MINUTES

-or the-

MT. VERNON BAPTIST \ASSOCIATION.

Tannton, Phillips County, J. September 28th, 1871, 11 o'clock, A. M. J.

The Mt. Vernon Baptist Association met this day, with the Trenton

Church, according to its adjournment.

Eld. J. T. Marshal, appointed at the last meeting, preached the introductory sermon from Mat. xxvii. 42 verse: "He saved others; himself he cannot save."

After preaching, an intermission of ten minutes was announced.
10 O'clock, ψ. м.

The delegates to compose the Association assembled for business. The former Moderator and Clerk in their seats. Prayer by Bro.

Holland.

The letters from the Churches—which are constituent members of this body were called for and read, and names of delegates enrolled, to-wite.

Bethel Church—W. S. and T. L. Turner, E. Holtzclaw.

Trenton Church—Rey. W. H. Robert, C. T. Scaife, S. H. King.

Helena Church—Rev. W. D. Mayfield, Wm. Porter. Clarendon Church—J. L. Chaney.

Mt. Gilliard Church—T. B. Mathis, C. L. A. Graham.

New Hope No. 2—Letter.
Point Deluce Church—Eld. J. T. Marshall, T. J. Monsey, E. B. Lauzham.

Salem Church—J. F. Garrett, Wm. Thompson, J. N. Thompson . Linn Grove Church—John Walker.

DeWitt Church-W. H. Halliburton, J. A. Gibson.

Big Creek Church-R. H. Parker, J. B. Synco.

Riseing Sun Church-Eld. J. H. Spann, J. E. Turner.

Pleasant Grove Church Better.

Forrest Chapel Church-John Taylor, J. H. Thompson.

Forrest/City Church-J. H. Crabtree.

Ash Grove Church—Eld. J. M. Cox, R. Hood, R. D. Welch. Shiloh Church—Elds. W. M. Raper, E. Holland, G. W. Dew.

Marianna Church-C. A. Wilson, J. P. Farrer.

Blackfoot Church-J. E. Hopkins.

Spring Creek Church-H. P. Slaughter, J. F. Laugston.

The Association then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted in the choice of Bro. H. P. Slaughter, Moderator; S. H. King, Clerk, and W. D. Mayfield, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

The following committee on religious exercises was appointed: J. A. Gibson, W. J. Scaife, T. B. Muthis, John Taylor, J. L. Chafer.

Adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock Friday morning. Prayer by Bm.

9 O'CLOCK, A. M., FRIDAY.

Association met according to adjournment. Prayer by Bro. Cox.

Letters and delegates received from the following churches:

Hopewell-Wm. McLiendon, J. F. Wright.

Pine Fork-J. R. Capshaw, W. H. Clarke.

New Hope-Eld. J. K. Murphy.

Petitionary letters being called for, the following was received: From Bayou Meter Church asking to be received as a member of this body. Letter accepted and the church received to membership.

Visiting brothren invited to sit with me and nid us by the counsel; accepted by Dro. Graham.

Committee on Domestic Alissions called upon to report. Bea Mayfield, chairman of the committee made the following report

"Your Board on Domestic Missions has been able to do nothing during the past year our account of heaving to funds. Should the churches meet their players, your Board will be shown with God's help to do something in the coming year.

W. D. MAYFIELD, Chairman

After much discussion by treathren Mayfield, Cay, Spanish Scale; the report was received and adopted.

By Bro. Rober

RESOLVED, That in view of the green and extraordinal winds our bounds it becomes the importance may a consistent extraordinal the Gospel to the destitute 48000 15:355 plan. Then, that of hymen be encouraged to hold prayer, mentals and this carry say

tidings of salvation to the destitute. That this Association use its atmost means to have the Gospel preached at Walnut Bend, Old Town and Clarendon. Resolution adopted.

Finance committee appointed, consiting of Brethren J. P. Farrer, Wm. Porter, J. H. Thompson. Adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M. Prayer by Bro. Cox.

2 О'сьоск, р. м.

Assembled for business. Prayer by Bro., Murphy. Moved to suspend order of business to receive Petitionary letters. Letter received from Hickory Ridge Church, asking to be received into the membership of this Association. The Church, was received as a member of this body, and right hand of fellowship extended to the delegates.

Committees on Education, Sabbath Schools and Temperance granted further time. Moved to adjourn until 9 o'clock Saturday morning. Prayer by Bro. Scaife.

Saturday, 9 O'clock, A. M.

Called to order. Singing. Prayer by Bro. Mayfield. Roll called. Minutes read and adopted. Committee on Education reported. After much animated discussion by Brethren Mayfield, Cox, Holland, Scaife, Halliburton, report adopted. See Appendix A.

Bro. Mayfield, Secretary State Board, made an appeal to the Association for funds to educate the young ministers of our State.

The following amount was paid and pledged:

	7.1	1	
Eld. J. M. Cox.	\$25.00	J. T. Marshall	\$ 5.00
7. A. MINTON	**** 441	I II Cenlstron	[11 [11]
9 - 11, Halliburton	Trh (N) 1	Pinhard Hand	2 100
George Sanford	5.00	C. T. Scaife	(0,00
3.6			

Moved and carried to adjourn until 2 o'clock, P. M. Prayer by Br. Murphy?

2 О'сьоск, р. м.

Called to order for business. Singing. Prayer by Bro. Robert. Bro. Mayfield made an appeal for funds to rebuild the Baptist Church in Helena, which was entirely destroyed by wind last spring. About one hundred and fifty dollars was paid and promised.

Committee on Sabbath School reported. After remarks, report received and adopted. See Appendix B.

Committee on Temperance reported. Report received and adopted. See Appendix C.

Resolution introduced at the last meeting of the Association changing time of meeting from Thursday to Saturday before the la Sunday in October, was taken up. After some discussion the change was made. The Association will hereafter meet on Saturday;

/ By Brother Robert:

RESOLVED, That this Association now assembled in this time: religious controversy, do reaffirm its views on the subject of Bagis. and communion as follows: 1st. We believe that in order to Gospel Baptism, it is hecesary

that not only that there be a correct action, but a Gospel subjectproperly authorized administration, and a correct motive in the same 2nd. We regard the Lord's Supper as a church ordinance, and

believe that it should be confined strictly to the fellowship of the church. That there should be as many communion tables as the are churches in our land; that one no inher commune with another

not of light but courtesy. The following quinty was introduced by the clerk:

"Do the Baptists of the Mt. Vernon Association condemn by and by the members of its churches, and should they expell member who persist in engaging in the same."

After much animated discussion by Brethren Mayfield, Holland Gibson, Spann and Halliburton it was determined to adjourn until 7 o'clock to-night, then resume the discussion of the query and flux the business of the Association.

7 O'clock—Night.

Assembled for business. Singing. Prayer by Bro. Marshall The query on dancing taken up and discussed by Brethren Crabbe. Slaughter, Robert, Cox and Spann. The following answer to query was introduced by Bro. Mayfield:

"The church should kindly labor with such members, and endeavor to reclaim them; in the event, they will not desist, they should be excluded from the church." The answer was UNANIMOUSLY adopted.

The following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, That we recommend to the churches of this Association to subscribe for the Home and Foreign Journal, published at Richmond, Virginia, monthly, at twenty-five cents per copy, and do all they can at least once a year to aid in the support of the Foreign Mission Board of the S. B. Convention.

It was moved and carried to take up a collection to-morrow after morning services for Domestic Missions. It was determined to hold the next session of the Association with Mt. Gilliard church, fifteen miles east of Clarendon, Monroe county,

It was moved and carried to correspond with the Caroline Association, and Bro. J. M. Cox was appointed a messenger to that lody.

Bro. J. K. Murphy was elected to preach the next introductory sermon. Bro. C. T. Scaife alternate.

The following brethren were appointed Delegates to the State Convention: Elds. W. D. Mayfield, W. H. Robert, J. K. Murphy, J. M. Cox, J. T. Marshall, J. H. Spann, and J. N. Thompson.

The following committee were appointed to report at next session

of this body:

ON EDUCATION Elds. J. K. Murphy, J. M. Cox, and W. H. Halliburton.

ON SUNDAY SCHOOL-Eld. W. H. Robert, J. P. Farrer, J. H. Phompson.

ON TEMPERANCE-Elds, J. T. Marshall, W. M. Raper, J. F.

Garrett.

By Bro. J. A. Gibson:

RESOLVED, That this Association tender their thanks to the Trenton-church and the community adjacent, for the very kind and hospitable manner in which they have entertained us during the session of this body; and we pray to God to shower his choicest blessing upon them, and may the members of the church live in peace and harmony. Adopted

By Bro J. M. Cox:

RESORVED. That the Association tender its thanks to the Moderator and Clerk, for the able manner in which they have discharged the duties devolving upon them as such officers. Adopted.

The executive board of last year continued, consisting of brethren W. D. Mayfield, T. M. Jacks, J. Q. Taylor, H. P. Slaughter, S. H.

King.

The clerk was instructed to have the Constitution and Articles of Faith published with these minutes; also instructed to have five hundred copies of the minutes printed. The clerk was allowed ten dellars for his services.

After an able and impressive parting address by the Moderator,

a farewell hymni-was sung amid tears of brotherly love.

Adjourned to meet on Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, 1872, with the Mt. Gilliard Church, fifteen miles east of Clarendon, Monroe county.

H. P. SLAUGHTER, Moderator, Sylarsville, Monroe county.

S. H. Kixo, Clerk, Trenton, Arkansas.

APPENDIX.

Report on Education.

Your committee on Education beg leave to report that for want so information from the several churches composing this Association. they are unable to give to the Association the condition of education in the bounds thereof, there-being no reports or statistic on the subject of education from any of the Churches composing the same.

In view of the great importance of this subject, your committee fegret exceedingly their inability to present the state of education within the bounds of our Association in an intelligent, comprehensible

form for the guidance of its future deliberation and action.

As a means of avoiding a want of information on this subject for the future guidance and action of the Association, your committee respectfully submit for the consideration of this Association, and ask

the adoption of the following resolution ::

RESOLVED, That each Church composing the Mt. Vernon Association be requested to send up to the next meeting thereof, a statement of the amount of funds contributed by it for educational purposes, with such other information of the subject as shall tend to the promotion of the same.

W. D. MAYFIELD, Chairman.

[B.]

Report on Sunday School.

We, your committee on Sabbath School, would respectfully report that they are fully convinced that there is a great dearth of interess manifested upon this very important subject throughout the country, and would urge upon the churches within the bounds of this Association, the importance of having a well conducted Sabbath School with each church; and as far as possible to meet every Sabbath and instruct the children in the great plan of salvation as it is revealed in God's

Whilst we would not condenn Union Sabbath Schools, we would argo all churches that can possibly do so, to maintain exclusively a

Bantist Sunday School, where the whole truth of the Bible as we

understand it, may be taught.

We would recommend that the churches provide for the young Baptist books and Baptist literature, and that any kind of reading matter that falls short of teaching God's truth as Baptists understand it, he excluded as far as lies in our power.

We would recommend to the churches to send up to the next Association full statistics of the Sunday Schools connected with them, and where they have no School to mention the fact, as this is the only way, we can arrive at a true estimate of the number and condition of

the Sabbath Schools within the Association.

We would recontineed to the Subbath Schools "Kind Words" and "Young Reaper," as papers in every way worthy of their support, and calculated to do much good to the young, and also the denomination where they are reads.

J. A. GIBSON, Chairman.

. Deport on Temperance.

the view of the widespread desolation all over our land, from the teachers use of Spirituous Liquors and the frequent indulgence of the same, on the pairt of some of the members of our churches, both by elling and drinking; we recommend that the churches and every individual member do all in their power, both by the enforcement of strict discipline and by the advocacy of every laudable effort made, to discountenance said cyil. To raise our fellow-man from the degradation and rain, to which intemperance would consign them.

J. K. MURPHY, Chairman.

CONSTITUTION.

This confederation of Churches shall be known and called by

the name of "Mount Vernon Baptist Association,"

2. The object of this Association shall be to promote the glory of God on earth, by the preaching of the gospel of his Son Jest-Christ, our Savior; the universal spread of the Bible, the word of the true and living God, and by other appropriate means.

3. This Association shall consist of Messengers from the Churches now forming this Union, and such other Baptist Churches as may hereafter by received as constituent members thereof.

4.5 Every Church, shall be entitled to Three representative, without regard to the number of their members respectively; and to an additional one for every fifty members exceeding fifty; Provided. That no Church shall ever be entitled to more than five. A certificate of appointment, or letter from their respective churches, shall be

evidence that they have been so delegated.

5. The officers of this body shall be a Moderator, a Clerk of Clerks, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by ballot, by a majority of the members present immediately after the names of the delegates enrolled; which officers shall perform all the duties, respectively, unusually devolved on such officers, and continue to exercise their respective functions until they shall be superceded by a subsequent election.

6. The Clerk shall preserve a regular record of the Association and shave it present at the meeting of the body; and when they vacate their office, deliver the same, with all other books and papers

relative to said office, to their successors.

7. The Association shall regard the churches as independent bodies in all their internal affairs, and exercise no ecclesiasticle jurisdiction or claim any legislative or judicial prerogative over them; nevertheless, the Association may exercise authority over its own members, the representatives of the churches, and power to withdraw from, and disown all churches which may depart from the Gospel aunderstood and held by this body, by becoming either heterodox in faith, or disorderly in practice; and should, therefore, regard all the churches united in the Association with a vigilant eye for good; and may give, at its own discretion; and in its own way, advice or give information when sought, to any church connected with it.

8. It shall be the duty of the Association to ascertain the general condition of its constituent churches; devise means to promote their harmony; and increase their spirituality and efficiency to promote the

cause of truth and righteousness.

9. The Association shall hold annual sessions, to convene on the Thursday before the first Lord's day in October, in each year, and not adjourn until all of the business shall have been regularly finished, except circumstances imperiously demand. The place of meeting shall be determined at each previous session and published in the minutes.

10. Baptist Churches not before united in the Association, or those dismissed from other Associations, may be admitted as members into this Union, on application by a written petition or letter, presented by one or more messengers duly appointed by such church or churches; Provided, Thexasive satisfactory evidence that they are orthodox in faith, and correct in the practice of the Gospel onlinances.

11. Every minister of the Gospel (either ordained or licensed) - whose membership is in, or who may be a Pastor of, any church belonging to this body, shall be ex-officio a member of the Association, with the privilege of offering resolutions and speaking, but not of

voting, unless specially delegated by some church.

12. When in session, the Association shall be governed by such

rules of decorium as it may adopt for itself.

to report to the Association their general condition; the number of members in fellowship; the number baptized, received by letter, dismissed, ex-communicated, restored, and dead during the year; and the names and post-office address of all ministers, whether ordained or licensed, designating each—and also the name and address of their Clerks. They shall also report on any special matter required, and send up such contributions as they may willingly contribute to aid the body to dissemminate more, widely the truth as contained in the Holy Scriptures, and the establishment of the Redeemer's kingdom on the earth.

14. The neglect or failure of a church to be represented by a Messenger or Messengers in the Association for three consecutive years, shall be cause to withdraw from such churches at the discretion of the Association.

of the Association.

15. This Association may correspond by lefter, and Messengers

with any other religious body of the same faith or order.

16. A board consisting of live members, any three of whom to constitute a quorum, shall be elected at each annual meeting, whose duty it shall be to devise means to carry forward the benevolent objects of the Association; and the officers of this Association shall be ex-officio officers of the Association.

17. The minutes of the Association shall be publicly read and corrected if necessary, and then signed by the Moderator and Clerk

before the Association adjourns.

18. Any amendment may be made to this Constitution at any meeting of the Association, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present; Provided, The same shall have been published in the minutes of the preceding year.

Declaration of Faith.

1-OF THE SCRIPTURES.

We believe that the Holy Bilde was written by buch divindr impired, and is a peract measure of heavenly instriction; that it has ried for its author, selvation for its criff, and truth without any mixigs of error for he matter; that it reveds the principle by which tall will Judgetter rid therefore is, and by it remain to the end of the world, the rate quater of elitistics of ion, and the superme, structure by which all fathing conduct, trees and opinion should be tried.

PLANTS IN THE BIRDS WERE THE OUT.

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IL-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 holines. 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 Hely Ghost equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.?

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT.

John iv M. Midd is a spirit. Ps. exterit. 5. His understanding is infinite. Ps. extit. is. Those whose names no is JEHOVAH, art the Must latch over all the sents, its Jish. St. Jar. x, b.

Lin xr H. Whate like unit? These splerious in hölines? I ca. vi. 5; 1. Petil by the control of the main late the late of the late

unto the Father. 2 Cor. xiii, 14. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of fiel, and the Communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Rev. i, 4, 5; Comp. ii, 7.

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; thou by constraint but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness namined by the law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE VAUGHT.

tion, i, 27. thad created man in his own image. Gen, i, North Had fool saw every sains find he had made, and behold, it was very good. Exclusting 20: Acts xvil, 20:

tions in 0.24. And when the wear is a within he read was said for fead, and it was pleasing to "heave, and a life to be designed to make our wise she took of a fail there of and illed eat; and rave ide a min her hardened with her, and he did eat, her for the last diet deave at the arrange for an despined at the rest of the gassian of an office y ways been been been way of the second life. Here, i. It is not not not not a way and sinner. I have also not not a superior of the way of the second life. It is not not not not not not not a superior way of the second life. I have a life in the second life in the second life in the second life. I have the second life in the second life.

The list of the method of the missis and were derived and the missis and the missis and the missis and were derived and the missis and

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; t who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon Him our mature, yet without sing 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 wonderfulperson the tenderest sympathles with divide perfection. He is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Savior.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT.

Eph. ii, & By stage ye are savol. Mat. xviii, II; I John iv, 10; 1 Cor. iii, 5,7;

Arrs xv. II.

† John III. 16. For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotion Son, that

† John III. 16. For God so loved the world that have everlasting life. John I, I, I4.

xhosever believeth in him should not perish but have even some the lie, iv, 14; xii, 24.

2 Phil. iii, 6, 7 Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal to the lie, iv, 4; xii, 6, 7 Who being in the form of a servant, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men-itch, ii, 9; ii, 14; 2 Cor, v, 21.

5 Isa xiii, 21. The Lord is well placed—for his righteousness sake; He will assaidly the law and make it honorable. Phil. id 8; that, iv, 4; 5; Rom. iii; 21.

1 Isa, liii, 4, 5. He was wounded for our transgressions; he was bruised for our inequities; the chasticement of our peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are sealed. Mat. xx, 25; Rom. iv, 25, iii, 2i, 25; I John iv, 10; ii, 2; 1 Cor, xx, 1, 3, Heb. ix, 13, 15.

Heb. i. 8. Unto the Son he saith. "by throne, O God, is forever and over. Heb. Heb. i. 8. Unto the Son he suith. By travers them to the utmost that come is a viii, by Col. iii, 1, 4.

Med Heb. viii, 25. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the utmost that come to Col. ii, 9. For atto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. Col. ii, 9. In that he is him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. Hob. ii, 18. In that he binself hath suffered, being tempted, he is able to succer, them that art tempted. Heb. 32, 34, 12.

V.—OF JUSTIFICATION.

We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ? secures to such as believe in Him is Justification, I that Justification includes the

partion of sin,; and the promises of eternal life on principles of righteous. ness; 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 Hs perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that it brings his into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing need ful for time and eternity. 35

PLACES IN THE SIBLE WHERE TAUGHT.

o John i. 16. Of his fullness have all me received. Eph. iii. 8. t Agte aiii. 20. By him all that helieve are justified from all things. Isa, iii, ii, it. Rom. viii, 1.

1. Rom. v. 9. Being justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. Zach. xill, 1; Mac. ix. 6; Acts x. 43.

2. Rom. v. 17. They which receive the whundpace of grace and of the gift of right country, shall reign in life by one Jesus Christ. Titus iii, 5, 6; 1 Pet. iii, 7; 1 John country, shall reign in life by one Jesus Christ.

VL=OF THE FREENESS OF SALVATION.

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

PLACES IN THE BIRLE WHERE TAUGHT.

* Isaliv. I. Holevery one that thirdelth estate ve to the waters. Rev. xxii. I. Whosever will, let him take the water of life blocky. Luke xiv. 17.

Rom. xxi. 25. The Gospel-according to the commandment of the everlasting tool, made known to all nations for the obsoling of faith. Mark i, lat Rom. i. 13. It is John v. 49. Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life. Mar. xxiii. X. Rom. ix. 32: Poor. i. 21: Acts xiii. 46.

John iii. 49. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the word, and non-loved tarkness rather than light because their decels were evil. Mat. ix. 25: Lake xii. 71: 2 The i. 8.

Luke xiv, 27: 2Thes. i. b.

VII.—OF GRACE IN REGENERATION.

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, of 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 cylineee appears in the fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.i

PLACES IN THE BUBLE WHERE TAUGHT.

John iii, 2. Verily, verily, I say unto these execut a man be born again be cannot see the kingdom of God. John III, 6, 7; I Cog. 1, 11; Rev. viii, 7, 9; xxi, 2; 1; 2 Cog. v. I7. If say man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Ez. xxxvi, 2; Deut. xxx, 6; Rem. ii, 22, 26; v. 5; I John iv, 7.

VIII.—OF REPENTANCE AND FAITH.

We believe that repentance and falth are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our gullt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ; we turn to God with anteigned 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.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT.

Mark i, 15. Repent ye, and believe the Gospel. Asts xi, 18. Then hath God, also, to the G ntiles granted repentance unto life. Ephes, ii, 8. By grace ye are seved, through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God. I John v, 1. Whosover believeth that Jesus is the Christis born of God.

1 John xyi, 8. He will reprove the world of the and of sight-tenure.

Who sever one week it is the will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of indement. Acts it, 37, 38. They were pricked in their heart and said, "men and brethren what shall we do?" Then beter not unto them, "repent, and be baptised, everyone of you in the name of Jesus Carist, for the remission of your sins." Acts Avi. 31, 31.

Luke xviii, 1). And the publican smote upon his breast, saying, "God be perciful to me a sinner." Luke xv, 18, 21; James iv, 7, 10; 2 Cor. vii, 11; Rom. x, 42, 'tiod be

E; Pr. li. 18. Rom. x, 9, 41. If thou shart confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in 11-y heart that God hash raised him from the dead, thou shall be saved.

Act iii, 22, 43. Heb. iv, 14: Ps. ii. 6; Heb. i, 8: viii, 25: 2 Tim. ii, 12.

INMOF GODS 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 Fod's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and display of four s sovereign governoes, and promotes humility, anchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust In God, and active imitation of hisfree merey; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; I that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the Gospel 🖟 that It is the foundation of Christian assurance; so and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves the utmost diligence. If

1 am made all things to all men, that I have a superior of God, for our fit These, i, 4, 10. Knowing, breth en beloved, your election of God, for our fit These, i, 4, 10. Knowing, breth en beloved, your election of God, for our fit These, i, 4, 10. Knowing, breth en beloved, your election of God, for our fit These is a superior of the superior of t

much assurance, etc.

Rom, viii, 28, 31 Moreover, whom he dld predestinate, them he also a Rom, viii, 28, 31 Moreover, whom he also justified; and whom he justified, them he also justified; and whom he justified, them he also shorified. What shall we then say to there things? If God be for us, who can be a rained by the wholl is a partial of the control of the con aminet us? Ien. xl.li, 16 ; Rom. xi, 20.

†† 2 Pet. i. 10. II. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall; for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Phil. iii, 12; Heb. vi, 11.

.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 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, selfdenial, watchfulness and prayer.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT.

° 1 Thess, iv. 3. For this is the will of God, even your sanctification. 1 Thess, v. 3. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly, 2 Cor. vii, 1; xiii, 9; Epis, i, 5. † Prov. iv. 18. The path of the just is no the shining light, which shineth more and more unto the perfect day. 2 Cor. iii. 18; 116b. vi, 1; 2 Pet. i, 5, 8; Phil. iii, 12, 6. † John ii, 22. If we know that he [God] is righteons, we know that every one that dooth righteons sees is born of him. Rom, vii, 5. They that are after the fiesh, do mind the things of the fiesh, but they that are after the Spirit, John iii, 6; Phil. i, 5, H; Ephes, i, 13, 14. ¶ Phil. ii, 12, 13. Work out your own salt violation with sear and trembling, for it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do. of his good pleasure. Ephes, iv. II, *12; 1 Pet. ii, 2; 2 Pet. iii, 18; 2 Cor. xie, 5; Luke xii, 39; ix, 29; Mat. xxvi, 41. Ephes, vi, 18, iv. 30.

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 special Providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of Gol through faith unto salvation.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT.

o John viii. 31. Then said Josq--If ye confirme in any word, then are ye my disciples indeed. I John ii. 27. 28: 17, h: 3. 1-.
I John ii. 19. They went out tract us, that they were not of us: for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have experimed with us: but they were on that might be made manifest that they were not all of us. John niii, 1-. May xiii, 20. 21: John ni, 56, 69: John xiii, 9.
I Rom, viii, 28. And we know goes all chiles; work teacther for goed much that love God, to them who are called assorting to his parpose. Mut, vi, 30, 33: John xxxii, 30: Ps. exv. i. vi. 11. 15.

that love that, to them was not as a second with in you, will region it until the of a Phil, i. c. then hath began a good with in you, will region it until the of of Jesus Christ. Phil, ii, 12 by Jude 24, 25, 118b, xiii, 5 : I John by, 48 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 noty, just, and good; the that the inability which the spripages ascribe to faller then to fulfill is precepts, arises entirely from their love of sm; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator example gued obedience to the love of the love of sm; the holy Law, is one great end of the Cosnol and the means of grown connected with the establishment of the vision church.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHITEE TAUGHT.

XIII.—OF A GOSPEL CHURCH.

We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of bapised 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 and 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.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT

6: 1 Cor. i. 1, 13. Paul—unto the church of God which is at Corinth. Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptised in the name of Paul? Mat. xriii, 17: Acts v. 11: viii, 1: xi, 31 1 Cor. iv, 17: xiv, 23: 3 John 9: 1 Tim. iii, 5. Acts ii, 41. 42. Then they that gladly received his word were haptized, and the sare day there were added to them about three thousand souls. 2 Cor. viii, 5 They first gave their ownselves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God. Acts ii, 47: 1

ast gave their ownselves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God. Acts ii, 47; 1 Corv. 12, 13.

1 Corv. 13, 13.

1 Corv. 14, 15.

1 Corv. 14, 15.

1 Corv. 15.

1 Co

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 Chost;† 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 prorequisite 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 selfexamination.3

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT.

**Acts viii, 36, 39. And the cunned said, see here is water, what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Phillip said, if thou believest with all thy hear thou hayest. And they went down into the water, both Phillip and the cunned, and he baptized him. Mat. iii, 5, 6; John iii, 22, 23; iv, 1, 2; Mat. xxviii, 19; Mark xvi, 10; Acts ii, 33; viii 1; xvi, 23; iv, 1, 2; Mat. xxviii, 19; Mark xvi, 10; Acts ii, 33; viii 1; xvi, 23; xvi, 24; Acts ii, 32; viii 1; xvi, 27, 28; Acts ii, 32; viii 1; xvi, 27, 28; Acts ii, 32; xviii 19; Mark xxviii, 19. Therefore we are buried with him by laptism into death; that the act christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also, should walk in newness of life. Col. ii, 12; Ptot. iii, 29, 21; Acts xxii, 16.

Actsii, 41, 42. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized, and there were added to them, the same day, about three thousand souls. And they continued steadfastly in Apostles' destrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in 11Cor. xi, 27. As often as yo eat this bread, and dash this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come. Mat. xxvi, 29, 29; Mark xiv, 22, 25; Luke xxii, 14, 20, 11 Cor. xi, 28. But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread and trink of that eng. I Cor. xi, 28, xi, 32; 23 John vi, 26, 71.

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, Joth private, and public; and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT.

break bread, Paul preached to them. Gon. ii, 8; Col, ii, 10, 11; Mrik ii, 27; John XX, 12; 1 Cor. xvi, 1, 2,

† Ex. xx.8. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Rev. i. 10. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day. Ps. czvii, 24. This is the day which the Lord bath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

made: we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Isa. Iviii, 13, 14. If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy
pleasure on my holy day: and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord
honorable; and shait honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own
pleasure, nor speaking thine own words; then shall thou delight thyself in the Lord
and I will cause thee to ride upon the high place of the earth, and feed thee with the
heritage of Jacob. Isa. Ivi. 2.8.

Ps. exviii: 15. The voice of rejoicing and salvation in the tabernacles of the

righteous.

Heb. x, 24, 25. Not forsaking the assembling of yourselves together, as the manner of some is. Acts xi, 26. A whole ye're they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. Acts xii, 44. The next Saboath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God. Lev. xix, 30; Ex. xivi, 3; lake is. 19; Acts xvii, 2, 3; Pex. xvii, 8; lxxxvii, 3.

Heb. iv, 3, 11. Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest.

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 a be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed; texcept only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ,! who is the only Ler of the conscience and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

PLACES IN THE BIRLE WHERE TAUGHT.

Rem. XIII, 1.7. The powers that be are ordained of tiod. For rulers are not a perfor to know works, but to the evil. Deut. XVI, 18: 2 Sam. XXIII, 3: Ex. XVIII, 25: Jer. 858, 21.

der, xxx, 21.

† Mat, xxii, 21. "Render therefore unto Casar the things that are Casar's and also God the things that are God's. Titas iii, 1: 1 Pet. ii, 13: 1 Tim. ii, 1.8.

[Act. ix, 28. We ought to obey God rather than man. Mat. 19, 28. Fear not then which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soil. Dan. iii, 15: 18: xi, 7, 18: Act. iv, 18, 21.

[Mat. xxii, 10. Ye have one master, even Christ. Rom. xiv, 4. Who artified that indgest another man's servant? Roy. xiv, 16: And he hath on his vesture and as his thin a name written. KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS, 18: iii. R on, Niv. 9, 13,

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 justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified sloy the spirit of our God, are truly righteous in His esteem of while all such as continu in impenitence and unbelief are, in His sight, wicked, and under the curso; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

PLACES IN THE BUBLE WHERE TAUGHT.

2 Mal, iii, 18. Ye shalt discern between the righteons and the wicked; between

"Mal, iii, 18. Ye shalt discern between the righteous and the wicked; between that that serveth (food and him that serveth him not. Pov. xii, 26; 1-a., v 26; ten. xiii, 27; Jen. xv, 26; ten. xiii, 28; Jen. xv, 19; Acts x, 34, 35; Rom. xi, 16.

*Rom. i. 17. The just shall like by faith. Rom. viii, 6. We are delivered from item that being dead wherein we were held, that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter. I John ii, 28; If ye know that he is righteous, ye throw that every one that doebt righteoursness is born of him. I John iii, 7; Rom. 0! 18, 22; I Cor. xi. 32; Prov. xi. 31; I Pet. iv, 17, 18.

1-1 John v. 19. And we know that we are of God, and the whole wor d lich his weakedness, Gal. iii, 10. As many as are of the works of the law, are under the carse John iii, 35; Isa Ivii, 21; Pr. x, 3; Isa Iv, 6, 7.

*Prov. xiv, 32. The wicked is driven away in his wickedness, but the righteour hath hope in his death. See, also, the example of the right man and Lazarus, Luke xiv, 25. Thou is thy lifetime receivest thy x ood things, and likewise hazarus ed things; but now he is comforted and thou are termented. John viii, 21, 21; Prov. x. 23; Lake xii, 4, 5; ix, 25, 26; John xii, 25, 26; Eccl. iii, 17; Mat. vii, 15; 14.

XVIII.—OF THE WORLD TO COME.

We believe that the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day Christ shall descend from Heaven, t 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 rightents to order. righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness?

PLACES IN THE BIBLE WHERE TAUGHT

Scring then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in left holy conversation and goddiness, looking for and hasting into the coming of the day of God? 2 Peter III, 11, 12





Statistics of the Church, 1870,71.

· Churches.	Delogate .	Post Office.	Pastors.		Excluded	Domestie Missions Association Fund Total in Fellowship
BoWitt. Big Creck ew Hope No. 2. Point Delnec Liberty N. 2 Boyon Mcter New Hope No. 2. Point Delnec It leena Spring Creck Spring Creck Spring Creck Trenton Satem Hickory Ridge Shilol Bethel Linn Grove Pine Fork Mt. Gilllard Forrest Chappol. Forrest City Bible Union Englished Bible Union	Eld. J. H. Spann, J. E. Turner. W. H. Haftburton, J. A. Gibson. R. H. Parker, J. B. S. neo. Letter. J. T. Marshall, T. J. Monsey, E. B. Jangham. Not represented. Letter. Eld. J. K. Murphy. Eld. W. D. Mayfield, Wm. Porter. H. P. Slaughter; J. F. Langston. Not Represented. L. E. Hopkins. Elds. W. H. Robert, C. T. Scaife and S. H. King J. F. Garrett, Wm. Thompson, J. N. Thompson L. R. Lucodo, W. S. Woodall. Elds. W. M. Raper, E. Halband, G. W. Dew. W. S. & T. L. Turner, E. Holtzclaw. John Walker. Z. Not Represented. Eld. J. M. Cox, R. Hood, R. D. Welch. J. R. Capshaw, W. H. Clark. T. B. Mathis, C. L. A. Graham. John Taylor, J. H. Thompson. J. H. Crabtre. Wm. Mclendon, J. P. Wright. Not Represented. C. A. Wilson, J. P. Farrier. Letter. J. L. Channey.	DeWitt. St. Charles. DeWitt. DeWitt. DeWitt. Aberdeen DeWitt Helena. Helena. Helena. Trenton. Trenton. Trenton. Trenton. Trenton. Trenton Brinekley. North Creek Clarendon Cotton Plant. Moro Clarendon Forrest City Marianna.	I. B. Altom	14 7 1 1 7 10 3 13 10 2 13 18 5	2	49 3 00 3 00 3 00 3 00 60 5 50 41 2 55 2 50 2 50 42 2 50 42 2 50 42 2 50 42 2 50 3 3 00 56 5 5 00 3 3 00 56 3 00 3 00

Order of Business,

As Observed by this Body.

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		AN IN	TERMISSION.	•
Delegat	es realssel	nbled, Mo	derator and Clerk in thei	r seats.
2nd. I	letters rea	id and De	legates enrolled.	
ard. E	lection of	officers to	or ensuing year.	<u>'</u>
łth. P	etitionary	Letters.		` *
5th. (*	all for Co	rresponder	nce.	*
6th. In	ivite visit	ing brethi	en to seats with us.	
7th. (*	ommittee	Appoint	ed- Domestic Missions.	
Sth.	**		Education.	
9° h.		* *	Sabbath Schools.	
totli.			Temperance.	
11th.		••	Finance.	
12th.	••		Religious Exercises.	
)∷th.			Correspondence and	Messenger

47th. Appoint a brother to preach the Introductory.

18th. Executive Board nominated.

19th. Report of Committees.

20th. Report of Board.

- 15th.

16th.

21st. Printing of Minutes, and number determined.

Determine place of next Annual Meeting.

Resolutions and Propositions in Order.

22nd. Reading of Minutes before adjournment.

23rd. A parting address by the Moderator,