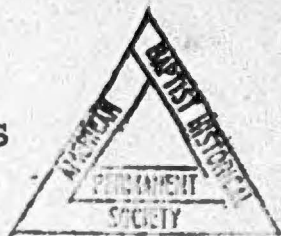


MINUTES



OF THE

Twenty-first Annual Session

OF THE

No 2

UNION ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS,

HELD WITH

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH,

SEARCY COUNTY, ARKANSAS.

SHILOH CHURCH, Friday, September 14, 1900.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS.



We your committee present the following report:

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Call the Association to order after prayer.
3. Call for statistical letters and enroll delegates' names.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Election of officers.
6. Call for corresponding messengers from sister associations.
7. Invite visiting ministers to seats with us.
8. Appoint committees and renew call for corresponding messengers from sister associations.
9. Call the roll, mark absentees and correct minutes.
10. Read Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Articles of Faith.
11. Call for report of messengers to corresponding associations.
12. Appoint messengers to sister associations.
13. Call for report of committees.
14. Call for queries.
15. Call for resolutions.
16. Choose some brother to write a circular letter.
17. Choose time and place for next association.
18. Choose some brother to preach the introductory sermon, also an alternate.
19. Choose some brother, also an alternate, to preach at 11 o'clock, a. m., on Sunday.
20. Adjournment.

W. A. MEEKS. Chairman.

MINUTES.

Simon Church, Friday September 14, 1900.

The Twenty-first Annual Session of the Union Association No. 2, of Missionary Baptists, convened with Shiloh Church, Searcy, County, Arkansas, on Friday, September 14, 1900, at 11 o'clock, a. m.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder John E. Taylor, from Acts, 20th chapter and 28th verse: "Take heed, therefore, unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, and to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."

We then had an intermission of ten minutes, after which we again met for permanent organization.

After prayer by Elder John Kimball, the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

Statistical letters called for and received.

Brothers W. A. Meeks and W. T. Passmore were appointed reading clerks.

Messengers of the various churches were enrolled as follows:

Shiloh Church—H. N. Woodcock, J. E. Woodcock, D. B. Taylor.

Timbo Church—Letter read without messengers.

Shady Grove Church, No. 2—Elder W. A. Meeks, W. A. McEntire, Wm. McEntire.

Baker Spring Church—S. R. Keeling, John Still, T. H. Morley.

Richland Church—Elder Louis Bang, R. Miller.

Water Creek Church—Elder E. Keeling, W. F. Taylor, Elder John F. Taylor.

Pleasant Hill Church—Elder T. G. Dolk.

Bethel Church—Elder L. M. Vickory, Solomon Brewer, Ben. Stephens.

Evening Shade Church—H. H. Harner, J. T. Branscum, H. W. Harner.

Big Spring Church—Elder J. W. Payne, W. Copeland, Jackson Gower.

Shady Grove Church, No. 1—W. T. Passmore, J. Chadwick, Elder J. H. Martin.

Walnut Grove Church—Elder J. J. Goodman, Elder A. R. Stephenson, W. M. Martin.

Bethlehem Church—Elder J. J. Harner, Wm. Branscum, P. Passmore.

Corinth Church—Elder J. H. Harner, Wm. Harner.

Pleasant Valley Church—Elder J. H. Harner, J. H. Harner, G. W. Grant.

Bethany Church—Elder J. H. Harner, J. H. Harner, W. Branscum, W. Martin, J. H. Harner.

Motion made and carried to receive letter from Timbo church without messengers.

Petitionary letters called for. One letter with messengers, from Pleasant Valley church, received and accepted.

A motion to adjourn was lost.

Elders A. R. Stephenson and I. Kimbal were selected to receive and tell the number of votes in the election of permanent officers.

The election resulted as follows:

Moderator—Elder J. J. Goodman.

Clerk—Elder Jacob King.

Treasurer—S. R. Keelling.

Corresponding Messengers from sister Associations were then called for Elder John Kimbal, from Trace Ridge Association, came forward.

Visiting ministers were called for, and A. R. Stephens, Sen., from Blue Mountain, R. E. Brannan, J. D. Rose, Elder H. T. Chadwick and I. J. Horton came forward.

Upon invitation many visiting brethren came forward, and they and the visiting ministers received a hearty welcome by the right hand of fellowship.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

Devotional Committee—W. A. McEntire, W. G. Passmore, H. H. Woodcock, D. B. Taylor and J. E. Woodcock.

Committee on Arrangements—W. A. Meeks, S. J. Still and J. W. Payne.

Committee on Institution—L. Long, J. F. Taylor and J. R. Martin.

Committee on Home and Foreign Missions—E. Keelling, T. G. Deik and L. M. Vickory.

Committee on Sabbath Schools—W. L. Branscum, A. R. Stephenson, Jr., and S. R. Keelling.

Committee on Queries—W. F. Taylor, W. M. Martin and L. Long.

Committee on Finance—A. R. Stephenson, Jr., T. G. Deik, J. W. Payne.

Committee on Obituaries—J. F. Taylor, T. G. Deik and W. F. Taylor.

Committee on State Mission—Elder E. Keelling, Jacob King, T. G. Deik.

Adjourned till 8 o'clock, a. m., Saturday, September 15, 1901.

Prayer by Elder A. R. Stephenson, Sen.

Dismissed by benediction.

SATURDAY, 8 o'clock, a. m., September 15, 1901.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by John Kimbal.

The roll was called and absentees marked.

Minutes read, corrected and received.

Renewed the call for correspondence from sister Associations, and Bro. B. F. McEntire, from Trace Ridge Association, came forward and was welcomed by the right hand of fellowship.

By order of the Moderator, the Clerk read the Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Articles of Faith of the Union Association No. 2.

Report of Committee on Arrangements called for. Report presented, and, on motion, the report was received and committee discharged.

Report of Committee on Destitution called for. Report presented, and, on motion, the report was received and committee discharged.

Report of Committee on Home and Foreign Missions called for. Report presented, and, on motion, the report was received and committee discharged.

Report of Committee on State Missions called for. Report presented, and, on motion, the report was received and committee discharged. Further time to make report.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools called for, and the committee also asked for further time to report.

Report of Committee on Queries called for. Report presented, and, on motion, the report was received and committee retained for further duties.

Report of Corresponding Messengers to Sister Associations called for. Further time asked in which to report, and thus granted.

Suspended work for preaching till 8 o'clock, p. m.

At 8 o'clock p. m., met again for associational business.

Invited visiting ministers from sister Associations, whereupon E. Brauseum came forward and was seated with us.

Letters from Bethany church read and received without messengers.

Report of Committee on State Missions again called for. Report read, and received with amendments.

On motion, adjourned to meet Monday, at 7 o'clock, a. m.

Prayer by Elder E. Keeling.

MONDAY, 7 o'clock, a. m., September 17, 1900.

The Association met according to adjournment.

Prayer by Elder W. A. Meeks.

The roll was called and absentees marked.

The minutes of Saturday, September 16th, called for, read, and received without correction.

Called for report of Messengers to Sister Associations. Elder W. A. Meeks reported.

Report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools called for. Report presented, and, on motion, the report was received and committee discharged.

Called for report of Elders L. Long, S. G. Dalk, A. B. Stephenson, Jr., and J. F. Taylor, as missionaries. Brother L. Long reported, "I went to Cave Creek, but could not do any good, and advised the few members there to join Richland church. On motion, the report of said brethren was received and they were discharged.

Report of the Committee on Ordinaries was called for. Report presented, and, on motion, the report was received and the committee discharged.

The report of the Committee on Queries was called for. The committee handed in three Queries, as follows:

Query No. 1. What is the duty of a minister? Ans. Preach the Gospel.

Query No. 2. Can he preach something he does not know? Tabled.

Query No. 3. Is the Missionary Baptist church the church of Christ? Answer. Yes.

On motion, Elders E. Keeling and Jacob King were appointed to preach to the destitution from the first of July until the next Association. The Association agreed to pay each \$1.00 per day while traveling and preaching; provided, they called for a contribution from each congregation they preached to and failed to get the amount of \$1.00.

Resolution No. 1, received and adopted.

Resolution No. 2, received and adopted.

On motion it was decided to hold the next meeting of the Association with Shady Grove church, No. 1, which is situated on Blue mountain, near the head of Ceffor creek, in Searcy county, Arkansas, commencing on Friday, at 11 o'clock, a. m., before the third Sunday in September, 1901.

A recess was taken for preaching.

After preaching the work of the Association was continued.

Resolution No. 3, received and adopted.

Resolution No. 4, received and adopted.

On motion, Elder Jacob King was chosen to write a Circular Letter to be printed in our next minutes.

On motion, Elder J. J. Goodman was chosen to preach the introductory sermon. Elder P. Vickory, alternate.

On motion, Elder Jacob King was chosen to preach a missionary sermon on Sunday, at 11 o'clock, a. m. Elder L. Long, alternate.

Messengers to Associations:—

Trace Ridge—W. M. Martin, Elder L. Vickory, H. H. Woodcock, A. R. Stephenson, Jr.

Blue Mountain—Elders J. J. Goodman, Jacob King, A. R. Stephenson, Jr., L. Vickory.

Pedee—Elder J. J. Goodman, W. T. Passmore, J. A. Chadwick.

Cracked Creek—Elders W. A. Meeks and T. G. Delk.

Elders J. F. Taylor and T. G. Delk.

On motion, the minute fund (\$13.35,) was drawn out of the hands of the treasurer and paid to the clerk; he to keep \$1.00 to pay him for his trouble and get as many minutes printed as possible for the remainder.

On motion, the foreign mission fund (\$6.51,) was turned over to the clerk, for him to send to the Foreign Mission Board.

On motion, the minutes were received and adopted.

On motion, adjourned to meet at time and place above mentioned.

Prayer by Elder E. Keeling. Dismissed by benediction.

J. J. GOODMAN, Moderator.

JACOB KING, Clerk.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The Devotional Committee reported as follows:—Friday, September 14, at night, Elders L. Long and J. D. Rose. Saturday, 11 o'clock, a. m., Elders A. R. Stephenson, Sen., and Jacob King. Sunday night, Elders John Kimbal and E. Keeling. Monday, at 11 o'clock; a. m., Elders S. J. Still and J. J. Goodman.

The Committee on Destitution reported as follows:—We your committee, beg leave to report that we find Lower Buffalo and Wasen School house, on Richland, destitute of Baptist preaching.

Louia Long, Chairman.

The Committee on Home and Foreign Missions submitted the following report: We believe it to be our indispensable duty to do all we can for the advancement of our Redeemer's kingdom, and the spread of the Gospel. We advise the churches of the Union Association to do more for the home and foreign missions than they have done, as we see the necessity of the Gospel at home and abroad.

L. M. Vickory, Chairman.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools reported: We see the great negligence of our churches in this respect. But one Sunday School is reported. We pray the blessings of God on that school at Shiloh church. Sunday Schools have much to do with shaping the character of our youths. It is a place where the gospel can be taught in its purity, to both old and young. We urge that Baptist churches organize Baptist Sunday Schools in every church, and use Baptist literature.

W. J. Branacum, Chairman.

The Committee on State Missions reported as follows: We are willing to help in the State mission work as much as we feel able to help. Now brethren we ask you to send missionaries to work in our field, north of Blue mountain, and see our work and learn what we preach.

Committee on Obituaries report: We, your committee, find that four members of our churches have passed to their reward since the last meeting of our Association, viz.: Sister Malinda Keeling, an esteemed sister who was a member of Pleasant Hill church, departed this life June 24, 1900. Also Brother John Still, who was a Deacon in Baker

Spencer church, and was chosen by his church to represent them as a delegate to the conference. His life was sad. He was engaged in mining in 1899. Also Sister Mary A. Passmore, a member of the same church, who died on the 25th of June, 1900. Also let Sarah Harness, of Walnut Grove church, who was called to her rest June 3, 1900.

On Finance report the following:

Walnut Grove Church	51 20.
Walnut Grove	50.
Big Spring	1 00.
Shady Grove, No. 2	50.
Richland	50.
Corinth	1 25.
Shady Grove, No. 1	95.
Baker Spring	1 00.
Timbo	1 00.
	50.
	50.
Bethany	1 50.
Bethel	25.
Pleasant Hill	1 50.
Water Creek	75.
Pleasant Valley	50.

Total Churches.....\$12 85.

Total for Minutes.....13 85.

J. W. Payne, Chairman.

Missionaries' Report on Destitution:

I was appointed to visit Evening Glade church. I labored 18 days with the church in a very poor condition, and they lettered up to me as such. I got nothing for my service.

A. R. Stephenson, Jr.

I was sent to Lower Buffalo. I sent an appointment. I went, I found I could do no good there.

T. G. Dalk.

Report of Messengers appointed to sister Associations:

Dear Brethren, I visited Trace Ridge and was cordially received. I found them to be a worthy body. We had a grand meeting and much good was, no doubt, accomplished.

W. A. Meeks.

Correspondent to White River Association. Brethren I can only report that I did not go. T. G. Dolk.

Brethren, I was appointed to Blue Mountain Association as corresponding messenger, and I failed to go. J. W. Payne.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the church take collection to pay Brother King and Keeling as missionaries. S. R. Keeling.

Resolved, That this Association tender its thanks to the people of Shiloh church and vicinity, for their kind hospitality shown to it during our stay with them. W. F. Pyssmore.

Resolved, That we advise the several churches of this Association to call any member to a very strict account when they neglect to do what the church have appointed them to do, unless they have a lawful excuse for not obeying the requirements of the church.

Resolved, That Union Association No. 2, will not hold a church in fellowship which will not deal with a member who drinks intoxicating liquors to excess, if proof of the guilt of that member may be obtained.

CIRCULAR LETTER

OF UNION ASSOCIATION No. 1, OF MISSIONARY BAPTISTS, A. D. 1900.

"COME UNTO ME."—Motto Text.

Incline your ear and come unto me and your soul shall live, and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.—Isaiah 55: 3.

The old Covenant being a covenant of human works, having to it no security, man, one of its parties failing, it was, so far as concerned eternal life to its subjects a failure, and left all the world guilty before God. Rom. 3: 9 to 20. Between these two covenants God makes the contrast and in that different grounds on salvation. But now he has obtained a more excellent ministry, and he is also the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises, for if that covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For behold the days come, sayeth the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judea, not according to the covenant that I made with the fathers in the day when I took them out of the land of Egypt, because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, sayeth the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, sayeth the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them in their hearts; and I will be to them a God and they shall be to me a people; and they shall not teach every man his neighbor and every man his brother, saying, know the Lord, for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. Hebrew 8: 6 to 12.

I will give them one heart and one way that they may fear me forever. For the good of them all and their children after them. And I will not turn away from them to do them good, but I will put my fear in their hearts and they shall not depart from me. Jer. 32: 39, 40.

And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things, but one thing is needful, and Mary has chosen that part which shall not be taken away from her.

Luke 10: 11, 42. The good part chosen by Mary was salvation of the Lord.

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the son of man be lifted up, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3: 14. A life that will not end.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life. John 5: 24.

My sheep hear my voice and I know them and they follow me; and I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish, neither shall any pluck them out of my hand. My Father which gave them me is greater than all, and none can pluck them out of my Father's hand. John 10: 27, 28, 29. And when the Gentiles heard this they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as were ordained to eternal life believed. Acts 13: 48.

My contention is that as many as believed were ordained to eternal life, for no man will be saved in unbelief. For the King of Heaven says: He that believeth not shall be damned. Mark 16: 16. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor length, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8. 38, 39.

What then can separate us from his love? Who will answer?

For ye are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. Col. 3: 3, 4. Not in hell but in glory, bless God!

In the foregoing scriptures we have the doctrine of the final preservation of the saints proved to a demonstration. In the quotation last named Christ is said to be our life, then, before we can perish, Christ, our life, must be destroyed.

To an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God, through faith, unto salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time. 1st Peter 1: 4, 5.

Sure as his throne his promise stands;

My God, my hope, my trust.

If I am found in Jesus' hands,

My soul will ne'er be lost.

His honor is engaged to save

The meekest of his sheep.

All whom his Heavenly Father gave,

His hands securely keep.

Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him; and he cannot sin because he is born of God. 1st John 8: 9

In this the children of God are manifest and the children of the Devil. Manifest—to make known. In the new birth the children are made known. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the spirit is spirit. John 3: 7, 8. Marvel not that I say unto thee, ye must be born again. He that overcometh the same shall be clothed in white raiment and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. Rev. 3: 5. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. 1st John 5: 4.

When we wish to prove the doctrine of the final preservation of the saints quickly and absolutely, we call on these passages, for they teach us most positively that the children of God are in possession of eternal life, and if so they cannot cease to live a single moment. If they have it in prospect they have it all the same. But these passages will not bear such an interpretation as this, for Jesus says This is life eternal, that they might know the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. John 17: 3

Then according to the Savior's definition, to know the Lord in the forgiveness of sins is eternal life, and no one will dare say that we have to wait until we die to be regenerated and made new creatures in Christ

JOHN F. TAYLOR.



CONSTITUTION OF UNION ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS.

ARTICLE I. This Union of churches shall be known and distinguished by the name and title of The Union Association of Baptists.

Art. II. This Association shall be composed of delegates from churches in union. Each church shall be entitled to three delegates, who shall be requested to furnish satisfactory evidence of their appointment by their several churches before they take their seats.

Art. III. The delegates when convened, shall organize themselves into a deliberative body by the appointment of a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by ballot of members of the Association at each annual session, and shall continue in office until their successors are chosen.

Art. IV. The Association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which it is composed. It shall regard them as independent bodies in all matters of internal government and shall act only as an advisory council. Assuming no authority except what is expressly delegated to it by the churches, or is evidently implied by the nature of the compact. It nevertheless claims authority over its own members, the delegates from the churches and the right to withdraw from and disown all churches which depart from the principles of this compact, by becoming heterodox in faith, or disorderly in practice. It shall, therefore, regard all united under this Constitution with a vigilant eye for good, and endeavor to extend the Kingdom of Christ on earth, through the medium of preaching the Gospel, and cultivate a close fellowship with all the churches of Christ, especially with those united in this Constitution.

Art. V. Newly constituted churches, or churches dismissed from other Associations of the same faith and order, may be admitted into this Union on sending their delegates to any annual meeting of this Association, with a petition for admission, and by their delegates agreeing to the abstract of principles herein.

Art. VI. The churches of this Union shall transmit to every annual session of this Association a written communication specifying the names of their delegates, their number in fellowship, the number baptised, received by letter, dismissed, restored, decrease of number of licentiate and ordained ministers since our last session, and all other information which the churches may deem important, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

Art. VII. This Association may have a fund, supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches, and all money contributed shall be transmitted from the churches and paid over through the Finance Committee to the Treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot and hold his office during the pleasure of the Association. He shall retain and manage funds agreeably to the order of the Association, and shall present annually, for insertion in the minutes, a clear statement of all the receipts and expenditures.

Art. VIII. This Association shall furnish the churches with the minutes of every session.

Art. IX. This Association shall take cognizance of no query sent to them by the churches, unless they have endeavored to solve the same and failed; nor of any difficulty between churches unless they have pursued directions given in the 18th chapter of Matthew, and have not been able to settle them when this Association shall take such matters into consideration and act upon them at its discretion.

Art. X. It shall be the duty of the clerk of this Association to keep a regular file of the printed minutes of each session of this body, and deliver over same to his successor in office.

Art. XI. This constitution shall be altered or amended at any regular meeting of this Association by the concurring voice of two-thirds of the members then present, provided such alteration or amendment be approved by the churches composing this Association.

RULES OF DECORUM.

Rule 1. This Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Rule 2. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

Rule 3. The Moderator shall be considered a Judge of order and shall have the right to call to order at any time.

Rule 4. A member not satisfied with his decision may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.

Rule 5. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise on his feet, and obtaining permission, proceed.

Rule 6. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person or otherwise.

Rule 7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject, or unless words of personal reflection are used. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association unless withdrawn by him who made it.

Rule 8. Every case taken up by this Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another can be offered.

Rule 9. When a question is up, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association on the subject, and the members on the affirmative of the question shall signify the same by rising from their seats, and those in the negative retain theirs.

Rule 10. The Moderator shall pronounce the decision before those standing resume their seats.

Rule 11. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

Rule 12. No member shall speak more than three times on the same question without permission of the Association, nor more than once until every member that wishes to speak shall have spoken.

Rule 13. The appellation of Brother shall be used in the Association by members in addressing one another.

Rule 14. Names of members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

Rule 15. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

Rule 16. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoints another to his seat during the time; but he shall not vote on any question, unless the Association be equally divided.

Rule 17. Any member violating these rules may be reproved by the Moderator at his discretion; but only on the day that the breach be made.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in the one only true and living God, the Father, Word and Holy Ghost.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are of divine authority and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe that man cannot, by his own free will or ability, recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature.

4. We believe in original sin.

5. We believe in the doctrine of election according to the foreknowledge of God, through sanctification unto obedience of the Spirit and sprinkling of the blood of Christ.

6. We believe the Saints will be preserved in grace and never fall away.

7. We believe baptism and the Lord's supper are ordinances of the church of Christ; that baptism by immersion is the only apostolic mode; true believers are the only prayer subjects; and that washing the saints feet is a duty.

8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.

9. We believe that the joys of the saints and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

10. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinances except those who have been regularly baptized and called of God, and come under imposition of hands by a Presbytery.

11. We believe it to be our indispensable duty to do all we can for the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom and spread of the Gospel.

J. J. GOODMAN, Moderator.

JACOB KING, Clerk.