

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

OLD REGULAR BAPTIST

WATER-SO-CREEK ASSOCIATION,

ORGANIZED IN 1849

HELD WITH THE

RACCOON CHURCH,

PIKE COUNTY, KY.,

FRIDAY, AUGUST THE 30TH, 1889.

WAS FOR THE YEAR 1889 \$15.00

PIKEVILLE, KY.

PRINTED BY THE MOUNTAIN MONITOR.

1890.

| NAMES OF CHURCHES. | Saturday of Meeting. | NAMES OF DELEGATES. | | | | | | | Total Membership. | Contributions. |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|----------------|
| | | | Rec'd. by Baptism. | Rec'd. by Letter. | Dis. by Letter. | Restored. | Excluded. | Deceased. | | |
| Louisa..... | 2 | J. M. Justice, M. Slone, T. Conaway, H. W. Blackburn..... | 1 | 1 | | | | | 28 | \$ 2 85 |
| Big Creek..... | 3 | G. Pinson, B. Hatfield, J. M. May, R. Staton, M. B. May, T. J. Bevins..... | 4 | 5 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | 56 | 3 65 |
| Pond Creek... | 2 | Not represented..... | | | | | | | 24 | |
| Enon..... | 1 | Not represented..... | | | | | | | 53 | |
| Sardis..... | 4 | W. A. Farley, A. Dempsey..... | | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | 69 | 2 00 |
| Brushy Fork.. | 1 | J. Williamson, J. McCoy, J. Burruss..... | 7 | | | | 1 | | 54 | 2 45 |
| Raccoon..... | 4 | D. L. Kindrick, J. Slone, J. Kin- drick, W. R. Collins..... | 1 | 4 | 4 | | | 1 | 20 | 1 30 |
| Sulphur Spr'g | 1 | H. M. Smith..... | | 2 | | | 2 | 2 | 58 | 3 00 |
| Peter Creek... | 4 | J. May, H. S. Carter..... | 3 | | | | 1 | | 22 | 3 60 |
| Big Branch... | 4 | J. Maynard, R. Smith, C. Runyon... | 9 | | 5 | | | 5 | 63 | 2 00 |
| Philadelphia.. | 3 | J. Adkins..... | | | 5 | | | | 12 | 1 00 |
| Little Hope... | 1 | W. J. May, W. A. Varney, H. May, R. T. Hackney..... | 1 | | | | | 1 | 27 | 6 75 |
| Cedar Fork... | 2 | H. Davis, J. Weddington..... | 3 | 1 | 12 | | 2 | | 21 | 1 25 |
| Joppa..... | 4 | J. Dunkin, G. M. Stepp, W. S. Weddington..... | 1 | | | | | | 12 | 1 60 |
| 14 Churches. | | 35 Delegates. | 30 | 17 | 30 | 1 | 9 | 11 | 519 | \$30 90 |

OLD REGULAR BAPTIST MATE'S CREEK ASSOCIATION, MINUTES.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder B. Hatfield, from Luke 1 chap. and 33 verse: "*And He shall reign over the house of Jacob forever.*"

After a short intermission the delegates assembled in the school-house, and were brought to order by singing and prayer. Prayer by Elder M. Martin.

Then were read the letters from the several churches and minuted the foregoing table.

Then organized by appointing Elder B. Hatfield moderator, and Elder W. J. May clerk, treasurer and secretary and proceeded in the following order. *and*

1st. Called for the newly constituted churches. Received one—called Joppa church, constituted Sept. 22, 1888.

2nd. Corresponding letters called for and handed in as follows: Washington, by the hands of E. Counts, M. L. Compton and W. Keen. Sand-Lick, by the hands of P. Adkins and S. A. Whittaker. New Salem, by the hands of J. W. Compton, S. Ratliff and L. Farmer. Three Forks, by the hands of M. T. Lipps and W. Church. Union, by the hands of W. R. Craft, B. M. Bartley, G. W. Ratliff and G. W. Robison. All the above correspondents received the right hand of fellowship from the moderator and took seats with us.

3rd. Transient ministers called for, and responded to as follows: M. Martin, A. Hatfield, W. Spence, J. Smith and J. Fredrick.

4th. Corresponding letters were written as follows: Washington—to be held with the Newgarden church, Russell county, Va., to commence Friday before the second Sabbath in Sept. 1889—Elders B. Hatfield and W. J. May, delegates. New Salem—to be held with the Bethel church, Floyd county, Ky., to commence Friday before the fourth Saturday in Sept. 1889—Brothers C. Runyon, M. B. May and H. May delegates. Three Forks to be held with Lick Creek church, Wise county, Va., to commence Friday before the fourth Saturday in August, 1890. Elders M. Slone, D. L. Kindrick, J. Kindrick, W. B. Collins, A. Hatfield and B. Hatfield delegates. Sand Lick, to be held with the Ballfork church, Knott county, Ky., to commence Friday before the first Saturday in Oct. 1889, Elders J. Smith, John McCoy and J. Kindrick delegates. Union, to be held with the Pinegrove

church; Pike county, Ky., to commence Friday before the third Saturday in Sept. 1889, Elders J. Williamson, T. Conoway, A. Hatfield and Bro. H. W. Blackburn delegates.

5th. A member from each church was appointed to arrange the preaching at the stand, who reported for Saturday. First, M. L. Compton; second, Ruel Martin; third, P. Adkins; fourth, M. T. Lipps; fifth, W. Church.

6th. Committee of arrangements were appointed as follows: J. Williamson, A. Hatfield, H. Davis, J. Smith and W. Weddington, with the moderator and clerk. Correspondents and transient ministers were invited to sit with them.

Then adjourned till Saturday morning 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 31, 1889.

The Association met according to adjournment, and after prayer by Elder W. Church, proceeded to business in the following order, and

1st. Delegates names called.

2nd. Committee of arrangement reported and were discharged.

3d. Read the Constitution and Rules of Decorum.

4th. A. Hatfield, G. M. Stepp and J. Kindrick were appointed finance committee.

5th. Those appointed last year to attend Associations and union meetings made their report, which was received.

6th. Union meetings were appointed as follows: Little Hope—to commence Friday before the first Saturday in July, 1890—Elders James May, B. Hatfield, Thomas Conaway and John Weddington to attend. Big Creek—to commence Friday before the third Saturday in August, 1890—Elders A. Hatfield, H. Davis, J. M. Justice, J. Smith and W. Spence to attend. Clear Fork—to commence on Friday before the second Saturday in August, 1890—Elders B. Hatfield, W. J. May and James Williamson to attend. Big Branch—to commence Friday before the third Saturday in July, 1890—Elders B. Hatfield, W. J. May and L. Kindrick to attend.

7th. Committee on ministry for Sabbath reported as follows: First, W. R. Craft; second, E. S. Counts; third, M. T. Lipps; fourth, W. Church.

8th. Committee on finance reported \$30.90.

9th. Circular called for, read and received, and ordered to be annexed to these minutes.

10th. W. J. May is appointed to superintend the printing of the minutes—600 in number—and he is allowed \$6.00 for his services as clerk, treasurer and secretary.

11th. Corresponding letters called for, read and received.

RESOLVED.—That this Association tender its thanks to the people of this vicinity, who, for miles around, opened their doors for entertainment, and manifested great kindness to the people. May the Lord bless them and theirs, now and forever.

12th. Our next Association is appointed with the Sulphur Spring church, Buchanan county, Va., to commence Friday before the first Sabbath in September.

ber, 1890; and that Elder John Weddington preach the introductory sermon, and that Elder James Williamson be his alternate.

W. J. MAY, CLERK.

B. HATFIELD, MODERATOR.

SABBATH MORNING.

A large and well ordered congregation assembled at the stand. Elder M. L. Compton opened the services by prayer, then W. B. Graft preached from Isaiah 44th chapter and 3d and 4th verses: "*For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty,*" &c.; second, E. S. Counts, from Esther, 6th chapter, 5th verse: "*Let him come in;*" third, M. T. Lipps, from Revelation, 6th chapter, 2nd verse: "*And I saw, and behold, a white horse,*" &c.; fourth, W. Church, from 1st Cor., 14th chapter, 8th verse: "*If the trumpet give an uncertain sound,*" &c. The brethren all proclaimed "SALVATION BY GRACE." Amen.

W. J. MAY, CLERK.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

DEAR BRETHREN:—The time has come that we are permitted to meet in another Association, and, according to the order of the last year's association, it falls upon me to address you in the way of a circular letter; for which purpose I will call your attention to the word of God in Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, chap. 6, verse 20: "*For ye are bought with a price.*" Dear brethren, I understand the Apostle to be inspired of God; and, according to our understanding, this address was to the Church of Christ alone, for we do not believe that God shed His blood in vain—but to save them that believe; for the Lord said, "They that believe on Me, though they were dead, yet shall they live."

Dear brethren, Paul tells us that our life is hid with Christ in God; and we are looking to live with Him in that great day; for the Prophet said that "you shall be redeemed without money." Dear brethren, we understand that they were redeemed in the annals of Eternity, not with money, but with the blood of Christ, for we learn that the blood of Christ cleanses us from all sin. Therefore Paul said, "For by grace are ye saved;" "For the law came by Moses, but grace and truth by Jesus Christ." He was the end of the law unto righteousness to every one that believed.

Dear brethren, Christ suffered and died for the Church, and them alone; although the world believes that it is left with them to do as they please. Now, dear brethren, we are but few in number. God said unto us, "Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Thus we are saved by grace, bought with the precious blood of Christ. Then, "If the Son make you free, you shall be free indeed;" for God said, "With My loving kindness have I drawn thee." Therefore, brethren, the redemption price was paid on Mount Calvary.

Dear brethren, since our last Association many of our brethren have passed away; and, for some purpose best known with the Lord, we are spared to meet again. May the God that bought us bring us together with praying hearts, and enable us to bear each other's burdens. I have no doubt but this will be the last Association that we will all meet; but there is a day just before us that we will all meet that were bought, for the Lord said, "The redeemed of the Lord shall return." Then, brethren, stand fast in the faith of God, and contend for that faith

which was once delivered to the Saints: for God gives faith to the believers in Christ to know Him, Whom to know is life Eternal. Dear brethren, may God increase our faith and confirm our hope in Christ. "For God so loved the world; that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believed on Him should not perish, but have eternal life." This covenant was made with the Father and the Son, and the price was paid, and that price was the blood of Christ. So, this covenant stands forever. Amen.

B. HATFIELD.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be called: "MATE'S CREEK DISTRICT, OLD REGULAR BAPTIST ASSOCIATION."

ARTICLE II.

The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different Churches in our Union, and duly sent to represent them in the Association, who shall be members whom they judge best qualified for that purpose, and producing letters from their respective Churches, certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to a seat.

ARTICLE III.

In the letters from the different Churches shall be expressed their number in full fellowship, those baptised, received by letter, dismissed by letter, restored, excluded and deceased, since the last Association.

ARTICLE IV.

The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor shall they have any clerical power over the Churches, nor shall they infringe on any of the internal rights of any Church in the Union.

ARTICLE V.

The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper Decorum.

ARTICLE VI.

The Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

ARTICLE VII.

All matters coming before the Association shall be decided by the will of a majority, except receiving new Churches and corresponding with other Associations, which shall be by a unanimous vote.

ARTICLE VIII.

Every Church in the Union shall be entitled to a representation in the Association.

ARTICLE IX.

Every query presented by any Church to the Association, being first debated in their own Church, shall be taken up by the Association.

ARTICLE X.

Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it shall be withdrawn by the member who made it.

ARTICLE XI.

The Association shall endeavor to furnish the Churches with the minutes of

the Association. The best way or method for effecting the same shall be at the discretion of future Associations.

ARTICLE XII.

We think it absolutely necessary that we have an Association fund, for defraying the expenses of the same; for the raising and supporting of which we think it the duty of each Church in the Union to contribute such sums voluntarily as they shall think proper and send it by the hands of their delegates to the Association. The money thus contributed by the Churches, and received by the Association, shall be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer, who shall be accountable to the Association for all monies received by him, and pay out of the same according to the directions of the Association.

ARTICLE XIII.

There shall be an Association Book kept, wherein the proceedings of every Association shall be regularly recorded by a Secretary chosen for that purpose, who shall receive a compensation yearly for his services.

ARTICLE XIV.

The minutes of the Association shall be read, (and corrected if need be), and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association arises.

ARTICLE XV.

Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made at any time, by a majority of the Union, when they may deem it necessary.

ARTICLE XVI.

The Association shall have power:

FIRST.—To provide for the general union of the Churches.

SECOND.—To preserve inviolably a chain of communication among the Churches.

THIRD.—To give the Churches necessary advice in matters of Church difficulty.

FOURTH.—To inquire into the cause why the Churches fail to represent themselves at any time in the Association.

FIFTH.—To appropriate those monies by those Churches contributed for an Association fund, to any purpose they may think proper.

SIXTH.—To appoint any member or members, by and with their consent, to transact any business they may see necessary.

SEVENTH.—The Association shall have power to withdraw from any Church in this Union, which shall violate the rules of this Association, or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion.

EIGHTH.—To admit any orderly minister, of our faith and order, to a seat in the Association.

NINTH.—The Association shall have power to adjourn themselves to any future time or place they may think most convenient to the Churches in the Association.