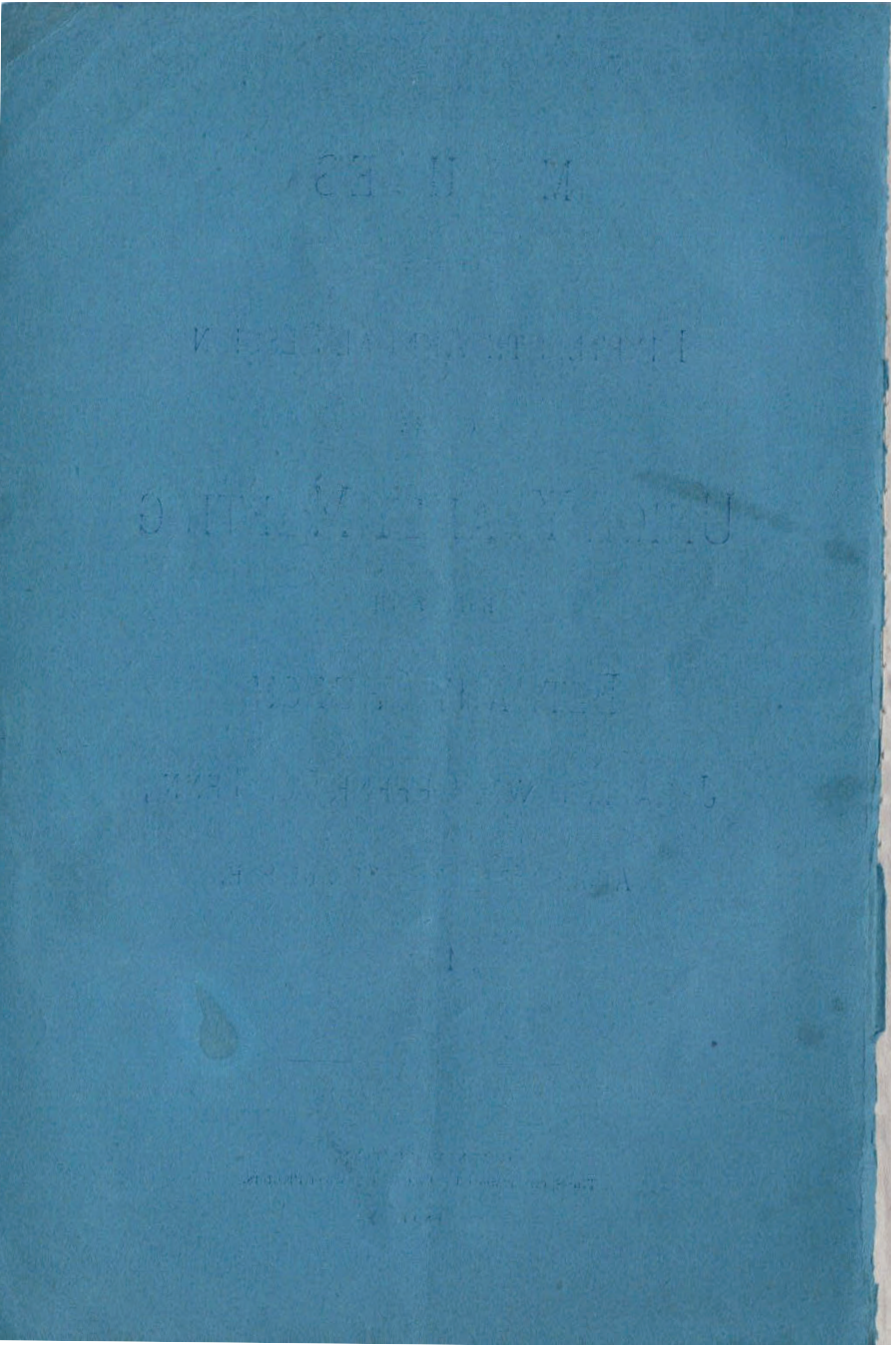


MINUTES
OF THE
NINETEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
UNION YEARLY MEETING
HELD WITH
BETHANY CHURCH,
JERALDSTOWN, GREENE CO., TENN.,
AUGUST 6TH, 7TH, 8TH AND 9TH,
1891.

GREENEVILLE, TENN.:
The Spencer Medicine Co., Steam Power Printers.
1891.



PROCEEDINGS.

According to appointment, Union Yearly Meeting met with Bethany Church, August 6th, 1891, at 11 o'clock a. m. and introductory sermon preached by Rev. W. B. Jones. Text: Luke 15th chapter and 3rd verse. Benediction by Rev. Wm. B. Woolsey. Adjourned to meet at 3 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION, THURSDAY, AUGUST 6th, 1891.

According to appointment, Conference met at 3 p. m. Twenty minutes spent in devotions, conducted by Rev. Wm. B. Woolsey, at close of which the Clerk called the Conference to order and found the following Delegates and Ministers present:

Delegates—W. C. Swatsell, A. Pierce, J. B. Basket, James Lowe, M. Copp, W. R. Jones.

Ministers—W. B. Woolsey, Wm. Blazer, A. H. Burgess, Wm. B. Jones, J. D. Fox, J. A. Brown, R. C. Fry.

Licentiates—J. L. Collier, R. A. Jones.

Delegates seated and Conference organized by electing Rev. Wm. Blazer Moderator and Rev. W. B. Woolsey Assistant Moderator.

Revs. J. W. Bice, R. S. Harris and J. M. Shupe, of Clinch River Yearly Meeting were present and were invited to seats in the Conference.

The following order of business was adopted:

1. Unfinished Business.
2. Reports of Quarterly Meetings, Written.
3. Reports of Quarterly Meetings, Verbal.
4. Business suggested by above reports.
5. Reports of Standing Committees.
6. Receiving reports from corresponding Y. M's.
7. Appointing Committees.
8. Miscellaneous Business.
9. Hearing Reports of Committees.
10. Adjournment.

On motion carried that the order of business be suspended

for this session and that the Moderator appoint the Committees. Accordingly the following committees were announced:

1. On Pulpit Supply—A. Pierce and M. Copp.
2. On Temperance—J. B. Basket, R. C. Fry and M. Copp.
3. On Education—W. B. Woolsey, W. C. Swatsell and James Lowe.
4. Literature—R. C. Fry, W. B. Jones and A. H. Burgess.
5. Sunday Schools—J. B. Basket, J. L. Collier and W. B. Jones.
6. Finance—J. D. Fox, J. A. Brown and R. A. Jones.
7. Obituaries—R. C. Fry and W. B. Woolsey.
8. Next Session—A. H. Burgess, J. D. Fox and R. A. Jones.

On motion carried that the hours for the meeting and appointment of the session of this Conference shall be as follows, viz: Morning Session to meet at 8 o'clock a. m. and adjourn at 10½ o'clock, a. m.; Afternoon Session to meet at 2 p. m. and adjourn at 4½ p. m. and the first 30 minutes of each session to be spent in devotional services.

On motion adjourned for preaching at the stand at 7 p. m. and to stand adjourned until 8 o'clock a. m., Friday, Aug. 7th.
Benediction by Moderator.

Seven p. m. preaching by Rev. J. M. Shupe. Text: Matt. 12th and 7th.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7th, 1891.

According to appointment Conference met at 8 a. m. and spent 30 minutes in devotions, conducted by Moderator, at close of which the Conference resumed business by the Moderator calling up the unfinished business, and found it to consist of a proposed constitutional amendment or change of Article 2 of the Yearly Meeting Constitution.

YEARLY MEETING CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Yearly Meeting shall be called the Union Yearly Meeting and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well disciplined Free-will Baptist Quarterly Meetings as may embody themselves under this Constitution.

ART. 2. The Conferences of this Yearly Meeting shall consist of delegates from the several Quarterly Meetings of which it is composed; each Quarterly Meeting being entitled

to one delegate; each Quarterly Meeting containing fifty members is entitled to one delegate and for each additional fifty members or major fraction of fifty members one additional delegate.

ART. 3. The officers of this Yearly Meeting shall be a standing Clerk and Treasurer and a Moderator shall be chosen at each annual session of this Yearly Meeting with such assistants as may be found necessary.

ART. 4. Any well organized Free-will Baptist Quarterly Meeting, composed of such churches as conform to the usages and adopt the doctrines of the Free-will Baptist denomination, as published in the treatise on their faith and in the minutes of the General Conference, and are in favor of all the benevolent enterprises of the denomination, may, at any time, on application, by vote of this Yearly Meeting, become a member thereof.

ART. 5. This Yearly Meeting shall have power to discipline the Quarterly Meetings of which it is composed and to exclude them for disorderly walk if labor prove unsuccessful; but in no case to reverse their decisions nor interfere with any of their internal regulations.

ART. 6. The sessions of this Yearly Meeting shall be held, beginning on Thursday before the second Sunday in August of each year, at which time it shall be the duty of the Quarterly Meetings of which this Yearly Meeting is composed to represent themselves by delegates and report their standing, prospects and statistics by letter. At which time the Yearly Meeting shall act on such questions and topics as may be referred to them by their respective Quarterly Meetings and transact such other business, not repugnant to this Constitution nor to the usages of the denomination, as in their judgement may promote the cause of Christ and the interest of the Churches and Quarterly Meetings within the limits of this Yearly Meeting.

ART. 7. This Yearly Meeting shall have power to adopt any regulations or by-laws, not inconsistent with this Constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulation of its sessions.

ART. 8. This Constitution may be altered or amended, by a three-fourths majority vote of the Yearly Meeting, at any of

its sessions; notice of such amendment or alteration having been given in writing and recorded at the next previous annual session.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE TWO, OF CONSTITUTION.

The Conferences of this Yearly Meeting shall consist of delegates from the several churches of which it is composed, each church being entitled to one delegate. Each church containing thirty members shall be entitled to one delegate and for each additional thirty members or major fraction of thirty, one additional delegate. Also all regularly ordained ministers of our denomination in good standing and belonging to a church in the bounds of this Yearly Meeting shall be active members of this Yearly Meeting.

The question of Constitutional Amendment taken up and made special order of business for 9 o'clock a. m., Saturday, August 8th, 1891.

REPORTS OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

Reports of Quarterly Meetings called for and the following from Liberty Quarterly Meeting was read, viz.: The last session of our Quarterly Meeting was held with New Cross Church, beginning on Friday before the first Sunday in July. Three churches represented by letters and delegation. Reports from all the churches show them to have pastors, except Grassy Creek Church and most of them have good Sunday Schools and well attended. Also most of the churches keep regular weekly prayer meetings. State of Union good; state of religious interest tolerably good; donations for various benevolent purposes very small; pastor's salary poorly paid; Home Mission Board of this Quarterly Meeting are alive to the interest of this work and are securing funds for this department of work.

Delegates to the Yearly Meeting—New Cross, James Lowe; Bethany, A. Pierce and J. B. Basket; Liberty, M. Copp; Grassy Creek, M. Whetlock; Woolsey College, J. D. Lovett; Bell's Chappel, W. C. Swatsell; Bradshaw Chappel, R. A. Jones. Next session to be held with Liberty Church, to begin on Friday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1891. Intro-

ductory sermon by Rev. W. B. Jones. For further reports, see table of statistics. Signed, W. V. BELL, Moderator.

R. C. Fry, Clerk, Pro Tem.

No report from Harmony Quarterly Meeting. It was passed for the present.

VERBAL REPORTS OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

From verbal reports by the delegates and pastors, show no material change from the above written report.

REPORT OF HOME MISSION BOARD.

Report of Home Mission Board shows nothing done in this department of our work. The same report shows a fine field for us to occupy in this kind of work, and I would most respectfully urge upon our people the important duty they owe to God and dying sinners and the grand blessings they are depriving themselves of and denying to others by withholding their charity from this department of God's work. May the Lord help us to better things.

In conclusion, I would most respectfully tender my resignation as Chairman of the Home Mission Board.

Submitted,

A. H. BURGESS.

Report received and resignation accepted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PULPIT SUPPLY.

Friday, August 7th, 11 a. m., Rev. J. W. Bice; 5 p. m., J. M. Shupe. Saturday, August 8th, 11 a. m., Wm B. Woolsey and A. H. Burgess; 5 p. m., R. S. Harris and R. C. Fry. Sunday, August 9th, 10:30 a. m., J. W. Bice. At close of sermon to have communion services.

Submitted,

A. PIERCE, }
M. COPP, } Committee.

On motion adjourned for preaching at 11 o'clock a. m. and to stand adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m. Benediction by Rev. J. W. Bice.

EVENING SESSION.

Two o'clock p. m. Conference met according to adjournment. Devotions conducted by Rev. J. D. Fox, at close of which business taken up by a call for reports from corresponding Yearly Meetings. Brethren Bice, Shupe and Harris pres-

ent from Clinch River, Virginia, Yearly Meeting, but not as corresponding delegates and have no report.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

On motion carried that Rev. J. A. Brown, Brothers W. C. Swatsell and T. A. Reece constitute our Home Mission Board for the ensuing year, and that the roll of churches represented be called and ascertain how much they will pledge to sustain the work of said Board.

The roll called and result as follows, viz: Bethany, \$25.00; Bell's Chapel, \$5.00; Bradshaw Chapel, \$5.00; Liberty, \$5.00; New Cross, \$25.00; Woolsey College, \$7.00; to be paid for actual work when done in the mission field.

On motion carried that we have a Sunday School association in the bounds of this Yearly Meeting, Brother J. B. Basket serve as President of said association and that Rev. W. B. Woolsey and Brother M. Copp serve as Clerk and Treasurer, respectively, of said association.

Question: Shall the Yearly Meeting pass on the character and standing of the ministers instead of the Ministers' Conference as has heretofore been the custom?

After a spirited debate of 45 minutes on motion of Rev. A. H. Burgess the question was tabled, pending the action of the Yearly Meeting on proposed constitutional amendment.

Hearing reports of committees being in order, the report of the Committee on Temperance called for, the following was read and adopted:

Report.—Brethren, your Committee would respectfully submit that, seeing and realizing the great importance of the question of temperance in all things and especially in the use of alcoholic stimulants, and feeling that we, as a church and as individual Christians, have an important work in this matter depending upon us, and deploring the fact that we have failed to occupy the position on this question that has been our Christian duty and that the times demand:

Therefore, your Committee would urge upon our people, both laity and ministry, to take higher grounds on the subject and teach the world with whom we associate, by our example as well as precept, that there is a reality in the Religion of Jesus Christ, which we profess. We would further urge our

ministers to preach more temperance sermons and to read our Church Covenant often to their charges.

Submitted,

J. B. BASKET, Chairman.

On motion adjourned for preaching at stand at 5 o'clock p. m. and to stand adjourned until Saturday, August 8th, at 8 o'clock a. m.

Benediction by Assistant Moderator.

THIRD DAY, MORNING SESSION.

Saturday, August 8th, 1891, 8 o'clock a. m. According to adjournment Conference met and devotions conducted by R. C. Fry, at close of which business was resumed by reading report of Committee on Education.

Report.—Brethren, fully realizing the importance of education, and especially of an educated ministry, and believing that the cause of Christ and the spread of His Blessed Gospel is more rapidly advanced by means of a better educated church and ministry, therefore, we would urge upon our people the great necessity of an earnest, untiring effort upon this line of work and would most earnestly beg our people to take hold of this important matter and push it forward with their labor, money and prayers, until we can have a good college or academic school within our bounds, so we can the better educate our sons and daughters, and especially the young ministry, and, to this end, we would recommend Woolsey College as a suitable place and where the church has spent several thousand dollars in the interest of education; but, your Committee must say that that institution is badly crippled on account of debt and your Committee would most earnestly beg our people to come forward in an earnest, united effort and relieve this institution of debt and save that property to the church. We would further state that, by us making an effort to help ourselves, we can get outside help in the way of bequests.

Your Committee further recommends the appointment of R. C. Fry and S. A. Brooks as agents and solicitors for funds to liquidate this debt. And, again, we would beg our people to help this noble enterprise forward with their means, as the Lord has blessed them.

Submitted,

W. B. WOOLSEY,	}	Committee.
W. C. SWATSELL,		
JAMES LOWE,		

Report adopted and solicitors appointed as recommended.

Nine o'clock.—Special order of business called. After reading 2nd Article of the Yearly Meeting Constitution and then the proposed amendment, an amendment was offered to the proposed amendment by dropping the first clause and making Article 2nd of the Constitution of the Yearly Meeting read as follows, viz: The Conferences of this Yearly Meeting shall consist of delegates from the several Quarterly Meetings of which it is composed, every Quarterly Meeting being entitled to one delegate, each Quarterly Meeting having 35 members entitled to one delegate and one delegate for every additional 35 members or major fraction thereof and also all regularly ordained ministers of our denomination, in good standing, within the bounds of this Yearly Meeting, shall be considered active members of the Yearly Meeting and entitled to a seat in the Councils of the same.

Amendment offered by Rev. A. H. Burgess. After reading, it was agreed to, discussed and adopted.

Ten-thirty o'clock a. m. Report of Committee on Literature called. Committee answer with no report and are dismissed.

Report of Sunday Schools called and the following is read:

Report.—To the Moderator and Brethren: It is with great pleasure that, so far as your Committee is able to learn, most all of our churches have Sunday Schools organized and in fair to prosperous conditions. However, it is with a degree of regret we learn that only a part of our Sunday Schools use our own Sunday School literature and would recommend to all Sunday School workers the importance of using our own Sunday School literature where it is at all practicable.

We would further urge upon our pastors the great importance of the Sunday School work, and most earnestly request them that, if there is no Sunday School in any of their appointments, they see to it at once and organize this department of church work.

Submitted,

J. B. BASKET, }
J. R. COLLIER, } Committee.
W. B. JONES, }

In addition and in harmony with above report the following resolution was offered by J. B. Basket:

Resolution.—For the advancement of Sunday School work among us and for the better organization of our Sunday School workers, Resolved, 1st, That we have a Sunday School convention in the bounds of this Yearly Meeting, and we would urge upon each Sunday School to represent itself in that convention. 2nd, That this Yearly Meeting appoint the officers for said Sunday School work, give this work into their hands urging upon said officers the necessity of immediate action in this work, and stipulating that they hold an annual convention, time and place at their option.

J. B. BASKET.

Report and resolution adopted.

On motion adjourned for 11 o'clock services and to stand adjourned until 2 p. m.

Benediction by W. B. Woolsey.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8th, 2 O'CLOCK P. M.—EVENING SESSION.

House called to order and devotions conducted by Rev. W. R. Jones, at close of which business was resumed by calling for report of Committee on Obituaries.

The Committee report as follows :

To the Moderator and Brethren of Union Yearly Meeting : It is with sorrow that we have to chronicle the death of our aged and beloved brother in the ministry, Rev. J. A. Coates. Well do we remember the pleasant countenance and the wise Christian councils given us in our last annual meeting by this aged and beloved man of God. But he is no more of us. He has passed from the watch tower into the inner courts of our Father's house, there to receive the rewards of his faithfulness, and, while in tears we deplore the loss of our dear brother, we console ourselves with the thought that our momentary loss is his eternal gain and that this parting, though it is sad, has its joys, for it is not for long, for soon it will be said of us that we are gone.

Brethren, let us live so as to be ready for the pale horse and his rider, let his summons come when it may. Let us be found with our house in order and waiting.

R. C. FRY
W. B. WOOLSEY, } Committee.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Report.—Cash on hands for minutes from the last two years, nine dollars and five cents. For this year, one dollar and ninety-five cents. Total, eleven dollars.

J. D. FOX,
J. A. BROWN, } Committee.
R. A. JONES, }

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NEXT SESSION.

Moderator and Brethren: Your Committee fails to agree as to the place for next session of this Yearly Meeting.

A. H. BURGESS, }
J. D. FOX, } Committee.
R. A. JONES, }

Report received and Yearly Meeting resolved into a committee of the whole for the purpose of selecting a place for the next session of this Yearly Meeting. Two places, New Cross and Liberty, were put in nomination, the vote resulting in the selection of Liberty as the place for the next annual session of this Yearly Meeting.

Decision of the Moderator on the question as to what body should pass on the character of the ministers of this Yearly Meeting:

By the adoption of the amendment of Article 2 of the Yearly Meeting Constitution, including ministers as active members of this Yearly Meeting, they are, as a matter of course, only amenable to the Yearly Meeting.

WM. BLAZER, Moderator.

Resolution.—Realizing the lack of system in the business of our Yearly Meeting and for to remedy this lack and the better to promote harmony and good feeling among the brethren,

Be it Resolved, That we appoint a committee, whose duty it shall be to draft an outline of the business for the next annual session of this Yearly Meeting, said committee shall also select such subjects for discussion as will be most likely to result in good and to the interest of the Yearly Meeting and the churches of which it is composed. They shall also set the date and hour for the discussion of each subject and who shall discuss the question. All of which shall be printed

in sufficient quantities for all who care to have a copy of said programme.

Offered by R. C. Fry and adopted.

In accordance with the above resolution a committee was appointed consisting of A. H. Burgess, R. C. Fry and J. B. Basket.

Question box was introduced and quite an interesting time was had, but for lack of space we are compelled to leave out of this minute many queries of importance with their answers.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS, BY W. B. JONES.

Resolved, that this Yearly Meeting tender to the church at Bethany and to the many kind friends in the community, thanks for the kindness and hospitality so generously bestowed upon the members of this Yearly Meeting, during our stay among them, and also extend our most sincere thanks to our beloved brethren who have served us so kindly and efficiently as Moderators.

W. B. JONES.

Adopted by a rising vote.

The Clerk is instructed to have 300 copies of these proceedings or minutes printed, or such part of them as can be done for the amount of money in his hands.

On motion of Rev. A. H. Burgess, this Yearly Meeting adjourned for preaching, Saturday, 5 p. m., August 8th, 1891, and to stand adjourned to meet with Liberty Church, in Washington County, Tennessee, on Thursday before the second Sunday in August, 1892, and Rev. W. V. Bell to preach the introductory sermon at that time and place at 11 a. m., and J. D. Fox, alternate.

Consecration prayer, Rev. J. W. Bice, and hand of fellowship. Adjourned.

Signed, REV. WM. BLAZER, Modertor.

R. C. FRY, Clerk.

REV. W. B. WOOLSEY. Assis't.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCH FOR THE YEAR 1891.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	P. O. ADDRESS	Added by Baptism	Added by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Died	Excluded	No. of Members	No. in Sunday School	Cash for Minutes	Paid Pastors	For Home Missions
Bell's Chapel.....	R. C. Fry.....	W. V. Bell.....	Greenville.....	1	2	1	1	7	18	18	\$9.85	\$50.00	\$5.00
Big Creek.....	A. H. Burgess.....	W. A. Mack.....	Greenville.....	4	4	1	1	1	128	128	1.38	150.00	1.50
Bird Creek.....	F. W. Lucie.....	W. A. Mack.....	Jonestown.....	5	1	4	1	8	60	60	1.44	114.00	1.44
Bonshaw Chapel.....	W. R. Jones.....	T. A. Reece.....	Warrensburg.....	30	30	1	1	1	33	33	40	75.00	75.00
Boulder Hill.....	W. R. Jones.....	J. K. Silverman.....	Warrensburg.....	30	30	1	1	1	33	33	40	75.00	75.00
Calder Creek.....	C. A. Brooks.....	C. E. Dawson.....	Warrensburg.....	30	30	1	1	1	33	33	40	75.00	75.00
Clair Creek.....	W. V. Bell.....	F. M. Brooks.....	Warrensburg.....	30	30	1	1	1	33	33	40	75.00	75.00
Cedar Creek.....	J. W. Lucie.....	C. E. Dawson.....	Warrensburg.....	30	30	1	1	1	33	33	40	75.00	75.00
Grassy Creek.....	J. A. Brown.....	Kate McAllister.....	Warrensburg.....	30	30	1	1	1	33	33	40	75.00	75.00
Hobson Chapel.....	J. W. Lucie.....	W. R. Jones.....	Warrensburg.....	30	30	1	1	1	33	33	40	75.00	75.00
New Creek.....	R. C. Fry.....	J. W. Lucie.....	Warrensburg.....	30	30	1	1	1	33	33	40	75.00	75.00
Pleasant Hill.....	J. W. Lucie.....	J. W. Lucie.....	Warrensburg.....	30	30	1	1	1	33	33	40	75.00	75.00
Pleasant Hill Chapel.....	J. W. Lucie.....	J. W. Lucie.....	Warrensburg.....	30	30	1	1	1	33	33	40	75.00	75.00
Woolley College.....	W. A. Mack.....	W. A. Mack.....	Warrensburg.....	30	30	1	1	1	33	33	40	75.00	75.00
Liberty.....	W. A. Mack.....	W. A. Mack.....	Warrensburg.....	30	30	1	1	1	33	33	40	75.00	75.00

NOTE.—Salaries paid pastors in this report include the last three years, so far as we know from any report we have at our command. Also we have no correct reports of the amounts paid for Home Mission work.

CAUTION.—Brethren, don't fail to report all moneys paid by your church and for what purpose it was paid, so as to enable the Yearly Meeting Clerk to give you credit for the same in his minutes.

