

MINUTES

ARKANSAS BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sixty-first Session of the Old Organization

AND THE

Thirty-sixth of the New Organization

WHITE RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIA'N

HELD WITH

Whiteville Baptist Church, Baxter Co., Ark.,

September 11, 12 and 13, 1903.

OFFICERS:

ELDER H. H. HILTON, Moderator, - - - Gassville, Ark.
L. E. TUCKER, Clerk, - - - - - Gassville, Ark.
T. H. HORN, Treasurer, - - - - Mountain Home, Ark.

CONSTITUTION.

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

ARTICLE II. The members composing the annual meetings of the association shall consist of the messengers sent by the churches.

ARTICLE III. The messengers sent by the churches to the annual meetings shall not exceed four from each church.

ARTICLE IV. The association shall meet annually at such time and place as shall have been previously appointed.

ARTICLE V. The officers of this association shall consist of a moderator, clerk and treasurer, who shall be chosen by a majority of the messengers, annually, at the annual meetings of the body.

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

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

MINUTES.

The White River Baptist Association convened with Whiteville Baptist church, Baxter county, Arkansas, on Friday, September 11th, A. D., 1903, the Moderator and Clerk present. The body was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder G. M. Taylor.

Elders G. M. Taylor and J. C. Cooper, who were elected to deliver the introductory sermon. G. M. Taylor preached the 4th chapter and the 9th verse of Corrinthians I, followed by Elder H. H. Hilton.

The letters from the several churches were called for and read by Elders W. D. White and J. E. Eubanks.

The body then went into the election of officers, which resulted in the election of H. H. Hilton, Moderator; L. E. Tucker, Clerk; T. H. Horn, Treasurer.

Call for petitionary letters, whereupon a letter from Silver Shade church was presented, and on motion was received and messenger seated.

The following committees were appointed:

On Divine Service—Brethren J. C. Copeland, L. T. Marler and J. M. Randall.

A motion to take recess until 2 o'clock prevailed. Prayer by A. S. Wood.

At 2 o'clock p. m. the body resumed business. Prayer by Eld. J. A. Gray.

Committee on Finance—Brethren J. C. Copeland, M. P. Coventon and J. E. Eubanks.

On Resolutions—Brother B. L. Bayless, Elders W. D. White and J. H. Marler.

On Home Missions—Elders J. G. Walker, J. Baker and A. S. Wood.

On State Missions—Elder W. D. White, Brethren T. O. Horn and J. H. Deatherage.

On Foreign Missions—Elders J. H. Marler, B. L. Bayless and Brother A. L. Firestone.

On Deceased Ministers—Elder J. H. Gray, Brethren W. J. Gray and W. H. Roberts.

On Sabbath Schools—Brethren J. C. Copeland, A. P. White and A. S. Wood.

On Temperance—Brethren J. M. Randall, E. M. Owen and L. A. Morton.

On Baptist Literature—Elder J. Baker, Brethren Whitefield. Depriest and G. W. Bayless.

On Education—Brethren L. A. Morton, E. D. Pitchford and C. A. Haley.

Woman's Work—Elders J. G. Walker, G. M. Taylor and Brother E. W. Mooney.

On Destitution—Brethren T. O. Horn, G. W. Eddings and W. B. Easley.

Call for corresponding messengers, whereupon Eld. R. C. Kemper, from ——— association, came forward and received the hand of fellowship by the Moderator.

A motion to seat all ordained ministers present as correspondents prevailed, whereupon Elders G. W. L. Smith, J. F. Love and J. A. Gray were invited to seats with us.

The following brethren were appointed as corresponding messengers to sister associations: Rocky Bayou—T. H. Horn and J. L. Finley; Crooked Creek—Elders J. Baker, J. G. Walker and Brother J. L. Finley; Blue Mountain—Elders G. M. Taylor and Brother W. P. Herd; Big Creek Association—Brother J. L. Finley.

On motion Elders W. D. White and H. H. Hilton were appointed as messengers to the general association.

Call for report of corresponding messengers: Brethren T. H. Horn and J. L. Finley reported as follows: We visited Rocky Bayou Association and found them working earnestly for the Master's cause, and enjoyed ourselves splendidly.

The following report of committees was read and adopted: Committee on temperance read and referred back to the committee.

A motion to take recess until 8 o'clock Saturday morning prevailed. Prayer by Elder H. H. Hilton.

Saturday morning at 8 o'clock the body met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder J. H. Marler.

The roll was read and absentees noted.

Report of finance committee was read and adopted. Received from the several churches, \$21.10, for minutes fund.

J. C. COPELAND, Chairman.

On Woman's Work: Realizing the beneficiary influence of women in our churches we would recommend the urging by pastors and church members the active duty of women in raising money for missions, for in their consecration to God they wield a wonderful influence over the aged and the young.

J. G. WALKER, Chairman.

On Baptist Literature: We would recommend the careful reading of the Bible. 2. The reading of the Landmark Baptist. 3. The reading of the American Baptist Flag, and that we patronize the American Baptist Publication Society. J. BAKER, Chair'n.

On Home Missions: The destitution in our home field is extremely great, and realizing that to the extent of our neglect at home is our failures abroad, and realizing that Baptists must preach the gospel at home in order to furnish means and preachers abroad, we recommend that churches and pastors take immediate steps to supply this destitution by taking collections and contributing to this great work.

J. G. WALKER, Chair'n.

A motion to take recess until 2 o'clock p. m. prevailed. Prayer by Elder J. G. Walker.

At 2 o'clock p. m. the body met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder W. D. White.

On Temperance: We beg to say that we not only feel it a duty but a privilege to put our everlasting seal of condemnation upon the liquor traffic and the use of intoxicants; we here put ourselves on record as opposing it in every phase of the question and on every side. We recognize the liquor traffic as the most powerful source of evil with which God's people have to contend. It is the guardian and protector of every specie of evil and responsible for the majority of crimes committed and dark deeds perpetrated in our fair land every year. We condemn every and all who uphold it and every officer who panders to its influence. We condemn as a criminal any man who will protect blind tigers, or help to defend liquor dealers when brought before our courts. We urge upon every church the necessity of a strict discipline in dealing with members guilty of dram drinking. We deplore the existing intemperance in parts of our associational territory, and call upon each church within our bounds and every child of God, whether Baptist or not, to join us in routing the forces who are dealing out whiskey and other intoxicants in open violation of law, and in direct opposition to the will of our christian people, and may we not be less persistent in the fight until the soul-destroying stuff is put out of our country, and our boys and young manhood safe from its clutches. We especially memorialize our prosecuting attorney to do his duty in prosecuting to the bitter end every case brought against those who engage in the traffic, and pledge our support and prayers to God for helping the discharge of those duties.

L. A. MORTON, Chair'n.

On Education: We realize a great need of an educated membership and educated ministry as well. The demand for well-rounded and developed men and women is greater every day. Knowing that vice ever thrives where education is neglected, we desire to impress upon our Baptist people the importance of a thorough education. We recommend to our brethren that our own school should not be overlooked when selecting a place for educating our children. Especially do we ask your hearty support and co-operation in maintaining our school within the bounds of the White River Association.

L. A. MORTON, Chair'n.

On Sabbath Schools: We find in our association a great need of more Sabbath schools, and we earnestly request that every church in the bounds of this association, organize and support a Baptist Sunday school for the benefit of the young and the Baptist cause (or cause of Christ).

J. C. COPELAND, Chair'n.

On State Missions: In view of the great destitution in the bounds of our state, we would recommend that the churches be requested to give more liberally of their means to supply this destitution.

W. D. WHITE, Chair'n.

On Deceased Ministers: We find that during the last association, that God in his wisdom has seen fit to call none of our ministering brethren from labor to rest; therefore let us thank and praise him for his wonderful preserving grace, and that this association pray that he will give our ministers sustaining grace, especially our aged ministers, and bow in prayer with Bro. H. H. Hilton.

J. A. GRAY, Chair'n.

On Destitution: We find by consultation with brethren and from our own observation, that the destitution in our association is extremely great, souls are perishing for the bread of life, while we are refusing to them the lamp of life. We therefore urge this body to take steps at once to supply this destitution, and we suggest that pastors do all the mission work in their power to do; and we further suggest that the Moderator appoint a mission board, and that board be instructed to employ pastors who have spare time and live adjacent to destitute fields to supply such destitution, and said board pay those ministers for services rendered from such funds as may be collected from the various churches.

T. O. HORN, Chair'n.

A motion to take recess until 8 o'clock Monday morning prevailed. Prayer by Elder J. G. Walker.

At 8 o'clock Monday morning the board met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder H. H. Hilton.

On Foreign Missions: In compliance with Savior's command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," and realizing the great responsibility resting on the Church of Christ to preach the gospel to all the world; therefore we recommend that the churches give more liberally of their means to the work in foreign fields.

ELD. J. H. MARLER, Chair'n.

Report of Missionary Board: Received of T. H. Horn, treasurer, \$20; received from various churches, \$16.08; paid out to missionaries, \$31; leaving \$5.08 on hand.

J. G. DILLAHUNTY, Treas. of Board.

Report of Elder J. G. Walker, Missionary: Labored 16½ days; traveled 142 miles; preached 12 times; prayed 20 times; exhorted 8 times; witnessed 1 conversion; received from the board, \$16.50, which amount settles with me for the year.

ELD. J. G. WALKER, Missionary.

Report of Elder J. H. Marler, Assistant Missionary: Labored 16 days; traveled 175 miles; preached 10 times; prayed 10 times; exhorted 7 times; witnessed 1 conversion; received \$16, which settles with me for the year. ELD. J. H. MARLER, Asst. Miss'y.

The following brethren were appointed as a missionary board: Charley Haley, J. C. Copeland, H. H. Roberts, M. P. Coventon, A. S. Wood, J. E. Culvahouse, A. P. White, H. M. Horn, G. W. Bayless, W. B. Easley, A. H. Wise, J. G. Dillahunt, T. W. Depriest, E. Hogan, T. M. Rea, E. M. McCarty and W. P. Herd, one from each church in this association. This board organized by

electing T. M. Rea, chairman; J. G. Dillahunt, treasurer; J. C. Copeland, secretary.

On motion Elder B. L. Bayless was elected to preach the next introductory sermon, with Elder J. A. Gray alternate.

On motion it was decided that this body hold its next session with the church at Hopewell.

On motion the clerk is to superintend the printing of the minutes, and have as many copies printed as there is money to pay for after deducting \$5 for his fee.

On motion this body appoint and organize a Sunday school convention, a time and place for its first meeting. Its first meeting will be the second Sunday in May, 1904, at Pilgrim's Rest Baptist church, with Judson Horn as chairman.

The following is the report of Committee on Divine Service: Preaching Friday night by Elders Baker and J. H. Gray; Saturday, 11 a. m., by Elder G. W. L. Smith, text Corinthians I, 5:14; Saturday night, by Elder B. L. Bayless, text Rom. 8:2; Sunday, 11 a. m., by Elders J. G. Walker and J. H. Marler, text Isaiah 54:2; Sunday, 3 p. m., Elder R. C. Kemper, text Psalm 126 and last verse; Sunday night, by Elder W. D. White, text I John 3:2-3; Monday, 11 a. m., by Elder H. H. Hilton, text John 3-9.

Resolved, That this body has been shown every hospitality possible by Whiteville church and community. Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt thanks to Whiteville church and community for their hospitality.

On motion this body adjourned to meet with the Hopewell Baptist church, Baxter county, Ark., on Friday at 10 o'clock, before the second Sunday in September, 1904.

Prayer by Elder H. H. Hilton.

ELDER H. H. HILTON, Moderator.

L. E. TUCKER, Clerk.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POSTOFFICE
Friendship	A. H. Wise, J. M. Stone	Elder R. S. Barnett	A. H. Wise	Benville, Ark.
Bethel	E. M. McCarty	Elder J. G. Walker	J. G. McCarty	Cowan, Ark.
Good Hope	A. S. Wood, T. Crownover, C. E. Trice	Elder J. Baker	C. E. Trease	Kingdon, Ark.
Hopewell	Elder H. H. Hilton, T. H. Horn, W. Green, T. O. Horn	Elder W. D. White	C. J. Horn	Gassville, Ark.
Mountain Home	L. A. Morton, J. L. Finley	Elder James G. Sibley	J. M. Casey	Mtn. Home, Ark.
Mountain Grove	Elder J. Baker	Elder B. L. Bayless	M. M. Jenkins	Oakland, Ark.
Mount Pleasant	J. A. Coffee, M. P. Coventon	Elder G. W. L. Smith	Z. W. Barnett	Gassville, Ark.
Oak Grove	J. C. Copeland, G. W. Eddings, S. R. Jones, Levi Gilliland	Elder J. H. Marler	J. C. Copeland	Mtn. Home, Ark.
Oakland	C. A. Haley	Elder W. D. Jennings	C. F. Stone	Mtn. Home, Ark.
Pilgrim Rest	Elder J. H. Marler, Elder W. D. White, E. W. Owen, A. P. White	Elder W. D. White	L. T. Marler	Independence, Ark.
Pleasant Hill	Elder G. M. Taylor, W. J. Gray, T. W. Deprlest	Elder J. G. Walker	T. W. Depriest	Bruno, Ark.
Pleasant Grove	T. M. Rea	Elder J. G. Walker	W. L. Hand	Onset, Ark.
Palestine	J. E. Eubank, W. H. Roberts	Elder J. H. Marler	J. E. Eubank	Buford, Ark.
New Athens	Charles Smith, W. B. Easley	Elder W. D. Jennings	Chas. E. Judkins	Bennett, Ark.
New Hope	J. H. James, G. W. Callahan, D. R. Camp, A. L. Firestone	Elder J. G. Walker	J. G. Dillahunta	Oakland, Ark.
New Harmony	Elder B. L. Bayless, J. H. Pascoe, G. W. Bayless	Elder J. Baker	J. F. Coventon	Everton, Ark.
Morning Grove	W. P. Herd	Elder J. C. Cooper	J. T. Williams	Oakland, Ark.
Silver Shade	J. W. Randall, J. A. Pascoe	Elder B. L. Bayless	John Noe	Independence, Ark.
Whitville	Elder J. G. Walker, L. E. Tucker, J. A. Deatherage, E. W. Mooney	Elder J. G. Walker	L. E. Tucker	

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Restoration	Received by Statement	Decreased by Letter	Excluded	Total Membership	Constituted	Days of Meeting	For Minutes	Pastoral Support	Associational Missions	No. Engaged in Sunday School	Decreased by Death	Incidental Expenses	State Missions	Sunday School Literature	Foreign Missions	Home Missions
Friendship	1	1	00	00	2	1	46	1882	1	45	4	00	00	00	5	00	00	00	00
Bethel	00	00	1	00	00	00	40	1887	3	1 50	26 05	95	06	1	40	00	00	00	00
Good Hope	8	1	4	00	00	2	26		4	1 00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
Hopewell	1	3	00	00	5	1	78	1874	1	1 25	4 15	00	64	01	50	00	6 81	00	00
Mountain Home	00	00	00	00	2	00	67	1868	1	2 00	275 00	5	30	01	80	50	20 00	00	00
Mountain Grove	00	00	00	00	4	1	24	1890	1	1 00	25 00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
Mount Pleasant	00	00	00	00	4	00	43	1868	2	2 00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
Oak Grove	1	00	00	00	2	00	34	1884	2	90	13 80	00	00	02	75	1 00	00	00	00
Pilgrims Rest	20	6	1	00	00	0	167	1872	2	20	8 40	4 65	72	01	13 65	00	80	00	00
Pleasant Hill	5	00	2	00	3	0	149	1871	1	1 80	30 00	00	00	00	00	16	00	00	00
Pleasant Grove	1	00	00	00	8	00	41	1882	2	35	19 45	4 45	35	01	00	00	3	00	00
Palestine	00	00	00	00	1	00	33	1871	3	1 00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	00	00
New Athens	6	00	00	00	3	00	50	1891	2	1 00	23 65	00	00	01	23 65	12 07	00	00	00
New Hope	00	00	00	00	4	00	21	1881	2	1 25	30 00	5	00	00	1 90	1 00	00	00	00
New Harmony	1	00	00	00	13	00	80	1872	3	1 50	10 75	2 55	00	02	00	00	00	00	00
Morning Grove	00	02	00	00	00	00	27	1887	4	55	6 27	00	20	01	00	00	00	00	00
Silver Shade	1	2	00	00	00	00	12	1903	4	1 40	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
Oakland	2	00	00	00	00	00	43	1881	3	75	12 35	00	00	02	2 00	00	00	00	00
Whitville	2	00	00	00	00	00	23	1892	4	1 00	10 00	2 50	63	00	25	00	00	00	00

DECLARATION OF FAITH.

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

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

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

4. We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who by the appointments 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 an all-sufficient Savior.

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

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

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

8. We repeat that repentance and faith are sacred duties and inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy, at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on him alone as the only and all-sufficient Savior.

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

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

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

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

13. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinance of Christ; governed by his laws, and exercising the gifts and privileges invested in them by his word; that its only scriptural officers are bishops or pastors and deacons, whose qualifications and claims and duties are defined in the epistles of Timothy and Titus.

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

15. We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's day, or christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreation, by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both of private and public, and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

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

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

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The association shall commence with religious exercises, and a sermon from some preacher who shall have been previously appointed, unless the association shall otherwise direct.

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

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

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

5. The churches shall designate their messengers and report their condition by letter.

6. Preachers in good standing in other Baptist churches or associations with whom we are in fellowship, when attending our an-

nual meeting shall be invited to a seat as correspondents, and these meetings shall always be opened with prayer and closed in a similar manner.

7. Every member may speak twice on any one subject in debate before the meeting, but not more without leave; and when speaking shall stand and address the moderator, and use decorous and christian language; and no member shall absent himself from the association during the session, without leave; and any person who shall violate these rules or the constitution, shall be reprovved as the association shall think proper.

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

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

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

RULES OF ORDER.

1. Annual introductory sermon.
2. Call of association to order by the moderator, if present,
3. Call for church letters and enroll messengers.
4. Election of officers.
5. Call for petitionary letters and messengers.
6. Call for corresponding letters and messengers.
7. Appoint committees.
8. Read constitution and rules of order.
9. Call and correct the roll and note absentees.
10. Call for report of messengers to corresponding bodies.
11. Appoint messengers to corresponding bodies.
12. Call for report of committees in order.
13. Miscellaneous business.
14. Resolutions.
15. Appoint place for next meeting of association.
16. Appoint some one to preach the introductory sermon.
16. Adjournment.

FORM FOR CHURCH LETTER.

The Baptist Church of Christ at
 To the White River Baptist Association:

Dear Brethren:

We send as messengers: Elder
 and Brethren

Increase by baptism

Increase by letter

Increase by restoration

Decrease by letter

Decrease by exclusion

Decrease by death

Total membership

Constituted in the year,, 190.....

Present pastor

Day of church meetings

Number engaged in Sabbath school

Contribution for minutes \$.....

Contribution for associational missions \$.....

Contributions for state missions \$.....

Contributions for foreign missions \$.....

Contribution of ministerial relief \$.....

Money expended for pastoral support \$.....

Money expended for church building \$.....

Money expended for incidental expenses \$.....

By order of the church.

Date

..... Moderator.

..... Church Clerk.

Postoffice:

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