

**Minutes**  
**OF THE**  
**One Hundred Sixth**  
**Annual Session**  
**OF THE**  
**Mates Creek**  
**REGULAR PRIMITIVE BAPTIST**  
**ASSOCIATION**  
**of Jesus Christ**  
**HELD WITH**  
**Big Creek Church**  
**CANADA, PIKE COUNTY, KENTUCKY**  
**SEPTEMBER 5, 6, and 7,**  
**1958**

Next session convenes with Little Hope Church, Pinsonfork Pike County, Kentucky, to begin Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1959 at 10 a. m. Elder Frank Wheeler is to preach the Introductory Sermon, and Elder Homer Little is to be his alternate.

— OFFICERS —

ELDER W. H. THACKER - Moderator, McAndrews, Ky.  
BROTHER STEARL HATFIELD - Clerk, McCarr, Ky.  
BROTHER J. E. HATFIELD - Ass't. Clerk, McCarr, Ky.

The Primitive Baptist Publishing House  
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## ***Proceedings***

**OF THE MATES CREEK DISTRICT PRIMITIVE BAPTIST  
ASSOCIATION, HELD WITH THE BIG CREEK CHURCH,  
FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 5, 1958.**

The Association was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder Frank Wheeler. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder W. H. Thacker, text: By grace ye are saved, etc. He also read the first four articles of faith from our Minutes.

Ministers left on the stand for Friday:

1. Elder Lee Craiger, of the Union Association.
2. Elder Henry Viers of the Washington Association.
3. Elder Elzie Hite of the Muskingum Association.
4. Elder E. M. Robinson of the Union Association.
5. Elder Sam Newsom of the Union Association.

Messengers assembled in the Big Creek Church house and were called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder Hadley Edwards of the Washington Association.

Letters from the several churches were read and the messengers seated, and their names enrolled.

Election of officers: The Association then elected Elder W. H. Thacker, Moderator, Brother Stearl Hatfield, Clerk, Brother J. E. Hatfield, Assistant Clerk.

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, those unable to fill their appointments were excused.

4. Correspondence from sister Associations received and seated as follows:

Washington: Elders M. M. Edwards, A. R. Singleton, and Hadley Edwards.

Indian Creek: A. L. Neely.

Union: Elders Sam Newsom, Dewey Mullins, Joseph Church, J. P. Holbrook, Lee Craiger, Vollie Church, Bro. Pat Church.

Rock Spring: Elders Charles Littleton, Floyd Hall and William Littleton.

Senter: Minutes only.

Fishers River: Minutes only.

New Liberty: W. B. Pendleton.

Visiting brethren received and seated as follows:

Washington: Elder E. S. Stevens.

Indian Creek: Elder Marshall McBride, Henry Smith, W. A. Davidson, Don Lilly, D. C. Stover, Brother Henry Rose.

New Liberty: Brother Joe Carter.

Fishers River: Brother W. R. Coins and Vance Jones.

5. The Moderator is to make all temporary arrangements.

6. A messenger from each church together with all the messengers from the Big Creek Church was appointed to arrange for the preaching at the stand. They reported for Saturday:

1. Elder Don Lilly from the Indian Creek Association.
2. Elder Henry Smith of the Indian Creek Association.
3. Elder Marshall McBride of the Indian Creek Association.
4. Elder Floyd Hall of the Rock Springs Association.
5. Elder M. M. Edwards of the Washington Association.
6. Elder E. S. Stevens of the Washington Association.

Committee to choose messengers to visit sister Associations was appointed as follows: Elders M. C. Slone, Dan Adkins, Brother C. C. Dotson. They reported as follows:

Washington: Elders W. H. Thacker and Joe Thacker.

Indian Creek: Elders Frank Wheeler and Homer Little.

Rock Springs: Elders Fonso Justice and Guy Campbell.

Senter: Elders Teddy R. Ball and J. H. Blackburn.

Union: Elders Joe Thacker and M. C. Slone.

New Liberty: Elders Dan Adkins and J. H. Blackburn.

Fishers River: Elders Teddy R. Ball and Dan Adkins.

Moved and seconded that the Association send Minutes to all the Associations that we are in direct correspondence with.

9. Committee on Arrangements was appointed as follows:  
Brother Frank Wheeler, Roland Dotson, Bradley Warrix.

10. Committee of Finance was appointed as follows:

Brethren Fonso Justice, Daniel Roberts and Opie Thacker.

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

SATURDAY MORNING, September 6, 1958.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder E. S. Stevens of the Washington Association.

1. Roll called and absentees marked.

2. Committee on Arrangements reported as follows:

(1) It is the will of the Committee that the Association proceed with their business in the usual manner.

(2) It was brought to the attention of the Committee that certain disorder exists in the Louisa Church and it is the will of the Committee that the Association admonish this church, and ask that they get themselves in order by the time of our 1959 Association.

(3) After due consideration, we, the Committee ask the Association to admonish all its churches against seating or preaching members from any independent church.

Moved and seconded, we accept the work of the Committee and discharge them.

3. Finance Committee reported \$222.66 and was discharged.

4. Committee on Preaching for Sunday reported as follows:

Elder Dewey Mullins to open, Elder D. C. Stover, Elder A. L. Neely, Elder Hadley Edwards, and Elder A. R. Singleton.

5. Union Meetings and their appointees as follows:

Louisa Church meets Friday before the second Saturday in August, 1959. Elders Joe Thacker, Anderson Casey, Teddy R. Ball, Kit Ratliff, Wallace Chapman, E. M. Robertson invited to attend.

Pond Creek Church meets Friday before the second Saturday in June, 1959. Elders W. H. Thacker, Teddy R. Ball, Frank Wheeler, Dan Adkins, and Wallace Chapman to attend.

Big Creek Church meets Friday before the third Saturday in August, 1959. Elders Fonso Justice, W. H. Thacker, Frank Wheeler, Dan Adkins, and Wallace Chapman to attend.

Raccoon Church meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in July, 1959. Elders Frank Wheeler, Kit Ratliff, Joe Slone, Jr., W. H. Thacker and Joe Thacker to attend.

Sulphur Spring Church meets Friday before the first Satur-

day in August, 1959. Elders Homer Little, Kit Ratliff, Dan Adkins and Eli Estep to attend.

Peter Creek Church meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in June, 1959. Elders Frank Wheeler, Teddy Ball, Dan Adkins, J. H. Blackburn, Homer Little and W. H. Thacker to attend.

Little Hope Church, no Union Meeting.

Joppa Church meets the first Saturday in June, 1959. Elders Joe Thacker, Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler, Kit Ratliff, and Homer Little to attend.

Grapevine Church meets Friday before the third Saturday in July, 1959. Elders Monroe Justice, Joe Thacker, Frank Wheeler Guy Campbell and Lonnie Warrix to attend.

Samaria Church meets Friday before the third Saturday in June, 1959. Elders Wallace Chapman, J. H. Blackburn, W. H. Thacker, Homer Little, Teddy R. Ball, Frank Wheeler, Dan Adkins and Kit Ratliff to attend.

Little Union Church meets Friday before the first Saturday in May, 1959. Elders Teddy R. Ball, John Fuller, J. H. Blackburn, and Anderson Casey to attend.

John Creek Church meets Friday before the second Saturday in July, 1959. Elders Teddy R. Ball, J. H. Blackburn, Dan Adkins, Eli Estep, John Fuller, and Joe Thacker to attend.

Calvary Church meets Friday before the first Saturday in June, 1959. Elders Teddy R. Ball, Fonso Justice and Kit Ratliff to attend.

6. Secretary reports work up and cash left on hand \$222.66.

7. Circular Letter called for, read, received, and to be printed in the Minutes, and that Brother Phillip Dotson is to prepare the next.

8. Agreed that we have 1,600 copies of our Minutes printed and annex our Constitution, Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum, and the Obituaries of Sisters Nancy Jane Peters, Elizabeth Justice, Malinda Ball, Sarah Slone Branaum, and Ellen Jewell; Brothers Thomas B. Collins, and Will Epp Thacker; Elder A. P. Justice, and picture of Elder W. H. Thacker and his first wife.

9. Agreed that the Brother Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes and that the balance of the funds be left in his hand until the next Association.

10. The finance was disposed of as follows:

Balance left on hand from last year -----	\$240.12	
Amount received from the churches -----	222.66	\$462.78
Amount paid out:		
For Minutes ..-----	\$115.00	
For moving seats -----	20.00	
Paid the Moderator -----	15.00	
Paid the Clerk -----	10.00	
Total cash paid out -----	160.00	
Balance of cash left on hand -----	302.78	\$462.78

Moved and seconded that the Association give the Little Union Church \$125.00 to pay on church house.

11. Agreed that our next Association be held with the Little Hope Church at Pinsonfork, Pike County, Kentucky, and to begin Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1959, and that Elder Frank Wheeler is to preach the Introductory Sermon and that Elder Homer Little is his alternate.

Resolved that we give thanks to God for His sweet and tender mercies and we also wish to thank all the brothers and sisters and many kind friends for the splendid way they took care of the Association.

Minutes read and approved. Closed by prayer by Elder Guy Campbell, then adjourned until the time of our next Association. Signed by:

ELDER W. H. THACKER, Moderator  
BROTHER STEARL HATFIELD, Clerk  
BROTHER J. E. HATFIELD, Ass't. Clerk

The Washington Association meets with the Fletcher Ridge Church at Veina, Buchanan County, Virginia, to begin Friday before the second Sunday in September, 1959.

The Indian Creek Association meets with the Mt. Zion Church at Ronceverte, West Virginia, and to begin Friday before the fourth Sunday in August, 1959.

## EVENING MEETINGS

Friday Evening at Big Creek Church House—Elders M. M. Edwards, Henry Viers, W. B. Pendleton and A. R. Singleton.

At Brother Henry Varney's Home—Elders Marshall McBride, A. L. Neely and Teddy R. Ball.

Saturday Evening at Big Creek Church House—Elders Opie Thacker, Will Inman, Elzie Hite, and Hadley Edwards.

Blackberry (Samaria) Church House—Elders A. L. Neely, Henry Viers, and M. M. Edwards.

At Brother Jim Varney's Home—Elders Dewey Mullins, Vollie Church, E. S. Stevens, and A. R. Singleton.

At Bill Bogar's Home—Elders W. B. Pendleton, E. M. Robertson and J. H. Blackburn.

## SUNDAY MORNING, September 7, 1958.

1. Elder D. C. Stover of Indian Creek Association, no special text.
  2. Elder A. L. Neely of Indian Creek Association, no special text.
  3. Elder Hadley Edwards of Washington Association, text: "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit," etc.
  4. Elder A. R. Singleton of Washington Association, no special text.
- Closed by the Moderator, Elder W. H. Thacker.

## CIRCULAR LETTER

Dear brethren:—It has fallen my unworthy lot to inform you with a Circular Letter, hoping the Lord will direct my mind in such a way that it be pleasing in His sight. For I believe in a God that has all power and does not try anything. He just speaks and it is so, commands and it stands fast. It seems to me that the poor feeble man is most interesting in my mind. The poor mortal man which is the object of God's love. He loved the man so well that He made him in His own image and after His own likeness, He made everything that was made and without Him was not anything made that was made. But man was the only thing He loved so well as to make him in His own image. He put the seed in the ground before it grew, and He put the coal and the oil and the trees and everything else, and I want to say it was put there for the man's benefit while he lives here in this troublesome world. For He tells us in John 14, "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in Me; in My Father's house are many mansions; if we not so, I would have told you; I go to prepare a place for you." This was the man He was talking to, His children who are the objects of His love.

In Ephesians 2:1 it says, "And you hath He quickened who were dead in trespasses and in sin." Remember brethren, it was the man who was dead and the fifth verse says, Even when we were dead in sin hath He quickened us together with Christ; by grace ye are saved.

The sixth verse says, And hath raised us up together and made us, the man, brethren, to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. So brethren, to my understanding that is what Jesus came to save, the man, and He did that, for God has always loved His own. In John 1:12, 13 it says, This is My commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you, the man. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are My friends,

if ye do whatsoever I command you. So dear brethren, to my understanding this poor mortal man has been under consideration all the way down through time, and the same man that sees trouble and sorrow here in this world is the same man that will enjoy heaven and immortal glory. He will be changed from a mortal to an immortal, and that means woman too, and children, for they all must, and shall be changed from a natural body to a spiritual body. Dear brethren, to my understanding we are all sinners by nature here in this world as long as we live but by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ many are killed dead to the love and enjoyment of sin while we live here in this world and if we are killed dead to sin while we live here in this world, we, the man, will be changed from a natural to a spiritual body and be called out of the graves with a spiritual body just like Jesus and be caught up in the air to ever be with Him and see Him as He is, for the writer says, When I (the man brethren), wake with His likeness then I (the man) will be satisfied. So dear brethren, I believe that Jesus came to save sinners and gave His life's blood for His children, the church, and every one that He shed His blood for, He will call them with a holy calling and call them out of the grave with a spiritual body and take them to heaven with Him.

So brethren, I believe that Jesus prepared a resting place for His children and prepared a lake for the devil and his angels and everyone that either place is prepared for shall be there and that forever. So dear brethren I hope the Lord will bless you all to understand what I have tried to get over to you. These are just a few of the things I believe to be the truth.

So brethren, may the Lord bless peace to abound among us in our Association is my prayer. Written by your unworthy brother only in hope of heaven and immortal glory. —ELI ESTEPP

### NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MINISTERS

A. J. Blackburn, Ira, Va.	Fonso Justice, Racoon, Ky., Ph. GE7-6973
W. H. Thacker, McAndrews, Ky.	Hommer Little, McCarr, Ky.
M. C. Slone, Fishtrap, Kentucky	James Earl McIntosh, Hardy Ky.
W. E. Thacker, Millard, Ky.	Green Coleman, Millard, Ky.
Teddy R. Ball, Coleman, Ky.	Monroe Justice, Canada, Ky.
Noah Smith, Coleman, Ky.	Ostil Smith, Canada, Ky.
Joe Thacker, Canada, Ky.	V. V. Justice, Fishtrap, Ky.
John Fuller, Canada, Ky.	Plenna B. Justice, 17540 Madison Ave., Lakewood, O.
Charley Holsinger, Pikeville, Ky.	Guy Campbell, R.2, Pikeville, Ky. GE7-4686
W. H. Prait, Box 2, Kemper, Ky.	Eli Estep, Phelps, Ky.
Lonnie Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky.	Eldon Thacker, Philis, Ky.
W. N. Smith, Kemper, Ky.	Opa Thacker, Cincinnati, Ohio.
J. H. Blackburn, New Town, W. Va.	Wallace Chapman, King, N. C.
Joe Slone, Jr., Fishtrap, Ky.	John I. Smith, Belfry, Ky.
Kit Ratliff, Philis, Ky.	
Dan Adkins, Ph. 3903, Huddy, Ky.	
Frank Wheeler, Stone, Ky. Ph. 3910	
George Hunt, Hardy, Ky.	

### LICENTIATES

Williard Dotson, Redjacket, W. Va. Clark Owens, Pinsonfork, Ky.

<b>Church</b>	<b>Name, Address of Moderator</b>	<b>Communion Meeting</b>
Louisa Church—	Elder W. H. Thacker, McAndrews, Ky.	July 2nd Sat.
Pond Creek—	Elder Teddy R. Ball, Coleman, Ky.	June 2nd Saturday
Big Creek—	Elder Joe Thacker, Canada, Ky.	June, 3rd Saturday
Raccoon—	Elder Fonso Justice, Raccoon, Ky.	June, 4th Saturday
Sulphur Springs—	Elder A. J. Blackburn, Ira, Va.	July, 1st Saturday
Peter Creek—	Elder Teddy R. Ball, Coleman, Ky.	June, 4th Saturday
Little Hope—	Elder W. H. Thacker, McAndrews, Ky.	July, 1st Saturday
Joppa—	Elder Dan Adkins, Huddy, Ky.	June, 1st Saturday
Grapevine—	Elder J. H. Blackburn, New Town, W. Va.	July 3rd Sat.
Samaria—	Elder Teddy R. Ball, Coleman, Ky.	June, 3rd Saturday
John's Creek—	Elder Teddy R. Ball, Coleman, Ky.	July 2nd Saturday
Calvary—	Elder Teddy R. Ball, Coleman, Ky.	June, 1st Saturday
Little Union—	Elder Teddy R. Ball, Coleman, Ky.	May, 1st Saturday

### **DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES**

Louisa—	Bradley Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky.	125
Pond Creek,	F. C. Runyon, Belfry, Ky.	200
Big Creek—	M. B. Blackburn, Canada, Kentucky	125
Raccoon—	Lawrence Morris, Raccoon, Ky.	125
Sulphur Spring—	J. B. May, Kelsey, Va.	75
Peter Creek—	Roland Dotson, Stone, Ky.	125
Little Hope—	Dewey Dotson, Pinsonfork, Ky.	75
Joppa—	Estill Varney, Nolan, W. Va.	75
Grapevine—	Stewart Justice, Fishtrap, Kentucky	50
Samaria—	J. E. Hatfield, McCarr, Ky.	200
John's Creek—	Noah Smith, Jr., Kemper, Ky.	100
Little Union—	Della Blarr, Fedscreek, Ky.	50
Calvary—	Rosco Varney, McAndrews, Kentucky	50

### **DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO CORRESPONDING ASSOCIATIONS**

Washington—	Leland Street, Stacy, Va.	25
Indian Creek—	J. R. Lilly, Box 136, Hinton, W. Va.	25
Union—	J. M. Holbrook, Shelby Gap, Kentucky	25
Fisher's River—	O. W. Sisk, King, N. C.	25
Senter—	W. M. Miller, Clifton, N. C.	25
Rock Spring—	Isaac Caudill, Jr., Box 172, Morehead, Ky.	25
New Liberty—	Thos. D. Robertson, 802 Kanawha Blvd., W. Charleston, W. Va.	25
To the Clerk,	Stearl Hatfield, McCarr, Ky.	75

## OBITUARIES

### NANCY JANE PETERS

It is with sadness that we write this for our beloved friend and neighbor, Nancy Jane "Aunt Nan" Peters. She was born in 1860, was 98 years of age, died June 9, 1959 shortly after the death of her daughter, Elizabeth Justice. She was the daughter of the late Nathaniel Blackburn and Elizabeth Plymale Blackburn. She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Maggie Ray, Detroit, Mich., three sisters, Mrs. Maggie Runyon, Millard, Ky., Mrs. Sarah Kendrick, Phyllis, Ky., Mrs. Carrie Collins, Pikeville, Ky.

We feel that our loss is her eternal gain. Written by her sister,  
—MAGGIE RUNYON

### ELIZABETH "LIZZY" JUSTICE

The obituary of Sister Elizabeth "Lizzie Justice, daughter of the late William Peters and Nancy Jane Blackburn Peters of Millard, Ky. She was born September 20, 1884, and died May 26, 1958. She was married to Hibbard Justice who mourns her passing. She was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church. She is survived by her husband and two sons: Willis Justice, Winchester, Ky., and William S. Justice, Belfry, Ky. One sister, Mrs. Maggie Ray, Detroit, Mich., and a host of friends and relatives. We feel that our loss is her eternal gain. Written by her aunt, Maggie Runyon.

### MRS. MALINDA BALL



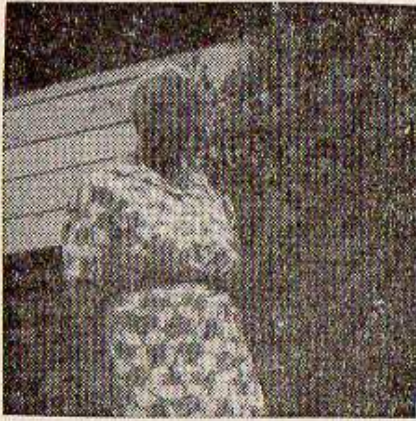
It is with a sad and aching heart that I try to write an obituary of my dear mother, Mrs. Malinda Ball. She was born at Canada, Pike County, Ky., on February 9, 1891, and departed this life January 10, 1958, making her stay on earth 66 years 11 months and one day. She was the daughter of the late Albert Blackburn and Matilda (Smith) Blackburn. She joined the Primitive Baptist Church at Big Creek the third Saturday in August, 1936 and lived a faithful member until her death.

She is survived by her husband Henry Ball, and the following children: Mordecai of Canada, Ky., Gardner of Cleveland, Ohio, Jethie of Highland, Kans., Tremble and Thomas of Mt. Gilead, Ohio, Mrs. Dorothy Arnold of Piney Flat, Tenn., and Mrs. Marie Jones of Ashland, Ohio, and the following brothers and sisters: Olva Blackburn of Helier, Ky., Paris Blackburn of Canada, Ky., Albert Blackburn Jr., of Logan, W. Va., Mrs. Catherine Thacker and Mrs. Celia Thacker of Canada, Ky., and Mrs. Sarah Jane Hunt of Belfry, Ky.

The church has lost a good member and we have lost a good mother, but we feel sure that our loss is her eternal gain.

Written by her son, Mordecai Blackburn.

### MRS. ELLEN JEWELL



It is with great sadness we attempt to write the obituary of Ellen Jewell, 83. She was born February 8, 1865 and departed this life May 28, 1958. She was the daughter of the late Henry and Charlotte Muney Davis. She was married to George Jewell. To this union were born three children. One preceded her in death. She was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church. She united with the church the first Sunday in August, 1954. She was faithful until death. She was baptized by Elders Dan Adkins and

John Fuller. Other survivors include one daughter, Mrs. Sadie Runyon of Murray, Ky., one brother, M. T. Davis of Lovely, Ky., one grandson McKinley Jewell, ten grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren.

Her funeral was preached at her home by Elders John Fuller and Ostel Smith. We feel our loss is her eternal gain.

Written by Elder Ostel Smith.

### THOMAS B. COLLINS



It is with a sad heart and much weakness that we attempt to write an obituary of our dear grandfather, Thomas B. Collins. He was born January 17, 1874, and departed this life November 8, 1955, making his stay on earth 81 years, 9 months, and 21 days. He leaves three children, Mrs. Hester Smith, Jeff Collins and Anthony Collins, two brothers, Jeff Collins, Sr., and Epp Collins, 34 grandchildren and a host of friends to mourn his loss.

Our dear grandfather united with the Primitive Baptist Church August 24, 1946 and lived a faithful member until death. Grandfather never doubted the Lord at any time. He knew God purposed to save His people. He knew that the Father sent His Son to redeem His people. Grandfather's doors were always open to care, love and adore the Old Baptist people. We miss our dear grandfather so much and only trust that our loss is heaven's gain. Written by two grandsons, Reaford and Clifford Collins.

### SARAH SLONE BRANAUM

Sarah Slone Branaum, the daughter of Mitchell and Pricy Slone was born in 1871 and deceased this life in 1957, making her stay on earth 87 years. The writer does not know the date of the month, but early in life she was joined in marriage to Joshua Branaum. To this union were born two sons, Buck Branaum and Joe Branaum, who preceded her in death. Aunt Sarah had a hard time in life. She joined the Primitive Baptist Church. She was ill a long time before she passed away.

I heard her say she had a hope of a better home. We believe our loss is her eternal gain.

Written by yours unworthily,

—M. C. Slone

### **WILL EPP THACKER**

It is with much sadness that we attempt to write the obituary of our brother, Will Epp Thacker. He was born May 24, 1878 and died January 23, 1958 making his stay here on earth 80 years and 1 day. We feel that our loss is his eternal gain. He was a member of Louisa Primitive Baptist Church for many years. He leaves a widow, Mrs. Evie Coleman Thacker, four sons: Miles Thacker, Louisville, Ky., Bill Thacker, Millard, Ky., Ray Thacker, Russell, Ky., Ferrell Thacker, Detroit, Mich., two daughters: Mrs. Stella Chaney, Millard, Ky., Mrs. Laura Slone, Millard Ky., and half-brother, Riley Roleman, Yeager, Ky.

Written by his wife, Evie Coleman Thacker.

### **ELDER A. P. JUSTICE**



It is with a sad and aching heart that I write the obituary of our dear husband and father, Elder A. P. Justice, son of Link and Angeline Williamson Justice.

He was born April 29, 1895, deceased November 8, 1957, making his stay here on earth 62 years, 6 months and 10 days.

In the year 1914, October 1, he was married to Hattie Justice. To this union were born four children. One daughter and three sons. Namely: Tula Justice Coleman, Pikeville, Ky., Bruce and A. E. Justice of Cleveland, Ohio, and

Paul Justice of Titusville, Florida.

Plenna joined the Primitive Baptist Church the first Sunday in September, 1926 and was baptized the second Sunday in September at the Louisa Church. He was called to the ministry the following May, 1927. He served as Clerk and Deacon until January, second Saturday, 1930, at which time he was given care of the church and served as pastor for 27 years. There was no sacrifice he would not make for the cause, and this sad experience has strengthened our faith. So our grief is not without hope. But, I want to say a precious one from us is gone. A voice we loved is still, a place is vacant in our home which never can be filled. Although we feel to bow in humble submission to His will, and remember in our hearts that His will, not our be done.

Written by his wife, Hattie.

### **ELDER W. H. THACKER AND HIS FIRST WIFE**



We were married in 1902 and to this union were born nine children. Two of my children and my wife have preceded me in death. We both joined the Primitive Baptist Church in the year of 1910.

My wife was a faithful member until her death, and I am still here among the Old Baptists. I am Moderator of two churches and have been Moderator of the Mates Creek Association for 23 years.

Written by Elder W. H. Thacker.

## PRICY JANE HATFIELD



Pricy Jane Hatfield was born September 10, 1863, departed this life August, 11, 1958, making her stay on earth 94 years 11 months and one day. She was the daughter of Mose Belcher and Almeda Elswick Belcher. She was married to Leroy Rowe at the age of 19 years. To this union were born 10 children, five preceded her in death, the surviving children are: Cora Lawless, Anna Admons, Clementine Noble, James Rowe and Mont Rowe.

Her first husband preceded her in death fifty-some years ago. Later in life she was married to Jacob Hatfield. They had no children. He preceded her in death 19 years ago. She made her home with me and my wife for 23 years.

Grannie professed a hope in Christ and united with the Primitive Baptist Church at Samaria in 1935, in which she lived faithful until death. She was loved by all who knew her and we feel that living hope that in the gracious resurrection of the people of God that Grannie will come forth from the tomb in a glorified body to meet Jesus in the air to ever be with Him.

May God bless all her children, grandchildren and all who it may concern to bow in humble submission to the will of God.

Written by her step-grandson, Elder Teddy R. Ball.

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## 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 re-

main 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, except they break the Rules of Decorum.

11. Names of the several members of the Association shall be en-

rolled 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. Any member who shall wilfully or knowingly break any of these rules shall be reprovved 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 to Fel.	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Membership	Sat. of Meeting	Contribution
Louisa	Bradley Warrix, Fishtrap, Ky.	4			2		4	3	89	2	\$20.00
Pond Creek	Fairchild Runyon, Belfry, Ky.	5	2		1	1		2	121	2	33.40
Big Creek	M. B. Blackburn, Canada, Ky.	5					1	2	53	3	22.04
Raccoon	Lawrence Morris, Raccoon, Ky.	2				1	1		52	4	20.70
Sulphur Spring	J. B. May, Kelsa, Va.	2							34	1	8.00
Peter Creek	Roland Dotson, Stone, Ky.	2					1	1	95	4	20.35
Little Hope	Dewey Dotson, Pinsonfork, Ky.				1		1		39	1	12.25
Joppa	Estel Varney, Nolan, W. Va.	3						2	13	3	5.00
Grapevine	Stewart Justice, Fishtrap, Ky.	1					1	1	29	3	14.22
Samaria	J. E. Hatfield, McCarr, Ky.	4			2	5		3	147	3	25.00
Little Union	Della Blair, Fedscreek, Ky.	9							14	1	11.56
John's Creek	Noah Smith, Coleman, Ky.	8			1		1		60	2	15.14
Calvary	Roscoe Varney, McAndrews, Ky.				1				8	1	15.00
	Total	45	2		8	7	10	14	754	1	222.66

