

MINUTES

OF THE

1887
FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE OLD ORGANIZATION AND THE TWENTIETH OF THE NEW ORGANIZATION
OF THE

WHITE RIVER

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE

CHURCH AT ROCKY MOUNT,

Boone County, Ark., Sept. 15, 16, and 17, 1887.

OFFICERS

W. W. Wright, Moderator,	Mountain Home, Ark.
W. A. Collis, Clerk,	Mountain Home, Ark.
T. H. Horn, Treasurer,	Mountain Home, Ark.

MOUNTAIN HOME, ARK.

BAXTER COUNTY CITIZEN.

1887.

DELEGATES.

Mountain Home,	T. W. Wright, J. W. McClure, and H. C. Cook
Howell,	H. H. Hilton, J. T. Dand, J. M. Horn and T. H. Horn
Mount Pleasant,	Wm. Denton, J. C. Coffee and P. A. Cox. [Dilbeck
Pilgrim's Rest,	W. D. Jennings, W. A. Collis, C. D. Rodrich and H. T.
Palistine	not represented.
New Harmony,	J. D. Dilbeck and B. L. Bayless.
Friendship,	J. H. Wade.
Oakland,	W. S. Stone and M. Holland.
Oak Grove,	represented by letter. [Hand.
Pleasant Grove,	B. F. Thompson, A. L. Blythe, G. H. Ballard and E. F
Rehoboth,	J. H. Parmer and J. A. Buttler. [stone
New Hope,	J. G. Dillahurty, J. N. Pennington, and A. L. Fire-
Pleasant Hill,	J. R. Pennington, J. Coker and H. Sasser
Shady Grove,	J. A. McEntire, H. A. McEntire and W. M. McEntire.
New Liberty,	W. M. Horn and J. Dobbs.
Confidence,	F. M. Copeland, L. Ingle and J. B. Milum.
Jefferson Hall,	J. S. Williams
Big Spring,	T. Meritt and Wm. Eoff
Zion Hill,	J. C. Pilgrim
Harmony,	J. R. Cotton and A. L. Titts
Lead Hill,	not represented
Cedar Creek,	not represented
Rockey Mount,	J. Richerson, J. Mayfield, C. Featherstone and W. F
Rock Springs,	not represented [Taylor
New Prospect,	J. W. Norton, A. L. Smothers, E. M. Smothers and J. E
Bethel,	E. M. McCarty, M. H. Wolf and Smith Mattox. [Norton
Wall's Chapel,	M. D. Silvertooth and C. M. Hill

MINUTES.

ROCKY MOUNT CHURCH, }
SEPTEMBER 15, 1887. }

The messengers representing the churches comprising the White River Baptist Association, met with the Rocky Mount church, Boone County, Ark., on Thursday before the third Sabbath in September 1887, according to adjournment, when as by previous appointment the introductory sermon was preached by Eld. T. W. Wright. Text 1st Cor., 15th chapter and 57th verse.

After the sermon the Moderator, Eld. H. H. Hilton called the Association to order. Eld. Wm. A. Collis, the clerk, being present and at his post.

Letters from the different churches comprising the Association were called for, and read and names of the messengers enrolled.

On motion the Association held the annual election for Moderator and Clerk, by ballot, which resulted in the election of Eld. T. W. Wright as Moderator and Eld. Wm. A. Collis as Clerk. On motion Bro. T. H. Horn was elected Treasurer by acclamation.

On motion the report of the standing committee which was appointed by the last Association to draft new rules of order was called for. The committee made their report which is as follows:

1. Annual Introductory Sermon.
2. Call of Association to Order by the Moderator if Present.
3. Call for Church Letters and Enroll Messengers.
4. Election of Officers.
5. Call for Petitionary Letters for Membership.
6. Call for Corresponding Letters and Messengers.
7. Appoint Committees.
8. Read Constitution and Rules of Decorum.
9. Call and Correct the Roll and Note Absentees.
10. Call for Report of Messengers to Corresponding Bodies.
11. Appoint Messengers to Corresponding Bodies.
12. Call for Report of Committees in Order.
13. Report of Committees in Order.
14. Miscellaneous Business.
15. Resolutions.
16. Appoint Place for Next Meeting of Association.
17. Appoint Some One to Preach the Introductory Sermon.
18. Appoint Some One to Preach the Missionary Sermon.
19. Adjournment.

Called for petitionary letters, when letters from the following named churches were presented: Hall's Chapel, Bethel and New Prospect, which were received, and their messengers received the right hand of fellowship by the Moderator.

Called for corresponding messengers from sister Associations, when the following brethren came forward: Blue Mountain, Eld. A. R. Stephenson and S. T. Ferrin, and also Eld. J. T. Prior was seated by the Association as a messenger from said Association; Crooked Creek, on motion Bro. A. J. Roberts was seated as a messenger; Union Association, Mo., Eld. W. R. Rackley and Bro. J. H. Black were received; Union Association, Ark., Eld. L. Long and Bro. R. Miller. All of the messengers were invited to seats and received the right hand of fellowship by the Moderator.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

Committee on Divine Service: Bros. P. A. Cox, J. A. McEntire and J. Dobbs.

Committee on Finance: Bros. J. M. Horn, Foster Hand and B. F. Thompson.

Committee on Sunday Schools: Bros. P. A. Cox, M. H. Wolf and Eld. W. D. Jennings. On motion the Moderator was added to the committee.

Committee on Destitution: Elds. W. A. Collis, J. T. Hand and Bro. H. C. Cook.

Committee on Baptist Literature: Eld. Wm. Denton, Bros. J. H. Wade and J. G. Dillahunta.

Committee on Deceased Ministers: Elds. J. Coker, J. R. Pennington and J. A. Butler.

Called for the report of the standing committee, which was appointed to visit Lead Hill church to inquire into the reason why it failed to be represented, whereupon Elds. W. M. Horn and Wm. Denton made their report stating that they did not visit said church.

On motion the Association adjourned until 3:30 P. M.

Prayer by Eld. W. M. Horn.

3:30 P. M.

Association met pursuant to adjournment, Moderator in the chair.

Called for letters from churches renewed, when a letter was presented from Jefferson Hall.

On motion a committee on Woman's Missionary work was appointed consisting of Elds. W. D. Jennings, H. H. Hilton and John Coker. On motion Eld. T. W. Wright and P. A. Cox were added to the committee.

Constitution and Rules of Decorum were read by Bro. P. A. Cox.

Called for reports of corresponding messengers, when Elds. J. T. Hand and Wm. A. Collis made their report, stating that they did not visit Blue Mountain Association. Eld. Wm. Denton made his report, stating that he visited Crooked Creek Association and met a host of warm hearted brethren, and had a pleasant time. Elds. W. M. Horn and H. Sasser made their report, stating that they visited Union Association Ark., and found it a good working body of brethren. Eld. H. H. Hilton and Bro. T. H. Horn made their report, stating that they visited Union Association, Mo., and found the Association a zealous body and in good working order, and that they had a pleasant time during their stay among the brethren.

The messengers to corresponding Associations were appointed as follows: Blue Mountain: Elds. J. T. Hand, H. H. Hilton, W. D. Jennings, W. A. Collis, Wm. Denton and C. H. Mayfield. Crooked Creek: Eld. W. M. Horn and Bros. Wm. Austin and T. Merrit. Big Creek: Elds. J. T. Hand, W. D. Jennings and T. W. Wright. Rocky Bayou: Elds. T. W. Wright, W. D. Jennings, and Bros. T. H. Horn and I. G. Walker. Union Ark: Elds. H. Sasser, J. A. Butler, J. R. Pennington, Bros. J. A. McEntire, E. M. McCarty and S. Matlock. Union, Mo.: Elds. H. H. Hilton, T. W. Wright, W. D. Jennings, Wm. Denton, Wm. A. Collis, J. T. Hand and Bro. T. H. Horn.

The Moderator appointed Elds. H. H. Hilton and Wm. Denton messengers to the Baptist State convention, who agreed to go, provided the body would pay their expenses.

On motion the rules of order were suspended to hear the report of Elds. W. M. Horn and J. T. Hand who were appointed fiscal agents by the last Association. Eld. W. M. Horn submitted the following: "Dear brethren, having been appointed fiscal agent for the west side of White river, to visit the churches to raise mission funds, I visited the following churches: Harmony, and received \$1 75; Zion Hill, \$1.00; Big Springs, \$1 35; Pleasant, Hill, \$7.30; New Liberty, \$3 00; New Hope, \$3.60; Rehoboth, \$4.50; Shady Grove, 60 cts; donated by myself \$2.50; total \$25.60. All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. M. Horn

Eld. J. T. Hand submitted the following: "Visited the following churches: Friendship, and received, \$1.00; New Harmony, \$2.80; Hopewell, \$2.35; Pilgrim's Rest, \$1 00; Rock Springs, 25 cents; Oak Grove, \$1 05. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Total \$8.45 Grand Total both \$34.05 J. T. Hand.

On motion visiting ministers were invited to seats with us as advisory counsel. Eld. C. H. Mayfield accepted the invitation and took a seat with us.

Report of ministers called for when Eld. C. H. Mayfield made his report as follows: "Dear brethren, I submit the following report Preached 80 sermons, prayed 66 times, assisted in the ordination of two deacons, baptized seven, sold 16,939 pages of Baptist literature, traveled 1,547 miles, received from Pleasant Grove church, \$13.90; Prairie Grove church, Boone Co. Ark. \$17.85; Rocky Mount church, \$19.42; and from Methodist friends \$3.45; total amount received, \$54.62.

C. H. Mayfield.

Eld. W. D. Jennings made his report as follows: Served as pastor for two churches, preached 59 sermons, baptized 53, traveled 358 miles, received for labor performed \$38.90.

W. D. Jennings.

Eld. H. H. Hilton made his report as follows: I did not preach a single sermon, tried to preach 10 times, received nothing for my labors, paid out \$40.00 for ministerial support.

H. H. Hilton.

Eld. H. Sasser made his report as follows: Preached to two churches monthly, and to one a part of the time, baptized 36, received money and produce from the churches amounting to \$90.80.

H. Sasser.

On motion the Association adjourned until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning. Prayer by Eld J. H. Parmer.

9 o'clock Friday morning

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, Moderator in the chair. After prayer by Bro J. H. Black the Association was called to order. On motion, Eld. T. W. Wright was added to the committee on Woman's Missionary work.

Called for the report of committees in the following order. Finance Committee. We your committee on Finance. would submit the following report: We have received from the churches for minute funds \$33.85.

J. M. Horn, chairman.

Report was received.

Committee on Sunday Schools reported as follows:

We your committee on Sunday Schools, would submit the following report: We are gratified to see that we are progressing in this department of church work. Last year at the organization of our Convention, there were three reported; this year seven were reported. Whereas we are in possession of a petition from our Sunday School Convention of this Association, which we herewith append as a part of our report.

WHEREAS, We recognize the importance of Sunday school work in its relation to church work and the general interest of the Mas-

ter's Kingdom on earth; and

WHEREAS, There is manifestly a great neglect of this branch of christian activity on the part of some of our churches, as well as on the part of many heads of families within our bounds, and,

WHEREAS the Sunday school is recognized as a heaven ordained instrumentality in the conversion and regeneration of multitudes of our children throughout these United States and other parts of the world. Therefore be it

Resolved, As the Sunday School Convention of the White River Association, we do earnestly request the said Association to take under advisement at its next session the appointment of a Sunday School Missionary to circulate Baptist Sunday School literature among them, and to visit the churches and destitute places within our bounds, to encourage the Sunday Schools already organized and to assist brethen in organizing other Baptist Sunday Schools where they are needed and can be established.

Resolved, That Bro. P. A. Cox be appointed by this body to bear these resolutions to the Association and to bring the subject suggested before the Association.

T. W. Wright, President.

W. M. Horn, Clerk.

Y D L
All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. A. Cox, Chairman.

Resolved, That we appoint an executive board of three to co-operate with the executive board of the convention in raising funds and employing said missionary.

On motion the Moderator appointed the above named board, which is as follows: Bros., P. A. Cox, J. M. Horn and Eld. Wm. Denton. On motion the Association adjourned until 3:30 P. M.

Prayer by Eld. H. H. Hilton.

3:30 P. M.

Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. A. R. Stephenson. Messengers from Confidence church came in and presented a letter which was received and messengers were enrolled.

Committee on Destitution made their report which was read and adopted:

We your committee on Destitution, submit the following report: WHEREAS, the destitution within the bounds of this Association is fearful and great, therefore, we would recommend that the central board employ all the ordained ministers to travel as missionaries that can conveniently go, and that said missionaries go and preach in

Report of the Committee on Baptists
the destitute places of this Association; that said missionaries begin their labors the first of July, and go two together and labor until the ensuing Association, unless otherwise directed by the central board.

Wm. A. Collis, Chairman.

Committee on Baptist Literature made their report which was read and adopted:

We your committee on Baptist literature submit the following report: First, for reasons of the very highest importance would recommend the prayerful reading of the BIBLE; second, the ARKANSAS BAPTIST, published at Little Rock, Ark.; third, the BAPTIST FLAG, St. Louis, Mo.; fourth, THE BAPTIST, Memphis, Tenn.; fifth, the literature published by the Baptist Publication Societies at Philadelphia, Pa., and Memphis, Tenn.

Wm. Denton, Chairman.

Committee on Deceased Ministers. Report read and adopted:

We your committee on Deceased Ministers, submit the following report: We have made inquiry and find that none of our ministers of this Association have died during the last year, and we feel it our duty to sincerely thank and praise our Heavenly Master for the preservation of the lives of our ministers, and pray the continuation of His goodness toward us.

J. A. Butler, Chairman

After the reading of the foregoing report the body united in prayer with Eld. H. H. Hilton.

On motion the Association adjourned until 8:30 o'clock to-morrow morning.

8:30 Saturday morning.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Eld. J. A. Butler.

Committee on Woman's Work made their report which was read and adopted:

We your committee on Woman's Work beg leave to report as follows: WHEREAS, it has appeared that God has blessed the efforts of the Ladies Missionary Societies of our church at Mountain Home so abundantly, we do earnestly recommend our churches to organize similar societies at once, and especially do we urge upon all pastors and deacons to encourage and aid in the same, all of which we respectfully submit for your consideration.

W. D. Jennings, Chairman

On motion this body changed its time of meeting to Friday before the 1st Sabbath in September.

On motion the report of the committee on Destitution was reconsidered and after discussion was referred back to the committee.

On motion the Clerk was requested to superintend the printing of the minutes, and to have as many copies printed as the minute fund would pay for, after deducting \$10.00 out of same for his services.

On motion the Association tendered its thanks to Rocky Mount church and citizens of the vicinity for their hospitalities and kindness shown us during our stay among them, praying the blessings of God on them.

Elds. Wm. Denton and T. W. Wright, who had been appointed by the last Association, to supply Yellville with Baptist preaching made their report, which was read and adopted.

We make the following report: We went and preached at Yellville every Sunday appointed save two, which bad weather prevented. Received of the State Board \$25.00.

T. W. Wright.

Wm. Denton.

On motion, the Association agreed to hold its next session with Pilgrim's Rest church, Baxter county, Ark. By ballot Eld. H. Sasser was elected to preach the introductory sermon at the next meeting of the Association with Eld. W. D. White as his alternate. By ballot, Eld. T. W. Wright was elected to preach the missionary sermon Sunday at 11 o'clock with Eld. W. D. White as his alternate.

The Committee appointed to investigate the trouble in Big Spring church made their report which was read and adopted:

We your committee beg leave to report, that after a thorough and impartial investigation we have reached the following conclusion: The trouble in Big Spring church originated from various causes, none of which or all combined constituted a scriptural ground for breach of church fellowship, since both parties at the time of separation had no charge to prefer, the one against the other; also we believe, that in regard to the cause which originated the trouble both parties were somewhat in error, also in the matter of separation both parties were in error, the one for asking to have their names erased through courtesy, the other, the church, for granting their request; also, we believe that said church is somewhat in disorder in taking its action and afterward excluding the withdrawing brethren for declaring nonfellowship with the church. We recommend that the Association advise the Big Spring church to reconsider her irregular and disorderly action, since the motion to erase the names of members without preferring charges and citing them to trial, and the after exclusion without a full hearing before

J. B. Harber

the church was unscriptural; we also recommend that the church labor in patience and brotherly love to effect a reunion, and that in order to effect this it is our advice that both parties make mutual concessions for the sake of Christ and His cause. Also that a committee of three be appointed to bear this decision of the Association to the Big Spring church, and to labor with both parties to effect a union, if possible, and in case after reconciliation, if any of the brethren wish letters we advise that they be granted them.

That while we believe the Big Spring church to be in disorder, we do not advise that the Association withdraw its fellowship from her at present, but that we labor with the church through the above named committee; said committee to make a report of their labors to the next Association.

P. A. Cox, Chairman.

On motion a committee of three was appointed, consisting of Elds. Wm. Denton, W. D. Jennings and H. Sasser, to visit Big Spring church, and bear the decision of this body to them and try to effect a reunion of the brethren.

Association adjourned until 3:30 o'clock P. M. Prayer by Eld. W. R. Rackley.

3:30 P. M.

Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Eld. W. D. Jennings.

On motion Resolution No. 1 was offered by P. A. Cox as follows: **RESOLVED**, That we earnestly recommend and urge upon our people to use their utmost influence to abolish the manufacture, sale and use of intoxicating liquors.

On motion the committee on Destitution made their report which was read, and after discussion was laid on the table.

On motion future time was granted Bro. P. A. Cox to make an educational talk before the Association.

Eld. I. Davis of Crooked Creek Association, was invited to take a seat with us.

On motion, Resolution No. 2 was offered by Bro. P. A. Cox as follows: WHEREAS, the people of Gassville, Baxter county, Ark., have established a graded school, "The Gassville Classical Institute," presided over by our Bro. J. T. Prior, A. M., graduate of Mercer University, Ga., to meet the educational demands of North Ark., Therefore, **RESOLVED**, That as an Association we cheerfully recommend the said school to the favorable consideration of all who

desire to educate their sons and daughters in a school of high grade.

On motion Resolution No. 3 was offered by B. F. Thompson which was read and adopted as follows: RESOLVED, That we instruct and authorize the Central Board of this body to raise funds and employ a missionary or missionaries to preach to the destitute of this Association.

Divine services were held under the supervision of the committee as follows: Thursday night by Eld. A. R. Stevenson, followed by Eld. W. D. Jennings. Friday 11 A. M. by Eld. J. T. Prior, followed by Eld. W. R. Rackley. Friday 3 P. M. Eld. H. H. Hilton, followed by Eld. J. T. Hand. Friday night by Eld. W. A. Collis, followed by Eld. H. Sasser. Saturday 3 P. M. by Eld. W. R. Rackley, followed by Eld. J. H. Parmer. Saturday night by Eld. T. W. Wright, followed by Eld. H. Sasser. Sunday 11 A. M. by Elds. Wm. Denton and H. H. Hilton. Sunday 3 P. M. by Eld. C. H. Mayfield.

On motion the body adjourned to meet with Pilgrims' Rest church Baxter county Ark., Friday. 10:30 A. M., before the 1st Sabbath in September 1888.

Prayer by Eld. J. T. Prior, after which the parting hand was given while singing, and almost every eye was suffused with tears.

T. W. WRIGHT, Moderator.

W. A. COLLIS, Clerk.

Constitution.

ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be called and known by the name of the "White River Baptist Association."

ARTICLE II

The members composing the annual meetings of the Association shall consist of the Messengers sent by the Churches.

ARTICLE III

The Messengers sent by the Churches to the annual meetings, shall

not exceed four from each Church.

ARTICLE IV.

The Association shall meet annually, at such time and place as shall have been previously appointed.

ARTICLE V.

The officers of this Association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by a majority of the Messengers, annually, at the annual meetings of the body.

ARTICLE VI.

This Association shall have no power to control or regulate the internal affairs or discipline of any Church, but it may adopt and recommend all such measures as shall be considered best calculated to produce the harmony and prosperity of the Churches, and to advance the Redeemer's Kingdom, and advise and consult upon such matters as the Churches may at any time present for their consideration and advice. And it may receive Churches into this Association, or dismiss Churches from the body, inquire into the State of Religion in its bounds, and suggest measures for its advancement, and be a common bond of Union among the Churches, but shall not exercise any legislative power over the Churches.

ARTICLE VII.

This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a vote of two thirds of the members present, provided notice has been given at a previous meeting.

J. H. Charles
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RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall commence with Religious Exercises, and a sermon from some preacher who shall have been previously appointed, unless the Association shall otherwise direct.

2. The Moderator of the session shall preside, and the former Clerk shall act (provided they attend) until the letters from the Churches connected with the body shall have been read and a Moderator and Clerk appointed.

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3. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the meeting during its session, and appoint committees (unless the Association shall otherwise direct). preserve order, reprove improprieties (except an appeal is made to the meeting by two members). He shall have a right to speak on all subjects, calling a member to the chair, and examine and correct the minutes if necessary.

4. The Clerk shall keep a correct copy of the proceedings of the meeting, read the letters and documents, and may call any member to assist him at the close of the meeting. He shall take charge of the papers and documents, unless otherwise directed.

5. The Churches shall designate their Messengers, and report their condition by letter.

6. Preachers in good standing in other Baptist Churches or Associations with whom we are in fellowship, when attending our annual meeting, shall be invited to a seat as correspondents, and these meetings shall always be opened with prayer and closed in a similar manner.

7. Every member may speak twice on any one subject in debate before the meeting, but not more without leave; and when speaking shall stand and address the Moderator, and use decorous and Christian language; and no member shall absent himself from the Association during the session, without leave; and any person who shall violate these Rules or the Constitution shall be reprov'd as the Association shall think proper.

8. These Rules may be amended by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting.

9. The Churches shall contribute funds for the ordinary expenses of the body, such as printing the minutes and paying the traveling expenses of such members as the Association may send to other bodies.

10. A public collection shall be taken up at each session, and applied to such benevolent purposes as the Association may direct.



J H Martin Charles
The 24¹³ day 1889
J H Charles Charles
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DECLARATION OF FAITH.

1. 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.

2. We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite intelligent Spirit, whose name is Jehova, 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 Spirit; equal in every divine perfection; and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

3. 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 defense or excuse.

4. 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 his 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

J H Charles

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He is every way qualified to be an all-sufficient Savior.

5. 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 brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

6. 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 determined depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel, which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

7. 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 the divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel, and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, faith and newness of life.

8. We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties and 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 Savior.

9. 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 perfectly free, wise, holy and unchangable: 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.

10. 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 the 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.

11. We believe that such only are true believers as endure to 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.

12. 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 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 the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church,—

13. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptised 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 and privileges invested in them by His word—that its only scriptural officers are bishops or pastors and deacons, whose qualifications and claims and duties are defined in the Epistles of Timothy and Titus.

14. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer into the name of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit, 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 a 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.

15. 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 recreation, by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both of private and public, and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

16. We believe that the 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 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.

17. 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.

18. We believe that the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day Christ shall 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 judged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in Heaven or hell on principles of righteousness.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE.	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Recommended by Letter	Excluded	Total Membership	Days of Meeting	For Minutes	For Pastoral Support	For As'tonal Missions	No. Eng. in Sub. School	Incidental Expenses
Mountain Home	T. W. Wright	J. M. Gray	Mountain Home	20	11	12	2	157	1868	4	2.00	\$268.00	28.90	80
Hopewell	H. H. Hilton		"			4	1	133	1374	1	0.00			
Mount Pleasant	J. T. Prior	J. W. Reed	Gasville	7	1	1	3	209	1869	3	4.00	50.00		
Pilgrim's Rest	W. D. White	H. T. Dillbeck	Mtn. Home	22	1	2	1	103	1872	2	2.00		1.25	1
Pullatine	W. D. Jennings	J. B. Eubank	Buford					176			0.00			
New Harmony	W. D. Jennings	J. H. Pierce	Oakland	20	1	4	4	1872	3	2.00	27.50	2.00		
Friendship	W. D. White	J. H. Wade	Mtn. Home	3	6			38	1872	1	0.60			
Oakland	J. T. Hand	J. T. Stone	"	14	10			42	1331	3	1.80	1.00		1
Oak Grove	Q. C. Pinnington	J. M. Hayden	"	2	8	3	1	42		2	1.50	25.00	2.25	48
Pleasant Grove	C. H. Mayfield	E. F. Hand	Onget	2	9			1882	2	2.05	16.30	1.70	61	3
Ruboth	J. H. Farmer	A. Johnson	Epain	1	2	3	2	2		2.05			50	
New Hope	H. Sasser	J. G. Dillabuntz	Yonville	9		6	1	14		2	1.90	87.77	6.50	75
Pleasant Hill	H. Sasser	T. W. Depprest	Bruno	28	7	3	2	194	871	1	1.50	45.00	7.60	
Shady Grove	H. Sasser	H. A. McEntire	St. Joe			3		23	1874	3	0.00			
New Liberty	J. H. Farmer	F. A. Horn	George's Creek	2		9	2	33	1876	1	2.00			
Confidence	H. Sasser	J. B. Miller	Bros		2	4		10		8	0.75			
Jefferson Hall	C. Amos	J. S. Willingham	Clear Creek	1	1	2		31			1.00			
Big Spring	W. W. Soward	T. Meritt		9		12	13	30			0.50	5.00	1.25	
Zion Hill	J. A. Butler	J. H. Pannila	Yellowville	11	5			33	1877	2	1.00	10.50	1.00	25
Harmony	W. M. Larn	J. B. Taylor	Clear Cree.	1		6		40	1478		1.50			
Cedar Creek	Wm. A. Collis	A. Beckum	Mtn. Home								0.00			
Rocky Mount	C. H. Mayfield	C. L. Featherst	Valley Springs	4				2	1885	4	1.50	19.4		
Rock Springs	J. T. Hand	R. O. Hawkins	Long Rock								0.00			
New Prospect	J. R. Pennington	J. B. Norton	Pleasant Ridge					0	1887	3	.50			
Bethel	H. Sasser	E. M. McCarty	Bush						1887		.50			
Wall's Chapel	Wm. A. Collis	E. T. Conkey	Luka	5	4	1		17	1873	1.00				

Note—Mountain Home church has contributed to Foreign Missions \$14.00. The Ladies' Missionary Society at Mountain Home contributed to the Association \$10.00, to Foreign Missions 30.00, Pastoral Support 20.00, Relief of Poor 5.00. Incidental Expenses 1.50.