# MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

UNION

# Freewill Baptist Association

HELD WITH

## Cedar Creek Church, Greene County, Tenn.,

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, August 8th, 9th and 10th, 1895.

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OFFICERS:

REV. A. H. BURGESS, - - - - - MODERATOR.
REV. W. A. HEADRICK, - - - - - CLERK.

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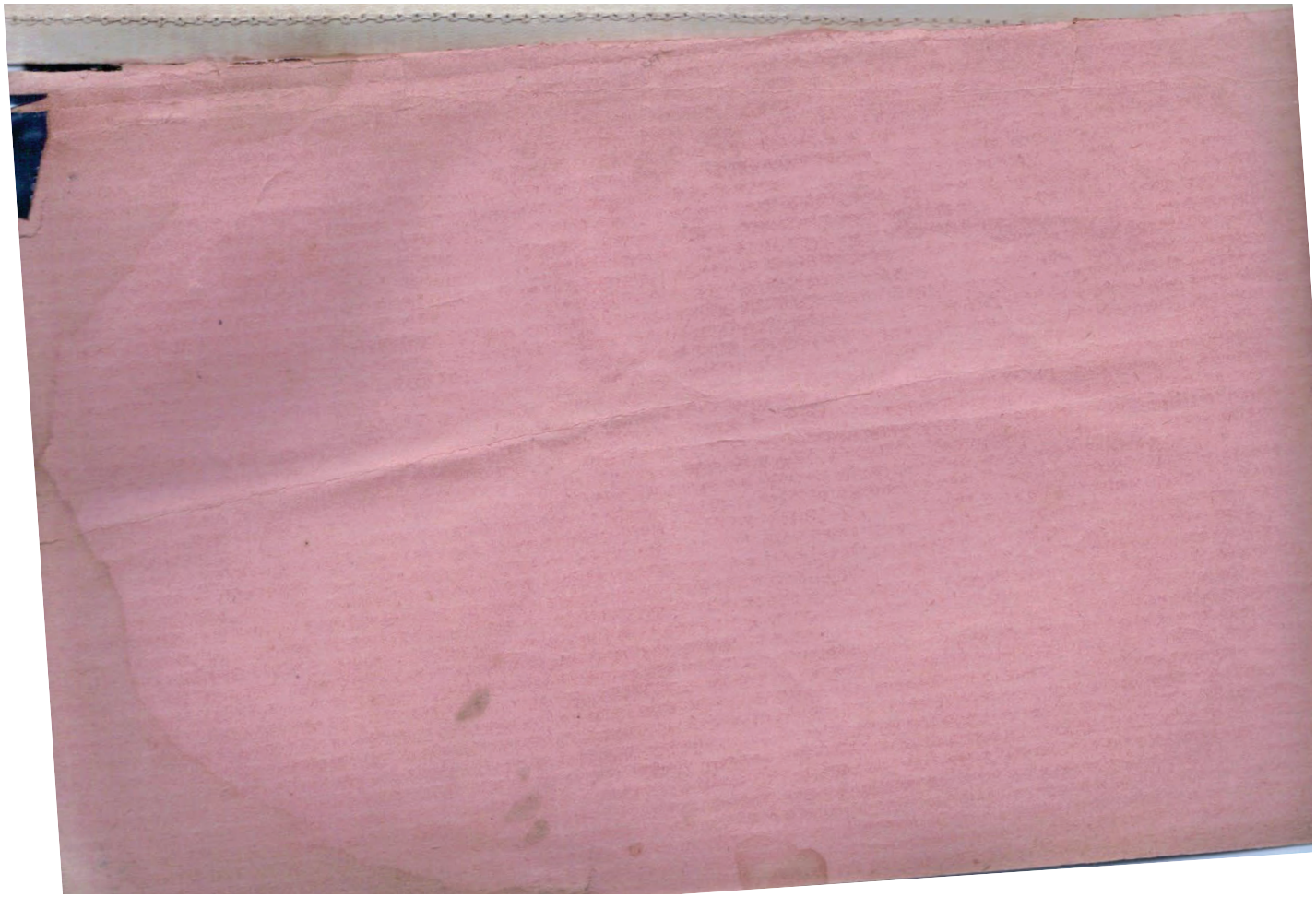

# PROCEEDINGS.

According to appointment, Union Association met with the Cedar Creek church, in its twenty-third annual session, August 8th, 1895, at 11 o'clock a. m. Introductory sermon is preached by Rev. S. W. Jones, of Driskill, Tenn. Text, Matt. xvii:3. Closing prayer by William Stroup. Adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

Met at 2 o'clock p. m. Devotional exercises, led by Rev. W. S. Barton, at the close of which the Association was called to order by Rev. R. C. Fry, the moderator, (the clerk not having yet arrived) and the following ministers and delegates were found present: Ministers—R. C. Fry, W. B. Woolsey, J. W. Lucas, W. B. Jones, W. A. Headrick, J. A. Brown, W. S. Barton, S. W. Jones, J. D. Fox, W. H. Johnson, W. M. Clendenin.

Licentiate—William Stroup.

Delegates—H. F. Dykes, William Simpson, A. C. Light, J. C. Justice, J. A. Paxton, L. A. Cobble, P. H. Franklin, R. D. Cogburn, E. D. Cutshall, J. E. Ball, Joseph Mayfield, W. M. Ricker, Greene Strange, T. H. Woolsey, James Keller, W. C. Swatzell, A. J. Starnes, W. T. Fry, G. W. Dunbar, M. Capp, Robert Hammer, W. R. Mitchell, B. F. Parker, John Parker, Thomas Holt, John Greene, Joseph Haloway, B. F. White, Joseph Fox, E. Sliger, H. T. Mosier, L. R. Collins.

By the time that these names were enrolled, Rev. A. H. Burgess had arrived. Members were seated and the Association was organized by electing Rev. A. H. Burgess for moderator and W. A. Headrick for clerk.

The order of business for last session was adopted, the first and second items being reversed.

The following churches reported by delegates, and letters without delegates: Grassy Creek, Simpson's Chapel, Midway, Bethany, Chestnut Hill, Tunnell Hill, Bear Creek, New Home, New Cross, Cedar Creek, Piney Grove, Pleasant Point, Woolsey Col-

lege, Clear Creek, Bell's Chapel, Cedar Brook, Marble Hill, Liberty.

Rev. S. Franklin, of the French Broad Association, and Rev. ——— Rogers, of the Lutheran church, accepted seats as visiting brethren.

Petitions for new churches were called for, and one was presented from Marble Hill church, and a committee consisting of Revs. J. W. Lucas, R. C. Fry and W. B. Woolsey was appointed to examine into the orthodoxy and organization of said church, and to report immediately.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

We, your committee on the petition from Marble Hill, report, that we find that the church was properly and legally organized as a Freewill Baptist church, and recommend that the church be received, its delegate seated as its representative, and their pastor, Rev. T. C. McNabb, be received as a regularly ordained minister of this body. Respectfully submitted.

J. W. LUCAS, Chairman.

Report received. Name of delegate from Marble Hill, Isaac Rice. Minister, T. C. McNabb.

Voted to meet for preaching at 11 o'clock a. m. and at 7:30 o'clock p. m. Association meets at 8 o'clock a. m. and at 2 o'clock p. m.

The following committees were appointed:

*On Pulpit Supply*—R. D. Cogburn, P. H. Franklin, E. D. Cutshall.

*On Temperance*—R. C. Fry, Joseph Haloway, A. J. Starnes.

*On Literature*—J. W. Lucas, W. B. Woolsey, W. S. Barton.

*On Obituaries*—W. B. Jones, S. W. Jones, B. F. White.

*On Finance*—S. W. Jones, J. D. Fox.

*On Rules of Order*—None appointed, by order of the Association.

*On Education*—J. W. Lucas, T. H. Woolsey, J. C. Justice.

*On Next Session*—A. J. Starnes, B. F. White, B. F. Parker, H. F. Dykes, Thomas Holt.

*On Sunday Schools*—W. B. Woolsey, R. D. Cogburn, John Greene.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock a. m. to-morrow. Prayer by Rev. T. C. McNabb. Preaching to-night by Rev. R. C. Fry.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 1895.

Association met at 8 o'clock a. m. Devotional exercises, led by Rev. A. J. Brown.

The name of W. C. Swatzell was enrolled as a delegate from Bell's Chapel. The roll was called and the following brethren failed to answer to their names: J. E. Ball, W. M. Rieker, James Keller, W. B. Jones, Joseph Fox.

The business suggested in the church letters attended to. Petitions for next session were referred to the committee on next session.

Petition from Grassy Creek church asking for an examining and ordaining council was referred to the church at Grassy Creek. See 5th page of last year's minutes, beginning at the 38th line from the top.

Petition from Grassy Creek church asking for the restoration of C. L. Ledbetter referred to a committee consisting of Revs. W. B. Woolsey, R. C. Fry, J. D. Fox.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

We are satisfied as to the legality of the ministers' conference which acted upon the case of C. L. Ledbetter. We are satisfied that the proper gospel step was taken in the case, and, as far as we know, we could confirm the action of the conference; which was, to the best of our information, that Brother Ledbetter should be silenced from preaching until he gave satisfaction to the proper authorities. We are also satisfied that the requirements of this conference have not been complied with; therefore, we do not believe that it would be to the interest of the church to advise his restoration. Submitted,

R. C. FRY, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PULPIT SUPPLY.

Friday at 11 o'clock, J. D. Fox; Friday night, Rev. W. S. Barton; Saturday at 11 o'clock, Rev. S. W. Jones; Saturday night, Rev. R. C. Fry; Sunday, Rev. J. W. Lucas and Rev. R. M. Johnson.

A recess was taken until 2 o'clock p. m. Association called to order at the appointed time, and devotional exercises led by Rev. W. H. Johnson.

A report of standing committees being called for, it was ascertained that there was only one standing committee from last session (the revision committee) who requested through its chairman to be granted more time, with the privilege of retaining the examining committee of last session.

Request granted. See page 3 of last year's minutes, 24th line from the top of the page.

Reports of visiting brethren called for. Response by Rev. S. Franklin, of the French Broad Association.

Reports of ministers called for. Rev. R. C. Fry reports as follows: Churches pastored, 1; sermons preached, 63; funeral ser-

mons, 4; communion services, 5; revivals held, 2; conversions witnessed, 43; received into church, 21 members; baptized, 18; ministerial visits made, 23; marriages performed, 4; miles traveled, 424, pay received, $50.

Rev. W. S. Barton reports: Miles traveled, 225; sermons preached, 70; conversions witnessed, 25; received into church, 20 members; baptized, 13; prayer-meetings organized, 1; sick visited, 5; assisted in ordaining 4 deacons; married 5 couples; pastored 1 church; pay received, $24.65.

Report of Rev. C. G. Gentry, by letter: Sermons preached, 187; conversions witnessed, 71; baptized, 8; churches organized, 1; miles traveled, 1,400; pay received, $67.95.

Report of Rev. S. W. Jones: Sermons preached, 100; funeral sermons, 7; communion services, 1; revivals held, 5; conversions witnessed, 60; baptized, 32; pay received, $78.

Report of Rev. W. B. Jones: Sermons preached, 38; funerals, 3; baptized, 6; miles traveled, 100; pay received, $10.

Report of Rev. J. A. Brown: Miles traveled, 618; sermons preached, 32, baptized, 10, received into church, 23; exhortations, 23; conversions witnessed, 23; communion services, 2; married 3 couples; pay received, $18.85.

Verbal reports were given by quite a number of ministers.

# REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

## TAMPERANCE.

We are glad that the Freewill Baptists, as a factor in religious work, have always held high ground on the subject of temperance. and in keeping with this position, we would earnestly urge the pushing of the temperance idea to the front by all the means at our command, not alone in the use of intoxicating liquors, but in the use of everything which is calculated to deprave the appetite and destroy the human system. We regard the use of morphine, opium, laudanum, etc., as destructive to the human intellect when used indiscreetly, and last, but not least, we look upon tobacco using as a most useless and filthy habit, especially when used in the house of God, and by a minister; therefore,

Resolved, That this Association, with its ministry, take higher grounds along this line, and especially in the use of tobacco. Respectfully submitted.

R. C. FRY, Chairman.

The following amendment was offered by Rev. S. W. Jones and accepted by vote:

Resolved, That we advise our ministers to advise their churches not to allow any tobacco to be used in the house of God.

## LITERATURE.

Every pastor needs the aid of his denominational literature in his pastoral work. We urge the ministry to patronize our own publications and arouse in their people an interest in the same. Let our Sunday school literature be used whenever it is practicable; let each family take at least one of our papers, and before and above all, let us urge a constant, prayerful reading of the Bible.

J. W. LUCAS, Chairman.

## OBITUARIES.

In looking over our church records, we find that death has removed many of our brethren and sisters, and we have been made sad by the hand of death.

Resolved, That we as Christians live so that when death comes we may live in heaven as God's children.

We make our report as follows: Died this year—James Pendergrast, C. C. Viles, Francis Conduff, Bettie Collier, and three others whose names we have not received. Respectfully submitted.

S. W. JONES, Chairman.

## FINANCE.

Report paid for minutes, $11.37.

S. W. JONES, Chairman.

## RULES OF DECORUM.

Moved and seconded to dispense with this committee.

## EDUCATION.

We must educate. All can patronize the public schools, where the

rudiments of an education may now be obtained. The Union Association ought to maintain one good high school at some central point where our children can have the advantages of higher education under circumstances most favorable to the development of a higher regard for their own church. To those prepared for college or university, we heartily recommend the University of Tennessee. Respectfully submitted.

J. W. LUCAS, Chairman.

NEXT SESSION.

The committee not being able to decide between the claims of Bethany and New Home, the Association decided that the next session will be held with New Home Church.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We find, according to the reports furnished by the churches, that we have more than 624 Sunday school scholars enrolled. We are glad to know this, but we feel that this must be a very meagre report· we feel that it should have been more than a thousand. We urge our brethren, in the name of Christ, to be more interested in the Sunday school cause. May God help us to do better. Respectfully submitted.

W. B. WOOLSEY, Chairman.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning. Benediction by Rev. R. C. Fry.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1895.

Met at 8 o'clock a. m. August 10. Devotional exercises led by Rev. W. V. Bell. Committees appointed during the session having all made their reports, they were discharged from their committee work. The committee on finance having made their report, it was ordered to turn over the money to the clerk, which amounted to $9.32. This includes the money contributed by the churches and by some individuals. It was voted to take up a collection on Sunday, which amounted to $2.05, since received from Liberty church, 55 cents. Total, $11.92.

The clerk was instructed to have as many minutes printed as he could with the money contributed.

Recess was taken until 2 o'clock p. m. Benediction by Rev. W. B. Woolsey.

Met at 2 o'clock p. m. Devotional exercises, led by Rev. W. H. Johnson. The evening session was devoted to the transaction of miscellaneous business.

Resolution by Rev. J. W. Lucas: Resolved, First, that each pastor be urged to organize Christian Endeavor Societies among the young people of his church during the year.

Resolved, Second, that these societies be requested to send reports and representatives to the next meeting of the Association

for the purpose of forming a general organization for the Association.

Adopted.

Constitution and other supplies may be obtained from the Publishing Department, Society of Christian Endeavor, 646 Washington street, Boston, Mass.

RESOLUTION.

It is with a degree of sadness that we note a lack of proper diffusion of our doctrine in this country, and we think that this lack may be in a measure met by sending forth a good man, backed by the proper authority and properly sustained by churches, as a traveling minister, to propagate our doctrines.

Resolved, That we recommend a man to travel as an evangelist for the ensuing year, and that all pastors and churches are earnestly requested to sustain him by their prayers and means to the extent of their ability.

R. C. FRY.

Adopted.

Rev. R. C. Fry reports having received from the church at Bradsham's Chapel $5 missionary money.

For an evangelist for the year, W. A. Headrick was elected.

New Home was the place selected for the meeting of the Association next year, to commence on Thursday before the second Sunday in August, 1896.

Rev. T. C. McNabb was selected to preach the introductory sermon, W. A. Headrick, alternate.

The clerk was ordered to take the names of all delegates and ministers who left without taking leave of the Association, which are as follows: Rev. W. B. Jones, Rev. W. M. Clendenin, H. T. Mosier, T. H. Woolsey, Joseph Mayfield, Greene Strange.

It is positively a breach of good order to leave the Association without taking leave of the Moderator.

Resolved, That our warmest thanks, best wishes and earnest prayers are due the church and people of Cedar Creek and vicinity, for their kindness in taking care of us during the session of the Association.

Adjourned, until Thursday before the second Sunday in August, 1896, at 11 o'clock a. m. Exercises closed with prayer by Rev. R. M. Johnson, and singing by the body, "God be With Us Till We Meet again."

A. H. BURGESS, Moderator,
Painter, Tenn.

W. A. HEADRICK, Clerk,
Midway, Tenn.

POSTOFFICE ADDRESS OF MINISTERS.

W. B. Woolsey, Whig; R. M. Johnson, Woolsey College; J. F. DeWitt, Whig; W. H. Johnson, Woolsey College; T. C. McNabb, Limestone Springs; S. W. Jones, Driskill; J. L. Case, Newport; W. M. Clendenin, Chestnut Hill; A. H. Burgess, Painter; W. V. Bell, Greeneville; R. C. Fry, Milburnton; William Blazer, Jeraldstown; J. D. Fox, Jeraldstown; B. H. Vaughn, Jeraldstown; W. D. Strong, Baileyton; J. A. Brown, Milburnton; W. A. Headrick, Midway; J. W. Lucas, Rogersville; W. S. Barton, Kepler; R. H. Jones, Kepler; W. B. Jones, Greeneville; C. G. Gentry, Bybee; William Stroup, Stacy; Hilliard Mathes, Stacy; R. H. Darnell, War Gap.

## STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES FOR THE YEAR 1895.

| CHURCHES. | Rec'd by Baptism. | Received by Letter. | Dismissed by Letter. | Excluded. | Died. | Number of Members. | Sunday School Scholars. | Minute Money. | Value of Church Property. | PASTORS. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bethany | 17 | | | | | 141 | 5 | 80 | $600 | R. C. Fry |
| Bear Creek | | | | | | 53 | | | | None |
| Beech Hill | | | | | | 7 | | | | None |
| Bradshaw's | | | | | | 43 | | | | None |
| Bell's Chapel | | | | | | 23 | | | | W. V. Bell |
| Chestnut Hill | | 3 | | | | 17 | 52 | 55 | | W. S. Barton |
| Cedar Creek | | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 27 | 52 | 25 | 500 | W. B. Woolsey |
| Cedar Brook | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 49 | | | | C. G. Gentry |
| Clear Creek | | | | | | 12 | 42 | | 200 | None |
| Grassy Creek | 8 | | | | 1 | 46 | 75 | 65 | 50 | J. A. Brown |
| Holston Chapel | | | | | | 19 | | | | None |
| Liberty | 13 | 5 | 2 | | | 112 | 60 | 55 | 425 | A. H. Burgess |
| Midway | 3 | 7 | | | 1 | 89 | 82 | 1 00 | 600 | J. W. Lucas |
| Marble Hill | | | | | | 23 | | | 200 | T. C. McNabb |
| New Home | 31 | 14 | 10 | 6 | | 145 | | 2 00 | 500 | S. W. Jones |
| New Cross | 6 | 1 | | 3 | | 34 | | 25 | | S. W. Jones |
| Pleasant Point | 16 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 49 | 92 | 1 00 | 150 | W. M. Clendenin |
| Pine Grove | | 3 | | | | 48 | 75 | | 250 | W. V. Bell |
| Simpson's Chapel | 6 | | 2 | | | 46 | 98 | 55 | 100 | R. C. Fry |
| Tunnell Hill | 13 | 7 | | | | 35 | 51 | 1 15 | | W. S. Barton |
| Woolsey College | | | 5 | | | 25 | | 35 | | W. B. Woolsey |