

---

# MINUTES

OF THE



## FOURTEENTH SESSION

OF THE

Spring River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Pleasant Hill Church,

SEPTEMBER 23rd and 25th, 1882.

---

# MINUTES.

PLEASANT HILL CHURCH, September 23, 1882.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder M. D. Bowers, from Eph. 4th chapter and 3rd verse. After a recess of half an hour the body was called together by singing, reading of a passage of scripture, and prayer by Elder D. Wagster, after which the Association was called to order by the Moderator, Elder M. D. Bowers. The Moderator having called on Elder R. B. Bellamy and Bro. H. Spots to assist Clerk in reading the letters, proceeded to call the roll of churches, hear the reading of letters, and enroll names of messengers. (See Statistics.)

The messengers then proceeded to elect a Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer, which resulted in the choice of Elder M. D. Bowers, Moderator, and Wm. G. Pickett, Clerk and Treasurer. Elder Bowers not feeling able to preside over the body on account of bad health, at his request he was excused and a new election held for Moderator, which resulted in the choice of Elder R. B. Bellamy. The Moderator elect, having returned his thanks to the body for the honor and trust bestowed upon him, took his seat and proceeded with the business:

1. Called for Petitionary Letters.
2. Called for Correspondence from sister Associations, when S. R. Erwin came forward as messenger from White River Valley Association, and was received. Also Elder W. S. Holland and Jesse R. Pratt, from State Line Association, were received.
3. Inviting Visiting Brethren to Seats.—Elders D. Wagster, J. W. Wicker, H. M. Price, J. B. Wayland, Bro. John F. Baker, (licentiate), Bro. F. Hester, accepted seats.

The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

1. On Preaching.—The messengers of Point Hill Church, and W. E. Moore.
2. On Finance.—R. J. Penn, W. G. Pickett, J. L. Gay.
3. On Destitution.—W. G. Himond, J. M. Erwin, John Holland.
4. On Missions.—J. A. Wilson, W. H. Mann, S. A. Armstrong.
5. Sabbath Schools.—W. E. Moore, R. J. Penn, Peter Shoupe.
6. On Correspondence.—W. G. Pickett, J. D. Haynes, Wilson Price.
7. On Literature.—W. W. Crabtree, R. P. Bain, L. L. Wells.
8. On Education.—Thomas Mabley, Joseph Miller, W. Price.
9. On State of Churches.—W. G. Hindman, H. Spotts, J. M. Erwin.

The Moderator having called R. J. Penn to the Chair, proceeded to read the Circular Letter, as per appointment, as follows, which was received and adopted:

## MINISTERIAL CONSECRATION.

*Dear Brethren:* At your last annual meeting I was appointed to write a Circular Letter, to be read at this time, and my theme for this task is, "Ministerial Consecration." The act of devotion to sacred uses, is at least a part of the meaning of consecration, and I trust you will not consider me selfish for confining my remarks to the gospel ministry; while I write thus, I do so that all may be benefited. When I say Ministerial Consecration, I mean there is a great work to be accomplished by the ministers of Christ, which will require considerable consecration, devotion and study. And for fear you may think

that I am occupying an extreme position on this subject, I will here state that I know it is impossible for most of our ministers to devote their entire time to studying and preaching the gospel, yet at the same time were we to blend the fragments of time not used by us in securing a living for ourselves and families, and devote the same to the study of God's word, in connection with other good literature, great, grand and glorious, would be the unavoidable results. The gospel ministry is an important position, from the fact that the salvation of sinners depends upon a proper presentation of the Gospel of Christ, so far as instrumental means is concerned. Proof: 1. The gospel, is God's power to salvation.—Rom. 1, 16. By the which ye are saved.—First Cor., 15, 2. He that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me.—John 5, 24. Then they that gladly received his (Peter's) word, (Christ's gospel), were baptized.—Acts 2, 41. And by him all that believe are justified from all things.—Acts 13, 29. That the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel and believe.—Acts 15, 7. And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard, and how shall they hear without a preacher.—Rom. 10, 14. So, then, faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.—Rom. 10, 17. With these scriptures before us we can certainly see that the minister's position is a responsible one. Let us endeavor to show ourselves approved unto God: workmen that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. Brethren, after presenting these scriptures as inducements to the study of God's word, I will say that there is no salvation in us; it is all in Christ. The gospel is a medium through which God has seen fit, in his wisdom and goodness, to present Christ to the world. May God help us all to live more devoted to his cause, is the prayer of your Brother in Christ.

R. B. BELLAMY.

The Committee on Preaching reported as follows: For Saturday night, W. S. Holland and R. B. Bellamy. Sunday, 11 o'clock, Elder Pratt and J. W. Wick-  
er; at 2 o'clock, D. Wagster and R. J. Penn; at night, S. A. Armstrong and G. B. Borah. On motion the Association adjourned until Monday, 9 o'clock a. m.

MONDAY, September 25, 1882.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Reading of the first chapter of Hebrews, by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder Jackson. The Moderator then declared the body in session.

1. Called for Letters.—The messengers of Little Spring Church came forward with their letter, which was read and messengers' names enrolled.

2. Called for Correspondence.—Elder W. A. Jackson presented himself, bearing letter from Independence Association, which was read, received, and messenger taken seat.

3. Visiting Brethren Invited to Seats.—Elder G. B. Borah accepted.

4. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll of messengers and mark absentees.

5. Heard reading of minutes of Saturday, which were received.

6. The Committee on Preaching reported Elder R. B. Bellamy to preach at 11 o'clock.

7. The Committee on Finance reported as follows: We, your Committee on Finance, find for printing, minutes, \$15.70. J. L. GAY, Chairman. Which was adopted.

8. The Committee on Destitution reported as follows: We, your Committee on Destitution, beg leave to submit the following: We find that part of our Association is destitute of Baptist preaching, and ask that something be done to supply those parts with preaching. We endorse the proposition of Smithville church, and recommend that other churches would do the same. W. G. HIND-  
MAN, Chairman. Report adopted.

9. The Committee on Missions reported as follows: We believe that ever since Jesus Christ gave the commission, and the Gospel went forth from Jerusalem to be preached in His name for a witness, it has been the duty of the Church to send the Gospel into the world. Your committee would suggest that under this great charge it is the duty of the churches of this Association to supply the destitute places in its bounds with gospel preaching. Now, Brethren, let us not say and do not, but let us prove our faith by our works. We would urge that we awake out of sleep and go to work. S. A. ARMSTRONG, Chairman. The report was adopted.

9. The Committee on Correspondence reported as follows: Having had the matter under consideration would recommend that this body continue correspondence with all of the Associations it has been in correspondence with, to wit: Independence, Bethlehem, Mt. Zion, State Line, Rocky Bayou, and White River Valley. WILSON PRICE, Chairman. The report was adopted.

11. Heard the report on Sabbath Schools, as follows: We, your committee, beg leave to submit the following: We learn that there are but few Sabbath Schools kept up in this Association. We recommend that there be a more active part taken in behalf of this moral institution, that the masses may become better acquainted with the Holy Scriptures. W. E. MOORE, Chairman. The report was adopted.

12. The Committee on Literature reported as follows: We, your committee on Baptist Literature, would recommend a prayerful study of the truths as set forth in the Bible; and to mature proper ideas of the same, we would recommend the Works of A. Carson, J. R. Graves, D. B. Ray; and also the following papers, *The Evangel American*, *Baptist Flag*, *Banker and Gleaner*, and the *Tennessee Baptist*. L. L. WELLS, Chairman. The report was adopted.

13. Committee on the State of the Churches, made report as follows: We find that nearly all the churches have regular preaching, and most of them in a thriving condition. J. M. ERWIN, Chairman. The report was adopted.

14. The Committee on Education made report as follows: Since education is one of the best means for the building up of good society, and the best safeguard of civil and religious liberty, and is indispensable for the elevation of the human family, we recommend that the Brethren of this Association do all they can to educate their children, for on them must soon rest the burthen of the cause of Christ, and also of our civil government. How important then that the minds of the young be cultivated, that they may be fitted for the responsibility. Hence, we urge our Brethren to labor to advance the cause of education in our midst, both in literary and Sabbath schools, for we know there is greater need of education in our community. THOS. MABLEY, Chairman. Report adopted.

The Association then adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association met pursuant to adjournment.

1. Called for Queries. None.

2. Called for resolutions, when the following was offered by Wm. G. Pickett:

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this body, that it is our duty as churches, and members of churches, to proclaim the gospel to the world, which is the power of God unto salvation to them that believe; therefore,

Resolved, That there be a Missionary Board appointed by this body, of five Brethren, whose duty it shall be to meet and organize on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, at Smithville, and that said board make a call upon all the churches for means to support mission work in our bounds, and if possible em-

4.  
employ two missionaries to labor in the destitute portions of our Association, as said board may direct, to begin July 1, 1883, and labor until our next session.

Which was adopted.

The Moderator then proceeded to appoint a board, as follows: W. E. Moore, Wm. G. Pickett, R. J. Penn, R. P. Bain, I. W. Standford.

The following was offered by B. R. Songer, and adopted:

*Resolved*, That we tender to the brethren of Pleasant Hill church, and the friends and brethren of the vicinity, our earnest thanks for their kind and pleasant hospitality during our sojourn among them.

The following, offered by Elder Borah, was adopted:

*Resolved*, That we hold four district meetings during the ensuing Associational year, the first to meet with Shiloh church, on Saturday before the 5th Sunday in October, 1882.

The Moderator appointed messengers to corresponding bodies, as follows: Independence, L. A. Barker, F. Hester; State Line, R. J. Penn, R. B. Bellamy, G. B. Borah; Rocky Bayou, L. A. Barker, W. W. Crabtree, J. A. Wilson; White River Valley, W. G. Hindman, R. P. Bain, J. M. Erwin.

On motion proceeded to elect a place for the next meeting, some one to preach the introductory sermon, and some one to write the circular letter, which resulted as follows: New Hope church as place of meeting; Elder G. B. Borah to preach the annual sermon, J. W. Wicker his alternate, and Elder M. D. Bowers to write the circular letter.

On motion it was made the duty of the Clerk to superintend the printing of the minutes, and to have \$2.50 for his services.

On motion Association adjourned to meet with New Hope church, on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1883.

Prayer by Elder Penn.

R. B. BELLAMY, Moderator.

WM. J. PICKETT, Clerk.

# TABULAR STATEMENT.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS' NAMES.	PASTORS.	CLERK.	POST-OFFICE.	Reed by Baptism.	By Letter.	Relation.	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded.	Dead.	Total in Fellowship.	For Printing
Ash Flat,.....	No intelligence .....											
Big Creek,.....	L. A. Barker, Thos. Mabley, J. L. Gay,.....	W. M. Johnson,	A. H. Vance....	Maxville.....	..	2	..	6	..	1	29	\$2 00
Cross Roads,..	No intelligence.....											
Calamine,.....	J. M. Erwin, Joseph Miller.....	J. W. Wicker...	R. S. Bandy....	Calamine. ....	..	1	..	3	2	..	33	85
Evening Shade.	No intelligence.....											
Friendship, ...	No messenger .....											
Hills Chapel,...	Hugh Spotts.....	J. M. Hill.....	Hugh Spotts....	Smithville....	5	2	..	3	..	1	53	1 00
Jackson, .....	M. D. Bowers. B. R. Songer.....	R. J. Penn.....	B. R. Songer...	Jackson.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	73	1 00
Little Spring,..	H. Brandon, J. S. Bevin, James Lowery.....	W. A. Jackson.	J. S. Bevin....	Poughkeepsie.	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	50
Mt. View,.....	W. W. Crabtree, W. G. Hindman, R. P. Bain....	G. B. Borah....	G. S. Jeringan..	Reed's Creek.	4	4	..	3	..	..	41	1 50
Macedonia,....	No intelligence ...		Andrew Dailey.	Canton.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	...	1 00
Mt. Olive,.....	No intelligence .....											
New Hope,.....	W. E. Moore, S. McLeod, S. A. Armstrong.....	G. B. Borah....	T. J. Moore....	Smithville....	..	2	..	4	1	2	107	1 25
Pt. Hill,.....	J. Lingo, L. L. Wells, W. A. Adams.....	G. B. Borah....	G. W. Goodwin.	Smithville....	5	1	1	3	..	1	56	1 00
Pt. Pleasant,..	W. H. Mann, D. J. Johnson.....	R. B. Bellamy..	W. H. Mann....	Center .....	2	2	1	2	1	1	16	85
Pt. Grove,.....	R. B. Bellamy, Wm. G. Pickett.....	M. D. Bowers..	W. G. Pickett .	Smithville....	8	1	1	1	2	1	118	2 00
Smithville,....	R. J. Penn, Wilson Price, J. P. Goodwin.....	M. D. Bowers..	J. P. Goodwin..	Smithville....	..	1	..	..	..	1	25	1 00
Shiloh,.....	R. L. Haynes, I. W. Standiford, J. D. Haynes....	M. D. Bowers..	J. D. Haynes...	Pocahontas...	2	7	..	3	1	..	63	1 50
Union,.....	J. A. Wilson, Peter Shoup, Jno. Holland.....	J. W. Wicker...	B. Parsley.....	Calamine,....	5	..	..	..	1	..	43	1 25
Totals.....					32	23	3	28	8	8	670	\$16.70