

Minutes  
OF THE  
Forty-Second Annual Session  
OF THE  
Caddo River  
*Baptist Association,*

HELD WITH  
Mt. Moriah Church,  
Hot Spring County, Ark., September 9, 1899.



OFFICERS:

J. A. SHACKELFORD, Moderator.  
J. N. WASSON, Clerk.



Next session to meet at the Camp Ground  
near Caddo Gap, Montgomery County, at  
10 o'clock on Saturday before the Second  
Sunday in September, 1900.

# PROCEEDINGS.

The Forty-Second Annual Session of the Caddo River Baptist Association was called to order at 11 a. m. on the 9th day of September, 1899, by the moderator, H. T. Howell. In harmony with its adjournment at Mt. Moriah church, Hot Spring county, Ark., the introductory sermon was preached by Bros. W. F. Willis and J. A. Shackelford, from the text John 4: 34, after which the association adjourned to 2 p. m.

## SATURDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The association having been called to order at 2 o'clock, the moderator appointed Brethren J. N. Wasson, W. H. Anderson and D. D. Brunson as reading clerks. The church letters to the association were then read, and the following churches were found to be represented by messengers, as follows:

Liberty—A. J. Newcomb, J. J. Collier.

Union—T. J. Cunningham.

Mt. Pleasant—D. B. White, John White.

Bethlehem—W. P. Taylor, M. A. Tollison

Mt. Moriah—B. W. Kizer, P. H. Bright, John Hughes.

Black Springs—H. L. Wasson, E. P. Wasson, C. E. Brunt.

Big Fork—J. S. Loftis.

Forrest Hill—J. A. Shackelford, E. Burnes, Z. M. Nicholson.

Salem—W. D. Ward, J. D. Malone, Joe Florance.

Caney Valley—Robert D. Bishop, A. M. Doster, H. T. Howell.

Mountain Home—W. M. Tackett, G. A. Driggers.

Macedonia—C. J. Simpson.

Valley Grove—A. Nelson, D. T. Brunson, D. D. Brunson.

Bethel—W. H. Anderson, W. F. Willis, R. A. Bonner.

Pleasant Valley—J. N. Wasson, G. H. Wasson, W. T.

West.

Antioch—R. C. Fields.

Providence—L. F. Loudermilk, J. L. Tanner.

Mt. Pisgah—T. J. Wright, P. M. Whisenhunt.

Zion Hill—W. S. Modlin, H. L. Shackelford, E. A.

Shackelford.

Board Camp—A. J. Strickland, Z. A. Helton.

Petitionary letters were then called for. None presented.



The organization being complete and the election of officers for the next year being in order, Elder J. A. Shackelford, of Hickory Station, was elected moderator, J. N. Wasson, clerk, and D. T. Brunson, treasurer. The association then adjourned until Monday morning at 8 o'clock.

After 9 o'clock services on Sunday morning, the moderator announced the following committees:

Home Missions—A. Nelson, chairman. Report A.

Duties of Churches to Pastors—H. T. Howell, chairman. Report B.

Duties of Pastors to Churches—T. J. Cunningham, chairman. Report C.

On Destitution—H. L. Wasson, chairman. Report D.

On Religion—A. M. Doster, chairman. Report E.

On Temperance—W. T. West, chairman. Report F.

On Documents—W. P. Taylor, chairman. Report G.

On Finance—R. C. Fields, chairman. Report H.

On Camp Ground—D. D. Brunson, chairman. Report I.

On Obituaries—W. H. Anderson, chairman. Report J.

#### MONDAY—MORNING SESSION.

After prayer by moderator the association was called to order at 8 o'clock. Minutes of Saturday were read and adopted. Roll was called and absentees marked. The rules of the association were ordered read; also moved and ordered that speeches be limited to five minutes. Reports of committees were called for. Bro. A. Nelson read the report on Home Missions, which was discussed by J. W. McDonald and D. T. Brunson, after which discussion the report was adopted. (See Report A.)

The association then heard the report of the Duties of Churches to Pastors. Was discussed by Bros. E. Burnes, W. A. Clark and E. T. Brunson, after which discussion the report was adopted. (See Report B.)

The association then heard the report of the Duties of Pastors to Churches. There was a very interesting discussion on the subject by brethren, as follows: D. T. Brunson, W. A. Clark, H. L. Wasson, A. Nelson and H. T. Howell, after which discussion the report was adopted. (See Report C.)

The Report on Destitution was read and adopted. (See Report D.)

Report on State of Religion was read and adopted. (See Report E.)

The Report on Temperance was read and after being discussed by Bro. W. A. Clark, was adopted. (See Report F.)

The Report on Documents was read and adopted. (See Report G.)

The Report on Finance was read and adopted. (See Report H.)

The Report of Committee on Camp Ground was read and adopted. (See Report I.)

The Report on Obituaries was read and adopted. (See Report J.)

The Treasurer's Report was then read and adopted. (See Report K.)

The Report on Sunday-school Convention was read and adopted. (See Report L.)

Bro. D. T. Brunson then offered the following:

Resolved, That we, recognizing the importance of a Baptist paper in Arkansas, do heartily endorse the *Arkansas Baptist* as sound in doctrine and worthy of our support and patronage, and that we would urge our people to subscribe for it and thus become acquainted with our brotherhood throughout the State.

D. T. BRUNSON.

The association then adjourned to 1:30 p. m.

### MONDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The association met at 1:30. Immediately after prayer the association ordered that the clerk be allowed \$16 for employing Bro. W. A. Clark to print the minutes of this association, the contract being understood.

Brother H. T. Howell offered the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body is due Mt. Moriah church and community for their kind hospitality and generous treatment of this association while convened with them.

Adopted.

H. T. HOWELL, Chairman.

Brother D. D. Brunson offered the following:

Be it resolved by the Caddo River Association, That the next session be held at the camp ground near Caddo Gap, under the supervision of the following churches: Pleasant Valley and Liberty.

Adopted.

D. D. BRUNSON.


The association ordered that the clerk have \$12.50 for his services.

The association ordered that we send Brother D. D. Brunson as a corresponding messenger to the Baptist State Board at Jonesboro.

The association ordered that we correspond with Southern Baptist Convention. Bro. H. T. Howell elected to go

The association ordered that a committee of three, composed of Brethren D. T. Brunson, H. L. Wasson and W. H. Anderson, be appointed to draft the obituary of Bro. Edmond Wright. (See Report on Obituaries.)

The association ordered that Bro. R. C. Fields be added to the Home Mission Board.

Bro. W. P. Taylor was elected to preach the next introductory sermon, with Bro. R. C. Fields alternate. 



The association requests that each church raise a fund for the support of the widows of deceased preachers.

By vote the clerk was ordered to have 500 minutes printed and distributed to various churches in proportion to money sent for minutes. The association was then led in prayer by Bro. A. Nelson, of Hickory Station, after which the messengers took the parting hand. The association then stood adjourned to meet at the camp ground near Caddo Gap, Montgomery county, Ark., at 10 o'clock on Saturday before the second Sunday in September, 1900. Thus closed the harmonious labor of the Forty-second Session of Caddo River Association.

J. A. SHACKELFORD, Moderator.

J. N. WASSON, Clerk.

## Report of Committees.

### A. HOME MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on Missions, find first on hand to the amount of \$23.55. We recommend that this body use these funds to place a missionary in the field in the bounds of this association.

Respectfully submitted,

A. NELSON, Chairman.

### B. DUTIES OF CHURCHES TO PASTORS.

It is the duty of the church to administer to the pastor's financial interest and encourage him all that is possible in his ministerial labor by meeting him punctually and assisting him at all stated meetings of the church and always making him feel welcome by brotherly kindness and by putting funds in the deacon's hands sufficient to enable him to administer to the needs of the pastor, for it is taught in God's Word that "They that preach the gospel shall live of the gospel. I, is further taught in the Word, that God loves a cheerful giver. Dear brethren, let us all become aroused to our duty and set out with more energy and zeal and determined resolution to do our duty to our pastor and our heavenly Father more fully than we have in the past. May God help us to do this with faith that he will bless us abundantly.

Respectfully submitted,

H. T. HOWELL,  
Z. M. NICHOLSON.

### C. DUTIES OF PASTORS TO CHURCHES.

The pastor should preach the Word in its purity, reprove and rebuke with long suffering and doctrine, and should strive to influence every member to fill his station and do his whole duty in the work pertaining to matters of the church, and by so doing lead them to Christ whom we are taught is to take away the sins of the world. He should use all the means he can to influence the church over which he has charge, to go forward in the work, and should endeavor to influence the church members to attend church, prayer-meetings and all means of grace.

Respectfully submitted,

T. J. CUNNINGHAM, Chairman.

## D. DESTITUTION.

We, your Committee on Destitution in the bounds of Caddo River Association, find considerable destitution, and we earnestly ask that this association provide some means to supply the same, for it is alarming to find churches in the bounds of this association without pastors, and other places where churches should be built. May God put it in the hearts of this body to work while it is day.

H. L. WASSON, Chairman.

## E. STATE OF RELIGION.

We, your Committee on Religion, beg leave to make the following report: We find by the reading of the letters from the churches, that the cause of Christ is flourishing in some parts of the association and in others it is languishing. Brethren, this should not be so. Let us pray that God may revive the work in this association that sons and daughters may be born to God.

A. M. DOSTER,

C. E. BRUNT,

E. P. WASSON.

## F. TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee on Temperance, make the following report: We believe the use of intoxicating liquors are injurious and offensive, and we should do all in our power to banish it from our land, God being our helper. It being a curse to our rising generation we pray God that we get rid of all evils that would hinder God's love from spreading abroad. No drunkard can enter the Kingdom of Heaven. May we, with the spirit of Christ, push forward this grand work, is our prayer.

W. T. WEST

J. S. LOFTIS.

W. D. WARD.

## G. DOCUMENTS

We, your Committee, find a small amount sent in by the churches for the support of the gospel; also we find six churches asking for the next session of this body to be held with them.

W. P. TAYLOR,

P. M. WHISENHUNT.

## H. FINANCE.

We, your Committee on Finance, find on hand for minutes .....	\$21 25
For Home Missions.....	20 37
For Sunday-school Convention.....	2 00

Total .....	\$43 62
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We find on hand from last year for Home Missions.....	\$ 9 00
From last year for associational purposes.....	10 00

Total.....	\$51 00
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Respectfully submitted,

R. C. FIELDS, Chairman.

## I. CAMP GROUND.

We, your Committee appointed to secure a suitable place for a camp ground, beg to submit the following: We have succeeded in securing a deed to ten acres of land from Bro. J. J. Collier, on the condition that if we do not build our camp inside of two years the land is forfeited.

J. N. WASSON,

D. D. BRUNSON.



## J. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Received from Brother W. F. Willis, former treasurer .....	\$12 64
For Home Missions .....	20 57
For minutes .....	21 25
From Sunday-school Convention .....	2 06

Total ..... \$56 52

D. T. BRUNSON, Treasurer.

## K. OBITUARIES.

Salem Church—Sister Nancy Cowart. Died 1899, age 86 years.

Bethel Church—Sister Nancy Myers. Died December 14, 1899, age 33 years. She lived a devoted member of the Missionary Baptist church at Bethel for 15 years. Sister Martha Robison. Died January 13, 1899, age 40 years. She lived a consistent member of Bethel church for 22 years. Sister Sarah E. Wisener. Died May 12, 1899, age 33 years. She lived a consistent member of Bethel church for 4 years.

Caney Valley Church—Sister S. F. Caldwell. Died July 27, 1899, age 33 years, and at her death was a consistent member of Caney Valley church.

Union Church—Bro. J. J. Cunningham. Died January 30, 1899. Lived a consistent member of the Missionary Baptist church 22 years.

Mt. Pisgah Church—Eld. E. Wright. Was born September 5, 1839, died May 29, 1899. United with Missionary Baptist church of Christ at the age of 17 years. Was ordained to the ministry September 22, 1866. Was clerk of the Caddo River Baptist Association for a number of years. He ranked with the best preachers of his association. He was loving and affectionate to his family. As a Christian his godly conversation, pious walk and life plainly prove such purity. He leaves a loving companion, a large family of children and a host of friends to mourn his loss.

The earth no more shall know him

Friends no more shall see,

Gone to be with Jesus

Throughout eternity.

Providence Church—William Riley Rowton. Was born May 16, 1828, in Tennessee, where he was raised and educated. Moved to Montgomery county, Ark., in 1846. Was married to Louisa McDaniel July, 1847. He died February 28, 1899. Was converted and joined the M. E. church about 27 years ago; he joined the Baptist church 17 years ago. He was a good citizen, a true and faithful husband and father; a consistent and devoted Christian. He leaves a wife, six sons and daughters, many grand-children, many relatives and a host of friends.

His smiles no more shall gladden,

His hands no more caress;

Nor speak with words of kindness,

Those lips that used to bless.

W. H. ANDERSON,

D. T. BRUNSON,

H. L. WASSON.

## ORDAINED MINISTERS.

A. A. Bates, Eggar,  
T. B. Burk, Rock Creek,  
T. J. Cunningham, Bear,  
H. T. Howell, Ophir,  
J. E. Long, Bales,  
A. Nelson, Hickory Station,  
J. A. Shackelford, Hickory Station,  
M. A. Tollison, Kirby,  
G. H. Wasson, Manfred,

J. D. Bates, Eggar,  
D. Bright, Point Cedar,  
D. T. Driggers, Hickory Station,  
J. J. Hughes, Rock Creek,  
W. B. Millsapp, Hickory Station,  
J. M. Smith, Rock Creek,  
W. P. Taylor, Kirby,  
H. L. Wasson, Black Springs,  
W. F. Willis, Amity.

## LICENTIATES.

E. Burnes, Hickory Station,  
Green Diggs, Hickory Station,  
J. R. Motley, Kirby,

Ottis Martin, Hickory Station,  
R. C. Fields, Caddo Gap,  
D. T. Brunson, Rock Creek.

## DIVINE SERVICE.

Preaching was had at the times and by the brethren below mentioned:

Bro. W. F. Willis, of Amity, Introductory, at 11 a. m., Saturday; text, John 4: 34. Bros. M. A. Tollison and H. L. Wasson, Saturday evening at 8, Mt. Moriah church. Bro. H. T. Howell, at Hawk school-house at 8 p. m.; text, Romans 14: 11-12. Bros. D. T. Brunson and W. S. Madlin, Ussery school-house, 8 p. m.; text, John 3: 14-15. Sunday, Bros. H. L. Wasson and T. J. Cunningham, at 9 a. m. Bro. W. A. Clark, of Little Rock, at 11 a. m., subject "Evidence of Conversion." Bro. H. T. Howell, Ussery school-house, at 8 p. m.; text, Luke 16: 23. Bro. J. W. McDonald, of Hot Springs, Monday morning at 11; text, Timothy 4: 1.

(Signed)

COMMITTEE.



# Statistical Table.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POSTOFFICE.	COUNTY.	Rec'd by Bapt sm.	Restored.	Disms'd by Letter	exclud-d.	Died.	Pre-cent Membership	Days of Meeting.	Minutes	Fund.	Home Missions.
Antioch.....	J. A. Shackelford.....	John Welch.....	Caddo Gap.....	Montgomery.....	8	2	1	22	1st	\$ 65	\$ 3	50	80	
Black Springs.....	H. T. Howell.....	A. Herring.....	Black Springs.....	Montgomery.....	3	6	1	37	3rd	7 57	3 20	80	80	
Bethlehem.....	M. A. Tollison.....	W. J. Taylor.....	Kirby.....	Pike.....	1	1	1	48	2nd	60	1 50	2 00	1 00	
Big Fork.....	A. A. Bates.....	P. D. Mays.....	Egger.....	Polk.....	5	16	3	35	3rd	1 60	2 00	1 00	1 00	
Board Camp.....	T. H. Howell.....	W. H. Helton.....	Board Camp.....	Polk.....	5	4	3	38	2nd	85	1 00	80	80	
Bethel.....	J. A. Shackelford.....	S. T. Robertson.....	Rock Creek.....	Pike.....	5	4	3	38	2nd	85	1 00	80	80	
Caney Valley.....	J. J. Hughes.....	C. H. Motley.....	Rock Creek.....	Pike.....	3	3	2	73	1st	1 25	1 00	80	80	
Forrest Hill.....	W. F. Willis.....	Z. M. Nicholson.....	Hickory Station.....	Montgomery.....	3	3	2	30	2nd	65	1 00	80	80	
Liberty.....	J. A. Shackelford.....	Birt Eastman.....	Opher.....	Montgomery.....	7	2	2	56	3rd	1 00	1 00	80	80	
Mt. Moriah.....	W. P. Taylor.....	P. H. Bright.....	Ussery.....	Garland.....	1	2	2	81	3rd	1 50	1 15	1 00	1 00	
Mt. Pisgah.....	B. D. Millsapp.....	H. W. Whisenhunt.....	Luckey.....	Montgomery.....	3	2	4	23	2nd	1 20	1 00	80	80	
Macedonia.....	J. W. Shepperd.....	J. A. Johnston.....	Oden.....	Montgomery.....	3	2	2	36	2nd	1 00	1 00	80	80	
Mountain Home.....	B. D. Millsapp.....	W. M. Tackett.....	Hickory Station.....	Montgomery.....	4	2	2	59	3rd	1 00	1 00	80	80	
Mt. Zion.....	H. T. Howell.....	J. A. Willson.....	Platta.....	Montgomery.....	4	3	2	39	4th	50	1 00	80	80	
Mt. Pleasant.....	G. C. Smith.....	R. P. Williamson.....	Rock Creek.....	Pike.....	2	8	2	39	3rd	75	1 00	80	80	
Pleasant Valley.....	J. A. Shackelford.....	J. H. Peel.....	Manfred.....	Montgomery.....	2	8	2	40	2nd	1 00	1 00	80	80	
Providence.....	H. L. Wasson.....	L. F. Loudernilk.....	Black Springs.....	Montgomery.....	8	10	1	49	3rd	85	1 50	8 25	1 00	
Salem.....	H. T. Howell.....	A. F. Willson.....	Kirby.....	Pike.....	8	10	1	45	1st	1 50	8 25	1 00	1 00	
Union.....	H. L. Wasson.....	E. M. Payte.....	Bear.....	Montgomery.....	1	4	2	25	1st	75	95	2 00	1 00	
Valley Grove.....	A. Nelson.....	S. F. Brunson.....	Rock Creek.....	Pike.....	1	4	2	26	1st	95	2 00	1 00	1 00	
Zion Hill.....	H. L. Shackelford.....	H. L. Shackelford.....	Bear.....	Montgomery.....	1	4	5	35	1st	50	1 00	80	80	

## Sunday-School Convention.

The Caddo River Baptist Sunday-school Convention met with Caney Valley church on Friday at 11 o'clock a. m., before the first Sunday in August, 1899. The convention sermon was preached by Elders D. T. Brunson and J. J. Hughes. Text, Mark 12: 17. Then adjourned until 3 p. m.

### EVENING SESSION—FIRST DAY.

The convention was called to order by Vice-President J. M. Smith. Read Proverbs 22, and offered prayer. After reading the Constitution, appointed preaching committee as follows: T. J. Carpenter, R. D. Bishop and J. W. McLain. Called for letters from churches and schools. The letters were read and messengers' names enrolled. Went into election of officers for another year which resulted as follows: D. T. Brunson, president; J. J. Hughes, vice-president; W. W. Smith, secretary, and T. J. Carpenter, treasurer. Appointed G. W. McLain chairman of musical class. On motion adjourned until 9 a. m. Saturday.

### MORNING SESSION—SECOND DAY.

After President D. T. Brunson read the 9th chapter of Hebrew and offered prayer, the convention resumed business. First enrolled *ex officio* members, then appointed committee to arrange program for next session, as follows: A. F. Wilson J. M. Smith, M. A. Tollison, J. J. Hughes, Sr., and H. T. Howell. Called for reports of Sunday-school superintendents. Reports fair.

On motion speeches were limited to five minutes. Took up annual program of subjects and essays and spent the rest of the day on it. The subjects were profitably discussed and the essays endorsed. Then the convention adjourned until 9 a. m. Sunday.

### MORNING SESSION—THIRD DAY.

The convention was opened by the president. Read the 19th Psalm and offered prayer. Called for voluntary talks, when Eld. J. J. Hughes delivered one of great interest. Subject, "Intoxicating drinks and the way to avoid them." Called for resolutions, when the following were submitted and adopted:

1. Resolved, That the next session of this body be held with Valley Grove church at Rock Creek, beginning on Friday at 11 a. m. before the fourth Sunday in August, 1900.



2. Resolved, That this body tender its heartfelt thanks to the members of Caney Valley church and community for their hospitality shown the convention while assembled with them, and also to our worthy president and secretary for their faithful service.

3. Resolved, That it is the desire of this convention that the Caddo River Association, at its next session, request every ordained Baptist minister in its bounds to become a Sunday-school organizer, and that they report to the secretary of this convention every school organized.

Called for report of treasurer, which was as follows:

To help defray expenses for minutes ..... \$2 01

Called for report of Committee on Program for next session, which was as follows:

Introductory sermon—H. T. Howell, M. A. Tollison.

Subject: "Does the Bible sustain the Sunday-schools?" M. A. Tollison.

"Should pastors earnestly advocate Sunday-schools to the churches they serve?" H. T. Howell.

"Should we advocate the use of Baptist literature in Sunday-schools?" W. P. Taylor.

"Is the Sunday-school a creature of the church?" W. H. Willis.

"Should superintendents of Baptists Sunday-schools belong to Baptist churches?" R. C. Fields.

"We denounce the use of whiskey or strong drinks as a beverage," J. M. Smith.

"How many children recorded in the Bible that were named before they were born?" J. J. Hughes, Sr.

"Why should we pray?" D. D. Brunson.

Essay by Sister Leona Florence. Subject of her own choice.

Essay by Sister T. J. Hughes. Subject of her own choice.

Essay by Sister M. A. Tollison. Subject of her own choice.

Essay by Sister D. T. Brunson. Subject of her own choice.

The report of preaching committee was as follows:

Friday night, E. Burns, J. R. Modley. Text, John 15: 1.

Saturday, 11 a. m., M. A. Tollison, H. T. Howell. Text, I. Timothy 4: 16.

Saturday night, H. T. Howell. Text, Matthew 25: 23.

The minutes were read and adopted. Then after taking the parting hand with tears the convention adjourned to meet with Valley Grove church.

D. T. BRUNSON, President.

W. W. SMITH, Secretary.

## STATISTICS.

## CHURCHES AND MESSENGERS.

Mt. Moriah—T. J. Carpenter, D. Bright.  
 Valley Grove—D. D. Brunson, May Herring.  
 Caney Valley—R. D. Bishop, Mattie Herring, Lizzie Thornton.  
 Salem—A. F. Wilson, W. D. Ward, Lena Thrash.  
 Bethel—W. H. Anderson.  
 Mountain Home—J. C. Thomas, G. A. Drigegr.  
 Bethlehem—J. R. Motley.

## SCHOOLS.

Caney Valley—G. W. McLain, M. E. Smith, M. S. Smith; superintendent, George Spears; membership, 63.  
 Valley Grove—Reuben Hughes, Eula Brunson; superintendent, W. H. Kendrix; membership, 48.  
 Mountain Home—W. M. Tackett, L. C. Tackett; superintendent, G. A. Driggers; membership, 55. Total, 166.  
 Ex-Officio Members—J. J. Hughes, J. M. Smith, G. A. Driggers, M. A. Tollison, D. T. Brunson, H. T. Howell, W. F. Willis, B. D. Milsaps, W. P. Taylor.

Address of Secretary W. W. Smith, Rock Creek, Pike county. Dear Brethren: You are missing a good thing in not attending the convention.

W. W. SMITH, Secretary.



## Articles of Faith.

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I. 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. 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 God-head 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. We believe that man was created in holiness, under the laws 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.

IV. 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, He is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and all-sufficient Savior.

V. 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. 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. 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. 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 Savior.

IX. 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 unchangable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes love, humility, 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. 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 Healer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed



means, especially the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

XI. 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 that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XII. We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangable 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. 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. 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 prerequisite 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. 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 private and public, and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

XVI. We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interests 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. 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. We believe that the end of the 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 judgment will fix forever the final state of men in Heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.



## Rules of Decorum.

Rule 1. This association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Rule 2. A moderator and clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

Rule 3. The moderator shall be considered a judge of order and shall have the right to call to order at any time.

Rule 4. A member not satisfied with his decision may appeal to the association on the same day, but at no other time.

Rule 5. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet and obtaining permission, proceed.

Rule 6. The moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise.

Rule 7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject, or unless words of personal reflection are used. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the association, unless withdrawn by him that made it.

Rule 8. Every case taken up by the association shall be decided or withdrawn before another one can be offered.

Rule 9. When a question is up, after allowing time for debate, the moderator shall take the voice of the association on the subject, and the members on the affirmative of the question shall signify the same by rising from their seats, and those in the negative shall retain theirs.

Rule 10. The moderator shall pronounce the decision before the standers resume their seats.

Rule 11. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission of the moderator.

Rule 12. No member shall speak more than three times on the same question without permission of the association, nor more than once until every member who wishes shall have spoken.

Rule 13. The appellation of brother shall be used in the association in addressing one another.

Rule 14. The names of the members shall be called as often as the association may direct.

Rule 15. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

Rule 16. The moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges of speaking as any other member, provided he appoint another to his seat during the time; but he shall not vote on any question unless the association be equally divided.

Rule 17. Any member violating these rules may be re-proved by the moderator at his discretion; but only on the day that the breach is made.