

MINUTES

OF THE

Thirty-Eighth Annual Meeting

OF THE

Crooked Creek Association,

Of Missionary Baptists.

HELD WITH

Harmony Church,

Newton County, Arkansas.

1907

The Times Printery
Harrison, Ark.

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. Election of officers.
5. Call for petitionary letters for membership.
6. Call for corresponding letters and messengers.
7. Appoint committees.
8. Read Constitution and Rules of Decorum.
9. Call and correct roll and note absentees.
10. Call for report of messengers to corresponding bodies.
11. Appoint messengers to corresponding bodies.
12. Call for report of committees in order.
13. Miscellaneous business.
14. Resolutions.
15. Appoint place for next meeting of Association.
16. Appoint some one to preach the Introductory Sermon.
17. Appoint some one to have minutes printed.
18. Adjournment.

DISTRICTS

FIRST DISTRICT

Harrison, Bellefonte, Prairie View, Walnut Grove, Mt Zion, Alpena, Shady Grove, Valley Springs, Union, Morning Grove.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Bethel, Sugar Loaf, Lead Mine, Rock Point, Big Spring, Hopewell, Orion, Enon, New Enon, Liberty.

THIRD DISTRICT

Harmony, New Hope, Antioch, Pleasant Grove, Mt. Pleasant, Jump Run.

Proceedings of the Crooked Creek Association of Missionary Baptists, for 1906.

FIRST DAY,

Saturday, October 20th, 1906 the Association convened with Harmony Church, Newton county, Arkansas, at 10 o'clock, a. m. Called to order by Moderator.

Song—"How Firm Ye Foundation." Introductory reading by Elder J. B. Rose, from the second chapter of First John. Prayer by Eld. R. W. Raley. Song—"Come Thy Fount of Every Blessing." Eld. W. S. Young who was elected to deliver the Introductory Sermon, not present, Eld. J. B. Rose, his alternate, preached the Introductory from 1st John 2:1.

By motion Association adjourned until 2 p. m. At 2 p. m. met pursuant to adjournment Song—"Stand Up for Jesus." Song No. 128 in Bells of Heaven. Prayer by Eld. M. L. Voyles. Songs Nos. 257, 267, 193 and 128 in Bells of Heaven. Churches called in order. Letters read. Messengers enrolled Elds. M. L. Voyles and N. F. Bradley appointed as reading clerks. Call for newly constituted churches, whereupon Union and Liberty handed in petitionary letters, and was received, and the right hand of fellowship extended by Moderator.

Morning Grove, formerly of White River Association was received and right hand of fellowship extended by Moderator.

By motion the Association went into election of officers by acclamation, which resulted in the re-election of W. H. Raley as Moderator, C. L. Hall as Clerk, and E. F. Graham as Treasurer. Call for corresponding letters and Messengers. Eld. Cole was received as visiting minister.

Appointment of committees: Divine Service—Bros. J. W. Purdon, A. Grogan, messengers of Harmony church. State Missions—Elds. M. L. Voyles, J. B. Rose and Bro. A. A. Dunnam. Foreign Missions—Eld. N. F. Bradley Bros. C. B. Martin, and J. F. Wallis. Home Missions—Eld. R. W. Raley, Bros. S. Crouch and F. Kindall. Temperance—Bros. J. F. Whitaker and J. H. Pettit. Education—Bros. J. D. Eagle, J. E. McGinn and E. M. Murray. Sunday School—Bros. M. Long, W. B. Raymond and J. W. Klepper. Orphan's Home—Bros. K. Estes, B. F. McMillan and J. Can-

twell. Obituaries—Bros. R. S. Brown, J. R. Manley and G. H. Nichols. Finance—Bros. D. C. Wood, J. T. Heard and G. A. O'Quinn. Queries—Bro. M. Long and L. Crawford. Periodicals—Elds. M. L. Voyles and P. Young. Associational Missions—Bros. J. E. McGuinn, J. W. Sloan, and Sister J. J. McMillan. Resolutions—Bros. G. F. Capps, R. S. Brown and J. Whittaker.

By motion the reading of Constitution and Rules of Decorum were omitted. Roll called and corrected. Call for reports of Messengers to corresponding bodies. Eld. M. L. Voyles failed to attend White River and Carroll County Associations. Eld. J. B. Rose failed to attend the Taney County Association of Missouri, and were excused. Eld. J. B. Rose visited Carroll County Association and was gladly received, and found them working in harmony for the Lord, and enjoyed himself splendidly.

Appointment of Corresponding Messengers. Elds. M. L. Voyles and J. B. Rose volunteered to attend Carroll County Association. Bros. J. T. Heard and C. B. Martin volunteered to attend White River Association. Elds. J. B. Rose, R. W. Raley and Bro. R. S. Brown volunteered to attend Taney County Association of Missouri.

By motion the Association adjourned until Monday 8 a. m. Prayer by Bro. B. C. Martin.

SECOND DAY.

Monday, October 22d, 1905, 8 a. m., met pursuant to adjournment. Association called to order by Moderator. Songs 148 and 147 in Hallelujah Heaven. Eld. M. L. Voyles read for morning lesson 19th division of Psalms. Prayer Bro. B. C. Martin. Call renewed for Corresponding Messengers and visiting brethren.

Call for report of Committees: Committee on Home Missions made report which was received and adopted. Committee on Education made a report which was received, after discussion was adopted.

Committee report on Temperance and was received after some able discussion was unanimously adopted.

Committee on Sunday Schools made a report which was received and adopted.

Committee report on Orphan's Home was received and adopted. Collection of \$8.25 was made, and the following brethren and sisters were appointed to solicit means and report at the next Association. Harrison Sister J. J. McMillan. Bellefonte—Sister Mattie Eagle. Prairie View—Sister J. J. McMillan. Walnut Grove—J. E. McGuinn. Bethel—E. R. Pemberton.

Lead—Eld. O. C. Hefner Lead Mine—A. A. Huey. Orion—Eld. J. W. Rock Point—J. A. Austin. Big Spring—J. W. Purdom, Jr. Alpena—J. A. Whittaker. Hopewell—J. F. Pruitt. Harmony—Sister Rentha Thompson. New Hope—Z. D. Norton. Antioch—Sister Irene Ellis. Jasper—Walter D. B. Davis. Enon—G. W. Haskins. Valley Springs—J. F. Hill. New Enon—D. B. Eoff. Mt. Pleasant—Sister Nancy King. Shady Grove—Harry Mulford. Union—Sister Junnie Byrom. Morning Grove—J. T. Heard. Liberty—D. C. Wood.

Committee report on Obituaries was received and adopted by a unanimous rising vote, and prayer by Eld. M. L. Voyles.

Committee on State Missions made a report which was received and adopted, and a collection of \$3.65 was made.

Committee report on Foreign Missions was received and adopted.

Committee on Queries report no Queries.

Committee on Periodicals made a report which was received and adopted.

Committee report on Associational Missions was received, and after discussion the report was adopted, and the following brethren were appointed to constitute a Board: Harrison—J. W. Sloan. Bellefonte—J. A. Thompson. Prairie View—W. F. Graham. Walnut Grove—M. Long. Lead Mine—M. Waltrip. Sugar Loaf—R. S. Brown. Lead Mine—U. Honn. Orion—J. H. Pettit. Rock Point—J. A. Austin. Mt. Zion—A. A. Purdom. Big Spring—J. W. Purdom. Alpena—W. M. Payne. Hopewell—J. B. Cook. Mt. Pleasant—J. L. Beneger. Harmony—J. B. Carlton. Hope—Z. D. Norton. Antioch—C. Williams. Pleasant Grove—J. B. Jasper. Jasper—J. B. O'Neal. Enon—G. W. Haskins. New Enon—J. Hill. Valley Springs—C. B. Martin. Shady Grove—W. W. Rose. Union—J. T. Heppner. Morning Grove—J. T. Heard. Liberty—G. H. Nichols.

Motion to adjourn until 1 p. m. At 1 p. m. met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Bro. J. F. Pruitt.

AFTERNOON.

Committee report on Finance received and adopted.

Committee on Resolutions made a report, accepted and adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

By motion Eld. M. L. Voyles was re-elected messenger to S. B. Convention. Also by motion was re-elected member of State Board. Motion carried that Association meet next year with Hopewell church.

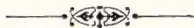
Eld. N. F. Bradley was appointed to preach the Introductory sermon at the next sitting of the body, with W. S. Trout as alternate. Eld. M. L. Voyles was elected to deliver a sermon on "Missions" Sunday at 11 a. m. at the next sitting of this body.

Motion carried that the Clerk be appointed to superintend printing and distribution of Minutes, and have 600 copies printed, and that he receive \$5 for his services. By motion Clerk draw from Associational Board treasurer to balance for printing.

By motion the Association adjourned to meet with Hopewell church, 5 miles north of Harrison, Boone county, Arkansas, on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1907, at 10 o'clock, a. m. Prayer by Eld. N. F. Bradley.

W. H. RALEY, Moderator, Sycamore, Ark.

C. L. HALL, Clerk, Bellefonte, Ark.



REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

DIVINE SERVICE.

We, your committee on Divine Service submit the following report: Sunday night by Eld. Cole, from Matthew 28, 19-20, followed by Eld. Rose, Monday, 11 a. m. by Eld. Voyles from Hebrews 4, 9, followed by Eld. Young, Monday 3 p. m. by Eld. Raley from Romans 12, 1, followed by Eld. Bradley, Tuesday night by Eld. Voyles, "General Judgment," Ecclesiastes 12, 14, Revelation 6, 17. Monday 11 a. m. by Eld. Rose, "See that you love one another with a pure heart fervently, as I have loved you."

J. W. Purdom,
A. L. Grogan,
J. B. Carlton,
J. L. Vaughn,
M. S. King,

} Com.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We your committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to make the following report: Whereas the Bible is the true light of the world, we hereby urge the Baptist Sunday Schools are organized in all communities constituting the general bounds of this Association, and report to this body annually. We further recommend that Baptist literature be used. We recommend, also, that in co-operation of the Sunday Schools, prayer meetings are organized to work in co-operation with the church and Sunday School.

Marion Long,
W. B. Raynor,
J. H. Klepper,

} Com.

EDUCATION.

In giving in this report on Education, we would ask the blessing of Almighty on the progress made along this line the past few years. Looking around us in this, the morning of the twentieth century, we cannot help but observe the wonderful strides made in every department of life, and never before in the history of our civilization have trained minds been in such demand as now; especially is this true of the ministry. The very fact that one can grapple successfully with the problems of to-day without an education

The young of today to grasp the opportunities held out to them. Realizing these facts, we would recommend to any one contemplating attending our Baptist college at Arkadelphia, situated in the southern part of the State. It is one of the finest colleges in the south, being unexcelled in its location and moral surroundings, and it is further shown by statistics that a greater number of students graduating at such school in this ministry, than from other schools (under different managements). There are excellent schools at Bentonville, Magazine, Mountain Home and other places in this State, and anything we can do toward helping these schools to increase their students in attendance, will be forwarding a great work.

J. D. Eagle, Lee Murray, Jas. E. McGuinn, Committee.

TEMPERANCE.

The committee on Temperance submit the following report: The temperance cause of Arkansas ought to thank God and take courage in the last year. We had a net gain of 14,000 votes in the State, and about 700 votes in counties composing the Crooked Creek Association. God is leading us on, and may our efforts never cease until we have State and National Prohibition. The Bible is a prohibition book, and Bible Baptists are prohibitionists. J. P. Whittaker, J. H. Pettit, J. F. Pruitt, Committee.

PERIODICALS.

The committee on Periodicals submit the following report: As the Baptist discipline, it demands and has the first place in our hearts. In connection with God's word, we advise our churches to use the Bible and literature in their Sunday School, and that every Baptist home have the Baptist Advance, together with any other sound Baptist paper or tract. Respectfully submitted,

M. L. Voyles, P. Young, Committee.

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

The committee on Associational Missions respectfully submit the following report: Whereas there is great destitution in the bounds of the Crooked Creek Association, we recommend that the Moderator appoint an Association Board, consisting of one brother from each church, who shall collect for their churches for Associational Missions. Five of these brethren present together shall constitute a quorum; and that this board shall meet at the Baptist church on the second Saturday in June, 1907, to organize three missionaries, one in each district, for three months, and collect funds for paying the missionary.

J. E. Metcalfe, J. W. Sloan, Mrs. J. J. McMillan, Committee.

STATE MISSIONS.

The committee on State Missions respectfully submit the following report: Before in the history of our beloved State, have the Baptists been so successful in the great work of soul winning. The convention laid out work for this year on a basis of \$25,000. This is an advance of \$5,000 over last year. We have more missionaries in the field, and God is abundantly blessing their labors in point of conversions and in the churches than ever before. Let us meet God's invitations with devotion to service. To go to the convention free of all expenses, and to vote loyalty upon the part of every church in our beloved State. Therefore be it resolved that we request the churches of the Crooked Creek Association to take a collection for State Missions, and forward to the Missionary Secretary, Bro. R. G. Bowers, Little Rock, Arkansas. Respectfully submitted, M. L. Voyles, A. A. Dunnam, Committee.

HOME MISSIONS.

With gratitude to God we beg to submit the following report on Home Missions. The Lord has wonderfully blessed our missionaries as they have gone to the destitute with the Gospel, which is God's power unto salvation. There were 12,630 baptisms reported last year and 12,178 by letter, making a total of 24,808 received, as a result of missionary labors. Therefore we pledge our hearty sympathy and support to the Home Missions Board in the great work of saving our southland for Christ and the Baptists.

Frank Kindall, R. W. Raley, Committee.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The last words that fell from the lips of our ascending Lord, was "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and in the name of the Son, and in the name of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you," with the blessed promise that he would be with us always, even unto the end of the world. Matt. 28, 19-20. Therefore as loyal sons of God, we are under blood-bought obligations to take the Gospel to all nations. And the Lord challenges the Baptists by his wonderful blessings upon their work to take the world for Christ. Never before in the history of our Foreign Mission Board, has work been so successful as the work of the past year. With gratitude to the Lord for past victories, let us resolve to do more in the future than we have in the past for our Foreign Mission Board. 90 per cent of all monies expended for the Lord's work is spent on the home field. Let us not spend less on the home field, but work for our brethren in heathen darkness.

Respectfully Submitted.

M. L. Voyles, C. B. Martin, J. F. Wallis, Committee.

ORPHAN'S HOME.

We you committee on Orphan's Home, submit the following: We have an Orphan's Home at Monticello, Drew county, Arkansas. Brethren, we are by reports the Home is doing good work, and recommend that we continue to contribute to support of the same, and we further recommend that the Association appoint one member from each church to solicit means for this purpose.

B. F. McMillan, James Cantwell, Kirby Estes, Committee.

OBITUARY REPORT.

It has been God's pleasure to take from us our beloved members during the past year, as follows: Lanson Edwards, of Hopewell church; Thomas Foster, of Hopewell church; Sister Etheridge, of Alpena church; Bro. Campbell, of Big Springs, and Bros. J. W. Richardson and C. C. Ray, of Ley Springs church, therefore be it

Resolved, That we extend our sympathy and our prayers to their relatives.

R. S. Brown, T. H. Nichols, J. R. Manly, Committee.

OBITUARIES.

Bro. Lanson Edwards professed the Christian hope and was baptised Elder J. W. Pettit, Nov. 6th, 1904, at Hopewell. He was a promising man and a devoted christian. On Sept. 11th, 1906 he gave up this life for the better world than this. He leaves a wife, a little babe and a multitude of friends to mourn his departure. Little did he think he'd be called for so young but nevertheless he said "I am ready to go, for I know my home is in Heaven. He was a lover of music and loved to sing, and is gone to join the Heavenly choir, where congregations never break up, and singing is the happy employment."

Frank Kindall

I will sing you a song of that beautiful land.

The far-away home of the soul,

Where no storms ever beat on that glittering strand,

While the years of eternity roll.

Walter Jennings Foster professed a hope in Christ when quite young. She sent a letter from old Tennessee, and united with Hopewell church in 1889. Many years she has lived in perfect peace and harmony with the church. September 10th, 1906 in the 84th year of her age, she departed this life to her eternal rest, which is far better. "Precious in the sight of the Lord, is the death of his saints."

Frank Kindall.

The pleasures of earth I have seen fade away,
They bloom for a season, but soon they decay;
But pleasures more lasting in Jesus are given,
Salvation on earth, and a mansion in Heaven.

RESOLUTIONS.

The committee on Resolutions submit the following: 1st. Union literature is one of the greatest hindrances to Baptist Sunday Schools, therefore, be it Resolved, That all the churches of Crooked Creek Association maintain Baptist literature in their schools, teach it and live it.

2nd. Owing to the lack on the part of the churches in remunerating their pastors to the extent that they may give their whole time and attention to the work of the Gospel. There is a general smothering out of the spirit of giving to these mission causes. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we press upon our churches the more liberal remuneration of their Pastors, to the end that a better state of affairs may exist in this respect, and that a more general interest may be awakened on the subject of this matter. We would further recommend that the members of all the churches of this Association be faithful in attendance on all conference of their respective churches.

Resolved, That we gratefully tender our sincere thanks to the Harmony church and community for their kindness and hospitality in caring for the messengers of this Association during our stay with them.

Whereas Mt. Pleasant church having called Elder J. E. Ryler, and excluded from Harmony church, be it resolved that we advise the Mt. Pleasant church to cancel said contract unless Bro. Ryler be reinstated.

W. B. Brown, J. F. Whitaker, G. F. Capps, Committee.

FINANCE.

The committee on finance beg leave to report the following:

Amount for minute funds \$18.61.

D. C. Wood, G. A. O'Quinn, J. T. Heard, Committee.

CLERK'S REPORT, 1905.

Incidentals \$10; Postage \$15.55; Clerk's fees \$5; Total \$24.55.

C. L. Hall, Clerk.

TREASURER'S REPORT 1905.

Amount from Association \$19.05. Receipts for \$19.05.

E. F. Graham, Treasurer.

OFFICIAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF CHURCHES.

Incidentals \$6.51; Sunday Schools \$30; State Missions \$31; Home Missions \$14; Foreign Missions \$14; Orphanage \$33.30; Colleges and Schools \$14; Sunday school \$8.68; State Missions \$5; Home Missions \$3; Visiting Minister \$16.25. Prairie View, Home Missions \$4.50; Sunday school \$2.50; repair on church building \$23.91; incidentals \$55; Total aid \$9.00; Orphanage \$3.05. Sugar Loaf Orphanage \$8.17; Orphanage \$3.05; Orion, State Missions, \$4.83; Foreign Missions \$1.50; State Missions \$5; Home Missions \$2.30; Foreign Missions \$1.50; Total aid \$15.00 on church property \$150.00.

STATISTICAL TABLE

Showing the Condition of Churches of the Association for the Year

Churches	Post Office.	Pastors.	Clerks.	By Ex. & Rep. By Letter. By Statement. By Restoration.	Increased.	Decr's'd	By Letter. By Expuls'n. By Death.	Ordained Ministers.	Licentiates.	Membership.	Church Day.	Minister By Churches.	Minute Funds.	S. S. Scholars.
Harrison,	Harrison,	M L Voyles.	P C Maggard,	M L Voyles, J W	10	13	11	2		113	all	\$700 00	1 51	75
* Bellefonte,	Bellefonte,	C L Mattox,	J A Thompson,	J D Eagle, C L	6	1	1			59	2	50 00	1 25	35
Prairie View,	Harrison,	C L Mattox,	W F Graham,	Represented by						56	4	40 60	1 00	
W'n't Grove,	Harrison,	W S Trout,	J E McGuinn,	M Long, J H	4	1	3	1	2	73	1	50 00	1 25	
Alpena,	Alpena Pass,	M L Voyles,	J T Furguson,	A L Grogan, K	1	16	1	1		95		60 00	1 25	52
Shady Grove,	Harrison,	M L Voyles,	J Hammond, jr	G Capps, J W					1	24	2	14 20	65	
Valley Sp'gs.	Valley Sp'gs,	J C Cooper,	C B Martin,	J F Wallis, C	6	4	2	2	2	22	3	42 28	1 00	
Union,	Harrison, R2	C L Mattox,	J H Klepper,	J F Whitaker,	10	12				25	3	9 20	1 60	
Morn'g Gr'Ve	Everton,	J C Cooper,	J T Heard,	J T Heard,		1	1			29	4	3 50	30	
Bethel,	Self,	W S Trout,	S M Waltrip,	Represented by	2	1	1	2		76	2	31 50	1 20	
Sugar Loaf,	Sycamore,	R W Raley,	W H Raley,	R W Raley, K	6	1	1		2	80	3	13 00	1 50	
Lead Mine,	Willis,	O C Hefner,	U Honeycutt,	Represented by						26	1	8 00	50	
Big Springs,	Monarch,	R W Raley,	L C Purdom,	J W Purdom,	6	4	2	1		34	1	17 50	1 00	
Hopewell,	Harrison,	J W Pettit,	F Kindall,	J F Pruitt, W	10	1	3	2	2	75	1	30 00	1 00	
Orion,	Harrison,	W S Trout,	J H Pettit,	L Crawford, J	12	1	7	3	1	95	3	25 00	1 00	
New Enon,	Lowery,	J T Thornton	J R Hilger,	Represented by	1	2	1			41	4	14 85	75	36
Liberty,	Prosperity,	J B Rose,	J H Wood,	D C Wood, O						13				
Harmony,	Murray,	N F Bradley,	J B Carlton,	J B Carlton, J			2		1	39	1		50	
New Hope,	Swain,	P Young,	J Norton,	P. Young,			1		4	33	3	13 45	55	
Antioch,	Cassville,	N F Bradley,	C Williams,	A A Dunham,						26	4	9 75	30	
Mt. Pleasant	Wayton,	J E Rylee,	J E Henderson.	J H Henderson,	1		2	2		45	2		50	
Jasper,	Jasper,		J B O'Neil,	J B O'Neil,						24		50 00		

* Pastor's Salary by State Board \$50.

Constitution.

We, the Church of Jesus Christ, called the Baptists, being assembled through our delegates 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 or delegates, chosen by the churches in our union who, on presenting letters testifying to their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

Art. 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.

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

Art. IV. Letters from the churches shall state the number received by experience, baptism, letters, recommendation or restoration; those disowned by letters, ex-communicated or deceased since the last Association, and the total number in fellowship.

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

Art. VI. The association shall elect a Moderator and Clerk by the suffrage of the members present.

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

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

Art. 18. The association shall, in all cases, be governed by a majority of members, except in the reception of members, which shall be unani-

Art. 19. The association shall have power to withdraw her fellowship from any church in her union who, after due admonition, shall be unsound in doctrine and practice.

Art. 20. Some of her ministers shall be appointed by the association to read and to preach the introductory sermon at the next.

Art. 21. She may correspond with any association as she may desire, while in session.

Art. 22. There shall be a Treasurer appointed by the association, to receive and disburse all funds belonging to her, as she may direct.

Art. 23. The clerk shall keep a minute of the proceedings, which shall be printed and distributed among the churches according to contribution.

Art. 24. The minutes of the association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and attested by the Clerk, before the next association convenes.

Art. 25. Amendments of the Constitution may be made at any time by a majority of the churches may deem it necessary.

Art. 26. 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. Members present invited to take seats are privileged to speak with propriety, but vote on none.

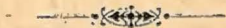
3. Those who speak will rise to their feet and respectfully address the Moderator.

4. No session shall be entertained without a second.

5. If when a motion has been made and seconded, a member oppose the same, the Moderator shall put the question. Shall this question be carried? And if negatived the subject shall be dropped.

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

7. No one shall speak more than three times on any subject with special leave of association, and not more than ten minutes.
8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator; so, his name shall be left out of 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, 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 refer 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 the majority of the members may deem it necessary.



Declaration of Faith.

Article I We believe that the Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has salvation for its author, salvation for its end, truth without any mixture of falsehood for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge the world, and therefore is and shall remain to the end of the world the true and only Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human actions should be said.

IX. We believe there is one and only one, living and true God, an infinite and eternal spirit, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of the universe and earth, expressly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all honor, confidence and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every attribute, and executing distinct and harmonious offices in the government of the universe.

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

XI. We believe the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the merits of the Son of God, who by the appointment of the Father assumed our nature, yet without sin, honored the Divine Law by perfect obedience, and by His death made full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in Heaven, and is the wonderful person the tender sympathies with Divine love; that He is every way qualified to be a suitable, compassionate and merciful Saviour.

XII. We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to sinners by His death is justification; that justification is the pardon of all sins, and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness, that it is not obtained in consideration of any work of righteousness which we perform, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood, by virtue of which His perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God, that it is a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures the most precious and useful for time and eternity.

XIII. 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 sincere and obedient faith, and nothing prevents the salvation of any sinner on earth but his own determined depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel, which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

XIV. We believe that in order to be saved sinners must be regenerated; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the soul, that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the

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

VIII. We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and 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 all-sufficient Savior.

IX. We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which He graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the moral agency of man, it comprehends the means in connection with the end; it is a most glorious display of His sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, love, prayer, 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 diligence and deserves the utmost diligence.

X. 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.

XI. We believe that such only are real believers as endure to the end, and that their preserving 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 into salvation.

XII. 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 the fallen man to fulfill its precepts, arises from the love of sin, to deliver them from which, and to store them through a Mediator, to unfeigned obedience to the Holy Spirit, is one great end of the Gospel and the means of grace, connected with the establishment of the visible church.

114. We believe that a church of Jesus Christ is a congregation of believers associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the ordinances of Christ, and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His word; that its scriptural officers are Pastors or Deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are found in the epistles to Timothy and Titus.

115. We believe that Christian Baptism is immersion, in water, of a person in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, administered by a minister, to show faith in a solemn and beautiful emblem, of the crucified, buried and risen Savior, with its effects in our regeneration and resurrection to a new life; that it is pre-requisite to the admission 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 the body and blood of Christ, preceded always by solemn prayer.

116. We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from secular labor and sinful recreations, by the observance of all the commandments, both private and public, and by preparation for the rest of the week for the people of God.

117. We believe that the government is of appointment, for the maintenance of the order of human society, and that magistrates are to be obeyed as though they were the Lord, except only in things opposed to the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience and the king of earth.

118. We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and wicked; that such only as through faith are justified by the Lord Jesus Christ and sanctified by the Spirit of God are righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in unbelief and disobedience are in his sight wicked and under the curse, and this shall hold good among men both in and after death.

119. We believe that the end of the world is approaching; and at the close of the present age, the Lord Jesus Christ will descend from Heaven and raise the dead from their graves; that a solemn separation will take place; that the wicked will be consigned to endless punishment and the righteous to endless life; and that the judgement will fix forever the final state of man according to the principles of righteousness.