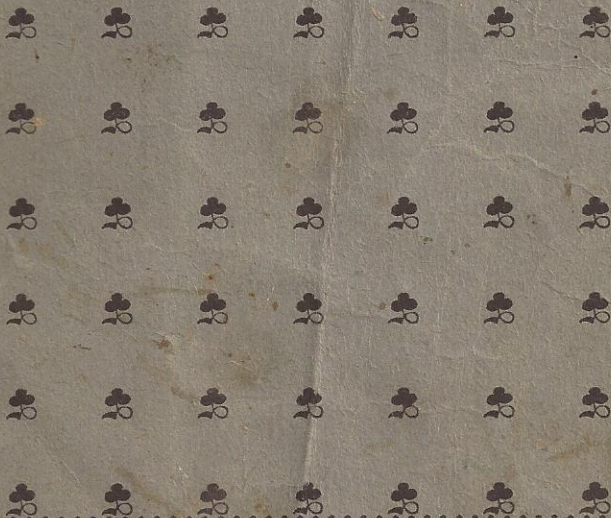




Minutes of the Fifty-
Fourth Annual Ses-
sion of the Toe River
Free Will Baptist :-
Association 1903 :-



MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

TOE RIVER

FREEWILL BAPTIST ASSOCI-
ATION

HELD WITH

SPRING CREEK CHURCH, MITCHELL Co., N. C.,

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1903.

JOHNSON CITY, TENN.:
J. W. CASS' ELECTRIC PRINT.
1903.

PROCEEDINGS.

Representatives of the Toe River Freewill Baptist Association met with the Spring Creek Church, Mitchell County, N. C., at 11:00 o'clock a. m. Thursday, August 13, 1903. The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Rev. A. B. Adams, of Jonesboro, Tenn. Text: Mal. 3rd chapter 14th verse. Then proceeded to elect Bro. S. H. Hopson, moderator and C. E. Brummett, clerk. Then enrolled names of delegates present.

NOTICE.

I am sorry to say that before printing I have got misplaced the scroll on which the names of Ministers and Delegates were enrolled. But there was a large majority of our Ministers present and a very large and interested delegation.

C. E. Brummett.

Thursday 2:30 O'Clock p. m.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Rev. A. B. Adams read Hebrews, 12th chapter, prayer by Bro. D. J. White.

Minutes of the previous session was read and approved. Visiting brethren J. W. Lucus, E. W. Akard, F. M. Horten and Bros. Young, Frye, were seated in the body.

Then proceeded to appoint the several committees as follows:

Committee on pulpit supply: N. Honeycutt, Lemuel Frye and Willson Sheet.

Committee on Investigations: W. L. Young, A. B. Adams and D. M. Bendfield.

Committee on Temperance: S. Street, S. P. Barnett, E. W. Akard.

Committee on Sabbath School: R. P. Gandge, W. L. Young and George Winters, Charles S. Hicks.

Committee on Finance: Tom Price, John Campbell and Jason Honeycutt.

Committee on Obituaries: S. P. Barnett, F. M. Horten, T. H. McCurry.

Committee on Sessions: M. Combs, S. W. Philips, Harmon Hicks, W. H. Calhoun, Jason Honeycutt and W. A. Elliott.

On motion adjourned till 8:00 o'clock Friday.

Preaching by Bro. E. W. Akard.

Friday forenoon session was opened with reading 17th chapter Psalm and prayer by Rev. S. P. Barnett.

The following committees were appointed:

Committee on Education: S. P. Barnett, E. W. Akard and S. Street.

Committee on Home and Foreign Missions: D. J. White, A. B. Adams and W. L. Young.

Committee on Spiritual and General State of Churches: T. H. McCurry, S. P. Barnett and M. Miller.

Special Committee on Obituary Rev. W. H. Brummitt: J. W. Lucus, A. B. Adams and John Campbell.

On motion the report on Temperance was called and after several interesting speeches was adopted.

Resolved that we as a denomination aid and encourage the great temperance work in the home, in the Sabbath School, in the church and at ballot-box.

That we will organize our temperance work throughout the country and try to drive the demon of drunkenness of hell and death from our land. That it may blossom as a rose in the once storm swept and whisky soaked land of ours, for it is indeed the devil's best friend and God's worst enemy. In this great American land for whom Christ died, and our forefathers and fought shed their free patriotic blood, with shoeless feet and breadless haversack they went out from Maine to California to give us a land of the free and a home of the brave. And now in this day of progress, this day when God and men and Angels want to blot out and give to oblivion the darkest page in American history. Can we as a Christian people let the common curse of rum hold eternal sway as supported by our own government. Can we prosper in a government that pays annually

For Intoxicating Liquors.....	\$1,500,000,000.00
For Education	175,000,000.00
For Tobacco	800,000,000.00
For Bread.....	640,000,000.00
For Clothing	350,000,000.00
For Home Missions and all Church Work.....	150,000,000.00
For Foreign Missions....	5,000,000.00

S. STREET, Chairman.

On motion adjourned till Friday at two o'clock p. m.

Fourth session Friday 2 o'clock p. m.

House was called to order. The session opened with reading Isa. 28th chapter and prayer by Rev. A. N. Bendfield.

Minutes of the previous session read and approved.

The report on Education was called and considered, and with some changes adopted.

We, your Committee on Ministerial Education, beg leave to submit the following:

Resolved that we ordain ministers who can stand a reasonable examina-

tion in the ordinary branches of an English education.

S. P. BARNETT, Chairman.

On motion dismissed till 8 o'clock Saturday.

Fifth session Saturday a. m.

Devotional exercises was conducted by Rev. George Bendfield.

Committee on Home and Foreign Missions was read and considered and adopted.

We, your Committee on Home and Foreign Missions, submit the following report:

1st. That stewards be appointed in each church to collect funds for the support of any religious work to be sent to the annual Association for distribution as the body may see fit to dispose of it.

W. L. YOUNG, Chairman.

Resolved that we make application to be annexed to the General Conference and that we send Rev. A. B. Adams to represent us in same.

Committee on Finance reports \$21.86 minute funds.

David Campbell, Chairman.

On motion dismissed until two o'clock p. m.

Sixth session Saturday afternoon was opened with Scriptural reading and prayer by Rev. S. P. Barnett.

Committee on General State of the Churches reports 30 churches in good working condition and 7 on back ground.

S. P. Barnett, Chairman.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools called, considered and after several interesting talks on the subject it was adopted.

We your Committee on Sabbath Schools report: We advise each church of this Association to run a Sabbath School. We further advise that they use our literature where there are Free Baptists. But where they are of different persuasion use union literature. We think that the pastor of each church should see that each church organize a Sabbath School.

W. S. YOUNG,

Chairman.

The following queries came through the hands of the Investigating Committee and were adopted:

1st. Resolved that the Clerk deliver the minutes to the pastors of each church.

2nd. It is not in good keeping with Free Will Baptist usage to hold members of the church in fellowship who hold their letters over one year. Or young ministers who do not attend conference for over twelve months.

3rd. Be it resolved that this body allows no poke suppers nor ice cream suppers in our churches, or otherwise in the church house, if so they will be held amenable in the Annual Conference.

4th. Resolved that the Free Baptist Conference Board be instructed to put into this mountain region a good, consecrated, energetic minister to do a work similar to that of a state agent. That we hereby pledge to such minister a hearty welcome and co-operation and such moral and financial support as we are able to render.

Committee on Session called and report adopted

The next Annual Session to be held with the church at Little Doe beginning Thursday before the Third Sunday in August, 1904.

Elder N. Honeycutt preaches the Introductory sermon and Bro. John Miller his alternate.

Committee on Obituaries reported as follows:

We find that since the last session of this body the following dearly beloved and sadly missed brethren and sisters have departed this life:

Eveline Britt, age about 50 years.

Allen Buchanan, age 77 years, lived a consecrated life.

Dana McInturff, age 17 years, was a member of the church 4 years.

Wm. Miller, age 64 years, was a member of the church 37 years.

Eliza Miller, age 62 years, was a member of the church 40 years.

Spencer Barnett, age 76 years, was a member of the church about 50 years.

J. M. Smith, age 97 years.

S. P. BARNETT, Chairman.

Special Committee on Obituary of Rev. W. H. Brummitt who was the son of W. P. Brummitt. Rev. Wm. H. Brummitt, was born Aug. 11, 1853. He leaves a wife and eight children, a father, three sisters, four brothers and many friends to mourn his loss. He united with the church at Scioto in 1890 and was ordained a preacher of the Gospel May 15, 1898. He was pastor of four churches when he died. He was 49 years, 9 months and 8 days old. He was instantly killed by a falling tree. He remained in the church of his first born until death took him to join the church of first born of God in heaven, he did his duty as a minister he served many churches at a sacrifice of health and means that he might gain souls to Christ and obtained the promise that awaits the final faithful, he stood a hero in defence of the Free Will Baptist doctrine when it was assailed, and he came to the front and defended the cause he perceived to be right. The leading principle of doctrine the worthy brother was always ready to defend where free salvation through Christ. Believed in baptism by immersion, Christian communion and washing the saints' feet. These he so faithfully contended for that we as a body of his survivors were led to success and triumph for which we should let the name of the Rev. W. H. Brummitt have a resting place in our minds. The dear brother has gone never to defend the doctrines any more for us. He has laid down the cross to take up the crown that is laid up in heaven for the final faithful. Our prayers shall be for his widow

and children, may they so live the Christian life that when death shall call them hence they may join hands on the bright celestial shore where there is one eternal day to chant the praises of the lamb of God forever. He often stated while in the pulpit that no difference where his body was found that his soul would be with the angels. He loved his family and brethren but he loved Jesus best of all. He always singing and often said there would be angels singing in heaven when he would get there to walk the gold paved streets forever with the redeemed of earth.

J. W. LUCAS, Chairman.

We insist that the clerks of the churches write their letters after this form:

We, the Church of Christ at have elected of our brethren to represent us in the A. M. our statistics as follows our pastor elected for the ensuing year is

The Moderator tender thanks to the community for their kindness and hospitality during the session.

On motion adjourned until time and place above named.

C. E. BRUMMET,
Clerk.

S. HOPSON,
Moderator.

ROLL OF MINISTERS.

John Arwood,
Moses Miller,
A. N. Bendfield,
W. H. Calloway,
Moses Honeycutt,
W. J. Head,
H. B. Arnett,
George Honeycutt, jr.,
S. P. Barnett,
W. P. Brummet,
T. H. McCourry,
W. L. Young,
D. J. White,
J. M. Ollis,
J. Henson,
Wm. Shepherd,

S. Street,
A. B. Adams,
John Edwards,
S. Hopson,
John Miller,
H. F. Snodgrass,
T. C. Longhorn,
N. Honeycutt,
John Campbell,
Stephen Street,
Geo. Benfield,
M. W. Adams,
Walter Britt,
Calvin Hartley,
Joe Lewis,
Martin Winters,

David Renfro.

LICENTIATES.

John Arwood,
W. B. Vance,

Wm. Frye.

Monroe Miller,
Andrew Hicks.

STATISTICS.

Churches.	Pastors Elect.	Clerks.	Baptised.	By Letter.	Excluded.	Dismissed.	Deceased.	Members.	No. of	Fund.	Minute
Spring Creek	S. Street.	Wm. Forbs.	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	140	80	.....	.....
Burbank	A. N. Bendfield.	J. C. Clark.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	55	.....	.....
Clark's Chapel	John Campbell.	J. F. Franklin.	8	.....	.....	.....	1	61	1 05	.....	.....
Slippery Hill	A. Bendfield.	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	58	45	.....	.....
Elk Falls	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	40	.....	.....
Oak Hill	A. B. Adams.	W. J. Stephens.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36	1 10	.....	.....
Beaver Creek	J. M. Ollis.	W. M. McClellan.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	.....	.....	.....
Cane Creek	J. M. Ollis.	Chas. Pitman.	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	48	60	.....	.....
Scioto	John Campbell.	C. E. Brummet.	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	44	65	.....	.....
Plumtree	W. H. Calloway.	J. M. Jones.	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	35	.....	.....
Morgan Chapel	.....	A. en Peters.	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	74	1 00	.....	.....
Zion	W. A. Arwood.	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	80	.....	.....
Fagan's School House	E. W. Akard.	M. L. Combs.	2	.....	.....	.....	1	59	65	.....	.....
Pigeon Roost	S. P. Barnett.	Marion Barnett.	1	2	.....	.....	.....	71	1 00	.....	.....
Cave Creek	N. Honeycutt.	D. A. Barnett.	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	17	.....	.....	.....
Roan's Chapel	Joseph Honeycutt.	James Campbell.	9	12	39	.....	1	41	61	.....	.....
Shell Creek	S. Hopson.	G. W. Phillips.	.....	1	.....	.....	1	71	1 00	.....	.....
Fairview	.....	Mary Carver.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	55	.....	.....
Mt. Pleasant	M. Miller.	G. W. Winters.	5	.....	.....	.....	1	29	.....	.....	.....
Limestone Cove	W. J. Head.	Hattie Bell.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	.....	.....	.....
Young's Chapel	.....	J. H. Young.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	43	.....	.....	.....
Henson Creek	W. H. Calloway.	H. L. Petmon.	1	1	.....	.....	1	42	46	.....	.....
Garland's Chapel	A. N. Bendfield.	J. M. Garland.	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	36	.....	.....	.....
Little Doe	A. B. Arnett.	H. Street.	3	.....	39	.....	1	44	1 00	.....	.....
Horse Creek	G. Hopson.	S. M. Erwin.	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	65	60	.....	.....
Davis' Chapel	W. H. Calloway.	D. C. Clark.	3	.....	.....	.....	1	22	65	.....	.....
Fork Mountain	.....	Rhudy Rash.	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	39	1 25	.....	.....
Crossmore	.....	Nora Clark.	.....	1	.....	.....	1	43	25	.....	.....
Lost Cove	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75	.....	.....
Honeycutt's Chapel	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	.....	.....

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. The Association shall be composed of delegates chosen and sent from each individual church.

Art. 2. The delegates chosen and sent shall be recommended in a letter from the church to which they belong, and shall include the minister and some of the most able members belonging to the church.

Art. 3. The Association shall elect annually a Moderator and Clerk.

Art. 4. The Rules of Decorum shall be read immediately after the body is organized.

Art. 5. This Association will encourage a sound ministry; such as present Christ as an all-sufficient Savior; having made salvation possible for every human being on the terms of the Gospel, which is freely offered to all.

Art. 6. Any minister in good standing, wheter a delegate or not, may be invited to a seat and take part in the deliberations and have his name enrolled in our minutes.

Art. 7. The Association may appoint such committees as may be necessary for the expedition of business, and every committee appointed to any particular business, shall report their proceedings in writing to the Association while in session, and all reports made by committee may be adopted or rejected by the body.

Art. 8. All queriers regularly presented in the Association by any church shall be attended to.

Art. 9. The Association shall have a book in which shall be recorded an accurate account of all its proceedings.

Art. 10. Any church may become a member of the Association, by making application by letter or delegate, and adopting our articles of faith and church covenant.

Art. 11. The Association may withdraw from any church that becomes disorderly, or refuses to be represented.

Art. 12. There shall be an Associational fund for defraying expenses and charges that may accrue, and for replenishing such, each church may contribute at pleasure.

Art. 13. There shall be a treasurer appointed by the Association whose duty it shall be to have care and account for all money committed to his charge.

Art. 14. The Association use the Freewill Baptist Treatise in full.

Art. 15. Each church shall be allowed one vote for every ten members or fraction thereof.

Art. 16. The Association advises all its churches to commemorate the death and suffering of our Lord at least twice a year.

Art. 17. The Association shall pay its clerk at least \$5 for his services

at each annual meeting.

Art. 18. The Association assumes no higher authority than an advisory council.

RULES OF DECORUM.

Article 1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

Art. 2. There shall be no conversation by the members, one with another, so as to interrupt business while in session.

Art. 3. Every member wishing to speak, shall first raise to his feet and address the Moderator.

Art. 4. No member shall interrupt another while speaking.

Art. 5. We will admit no other title but that of brother while in session.

Art. 6. Every member speaking shall attend to the subject under consideration.

Art. 7. No member shall speak more than three times on one subject.

Art. 8. Every motion made and seconded shall be attended to, unless withdrawn by the person who made it.

Art. 9. No member shall absent himself from the body while in session without leave of the Moderator.

Art. 10. On all motions made, when the vote of the body is taken, a majority shall prevail.

Art. 11. The Moderator shall have the same privilege to speak as any other member, provided the chair is filled.

Art. 12. Any member transgressing the above rules shall be admonished by the Moderator.

ARTICLE OF FAITH.

Article 1. We believe that there is one and only one living and true God, who is in personality the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal and harmonious in every divine perfection.

There is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Jesus Christ, who gave himself a ransom for all to be testified in due time.

1 Timothy 2:5.

Art. 2. The Holy Scripture—We believe that God is the author of the Holy Bible, and its teachings constitute the only infalible doctrine, for rerproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. II Timothy 3:16

Art. 3. Original Apostacy—We believe that Adam was created holy, but by voluntary transgression fell into depravity and consequently in-

volved his posterity in sin.

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was pleasant to the eye, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof and did eat, and gave also to her husband with her, and he did eat. Gen. 3:6.

Art. 4. Free Grace—We believe that the grace of God comprehends all spiritual blessings; that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation; that the Holy Spirit not only reproves the world of sin, but is the means where by sinners are converted and made wise unto salvation. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. Rom. 10:12

Art. 5. Christian Faith—We believe that Christian Faith is belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Redeemer of the world and in the divinity of the Holy Scripture; that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God.

He that believeth in the Son hath everlasting life, but he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God bideth on him. John 3:36.

Art. 6. Repentance—We believe that repentance is sorrow for sin, and the kind of sorrow which produces Godly repentance must be preceded by effectual conviction of sin.

Now I rejoice that ye were made sorrow, but that ye sorrowed to repentance, for ye were sorry after a Godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of, but the sorrow of the world worketh death. 11 Cor. 7:9-10.

Art. 7. Free Agency We believe that the human will is free, and that men have the ability to accept or reject the conditions of salvation as they are revealed in the Holy Scriptures.

He hath showed thee, O man, what is good, and what doth the Lord require of thee but to do justly and love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God. Micah 6: 8.

Art. 8. Perseverance We do not believe, under the Gospel dispensation, any soul is elected to eternal life unconditionally, but that those who by faith persevere to the end will be saved; but it is possible for men who have been converted to make shipwreck of the faith, turn again to sin and be lost.

And Jesus said unto him: No man having put his hands to the plough, and looking back is fit for the kingdom of God. Luke 9: 62.

Art. 9. Good Work—We believe that good works is the result of faith, and not of necessity; that those who have faith will do works of righteousness, while those who have not faith cannot do anything pleasing or acceptable to God.

Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire; wherefore, by their fruit ye shall know them. Mat. 7:19-20.

Art. 10. Christian Baptism—We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost; that baptism cannot be scripturally administered without faith in the subject who receives it.

Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also shall walk in newness of life. Rom. 6: 4.

Art. 11. The Lord's Supper—We believe the 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 service regardless of name or denominational distinction.

But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. 1 Cor. 11:28-29.

Art. 12. Feet Washing—We believe that washing the saints' feet is a command of our Savior, and that his followers ought to practice the same.

If your Lord and Master have washed your feet, ye ought also to wash one another's feet. John 13:14.

Art. 13. The Gospel—We believe it is the duty of all churches to support the Gospel.

Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel. 1 Cor. 9:14.

CHURCH COVENANT.

1. Having given ourselves to the Lord through Jesus Christ, we agree to adopt the Freewill Baptist Faith. We now give ourselves to each other by the help of God.

2. We solemnly covenant before God that we will carefully observe the commandment implied in a Confession of Faith, and in the spirit of meekness rebuke and admonish those who have gone astray, and watch over each other, being careful of each other's reputation, and use our influence to the upbuilding of the church and for the advancement of the cause of Christ, endeavoring to seek the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace, and to confess our faults one to another, and to strengthen those that are weak.

We promise by the help of God that we will faithfully practise family and secret prayer, and strive to cultivate the doctrine of God's revealed

word in the minds of those under our care.

4. We also agree to use our influence for the support of the Gospel and to contribute liberally to aid the ministry according to our several abilities. Also we agree to be liberal with those that are afflicted and needy, and especially those of our own denomination.

5. We also agree to attend the monthly meetings regularly if not providentially hindered, and submit to all ordinances implied in a Profession of Faith.

6. We also agree to abstain from all sinful and vain amusements.

7. We also agree to abstain from all intoxicating liquors and not to use it as a beverage, nor to aid or assist in the manufacture of such nor furnish it to others.

We also agree to encourage Home and Foreign Missions, Education, Sabbath-schools, good morals, and everything that is to the glory of God and to the welfare of men. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, that we may be happily admitted into the kingdom of God, where we can ascribe honor unto the Lamb forever. Amen.