

Minutes of the 17th anniversary of the Freewill Baptist Tow River Association, held with Liberty Church, Washington County, Tenn August 16th, 1867 and following days. The introductory sermon was delivered by the Rev. Beverly H. Bullman from Proverbs 8th chapter and 4th verse. Unto you o men, I call and my voice is to the sons of man.

After a short recess the delegates convened. Read letters from 2 churches and enrolled their delegates' names.

Baptized	323
By Letter	23
Restored	17
Dismissed	125
Excluded	33
Relations	115
Dead	7
Total	1380
Contributions	\$25.80

1. Appointed Elder Moses Peterson moderator and Elder Wm. B. Woolsey clerk.
2. Invited brethren to seats with us and Elder Wm. Parsons, Elder H.S. Hoile, and C. Taylor took seats.
3. Received newly constituted churches Pleasant Valley, New Liberty, Blue Springs, Ball Creek, Clear Creek, Little Doe River, Holley's Creek.
4. Agree to appoint a Committee or Arrangement – Elders S.D. Cox, W.M. Ramsey, B.H. Buman, Wm. Parsons, N. Honeycutt, Wm. A.T. Butler, Stephen Honeycutt, with the moderator and clerk.
5. Appointed Elders Thomas J. Murphy and C. Taylor committee on Finance.

Adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow. Prayer by N. Honeycutt. Saturday met according to adjournment. Prayer by Elder Jas Bivins.

6. The report of the Committee of Arrangement called for and read. Received and the committee dismissed.
7. The Committee of Finance report - \$25.80.
8. Resolve that we advise each church that they have a well-ordered Sunday school and that each pastor make a return status next association.
9. Report of the Sabbath school at Union Church, N.C. The state of the school is as follows.
 - Lessons recited 40
 - Chapters 87
 - Verses 3,457
 - Volumes Read 120
 - Verses memorized and recited 150

Done by order of the church and school. Elder B.H. Bullman superintendent and Jimmison S. Tweed secretary.

10. Resolve that we adopt a constitution and covenant throughout the association in uniform. Also that the credentials and license read alike.
11. Agree to advise the churches to hold their ministers in subjection to the constitution of the Freewill Baptist Church of Christ.
12. Resolve that the association appoint two traveling preachers, elder B.H. Bullman, and Wm. Ramsey, to visit the destitute churches and settlements and to hold as many protracted meetings as they think advisable. And that the delegates vouch for each church, no more than they are willing to pay themselves, and that they keep a true account of their labors and travel, and that they be paid \$15.00 per month for their labor.

<u>Vouchers</u>	L.W. Ramsey, Jewell Hill	\$5.00
	J.W. Hicks, Mount Zion	\$5.00
	J.N. Johnson, Pleasant Hill	\$10.00
	J. Franks, Big Creek	\$3.00
	Adam Ranking, Holley's Creek	\$5.00
	J. Tweed, Union, N.C.	\$2.50
	R.B. Justice, Rehoboth	\$5.00
	H. Dewitt, Union, Tenn.	\$2.50
	Jas McCurry, Jack's Creek	\$2.00
	W. White, Blue Springs	\$10.00
	M. Sexton, New Liberty	\$5.00
	S.M. Honeycutt, Ball Creek	\$4.00
	Jes Lunceford, Pap Paw	\$2.00
	W.A. T.J. Butler	\$2.00
	John H. Arrwood, Reems Creek	\$2.00

13. Resolve that we as an association discountenance all carnal warfare and if any one of our members volunteers to take up arms, shall be excluded from the church.

Form of a church covenant.

State _____ County _____

Be it known, to whom it may concern, that as individuals we have embodied ourselves together as professed believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, having heretofore been baptized upon a public profession of faith in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost being desirous to live together in a church and Christian relation.

To this we unanimously agree to take the bible containing the Old and New Testament as the only article of faith, and practice and the only bond of union and Christian communion, and the only platform on which we fix our church relations.

Declaring in solemn form that we acknowledge, none but the Lord Jesus Christ, as the head of the church, and the members equally enjoined to have the same care for each other's religious prosperity.

And to help each other in all matters of distress, as far as God in his kind providence may enable us to do. And to the uttermost of our ability, to sustain a faithful ministry, of the gospel, and as a church to be known by the name of _____ agreeing in all things pertaining to church government, to be governed by a majority of the members present in conference.

In testimony whereof we have officially signed this as our government by our chosen presbytery and clerk.

Clerk Name _____

Presbytery's Name _____

Constitution and Rules of Decorum we refer to the first of this book.

Form of credentials

State of _____ County _____

Month 186__ we the Freewill Baptist Church of Christ at _____ now in session.

Be it known, to whom it may concern, that the presbytery have, by these present, have examined our beloved brother _____ and find him acceptable, proceeded to ordain and set him apart by laying on of hand to preach and administer all the ordinances of the gospel of Jesus Christ, wherever God, in his providence, cast his lot.

Signed by the presbytery and a clerk.

Day and date above written.

Clerk _____ Presbytery _____

Name Given

State of _____ County _____

The Freewill Baptist Church of Christ in session at _____ proclaim Christian salvation.

This is to certify that our beloved brother _____ is set at liberty to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ wherever God, in his providence, may cast his lot. Signed by order of the church. _____

Form of a letter to the association.

The Freewill Baptist Church of Christ at _____ to the Tow River Association. Month _____ Day _____ Year 18____. We have chosen and do hereby recommend _____ as our delegates to your body. During the last year we have Baptized _____ By Letter _____ Restored _____ Dismissed _____ Excluded _____ Relations _____ Dead _____ Contributions \$ _____

Ordained ministers

W.A. Butler

B.H. Bullman

L.W. Ramsey

L.N. Adkins

C. Taylor

W.M. Cox

R.B. Justice

N. Honeycutt

S.B. Lowe

With the former Trustees for a seminary for this association to meet Christmas day near Camp Creek, Green County, TN.

Agree that our next association be held with the Jack's Creek Church, NC.