27-28.

9. **ON PERSEVERANCE.**—We believe that none will finally be saved but those who through grace persevere in holiness to the end.—John 8:31; Tim. 1:19; Peter 2:21-22.

10. **GOSPEL ORDINANCE.**—We believe that baptism or the burial of believers in water and the Lord's Supper and 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 3:5; Rom. 6:4. Reference for the Lord's Supper, Matt. 26:26-27-28. Reference for washing the saints' feet, John 13:5-17, inclusive.

11. **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. 6:4; Matt. 7:10; Rom. 4:3-4.

12. **OF THE RESURRECTION.**—We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment; and when the resurrection takes place the soul and body will reunite and form an immortal being; that the righteous will be received into everlasting happiness, and the wicked will be driven into everlasting darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.—John 5:28-29; Acts 24:15; Isa. 17; Heb. 9:27.

Reformed Church

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES, COUNTIES AND STATES.	CLERKS AND THEIR POS! OFFICES.	PASTORS.	Rec. by Baptism.	Rec on Confession	Rec. by Letter.	Restored.	Dis. by Letter.	Excluded.	Died.	Days of Meeting.	No. of Members.
Howard's Grove, Houston Co., Ala	J. F. Capps, Cottonwood, Ala.....	J. C. Eldridge	15	7	1	1	14	10	1	4	158
Ardilla, Houston Co., Ala.....	J. R. Searcy, Dothan, Ala.....	W. J. Murdock....					5	1	1	1	22
Hickory Grove, Jackson Co., Fla..	J. W. D. Stephens, Bascom, Fla.....	W. J. Mims.....	4	1	1	2	4	1	2	4	92
New Home, Houston Co., Ala.....	J. A. Culbreth, Gordon, Ala.....	W. J. Murdock....			1				1	3	30
Prospect, Houston Co., Ala.....	E. B. Green, Dothan, Ala.....	W. J. Mims.....	12	2	4		5	3	1	3	156
Springfield, Houston Co., Ala.....	M. Nall, Dothan, Ala... ..	W. J. Mims	3	5	3	4	6			2	49
Pilchia Pond, Jackson Co., Fla.....	Mason Chason, Cana, Fla	J. A. Robinson:...	11	7		3	1	4		3	72
Rocky Grove, Jackson Co., Fla.....	M. J. Mercer, Dellwood, Fla.....	J. M. Murdock....				1	4			3	60
Union Spring, Houston Co., Ala...	D. V. Olive, Pansy, Ala.....	W. J. Murdock....	4	1	3	2	5	7	2	2	67
New Pilgrim, Houston Co., Ala....	W. G. Odom, Columbia, Ala.....	R. L. Hunter.....			1			2		1	20
Damascus, Houston Co., Ala.....	B. B. Robinson, Crosby, Ala.....	D. L. Chandler....	7	2	10					1	11
New Harmony, Houston Co., Ala.	A. J. Granger, Granger, Ala.....	J. M. Murdock....	2	2	3			4	1	2	50

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TABLE OF FINANCES.

CHURCHES.	Paid for Minutes	For Asso. Purp's.	Paid Pastor.	Value of Church.	Value of Property
Howard's Grove,	\$2 00	\$1 00	\$	\$200 00	\$ 20 00
Ardilla	50	50		75 00	
Hickory Grove:.....	1 50	1 50		500 00	50 00
New Home.....	75	75	7 75		
Prospect.....	1 50	1 50			30 00
Springfield.....	1 50	1 00			
Pilchia Pond.....	2 00			25 00	25 00
Rocky Grove.....	1 00	1 00		100 00	50 00
Union Spring.....	1 55	50		50 00	25 00
New Pilgrim.....	75	75		250 00	15 00
Damascus.....	1 00	1 00	8 20		
New Harmony.....	1 25	75			