

# MINUTES

— of the —

ONE HUNDRED FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

— of the —

***Mates Creek District***

***Primitive Baptist***

***Association***

— held with —

**THE PETER CREEK CHURCH**

Coleman, Pike County Kentucky,  
September 4, 5, 6,

**1953**

Next session to be held with the Samaria Church, at Ransom, Pike County, Kentucky, to begin Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1954, at 10 o'clock a. m., and Dan Adkins is to preach the Introductory Sermon, and Elder A. P. Justice to 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  
ELON COLLEGE, NORTH CAROLINA



# Proceedings

## OF THE MATES CREEK DISTRICT ASSOCIATION, HELD WITH PETER CREEK CHURCH,

FRIDAY MORNING, September 4, 1953.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, prayer by Elder Dan Adkins. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder John Fuller, text Isa. 53:1: "Who hath believed our report, and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?"

Ministers left on the stand for Friday:

1. Elder Sammy Newsome, of the Union Association.
2. Elder Owen Harvey of the Indian Creek Association.
3. Elder Dewey Mullins, of the Union Association.
4. Elder G. T. Foley, of the Indian Creek Association.

Messengers assembled in the Peter Creek 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, and A. P. Justice, Brethren Bradley Warrix, Guy Campbell, Abner L. Justice, Flem Justice, G. A. Collins, and Jeff Thacker.

Pond Creek Church: Elders Teddy R. Ball, and Frank Wheeler, Brethren Grant Blackburn, C. C. Dotson, W. J. Hatfield F. C. Runyon.

Big Creek Church: Elder Joe Thacker, Brethren Daniel Roberts, Daniel May, Paris Coleman, Joe Stanley, Lewis Elswick, John Matt Smith, and M. B. Blackburn.

Raccoon Church: Elder M. C. Slone, Brethren J. L. Justice, Milton Coleman, Joe Thacker, George McCoy, and Joe Morris.

Sulphur Springs Church: Elders J. H. Blackburn, and A. J. Blackburn, Brethren Ira Simpkins, Chester Blackburn, Scott Smith, and J. B. May.

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

Little Hope Church: Brethren Ballard Ball, Lee Stiltner, A. H. Blackburn, Lundy Charles, and Dewey Dotson.

Joppa Church: Elder Dan Adkins, Brethren Tom Jude, Adrain Varney, Estle Varney, and Bill McCoy.

Grapevine Church: Elders J. H. Blackburn and J. W. Slone, Brethren Sam Lowe, Kenner Bevins, Orvil Justice, and Stewart Justice.

Samaria Church: Elder Teddy R. Ball, Brethren Jim Varney, Willie Hatfield, Stearl Hatfield, J. E. Hatfield, and John Coleman.

John's Creek Church: Elders Paris Coleman, and James Earl McIntosh, Brethren John Stiltner, William I. Smith and Harvey Coleman.

Calvary Church: Elders Wallace Chapman, Joe Slone, and Fonso Justice, Brethren Sid Varney, Glen Vipperman, Roscoe Varney, and Robert Vipperman.



## 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, and Brother J. E. Hatfield, Assistant Clerk.

## PROCEEDING OF BUSINESS

1. Newly constituted churches called for; none reported.
2. Abstracts 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, and M. M. Edwards.

Indian Creek: Elders Lowell Lilly and G. T. Foley.

Union: Elders Vollie Church, Lee Craiger, Joseph Church, Sam New-som, Dewey Mullins, and Bert T. Hall.

Visitors from sister Associations were received and seated as follows:

Washington: Elder M. C. Miller, Brethren Boyd Sutherland, B. H. Ray.

Indian Creek: Elders Owen Harvey, and Lacy Lilly, Brethren Leonard Mann and Henry Mann.

Union: Brother Clark Hamilton.

Mountain: Elder M. K. Cook, and Brother B. F. Lester.

Little Vine Church of Taylor County, Kentucky: Elder Henry Jenkins.

5. The Moderator is to make all temporary arrangements.

6. A messenger from each church together with all the messengers from the Peter Creek Church was appointed to arrange for the preaching at the stand.

They reported for Saturday:

1. Elder Joe Church of the Union Association.

2. Elder Vollie Church, of the Union Association.

3. Elder Lee Craiger, of the Union Association.

4. Elder E. S. Stephens, of the Washington Association.

7. Messengers who agreed to visit sister Associations are as follows:

Washington: Elders Paris Coleman, Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler, Joe Thacker, Teddy R. Ball, Brother Ira Smith, M. B. Blackburn, Paris Blackburn, and Jim Varney.

Indian Creek: Elders Frank Wheeler, Dan Adkins, Brethren M. B. Blackburn, and Elder Teddy Ball.

Union: Elders M. C. Slone, Paris Coleman, and James Earl McIntosh, Brethren Ira Smith and M. B. Blackburn.

8. Moved and seconded that the Association send Minutes to the following Associations: Washington, Union, Powell's Valley, Roaring River, Abbott's Creek, Fisher's River, and St. Clair's Bottom.

9. Committee on Arrangement was appointed as follows: Brethren Willie Hatfield, W. J. Hatfield, and M. C. Slone.

10. Committee on Finance was appointed as follows: Brethren Joe Morris, C. C. Dotson, and Flem Justice.



11. Moved and seconded that the Association be adjourned until 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

#### SATURDAY MORNING, September 5, 1953.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator, prayer by Elder Dewey Mullins, of Union Association.

1. Roll called and absentees marked.

2. Committee on Arrangements reported the following and were discharged:

(a) Committee moved and seconded that the Association carry its work out Saturday in the usual manner.

3. Finance Committee reported \$173.00 and were discharged.

4. Committee on Preaching for Sunday reported as follows:

1. Elder M. C. Miller.

4. Elder Lowell Lilly.

2. Elder Henry Jenkins.

5. Elder M.K. Cook.

3. Elder Lester Barker.

5. Union Meetings and their appointees as follows:

Louisa Church meets Friday before the second Saturday in August, 1954. Elders Teddy R. Ball, J. H. Blackburn, Wallace Chapman, and Frank Wheeler to attend.

Pond Creek Church meets Friday before the second Saturday in August, 1954. Elders Wallace Chapman, Teddy R. Ball, W. H. Thacker, Frank Wheeler, Joe Thacker, J. H. Blackburn, Dan Adkins to attend.

Big Creek Church meets Friday before the third Saturday in August, 1954. Elders Frank Wheeler, Paris Coleman, Dan Adkins, Wallace Chapman, and J. H. Blackburn to attend.

Raccoon Church meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in July, 1954. Elders A. P. Justice, Teddy R. Ball, Paris Coleman, Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler, and J. H. Blackburn to attend.

Sulphur Springs Church meets Friday before the first Saturday in August, 1954. Elders Homer Little, Kit Ratcliff, Teddy R. Ball, Joe Slone, Jr., and Paris Coleman to attend.

Peter Creek Church meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in June, 1954. Elders Paris Coleman, J. H. Blackburn, Dan Adkins, John Fuller, Teddy R. Ball, and Frank Wheeler to attend.

Little Hope Church meets Friday before the first Saturday in July, 1954. Elders Paris Coleman, Joe Thacker, W. H. Thacker, Frank Wheeler, and Teddy R. Ball to attend.

Joppa Church meets the first Saturday in June, 1954. Elders Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler, John Fuller, Joe Thacker, and Teddy R. Ball to attend.

Grapevine Church meets Friday before the third Saturday in July, 1954. Elders Paris Coleman, A. P. Justice, A. J. Blackburn, and Dan Adkins and J. H. Blackburn to attend.

Samaria Church meets Friday before the third Saturday in June, 1954. Elders Paris Coleman, Frank Wheeler, W. H. Thacker, A. P. Justice, J. H. Blackburn, Joe Thacker, Teddy R. Ball, and Dan Adkins to attend.

John's Creek Church meets Friday before the second Saturday in July, 1954. Elders Bobby Mayhon, Kit Ratliff, Teddy R. Ball, W. H. Thack-



er, J. H. Blackburn, Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler, A. P. Justice to attend. Calvary Church meets Friday before the first Saturday in June, 1954. Elders Joe Slone, Jr., A. P. Justice, Wallace Chapman, Bobby Mayhon, and Paris Coleman to attend.

6. Secretary reports all work up, and cash left on hand, \$173.00.

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

8. Agreed that we have 1600 copies of our Minutes printed and annex our Constitution, Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum, and the Obituaries of Sisters Lydia Varney, Rebecca Jane Williamson, Gennie Wheeler, Lena Puckett, Parlie Jude Staten, Martha Justice, Thursia Ramey Justice, Dixie Hatfield May, and Brethren James A. Taylor, Guy Simpkins, and Samuel Tilden Chapman, and Sister Elizabeth Blackburn.

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 was disposed of as follows:

Balance left on hand from last year .....	\$268.56	
Amount received from the churches .....	173.00	
Total cash on hand .....	\$441.56	\$441.56
Paid for Minutes .....	\$77.00	
Lumber for seats .....	125.07	
Allowed the Moderator .....	15.00	
Allowed the Clerk .....	10.00	
Paid for hauling seats .....	20.00	
Total cash paid out .....	247.07	
Balance cash left on hand .....	194.49	
		\$441.56 \$441.56

11. Agreed that our next Association be held with the Samaria Church at Ransom, Pike County, Kentucky, and to begin on Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1954, and that Elder Dan Adkins is to preach the Introductory Sermon, and that Elder A. P. Justice to be his alternate.

The Washington Association meets with Sulphur Springs Church in Dickenson Co., Va., and will begin Friday before the second Sunday in tember, 1954. Go by Grundy, Virginia to Haysi.

The Indian Creek Association meets with the Little Meadows Church, in Summers County, West Virginia, and will begin Friday before the last Sunday in August, 1954. Go by Beckley, to Hinton, West Virginia, then out on Route No. 20, 35 miles from Hinton.

Minutes read and approved, closed by prayer by Elder M. M. Edwards then adjourned until the time of our next Association.

Signed by:

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



### **Friday Evening:**

Peter Creek Church: Elds. Owen Harvey, Henry Jenkins, Lowell Lilly.

### **Saturday Evening:**

John's Creek Church: Elders J. H. Blackburn, E. S. Stephens, Owen Harvey, and Dewey Mullins.

Samaria Church: Elders Lester Barker, Joe Church, M. M. Edwards.

Peter Creek Church: Elders M. C. Miller, and Sam Newsome.

Boyd Dotson's Home: Elders Lowell Lilly, A. P. Justice, Dan Adkins.

Dell William's Home: Elders J. H. Blackburn, Fonso Justice, and Otis Fields.

### **SUNDAY MORNING, September 6, 1953.**

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

Elders on the stand:

1. Elder Henry Jenkins, of the Little Vine Church, in Taylor Co., Kentucky. Text, Heb. 11:1: "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, evidence of things not seen."

2. Elder Lester Barker, of the Washington Association. Text, Rom. 8:28: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love the Lord."

3. Elder Lowell Lilly, of the Indian Creek Association. Text, Rom. 8:27: "And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit."

4. Elder M. C. Cook of the Mountain Association, no special text.

We feel that we should be thankful to God for the sweet fellowship and love that was manifested throughout our Association, and may we all pray that He will bless our Association together with our corresponding Associations, that we may all live in peace and love.

—THE CLERK.

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### **CIRCULAR LETTER**

To the ministers and messengers who compose the Mates Creek Association, when convened at the Peter Creek Church, at Coleman, Pike County, Kentucky, beginning Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1953. ?

Dear brethren:—By the request of the last Association, I will try to write a Circular Letter, hoping that God will be my help.

I will call your attention to 1 Peter 2:9: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people that ye should show forth the praise of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light."

Dear brethren, I think God and the Father our Lord Jesus Christ has told us in this one verse of scripture that He has a chosen people, and is calling them that He has chosen, and they are a peculiar people. Why? Because He has called you out of the darkness into His marvellous light



and He hath said, "Be ye a separated people from all people." Dear brethren, I do not believe that the world and all of its powers will ever deceive one of the chosen which is the very elect, for many are called, but few are chosen. Therefore I am glad that the choice is not made by man, but God hath made the choice before the foundation of the world. Are we going to believe the world? No, for Christ hath said "Let not your hearts be troubled. Ye believe in God, believe also in Me, for ye have not chosen Me, but I the Lord have chosen you."

Someone may say, "Why hath He chosen us in Him?" Paul says in Ephesians 1:4, 5, "According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we (the children) should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestinated us unto the adoption of the children by Jesus Christ to Himself according to the good pleasure of His will." Paul also said in verses 7 and 8, "In whom we (the chosen) have redemption through His blood the forgiveness of sin according to the riches of His grace wherein He hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence."

So dear brethren, I am glad that the God of our salvation hath made the choice and has never asked anyone for help, for He said, "I looked and of the people there was none to help." Oh for such a one that worketh all things after the counsel of His own will, who hath all power both in heaven and in earth, and nothing is hidden from His all-seeing eyes, declaring the end from the beginning and said, "I am God, and change not."

So brethren, I am glad that the way has already been sought out with sweat, blood, and tears on Calvary's rugged cross, and that He is coming back again, not as a sin-bearer, but to collect the chosen generation, the believers, the Church our blessed Redeemer saved with His own precious blood. This is my hope, that we, the Church, shall live again.

Written by your unworthy brother, I hope,

—ELDER FONSO JUSTICE

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## 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 Ratcliff, Ransom, Kentucky.  
 Dan Adkins, McAndrews, Kentucky.  
 Wallace Chapman, Belfry, Kentucky.  
 Frank Wheeler, Stone, Kentucky.  
 George Hunt, Hardy, Kentucky.  
 Fonso Justice, McVeigh, Kentucky.  
 W. M. Dotson, Stone, Kentucky.  
 Homer Little, McCarr, Kentucky.  
 James Earl McIntosh, Hardy, Kentucky.  
 Benton West, Canada, Kentucky.  
 Bobby Mayhon, Ransom, Kentucky.  
 Glen Vipperman, Meta, Kentucky.  
 Green Coleman, Fishtrap, Kentucky.

**Licentiates:**

J. C. Cantrell, Huddy, Kentucky.  
 Willard Dotson, Redjacket, West Virginia.  
 Clark Owens, Pinsonfork, Kentucky.

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## *Obituaries*



**Sister Elizabeth Blackburn**



**Sister Gennie Wheeler**

We, in our weakness and unworthiness, will attempt to write an obituary of our loving mothers Elizabeth Blackburn and Gennie Wheeler, who passed away in the year of 1949, six months apart, and are resting side by side in the lonely graveyard.

With a sad and aching heart we laid them in the silent tomb, to rest and to sleep until Jesus, in His mighty power, shall raise their sleeping bodies from the dust, on that morning when the saints of all ages shall come forth praising their heavenly King.

They joined the Primitive Baptist Church and lived faithful members



for many years, and died believing that by the mercy and grace of God they would be raised and carried to that Holy City on the wings of God's eternal love.

They'll be clothed in that heavenly garment,  
The victory by Christ, has been won,  
They'll praise Him, on that beautiful morning,  
In the likeness of God's dear Son.

Written by their son and daughter,

—Frank and Mary Wheeler.



#### **Sister Rebecca Jane Williamson**

By request of our precious brother in the Lord, Hi Williamson, I will attempt in my weak and imperfect way, to write an obituary of his precious old sainted mother, Rebecca Jane Williamson. She was born February 13, 1863, and passed from this life May 13, 1953, making her stay in this unfriendly world 90 years, and 3 months. She was united in marriage to James Williamson, when she was quite young. To this union were born six children, four boys and two girls. Her husband and one girl preceded her in death. She joined the Primitive Baptist Church about forty years ago, and lived a faithful member until death. Her presence in the church is greatly missed.

She leaves five children, a host of grandchildren, relatives, and a host of friends to mourn their loss. We believe that her sweet spirit is resting in the Paradise of God. Her body sleeps in the hills of old Kentucky, waiting the summons from on high. We are living in hope of meeting her beyond death's river, where there will be no sad farewells.

Written by an unworthy brother, Elder Frank Wheeler.



#### **Sister Lena Puckett**

It is with a sad heart I try to write the obituary of our dear loving mother, Lena Puckett. She was born January 30, 1867, deceased August 8, 1953, making her stay on earth 87 years. She was married to N. M. Hurley. To this union were born 3 sons and 3 daughters. Her husband passed away leaving her and the children. Later she was married to Jake Puckett, and to this union were born 1 son and 3 daughters. She leaves to mourn, 1 son, Mack, and 5 daughters, Mrs. Wallace Coleman, Mrs. Pem Saintclair, Mrs. Ella May, Mrs. D. A. Parlier, Mrs. Crosby Scott, 47 grandchildren, 50 great grandchildren, 1 brother, L. D. Coleman, 1 sister, Liddia Coleman.

She united with the Church in the year



1895. She was a dear mother and loved the Lord's people. We miss her, but we hope to meet again where we will never part.

Written by her children, and Elder J. H. Blackburn.

### **Sister Parlee Jude Staton**

It now becomes our sad duty to write a sketch of our dear mother and grandmother, Parlee Jude Staton. She was born in Pike County, Kentucky, February 1, 1866, died June 27, 1953, making her stay on earth 87 years, 4 months and 26 days. She was first married to Floyd Jude, in 1884, who preceded her in death in 1903. Born to this union were 8 children, and 5 of them preceded her in death. Later she was married to Jack Staton, who also preceded her in death.

She joined the Primitive Baptist Church in 1888 and was baptised by Henry Davis, the first Sunday in June 1888. She was a strong and faithful believer in salvation by grace and in the resurrection we would raise from the graves wearing a body like unto Jesus.

Surviving here are: 1 son, 2 daughters, and 23 grandchildren, and a host of friends. We miss our dear mother, but we feel our loss is her heavenly gain.

Written by her daughter, Mrs. Amy Chapman.



### **Sister Lydia Varney**

It is with much sorrow that I attempt to write the obituary of my dear sister, Lydia Varney. She was born December 10, 1884, died July 5, 1953, making her stay on earth 68 years, 7 months, and 5 days. She was born in Pike County, Kentucky, and lived there all her life. She was the daughter of J. C., and Polly Blackburn Hensley. She is survived by her husband, Harvey Varney, and 3 children, 2 daughters, Sarah Varney at home, and Lassie Reed, at Stone, Ky., 1 son, Keen Varney at home, 3 sisters, Mrs. Alfred Blackburn, Canada, Ky., Mrs. Henry Varney, Stone, Ky., and Mrs. Groves Blackburn, McAndrews, Ky.; 2 brothers, Ballard Hensley, Canada, Ky., and Mitch Hensley, Belfry, Ky.

She was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church of Canada 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, Tildia Blackburn.

### **Sister Martha Justice**

The death angel visited the room of our beloved sister, Martha Justice and conveyed her spirit home to God. She was the daughter of Elder Anderson Justice and Polly Blackburn Justice. She was born January 13, 1927, deceased October 19, 1952. She was married to Perry Justice and to this union were born 3 children, James Anderson, and George Douglas, and Perry Phillips Justice. She was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church and a faithful member until death. She leaves a mother and a host of friends to mourn their loss, but we hope our loss is her eternal gain. Let us pray for the motherless children if God will bless us.

Written by Elder Lonnie Warrix.



### **Sister Dixie Hatfield May**



Dixie Hatfield May, was born September 12, 1881, at Ransom, Kentucky. "Aunt Dixie," as she was known by her brothers and sisters in the church and the community where she lived, departed this life Nov. 9, 1951 making her stay here 70 years, 1 month, and 28 days. She was united in marriage March 19, 1896, to Basil May. To this union were born 9 sons and 3 daughters. Her husband, 1 son, 1 daughter, 3 grandchildren preceded here in death. Surviving are 8 sons, 2 daughters, 40 grandchildren and 30 great grandchildren. She united with the Primitive Baptist Church in 1940. She was so devoted to the church that in the last days of her life she went to her meeting when it seemed she should have been in bed. We know she loved her brothers and sisters in the church and we sincerely believe she was loved by them.

May God bless all her children to live the humble life she lived before them. Living in hope that we will meet in the resurrection to part no more. We feel assured our loss was heaven's gain.

Written by her sons, Sherman and Buford May.

### **Sister Thursia Ramey Justice**

Whereas it pleased our heavenly Father to call from this world of sorrow and trouble our much loved sister and mother, Thursia Ramey Justice. She was born February 10, 1878, and was 75 years, 1 month and 24 days old. She joined the Primitive Baptist Church October, 1941, and lived a faithful member. She was the daughter of the late Elder Joe Ramey and Caroline Maynard Ramey. She was married to George M. Justice who preceded her in death, March 7, 1935. To this union were born 13 children, 9 of them preceded her in death. She leaves 2 sons, Dr. Wheeler Justice, London, Ky., and Erora Justice, Millard Ky., 2 daughters, Lee Keese, Phyllis, Ky., and Creetie Coleman, Fishtrap, Ky., 2 brothers, G. C. Ramey, McAndrews, Ky., and L. D. Ramey, Raccoon, Ky., 12 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren, a host of friends and relatives.



She was baptised by Elder A. P. Justice and Hibbard Thacker. We feel our loss is heaven's gain.

Written by a brother in hope,

—Elder Dan Adkins





### **Brother Guy Simpkins**

Brother Guy Simpkins was born April 24, 1909, died January 25, 1953, and was the husband of Sister Vicy Hatfield Simpkins. He joined the Primitive Baptist Church, and was baptised March, 1951, and lived a true and faithful member until God called him away from this unfriendly world. He left his companion, 3 children, and a host of friends to mourn their loss. He is sadly missed by his family and all his friends, which were many. We feel sure our loss for him here is his eternal gain, and we believe with all our hearts that we will meet again some sweet day.

Written by Elder Homer Little.

### **Brother Samuel Tilden Chapman**

Samuel Tilden Chapman was born August 14, 1876, and departed this life February 26, 1951. He was the father of 4 girls and 6 boys. He leaves his children, wife and many friends to mourn their loss. He united with the Primitive Baptist Church May 14, 1950, and lived a faithful member until death. We feel that our loss is his eternal gain.

He is sadly missed by all.

Written by Elder Frank Wheeler.

### **Brother James A. Taylor**

James A. Taylor was born April 17, 1866, deceased August 27, 1953. Making his stay on earth 87 years. His wife preceded him in death. He leaves to mourn their loss, 8 children, John, Joe, Clark, Arthur Taylor, Sarah Estep, Lottie Belcher, Lucy Slone, Telly Charles, a host of grandchildren and friends and 2 brothers, Marion Taylor, and Garfield Taylor.

The life that he lived was a manifestation that the Lord had done a work for him. We hope to meet Father again where we will never part. He was a precious father to his children.

Written by his children and Elder J. H. Blackburn.





## DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES

Louisa—Bradley Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky. ....	1 50
Pond Creek—F. C. Runyon, Belfry, Ky. ....	225
Big Creek—M. B. Blackburn, Canada, Ky. ....	100
Raccoon—Joe Morris, Raccoon, Ky. ....	100
Sulphur Springs—J. B. May, Ira, Ky. ....	100
Peter Creek—Roland Dotson, Stone, Ky. ....	100
Little Hope—Dewey Dotson, Pinsonfork, Ky. ....	75
Joppa—Tom Jude, Hatfield, Ky. ....	25
Grapevine—Stewart Justice, Fishtrap, Ky. ....	85
Samaria—J. E. Hatfield, McCarr, Ky. ....	200
John's Creek—Noah Smith, Jr., Coleman, Ky. ....	125
Calvary—Roscoe Varney, McAndrews, Ky. ....	50

## DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO CORRESPONDING ASSOCIATIONS

Washington—Harmon Kiser, Cleveland, Va. ....	25
Indian Creek—J. R. Lilly, Box 136, Hinton, W. Va. ....	25
Powell's Valley—M. V. Browning, P. O. Box 52, Maynardville, Tenn. ....	25
Union—J. M. Holbrook, Shelby Gap, Ky. ....	25
Roaring River—Elder A. T. Whittington, N. Wilkesboro, N. C. ..	25
St. Clair's Bottom—Elder C. N. Tilson, Chilhowie, Va. ....	25
Abbott's Creek—T. R. Freeman, Steed, N. C. ....	25
Fisher's River—O. W. Sisk, King, N. C. ....	25
To the Clerk, Stearl Hatfield, McCarr, Ky. ....	65
Total .....	1600

## CONSTITUTION

1. This Association shall be calld 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.

### **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, ex-



cept 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.

rules shall be reprovod by the Association as they think proper.



# STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF CLERKS										
		Rec'd by baptism	Rec'd by letter	Rec'd by relation	Restored	Dismissed by Let.	Excluded	Deceased	Membership	Sat. of Meeting	Contribution
Louisa .....	Bradley Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky .....	6	..	..	..	1	..	3	79	2	\$25.80
Pond Creek .....	Fairchild C. Runyon, Belfry, Ky. ....	11	3	..	1	..	..	1	124	2	20.10
Big Creek .....	M. B. Blackburn, Canada, Ky. ....	8	..	..	1	1	1	2	48	3	15.19
Raccoon .....	Joe Morris, Raccoon, Ky. ....	7	3	..	..	..	..	..	48	4	18.00
Sulphur Springs .....	J. B. May, Ira, Va. ....	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	42	1	10.00
Peter Creek .....	Roland Dotson, Stone, Ky. ....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	70	4	15.00
Little Hope .....	Dewey Dotson, Pinsonfork, Ky. ....	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	34	1	10.15
Joppa .....	Tom Jude, Hatfield, Ky. ....	4	..	..	..	..	1	1	13	1	5.00
Grapevine .....	Stewart Justice, Fishtrap, Ky. ....	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	26	3	10.00
Samaria .....	J. E. Hatfield, McCarr, Ky. ....	6	..	..	..	3	4	..	141	3	25.01
John's Creek .....	Noah Smith, Jr., Coleman, Ky. ....	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	51	2	10.00
Calvary .....	Roscoe Varney, McAndrews, Ky. ....	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	11	1	8.75
	Totals .....	55	8	..	2	6	7	12	687	..	173.00



