

96.05

MINUTES

OF THE

Thirty Eighth Annual Session

OF THE

The State Line Free Will Baptist Association

96.5

MET WITH

New Harmony Church

HOUSTON COUNTY, ALABAMA, OCTOBER 11-12th, 1923

OFFICERS

REV. JEFFERSON D. STEPHENS, Moderator Marianna, Fla.
J. W. D. STEPHENS, Clerk Bascom, Fla.
R. B. ROBINSON, Treasurer Gordon, Ala.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

J. R. Adams, Ashford, Ala.; A. M. Kirkland, Malone, Fla.; D. T. Guy, L. C. Mixon, Geneva, Ala.; J. J. Hatcher, Bascom, Fla.

HOME MISSION BOARD

Jefferson D. Stephens, Marianna, Fla.; J. C. Howell, Dothan, Ala.; R. G. Hatcher, Bascom, Fla.; W. S. Cook, Pansy, Ala.; G. W. Cherry, Dothan, Ala.

The next session meets with Corinth Church, Dale, County, Alabama., on Thursday at 11 o'clock before the second Sunday in October, 1924. Located six miles Northwest of Midland City, Ala.

PROCEEDINGS

The State Line Free Will Baptist Association met with New Harmony Church, Houston County, Ala., in its Thirty-eighth Annual Session, Thursday, October 11, 1923.

Introductory services by Rev. Jefferson D. Stephens, Subject: "Paul and Heaven." Text 2 Cor. 1:2; Acts 9:1-4, 9:15-16, 9:26-27.

Dismissed one hour and 15 minutes for dinner.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The body was called to order by Rev. G. W. Cherry the moderator being present.

After prayer by Rev. J. G. Harris the Moderator read a portion of 118 Psalm. Prayer by Rev. R. L. Hunter.

Invited visiting brethren to seat with us.

Called for letters from different churches.

The Moderator appointed Jefferson D. Stephens and J. C. Howell to read the letters.

NAMES OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

New Pilgrim—J. S. Hunter.

East Pittman—W. H. Busby

Springfield—W. J. Griffin, J. A. Cornes, E. Rabon.

Magnolia—G. R. Dunlap, J. C. Jones, Sisters G. R. Dunlap, J. C. Jones, and C. A. Lewis.

Freewill's Rest—M. J. Mercer.

Hickory Grove—J. J. Hatcher, C. B. Green, R. G. Hatcher, R. L. Oswald, Joe Johnson, T. J. Miller, J. W. Ditty, E. W. Burdeshaw, D. J. Johnson, R. B. Robinson, Albert Johnson, R. D. Hatcher.

New Harmony—A. J. Granger, James Calloway, James Granger.

Long Branch—J. T. Spears.

Pleasant Home—W. A. Clark, J. T. Eubanks, D. R. Hicks, D. W. Owens.

New Hope—C. R. G. Kirkland, Daniel Best, Sister Nancy Best.

Corinth—A. J. Benefield, Bascom Andrews.

Rocky Grove—John Daniels, Addis Robinson, G. C. Hall, W. C. Robinson.

Spring Hill—H. D. Robinson.

Howard's Grove—E. S. Jones, J. E. Terry, B. M. McCord, D. H. Sowell, S. P. Adams, Russell Sowell.

Union Springs—S. E. Anglin, W. H. Jenkins, Sister W. H. Jenkins.

Shiloh—W. G. Odom, W. J. Smith.

Happy Hour—Sidney Strickland, Vernie Shiver.

Prospect—J. S. Conner, C. L. Hays, J. M. Davis, J. L. Battle.

Pleasant Ridge—by letter.

New Life—Travis Evans.

By motion the letters were received and adopted.

CALL FOR PETITIONARY LETTERS

Elected Moderator and Clerk. Rev. Jefferson D. Stephens, was elected Moderator and J. W. D. Stephens, re-elected clerk.

The Moderator made a few remarks after which the body humbled in prayer by Rev. G. W. Cherry.

CALLED CORRESPONDENTS FROM SISTER ASSOCIATIONS

The following brethren were received:

Salem—Rev. J. C. Eldridge, Rev. H. J. Mercer, J. F. Fillingim.

Liberty—W. M. Calloway, S. E. Carrol, C. I. Wells M. L. Hall, J. W. Barefoot.

Southeastern—J. L. Calloway.

Midway—J. G. Harris, S. Eley.

The body extended right hand of fellowship.

The following committees were appointed.

Divine Services—D. T. Guy, J. W. Ditty, M. J. Mercer, James Calloway.

State of Churches and Character of Ministers—J. T. Eubanks, Daniel Best, John Daniels, Addis Robinson, J. D. Berry, B. M. McCord.

Documents—W. S. Cook, W. H. Busby, W. H. Jenkins, E. Rabon, J. F. Fillingim, J. C. Howell.

Education—R. L. Hunter, W. J. Griffin, G. R. Dunlap, J. C. Jones, H. J. Mercer, W. M. Calloway.

Home Missions—J. C. Howell, R. G. Hatcher, A. J. Granger, C. R. G. Kirkland, A. J. Benefield, H. D. Robinson, S. E. Carrol, C. I. Wells.

Nominations—G. W. Cherry, J. S. Hunter, J. A. Carnes, Joe Johnson, Sister G. R. Dunlap.

Suggestions—R. G. Hatcher, J. T. Spears, E. S. Jones, S. P. Adams, Sidney Strickland, J. S. Conner, M. L. Hall.

Sundays Schools—J. M. Murdock, J. L. Battle, W. J. Smith, Vernie Shiver, J. J. Hatcher, C. B. Green, J. G. Harris, J. W. Barefoot.

Temperance—J. C. Ingram, T. J. Miller, S. Eley, J. C. Eldridge, D. J. Johnson, James Granger, James Calloway, Bascom Andrews, Sister J. C. Jones and Nancy Best.

Finance—W. H. Jenkins, J. G. Harris, D. H. Sowell, C. I. Wells, G. C. Hall, R. B. Robinson, E. W. Burdeshaw, R. L. Oswald.

Obituaries—C. B. Green, J. C. Jones, W. A. Clark, D. R. Hicks, W. G. Odom, W. C. Robinson, Russell Sowell, S. E. Anglin, J. M. Davis.

By motion adjourn until 9 o'clock Friday morning
Prayer by Rev. G. W. Cherry, Benediction by Rev. J. L. Tedder.

FRIDAY MORNING

The body was called to order and the Modertator read Heb. 6 chapter and 23rd Psalm.

Prayer.

Called Roll and read decorum.

Appointed correspondents to sister associations to Southeastern. W. S. Cook, J. T. Eubanks, G. W. Cherry.

To Midway—G. W. Cherry, J. L. Tedder.

To Liberty—W. A. Clark, D. R. Hicks, J. C. Howell.

To Salem—J. M. Murdock, G. W. Cherry, Jefferson D. Stephens.

To Union Hill—J. T. Eubanks, J. M. Murdock.

CALL FOR REPORTS

Report on Documents read and adopted.

Report on State of Churches and Character of Ministers read and adopted.

Report on Obituaries read and adopted.

Report on Temperance read and adopted.

Report on Nominations read and adopted.

Report on Suggestions read and adopted.

Report on Sunday Schools read and adopted.

Report on Home Missions read and adopted.

The Chairman of Home Mission Board made report of years work.

On motion adopted.

Dismissed for 11 o'clock preaching and dinner. Rev. J. G. Harris, preached Text "Will a Man Rob God."

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The body was called to order and the Moderator read 6th chapter Romans.

Prayer by Rev. C. I. Wells.

A short talk by Rev. J. C. Eldridge.

Report on Education read and adopted.

Report on Finance read and adopted.

Treasurer's report read and adopted.

Call for report of Executive Committee. No report made.

MISCELLANEOUS

By motion the regular order of business was suspended and the following officers were re-elected by acclamation:

Executive Committee—J. R. Adams, A. M. Kirkland, D. T. Guy, L. C. Mixon, J. J. Hatcher.

Home Mission Board—Jefferson D. Stephens, J. C. Howell, R. G. Hatcher, W. S. Cook, G. W. Cherry.

Treasurer—R. B. Robinson.

Reports of Rev. J. M. Murdock and Rev. J. L. Tedder of their years work was adopted and ordered published.

By motion pay Clerk \$12.00.

On motion pay expenses of Rev. J. G. Harris and Rev. S. Eley from Midway Association. Paid Rev. J. G. Harris \$5.00. Paid Rev. S. Eley \$2.31.

On motion of R. B. Robinson tender thanks to New Harmony and community for their kind hospitality shown during our session.

On motion of G. W. Cherry that we be represented in General Conference, and pay required entrance fee of \$10.00.

Rev. G. W. Cherry was elected delegate.

Rev. Jefferson D. Stephens was elected alternate.

On motion of G. W. Cherry send Ayden College \$25.00.

On motion of J. T. Eubanks adjourn.

Took parting hand. The next session meets with Corinth Church on Thursday at 11 o'clock, before second Sunday in October 1924.

Prayer by Rev. S. Eley.

REV. JEFFERSON D. STEPHENS, Moderator
J. W. D. STEPHENS, Clerk.

DIVINE SERVICES

We the committee appoint Bro. J. C. Eldridge to preach tonight and Bro. J. G. Harris to preach tomorrow at 11 o'clock.

D. T. GUY, Chairman.

STATE OF CHURCHES AND CHARACTER OF MINISTERS

We your committee beg leave to make the following report to-wit: We find that the churches are in very good standing so far as we can learn. We find some members that hold malice against each other, they have not the right spirit in their hearts. Deacons and church go to work with the spirit of God and get right with God. Churches work with the spirit in all things. We ask that no church license a man to preach that will hurt the church. Look well to take care of the church; look well to see if he has the spirit and if his tongue is unruly.

We find that all Ministers are in good standing as far as we can learn. We ask that no preacher send an appointment to preach and not fill it by some one. It hurts.

J. T. EUBANKS, Chairman

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS

We your committee on Documents beg leave to submit the following report to-wit: We urge that all of our churches have a Sunday School and urge that they use the Free Will Baptist Literature. We also urge that the Superintendent introduce the Free Will Baptist paper which is printed at Ayden, N. C.

W. S. COOK, Chairman

REPORT ON EDUCATION

We your Committee on Education submit the following report to-wit: We urge that our Association adopt some plan to raise educational funds to be used for the purpose of educating our young ministers as they come into our Association. We see the need of an educated ministry and why don't we do something along that line? We can do it and in just a few years we will be glad that we did it.

Respectfully submitted.

R. L. HUNTER, Chairman.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS

We your committee on Home Missions beg leave to report. Asking this body to make it a rule that each church appoint a Home Mission Committee and the Chairman of that Committee be the Treasurer. The purpose of this committee will be to raise the needed funds for each church to support the Home Mission Board. We also urge the pastors of the several churches to see that these Mission committees are organized in each church at once, also that the Chairman of these committees get in touch with the Chairman of the Home Mission Board.

Respectfully Submitted,
J. C. HOWELL, Chairman

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS

We your committee on Nominations submit the following report: We nominate Corinth church six miles north west of Midland City for the next session. Also we nominate Rev. J. L. Tedder to preach the Introductory sermon and Rev. J. C. Ingram to close.

J. S. HUNTER, Chairman.

REPORT ON SUGGESTIONS

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

We suggest that all of the churches in this association use our literature for the Sunday School work, thereby increasing the pure study of God's word.

We further suggest that each minister of the association in care of churches lecture at least twice a year in the subject of Missions thereby creating a greater spirit of giving.

We suggest further that the pastors in charge of churches see to it that in their churches, good live, Sunday Schools and prayer services are established, which we believe to be the only way to restore the almost lost interest in the word of God and prayer.

We suggest that each member of the association respond to the appeals of the Home Mission Board when called upon to send the Gospel to isolated places and broken-down churches or elsewhere, as our duty and God calls us to do. Brethern, we suggest that we

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rally to the support of the Home Mission Board, or
abolish it.

We suggest that each church read, and explain,
the Articles of Faith at least once a year, and we fur-
ther suggest that the members of the association live
closer and do more of their religious duty in the next
associational year.

We further suggest that each church endeavor to
get their members to subscribe at least \$1.00 for each
woman, and \$2.00 for each man member, for the sup-
port of the ministry, and twenty five cents for each
woman, and fifty cents for each man for the support of
the Home Mission work.

That evangelists be put in the field for the pur-
pose of agitating the importance of Educational mis-
sions doctrines and Sunday Schools, and for a closer
walk with Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

R. G. HATCHER, Chairman

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS

We your committee on Sabbath Schools make the
following report to-wit:

We find that some of our churches are neglecting
their Sunday Schools and thereby neglecting the most
needed cause of Christ, for each child should be in-
terested in the way of life each Sabbath, so we urge
each church to be particular in whom they get for
officers. By getting good officers you will find it is
the life and prosperity of any Sunday School.

We also urge that each parent go to Sunday
School and help their children in the good work. By
this we will lead our children a way from the envire-
ments of today of which so great.

Respectfully

J. M. Merdock.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE

We the Committee on Temperance render our re-
port as follows: The Bible teaches to be ever temper-
ate in all things. It is one of the Christian virtues men-
tioned in the Bible. We ask our people to be temperate
in speech and all things. And in regard to strong drink

to day abstain from it as a beverage. Solamon says wine is a mocker and strong drink is raging and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

J. C. INGRAM, Chairman.

REPORT ON OBITUARIES

We your Committee on Obituaries beg leave to make our report. There have been 22 deaths in our association this year and we recommend that their obituaries be printed in our minutes.

Respectfully,

C. B. GREEN Chairman.

REPORT ON FINANCE

We your committee beg leave to make the following report to wit as follows:

We find for associational purposes	\$26.80
Minutes	28.44
Home Mission	20.01
Education	5.25
TOTAL	\$80.50

TREASURER'S REPORT 1923

Amount brought forward	
For Mission	\$43.41
For Associational purposes	19.27
For Education	1.00
Total amount brought forward	\$63.68
Amount received 1922.	
For minutes	\$26.75
For Associational purposes	22.50
For Mission	4.78
For Education	2.00
Total amount received	\$56.03
Total amount on hand	\$121.42

AMOUNT PAYED OUT 1922

For Church service	\$12.00
For minutes	45.00
For Mission to J. D. Stephens	10.00
Payed Elg.	3.80
Total amount payed out	\$70.80

Which leaves a balance on hand	
For Mission -----	\$38.19
For Associational purposes -----	9.43
For Education -----	3.00
Total amount on hand -----	\$50.62
R. B. ROBINSON, Gordon, Ala.	

REPORT ON CHAIRMAN HOME MISSION BOARD

To the State Line Free Will Baptist Association, as Chairman of the Home Mission Board, I herewith submit my report for the past Associational year:

I have received the following amounts.

From Jesse Hatcher -----	\$ 5.00
From J. W. D. Stephens -----	5.00
Berry Robinson -----	1.00
A. J. Benefield -----	2.00
A. W. Kirkland -----	1.00
Rev. G. W. Cherry (member of Board) -----	5.00
J. W. Ditty -----	.50
J. C. Helms -----	.25
J. C. Howell (Treas of Board) -----	17.19
R. B. Robinson (Treas. Asso.) -----	10.00
Miss R. M. Harper -----	1.00
R. L. Cheshire -----	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Adams -----	1.00
Alvin and G. L. Thurston -----	2.00
E. S. Jones -----	2.00
TOTAL -----	\$53.94

I have paid out the following amounts

First statement sent out (postage) -----	\$.96
Requests for list of members (Postage) -----	.36
Call meeting Home M. Bd. (Postage) -----	.08
Letter to R. G. Hatcher (mem. Bd.) postage --	.02
Letter to Rev. W. S. Cook (mem. bd.) postage --	.02
Letter to A. W. Pelham (postage) -----	.02
List of Ref. to mem bd. (postage) -----	.08
2nd request for list of members (postage) -----	.24
Paid for 2,000 stamped envelopes -----	23.84
Letter to J. C. Howell (mem. bd) postage -----	.02
Telegram to J. C. Howell (mem Bd.) -----	.40
Printing 2,000 circular letters -----	12.00
500 extra envelops for return -----	1.65
500 extra envelops for return -----	1.65
R. G. Hatcher, for trip to Bd. Meeting -----	3.00

Letter to R. B. Robinson -----	.02
3d. request for list of members (postage) ----	.22
Letter to R. G. Hatcher mem. Bd. (postage) --	.02

TOTAL -----	\$44.60
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Balance in hand of Chairman -----	9.34
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Including the sending and inclosed envelopes, the Chairman has mailed from headquarters of the Board over 4,400 pieces during the past Associational year.

One meeting of the Board has been held during the year, at which meeting, which was held at Dothan, Ala., was present, the Chairman, Jefferson D. Stephens; the Secretary, J. C. Howell, Rev. G. W. Cherry, and R. C. Hatcher.

Respectfully submitted

JEFFERSON D. STEPHENS

Chairman Home Mission Board, State Line Free Will Baptist Association.

Ashford, Ala. Oct. 10th, 1923

Traveled miles -----	600
Preached sermons -----	72
Burial services -----	7
Married couples -----	6
Received members -----	40
Baptised -----	23
Received -----	\$47
Expenses -----	\$12

J. M. MURDOCK

REPORT OF J. L. TEDDER

Received 104 members

Preached 184 sermons.

Traveled 3177 miles

Received \$409.32.

Attended to three burial services.

Married five couples.

Traveling expenses \$201.75.

The Lord has wonderfully blessed me in my work.

Respectfully

J. L. TEDDER

IN MEMORY OF OUR DEAD

Sacred to the memory of our Sister Eliza Wheeler who departed this life Oct. 1922. She had been a member with us at Rocky Grove for a number of years. She leaves a husband and 8 children and a host of friends to mourn her lost.

Written by Clerk W. C. ROBINSON

In loving memory of our beloved Sister Elizabeth Sexton who departed this life July 1923. She has been a member with us at Rock Grove for a number of years. She was faithful to her church. We long to meet her with the unnumberable host around the throne of God.

Written by Clerk W. C. ROBINSON

In sacred member of our beloved Bro. J. C. Baxter who departed this life Dec. 1922. He leaves a wife and 6 children and a host of friends to mourn his death. He had been a member with us at Rocky Grove for a number of years, and we hope to meet him in the great beyond where all is peace and love.

Written by Clerk W. C. ROBINSON

In sacred memory of our beloved Sister Edna Kirkland departed this life Sept. 24, 1923. She was a member with us at Rocky Grove in good standing. She leaves a husband and three children and a host of relatives and friends to mourn her absence. Let us all strive to meet her in glory where there will be no night no sickness, no dying and no more sad parting.

Written by Clerk W. C. ROBINSON

In loving memory of Sister Mary Howell. She departed this life March 26, 1923. She was a member of New Hope. She had been a faithful member for many years. She left one daughter and several great grand children and 2 grand children. She was about 81 years old at her death. She was buried at Pleasant Home Church, Brother Lee Mixon held funeral services. We hope our loss is her eternal gain. Gone but not forgotten.

Written by her niece, NANCY BEST

In memory of Bro. Mose Kirkland. Departed this life Dec. 1922. He was a member of New Hope church. He was about 92 years old and a faithful member.

Was the first Clerk of New Hope, and was loved by all who knew him. Gone but not forgotten.

Written by a friend.

In Sacred memory of Brother Poney Weed who passed this life Saturday, Oct. 6, 1923. Brother Weed had been in ill health for several years but was only confined to his bed but one week less one day. Bro. Weed first belonged to the Methodist church for a number of years but 8 years by letter joined the Free Will at Magnolia. Brother Weed was also a member of the Masonic order for 25 years. Brother Weed was a loving Father and husband and made many friends with those who met his pathway. Brother Weed lived to a ripe old age. Had he lived until Dec. 1923 he would have been seventy (70) years old. He leaves a wife one son and five daughters, living and a host of grand children and many more friends to mourn his untimely end. His remains was laid to rest at Magnolia church. Weep not dear loved ones for him,

But only feel and hope that our loss is his eternal gain,
And strive to meet him in a better world.
Where there will be no more good byes.

Although the writer cannot find words with which to express his sympathy.

Written by a brother, I hope in Christ,
A. W. HICKMAN.

In sacred to the memory of Bro. G. L. Dickens who departed this life last Spring. He had been a member of Hickory Grove for several years. He leaves a wife and children and other relatives and friends to mourn their loss. Peace be to him.

Sacred to the memory of sister Roberta Chandler who departed this life Dec. 19, 1922. She had been a member with us at Hickory Grove for 17 years. She leaves a husband and children besides other relatives and friends to mourn their loss. Peace be to her.

Sacred to the memory of our Bro. A. Holland who departed this life May 5th, 1923. He had been a member with us at Hickory Grove for a number of years. He believed in keeping up the church and Sunday school. He leaves a number of relatives and friends to mourn their loss. Peace be to him.

CONSTITUTION

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

Article 2. Each church shall be entitled to two delegates for every twenty-five members and one delegate for the fractional part of twenty-five. Providing any church having less than twenty-five members, it shall be entitled to two delegates.

Article 3. The delegates from each church shall bear a letter certifying their election, to which shall be subjoined a table stating the number baptized, received by confession of faith, by letter, by restoration, dismissed by letter, excluded or died within last Associational year, amount of all contributions, the time of the monthly meeting, the membership, ordained and licentiated ministers with their postoffice, and signed by the pastor and clerk of the church with their postoffice.

Article 4. Newly constituted, or other churches, desiring admission into this union shall petition by delegation 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.

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

Article 6. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Executive Committee and Home Mission Board. The Executive Committee and Home Mission Board shall be composed of five members each.

Article 7. The Association shall meet annually, according to adjournment, and shall have power to transact all business pertaining to the general good of the body.

Article 8. The constitution may be altered or amended by a majority of the delegates present during any session.

DECORUM

Article 1. The Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, Executive Committee and Home Mission Board shall be elected by ballot annually.

Article 2. Moderator shall preside over the deliberations of Association when in session, preserve order and submit motions and other matters. He shall have the same right to vote as any other member, and, provided the chair is occupied, the right to speech.

Article 3. Every motion receiving a second shall be submitted to the body unless withdrawn.

Article 4. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at a time and such speaker shall address the Moderator and shall not be interrupted while speaking except by the Moderator, and then only when he departs from the subject under debate. Provided, however, any brother may address the Moderator to a point of order.

Article 5. The Clerk shall record the proceedings of the body when in session and superintend the publication of the same and do all other writing pertaining to business of the Association. He shall also preserve a file of the minutes of the Association, which he shall deliver to his successor in office.

Article 6. The Treasurer shall keep a correct account of all funds received and disbursed by him, showing balance, if any, on hand. He shall only pay out money on the order of the Association or the Executive Committee.

Article 7. The Executive Committee shall have power to execute the laws and regulations of the Association when the Association is not in session, and to make rules for their government, provided such rules are not repugnant to the Constitution or Decorum of the Association.

Article 8. It shall be the duty of the Home Mission Board to work for church extension and church preservation, for which purpose they shall draw on the Executive Committee and various churches for the necessary funds when the Association is not in session. The Board makes rules and regulations for their own government that are not in conflict with the Constitution or Decorum of the Association.

Article 9. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Article 12.—This Decorum may be altered or amended by a majority of the delegates present during any session.

CHURCH DECORUM

1. The church may choose a pastor annually at the last regular conference in 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 they may deem it proper to keep up 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 suitable brother shall be appointed to sit in his place.

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

5. There shall be two or more deacons in the church whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and disbursement of the contributions made by the church for the pastor, etc, and to distribute the bread and wine in the Administration of the Lord's Supper.

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

7. 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.

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

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

10. The church shall hold a two-day meeting monthly embracing Saturday and the Lord's Day following, the first of which shall be the regular time of conference.

11. 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 spiritual manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline, and the rule of holy living.

12. Any church 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 (Art. 10) shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for neglect, but the church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.

13. Conference after prayer and divine service shall be opened and conducted as follows: (1) Inviting brethren to seats. (2) Opening door of church for the reception of members. (3) Calling for the reading of the minutes of the last conference. (4) Calling for Absentees. (5) Acknowledgements. (6) For reference or deferred business. (7) For new matters of dealing which are to come before the body. (8) For miscellaneous business.

14. Visiting brethren, as helps called from sister churches shall be allowed to speak and make motions but not allowed to vote.

15. Any orderly member of the Baptist church 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 other sister church. All other members must join by letter or baptism.

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

17. When the moderator calls for the 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 cite each of them to the next conference.

18. 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. When a witness not a member of the 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?"

20. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgement shall be minuted in the church book.

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

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

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

25. 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 request may be exempted from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

26. No member shall leave the house during conference without sufficient cause, nor engage in conversation or whispering without being subject to be called to order by the Moderator.

27. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling: Those who wish to speak must rise to their feet and address the moderator and keep to the point in the debate.

28. 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.

29. When the moderator speaks in debate he must nominate some brother in his stead.

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

31. It shall be the duty of each church to attend to the administration of the Lord's Supper and feet washing, at least once a year.

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

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

34. The Decorum may be amended or altered by the 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. 1:7; Isaiah 45:22; St. John 17:2.

2. THE HOLY SCRIPTURES—We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God and binding on all as our infallible rule of faith and practice.—II. Tim. 3:16; Rom. 16:4 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, united in person the Messiah and the mediator for the redemption of the world.—Luke 2:4-12 inclusive; Matt. 1:18-21.

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.—Rom. 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 falling 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; 1:28, 5:1, and 9:6; Rom. 8:23; Mark 16:16; Acts. 10:43.

7. 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 whomsoever will may come and partake of the waters of life.—I. Cor. 1:7; Eph. 5:2; Heb. 2:9; Rom. 5:5; Rev. 22:17.

8. OF ELECTION—We believe that God has not fixed the future state of men by any unconditional 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; Duet 11:26-28.

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

10. GOSPEL ORDINANCES—We believe that baptism or the burial of believers in water and the Lord's Supper and Washing of the Saint's feet are or-

dinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel of universal salvation, and to be observed by all true believers. Reference for Baptism: John 3:5 and Rom. 6:4 Reference for the Lord's Supper: Matt. 26:26-28. Reference for washing the Saint's feet: 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 represents 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 general judgment, and when the resurrection takes place the soul and the body will reunite and form an immortal being that the righteous will be received into everlasting happiness and that the wicked driven into everlasting darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.—John 5:29; Act 14:16; Isa. 17; Heb. 9:27.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Organize.
2. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
3. Call for letters from the different churches.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Elect officers.
6. Call for correspondence from sister Associations.
7. Appoint Committees.
8. Call the roll and read Decorum.
9. Appoint Correspondents to sister Associations.
10. Call for report of committees.
11. Call for Treasurer's report.
12. Call for miscellaneous business.
13. Adjournment.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

G. W. Cherry, Prospect, Dothan, Ala.; W. S. Cook, Union Springs, Pansy, Ala.; W. T. Carter, Hickory Grove, Crosby, Ala.; G. W. Nobles, New Haromny, Dothan, Ala.; A. M. Kirkland, New Hope, Malone, Fla.; A. L. Granger, New Life, Grangeburg, Ala.; R. L. Hunter, New Pilgrim, Columbia, Ala.; J. C. Ingram, Pleasant Home, Ashford, Ala.; J. M. Murdock, Howard Grove, Ashford, Ala.; G. W. Oliff, Howard Grove, Ashford, Ala.; J. D. Pearce, New Harmony, Cottonwood, Ala.; C. G. Ray, New Harmony, Cottonwood, Ala.; J. D. Stephens, Hickory Grove, Marianna, Fla.; Joseph Whitaker, Howard Grove, Ashford, Ala.; J. A. Widner, Springfield, Cedar Springs, Ga.; J. D. Callo-way, New Harmony, Marianna, Fla.; L. C. Mixon, Pleasant Home, Geneva, Ala.; J. D. Berry, East Pittman, Black, Ala.; W. W. Tremontana, East Pittman, Graceville, Fla.; W. H. Banks, Sneads, Fla.; J. L. Tedder, Prospect, Webb, Ala.

LICENTIATES—A. B. Radney, Prospect, Webb, Ala.; Otis A. Sellers, New Harmony, Cottonwood, Ala.; C. A. Lewis, Magnolia, Dothan, Ala.; J. S. Hunter, New Pilgrim, Columbia, Ala.; E. C. Mims, Pleasant Home, Black, Ala.

STATISTICS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The State Line Free Will Baptist Association was organized at Howard Grove Church, Nov. 20, 1886.

Year	Moderator	Clerk	Church	Mem.
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	448
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	Free Will Rest	803
1901—	Calvin Dykes	J. W. D. Stephens	Antioch	916
1902—	Calvin Dykes	J. W. D. Stephens	Union Springs	947
1903—	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	Hickory Grove	786
1904—	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	Howard Grove	786
1905—	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	New Pilgrim	745
1906—	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	Springfield	958
1907—	R. L. Hunter	J. W. D. Stephens	Rocky Grove	1099
1908—	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	Pleasant Home	1199
1909—	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	Free Will Rest	1315
1910—	D. L. Chandler	J. W. D. Stephens	Silver Run	1365
1911—	D. L. Chandler	J. W. D. Stephens	New Life	1442
1912—	D. L. Chandler	J. W. D. Stephens	Pittman Creek	1477
1913—	J. M. Murdock	J. W. D. Stephens	Spring Hill	1462
1914—	G. W. Cherry	J. W. D. Stephens	Union Springs	1553
1915—	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	Rickory grove	1721
1916—	W. S. Cook	J. W. D. Stephens	Rock Grove	1611
1917—	W. S. Cook	J. W. D. Stephens	Long Branch	1715
1918—	W. S. Cook	J. W. D. Stephens	Magnolia	1456
1919—	W. S. Cook	J. W. D. Stephens	New Hope	1646
1920—	G. W. Cherry	J. W. D. Stephens	Prospect	1804
1921—	G. W. Cherry	J. W. D. Stephens	Howard Grove	2004
1922—	G. W. Cherry	J. W. D. Stephens	Pleasant Home	2043
1923—	J. D. Stephens	J. W. D. Stephens	New Harmony	2039

STATISTICAL TABLE 1923

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS AND POSTOFFICES	INCREASED				Decreased			Membership	Meeting Day	Associational Purposes	Minutes	Missions	Paid Pastor	Value of Church Building	Value of Other Property	Education	No. in S. S.	SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS AND POST OFFICES
			Baptism	Confession	Letters	Restoration	Letter	Expulsion	Death											
Corinth -----	J. C. Ingram -----	A. J. Benefield, Midland City, Ala. -----	14	2						27	3	\$ 1.50	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$30.00	\$600.00	\$ 50.00		90	J. Roberson, Midland City, Ala.
East Pittman -----	L. C. Mixon -----	J. D. Sowell Black Ala. -----	27					8		139	1	1.65	1.50			100.00	50.00			
Free Will's Rest -----	J. L. Tedder -----	Johnnie Mooneyham, Grand Ridge, Fla. -----	6	1	3			5	2	102	4	2.00	1.50		79.32	500.00	150.00			
Happy Hour -----	W. S. Cook -----	A. W. Pelham, Crosby, Ala. -----	9	4	1	1				25	1	1.00	1.00	.50	10.90		53.00		26	R. J. Pelham, Crosby, Ala.
Hickory Grove -----	S. Eley -----	J. W. D. Stephens, Bascom, Fla. -----	35			1			3	249	4	1.50	2.50	.30	122.40	500.00	200.00		65	J. R. Long, Bascom, Fla.
Howards Grove -----	J. C. Eldridge -----	J. R. Adams, Ashford, Ala. -----	10	1	2		5	6	1	305	3	2.00	3.00		112.00	1000.00	200.00		76	H. O. Guy, Ashford, Ala.
Long Branch -----	S. M. Tindell -----	G. L. Thurstan, Coffee Springs, Ala. -----					8			76	1	1.00	1.00		17.50	300.00	50.00		34	G. L. Thurstan, Coffee Springs, Ala.
Magnolia -----	J. G. Harris -----	J. C. Jones, Midland City, Ala. -----			3				1	109	2	3.50	1.62	3.06	207.50	1000.00	200.00	5.25		
New Harmony -----	C. J. Wells -----	A. J. Granger Cottonwood, Ala. -----		1	1		3		2	182	2	2.00	2.00		52.48	500.00	100.00		65	J. B. Strickland, Cottonwood, Ala.
New Hope -----	R. L. Hunter -----	C. R. C. Kirkland, Midland City, Ala. -----							2	30	3	1.00	1.00	.45						
New Life -----		Represented by delegate only -----																		
New Pilgrim -----	G. W. Cherry -----	R. W. Conner, Columbia, Ala -----	5		1		1		1	38	4	.75	.75			500.00	25.00		30	J. S. Hunter, Columbia, Ala.
Pleasant Home -----	L. C. Mixon -----	J. H. Numan, Geneva, Ala. -----	15		11		1		3	136	3	1.50	1.50	1.00	26.00	500.00	150.00		74	D. R. Hicks, Geneva, Ala.
Pleasant Ridge -----	S. M. Tindell -----	J. T. Hall, Marianna, Fla. -----	2				2			35	4	.55	1.00			50.00	20.00			
Prospect -----	J. M. Murdock -----	Chester G. Allen, Dothan, Ala. -----	12	3	4		3	9	3	172	3	1.50	1.50	1.00		1500.00	200.00			
Rocky Grove -----	H. J. Mercer -----	W. C. Robinson, Greenwood, Fla. -----	15			2	1		4	81	1	.50	1.00			800.00	300.00			
Shiloh -----	J. L. Parker -----	Mc D. Odom, Ashford, Ala. -----	1		1		1			52	3	.75	.75		17.50	75.00	75.00		102	Homer Taylor, Columbia, Ala.
Springfield -----	E. C. Williams -----	S. G. Carter, Webb Ala. -----	13	4	2		3	2		79	2	1.50	1.30	8.75	52.06	700.00	25.00			
Spring Hill -----	R. L. Hunter -----	H. D. Robinson, Gordon, Ala. -----								55	1	1.00	.50			400.00	50.00			
Union Springs -----	G. W. Cherry -----	O. Z. Henderson, Pansy, Ala. -----	2	2			3	2		147	2	1.50	1.50	2.00	24.90	1000.00	300.00			E. J. Henderson, Ashford, Ala.
			162	18	29	4	31	32	21	2039	--	\$26.70	\$27.92	\$20.06	-----	-----	-----	\$525	562	