

H. D. May, Secy

MINUTES

Of The

Seventy-third Session of the Old Organization

And The

Forty-Eighth Session of the New Organization

Of The

White River Baptist

Association

Held With

Pilgrims Rest Church, Gassville, Baxter
County, Arkansas.

September 3-4, 1915.

OFFICERS:

B. L. BAYLESS, Moderator, : Rea Valley, Ark.
J. W. BARNETT, JR. Clerk, : Gassville, Ark.
J. M. RANDELL, Treasurer, : Mountain Home, Ark.

MINUTES

Pursuant to adjournment the White River Missionary Baptist Association convened with Pilgrims Rest church, Gassville, Ark., September 3, 1915, at 10 a. m.

The Association opened with a song and prayer by Eld. A. M. Reed.

Eld. W. D. White being absent, by motion Eld. A. M. Crain was elected to preach the introductory sermon, which was a very able discourse.

By motion the body proceeded with the organization of the body. Brethren W. R. Jones and B. A. Spradlin were appointed as reading clerks.

Motion made and carried to take a recess until 2. p. m.

Prayer by Eld. J. H. Marler.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator and led in prayer by Eld. Jacob Skiver.

The Moderator appointed Brethren Abner White, L. T. Marler and S. W. Marler to take the votes respectively for Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer. The Association proceeded to elect the officers for the ensuing year, resulting as follows: For Moderator, Eld. R. L. Bayless; for Clerk, Eld. J. W. Barnett jr.; for Treasurer, Bro. J. M. Randell.

A call for petitionary letters was made; none presented.

A call for corresponding messengers was made; none came forth.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

Divine Service—The messengers of Pilgrims Rest church and Bro. W. R. Jones.

State Missions—Elds. W. D. White, J. B. Smith and W. H. McCuiston.

Foreign Missions—Eld. J. H. Marler, Brethren B. A. Spradlin and J. N. Mohny.

Home Missions—Eld. A. M. Crain, Brethren S. J. Stone and J. W. Gregory.

Destitution—Eld. R. L. Barnett, Bro. J. R. Wilbanks and J. G. Dillahunty.

Christian Education—Brethren B. A. Spradlin, W. R. Jones and B. R. Hipp.

Temperance—Eld. R. J. Rimer, Brethren J. A. Pasco and J.

L. Gilliland.

Woman's Work—Sisters Sallie Jordan, Dela Pasco, J. F. Rae, Arba Beard, Lydia McCuiston, Hattie Randell and Pearl Stone.

Orphans' Home—Eld. A. M. Reed, Brethren Joe Crane and Marcus Willbanks.

Baptist Literature—Bro. W. R. Jones, Elds. J. H. Marler and W. D. White.

Deceased Ministers—Elds. W. D. White, J. C. Marler and Eugene Horton.

Finance—Brethren B. R. Hipp, J. M. Randell and A. F. Bayless.

Sunday Schools—Elds. R. M. Ballard, R. J. Rimer and Bro. J. W. Gregory.

Resolutions—Brethren W. B. Easley, W. H. Mayfield and Eld. Jacob Skiver.

Obituaries—Elds. W. D. White, J. C. Marler and Eugene Horton.

Motion prevailed to suspend the reading of the rules.

Motion prevailed to give the Clerk until 9 o'clock Saturday morning to call the roll.

Report of Corresponding Messengers—Brethren W. R. Jones and J. G. Dillahunt reported that they had visited Crooked Creek Association and found them to be a loyal band of Baptists.

Appointment of Messengers to corresponding bodies:

Crooked Creek—Eld. A. M. Crain and Bro. W. R. Jones.

Rocky Bayou—Elds. W. H. McCuiston and J. P. Lovelace.

Big Creek—Elds. Jacob Skiver, R. M. Ballard, J. H. Marler, Eugene Horton and Bro. W. B. Easley.

County Line—Eld. R. J. Rimer and Bro. J. M. Randell.

Committee on Divine Service made a partial report as follows: Eld. J. B. Smith preach tonight followed by Eld. R. J. Rimer; and Eld. A. M. Reed preach Saturday at 11 a. m. followed by Eld. R. L. Barnett.

Motion was made and carried that the regular order of business be suspended and the place for the next meeting be selected and some one elected to preach the introductory sermon.

Mountain Home was selected as the place of meeting and Eld. J. P. Lovelace was chosen to preach the sermon and Eld. J. B. Smith his alternate.

A motion prevailed to take recess until 9 o'clock a. m. Satur-

day.

Preaching at 8 p. m. by Eld. J.B. Smith and Eld. R.J. Rimer.
SATURDAY, 9 O'CLOCK A. M.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator.

Prayer by Eld. B. L. Bayless.

Motion made and carried to suspend the calling of the roll until 2 p. m.

The committee on State Missions made their report which was adopted. See report 1.

The committee on Orphans' Home made their report, which after discussion was adopted. See report 2.

The committee on Destitution made their report and after a spirited discussion it was amended and adopted. See report 3.

By motion the body went into an election for Missionary. Eld. A. M. Crain was elected for the ensuing year. The Association agreed to pay him \$2.00 per day for his service.

On motion the body took recess until 2 p. m.

Preaching at 11 a. m. by Eld. A. M. Reed.

2 P. M.

The Moderator called the house to order and led in prayer.

Call for letters of churches not reported. Flippin responded.

The roll was called and corrected.

The committee on Sabbath Schools made their report, which was discussed, amended and adopted. See report 4.

The committee on Woman's Work made their report, which was adopted. See report 5.

The committee on Baptist Literature made their report, which was adopted. See report 6.

The committee on Finance made their report, which was adopted. See report 7.

The committee on Home Missions made their report, which was adopted. See report 8.

The committee on Obituaries made their report, which was adopted. See report 9.

The committee on Deceased Ministers made their report, which was adopted. See report 10.

The Mission Board made their report, which was adopted. See report 11.

The Missionary made his report which was adopted. See report 12.

By motion the body took ten minutes recess.

The committee on Foreign Missions made their report, which was adopted. See report 13.

The committee on Temperance made their report, which was adopted. See report 14.

The committee on Christian Education made their report, which was adopted. See report 15.

The committee on Resolutions made their report, which was adopted. See report 16.

The Board of Trustees made their report, which was adopted. See report 17.

Motion carried to turn the minute funds over to the clerk, and that he receive \$5.00 as his fees.

Motion made and carried that the Board of Trustees be authorized to use the best means to erect a roof on the College building.

Motion prevailed to adjourn to meet with Mountain Home church, on Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1916.

Prayer by Eld. J. H. Marler.

J. W. BARNETT JR,
Clerk.

ELD. B. L. BAYLESS,
Moderator.

REPORTS

1.—We your committee on State Missions respectfully submit the following: State missions are a vital part of our denominational work, the unit from which all mission work is launched must forever be the local church and the local churches of Jesus Christ must forever be free to carry on His missionary work as they see fit and proper as long as they do no violence to New Testament principles in the choice of executives for the purpose of carrying on state mission work. The matter is entirely in the hands of the churches affiliating themselves together for the purpose of doing mission work, but we feel that it is the duty of every church to take more interest in state mission work than has heretofore been the case within the bounds of this Association and we urge that each one take up a collection for state missions at least once each year and transmit same to whatever board or community they may feel will best advance the cause of Jesus Christ in our beloved state, and we recommend that the state mission work be carried on in a spirit of love and not of

strife. Eld. W. D. White, Chairman..

2—We your committee on Orphan Homes make the following report: There are two orphan homes in the state of Arkansas, one at Monticello, with about 200 children, good equipment, but in need of support and help. They have lately been stricken with that awful disease, Pellagra, which has given them a great deal of trouble and caused a few deaths. They need our help in a financial way. The home at Texarkana has 30 children or more, they are also in great need of help and we recommend that a liberal collection be taken today and the money apportioned according to the number of children in each home. We further recommend that each church at its next meeting take this matter up and elect their most efficient sister to take up this work in their church and neighborhood of soliciting help for those dear children. A. M. Reed, Chairman.

3—We your committee on Destitution, beg leave to make the following: We realize that there is great destitution within the bounds of our Association and we recommend that this body elect a Missionary to supply the destitute within its bounds with Baptist preaching during this Associational year, and we further recommend that the Moderator appoint a committee of one from each church to solicit means for his support. We recommend that the pastors of the churches of this Association impress upon each church the solemn duty of giving of their means for the support of the gospel in the destitute part of this Association. Eld. R. L. Barnett, Chairman.

4—We your committee on Sunday Schools, report as follows: Our Lord and Master set us the example for Sunday Schools for "He entered into the synagogues on the Sabbath and taught, and he said follow me." Your committee would very earnestly request every church in White River Association to organize a Bible school on the Lord's day and use Baptist literature as a help to Bible study. Brethren, will not every church report a Sunday School next year. Elder R. J. Rimer, Chairman.

5—We your committee on Woman's Work wish to submit the following report: After careful observation we find that the women of our Southland are doing a great work for the Master's cause. And why not, since it was a woman that carried the first beautiful message of the risen Christ. And we urge the brethren, as those of olden times, to stand by us with their money and pray-

ers. We earnestly recommend that a Ladies Missionary and Aid Society be organized in every church in White River Association. Done by order of committee Sister A. D Jordan, Chairman.

6—Your committee on Baptist Literature would respectfully recommend that the choice of Baptist newspapers and other current Baptist literature be left to the individual conscience of each Baptist within the bounds of this Association. But we earnestly urge upon all our members the overwhelming importance of the reading of God's word in their homes, and by their firesides. All the great Baptist victories in the past have been won where the word has been most devotedly read in the homes of the people. Especially would we pray that Baptist fathers and mothers devise ways and means by which their children may be induced early in life to begin the study of God's revelation of his will to the world. It is God's plan, in his scheme of redemption, to save sinners, who believe in his Son, by the means of the Spirit and Truth. It is his will that truth be instilled into the heart of the sinner. This can be done by no other way than by the sinner reading the Word, or hearing it read and expounded by others. It is only after the truth is instilled into him that the Holy Spirit does his quickening work. We therefore, reverently say with our Lord, Search the Scripture, for this the guide book for the road that leads to eternal life. W. R. Jones, Chairman.

7—We your committee on Finance beg leave to submit the following report: We find that the churches have contributed for printing the minutes \$25 75. B R. Hipp, Chairman.

8—We your committee on Home Missions beg leave to submit the following report: Not having exact report of the work done this year, will say, Home Mission money is spent for the evangelizing of America. At least twenty-five different nationalities receive the Gospel opportunity through our preachers by this fund. Some of our strongest churches are among the foreigners, and many of them return to their home land carrying the message with them. Much of our Home Mission money is spent for evangelism in great cities and smaller towns and other destitute places. Baptists make no investment that brings larger returns than this one, and none is more needed. Our average gift per member for a whole year to this work is 13 cents. Too few of our churches know the opportunity and results of our endeavor. Every member can and should have a part We must preach the

Gospel to the destitute among us, or deny our loyalty to Christ. The letters show that the churches of this Association have given \$15.00 for this object during the year now closed. This is a decrease over last year of \$24.50. Every member giving regularly, systematically, liberally is the New Testament way and should be our way. We urge that the pastors at the different churches preach at least one sermon on Home Missions and ask each member to give something to this work. Eld. A. M. Crain, Chairman.

9—We your committee on Obituaries beg to submit the following report: By careful investigation we find that since our last meeting God in his wisdom has seen fit to call from labor to rest, seven of the members of this Association. Resolved that we humbly bow in submission to the will of Him who doeth all things. Eld. W. D. White, Chairman.

10—We your committee on Deceased Ministers, beg to report the following: Investigation discloses that God in his mercy has spared the lives of all the ministers of White River Association, therefore we recommend that this body bow in prayer led by Eld. W. D. White. Eld. W. D. White, Chairman.

11—We the Missionary Board appointed to assist in raising means to carry on the work of the Missionary for the past year, report that we employed Eld. A. M. Crain to do some missionary work which he did. We find that Eld. Crain has been paid in full for his services. We recommend that a meeting of all members of the churches who are appointed to serve on the committee to raise funds for our missionary, meet at the next Fifth Sunday meeting to lay out the work of our missionary for the next year. We further recommend that five members constitute a quorum for business. As the first meeting is every important it is urged that all members be present. T. O. Horn, Chairman, Eugene Horton, Sec.

12—I wish to make the following report as Missionary of this Association: Held 8 days meeting with the church at Norfolk and with Pastor W. H. McCuiston. Preached 12 sermons; 2 conversions; collected \$12.00. Held 10 days meeting with Hopewell church and Pastor McCuiston. Preached 20 sermons; 10 conversions; 2 backsliders restored to joy; 15 additions to the church, 5 by letter and otherwise; 4 baptised; and 6 stand approved for baptism; collected \$14.00; donated by missionary \$1.00. Full payment \$27.00. Eld. A. M. Crane, Missionary.

13—We your committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to submit the following in compliance with the 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 carry out the commission that Jesus Christ delivered to the church, therefore we would urge the Churches of this Association to give of their means to carry out the great Commission as given by our Lord and Master. Eld. J. H. Marler, Chairman.

14—We your committee on Temperance report as follows: Intemperance is the blighting curse of our nation. Intoxicating drinks pours its fiery liquid into the hearts of thousands who never touch the intoxicating cup. The refinement of education and the splendor of genius have fallen before its poor martial under one bloody flag. Of all the calamities that ever befell the human family; wars, famines, pestilence, fires and tempests, this curse and monster, intemperance, can out do them all. His footsteps must be arrested or the nation is undone. Who is to do this work? She that looks forth as the morning, full as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners. The church of the living God is to remedy this evil. Eld. R. J. Rimer, Chairman.

15—We your committee on Christian Education report as follows: We urge the education of our children under Christian influence. We believe that every teacher, even in our public schools, should be a Christian. We recommend a liberal patronage of our denominational schools. Our boys and girls need and will still need an education to prepare them for usefulness in the church and in the state. B. A. Spradlin, Chairman.

16—We your committee on Resolutions beg to submit the following report: Resolved that this body direct the Clerk to have the minutes printed and distributed to each church in proportion to each contribution, and to receive for his services five dollars from the minute fund. Resolved that this body return their thanks to Pilgrim's Rest church and community for their kindness to us while with them. W. B. Easley, Chairman.

17—The Board of Trustees of Mountain Home College reports as follows: We find that the college building is being used by the school board at Mountain Home for the Normal Training High School, and the school is organized and ready to start under that board. The building is in need of a roof, therefore we rec-

commend that the Association devise means to raise a fund to help put a roof on the building. The people of Mountain Home have maintained the building for several years and have used it the best they could, but they feel now that the roofing of the building is too expensive an undertaking for them alone. It is Baptist property, and valuable property too. It ought to be preserved, and a Baptist school should be opened and maintained there. It can and will be done when this Association becomes fully interested and gets in hearty co-operation with the school. T. O. Horn, W. R. Jones, S. J. Stone, R. H. Russell and Eugene Horton, Committee.

MINISTERS, MESSENGERS AND CLERKS

CHURCHES	MESSENGERS	PASTORS	CLERKS	ADDRESSES
Antioch	J. M. Goff	G. G. Parrot	Asbury Johnson	Flippin, Ark.
Cotter	B. A. Spradlin	J. P. Lovelace	D. B. Lee	Cotter, Ark.
Friendship	Elds. R. J. Rimer, and R. L. Barnett, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Randell	R. J. Rimer	J. M. Randell	Mountain Home, Ark.
Hopewell	T. O. Horn, J. B. Crane, S. J. King, and W. H. Mayfield	B. L. Bayless	T. O. Horn	Mountain Home, Ark.
Mt. Pleasant	S. F. Tucker and Lee Pinley	J. B. Smith	Webster Guinn	Gassville, Ark.
Mt. Zion	Eld. J. B. Smith, D. N. Carey, and J. L. Gilland	W. H. McCuiston	Sarepta Carey	Arkana, Ark.
Mtn. Home	R. H. Russell, B. R. Hipp Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Jordan	B. L. Bayless	J. L. Paul	Mountain Home, Ark.
New Hope	J. A. Pasco, and Dela Pasco	J. B. Smith	Tinnie Watts	Ralph, Ark.
New Harmony	Eld. B. L. Bayless, J. N. Mohney, A. F. Bayless, and J. W. Gregory	W. H. McCuiston	J. F. Coventon	Oakland, Ark.
Norfolk	Eld. Eugene Horton, and Miss Arba Beard	W. H. McCuiston	Eugene Horton	Norfolk, Ark.
New Athens	W. B. Easley, G. W. Collins, and Clifton Talbert	J. B. Smith	W. H. Wilson	Cumt. Ark.
Oakland	Miss Pearl Stone, S. J. Stone, Dink Stone, and T. J. Meredith	R. M. Ballard	S. J. Stone	Mountain Home, Ark.
Pilgrims Rest	Elds. W. D. White, J. C. Marler, and J. H. Marler, J. E. Marler Sr.	J. C. Marler	L. T. Marler	Gassville, Ark.
Whiteville	Eld. J. W. Barnett, W. W. Lamb, A. G. West, and J. G. Dillahunt	W. H. McCuiston	A. G. West	Gassville, Ark.
Wises Chapel	Represented by letter	C. W. Hill	R. E. Ivie	Cross Roads, Ark.
Yellville	Elds. A. M. Crain and A. M. Reed and W. R. Jones	A. M. Crain	T. G. Angel	Yellville, Ark.
Union Ridge	Eld. Jacob Skiver, and C. R. Doak	Jacob Skiver	J. M. Parks	Mountain Home, Ark.
Salesville	Eld. R. M. Ballard, and T. Wilson	R. M. Ballard	Addie Wilson	Norfolk, Ark.
Sardis	J. R. M. R., M. C. and W. H. Willbanks	John Thornton	J. R. Willbanks	Pontiac, Mo.
Pleasant Grove	Eld. W. H. McCuiston, Miss Lydia McCuiston, and Mrs. J. F. Rae	W. H. McCuiston	J. W. Parnell	Rae Valley, Ark.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	Increase by Letter	Increase by Baptism	Increase by Restoration	Decrease by Letter	Decrease by Exclusion	Decrease by Death	Total Membership	The Year Constituted	Days of Church Meeting	Home Missions	No. in Sun. School	Contribution for Minutes	Associat' al Missions	State Missions	Foreign Missions	Pastoral Support	Church Building	Incidental Expenses	Orphan's Homes	Sunday School	Minist' eria Relief	For Education
Antioch	1			1		2	109		3rd Saturday and Sunday	15	20		6	35		39		30			38	25
Cotter	1	6		6	1		79	1903	2nd and 4th Sunday	73	50											
Friendship	1			2	2	1	45	1874	3rd Saturday and Sunday		50		8		20	250						
Hopewell	2	4	1			2	63	1874	1st Saturday and Sunday	40	1 00											
Mt. Pleasant				1			123	1868	3rd Saturday and Sunday	50	1 50							2				
Mt. Zion							23	1911	2nd Saturday and Sunday		65					33						
Mtn. Home	6	34		7		1	120	1868		45	2 00			92	7			50	16	58	180	253
New Hope				1			66	1878	3rd Saturday and Sunday		1 55					18						
New Harmony	1	2					57	1872	1st Sunday and Sat. before		1 50					4						
Norfolk							19	1912	4th Sunday		1 25	12				50						
New Athens	1			2			77	1891	1st Sunday	30	50										16	
Oakland	1	6		2		1	25	1881	3rd Sunday	40	1 00					12		1 50		100		
Pilgrims Rest							158	1872	2nd Saturday and Sunday		1 00					63						
Whiteville	1					1	84	1892	4th Saturday and Sunday		75					11						
Wises Chapel				1	3		70	1892	4th Sunday	55	65											
Yellville	5	10	3	11			38	1913	1st and 3rd Sunday	60	1 50	10				205						
Union Ridge	2	3					24	1912	1st Saturday and Sunday		75					11						
Salesville		7		4	2		29	1915	Sat. night before 1st Sun.		2 00					125			20	30	175	
Sardis					3		24	1908	3rd Saturday and Sunday		50					10						
Pleasant Grove	3	1	1			1	11	1882	2nd Sunday		60					30						

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 meeting 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 the 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 will 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.

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 su-

preme 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 or the God-head there are three persons, the Father, the Son, 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 appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins; 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 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 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 be born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with 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 all-sufficient Savior.

9. We believe that election is the eternal purposes of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners, that doing so is 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 to 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 Healer 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 baptised 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, our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is a prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation and 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 in the week is the Lord's Day or Christian Sabbath, and it 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 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 by 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 meetings, read the letters and documents, and 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 annual meeting, shall be invited to a seat as correspondent, and these meetings shall always be opened with a 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 reprov'd 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.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Annual introductory sermon.
2. Call of Association to order by the Moderator, if present
3. Call for church letters and enrolling messengers.
4. Election of officers.
5. Call for petitionery letters and messengers.
6. Call for corresponding letters and messengers.
7. Appoint the following committees: Divine service, associational missions, state missions, home missions, foreign missions, destitution, Sunday schools, Baptist literature, christian education, finance, temperance, woman's work, orphan homes, obituaries, deceased ministers, resolutions.
8. Read constitution and rules of order.
9. Call and correct the roll and note absentees.
10. Call 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.
17. Adjournment.

FORM FOR CHURCH LETTER

The Baptist church of Christ at

To the White River Baptist Association:

Dear Brethren:— We send as messengers Elder

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 19

Present pastor

Day of church meeting

Number engaged in Sabbath School.

Contribution for Minutes \$.

Contribution for associational missions \$.

Contribution for state missions \$.

Contribution for foreign missions \$.

Contribution for ministerial relief \$.

Money expended for pastoral support \$.

Money expended for church building \$.

Money expended for incidental expenses \$.

By order of the church. .

Date 19

..... Moderator

..... Church Clerk

Postoffice