

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Crooked Creek Association
OF
Missionary Baptists
FOR 1913

FIRST DAY

10:00 A. M. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1913.

The Association convened with Prairie View Church, with Elder W. S. Troutt as Moderator and Frank Kindall as Clerk.

Songs:—"How Firm a Foundation" and "Happy Day."

Prayer by Elder O. C. Hefner.

Song:—"Jesus Paid it All."

Prayer by Elder A. M. Crain.

Song:—"Nearer My God to Thee."

11:00 A. M.

Introductory Sermon delivered by Elder R. W. Raley.

—Lesson. Phil. 2:1-16.

Prayer by Elder R. W. Raley.

Song:—"Am I a Soldier of The Cross."

Text—I Cor. 3:22-23.

Conclusion by Elder J. H. Klepper. With prayer by Elder J. H. Agee, the Association adjourned to meet at 1:45 P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

1:45 P. M.—Met pursuant to adjournment.

Devotional exercises conducted by Elder J. E. Rose.

2 P. M.—Churches called in order, and the following Churches was represented: Bellefonte, Mt. Pleasant, Hopewell, Bethel, Pleasant Grove, Wolf Springs, Union, Oregon, Grub Springs, New Hope, Orion, Big Springs.

Flat Rock, Sugar Loaf, Valley Springs, Peel, Walnut Grove, Liberty No. 2, New Enon, Oak Grove, Harrison, Prairie View, Pleasant Grove No. 2.

Elder J. H. Klepper and J. S. Barker appointed as Reading Clerks.

By motion, the Order of Business was changed so as to allow the reception of newly constituted churches before the election of officers. Called for newly constituted Churches. Lead Hill handed in letter, by Messengers, which was received and the hand of fellowship extended by the Moderator. Letters read and Messengers enrolled.

Election of officers as follows: Elder W. S. Troutt, Moderator, Frank Kindall, Clerk, and J. E. McGinn, Treasurer.

Call for Corresponding Messengers from other Associations: Received Elder J. B. Rose from Carroll County Association, T. M. Ray from White River Association.

Call for Report of Messengers who volunteered last year to attend the several Associations. J. W. Purdum reported that he attended White River Association, and the several other brethren who volunteered, but failed to attend, begged mercy of the Moderator, which was granted.

Called for Corresponding Messengers to other Associations: J. A. Thompson volunteered to attend White River Association; Elder O. C. Hefner, Elder J. H. Agee and John Suggs volunteered to attend Carroll County Association.

Call was made for visiting Ministers. Received, O. C. Hefner, R. W. Raley, J. G. Mabrey, A. M. Crain, J. E. Rose, N. F. Bradley, S. G. Frasier and H. Davidson.

By motion, visiting members of this Association was allowed to be appointed on committees.

Appointment of Committees as follows:—

Divine Service:—J. S. Barker, J. W. Purdum and Messengers of Prairie View Church.

Foreign Missions:—Elder J. H. Klepper, John Thompson and Wes W. Spurlock.

Home Missions:—Elder N. F. Bradley, Wes. W. Hudson and D. E. Brown.

State Missions: Elder J. H. Agee, Joseph Daniel and H. D. Glass.

Association Missions:—Elder J. E. Rose, Elder J. W. Henderson and J. F. Pruitt.

Christian Education:—R. S. Brown, A. E. Stratton and M. C. Pumphrey.

Temperance:—Elders O. C. Hefner, H. Davidson and E. C. Hodges.

Sunday Schools:—Alice Smith, Oley Gatlin and Pearl Taylor.

Orphans' Home:—Elder J. W. Pettit, May Hodges and Sister Doonan.

Woman's Work:—Darthula Daniel, Dora Thompson and Mrs. W. H. Clark.

Periodicals:—J. E. McGinn. F. L. Pennington and Mrs. A. J. Walters.

Obituaries:—Elder R. W. Raley, Charley Manley and Tom Johnson.

Finance:—A. R. Capps, W. A. Kindall and L. H. Crawford.

Queries:—Lex Green, Joe Brown and D. H. Sneeringer.

Resolutions:—L. M. Murray, G. B. Eoff and Bob Jones.

Report of Committee on Divine Service. Report was adopted.

With prayer by Elder J. H. Agee, the Association adjourned to meet in business session at 8 A. M. Monday.

6:45 P. M.—Devotional services conducted by Elder N. F. Bradley.

7:00 P. M.—Lesson Ps. 1; prayer by Sister Threet.

Song.—“All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name.”

Text:—“How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him.” I Kings 18:21. Sermon delivered by Elder A. M. Crain. Response by Elder N. F. Bradley, and a spiritual feast followed.

Dismissed with prayer by Elder J. B. Rose.

SECOND DAY—Sunday.

10:30 A. M.

Devotional services conducted by Elder J. H. Klepper.

11:00 A. M.

Lesson, Colossians 2. Text: "Ye are complete in Him."—Col. 2:10. Sermon delivered by Elder J. H. Agee. Concluded by Elder J. G. Mabrey, and closed with a great spiritual feast.

2:00 P. M.

Lesson. Ps. 116. Text:—"I have not concealed the words of the Holy One."—Job 6:10. Sermon delivered by Elder H. Davidson. Response by Elder O. C. Hefner.

6:45 P. M.

Devotional service, conducted by Elder A. M. Crain.

7:00 P. M.

Lesson, Hebrews 11. Subject:—"What my Faith means to me." Sermon delivered by Elder J. B. Rose.

THIRD DAY—Monday.

8:00 A. M.

Devotional services, conducted by Tony Parish.

Reading of Constitution and Rules of Decorum.

Call for the Reports of Committees as follows:

Foreign Missions. Discussed and adopted.

Christian Education. Adopted without discussion.

Temperance. Adopted after discussion.

Home Missions. After discussion, was adopted.

State Missions. Discussed; adopted.

Report of Association Mission Board adopted without discussion.

Association Missions. Discussed, and a collection of \$132.79 was taken for Association Missions.

Song:—"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow."

The report was postponed until afternoon.

Adjourned with prayer by Elder J. H. Agee.

1:30 P. M.

Song:—"Jesus Lover of My Soul." Prayer by Elder J. H. Klepper.

Report of Association Missions taken up and again discussed, and with two amendments, the report was adopted.

Appointment of the Association Mission Board as follows: James Gatlin, L. M. Murray, J. L. Sims, Elder J. H. Klepper and Frank Kindall.

Report of Sunday-school discussed and adopted.

Orphans' Home, discussed, amended and adopted.

Woman's Work, discussed and adopted.

Periodicals, discussed, name changed to Christian Literature and adopted.

Obituaries, adopted, with prayer by Elder A. M. Crain.

Finance, adopted without discussion.

Resolutions, adopted without discussion.

MISCELLANEOUS.

E. C. Hodges selected as member of State Board.

Big Springs was selected as the place for the next meeting of the Association.

Elder W. S. Troutt selected to preach the introductory sermon. Elder H. Davidson, alternate.

Clerk to superintend the printing of the Minutes; to have 500 copies printed, and to receive \$5 for his services.

Secretary-Treasurer of the Association Mission Board was authorized to turn over all money to Secretary-Treasurer of the new Board.

E. C. Hodges selected to write a brief report of Association for the county papers.

With prayer by Elder J. H. Henderson, song and hand shake, the Association adjourned to meet with Big Springs Church at 10 o'clock A. M.; Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in October, 1914.

ELD. W. S. TROUTT, Moderator.

FRANK KINDALL, Clerk.

P. O. Harrison, Ark., R. F. D. No. 4.

Clerk's Report

Paid for Printing Minutes.....	\$16 00
For Services of Clerk.....	5 00
Reserved for Postage.....	1 52
Total.....	\$22 52
Amount of Finance Received.....	\$23 52
FRANK KINDALL, Clerk.	

Report of Committees.

DIVINE SERVICE.

We, the Committee on Divine Service, recommend that services be conducted as follows:

Saturday, 6:45 P. M., Devotional Service by Elder N. F. Bradley. 7:00 P. M., Preaching by Elder A. M. Crain.

Sunday, 10:30 A. M., Devotional Service by Elder J. H. Klepper. 11:00 A. M., Preaching by Elder J. H. Agee.

2:00 P. M.

Devotional, by Elder J. W. Henderson.

2:30 P. M.

Preaching by Elder H. Davidson and Elder O. E. Hefner.

6:45 P. M.

Devotional Service by Elder A. M. Crain. Preaching by Elder J. B. Rose.

COMMITTEE.

Foreign Missions.

We, your Committee on Foreign Missions, beg leave to make the following report:

Whereas, the great commission was that the Gospel was to go to all the world, even to the uttermost parts. We, your Committee, urge that the Churches and all the Pastors pay some attention to this phase of our work.

First, Because it was our Savior's last and parting words to his Disciples that this gospel should go to all the world.

Second, Because we do not believe any Church can be

fully developed till all the phases of the work be carried out and an effort made to interest all the members.

J. H. KLEPPER,

JNO. THOMPSON,

WES W. SPURLOCK,

Committee.

Home Missions.

It is highly important that every Baptist should have a good understanding, both of the faith and the work of the denomination. He cannot be a very valuable member of a Baptist Church if he is ignorant either of our faith or our work. These Associational meetings ought to enlighten our people on Baptist faith and Baptist work, and the Messengers present ought to carry that enlightenment back to their respective churches.

Of all the work the denomination is doing, none is more important and immediately imperative than that department we call Home Missions. How many of the Messengers understand fully what is meant by Home Missions, and can go home and explain this work to those members of their churches who do not understand what it is?

Home Missions, in a word, signifies the work done by the Southern Baptist Convention to save the lost in the homeland, to organize churches, Sunday-schools, etc., and in other ways to develop and strengthen those who are saved, so that they may be effective agents in saving others.

The agency through which Southern Baptists do this work, is the Home Mission Board, located at Atlanta, Georgia, B. D. Gray, D. D., Corresponding Secretary. For the convenience of the brotherhood West of the Mississippi River, and for greater efficiency in the work, an office is maintained in Dallas, Texas, J. F. Love Secretary.

The work of the Board is manifold, including missionary, evangelistic, educational and church building departments, and work among the immigrants, foreigners, negroes, etc. As it would make this report too long to explain and emphasize this work so that all could understand

it as they ought, your committee makes the following recommendations:

1. That every Pastor in the Association get at least one good book on Home Missions, and prepare himself to enlighten his people on the subject.

2. That Pastors, Churches and Missionary Societies make full use of the leaflet literature of the Board, which can be had for the asking of J. F. Love, No. 717 Slaughter Building, Dallas, Texas.

3. That an agent be appointed in each Church in the Association to select subscribers for the Home Field, the monthly magazine published by the Board.

These three recommendations are essential to an understanding of this great work.

Respectfully submitted,

N. F. BRADLEY,
WES W. HUDSON,
D. E. BROWN.

State Missions.

We, your Committee on State Missions, beg to submit the following report:

Just before Christ, our blessed Savior, parted from his Disciples and was carried up into heaven, he left this command: Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures, and said unto them, "Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations. "beginning at Jerusalem." And ye are witnesses of these things. And behold, I send the promise of my father upon you."

Brethren, this command and promise is to us and to our children, and let us pray that Our Understanding might be opened, and that we will see our duty, and try as best we can to perform it. The State Board is calling upon us for help, and we should heed the call. In carrying out the commands of Christ, they have undertaken a great task in

trying to "open the understanding" of our own home people of Arkansas in sending missionaries to preach the gospel in destitute fields. There are now eighty missionaries in the field to be paid, besides many weak churches to be helped, and the needs are urgent. There is much destitution in Arkansas. One county has not a Baptist preacher in it; one county has only one church in it; and one Association has not a single church house in it. These brethren need our help, and we would emphasize the great importance of giving to State Missions, and urge the Baptists of North Arkansas, and especially of this Association, that they strive to better inform themselves of the great work of the State Board, and the great needs of the people in our midst for the Gospel. They surely are our neighbors. We recommend that every Pastor within the bounds of the Crooked Creek Association preach at least one sermon each year on State Missions, and that each Church make a liberal contribution, as the Lord has prospered them.

May the Lord bless the State Board in its work, and bless the Missionaries in their labor in the field and give them many souls, and bless us in helping to support them.

J. H. AGEE,
H. D. GLASS,
JOSEPH DANIEL,
Committee.

Association Missions.

We, your Committee on Associational Missions, beg to submit the following report:

Whereas God, in the great commission gave the work to, and left it in care of the Church; and,

Whereas, We realize that this is a great field, and that it is truly ripe to harvest; and,

Whereas, The work done by our Association Missionary during the past year has proven a great success and greatly strengthened our cause; and in view of the great destitution still prevailing in our bounds, and in face of the fact that many new religious ideas false and hurtful to the cause of Christ are being promulgated in these destitute places, and even among some of the weaker churches; we recommend—

1st. That as our Board is in debt to the amount of \$138.81, and as the members of the Board have obligated themselves for this amount, that a collection be taken to meet this indebtedness.

2nd. That the Moderator appoint a board of five members, three of whom shall constitute a quorum, whose duty shall be to employ and pay a Missionary out of the funds contributed by the Churches, and each Church is hereby requested to select one member in their own Church whose duty it shall be to solicit means for Association Missions.

3rd. That the Board employ a Missionary for full time, and that they be and are hereby instructed to ask the State Board to aid us to the amount of three hundred dollars.

J. E. ROSE.

J. W. HENDERSON,

J. F. PRUITT,

Committee.

Report of Secretary of Associational Mission Board

We, the Board of Association Missions, submit the following report:

The Board employed Elder J. E. Rose, work commencing November 1, 1912. His work covered four months, up to March 1, 1913. During this time he reports days of labor, 60; miles traveled, 389; sermons and addresses, 40; visits in homes, 59; churches organized, 1; Sunday-schools organized, 2; conversions, 3; additions, 13; money collected on field, \$9.43. The Board paid Elder J. E. Rose \$120.00.

During the month of March there was no Missionary in the field. Our present Missionary, Elder J. G. Mabrey, has been in the field since the first of April. During that time he has labored 197 days, traveling 495 miles, made 331 religious visits in homes, and preached 152 sermons; held 34 religious services besides 102 other religious addresses. He has supplied 2 churches that were without pastors. He has collected for Associational Missions, \$23.25; for Home and Foreign Missions, \$4.62. He has collected for State Missions, \$8.71. He has also distributed over 200 religious tracts. The Lord has graciously blessed his work in the

salvation of 33 souls. He has administered baptism to 28 persons. Our Missionary's work has been mostly in destitute parts of the Association, while he has helped some pastors and endeavored to build up pastorless churches in different parts of the Association. Although he has not been able to cover all the ground, yet we feel that his work has not been in vain.

The Board paid him \$167.12.

Financial Report in Full.

Amount Collected on Pledges from Churches and Individuals	\$171 64
Amount Contributed at Association	132 79
Total Collections	<u>\$304 43</u>
Paid Missionaries	\$287 12
Paid on last year account	4 21
Total	<u>\$291 33</u>
Balance in Treasury	\$ 13 10

JOS. E. MCGINN,
Secretary Associational Board.

Temperance.

The subject of Temperance holds a prominent place throughout the teachings of God's word, but it is not wholly confined to the use of intoxicants, as is so often inferred by our attitude toward the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. Paul says every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. We recommend, therefore, that the use of intoxicating liquors be regarded as the paramount issue in our fight against the evils of our day, but that its many associated evils, such as Sunday baseball and all revelings and such like be avoided by our Church members that we may indeed be a light unto men, and that our influence be for the cause of our Blessed Master.

O. C. HEFNER,
H. DAVIDSON,
E. C. HODGES,
Committee.

Orphans' Home.

We, 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, Ark. The work was begun with only two children and very poor buildings. The number of children has increased to 175. There has been new buildings erected this year that has given reasonable accommodations to the Home, but has left them in debt, and this debt, with the support of the children, is to be met by the Baptists of Arkansas. Therefore we would advise that the Churches select one lady member in their church to take collections once each quarter, and Sunday-schools take collections once a month, and Ladies' Aids as often as practical, and that the pastors of all the Churches encourage their members in the support of this grand work.

J. W. PETTIT,
MRS. E. C. HODGES,
Committee.

Christian Education.

We, your Committee on Christian Education, beg leave to submit the following:

We believe that Christian influence is conducive to the upbuilding of any people and the advancement of God's kingdom. Therefore we urge that this body of Messengers use their influence in their respective districts in advancing the idea of employing Christian teachers, where it is practical, and we ask 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 is practical. We wish to impress the fact on all, that in order to keep up with the times and promote the cause of our Master, we must educate our people in his teachings. We therefore recommend that each Pastor in the Association devote one hour at the regular Sunday meetings in June, 1914, to the discussion of the principles of Christian education, and that an offering be made in each church to forward the cause of Christian education.

We, your Committee, believe that Baptists ought to patronize Baptist schools and colleges. We therefore recommend Ouachita College for boys and girls, and Central College at Conway for girls.

We therefore earnestly recommend that we put forth our best efforts for the promotion of Christian education among our young people.

Respectfully submitted,

R. S. BROWN,
A. E. STRATTON,
M. C. PUMPHREY,
Committee.

Womans' Work.

We, your Committee on Womans' Work, submit the following report:

Judging from reports from the Churches throughout the Association, this important work has been very much neglected, as but one Church sent in a report, either from Ladies' Aid or Womans' Missionary Union. This one was 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 to the amount of \$43.40 during this Associational year. We consider that the womans' work is of the greatest importance, because through the organization of the Ladies' Aid Societies and Womans' Missionary Unions, opportunities are offered to enlist and develop into usefulness the female members of our Church. Therefore we recommend that our pastors emphasize in their respective Churches the need of womans' co-operative work, and urge the organization of womans' societies in their Churches.

DARTHULA DANIEL,
DORA THOMPSON,
MRS. W. H. CLARK,
Committee.

Sunday School.

We, your Committee on Sunday School, beg to report as follows:

We believe that the Sunday School problem should be solved with the greatest consideration, because we think it

one of the most important problems which we have to consider. We recommend—

1st. That we urge every Pastor to attend Sunday School and take part in the work.

2nd. We desire to impress upon the hearts of every parent in this Association that their full duty is not performed by sending their children to Sunday School, but should take their neighbors children, whose parents are not Christians. and do not take any interest in Sunday School work.

3rd. It is very important that the parents urge and encourage the study of the lesson in the home. We think we, as parents and Christians, should be very much interested in the work, and should bring our children up in Sunday School in order that they should become interested. We should go with them and take interest ourselves.

ALICE SMITH,
PEARL TAYLOR,
OLEY GATLIN,

Committee.

Christian Literature.

We, your Committee on Christian Literature, 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 theirs (the Baptists) is the only correct teaching in every particular.

JOS. E. MCGINN,
F. L. PENNINGTON,
MRS. A. J. WALTERS,
Committee.

Obituaries.

We, your Committee on Obituaries, submit the following report:

We find that during the past year death has claimed from our membership fourteen. Sisters Ida Speer of Prairie View, Kata Tabor of Peel, Mary Cagle and S. A. Merrett of Big Springs, Sarah Taylor and Mary Boughansultz of Oregon, Emily Hawkins of Wolf Springs, Mary Pennington of Liberty No. 2, Lillie Cantrell of Grub Springs. Brothers C. M. Hunt of Grub Springs, Josiah Troutt of Hopewell, R. R. Capps of Orion, Jasper Cook of Valley Springs; also one death from New Hope whose name was not reported.

We, your Committee, recommend that we extend to the respective Churches, and to the friends and relatives, our sympathy, and commend them to Him who came to bind up the broken hearted, who doeth all things well. Blessed be His name.

R. W. RALEY,
CHARLEY MANLEY.
TOM JOHNSON,
Committee.

Finance.

We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to report that \$23.52 has been collected for the expense of printing Minutes.

A. R. CAPPS,
W. A. KINDALL,
L. H. CRAWFORD,
Committee.

Resolutions.

We, your Committee, submit the following:

Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt thanks to our brethren and sisters, and to the entire community of Prairie View Church, for their kind hospitality in caring for us as Messengers and visitors of this Association during our stay with them. May God's blessing be with them.

L. M. MURRAY,
BOB JONES,
G. B. EOFF,
Committee.

Special Contributions

Of the Churches not mentioned in the Statistical Table:

~~Harrison—Foreign Missions, \$16.87; Home Missions, \$16.88; State Missions, \$22.50; Association Missions, \$63.12; Sunday School, \$18.05; building and repairing, \$105.25; Church building fund, \$21.80; incidentals, \$72.50; charity, \$10.00; Orphans' Home, \$80.14; Colleges and Schools, \$21; other objects, \$10.15~~

~~Bellefonte—^{2.4}Foreign and Home Missions, \$4.61; Association Missions, \$8.87; Christian Education, \$1.10; Sunday School, \$18.00.~~

~~Valley Springs—State Missions, \$4.15; Association Missions, \$10.00; building, \$208.25; visiting Ministers, \$2.00; incidentals, \$1.00.~~

~~Prairie View—State Missions, \$1.00; Association Missions, \$5.00; Orphans' Home, \$1.00; Sunday School, \$3.00; Ministerial Education, \$2.00.~~

~~Union—Foreign Missions, \$1.25; Home Missions, \$2.05; Association Missions, \$6.00; Orphans' Home, \$7.50.~~

~~Oregon—Orphans' Home, \$10.00.~~

~~Bethel—Sunday School, \$5.00.~~

~~Liberty No. 2—Foreign Missions, 85 cents; Home Missions, \$1.54; Orphans' Home, \$3.00; Ministerial Education, \$1.64.~~

~~Hopewell—Association Missions, \$5.90~~

~~Big Springs—Association Missions, \$10.00; repairing, \$50.00; Visiting Ministers, \$21.62; Sunday School, \$1.57.~~

~~Sugar Loaf—Association Missions, \$1.50.~~

~~Orion—Association Missions, \$3.00.~~

~~Wolf Springs—Association Missions, 25 cents; Orphans' Home, \$2.00.~~

~~Deer—Home Missions, \$1.50; Association Missions, \$5.~~

~~Peel—Association Missions \$9.50; Visiting Ministers, \$32.50.~~

~~Oak Grove—Association Missions, \$14.50; Orphans' Home, \$3.00.~~

~~Grub Springs—Association Missions, \$10.50; Orphans' Home, \$2.50; Incidental, \$1.30; Visiting Ministers, \$4.00.~~

~~Mt. Pleasant—Home Missions, \$2.25; Association Missions, \$8.00; Orphans' Home, \$1.00.~~

~~Pleasant Grove No. 2—Association Missions, \$1.05.~~

~~Lead Hill—Visiting Ministers, \$36.50.~~

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, having 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, doctrines: to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, 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 the exercise of anger; to abstain 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 Christian 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 when 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 corrected, 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 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, and not more than 10 minutes.

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 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 the subject under discussion.

14. These rules may be amended at any time, when a majority of the 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; 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 opinions should be said.

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 God-head 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 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 now are sinners, not by constraint but by choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil, and therefore under just condemnation without defense or excuse.

4. We believe the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the medatorial 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 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 perfection, He is every way qualified to be a suitable, compassionate and 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 it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every blessing needful for time and eternity.

6. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel, and that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by the 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.

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 Divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel, and that its proper evidence appears in the fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

8. We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces wrought in our souls by the regenerating spirit of God, whereby, being convinced of our guilt, danger, 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 receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on Him as the only 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 moral agency of man, it comprehends all means in connection with the end, 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 effects in all who truly believe in the Gospel; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance, and 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, and 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.

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

12. We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of His moral government, that 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 the means of grace, connected with the establishment of the visible church.

13. We believe that a Church of Jesus 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 scriptu-

ral officers are Bishops, or Pastors and Deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are found in the epistles to Timothy and Titus.

14. We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion, in water, of a believer, into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, administered by a legal administrator, to show faith in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior, with its effects in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it 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 undying 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 for religious purposes by abstaining from secular labor and sinful recreations by the observance of all means of grace, both private and public, and by preparations for the rest that remains for the people of God.

16. We believe that the 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.

17. We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ 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 good among men both in and after death.

18. We believe that the end of the world is approaching; and at the last day Christ will descend from Heaven and raise the dead from their graves for 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 man in Heaven or hell on the principles of righteousness.

Order of Business.

1. Annual Introductory Sermon.
2. Call of the Association to order by the Moderator, if present.
3. Call for Church letters and enroll messengers.
4. Call for petitionary letters for membership.
5. Election of officers.
6. Call for corresponding letters and messengers.
7. Appoint committees.
8. Read Constitution and Rules of Decorum.
9. Call and correct 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 someone to preach Introductory Sermon.
17. Appoint some one to have minutes printed.
18. Adjournment.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	POST OFFICE	PASTORS	CLERKS	MISCELLANEOUS	By Baptism	By Statement By Letter	By Discontinuation By Letter	By Exclusion	By Death	Ordained Ministers	Membership	Church Day	Pastor Support	Monthly Fund
					Increased	Decreased								
Harrison	Harrison	J. H. Agre	John Sugg	Eld. J. H. Agre, H. D. Glas, John Sugg, E. C. Hodges	5 24	11				1	97	1,2,3,4,5	700 00	2 45
Sugar Land	Lead Hill	W. S. Troutt	Zell Dunlap	C. A. Buckley, Joe Smith, E. C. Pumphrey, Sam Jouragan	15 2	6					100		30 00	1 25
Belleville	Belleville	J. G. Mabrey	J. A. Thompson	Toke Tennyson, R. D. Keeter, J. A. Thompson, Dora Thompson	17 1 3	1					70		60 00	1 00
Big Springs	Monarch	R. W. Raley	S. C. Purdon	George Austin, Charley Masley, Ezra Pottenger, J. W. Purdon	21 5 1						40		22 15	1 00
Prairie View	Harrison	W. S. Troutt	P. E. Graham	John Toney, F. E. Graham, Maud Baker, Pearl Taylor				1	1		67		60 00	1 00
New Hope	Lowery	R. W. Raley	J. H. Springer	John Arthur	14 2						60			1 00
Union	Harrison	L. R. Capps	J. S. Barker	J. S. Barker, Luther Donier, Belle Hudson, G. B. Eoff	16 2 5	2					65		60 00	1 25
Walnut Grove	Harrison	L. R. Capps	Bob Jones	Bob Jones, K. Morris, J. E. McGinn		11					47		45 15	1 00
Pleasant Grove No. 2	Burlington	J. Raynor	Willie Robertson	W. M. Robertson	1 2 1						56		11 00	60
Hopewell	Harrison	W. S. Troutt	Frank Kindall	Eld. W. S. Troutt, Frank Kindall, A. R. Capps	5	5					42		35 75	1 00
Grub Springs	Harrison	J. E. Rose	Fred Walker	James Holt, Joe Daniel, Dartha Daniel	1 1 1	3					40		20 00	1 00
Valley Springs	Valley Springs	W. S. Troutt	L. M. Murray	L. M. Murray, Otis Wilson, Ida Murray, S. M. McAlpin	2	1 1					36		61 00	75
Liberty No. 2	Harrison	L. R. Capps	Walter Baughman	Eld. J. H. Klepper, Geo. Gosh, F. L. Pennington							31		22 00	75
Bethel	Self	O. C. Hefner	E. R. Pemberton	E. R. Pemberton and Wife, C. C. Smith and Wife		3					35		19 00	1 00
Oak Grove	Prosperity	J. W. Pettit	Tom Brown	J. F. Pruitt, D. H. Snoring, Maud Snoring	1 3	2 1					40		22 00	1 10
Wolf Springs	Harrison	J. W. Pettit	Joe Brown	Eld. J. W. Pettit, W. A. Kindall, Alvie Kindall, Joe Brown	13 2 2	2 2 1					33		10 00	75
Pool	Pool	R. W. Raley	W. W. Treadway	A. E. Farmer, Jesse Weaver, James Casbolt		2					32		10 00	1 00
Oregon	Bergman	J. S. King	Alvin Taylor	James Doonan and Wife, Bertha Taylor		3					30		45 00	50
Orion	Prosperity	J. Raynor	L. H. Crawford	J. A. Crawford, L. H. Crawford, N. W. Woodard		25 3 1					39			70
Pleasant Grove	Willbrookson	N. F. Bradley	R. M. Carlton	Wes W. Spurlock, S. M. Carlton	3	5 1					19		17 00	55
Flat Rock	Belleville	H. Davidson	Ida Johnson	A. E. Stratton, D. E. Brown, Tom Johnson, Ida Johnson	4 3						18		50 00	75
Mt. Pleasant	Wayton	J. W. Henderson	Minday Taylor	Eld. J. W. Henderson and Wife, J. W. Snow and Wife	2 2	1					44			97
New Hope	Swain	A. E. Wilson	C. C. Sarna	Represented by Letter	1				1		45		5 00	85
Lead Hill	Lead Hill			R. S. Brown, Marion Dotson	1						14			55
Deer	Deer	J. W. Henderson	J. A. Broadlove	Represented by Letter	9						25		4 1 00	
TOTALS					135 66 1	81	16	14	13 1171		81394	53 823	92	