

Minutes

— of the —

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNUAL SESSION

— of the —

Mates Creek District

Primitive Baptist Association

— Held With —

THE RACCOON CHURCH

Raccoon, Pike County, Kentucky

September 5, 6, 7,

1952

Next session to be held with the Peter Creek Church at Coleman, Pike County, Kentucky, to begin Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1953. Elder John Fuller to preach the Introductory Sermon, and that Elder Dan Adkins be his alternate.

— Officers —

ELDER W. H. THACKER	Moderator
ELDER A. P. JUSTICE	Assistant Moderator
BROTHER STEARL HATFIELD	Clerk
BROTHER J. E. HATFIELD	Assistant Clerk

THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST PUBLISHING HOUSE & LIBRARY
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Proceedings

OF THE MATES CREEK DISTRICT ASSOCIATION, HELD WITH THE RACCOON CHURCH

September 5, 6, 7, 1952.

FRIDAY MORNING, September 5, 1952.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, prayer by Elder John Fuller. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder Joe Thacker, text 1 John 4. "Try the Spirits whether they are of God," etc.

Ministers left on the stand for Friday:

1. Elder Robert Bostic, of the Washington Association.
2. Elder Anderson Craiger, of the Union Association.
3. Elder L. D. Hatcher, of the Indian Creek Association.
4. Elder Sam Newsome, of the Union Association.

Messengers assembled in the Raccoon Church house and was called to order by the Moderator, prayer by Elder E. S. Stephens, of the Washington Association.

Letters from the several churches were read, from which the following table was prepared:

Louisa Church: Elders W. H. Thacker, A. P. Justice, and Joe Slone, Jr., Brethren Guy Campbell and Bradley Warrix.

Pond Creek Church: Brethren Ramsom Scott, F. C. Runyon, Will Runyon, Ben Varney, Henry Varney, Grant Blackburn, T. J. Norman, Andy Blackburn, and W. J. Hatfield.

Big Creek Church: Elders Joe Thacker, Ostill Smith, Brethren Paris Blackburn, Lewis Elswick, Ballard Hensley, M. B. Blackburn.

Raccoon Church: Elder M. C. Slone, Brethren George McCoy, Milton Coleman, Joel Thacker, Joe Morris, Link Justice, and Tom Collins.

Sulphur Springs Church: Elders J. H. Blackburn, and A. J. Blackburn, Brethren Ira Simpkins, Chester Blackburn, Albert Blackburn, and Dell Williams.

Peter Creek Church: Brethren Raymond Wagoner, Phillip Dotson, Buddy Dotson, R. N. Dotson, Peter Coleman, and Roland Dotson.

Little Hope Church: Brethren Dewey Dotson, Clark Owens, Ballard Ball, Lee Stiltner, and Bobby Blackburn.

Joppa Church: Elder Dan Adkins, Brethren Bill McCoy, Tom Jude, and Floyd Stepp.

Grapevine Church: Elders W. J. Slone and J. H. Blackburn, Brethren Sam Lowe, Hillard Justice, Arthur Williams, Arnold Justice and Steward Justice.

Samaria Church: Elders Kit Ratliff and Teddy Ball, Brethren Ver Whitt, Mark Webb, Ransom Hager, Bradley Hager, Vernon Whitt, George Rose, Willie Hatfield, R. S. Hatfield, Bob Dotson, Jim Varney.

John's Creek Church: Brethren Harvey Coleman, Johnny Stiltner, Johnny Griffith, and William I. Smith.

Calvary Church: Elder Fonso Justice, and Wallace Chapman, Brethren Glen Vipperman, Rosco Varney, Sid Varney, Bobby Blackburn.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Association then elected Elder W. H. Thacker, Moderator, Elder A. P. Justice, Assistant Moderator, Brother Stearl Hatfield, Clerk, Secretary and Treasurer, Brother J. E. Hatfield, Ass't. Clerk.

PROCEEDING OF BUSINESS

1. Newly constituted churches called for; none reported.
2. Abstract of Principles, Rules of Decorum, and Constitution, read, and to be printed in the Minutes.
3. Messengers appointed last year to visit sister Associations reported, and those unable to fill their appointments were excused.
4. Correspondence from sister Associations received and seated as follows:

Washington: Elders E. S. Stephens, Hadley Edwards, and Brother Tom Ray.

Indian Creek: Elder D. C. Stover, and Brother Tom Jenkins.

Union: By letter, Elder Lee Craiger, and Sam Newsome.

Visitors from sister Associations were received and seated as follows:

Washington: Elders Robert Bostic, M. C. Miller, James Phillips, James Runyon, Raleigh Compton, and Brother Leland Street.

Indian Creek: Elder L. D. Hatcher, Brethren Henry Mann, Leonard Mann, French Canada, Elmer Hatcher, and Fred Lester.

Union: Elders Jess Holbrook, Joseph Church, Anderson Craiger, and J. D. Craiger.

5. The Moderator is to make all temporary arrangements.
6. A messenger from each church together with all the messengers from the Raccoon Church was appointed to arrange for the preaching at the stand.

They reported for Saturday:

1. Elder Sam Newsome, of the Union Association.
2. Elder Tom Jenkins of the Indian Creek Association.
3. Elder Hadley Edwards, of the Washington Association.
4. Elder E. S. Stephens, of the Washington Association.
7. Messengers who agreed to visit sister Associations are as follows:

Washington: Elders Wallace Chapman, A. P. Justice, M. C. Slone, Paris Coleman, Teddy Ball.

Indian Creek: Elders A. P. Justice, J. H. Blackburn, and Wallace Chapman.

- Union: Elders Fonso Justice, M. C. Slone, Ostill Simth, Joe Slone, Jr.
8. Moved and seconded that the Association send Minutes to the following Associations:

Washington, Indian Creek, Union, Powell's Valley, Roaring River, Upper Mayo, Abbott's Creek, Fisher's River, and St. Clair's Bottom.

9. Committee on Arrangements was appointed as follows:
Brethren Paris Coleman, Phillip Dotson, and A. J. Blackburn.
10. Committee on Finance was appointed as follows:
Brethren Dan Adkins, Bob Dotson, and Joe Morris.
11. Moved and seconded that the Association be adjourned until
9 o'clock Saturday morning.

SATURDAY MORNING, September 6, 1952.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator, prayer by Elder Tom Jenkins, of the Indian Creek Association.

1. Roll called and absentees marked.
2. Committee on Arrangements reported the following and were discharged:
 - (a) Committee recommend that the Association admonish all churches to be alert for doctrine that does not correspond with our Articles of Faith.
 - (b) Committee recommend that the Association buy lumber to be used for seats for the Association and that all the churches may use this lumber when they have the Association, also that Brother Roland Dotson be appointed to purchase the lumber and that the Brother Clerk pay for same out of the Association funds.

3. Finance Committee reported \$167.46 and were discharged.

4. Committee on Preaching for Sunday reported as follows:

1. Elder M. C. Miller; 2. Elder D. C. Stover; 3. Elder Jess Holbrook; 4. Elder Raleigh Compton; 5. Elder E. S. Stephens.

5. Union Meetings and their appointees as follows:

Louisa Church: Meets Friday before the second Saturday in August, 1953. Elders Teddy Ball, Frank Wheeler, J. H. Blackburn, and Fonso Justice to attend.

Pond Creek: Meets Friday before the second Saturday in August, 1953. Elders W. H. Thacker, Wallace Chapman, Teddy Ball, and Joe Thacker to attend.

Big Creek Church: Meets Friday before the third Saturday in August, 1953. Elders W. H. Thacker, Fonso Justice, Wallace Chapman, Frank Wheeler, J. H. Blackburn, and A. J. Blackburn to attend.

Raccoon Church: Meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in July 1953. Elders M. C. Slone, A. P. Justice, Frank Wheeler, A. J. Blackburn, and Dan Adkins to attend.

Sulphur Springs: Meets Friday before the first Saturday in August, 1953. Elders Teddy Ball, Paris Coleman, Joe Slone, Jr., Homer Little, and Kit Ratliff to attend.

Peter Creek Church: Meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in June, 1953. Elders Teddy Ball, Paris Coleman, J. H. Blackburn, Homer Little, A. P. Justice, and Bobby Mayhon to attend.

Little Hope Church: Meets Friday before the first Saturday in July, 1953. Elders Bobby Mahon, Wallace Chapman, Lonnie Warrix, Paris Coleman, W. H. Thacker, J. H. Blackburn, Joe Slone, Jr., Joe Thacker, and Teddy Ball to attend.

Joppa Church: Meets the first Saturday in June, 1953. Elders

Frank Wheeler, John Fuller, Joe Thacker, and Dan Adkins to attend.

Grapevine Church: Meets Friday before the third Saturday in July 1953. Elders Frank Wheeler, Wallace Chapman, A. J. Blackburn, J. H. Blackburn, and Paris Coleman to attend.

Samaria Church: Meets Friday before the third Saturday in June, 1953. Elder J. H. Blackburn, Paris Coleman, A. P. Justice, Fonso Justice, and Teddy Ball to attend.

John's Creek Church: Meets Friday before the second Saturday in July, 1953. Elders Homer Little, Teddy Ball, J. H. Blackburn, W. H. Thacker, John Fuller, Dan Adkins, and A. J. Blackburn to attend.

Calvary Church: Meets Friday before the first Saturday in June, 1953. Elders Kit Ratliff, Wallace Chapman, Paris Coleman, Dan Adkins, Joe Slone, Jr., and Teddy Ball to attend.

6. Secretary reports all work up and cash left on hand \$167.46.

7. Circular Letter called for read, and received, and to be printed in the Minutes, and that Elder Fonso Justice to prepare the next.

8. Agreed that we have 1600 copies of the Minutes printed, and annex our Constitution, Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum, and the Obituaries of Sister Diana Hackney, Brother George Goff, Sr., Brother Colonel Joseph Mickey, Sister Maggie Hatfield, Sister Nancy Cisco, Sister Louisa Smith, Brother John Prater, Brother James Harvey Fuller, Sister Mary J. McCoy, Lassie Thacker, Brother W. M. (Billy) Goff, and Brother Harrison Smith.

9. Agreed that the Brother Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes, and to pay for same from the funds in the treasury and the balance of the funds be left in his hands, until the next Association.

10. The Finance Committee was disposed of as follows:

Balance left on hand from last year	\$204.10
Amount received from the churches	167.46
Total cash on hand	\$371.56
Amount paid for Minutes last year	\$78.00
Allowed the Moderator	15.00
Allowed the Clerk	10.00
Total cash paid out	\$103.00
Balance cash left on hand	\$268.56

11. Agreed that our next Association be held with the Peter Creek Church, at Coleman, Pike County, Kentucky, and to begin Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1953, and that Elder John Fuller is to preach the Introductory Sermon, and that Elder Dan Adkins be his alternate.

The Washington Association meets with the Duty View Church, and will begin Friday before the second Sunday in September, 1953. Go by Grundy and Haysi, Virginia.

The Indian Creek Association meets with the Princeton Church, Princeton, West Virginia, and will begin Friday before the last Sunday in August, 1953. Go to Princeton, then take Route 460 out of Princeton, to just outside of the city limits, to the Association.

Minutes read and approved, closed by prayer by Elder Raleigh Compton, then adjourned until time of our next Association.

Signed by:

W. H. THACKER, Moderator,
A. P. JUSTICE, Assistant Moderator,
STEARL HATFIELD, Clerk,
J. E. HATFIELD, Assistant Clerk.

EVENING MEETINGS

FRIDAY EVENING:

Raccoon Church: Elders Lee Craiger, L. D. Hatcher, D. C. Stover.

Abner Justice Home: Elders Wallace Chapman, A. P. Justice, and Fonso Justice.

Daniels Roberts Home: Elders Joe Church, Sam Newsome, and Teddy Ball.

SATURDAY EVENING:

Henry Varney's Home: Elders Homer Little, Bobby Mayhon, L. D. Hatcher, and Teddy Ball.

George W. Coleman's Home: Elders A. P. Justice, Dan Adkins, and Wallace Chapman.

Tom Justice's Home: Elders Hadley Edwards, E. S. Stephens, and D. C. Stover.

Ireland May's Home: Elders Leland Street, Raleigh Compton, Sam Newsome, and Ostill Smith.

Raccoon Church: Elders James Phillips, James Runyon, M. C. Miller and Raleigh Compton.

SUNDAY MORNING, September 7, 1952.

Singing and prayer by Elder M. C. Miller, of the Washington Association.

Elders on the stand:

1. Elder D. C. Stover, of the Indian Creek Association. Text, Gal. 1:1: "Paul an apostle not of men neither by man but by Jesus Christ."

2. Elder Jess Holbrook, of the Union Association. Text, 1 Pet. 2:9: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal Priesthood," etc.

3. Elder Raleigh Compton, of the Washington Association. Text, John 1:1: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

4. Elder Lester Barker of the Washington Association. Text, 1 Pet. 1:18: "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things as silver and gold," etc.

5. Elder E. S. Stephens, of the Washington Association. Text, Col. 3:20: "Children, obey your parents in all things; for this is well pleasing unto the Lord."

Our beloved Assistant Moderator came forward with a few words of thanks and praise and dismissed the Association.

The Association tenders its heartfelt thanks to the members and friends of the Raccoon Church for the splendid way they took care of the Association. May God's richest blessings rest and abide with them always.

—THE CLERK

CIRCULAR LETTER

To the ministers and messengers who compose the Mates Creek Association when convened at the Raccoon Church at Raccoon, Ky., in Pike County, beginning Friday before the first Sunday in September 1952.

Dear Brethren: By the request of the last Association I will try to address you in the form of a Circular Letter, hoping God will give me a fruitful mind.

I will call your attention to John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

So Brethren, who is it that has the promise of everlasting life? Was it not the believer in Christ Jesus that God loved so well that He sent His Son into the world to die for? When Christ was in the Garden He said, "Father, I pray not for these alone," which meant the apostles, "But also for all them which shall believe on Me through the Word." So then Christ must have known who they were. And did not Phillip ask the eunuch, "If thou believest, thou mayest." So all things God promised was to the believer. As He said, He that believest is not condemned, but he that believeth not is condemned already because they have not believed in the only begotten Son. So they, which were chosen in Christ before the world began can rest assured that God our Father will reveal it to them the thing He has done for them.

Brethren, wisdom hath builded her house; she hath hewn out her seven pillars; she hath sent forth her maidens. The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal: the Lord knows them that are His. Would you let me tell you they were God's in wisdom from all eternity? Children, I desire to ask you a question, Do you believe you are one of the chosen in Christ before the world began? I will answer that question by my own experience. Yes. Did you ever ask yourself the question, "Why am I one of the chosen?" It surely isn't because you are so good. So why? Did Phillip ask the eunuch if he was good? Did he ask him to do something? Or did he say, "If thou believest, thou mayest." So why are you one of the chosen? So Brethren, I want to tell you with the best feeling in the world that the God I hope I serve with the Spirit that is in me. That this God knew from all eternity the time and place you would call upon His Son. Therefore being so wise He chose you unto salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the tuth.

Before they call, He will hear them; while they are yet speaking He will answer them. Someone may say, "Why do we believe in Christ Jesus? I will try in my feeble attempt to tell you. It is for no other cause but that you are an heir of promise and the time has fully come for God to reveal to you the love which He had for you, even before the world was. In this revelation you are made to see your damnable nature and inbred corruption which you received from your forefather, Adam. But God in His tender love and mercy frankly forgives you all you have ever done. Knowing you did it in ignorance and in unbelief, and therefore one of the purposed children has been manifested, and I believe that this love is manifested in people even when they are closing their eyes to this world for the last time. Oh for such a God! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

Written by your unworthy brother, I hope. -WALLACE CHAPMAN

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MINISTERS

Elders:

A. J. Blackburn, Ira. Virginia.
W. H. Thacker, McAndrews, Kentucky.
J. W. Slone, Fishtrap, Kentucky.
M. C. Slone, Fishtrap, Kentucky.
A. P. Justice, Millard, Kentucky.
W. E. Thacker, Millard, Kentucky.
Teddy R. Ball, Ransom, Kentucky.
Noah Smith, Coleman, Kentucky.
Joe Thacker, Canada, Kentucky.
John Fuller, Canada, Kentucky.
Charley Holsinger, Pikeville, Kentucky.
W. H. Prater, Williamson, West Virginia.
Lonnie Warrix, Huddy, Kentucky.
Anderson Casey, Coleman, Kentucky.
Paris Coleman, Coleman, Kentucky.
W. N. Smith, Coleman, Kentucky.
J. H. Blackburn, Ira Virginia.
Joe Slone, Jr., Fishtrap, Kentucky.
Kit Ratliff, Ransom, Kentucky.
Dan Adkins, McAndrews, Kentucky.
Wallace Chapman, Belfry, Kentucky.
Frank Wheeler, Stone, Kentucky.
George Hunt, Hardy, Kentucky.
Fonso Justice, McVeigh, Kentucky.
Ostill Smith, Canada, Kentucky.
W. M. Dotson, Stone, Kentucky.
Homer Little, McCarr, Kentucky.
James Earl McIntosh, Hardy, Kentucky.

Licentiates:

Bobby Mayhon, Ransom, Kentucky.
Glen Vipperman, Meta, Kentucky.
J. C. Cantrell, Huddy, Kentucky.
Green Coleman, Fishtrap, Kentucky.
Willard Dotson, Redjacket, West Virginia.
Clark Owens, Pinsonfork, Kentucky.

OBITUARIES

BROTHER HARRISON SMITH



Brother Harrison Smith was born June 15, 1888, deceased September 12, 1951, making his stay on earth 63 years, 2 months, and 27 days. He leaves his wife and a host of friends, and relatives to mourn his loss. I feel that our loss is his eternal gain.

Brother Harrison united with the Primitive Baptist Church, April, 1932, and was a faithful member until death. He was ordained deacon.

Sadly missed by the Church and all.

Written by his wife.

—BYTHA SMITH

SISTER NANCY SIMPKINS CISCO



Nancy Simpkins Cisco was born April 27, 1886, deceased May 20, 1952. She was married to J. W. Cisco September 14, 1908, to this union were born 3 children, 2 preceded her in death, her husband and 4 children remain to mourn their loss.

She united with the Primitive Baptist Church, August 20, 1905, and was baptised by J. M. Whitt, and lived a faithful member until death.

We feel sure that the children gave up a loving mother and that her husband gave up a loving wife, but our loss was her great gain.

Written by, —ELDER J. H. BLACKBURN and her children

BROTHER COLONEL JOSEPH MICKY



By the request of our precious sister in the Lord, we do with much sorrow, attempt to write an Obituary of our beloved brother, Colonel Joseph Mickey.

He was born May 5, 1882, died January 7, 1952, making his stay on earth 69 years, 7 months, and 2 days.

Brother Mickey joined the Primitive Baptist Church in July, 1934. He lived a faithful member, and was always ready to do what he could for everybody. His home was the home of Old Baptists, and he was always ready to counsel and advise the church. His friendly smile is missed by all who knew him.

He loved the old Church so well that his last request was for his body to be laid to rest in the old Pond Creek Cemetery.

"In peace may his body repose. Fresh buds of affection will bloom, while o'er his grave waves the lily until Christ in His glory shall come. When the saints of all ages shall rise immortal forever to live in those beautiful mansions above."

He leaves his dear wife, Dixie (Runyon) Mickey, and 6 children: Herbert, Ray, Mae, Willard, Minerva, and Elbert, and a host of friends to mourn his loss. We believe that our loss is his eternal gain.

Written by an unworthy brother,

—FRANK WHEELER

BROTHER JAMES HARVEY FULLER

James Harvey Fuller, was born July 15, 1867, departed this life October, 1951. He was married to Polly C. Keene, January 31, 1889. To this union were born 8 children, 3 boys and 5 girls, 3 preceded him in death. He leaves his wife, 5 children and a host of friends to mourn their loss.

He united with the Primitive Baptist Church in 1913. He was baptised by Elder W. J. Prater and lived a faithful member until death. We feel that our loss was his great gain.

Written by,

—ELDER J. H. BLACKBURN and his children



LASSIE VICTORIA THACKER

It is with much sorrow that I attempt to write the Obituary of my dear sister, Lassie Victoria Thacker. Lassie was born May 22, 1913, deceased August 21, 1952, making her stay on earth 39 years and 3 months. She was born and reared at Raccoon, Ky., and lived in Pike County all of her life. She is the daughter of W. T., and Linda Thacker Coleman.

She is survived by her husband, Geo. W. Thacker, 4 sons, William, at home, Bradley, Oakland, Calif., Valis Gene, and Tunis Ray Thacker, both at home.

3 sisters, Mrs. George McCoy, Raccoon, Ky., Mrs. Epp Thacker, Raccoon, Ky., and Mrs. Edith Pennington, Ashland, Ky., and one brother, Mr. Russell Coleman, Detroit, Mich.

She was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church at Raccoon, Ky. She was a faithful member until her death. We will miss our sister, but we hope our loss is her eternal gain. Written by her sister,

—GUSTA MCCOY



MAGGIE HATFIELD

I will try in my weakness, if the Lord will bless me, to write for our Minutes an Obituary of my dear mother-in-law, Maggie Scott Hatfield.

She was born May 26, 1890 at Hardy, Kentucky, a daughter of John and Charity Runyon Scott, departed this life August 28, 1952, making her stay on earth 62 years, 2 months and 29 days.

She was married in early life to John E. Hatfield. To this union were born 8 children, one son, Wayne Hatfield and her husband preceded her in death, leaving the following surviving: Magdalene, Scott,

Ray, Alvin, Phillip Hatfield, Mrs. Wannetta Perrine and Josephine Lee.

She joined the Primitive Baptist Church many years ago, and lived a faithful member until God called her spirit back to Him. We know that in the resurrection morning her spirit will again unite with her body and this body will be immortal and our hope is that she will be taken home to glory and will be like Jesus, and live with Him forever.

May God's richest blessings abide with all who were with us in our sorrowing hour.

Written by,

—STEARL HATFIELD



BROTHER GEORGE GOFF, Sr.

It has fallen to our unworthy lot to write a short Obituary of our father, George Goff, Sr.

Dad was born March 17, 1867, and deceased February 17, 1952, making his stay on earth 84 years and 11 months. Dad joined the Primitive Baptist Church the fourth Saturday in June, 1950, and lived a faithful member until death. Dad was married to Mattie Johnson February 22, 1908, and to this union were born 7 children, 4 girls, Jettie, Lona Mae, 3 boys, Wilson, Blake, 3 children preceded him in death.

Our dear mother was called away November 14, 1941. Mother did not unite with the Church, but she was a true believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Our dear father was so afflicted in his latter years that he was unable to attend church, but he would have the dear brethren come to his home and preach for him. Dad's conversations were concerning heaven and heavenly things. His favorite scripture quotation was, "The foundation of the Lord stands assured, the Lord knows them that are His."

We miss our dear father very much, but trust our loss is his eternal gain. Written by his daughters,

—JETTIE GOFF and LONA MAE VARNEY

SISTER LOUISA SMITH

Sister Louisa Smith, age unknown to me, but was blessed to live here with her husband and children to a very old age. She was married to S. K. Smith many years ago and to this union were born 7 or 8 children, which about all remain with Father to mourn the loss of Mother.

She was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church, and lived a faithful member until death. She always welcomed the brethren and sisters to her home to sing, pray and preach for her. She was sick in bed for several months, but felt that all her suffering here was not to be compared with the glory that will be revealed in her.

Written by,

—ELDER J. H. BLACKBURN, and her family.

BROTHER JOHN PRATER

Brother John Prater was blessed to live here in this world to be about 88 years of age. He was married to Ruth Estopp. To this union were born 8 children. His wife and 4 children preceded him in death, leaving 4 children to mourn the loss of Father and Mother.

He united with the Primitive Baptist Church several years ago. He lived here afflicted in this world till he could not attend church much, but would call us in his home to preach for him and was made to praise the Lord in his afflictions. We feel that our loss is his gain.

Written by

—ELDER J. H. BLACKBURN

BROTHER M. W. (Billy) GOFF

If the Lord will, I will try to write an Obituary of our dear father, W. M. (Billy) Goff. Dad was born September 17, 1871, and departed

this life February 7, 1952, making his stay on earth 81 years. Our dear father joined the Primitive Baptist Church and lived a true and faithful member until death. Dad was a sincere believer in the good Baptist doctrine and his fruits manifested that he was a father to the Raccoon Church. His doors were always open to the members and friends of the Church.

Dad attended church and enjoyed the preaching to the fullest. Many times he would call the dear brethren to his home to preach for him. He was a firm believer that the children of God were chosen in the election of grace and these bodies would be raised in the likeness of the Eon of God. Dad contended that this world was a place for mortals to live, but the glory world was prepared for immortals to enjoy forever and ever.

We miss our dear father so much, but trust that our loss is his eternal gain. Written by his daughter,

—EMMA COLLINS



SISTER MARY J. MCCOY

It falls to me to try in my weakness to write a sketch Obituary of our dear mother, Sister Mary J. McCoy. Mother was born March 19, 1882, and departed this life January 7, 1952, Making her stay on earth 70 years. She joined the Church the second Sunday in December, 1916, and lived a faithful member until death. Our mother was so afflicted in her latter years that she was unable to attend Church. Many times by her request the good brethren would come to her home and preach for her and she

enjoyed it so much. Mother was a true believer in the resurrection of these afflicted bodies. So many times I have heard her say, "There will be no cripples and afflictions in heaven." Mother was a strong believer in the salvation by grace and that in the resurrection we would raise from the grave wearing a body liken unto that of Jesus.

We have missed our dear mother so much, but hoping our loss is her heavenly gain. Written by her son,

—GEORGE MCCOY



SISTER DIANA MAE HACKNEY

I will try, if the Lord will, to write an Obituary of my dear mother, Diana Mae Hackney. She was born May 14, 1864, and departed this life March 24, 1952, making her stay on earth 88 years, 10 months and 20 days. Mother was a daughter of William Jefferson and Eppie Rutherford May. She was married in early life to William H. Hackney, who preceded her in death in 1923.

Surviving her are 6 sons and 3 daughters, James and Fayette of Toler, Ky., Bennie of Belfry, Ky., Tom of Holden, W. Va., Perry or Redjacket, W. Va., Bill of Purtain Mines, W. Va., Mrs. Columbia Murphy of Belfry, Ky., Mrs. Ida Stanley of Pikeville, Ky., and Mrs. Winfield Blackburn of Turkey Creek, Ky. She also leaves 51 grandchildren, 67 great grand-

children, and 9 great-great grandchildren.

Mother was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church and a true believer in the doctrine. Mother is gone, we miss her so much, a voice we loved it still, a seat is vacant in our home that never can be filled. Written by her son,

—BENNIE HACKNEY



RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.
2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.
3. Only one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator when he is about to speak.
4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted by any except the Moderator until he is done speaking.
5. He shall strictly adhere to the subject and in no wise reflect on the person who spoke before so as to make remarks on his slips, failings and imperfections, but fairly state the case and matter as nearly as he can as to convey his ideas.
6. No person shall rise and speak more than three times on one subject without liberty obtained from the Association.
7. No person shall abruptly break off or absent himself from the Association without liberty obtained from it.
8. No member of the Association shall have liberty of laughing during the sitting of the Association, nor whispering in time of public speech.
9. No member of the Association shall address another in any other term or appellation but the title of "Brother."
10. The Moderator shall not interrupt any member in a speech or prohibit him from speaking until he gives his light on the subject, except they break the Rules of Decorum.
11. Names of the several members of the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over as many times as the Association may require.
12. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as another member, provided the chair be filled, and he shall have no vote except the Association be equally divided. In that event he shall give the casting vote.
13. That any member who shall willingly violate any of these rules shall be reprovod by the Association as they think proper.

CONSTITUTION

1. This Association shall be called Mates Creek District Primitive Baptist Association.
2. 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 seats.
3. In the letters from the different churches shall be expressed their membership in full fellowship, those baptised, received by letter, dismissed by letter, excluded and deceased since the last Association.
4. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage nor shall they have any clerical powers over the churches, nor shall they infringe on any of the internal rights of any church in this union.
5. The Association when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum.
6. The Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.
7. Newly constituted churches may be admitted into the union who shall petition by letter and messenger, and (if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly), shall be received by the Association, and manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.
8. Every church in the union shall be entitled to a representation in the Association.
9. Every query presented by any church to the Association, being first debated in their own church, shall be taken up by the Association.
10. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it shall be withdrawn by the member who made it.
11. The Association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with Minutes of the Association, the best way and method for effecting that purpose shall be at the discretion of future Associations.
12. We think it absolutely necessary that we should 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 think proper, and send it by the hands of their messengers to the Association, and those monies 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 Association.
13. There shall be an Association book kept, wherein the proceedings of every Association shall be regularly recorded by the Secretary chosen for that purpose, who shall receive compensation for his trouble.
14. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association arises.
15. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made

at any time by majority of the union when they deem it necessary.

16. The Association shall have power: (1) To provide for the general union of the churches. (2) To preserve inviolably a chain of communication among the churches. (3) To give the churches necessary advice in matters of church difficulty. (4) To inquire into the cause why the churches fail to represent themselves at any time in the Association. (5) To appropriate those monies by the churches contributed for an Association fund to any purpose they may think proper. (6) To appoint any member or members by and with their consent to transact any business they may see necessary. (7) 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. (8) To admit any orderly minister of our faith and order to a seat in the Association. (9) The Association shall have power to adjourn themselves to any time or place they may think most convenient to the churches of the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one true and living God, who is the Creator, upholder, and righteous disposer of all things; and that He is self-existent, independent, omnipotent and eternal.

2. We believe that Jesus existed in His mediatorial Person as the head and life of His body, the church, from everlasting.

3. We believe the doctrine of eternal, personal and unconditional election; that the elect, or church, is and was and shall forever remain His body and fulness, and their spiritual life is hid with Christ in God.

4. We believe in the doctrine of total depravity of human nature and that recovery from that condition is wholly and exclusively by the sovereign, free and unmerited grace of God.

5. We believe the atonement made by Christ was full and complete and exclusively for the elect, or heirs of promise.

6. We believe the doctrine of God's predestination in every sense as the Bible teaches it.

7. We believe that all the elect vessels of mercy, chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world, shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the regenerating power of God's grace, and shall ultimately enjoy heaven and immortal glory.

8. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the bodies, both of the just and the unjust, and the happiness of the righteous shall be eternal and the punishment of the wicked shall be everlasting.

9. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the subjects, and the true mode of baptism is immersion, foot-washing an example.

10. We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as translated under the reign of King James, are a revelation from God, inspired by the Holy Ghost, and that the New Testament is the standard of faith and the only authorized rule of practice to the church of God under gospel dispensation. We therefore consider ourselves solemnly bound by our allegiance to the King of Zion to reject, disclaim and disfellowship all modern and ancient religious institutions or societies of which we have neither precept nor example in the New Testament.

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES

Louisa—Bradley Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky.	125
Pond Creek—C. J. Mickey, Belfry, Ky.	200
Big Creek—M. B. Blackburn, Canada, Ky.	100
Raccoon—Joe Morris, Raccoon, Ky.	100
Sulphur Spring—J. B. May, Ira, Va.	75
Peter Creek—Roland Dotson, Stone, Ky.	100
Little Hope—Dewey Dotson, Pinsonfork, Ky.	60
Joppa—Tom Jude, Hatfield, Ky.	25
Grapevine—Stewart Justice, Fishtrap, Ky.	65
Samaria—Bob Dotson, Hardy, Ky.	200
Little Union—James H. Fuller, Steele, Ky.	25
John's Creek—Noah Smith, Jr., Coleman, Ky.	100
Calvary—Roscoe Varney, Belfry, Ky.	50

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO CORRESPONDING ASSOCIATIONS

Washington—M. C. Sutherland, Birchleaf, Va.	25
Indian Creek—J. R. Lilly, Box 136, Hinton, West Va.	25
Union—J. M. Holbrook, Shelby Gap, Ky.	25
Upper Mayo—J. W. Moorefield, 3405 Hanes, Winston-Salem, N. C.	25
Powell's Valley—Elder B. E. Dotson, London, Ky.	25
To the Clerk, Stearl Hatfield, McCarr, Ky.	150
Total	1500

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	ADDRESS OF CLERKS										
		Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Relation	Restored	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Membership	Sat. of Meeting	Contribution
Louisa	Bradley Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky.	7	..	..	..	2	1	..	77	2	\$21.00
Pond Creek	Fairchild C. Runyon, Belfry, Ky.	12	4	..	2	..	..	1	109	2	25.00
Big Creek	M. B. Blackburn, Canada, Ky.	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	43	3	14.00
Raccoon	Joe Morris, Raccoon, Ky.	5	2	..	..	1	..	4	38	4	18.00
Sulphur Springs	J. B. May, Ia, Va.	4	2	..	..	..	..	3	40	1	10.00
Peter Creek	Roland Dotson, Stone, Ky.	6	3	..	2	..	1	1	71	4	12.00
Little Hope	Dewey Dotson, Pinsonfork, Ky.	3	2	..	1	..	2	1	29	1	10.06
Joppa	Tom Jude, Hatfield, Ky.	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	12	1	6.75
Grapevine	Steward Justice, Fishtrap, Ky.	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	3	9.35
Samaria	J. E. Hatfield, McCarr, Ky.	14	..	..	2	3	4	3	142	3	25.00
John's Creek ..	Noah Smith Jr., Coleman, Ky.	10	..	..	2	1	..	..	51	2	11.00
Calvary	Roscoe Varney, McAndrews, Ky.	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	11	1	5.00
Totals	Totals	71	14	..	9	9	8	13	644	..	\$167.46

