

Given by Lucy Wasson

MINUTES

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OF THE

NINETEENTH SESSION

OF THE

SPRING RIVER

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1887.

MINUTES

of the

NINETEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF—

SPRING RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

CROSS ROADS CHURCH, LAWRENCE CO., ARK.,

SEPTEMBER 24TH, 26TH AND 27TH, 1887.

—:O:—

OFFICERS:

JNO. W. WICKER, MOD.

|

HUGH SPOTTS, CLERK.

—:O:—

POCAHONTAS, ARK.:
RANDOLPH HERALD OFFICE.
1888.

MINUTES.

Spring River Baptist Association, convened in its Nineteenth Annual Session, with Cross Roads Church, Lawrence county, Arkansas, on Saturday, the 26th day of September, A. D. 1887.

According to previous election of last session, Eld. H. B. Wayland, with S. A. Armstrong, his alternate, preached the introductory sermon from Acts 10: 39:

"And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in land of the Jews and in Jerusalem."

After an intermission of an hour, the messengers from the various Churches reassembled in the meeting house. Singing, and prayer by Eld. G. B. Borah.

The body was called to order by the Moderator, Eld. G. B. Borah.

The Moderator proceeded to call the names of the Churches. Letters were presented and read by Brethren R. B. Bellamy and H. W. Townsend, and Messengers' names enrolled by the Clerk.—[See Statistics.]

Moved and carried, That the Association go into the election of Moderator and Clerk for the ensuing associational year.

On motion, That the Association elect officers by private ballot. Carried.

On motion, That the Association nominate for officers, and vote for the nominees. Motion failed to carry.

The Association proceeded to the election of officers by private ballot, with the following result: Eld. J. W. Wicker, Moderator; Hugh Spotts, Clerk.

The Moderator made some appropriate remarks, thanking the body for the honor conferred; and the Association proceeded to the transaction of business as follows:

1. The Moderator appointed as committee on preaching, Messengers of Cross Road Church and Elder B. F. Holdford.

2. Called for Correspondence: Letter received from State Line Association.

3. Visiting Brethren invited to seats with us:

Whereupon Eld. E. P. Minton and Brethren L. P. and W. B. Montgomery, of Mount Zion Association, and Elders J. H. D. Carlin, W. W. Buckner and G. L. Ford came forward, gave the Clerk their names and accepted seats with us.

4. *Called for Petitionary Letters:* When Wilson's Grove, Clover Bend, Evergreen Chapel and Union Churches presented letters, which were read, received, and thereupon the Moderator extended to the Messengers the right hand of fellowship, welcoming them to the full immunities of the body.

Antioch Church presented petitionary letter and Articles of Faith, which were read pending the discussion of the reception of said Church.

Motion made and amended, That we reject the 7th article of the Articles of Faith of Antioch Church, and refer the same to a special committee of three for investigation. Motion failed to carry.

Motion made, That the Association reconsider the reception of Antioch Church. Motion lost.

On motion, That the Association adjourn until Monday, 8 o'clock A. M. Motion to adjourn lost.

Moved and carried, That we suspend regular order of business for the appointment of committees. The Moderator proceeded to appoint the following committees:

1. *On Finance*—C. J. Andrews, H. B. Wayland and H. W. Townsend.

2. *On State of Churches*—A. H. Vance, Allen Weaver and R. B. Bellamy.

3. *On Destitution*—J. H. Norman, J. E. Osburn and S. A. Armstrong.

4. *On Missions*—D. E. Hunt, A. B. Hogard and F. Hester.

5. *On Correspondence*—B. F. Holdford, J. L. Brown and P. M. Pearce.

6. *On Baptist Literature*—M. D. Bowers, G. B. Borah and Francis Hester.

7. *On Education*—R. B. Bellamy, T. J. Moore and I. N. Sparks.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PREACHING.

Elders G. L. Ford and R. B. Bellamy, Saturday

night. Text—Romans 1: 17.

Elders J. H. D. Carlin and D. E. Hunt, Sunday at 11 o'clock. Text—Heb. 9: 28.

Elders G. B. Borah and W. W. Buckner, Sunday at 11 o'clock. Text—John 8: 16.

Elders E. P. Minton and J. W. Wicker, Sunday night. Text—First Cor., 1: 2.

Elders M. D. Bowers and R. B. Bellamy, Monday at 11 o'clock. Text—Second Cor., 4: 3, 4.

Elders D. E. Hunt and S. A. Armstrong, Monday night. Text—First Cor., 15: 58.

Moved and carried, The Association adjourn until Monday morning, 8 o'clock.

Prayer by Eld. R. B. Bellamy.

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MONDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Eld. B. F. Holdford.

The Moderator declared the body in order for business.

The Clerk called the roll of Messengers' names and marked absentees.

Minutes of Saturday's proceedings read, amended and approved.

On motion, That the Association reconsider the reception of Antioch Church. Motion prevailed.

Moved and carried, That the Association refer the reception of Antioch Church to a committee of three, Brethren R. B. Bellamy, M. D. Bowers, F. Hester.

Little Vine Church presented petitionary letter and Articles of Faith, which were read, received; whereupon the Moderator extended to the Messenger the right hand of fellowship and welcomed him to a seat with us.

On motion, Committee on the investigation of the 7th article of the Articles of Faith of Antioch Church made the following report, which was received and committee discharged:

We, your committee, report the following: We regard Antioch Church in harmony with us when proper

construction is placed upon article seven of her Articles of Faith; and, we recommend that said Church be received into this Association.

M. D. BOWERS Ch'n.

On motion, That Brethren R. B. Bellamy, M. D. Bowers and R. J. Penn, be appointed as a committee to place what they conceive to be a proper construction on the seventh article of Declarations of Faith of Antioch Church. Motion failed to carry.

On motion, That the Association refer the letter and Articles of Faith to the Messengers of Antioch Church, and let the Church place her own constructions.

Moved and carried, That the Association invite the Messengers to seats with us as visiting members.

CALLED FOR REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Moved and carried, That the finance committee be granted further time to make their report.

The committee on State of Churches made the following report, which was received, adopted, and committee discharged:

We, your committee on state of Churches, report as follows: We learn that most of the Churches have regular preaching by Pastors, and that a number of them have had precious revivals, with many bright professions of conversions, during the year, for which we thank God and take courage.

A. H. VANCE, Ch'n.

The committee on destitution made the following report, which was received, adopted, and committee discharged:

We, the committee on destitution, beg leave to report the following:

We find there is some destitution in the bounds of this Association north of Spring river, and east of Black river, and we recommend that this Association take proper steps to supply the destitute parts with gospel preaching.

S. A. ARMSTRONG, Ch'n.

The committee on missions made the following report, which was received, adopted and committee discharged:

We, your committee on missions, report the follow-

ing: We find that there is several points within the bounds of our Association where profitable work could be done, and we have the men who are willing to work, if the means can be raised; but if we cannot raise the money to supply a missionary for one year, we recommend that we should not undertake the work.

D. E. HUNT, Ch'n.

The committee on Sunday Schools made the following report, which was received, adopted, and committee discharged :

We, the committee on Sunday Schools, beg leave to say, that in most localities within the bounds of our Association that Sunday Schools are found in a progressive state, but we are sorry to say other parts are entirely destitute. As we think the Sunday School is a grand work, it is our duty to keep it up, and we recommend that every Minister of the Gospel impress the Sunday school work upon the minds of his hearers.

A. D. TAYLOR, Ch'n.

On motion, The Association took recess until one o'clock P. M., for preaching, and Eld. G. B. Borah delivered an able discourse to an attentive audience, followed by Eld. W. W. Buckner.

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The Association reassembled at 1 o'clock P. M.

In the absence of the Moderator, moved and carried, That Eld. M. D. Bowers serve as Moderator *pro tem*.

Committee on Correspondence made the following report, which was received, adopted, and committee discharged:

We, your committee on Correspondence, beg leave to submit the following: Whereas, we have no intelligence from Independence, Rocky Bayou, White River Valley, and Current River Associations, we have a letter from State Line Association, but no Messenger, and we recommend the reading of said letter. Furthermore, we recommend that we continue correspondence with the above named Associations. Furthermore, we recommend that we raise correspondence with Mount Zion Association, as they have delegates

here, and we believe them sound in the faith, judging from the able discourse delivered by our worthy Bro. Eld. E. P. Minton, on the Church question on last night.

B. F. HOLDFORD, Ch'n.

The Moderator resumed the chair.

Committee on Baptist Literature made the following report, which was received, adopted, and committee discharged:

We, your committee on Baptist Literature, make the following report: We recommend good sound denominational literature, that is recommended by the State Convention and Southern Baptist Convention, and that every family should take one good paper.

M. D. BOWERS, Ch'n.

Committee on Education made the following report, which was received, adopted, and committee discharged:

We, your committee on Education, report as follows: We recommend the patronage of the public school system, and request that the brotherhood use their best efforts for the advancement of our sons and daughters in a pure and wholesome literature. We further recommend the cooperation of this body with the Ouachita College, situated at Arkadelphia, Ark.

R. B. BELLAMY, Ch'n.

Pending the reception of the report of the committee on Education, some excellent speeches were made by brethren E. P. Minton, G. B. Borah, A. B. Hogard and J. H. D. Carlin, on education, which elicited the sum of \$17.70 for the aid and benefit of two young brethren, who, Eld. Minton stated, were in need of means, that were attending school from Mount Zion Association, Greene county, Arkansas.

Eld. M. D. East proceeded to read the circular letter as per election of last session, which was amended, received and adopted, as follows:

CHRISTIAN RELIGION.

Brethren, Ministers and Delegates, comprising

Spring River Baptist Association:

Having been chosen by the last Association to write the circular letter, I have selected as a subject, Christian Religion, which I think should mostly concern

us. True religion is the perfection of human nature and the foundation of public order and private happiness. Christianity is the most excellent and useful institution, having the promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. It is the base of reason, and, in the language of the Bible, "The ways of wisdom are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are paths of peace;" and our Savior assures us that his precepts are easy, and the burden of his religion light. Christian religion is a rational service, a worship in spirit and in truth—a worship worthy to be paid by man and to be received by the ALMIGHTY. It comprehends all we ought to believe and practice. Its positive rites are few, having plain significations, which are manifestly adopted to establish in us a sense of our obligations to God. Religion consists, not in outward and tedious ceremonies, nor in superstitious visions, but in purity of heart and in holiness of life. The sum of our duty, according to our MASTER, consists in love to God and to our neighbors; according to St. Paul, in denying ungodliness and worldly lust, and in living soberly, righteously and godly in this present evil world; and according to St. James, in visiting the fatherless and widows in their afflictions. This is the constant strain and tenor of the Gospel. This it inculcates most earnestly, and upon this it lays the greatest stress. But is the Christian system only a republication of the law of nature, or is it merely a refined system of morality? No, it is certainly a great deal more; it is an act of grace, a stupendous plan of Providence, designed for the recovery of mankind from a state of degradation and ruin into the favor of the ALMIGHTY, and the hope of a happy immortality through a Mediator, to be followed by being baptized to show forth our faith in the LORD JESUS CHRIST, and to partake of the LORD'S SUPPER to show forth his death until he comes again. Under this dispensation true religion consists in repentance towards God, and faith in the LORD JESUS CHRIST as the person appointed as a sacrifice for our sins by the SUPREME AUTHORITY of Heaven and earth to reconcile apostate man to his offended CREATOR. This, I think, is religion. If we are Christians, what hardship or

exactions is there in all this? Surely, none; nay, the practice of religion is much easier than the servitude of sin. The soul is so dreadfully impaired and weakened by sin that we cannot serve God until created anew in CHRIST JESUS. Unto good works we must be born again—born from above. Clad in the Christian robe, we will be supported by its grace. After we have passed the levity of youth, and when old age steals upon us and bends us towards the tomb, it will cleave to us and give us relief. It will be so far from terminating at death that it will commence more perfect and continually improve with each new addition. Clad in this vesture, we need not fear the summons of death, nor regret returning to the dust. Our immortal part will wing its way to the arms of its OMNIPOTENT REDEEMER and find rest in the heavenly mansions of the ALMIGHTY; and though our earthly part, this tabernacle of clay, returns to its original dust and is dissolved, our joy, our consolation, and our confidence is that we have a building of God, not made with hands, eternal and in the Heavens.

Yours in the faith,

M. D. EAST.



Committee on Finance made report, which was received, adopted, and committee discharged :

We your committee on Finance, report, \$27.10 received for printing minutes. We recommend that Stranger's Home Church be credited one dollar on their present year's donation out of the funds in the treasury, on the claim that they paid that amount last year and through some mistake failed to get either their minutes or a credit for said amount.

Respectfully submitted,

C. J. ANDREWS, Ch'n.

On motion, The Association received the following report of the Treasurer for 1886:

Your Treasurer asks to submit the following report:

To am't rec'd from Finance committee	\$25.50	
Bal. minute fund due Association 1885	3.38	
Exp. for printing 400 copies minutes	\$10.00	
" postage on money and manuscript to printer, and minutes to the Churches.....	2.00	
Clerk's fees.....	6.00	

Total expenditures.....	\$18.00	\$28.88
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Balance due Association.....	\$10.88
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Respectfully submitted,

HUGH SPOTTS, Clerk.

Motion made, That the Association adjourn until Tuesday morning, 8 o'clock. Motion lost.

The Moderator called for miscellaneous business.

Motion made and carried, That the Association take up the query sent from Pleasant Hill Church, and discuss the propriety of the same.

QUERY: Is it Baptist to receive letters from Predestinarian Baptists?

Moved and carried, The Association answered, No.

On motion, The Association adjourned until Tuesday, 8 o'clock A. M.

Prayer by Elder M. D. East.

TUESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The Association met according to adjournment.

Read the First Psalm, and prayer by the Moderator.

The Moderator declared the body in session.

The Clerk called the roll of Messengers' names and noted absentees.

Minutes of Monday's proceedings read and approved.

Called for miscellaneous business.

Resolution on Ministerial Education presented, amended, received and adopted.

We, the Spring River Baptist Association, feeling the need of a better educated Ministry, and desiring to more fully promote the cause of Christ within the bounds of this Association, therefore be it

Resolved, That we take steps to educate at least one young man, or a middle aged man, if a young man cannot be found who will accept an education for that purpose, by counseling the various Churches composing this body to donate as much money as they can for that purpose; that a committee of three persons be appointed to take the matter in hand and raise money by such means as they may deem expedient; that when there shall be money enough on hand to carry out this resolution, and when a brother shall be recommended to the committee by a Church who shall be found by them to be sound in the faith, they shall make such arrangements for his mental culture as may be necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

H. W. TOWNSEND, Ch'n.

On motion, The following resolution was received and adopted:

Resolved, That we recommend that each Church keep an account of the amount they pay their Pastors the ensuing associational year, and report the same in their letter to our next association.

JOHN A. WILSON.

On motion, The following resolution was received and adopted:

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Clerk of this Association to have 700 copies of the minutes of the proceedings, embracing the Articles of Faith

and Church Covenant as set forth in J. M. Pendleton's Church Manuel, printed and distributed to the Churches as per amount paid by each Church, and that the Clerk be allowed seven dollars for his labor.

R. B. BELLAMY.

On motion, The following resolution was received and adopted:

Resolved, That we extend our heart-felt thanks to the members of Cross Roads Church, and the people generally, for their kind hospitality while among them.

R. B. BELLAMY.

On motion, The Association proceeded to elect a place to hold the next session of this body, and some one to preach the introductory sermon, and some one to write the circular letter, which resulted in the choice of Calamine Church as the place of meeting, and Elder B. F. Holdford, with Elder R. B. Bellamy, his alternate, to preach the introductory sermon, and Bro. H. W. Townsend to write the circular letter.

The Moderator appointed the following named Brethren as corresponding messengers to sister Associations: Rocky Bayou, E. B. Andrews; Independence, D. E. Hunt, R. J. Penn and R. B. Bellamy; State Line, M. D. Bowers; White River Valley, E. T. Glenn; Current River, W. W. Buckner; Mount Zion, G. B. Borah and S. A. Armstrong.

On motion, That we correspond with the State Baptist Convention. Motion failed to carry.

Minutes of Tuesday's proceedings read and approved.

On motion, The Association adjourned to meet at 11 o'clock A. M., Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, A. D. 1888, with Calamine Church, Sharp county, Arkansas.

Prayer by Eld. J. H. D. Carlin.

While singing the messengers took the parting hand.

Benediction by the Moderator.

JOHN W. WICKER, Mod.

HUGH SPOTTS, Clerk.



DECLARATION OF FAITH.

I. OF THE SCRIPTURES.

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions should be tried.

II. OF THE TRUE GOD.

We believe that there is one, and only one living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is JEHOVAH; the Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

III. OF THE FALL OF MAN.

We believe that Man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker; but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.

IV. OF THE WAY OF SALVATION.

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; through the Mediatorial offices of the Son of God; who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins; that having

risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven ; and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Savior.

V. OF JUSTIFICATION.

We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him is Justification; that Justification includes the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood ; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God ; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

VI. OF THE FREENESS OF SALVATION.

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel ; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial penitent and obedient faith ; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel; which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

VII. OF GRACE IN REGENERATION.

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with Divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel ; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, and faith, and newness of life.

VIII. OF REPENTANCE AND FAITH.

We believe that Repentance and Faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God ; whereby

being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession, and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on him alone as the only and all-sufficient Saviour.

IX. OF GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE.

We believe that Election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the Gospel; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

X. OF SANCTIFICATION.

We believe that Sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration; and that it is carried on in hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means—especially, the word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

XI. OF THE PERSEVERANCE OF SAINTS.

We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XII. OF THE HARMONY OF THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL.

We believe that the Law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just, and good; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin: to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy Law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the Means of Grace connected with the establishment of the visible Church.

XIII. OF A GOSPEL CHURCH.

We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by his laws; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by his word; that its only scriptural officers are Bishops or Pastors and Deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

XIV. OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER.

We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, into the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost: to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior, with its effect, in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is pre-requisite to the privileges of a church relation; and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church by the sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination.

XV. OF THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath; and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations, by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public; and by preparation for that rest that re-

maineth for the people of God.

XVI. OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

We believe that Civil Government is of Divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society ; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed ; except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

XVII. OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED.

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked ; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem ; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked, and under the curse ; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

XVIII. OF THE WORLD TO COME.

We believe that the end of this world is approaching ; that at the Last Day, Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution ; that a solemn separation will then take place ; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy ; and that this judgement will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

CHURCH COVENANT.

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now in the presence of God,

angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotion; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drink as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's word.

PRAYER.

Now the God of Peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting Covenant, make you perfect in every good work, to do his will; working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

RANDOLPH HERALD,

The Largest, Most Handsome, and Thoroughly Independent County Journal
Published in the State of Arkansas,
Containing Each Week

FORTY-EIGHT COLUMNS
OF THE VERY LATEST NEWS, BOTH OF ITS OWN LOCALITY
AND OF THE WORLD AT LARGE, TOGETHER WITH A
VAST AMOUNT OF ENTERTAINING AND INSTRUCTIVE
MISCELLANEOUS READING PRE-EMINENTLY ADAPTED TO THE
FAMILY CIRCLE.

In the future, as in the past, the HERALD will faithfully maintain every right, resolutely assail every wrong, and discuss freely, fearlessly, but yet fairly, every issue which arises; and dares, as do but few other journals, to expose the insidious designs of cliques, rings and designing politicians.

It will continue to advocate all measures that have for their object the amelioration of the condition of the

WORKING CLASSES.

In doing this we shall need the assistance of every individual citizen of the country—not such assistance, however, as is prompted by a desire to help somebody, but such as is prompted by a

VITAL SELF-INTEREST;

For every clear thinking person will see at once that it behooves every one interested in the prosperity of his country, its resources, and its morals, to assist all in their power to establish and keep alive a GOOD NEWSPAPER. To this end, not only subscribe yourself, but induce your neighbor to do so, and we shall do all in our power to give you a good readable FAMILY NEWSPAPER for **One Dollar a Year**; Clergyman of all denominations, **75cts.** Address

J. N. BOLEN, EDITOR,
Pocahontas, Ark.

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and Pamphlet Printing.

CHURCH DIRECTORY AND STATISTICAL TABLE.



CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS' NAMES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICES.	Rec'd by Ex. and Bap	Received by Letter	Rec'd by Restoration	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Died	Total Membership	Minute Fund	Days of Meeting
Little Vine	C. S. Ford	G. L. Ford	James Ward	Evening Shade	1	1	1	1	1	1	46	\$1.00	28
Macedonia	John E. Osburn	J. E. Osburn	J. E. Osburn	Willford	1	1	1	1	1	1	28	50	50
Mount View	G. W. Harris, J. L. Brown, J. A. Wasson	M. D. East	Jas. L. Brown	Reed's Creek	1	2	3	2	2	2	80	2 00	2
Mount Olive	No intelligence												
New Hope	G. B. Borah, H. B. Wayland, T. J. Moore	D. E. Hunt	I. H. Morgan	Powhatan	5	2	2	1	2	1	120	1 15	
Pleasant Hill	D. E. Hunt, E. T. Glenn, W. F. Smith	D. E. Hunt	G. W. Goodwin	Smithville	58	5	1	1	1	1	123	2 00	1
Pleasant Grove	R. B. Bellamy and W. L. Andrews	D. E. Hunt	W. G. Pickett	Smithville	16	1		5	1		93	2 70	
Pine Hill	No intelligence												
Smithville	H. W. Townsend	G. B. Borah	J. P. Goodwin	Smithville	3	1	1			1	28	1 50	
Shiloh	M. D. Bowers, Frank Frasier, J. D. Haynes	M. D. Bowers	J. D. Haynes	Pocahontas	2	1	3	2	3	4	92	1 50	
Strangers' Home	B. F. Holdford and A. B. Hogard	B. F. Holdford	A. B. Hogard	Allea	23	12		1		1	47	1 50	
Union No. 1	John A. Wilson	G. B. Borah	Bethel Parsley	Smithville	6	2		1	2	1	57	1 50	2
Union No. 2	N. H. McCall	M. H. Bohl	N. H. McCall	Walnut Ridge	2						7	50	
Wilson's Grove	J. M. Farrow and P. M. Pearce	P. M. Pearce	W. R. Farrow	Hedgwick	10	18					28	1 05	2
Ash Flat	No intelligence												
Big Creek	A. H. Vance and J. H. Norman	M. M. Bunge	J. H. Norman	Maxville		1		3	2		36	1 10	
Cross Roads	H. B. Farmer, G. A. Henry, R. Warren	B. F. Holdford	J. W. Thorn	Pocahontas	1	3		11	4	3	65	1 50	
Calamine	John Street, Ira Little	J. W. Wicker	R. S. Bundy	Calamine				1			58	1 00	
Clear Spring	S. A. Armstrong, H. A. Shelton	M. D. East	W. B. Church	Powhatan	3	4	1			1	38	65	
Clover Bend	G. L. Armstrong, S. A. Payne	S. A. Armstrong	G. L. Armstrong	Clover Bend		1					10	50	1
Evening Shade	C. J. Andrews, F. Hester, E. B. Andrews	G. L. Ford	E. B. Andrews	Evening Shade		1	3				14	75	2
Evergreen Chapel	Joe Yarbrough, E. E. Berchet	W. W. Beckner	J. E. Vaughn	Walnut Ridge	14	2	4				25	1 05	3
Flat Woods	No intelligence												
Hill's Chapel	Hugh Spotts	J. M. Hill	Hugh Spotts	Smithville							16	75	1
Jerusalem	R. J. Penn, Jesse Croom, J. C. Penn	G. B. Borah	J. C. Penn		10	6					35	1 00	
Little Spring	No intelligence												
Lebanon	I. N. Sparks, A. D. Taylor, J. W. Wicker	R. B. Bellamy	W. R. Miller	Smithville	1	5		2	1	2	23	75	3
Loan Oak	Nas. Gilbert, J. A. Justus, David Helms	R. B. Bellamy	J. A. Justus	Smithville	1			4	2		31	1 00	2
Liberty No. 1	Allen Weaver		J. E. Richardson	Hardy							11	50	3
Liberty No. 2	Thomas Wilson	W. H. Hughes	W. M. Bayless	O'Kean	5		1	1	4		22	90	1
					151	67	17	35	25	19	1,133	\$27.35	