

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE CROOKED CREEK ASSOCIATION Of Missionary Baptists

FOR 1912.

FIRST DAY.

Saturday, October 19th, 1912, the Association convened with Sugar Loaf Church, Boone county, Ark., with W. S. Troutt as Moderator. After song, prayer and praise meeting, the Clerk being absent, Bro. Frank Kindall was elected Clerk *pro tem*. 11 o'clock service introduced by reading Acts 1-23. Prayer by N. F. Bradley. Song—"Never Alone." The introductory sermon was preached by Elder N. F. Bradley. Subject—"The Baptist and Missions" Text Acts 26:16. Conclusion, by Elder J. G. Mabrey. Song, "I can hear my Savior calling" Adjournment to meet at 2 p. m.

2 P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Songs "Higher Ground" and "Blessed Assurance." Prayer by E. C. Hodges. Churches called in order, letters read and messengers enrolled. Elder J. H. Klepper and J. E. McGinn were appointed as reading clerks. Election of officers as follows: Elder W. S. Troutt, Moderator; Frank Kindall, Clerk; and J. E. McGinn as treasurer. Call for petitionary letters from newly constituted churches Wolf Springs and Pleasant Grove No. 3 handed in letters, which were received and the right hand of fellowship extended by the Moderator.

## APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES IN PART.

Divine Service.—J. F. Pruitt, James Gatlin and messengers of Sugar Loaf Church.

Periodicals —L. H. Crawford, T. H. Farmer and J. W. Self.

Christian Education —Alvin Taylor, W. I. Holt, Coy Hudson and J. L. Sims.

Call for corresponding messengers.—Rec'd Brother G. W. Casey, from White River Association, and Elders John Thornton and J. A. Thornton, from Taney Association.

Call for corresponding messengers to other associations —J. W. Purdum volunteered to attend White River Association. J. W. Purdum, W. S. Troutt, J. H. Agee, N. F. Bradley, R. W. Raley and Bro. Wilson volunteered to attend Carroll County Association; N. F. Bradley and Bunyan Boatwright to attend P. D. Association.

Call for visiting ministers —Received Elders L. R. Capps; N. F. Bradley, J. G. Mabrey, and W. W. Gardner.

Rules of Decorum and Constitution read.

Report of Committee on Divine Service:

## APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES IN PART.

Home Missions.—J. E. McGinn, L. M. Murray, and S. B. Farmer  
Orphans' Home.—W. W. Gardner, Ola Gatlin and Sallie Pemberton.  
Sunday School.—Sisters May Hodges, C. C. Smith and Lillie S. H.

Prayer by Elder N. F. Bradley. Adjourned.

7:30 P. M.

Devotional service, led by Elder N. F. Bradley.

8 P. M.

Sermon led by L. R. Capps; subject, "Prayer and Fasting." Conclusion by Elder J. H. Klepper. Song, "We'll Work till Jesus Comes." Report of Committee on Orphans' Home; after discussion the report was adopted and a collection of \$50 taken for the Home.

## REMAINDER OF COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

Foreign Missions.—J. E. Rose, O. C. Hefner and W. F. Graham.  
State Missions.—J. G. Mabrey, D. B. Eoff, and C. C. Smith.  
Association Missions.—L. R. Capps, J. H. Klepper, and N. F. Bradley.  
Woman's Work.—Mrs. May Hodges, J. H. Agee and T. E. Eoff.  
Obituaries.—A. R. Capps, Charlie Manley and R. C. Cox.  
Temperance.—O. C. Hefner, J. J. Cox and Joe Brown.  
Finance.—W. B. Raynor, S. A. Kindall and Jasper Cook.  
Queries.—J. N. Brewer, J. W. Purdum and Bunyan Boatwright.  
Resolutions.—Crayton Pottinger, J. F. Pruitt and W. E. Lankford.  
Dismissed with prayer by Elder O. C. Hefner.

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## SECOND DAY.

SUNDAY—9:30 A. M.

Devotional service led by J. E. McGinn.

Report of Committee on Sunday Schools, which was adopted after discussion:

11 A. M.—Song, "Work for the Night Is Coming." Prayer by J. H. Agee. Sermon by Elder Agee, from Mark 2:5. Prayer by Elder J. G. Mabrey.

2 P. M.

Devotional service, led by Elder N. F. Bradley. Sermon by Elder J. E. Rose, from II. Cor. 10:4. Song, "Am I a Soldier of the Cross?" Response by Elder J. A. Thornton.

7:30 P. M.

Lesson Hebrew 1. Text, Hebrew 2:3; by Elder J. G. Mabrey.

## THIRD DAY

MONDAY—8 A. M.

Songs "Blessed Assurance" and "Happy Day" Scripture lesson, Ps.  
6. Prayer by Elder John Thornton Song "Come Thou Fount." Recall  
for letters from churches. Received letter from Grubb Springs.

Report of Committees as follows:

Foreign Missions, discussed and adopted.

Periodicals after discussion was adopted.

Association Missions, with 4 amendments and much discussion, the  
report was adopted.

Report of Association Board Received.

Appointment of Association Mission Board—Eld. J. H. Klepper, Bros.  
E. C. Hodges J. E. McGinn. J. L. Sims and James Gatlin. Dismissed by  
prayer by Eld John Thornton.

2 P. M.

Song, "How Firm a Foundation;" Prayer by Eld. O. C. Hefner.

Report of Woman's Work received, discussed and adopted.

Christian Education—Discussed, adopted.

State Missions—Adopted after discussion.

Temperance—After discussion was adopted.

Obituaries—Adopted with prayer by Eld. Robt. Martin.

Finance—Adopted without discussion.

Resolutions—Adopted, no discussion.

Home missions—Adopted without discussion

Next Association to meet with Prairie View Church 2½ miles south of  
Harrison Elders R. W. Raley and J. H. Klepper to preach the Introduct-  
ory sermon. Clerk selected to superintend the printing of the minutes and  
to receive \$5.00 for his services. Bro. J. L. Sims selected as member of  
State Board.

With prayer and song the Association adjourned to meet with Prairie  
View Church Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in October, 1913, at 10  
o'clock, A. M.

ELD. W. S. TROUT, Mod.

P. O. Harrison, Ark., R 4

FRANK KINDALL, Clerk.

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### CLERK'S REPORT.

Paid for printing Minutes	\$15.00
Am't appropriated for services	5 00
Reserved for postage	.95
Total	\$20 95
Amount of finance received	\$20.95

FRANK KINDALL.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEES

**DIVINE SERVICE**—We, your committee, have arranged for divine service as follows: On Saturday night Elders L. R. Capps and J. H. Klepper will preach; Sunday at 11 a. m., Elder J. H. Agee; 2 p. m., Elders J. E. Rose and J. A. Thornton; 8 p. m., J. G. Mabrey. COMMITTEE.

**ORPHANS HOME**—Your Committee on Orphans Home would make the following report: The Home was founded in 1894 by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and located at Monticello, Arkansas. We began the work with 2 children in a building of 6 rooms. Our family has had a marvelous growth in 18 years, has had more than 300 children. There are now 151 children in the home, six from the bounds of this Association. Brethren our building is full, we have nine beds in some of our rooms. We are receiving applications every week for children to be taken in the home. What must we do? We must enlarge. We must have more room but we cannot do it without your help. We come and appeal to you in this our time of need. Will you fail? God forbid. Our plan is to build a boy's dormitory with 25 rooms. The building and furnishing will cost \$5,000.00 Will you give the Home a good offering tonight? Brethren when you go home will you lay this work before your Churches and take collections before the next Association. We have a paper, "The Orphan's Gem," published by the children—it is a monthly and costs 25 cents a year. It will bring you news from the children and tell you of their needs. All our children that are old enough are members of the Church, and are active Christian workers. May God help us to do our duty to the motherless and fatherless ones. Submitted,

W. W. GARDNER,

OLA GATLIN,

SALLIE PEMBERTON.

**SUNDAY SCHOOLS**—"We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, beg to submit the following: Believing the Sunday school to be the principal factor of the Church—that is the source from which we obtain the largest number of converts, we should foster it as a farmer would the richest spot on the farm, or the banker would the very best investment he carries, or the merchant the department from which he gets his greatest profits. We believe that the law of nature (the more exercise, the more strength) proves true with the Sunday school as well as with the human muscles. Therefore we advocate giving the Sunday school plenty of work to do. Believing that a matter of record is an important factor, we urge that every teacher in every school keep as clear a record of each scholar as the day school teacher. We believe that the teachers who are in charge, should consider their presence of as much importance as though they were paid teachers. We believe that a number of the pastors of this Association are neglecting their privileges and duties in the Sunday school, thereby losing the joy of witnessing the conversion of souls that are being lost daily, that may be gained for Christ if appealed to before leaving the Sunday school. We believe that none but Christians should be considered eligible to serve as teachers and officers in the Sunday school. As the Sunday school, as well as the Orphans' Home, is principally made up of children, we urge that each Sunday school be instructed to make an offering on the first Sunday of each quarter for the Orphans' Home. We advocate that a man who has the interest of children and Sunday schools at



heart be appointed to represent the Sunday schools throughout the Association, whose duties shall be to visit as many Sunday schools as possible, and organize Sunday schools wherever possible; and report to the coming Association. We believe it is the duty of parents to support the Sunday school as much as possible. Therefore, we urge every parent—not to send, but to bring their children to Sunday school. From experience we have noticed that the active members of the church are to be found in the Sunday school, for 'by their fruits ye shall know them.'

LILLIE SELF,

MAY HODGES,

C. C. Smith.

**FOREIGN MISSIONS** —“We your Committee on Foreign Missions, beg to submit the Following: Our Savior in his parting words did not say to go preach to the people of Arkansas alone, or even to the people of America alone; but he said: ‘Go preach the Gospel to every creature.’ This, of course, means throughout the entire world. Our hearts are to possess the spirit of the Master, and be as large in our sympathies as the heart of Jesus. Only with this spirit is the blessing of Jesus promised, for he says in the great commission ‘Go preach the Gospel to every creature, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded, and lo, I am with you always unto the end of the world.’ While all missions are one, we consider that part of missions to foreign lands as foreign missions, and we beg to call your attention to the fact that the benighted heathen should receive from us a double measure of love, mercy and assistance from the fact that they are placed at such disadvantage. No doubt there are hundreds of square miles in the foreign field where the Gospel is never preached, and even opposed by the kings and lords of that country; while in our country, few if any localities there are, in which the Gospel cannot be heard. We are doing comparatively nothing to what we should do, nor what we would do if we had our hearts and hands in this work, as Jesus would have us do. We regret that the churches of this Association have taken so little interest and have contributed so stingily to this noble cause throughout the past year, and would urge our people to resolve to do more for this cause the coming year.”

J. E. ROSE.

W. F. GRAHAM.

E. C. HODGES

**PERIODICALS** —We your Committee on Periodicals beg leave to make the following report: As the Bible is the best and oldest book in the world and the only rule of our faith and practice, and as all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for reproof for correction and instruction in righteousness that the man of God may be thoroughly furnished unto every good work, it demands and should have the first place in our hearts and homes. Therefore we advise our Churches and Sunday Schools to use strictly Baptist literature in connection with our Baptist paper, “The Baptist Advance,” believing that their’s (the Baptists) is the only correct teaching in every particular.

L. H. CRAWFORD

J. W. SELF

TOM FARMER

} Com.

**ASSOCIATION MISSIONS** —We your Committee on Associations beg leave to make the following report: Whereas the report of our Association Missionary should greatly encourage us in the work of Association Missions

we believe that we should make greater effort to get all our Baptist host of this Association interested in this phase of our Church work. We feel that where our people are fully awakened to the importance and possibilities of this great work that it will be a much easier matter to raise funds with which to pay our Missionary. We especially urge this in view of the fact that so much destitution exists within the bounds of our Association will so advise that a missionary be put in the field for full time. We urge that the pastors stress the importance of this great work, and that collections be taken regular for its support. Also that we ask the State Board for \$300 00 to aid us in paying our missionary. We recommend that a board of five members be appointed (three to constitute a quorum) to be known as the Association Mission Board whose duty is to look after the work.

J. H. KLEPPER,  
N. F. BRADLEY,  
L. R. CAPPS.

**ASSOCIATION MISSION BOARD.**—We your Association Mission Board beg to submit the following report: Covering the period beginning January 1st 1912, and ending October 16, 1912. During this period our missionary, Eld. J. W. Mabrey has done the following work: Days of labor 255; miles traveled 1622; religious visits in homes 376; other services in homes 79; sermons preached 181; other religious addresses 68; conversions 37; baptisms 51; Sunday Schools organized 2; churches organized 1, tracts distributed 380; received by relation 3; received by letter 3; collected for Association Missions \$51 46; collected for State Missions \$8.88; assisted in ordination of preachers 1; received for baptism 5; By order of Board—E. C. Hodges, Chairman; J. E. McGinn, Secretary and Treasurer.

W. W. SPURLOCK,  
ED. TRENTHAM,  
W. I. HOLT.

**SECRETARY—TREASURER OF ASSOCIATION MISSION BOARD.**—Received by contributions and pledges paid from churches \$191.93; Balance in Treasury Jan 1st, 1912, \$23.25; Total \$215.18. Due missionary for 8 months and 27 days \$267.00. Balance due missionary \$51.81. Received from Prairie View on pledge since making report \$2.25. Deficit \$49.57.

J. E. MCGINN, Sec. and Treas.

By motion a collection was taken to make up the deficit in above report—on failure to receive the full amount, the Association authorized the Board to draw on treasurer of the coming year, to pay missionary in full.

**WOMAN'S WORK.**—We your Committee on Woman's Work submit the following report: Judging from reports from the churches throughout the Association, this important work has been much neglected, as but one church sent a report of work done by either Ladies' Aid or Women's Missionary Union. This one was from the Harrison church, which shows that the ladies of said church have done a noble work. They have contributed to the various objects of our work the amount of \$92.60 during this associational year. We consider that the Woman's Work is of great importance, because through the organization of the ladies societies and Woman's Missionary Union opportunities are offered to enlist and develop into usefulness of every female member of our churches. Therefore, we recommend that our pastors emphasise in their respective churches the

need of woman's co-operative work and urge the organization of a woman's society in their churches. Signed by the Committee.

J. H. AGEE,  
MAY HODGES,  
E. EOFF.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.**—We your Committee on Christian Education beg to submit the following: Whereas, Christian influence is always conductive to the upbuilding of any people and the advancement of God's kingdom in any place, therefore we urge that this body of messengers use their influence, first in their respective districts in advancing the idea of employing Christian teachers where it is practical. Furthermore do we recommend that our schools and colleges in different parts of the state be upheld by our financial support, and that we give them our patronage as far as practical. We desire to impress the fact, that in order to keep up with the times, and promote the cause of our Creator, we must educate our people in His teachings. Christian education is just as important as State Missions or any other general interest of the kingdom, and must be put on the same basis. We therefore recommend that each pastor in the Association preach at least once a year on Christian education and our duty to support Baptist schools. 2nd. That regular collections be taken in every church every year for Christian Education. 3rd. That we patronize our great Baptist college at Ouachita for boys and girls, and Central college at Conway for girls for the education of our young people. 4th. That earnest and increasing prayer be made for this work.

W. I. HOLT,  
ALVIN J. TAYLOR, } Com.  
COY B. HUDSON, }  
J. L. SIMS.

**STATE MISSIONS.**—In view of the fact that Christ gave the commission to the Church to preach the Gospel to all the world, and inasmuch as we believe we are the body commissioned to do this work, and as Arkansas is a part of this territory, therefore we recommend this Association to continue to co-operate, as in the past, with the Arkansas Baptist convention, which has been one of the strong forces in developing the Baptists of Arkansas. We further recommend that as our State Board has aided us materially in our association mission work, that each church comprising this association take a collection for State missions at once, or at least by the 12th of November, 1912, and send it to our missionary secretary, John T. Christian, Little Rock, Ark. We feel very grateful to our state board and the Baptists of Arkansas for the help they have given us in the past. Respectfully submitted

J. G. MABREY,  
C. C. SMITH,  
D. B. EOFF.

**TEMPERANCE**—We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following report: Believing that we, as Baptists, have, by our prayers and efforts, done much in fostering and advancing the great cause of Temperance in our beloved State, and although we have lost in the recent struggle for state-wide Prohibition, yet we recommend that all our churches continue to pray and work until God shall drive the curse of intoxicating liquor from our entire state. We also recommend that the words of Paul,

as given in 1 Cor. 9:25 be more closely observed by our church members, as it will promote the great cause of Temperance in all its branches, and expand our influence as Christians.

O. C. HEFNER,  
JOE BROWN,  
J. J. COX.

**OBITUARIES.**—We, your Committee on Obituaries, submit the following report: We find that during the past year Death has claimed seven of the members of our churches, as follows: Sisters Mary Jane Sims and Nancy C. Rosson, of Harrison; Sister Ava Brown, of Oak Grove, Sister Stella Smith and Brother Asa Dabney, of Sugar Loaf; Sister Dora Obanion, of Prairie View; also one member of New Hope, whose name was not reported in their letter. We, your committee, beg to submit this report and extend to the friends and relatives our deepest sympathy, and commend them to Him who doeth all things well. The Lord gave and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be His name.

C. R. CAPPS,  
R. C. COX,  
W. C. MANLEY.

**FINANCE.**—Dear Brethren, we your Committee on Finance, beg leave to report that \$20.95 has been collected for the expenses of printing the minutes.

JASPER COOK,  
S. A. KINDALL,  
BRUCE RAYNOR.

**RESOLUTIONS.**—Resolved, that we messengers and visitors, with grateful hearts, extend our thanks to the Sugar Loaf Church and community for opening the doors of their homes during our stay with them. "May God be with you till we meet again."

C. POTTINGER,  
J. F. PRUITT,  
W. E. LANKFORD.

**HOME MISSIONS.**—We, your Committee on Home Missions, beg to report the following: We find the Home Board doing work in the United States and her possessions, with the stupendous task of carrying the Gospel to 58 percent of her own people, besides a million foreigners that have come to our shores every year. To do this requires an army of consecrated souls who love Christ and His cause better than self, and they cannot be backed up by a liberal contribution. We recommend that our ministers preach on Home Missions as often as twice each year, that literature treating on this subject be distributed, and collections be taken to carry on the work.

J. E. MCGINN,  
L. M. MURRAY,  
T. B. FARMER.

#### SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

Following are special contributions of churches not mentioned in the statistical table:

**Harrison.**—State Missions, \$105.00; Foreign Missions, \$30.00; Home Missions, \$30.00; Association, \$52.05; Orphan's Home, \$33.80; Sunday school, \$46.65; charity, \$15.00; building and repairing, \$300; incidental expenses, 58.30.

**Prairie View.**—State Missions.—\$2.25; Sunday school, \$11; Orphan's Home, \$2.



Liberty No. 2.—Home and Foreign Missions.—\$1; Association Mis-  
 sions, \$11 55; State Missions, \$1; Orphan's Home, \$1.  
 Walnut Grove.—Association Missions \$20.00; Orphan's Home, \$1.  
 Mt. Pleasant.—Association Missions, \$8.33.  
 Valley Springs.—Foreign Missions, 75c; State Missions, 25c; Home  
 Missions, \$1.65; Association Missions, \$5; incidental expenses, \$7  
 Sugar Loaf —Association Missions, 20.00.  
 Bethel.—Orphan's Home, \$3.50; Association Missions, \$5.  
 Orion.—Association Missions, \$6.50; Orphan's Home, \$5.50.  
 Pleasant Grove No. 2.—Association Missions \$2.50.  
 Grubb Springs.—Association Missions, \$13.50.  
 Oregon.—Foreign and Home Missions, \$5.85; Association Missions,  
 \$12.00.  
 Union.—Foreign Missions, \$1.00; Home Missions \$1.40; Association  
 Missions \$8; Orphan's Home, 2 35

#### CHURCH COVENANT.

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the  
 Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the profession of our Faith, hav-  
 ing been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the  
 Holy Ghost, we do now in the presence of God, angels and this assembly,  
 most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one  
 body in Christ. We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to  
 walk together in Christian love, to strive for the advancement of this  
 Church; in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity  
 and spirituality, to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doc-  
 trines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the minis-  
 try, the expenses of the Church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of  
 the Gospel through all nations. We also engage to maintain family and  
 secret devotion, to religiously educate our children, to seek the salvation  
 of our kindred and acquaintances, to walk circumspectly in the world, to  
 be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our  
 deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting and exercise of anger; to ab-  
 stain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and to be  
 zealous in our efforts to advance the Kingdom of our Savior. We further  
 engage to watch over one another in brotherly love, to remember each  
 other in prayer, to aid each other in sickness and distress, to cultivate  
 sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech, to be slow to take offense, but  
 always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Savior to  
 secure it without delay. We moreover engage that if we remove from this  
 place we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church, where we  
 can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's  
 Word.

## CONSTITUTION.

We, the Church of Jesus Christ, called the Baptists, being assembled, through our messengers at Bellefonte, Boone County, Arkansas, on Saturday before the second Sabbath in May, A. D., 1869, agree to form ourselves in an Association for the purpose of instruction, edification, and promotion of the cause of our Blessed Redeemer.

Article I. The Association shall be composed of messengers, chosen by the churches in our union, who, on presenting letters certifying to their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

Article II. The messengers thus chosen; when convened, shall be known as the "Crooked Creek Association," who shall be not merely an advisory council, but also for the advancement of the cause and kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Article III. Each church in the Association shall be entitled to four messengers, and any church failing to represent herself shall render the reason to the next Association; failing to do so, she shall be dropped from the roll of the Association.

Article IV. Letters from the churches shall state the number received by experience, baptism, letters, recommendation or restoration, those dismissed by letter, excommunicated, or deceased since the last Association, also the total number of fellowship.

Article V. New churches may be admitted into the Association who petition by letter and messengers, adopting or subscribing to our articles of faith, constitution and rules of decorum, the Moderator giving the hand of fellowship.

Article VI. The Association shall elect a Moderator and Clerk by the suffrage of the members present.

Article VII. The Association shall have a fund for support which shall be supplied by voluntary contributions of the churches, sent by the hand of their messengers, which shall be at the disposal for Association purposes only.

Article VIII. Questions may be sent by churches in their letters, or brought in by motion and second, and may, or may not be investigated, as the Association may determine.

Article IX. The Association shall, in all cases, be governed by a majority of the members, except in the reception of members which shall be unanimous.

Article X. The Association shall have power to withdraw her fellowship from any church in her union, who, after due admonition, shall be unsound in her faith and practice.

Article XI. Some of her ministers shall be appointed by the Association each session to preach the introductory sermon at the next.

Article XII. She may correspond with any Association which she may determine; while in session.

Article XIII. There shall be a Treasurer appointed by the Association, who shall receive and disburse all funds belonging to her, as she may direct.

Article XIV. The Clerk shall keep a minute of the proceedings, which shall be printed and distributed among the churches according to contributions.

Article XV. The minutes of the Association shall be read and correct-

ed, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and attested by the Clerk, before the Association recess.

Article XVI. Amendments of the Constitution may be made at any time when two-thirds of the churches may deem it necessary.

Article XVII. The Association shall at each session determine the time and the place of the next.

## RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Moderator shall cause each session to open and close with prayer.

2. Ministers present invited to seats are privileged to speak on all subjects, but vote on none.

3. Those who speak shall rise to their feet and respectfully address the brother Moderator.

4. No motion shall be entertained without a second.

5. If, when a motion has been made and seconded, a member oppose its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question, "Should this question be discussed?" and if negatived the question shall be dropped.

6. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the minutes unless ordered at the time.

7. No one shall speak more than three times on any one subject, without special leave of the Association.

8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator, if so his name shall be left off the minutes.

9. The stand shall be supplied with preaching from time to time during the session, only by consent of the Association.

10. The Moderator shall decide by his vote all questions upon which there is no majority.

11. The Moderator shall state and explain questions before the Association and take the sense of the Association in all cases where a vote is taken, except by ballot.

12. No motion shall be entertained until the one under discussion has been disposed of, except by a motion to adjourn, postpone, amend or put the main question.

13. The Moderator shall call to order any member who, while speaking uses any discourteous language, or departs from subject under discussion.

14. These rules may be amended at any time when a majority of members deem it necessary.

## DECLARATION OF FAITH.

Article 1. We believe that the 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; so that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us and therefore is and shall remain, unto the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct and opinions shall be tried.

Art. 2. We believe 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 Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct and harmonious offices in the great work of the redemption

Art. 3. We believe man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, 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.

Art. 4 We believe the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial office of the Son of God, who by the appointment of the Father freely took upon himself 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 being risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in Heaven, and uniting in His wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, He is in every way qualified to be a suitable compassionate and all-sufficient Savior.

Art. 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 is bestowed, not in consideration of any work 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 blessing needful for time and eternity.

Art. 6. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospels; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent and obedient faith, and 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.

Art. 7. We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated or born again; that the regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, and is affected 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 fruit of repentance, faith and newness of life.

Art. 8 We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces wrought in our souls by the regenerating spirits 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 as the all-sufficient Savior.

Art. 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 moral 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 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 effect on all who truly believe in 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.

Art. 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 healer and comforter in the continued use of the appointed means—especially the word of God, self examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

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

Art. 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 the Scriptures ascribe to fallen man to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from the 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 His visible Church.

Art. 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 ordinances of Christ, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His Word; that its only Scriptural officers are Bishops, or Pastors, or Deacons, whose qualifications, aims and duties are found in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

Art. 14. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer in the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, administered by a legal administrator, to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried Savior, with its effect in our death to sin, and resurrection to a new life; that is 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.

Art. 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 recreations, by the observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for the rest that remains for the people of God.

Art. 16. We believe that 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 only in things opposed to the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience and the Prince of the Kings of the earth.

Art. 17. We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked, that such as only 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.

Art. 18. 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 their graves to final retribution; that a solemn separation will take place, that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment and the righteous to endless joy, and that the judgment will fix forever the final state of men in Heaven or Hell on principles of righteousness.

### ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Annual Introductory Sermon.
2. Call of Association to order by Moderator, if present.
3. Call for Church letters and enroll messengers.
4. Election of officers.
5. Call for petitionary letters for membership.
6. Call for corresponding letters and messengers.
7. Appoint committees.
8. Read constitution and rules of Decorum.
9. Call and correct the roll and note absentees.
10. Call for report of messengers to corresponding bodies.
11. Appoint messengers to corresponding bodies.
12. Call for report of committees in order.
13. Miscellaneous business.
14. Resolutions.
15. Appoint place for next meeting of the Association.
16. Appoint someone to preach the Introductory Sermon.
17. Appoint someone to have the Minutes printed.
18. Adjournment.

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

Grubb Springs, \$8.15; Bellefonte, \$2.50; Oregon, \$12; Sugar Loaf, \$21.75; Big Springs, \$8.00; Harrison church, \$49.55; Prairie View, \$2.25; Walnut Grove, \$20; Oak Grove, \$.55; Valley Springs, \$.55; Orion, \$6.50; Bethel, \$.55; Peel, \$6.65; Pleasant Grove No. 2, \$2.50; Pleasant Grove No. 3, \$6; Hopewell, \$12.50; Liberty No. 2, \$1.55; Union, \$7.75. Wolf Springs, collection \$1.68; Pleasant Grove, \$2.95; Valley Springs, \$3.75; Oak Grove, \$1.22. J. W. Self, \$.55; W. H. Raley, \$.55; J. H. Klepper, \$10; N. F. Bradley, \$.55. Other contributions, \$4.40. Total, \$221.65.

J. E. McGINN,

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