MINUTES

—OF—

TWENTY-FIRST

ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

UNION ASSOCIATION,

—HELD WITH—

MIDWAY CHURCH,

MIDWAY, GREENE COUNTY, TENN.

AUGUST 10TH, 11TH AND 12TH,

1893.

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION OF THE UNION ASSOCIATION.

According to appointment, Union Yearly Meeting met with Midway Church, August 10th, 1893. At 10 o'clock a. m. introductory sermon preached by Rev. A. H. Burgess. Text: Revelations, 2 chapter, 10th verse.

AFTERNOON SESSION, THURSDAY, AUG. 10th.

According to appointment, Conference met at 2 p. m. Twenty minutes spent in devotions, conducted by Rev. A. H. Burgess, at close of which the Clerk called the Conference to order, and found the following Ministers and Delegates present:

Ministers—Wm. B. Woolsey, C. G. Gentry, W. H. Johnson, Wm. Blazer, R. C. Fry, J. W. Lucas, G. A. Whit, H. J. Bailey, D. D. Blanton, J. L. Case, R. H. Jones, J. V. Fletcher.

Lay Delegation—J. Kelley, T. A. Reese, T. Holt, T. Hawn, A. Beaver, M. Wright, J. M. Collier, R. D. Cogburn, T. Hicks, J. H. Banks, J. Broyls, A. Shelton, E. D. Cutshall, G. W. Dunbar, W. Turner, H. D. Faw, T. E. Pack, M. Leming, M. Cobel.

Delegates seated and Conference organized by electing Rev. R. C. Fry, Moderator. Conference resumed business by adopting the proposed amendment to the Yearly Meeting Constitution, Article 2.

Also voted to change the name of the Yearly Meeting back to Union Association.

Voted to receive the following order of business:

1. Reports of Churches.
2. Reports of Churches, Written and Verbal.

3. Business Suggested by Above Reports.
4. Reports of Standing Committees.
5. Reports of Ministers.
6. Receiving Reports from Corresponding Y. M's.
7. Appointing Committees.
8. Hearing Reports of Committees.
9. Miscellaneous Business.

The following churches reported by letter and delegate:

Bradshaw Chapel, Bethany, Woolsey College, Cedar Creek, St. Joseph Chapel, Pleasant Point, Liberty, New Home, Bear Creek, Bell's Chapel Arm, Bell's Chapel no report, Cedar Brook no report, New Cross no report, Grassy Creek no report.

New churches received—Chesnut Hill, in Hawkins county, Tennessee, and Piney Grove, in Greene county, Tennessee.

The Moderator invited visitors to take a seat in the Conference, and Noah Bibel and P. M. Shaw of the M. P. Church, E. Hartman, of the U. B. Church, James Crow, of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, took seats with us as advisory members.

The following Committees were appointed:

On Pulpit Supply—H. D. Faw, T. E. Pack, J. Broyls.

On Temperance—Wm. Blazer, G. W. Dunbar, T. Holt, J. W. Lucas.

On Education—Wm. B. Woolsey, R. H. Jones. J. V. Fletcher.

On Literature—W. H. Johnson, A. Beaver, Wm. Turner.

On Sunday Schools—C. G. Gentry, T. Hicks, J. M. Collier.

On Finance—G. A. Whit, T. A. Reese, M. Wright.

On Obituaries—H. J. Bailey, J. L. Case, A. Shelton, J. W. Lucas.

On the Rules of Decorum—Wm. B. Woolsey, Wm. Blazer, E. D. Cutshall, T. E. Pack and the Moderator.

On Next Session—R. H. Jones, T. Hicks, G. W. Dunbar, D. D. Blanton, J. V. Fletcher, W. J. Banks, R. D. Cogburn.

Voted to have twenty minutes spent in devotion at each session.

Conference hours, 8 a. m. to 2 p. m.

Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock Friday morning.

Benediction by Rev. Wm. B. Woolsey.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11th.

According to appointment, Conference met at 8 a. m.

Twenty minutes spent in devotion, conducted by Rev. W. H. Johnson, at close of which Conference resumed business by calling for the report of the Committee on Rules of Decorum. Report received and read article by article. Amended and adopted as amended. (See rules).

Report of Standing Committees called for. Mission Committee's report received and supplemented as by the Missionary himself. (See report).

Moved and seconded to take a recess for preaching.

AFTEROON SESSION.

Conference met according to appointment. Devotion conducted by Rev. Wm. Blazer, after which the Conference resumed business by taking up the unfinished Missionary work. The report of Y. M. Missionary was adopted.

Called for the report of the Standing Committee. On the faith and practice of the Yearly Meeting, the report received and Committee discharged. A motion prevailed to have a new Committee of three on Faith and Practice, and report at next session of the Association in 1894.

Men nominated for this Committee: J. W. Lucas, A. H. Burgess, R. C. Fry, C. G. Gentry, Wm. Woolsey, Wm. Blazer, J. V. Fletcher, R. H. Jones.

Men elected to serve on this Committee were: J. W. Lucas, A. H. Burgess, R. C. Fry.

The Committee agreed to adopt the Articles of Faith as are laid down in the treatise and the practice to conform to Baptist usages.

Motion to adjourn until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning. Benediction by P. M. Shaw.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12th.

According to appointment, Conference met at 8 o'clock a. m. Devotion conducted by R. H. Jones, at close of which the Conference resumed business by receiving the letter from Cedar Creek church; letter accepted and request contained in it referred to Church Extension Board. The request of the church was: "Brethren, send us a preacher, and for an acceptable man we will pay from $30.00 to $50.00 a year."

Motion to drop the name of the Grassy Creek church from our church roll. Motion failed and church retained, and Rev. Wm. Blazer agreed to go and preach for them. J. V. Fletcher made a verbal report for Cedar Brook church; report received and the church will be looked after by the Church Extension Board.

Motion that this body practice the ordinary Baptist rules in organizing churches and ordaining Ministers and dealing with churches. Ministers conform to the same motion that the Moderator appoint a man to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next session of this Association. Rev. J. V.Fletcher was appointed, with C. G. Gentry, Alternate.

Motion to request J. L. Case to visit Clear Creek Church and Holston Chapel Church.

Committee on Church Extension Board: J. W. Lucas, A. H. Burgess, R. C. Fry, J. V. Fletcher, Wm. Blazer.

Report of Church Extension Committee called for and the following report received, read and adopted:

We, your Committee on Church Extension, submit the following: We recommend the creating of a Church Extension Board of five members, so distributed over the Association as to be within easy reach of all the churches, and that the whole subject of Missions be referred to this Board; that the Board have power to organize Mission Societies, and devise any other plan for the vigorous prosecution of the evangelistic work not repugnant

to the Constitution of this body, and that all pastors be earnestly requested to co-operate heartily with this Board in their work; that this Board serve as a bureau of information between ministers and churches without pastors, and ministers without fields of labor be urged to consult this Board. J. W. Lucas, Chairman.

Motion to elect this Board by acclamation. Motion prevailed and J. W. Lucas, A. H. Burgess, R. C. Fry, J. L. Case, and R. D. Cogburn were elected to serve as Church Extension Board. Moved and seconded to take a recess for preaching.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

According to appointment, Conference met at 2 p. m., devotion conducted by R. C. Fry.

Conference resumed business by hearing reports of Committees:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PULPIT SUPPLY.

Rev. D. D. Blanton, Thursday night; C. G. Gentry, Friday at 11 a. m.; Wm. Blazer, Friday night; J. L. Case, Saturday 11 a. m.; Saturday night, J. V. Fletcher; Sunday morning, R. C. Fry, A. H. Burgess and W. B. Woolsey; Sunday night, Wm. Blazer.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Whereas, there is a great lack among our people of education, both by neglect of studying the Bible and good literature, we submit the following—Hosea, 4th chapter, 6th verse: "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me; seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."

Let us encourage our children and neighbors to pay more attention to learning and religious education.

W. B. Woolsey, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following: There is no greater nor more important ques-

tion before the christian public than that of the whisky evil. We refer with pride to the advanced position on this subject taken by the Freewill Baptist Churches. It is a fact that every properly constituted Freewill Baptist Church is a body of total abstainers from the use of alcoholic beverages, and no Freewill Baptist can be true to his church obligation and at the same time be even a moderate drinker. We urge that every member pray, work and vote, when consistent with his principles, for the extermination of the whisky curse.

WM. BLAZER, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LITERATURE.

We, your Committee, submit the following: Seeing very little of our literature used by our people, we recommend our literature to be used more in our Sunday Schools and churches. W. H. JOHNSON, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools submit the following: We are glad to say there has been quite an improvement in our Sunday Schools in the past year. There has been a greater interest manifested among our people, and we rejoice to know that there are men and women in our Association who take such pride in cultivating the minds of the young and rising generation; we are proud of the Sunday-school work, for we think it does as much good in the salvation of children as preaching the Gospel does; it prepares the children for the reception of the Gospel. C. G. GENTRY, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

We, your Committee, wish to make the following report: We find death has been in our midst and taken from us quite a number of our brothers and sisters in the church. May the Lord enable us to live better and meet them in Heaven. Names are as follows: Margaret Blazer, member of Bethany Church, aged 87 years, died September 22, 1892. She lived a consistent Christian life for forty years.

Elbert S. West, born February 1st, 1874; died Septem-

ber 26, 1892, aged 18 years and 25 days; embraced religion in his 14th year, and lived a model young man and Christian until his death.

Whit Morgan and wife, Catharine, members of Woolsey College Church, died during the summer; ages not known; lived Christian lives many years.

Alpha Burgner, member of Liberty Church, died January 19th, 1893, aged 52 years. She lived a consistent Christian life until her death.

J. F. Fushower, member of Cedar Creek Church. A short time before his death he made a confession of faith and joined the church; died July 19, 1893, aged 45 years.

Mary Jane Mays, member of Bethany Church, died August 6, 1893, aged 21 years. She joined the church very young and lived a Christian life until her death.

Sallie Ball, member of Piney Grove Church, aged 20 years. She made a profession of religion and lived a consistent Christian life in the church seven months.

Elizabeth Bell, member of Liberty Church; died July 1, 1893, aged 93 years.

COMMITTEE ON NEXT SESSION.

Report next session to be held with the Chestnut Hill Church, seven miles northeast of Rogersville, Hawkins county, Tennessee, commencing Thursday before the second Sunday in August, 1894.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Report $16.16 on hand for the printing of minutes. The clerk is instructed to have as many minutes printed as he can with the money on hand.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Resolved, that this Yearly Meeting tender to the church at Midway, 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 brother who has served us so kindly and efficiently as Moderator.

ANNUAL MEETING CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Yearly Meeting shall be called the Union Yearly Meeting, and shall be composed of such well-regulated and organized Freewill Baptist Churches as may embody themselves under this Constitution.

ART. 2. 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 belonging to a church in the bounds of this Yearly Meeting shall be acting members of this Yearly Meeting.

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

ART. 4. Any well-organized Freewill Baptist Church, composed of such members as conform to the usages and adopt the doctrines of the Freewill Baptist denomination, as published in the treatise on this 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, and by vote of this Yearly Meeting, become a member.

ART. 5. This Yearly Meeting shall have power to discipline the churches of which it is composed, and to exclude them for disorderly walk if labor proves 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 churches 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 churches, and transact such other business not repugnant to this Constitution, nor to the usages of the denomination as in their judgment may promote the cause of Christ and the interest of the churches within the limits of this Yearly Meeting.

ART. 7. This Yearly Meeting shall have power to adopt any regulation 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-fourth 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 annual session.

RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1. Each session of the Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

ART. 2. There shall be no conversation by the members so as to interrupt business while in session.

ART. 3. Every member wishing to speak shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator and be recognized by him.

ART. 4. No member shall interrupt another while speaking except for personal privilege.

ART. 5. Every member speaking shall confine himself to the subject under consideration.

ART. 6. No member shall speak more than twice on one subject without permission of the body.

ART. 7. Every motion made and seconded shall be attended to unless withdrawn by the person who made it.

ART. 8. No member shall absent himself from the body while in session without leave of the Moderator.

ART. 9. On all motions made where the vote of the body is taken a majority shall prevail.

ART 10. Any member violating the above rules shall be fined or expelled at the discretion of the body.

Report of Rev. R. C. Fry, the Home Missionary, is as follows: Miles traveled, thirteen hundred and fifty; sermons preached, one hundred and thirty seven; conversions, fifty; received in the church, twenty-nine; baptized, thirteen; ministers ordained, one; deacons ordained, two: Sunday-schools organized, two; prayer meetings organized, one; money received, $101.00.

REPORT OF THE MINISTRY.

J. W. Lucas, miles traveled, eleven hundred; sermons preached, ninety; baptized, ten; money received, $33.59.

Wm. Blazer, miles traveled, three hundred and four; sermons preached, twenty-four; received into the church, one; number baptized, 9; married, two couples; money received, $1.10; spent $1.25.

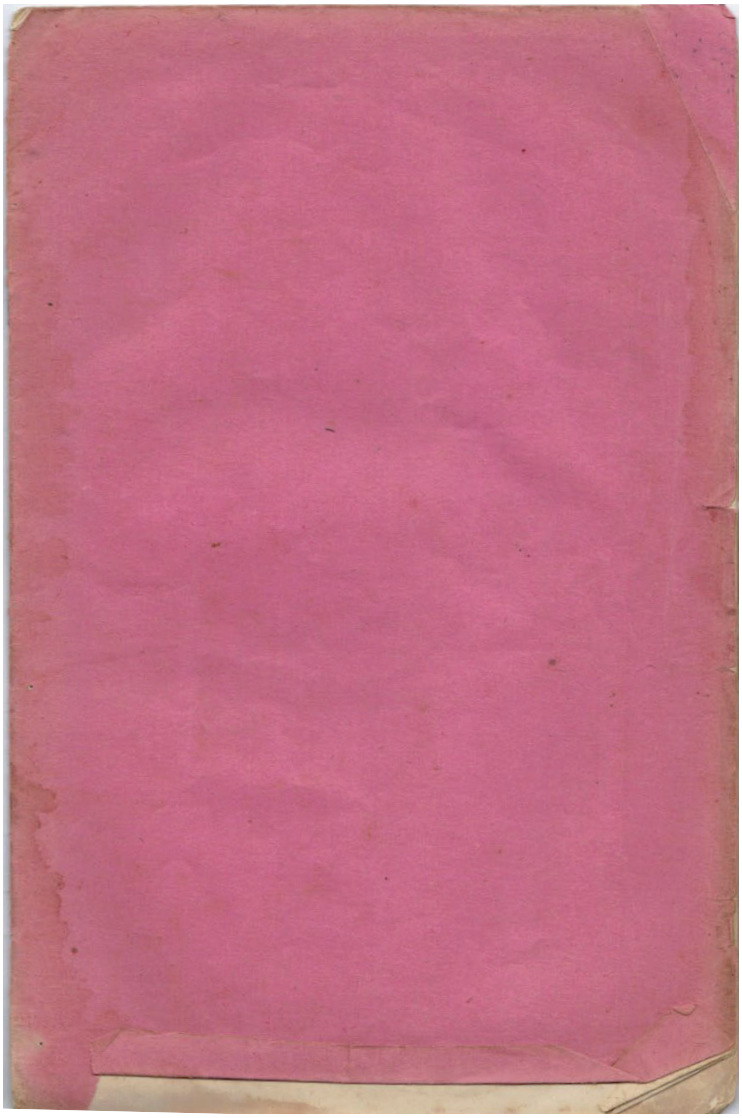
J. L. Case, baptized one; sermons preached, fifty; married, three couples; money received, $12.50.

J. V. Fletcher, miles traveled, three hundred and fifty-two; sermons preached, one hundred and three; conversions, twenty-five; baptized three; money received, $103.75.

J. A. Brown, received two into the church; miles traveled, one hundred and nineteen; money received, $1.55.

REV. R. C. FRY, Moderator.

REV. A. H. BURGESS, Clerk.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES FOR THE YEAR 1893

Churches	Pastors	Post Office Address	Added by Baptism	Added by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Died	Excluded	No. of Members	No. in Sunday-schools	Cash for Minutes	Paid Pastor	For Missions
Pleasant Point	J. T. Case	Newport	2	....	....	....	....	32	85	$ 50	.....	.....
Piney Grove	J. V. Fletcher	Woolsey College	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	.....	$19 00	.....
Bethany	A. H. Burgess	Jeraldstown	9	....	7	2	....	124	....	.....	.....	.....
Bell's Chapel	W. R. Johnson	Greeneville	....	....	....	....	....	20	....	80	.....	.....
Woolsey College	Wm. B. Woolsey	Woolsey College	6	23	27	....	....	31	50	50	.....	$ 1 80
Midway	J. W. Lucas	Midway	1	....	....	1	....	54	50	.....	30 90	.....
Bradshaws	R. C. Fry	Church Hill	3	4	3	....	....	43	60	1 70	17 92	7 60
Chestnut Hill	R. C. Fry	.....	....	....	....	....	....	10	78	1 39	.....	3 10
Bear Creek	R. C. Fry	Warrensburg	2	2	....	1	....	53	50	46	19 10	7 80
Cedar Creek	.....	Cedar Creek	....	1	....	1	....	23	82	25	.....	2 10
Liberty	W. A. Hedrick	Pilot Hill	....	....	....	2	....	95	65	4 29	.....	59 00
Bell's Chapel Arm	W. B. Jones	Greeneville	....	....	....	....	....	16	....	.....	6 00	.....
New Home	J. W. Lucas	Driskell	10	....	....	....	....	89	....	.....	3 00	.....
Clear Creek	.....	.....	....	....	....	....	....	20	....	.....	.....	.....
Holston Chapel	.....	.....	....	....	....	....	....	19	....	.....	.....	.....
Grassy Creek	.....	.....	....	....	....	....	....	44	....	.....	.....	.....
New Cross	W. B. Jones	.....	....	....	....	....	....	36	....	.....	.....	.....
Total	.....	.....	34	30	37	7	.....	709	520	$9 89	$95 92	$81 40
Money from last year	.....	.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6 29	.....	.....