

W. C. Crofton
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MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

West Florida Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

DELLWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH.

JACKSON COUNTY, FLA., OCTOBER 18, 19 AND 20, 1884.



LAKE CITY, FLORIDA:
FLORIDA BAPTIST WITNESS PUBLISHING HOUSE.
1885.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call for Petitionary Letters.
2. Invite Visiting Brethren to Seats with us.
3. Call for Correspondents.
4. Appoint Committees on Preaching, Nominations, Publications, Deceased Ministers, Sabbath Schools, Missions, Documents, Temperance and Finance.
5. Arrange for Meeting and Adjourning.
6. Appoint Correspondents.
7. Elect Executive Committee and Treasurer.
8. Elect Delegates to State Convention.
9. Call for reports of Standing Committees: 1st, Executive Committee; 2nd, Missions; 3rd, Finance; 4th, Temperance; 5th, Sabbath Schools.
10. Call for Report of Treasurer.
11. Call for Report on Documents.
12. Call for Report on Publications.
13. Call for Report on Deceased Ministers.
14. Call for Report on Nominations.
15. Appoint General Meetings.
16. Appoint Time and Place for Next Meeting.
17. Read and Adopt the Minutes.
18. Adjournment.

OFFICERS.

ELDER T. E. LANGLEY, Moderator.....Greenwood, Fla.
WILLIAM M. FARRIOR, Clerk.....Campbellton, Fla.
W. J. DANIEL, Treasurer.....Marianna, Fla.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1884-5.

W. J. DANIEL, JAMES GODWIN, A. BEVIS, H. SEWELL, E. N. DEKLE.

3

MINUTES.

DELLWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH, JACKSON COUNTY, FLA., }
SATURDAY MORNING, October 18, 1884. }

The WEST FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION convened with Dellwood Baptist Church, Jackson county, Fla., in its thirty-eighth annual session. Pursuant to appointment, the Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder John White. Subject: "Conversion and baptism, of the jailer."—Acts xvi. 30.

Refreshments were prepared on the grounds by the friends, and all were invited to partake thereof. One and a half hour's intermission was granted.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

At 2 o'clock the messengers assembled, and were called to order by T. E. Langley, the former Moderator.

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Moderator.

The letters from the various churches were handed in, and, by request, were read by A. P. Ashurst, D. A. Skipper, and R. D. Burrows.

Delegates were enrolled as follows:

Antioch—Thomas Parish, B. H. Franklin.

Bethlehem—M. R. Shours.

Bethesda—Stephen Franklin, John Pope.

Cedar Pond—Frank Bazzell, T. B. Boon.

Campbellton—W. M. Farrior.

Chipola Lake—N. L. Connell, E. Z. Taylor.

Circle Hill—W. L. Shepherd.

Damascus—M. H. K. York, Thomas J. Crutchfield.

Dellwood—L. C. Messer, Z. Hamilton, G. W. Messer, Henry Green.

Ebenezer—A. F. Register.

Econfina—J. E. Nixon.

Ephesus—Not represented.

Friendship—H. Sewell, J. Lynn, J. M. Stephens.

Greenwood—N. B. Long, J. H. Stephens, J. W. Godwin.

Grassy Point—J. J. Pynes.

Hickory Level—A. Pumphrey, S. Pumphrey.

Marianna—W. J. Daniel.

Mount Olive—S. O. Bryan.

Magnolia—Z. T. Messer.

Memphis—Ira Pitts.

Orange Hill—E. D. Nelson, George Sowell.

Providence—Z. Johnson, M. Dykes, J. C. Boykin.

Piney Grove—John Nelson, Thomas Creamer.

Pilgrim's Rest—C. C. Shoupe, R. Harris.

Poplar Springs—J. R. Dykes, G. Dykes, James Connell.

Rocky Grove—W. H. Dykes, Z. T. Pelt, J. Y. Folsom.

Sardis—C. K. David.

Unity—Robert C. Crofton, John A. Raley.

After enrollment of the messengers, the following officers were elected by ballot, to-wit:

T. E. LANGLEY, Moderator; W. M. FARRIOR, Clerk.

Called for petitionary letters. Received one from Memphis, asking a letter of dismission; also, Piney Grove and Unity, desiring to unite with this body.

Called for visiting brethren. A. P. Ashurst, from Lake City, editor of *Florida Baptist Witness*; Alexander Ward, and W. B. Stuart, from S. W. Association, responded, and were invited to seats with us.

Called for correspondents from Associations. Judson, Daniel Williams; S. W., M. F. Burk; Florida, S. J. Revell.

The Moderator announced the appointment of committees to report at this session, as follows:

On Religious Exercises—A. Bevis, Z. Johnson, and delegates of Dellwood Church.

On Missions—J. J. White, W. J. Daniel, J. W. Godwin.

On Documents—John Stuart, A. Pumphrey, Daniel Player.

On Finance—E. Z. Taylor, J. D. Watts, J. R. Dykes.

On Sabbath Schools—J. W. Stephens, J. S. White, R. Harris.

On Deceased Ministers—D. A. Skipper, Thomas Creamer, E. D. Nelson.

On Nominations—W. H. Dykes, M. R. Shours, Thomas Parish.

On Temperance—J. T. Allen, Z. T. Messer, J. E. Nixon.

On Publication—N. L. Connell, W. M. Farring, J. C. Boykin.

The Committee on Religious Exercises reported as follows: S. J. Revell, at night; T. E. Langley, Sunday at 11 o'clock; W. B. Stuart, 2 o'clock; M. F. Burk, at night; A. P. Ashurst, 11 o'clock Monday.

Adjourned until Monday, 9:30 A. M.

MONDAY MORNING—9:30 A. M.

Devotional exercises conducted by the Moderator. Prayer by M. F. Burk.

Correspondents returned as follows:

Newton—M. H. K. York, T. E. Langley.

Judson—D. A. Skipper, R. D. Burrows, Joseph Lynn, J. J. White, Robert Harris, T. E. Langley.

South-Western—J. S. White, R. D. Burrows, J. T. Allen, John Stuart, James Connell, A. Bevis, W. A. Boone.

Sandy Creek—D. A. Skipper, W. M. Farring.

The following resolution was adopted, to-wit:

Resolved, That an Executive Committee be elected.

By acclamation, the following were elected: J. W. Daniel, James Godwin, A. Bevis, H. Sewell, E. N. Dekle.

Resolved, That this body delegate Rev. T. E. Langley to the Baptist State Convention, and his expenses defrayed.

Appointment of General Meetings on fifth Sundays:

First—To be held with Sardis Church.

Second—The W. F. B. S. S. Convention meets, with Campbellton Church.

Third—To be held with Damascus Church.

Report on Documents read and adopted, to-wit:

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

1. That the body meet with Rocky Grove at its next session.
2. That the time of meeting be changed to Wednesday before the third Sunday in October.
3. That a letter of dismission be granted to Memphis Church.

JOHN STUART.

Report of Missionary T. E. Langley was heard and adopted.

Resolved, That it is the duty of pastors to encourage their churches to take up monthly collections.

Report of Executive Committee and Treasurer was read and adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Appropriated for use of Baptist State Convention.....	\$50 00
Appropriated for printing minutes.....	20 00
Appropriated for Clerk's pay.....	15 00
Payed Brother T. E. Langley for services during last Associational year.....	54 00
Payed Brother Stuart for Missionary services for present Associational year.....	73 75
By amount turned over to me by last Association, \$212 75.	
	<u>\$212 75</u>

Respectfully submitted.

W. J. DANIEL, Treasurer.

The following resolutions were adopted, to-wit:

Resolved, That the Clerk be paid \$15.00 for his services, and \$30.60 for printing minutes.

Resolved, That the Association send up the remaining funds to the Baptist State Convention, together with \$17.00 of the L. M. S. of Campbellton.

Report on Missions was read and adopted, to-wit:

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions feel, to some extent, under great embarrassment in regard to the best and most forcible manner in which to present this all-important subject. But we bear in mind the phrase so often quoted, "Faithfulness becomes the house of God." If we are a part of his family, and also his friends, let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. We feel willing to renew our efforts to urge the brethren to be more diligent in their performance of the great and important duty of giving to the cause of Missions. When the Master departed from this world he left us his will, with many great and precious promises. His will was, that his kingdom should be built up in this world; that the gospel of salvation be preached among all nations. Now, brethren, we think the best way to get all of our churches willing to give to the Master's cause, is for pastors and deacons to teach their people the scriptures on this important subject, for we are commanded to declare the whole councils of God. I have not, till lately, thought of my own neglect of duty in this respect. When we fail to teach our church members what the word of God declares in reference to paying out money for the support of the gospel, we are robbing him who said, "Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you." We are called to contribute to the Home and Foreign Missions. The people of all Christian countries agree with that word which says, "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God." The question for us to answer is, "How shall they hear without a preacher, and how shall they preach except they be sent?"

J. J. WHITE, *Chairman*.

Report of Missionary read and adopted, to-wit:

REPORT OF MISSIONARY.

I beg leave to report the amount of Missionary work that I have done this year. I have preached 39 sermons, except preaching at Econfina three times. I visited as many families as I possibly could; also, conversed and prayed with some others. Baptized one. The prospect was very good to have constituted one, and perhaps two churches, but was disappointed in my expectations, owing to inability on my part. They spoke of sending some funds to help this body to send them some one to preach another year, but as I failed to meet that appointment I do not know what they done in regard to the matter.

Brethren, I deem it unnecessary to say any more in that direction. I consider I traveled 500 miles on that work, and received \$73.75 for the same. I do not feel that I have done what I wanted to, and shall go once more.

Yours respectfully,

JOHN STUART.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your Committee on Deceased Ministers beg leave to report the following: Noticing the reading of the church letters, we are glad to report there has been no death of any minister of this Association during the past year. We feel very thankful to the Lord for his preserving care; and it brings to our mind the injunction of the Saviour, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he may send forth more laborers into his vineyard, for the harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are few." We have some ministers who are growing old and infirm, and may soon enter into their rest.

D. SKIPPER, *Chairman*.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to make the following report: We are sorry to say that we find mentioned in your letters but two Sabbath Schools in operation. We are informed that there are other Schools in our bounds not reported in our letters, some of which are fine Schools, and doing good work; though there are many churches that have none at all. We feel the great importance of this work, and hope that the brethren of every church will take the matter into consideration. We have seen and felt the good that has resulted from them. It is through their means that our children are early taught lessons of piety, and often impressions are made that lead them to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ. Thus it becomes a means of grace. It costs but very little money, yet it is a means of great instruction to the teachers as well as the children. To labor in a Sabbath School is an embarrassing work; but while this is true, it is, to the earnest laborer, a sweet and instructive work. May God bless the work now going on, and we earnestly pray that he may put it in the hearts of all to labor in that cause.

J. M. STEVENS, *Chairman*.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We, the Committee on Temperance, beg leave to make the following report: We feel that Intemperance is a great evil, and we are glad to say that it is something uncommon in our churches; yet there is more of it, on a small scale, than we would imagine. Brethren go into bar-rooms and take their drams. This is very wrong. The brother is not drunk, but he has meddled with the fell destroyer, and thereby laid an example to those who may have no restraint thrown around them. This is wrong, and ministers should lecture more frequently upon it. Brethren, it is a growing evil. While we stand aloof from it we are out of danger, but as soon as we take the first drink, we are subject to be drunk. May God save us from the evil for Christ's sake.

J. T. ALLEN, *Chairman*.

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

Your Committee on Publications feel thankful that the expectation of Florida Baptists have been realized, and that we now have an organ of the Baptist faith published in our own State, *The Florida Baptist Witness*. We do most heartily endorse it, and recommend that our brethren generally take it, and thus give their families the advantage enjoyed by so many of our brethren in other States. The subscription price for one year is \$2.00. It is published at Lake City, by A. P. Ashurst & Co. We recommend for our Sunday Schools *Kind Words' Lesson Papers*, and the Lesson Papers of the American Baptist Publication Society.

Report on Nominations was read and adopted, to-wit:

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Your Committee beg leave to report that Rev. D. A. Skipper preach the Introductory Sermon at the next session.

M. R. SHORES, *Chairman.*

The following resolution was offered, to-wit:

Resolved, That this body return their sincere thanks to the good people of Dellwood Church and vicinity for their kindness and hospitality to us during our stay among them.

The Moderator made a few parting remarks, and during the singing the delegates gave each other the parting hand.

Upon motion, the Association then adjourned (having held its most interesting and prosperous session) to meet with Rocky Grove Church, Jackson county, Fla., on Wednesday before the third Sabbath in October, 1885.

T. E. LANGLEY, *Moderator.*

W. M. FARRIOR, *Clerk.*

ORDAINED MINISTERS IN THE BOUNDS OF THE
ASSOCIATION.

John Stuart.....	Marianna, Fla.
J. W. Johnson.....	Graceville, Fla.
J. J. White.....	Girard, Ala.
D. A. Skipper.....	Marianna, Fla.
R. D. Burrows.....	Greenwood, Fla.
W. D. Simpson.....	Ocheesee, Fla.
T. E. Langley.....	Greenwood, Fla.
W. S. Musgrove.....	Ocheesee, Fla.
David Summerlin.....	Chipley, Fla.
R. Harris.....	Campbellton, Fla.
J. T. Allen.....	Dellwood, Fla.
R. C. B. Lawrence.....	Marianna, Fla.

LICENSED MINISTERS IN THE BOUNDS OF THE
ASSOCIATION.

John Harper.....	Chipola, Fla.
Lewis Daniels.....	Haywood's Landing, Fla.
W. A. Bryant.....	St. Andrew's Bay, Fla.
James Nixon.....	Econfina, Fla.
E. D. Nelson.....	Chipley, Fla.
Joseph Mills.....	Dothan, Ala.
W. M. Farrior.....	Campbellton, Fla.

Third Sunday School Convention

OF THE

WEST FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

FRIENDSHIP CHURCH, June 28, 1884—Saturday, 11 A. M.

Preaching by R. C. B. Lawrence. Dinner was prepared on the grounds, and all were invited to partake.

SATURDAY—2 P. M.

The Convention was opened with devotional exercises by T. E. Langley. T. E. Langley was elected Chairman, and R. D. Burrows, Secretary. Only two Schools reported—Friendship and Campbellton.

An Essay was read on the topic, "Who is Responsible for the Sunday School Cause in Our Association," by J. M. Stephens, and discussed by Brethren A. Bevis, Littleton Dekle, R. D. Burrows.

Adjourned.

SUNDAY—11 A. M.

Preaching by T. E. Langley.

PROGRAMME FOR NEXT MEETING.

Saturday, 11 A. M.—Preaching by J. J. White.

Essay by J. D. Farrior: "What can I do for the S. S. Cause?"

"What means can we use to induce the whole church to work in the Sunday School?" by T. E. Langley.

"Requisites of successful teaching," by J. M. Stephens.

Sunday, 9:30 A. M.—Sunday School exercises illustrated on black-board, by R. D. Burrows.

11:00 A. M.—Preaching by T. E. Langley.

2:00 P. M.—Singing by the children, led by J. M. Stephens.

Essay, "How to teach," by W. M. Farrior.

Adjourned, to meet with Campbellton Church the second 5th Sunday, on Saturday before.

T. E. LANGLEY, *Chairman.*

RUFUS D. BURROWS, *Secretary.*

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STATISTICAL

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE.
Antioch	S. J. Revell.....	B. H. Franklin.....	Blount Town.....
Bethlehem	D. A. Skipper.....	John Harper.....	Cottondale.....
Bethesda	J. W. Johnson.....	J. M. Davis.....	Dundee, Ala.....
Cedar Pond.....	.....	W. H. Pyke.....	Neal's Landing.....
Campbellton	T. E. Langley.....	W. M. Farrior.....	Campbellton.....
Chipola Lake.....	T. E. Langley.....	N. L. Connell.....	Wewahitchka.....
Circle Hill.....	J. T. Allen.....	W. L. Shepherd.....	Dellwood.....
Damascus.....	Robert Harris.....	T. J. Parker.....	Graceville.....
Dellwood.....	R. C. B. Lawrence.....	L. C. Messer.....	Dellwood.....
Ebenezer.....	D. A. Skipper.....	A. F. Register.....	Vernon.....
Econfina.....	J. E. Nixon.....	W. P. Gainer.....	Econfina.....
Ephesus.....	J. W. Johnson.....	J. M. Christmas.....	Campellton.....
Friendship.....	R. D. Burrows.....	J. M. Stephens.....	Greenwood.....
Greenwood.....	T. E. Langley.....	T. L. Alsobrook.....	Greenwood.....
Grassy Point.....	E. D. Nelson.....	J. J. Pynes.....	St. Andrew's Bay.....
Hickory Level.....	John Stuart.....	S. Pumphrey.....	Marianna.....
Marianna.....	T. E. Langley.....	W. J. Daniel.....	Marianna.....
Mount Olive.....	.....	.....	Ocheese.....
Magnolia.....	.....	Z. T. Messer.....	Chipola.....
Memphis.....	J. J. White.....	Thos Butler.....	Garrard.....
Orange Hill.....	Robert Harris.....	R. M. Peel.....	Orange Hill.....
Providence.....	W. D. Simpson.....	Moses Dykes.....	Ocheese.....
Piny Grove.....	D. A. Skipper.....	Benjamin Russ.....	Marianna.....
Pilgrims' Rest.....	D. A. Skipper.....	C. C. Shouppe.....	Cottondale.....
Foplar Springs.....	R. C. B. Lawrence.....	J. R. Dykes.....	Marianna.....
Rocky Grove.....	.....	W. H. Dykes.....	Marianna.....
Sardis.....	W. D. Simpson.....	J. A. Hoover.....	Ocheese.....
Unity.....	Thos. S. Scott.....	John H. Raley.....	Caryville.....

TABLE.

MESSENGERS.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.		Died.	Dismissed by Letter.		Total.
		Restored.	Excluded.				
Thos. Parish, B. H. Franklin.....	.....	2	.....	2	.....	2	22
M. R. Shours.....	5	1	3	3	11	.....	73
Stephen Franklin, John Pope.....	1	2	.....	.....	1	1	42
Frank Bazzell, T. B. Boon.....	.....	1	.....	1	2	1	47
W. M. Farrior.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	47
N. L. Connell, E. Z. Taylor.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
W. L. Shepherd.....	.....	1	.....	.....	4	.....	11
M. H. K. York, Thomas J. Crutchfield.....	4	4	.....	1	.....	1	80
(L. C. Messer, Z. Hamilton, G. W. Messer,) (Henry Green..... )	.....	1	.....	1	3	3	50
A. F. Register.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	36
J. E. Nixon.....	1	.....	2	.....	2	.....	37
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
H. Sewell, J. Lynn, J. M. Stephens.....	8	1	2	.....	2	3	71
N. B. Long, J. H. Stephens, J. W. Godwin.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1	.....	38
J. J. Pynes.....	.....	.....	3	.....	2	.....	18
A. Pumphrey, S. Pumphrey.....	9	.....	2	.....	3	.....	31
W. J. Daniel.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
S. O. Bryan.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Z. T. Messer.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
Ira Pitts.....	1	9	.....	.....	1	.....	53
E. D. Nelson, George Sowell.....	2	1	.....	.....	6	2	40
Z. Johnson, M. Dykes, J. C. Boykin.....	.....	2	1	.....	3	1	42
John Nelson, Thomas Creamer.....	5	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	34
C. C. Shouppe, R. Harris.....	.....	3	2	.....	4	4	30
J. R. Dykes, G. Dykes, James Connell.....	8	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	33
W. H. Dykes, Z. T. Pelt, J. Y. Folsome.....	.....	1	.....	2	3	3	40
C. K. David.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	49
Robert C. Crofton, John A. Raley.....	7	.....	.....	.....	2	3	23
Total.....	51	41	18	16	49	26	1025

FINANCE REPORT.

Report of Finance Committee was read and adopted, to wit:

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES. †	Minutes.	Associational Missions.	Home Missions.
Antioch	Calhoun, Fla.....	\$ 1 00	\$	\$
Bethlehem.....	Jackson	1 00	2 00	4 00
Bethesda.....	Dundee, Ala.....	1 00	1 00	.....
Cedar Pond.....	Jackson	1 50	3 00	.....
Campbellton.....	Jackson	2 00	.....	43 00
Chipola Lake.....	Calhoun	60	.....	7 50
Circle Hill.....	Jackson	1 00	.....	.....
Damascus.....	Jackson	1 50	1 00	3 50
Dellwood.....	Jackson	2 00	.....	.....
Ebenezer.....	Washington.....	1 50	5 75	.....
Econfinia.....	Washington.....	1 00	1 00	2 50
Ephesus *.....	Jackson .....	.....	.....	.....
Friendship.....	Jackson	2 00	2 00	28 45
Greenwood.....	Jackson	2 00	2 00	5 75
Grassy Point.....	Washington.....	50	50	1 25
Hickory Level.....	Jackson	25	50	3 25
Marianna.....	Jackson	2 00	1 00	16 00
Mount Olive.....	Calhoun	50	1 00	.....
Magnolia.....	Washington.....	75	75	.....
Memphis.....	Garrard Ala.....	1 00	1 75	.....
Orange Hill.....	Jackson	75	50	50
Providence.....	Jackson	2 00	85	2 00
Piny Grove.....	Jackson	1 00	.....	2 00
Pilgrims' Rest.....	Jackson	50	1 00	1 50
Poplar Springs.....	Jackson	1 50	.....	1 25
Rocky Grove.....	Jackson	75	75	.....
Sardis.....	Jackson	1 00	2 00	.....
Unity.....	Washington.....	1 00	.....	50
L. M. S. at Campbellton.....	.....	.....	.....	17 00
Collected on Sabbath.....	.....	.....	.....	7 95
* Not represented.	Total.....	\$30 60	\$29 35	\$146 30

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH LYNN, *Chairman.*

DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1. Those members who are regularly chosen by the churches in our union shall compose the Association.

ART 2. The members so chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with their number in fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead, since the last Association; also, a statement of the amount of funds sent up by the delegates, and for what purpose, and any other contribution made during the year.

3. The members thus chosen and convened shall be denominated the WEST FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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

5. This Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor by which she can infringe upon any of the internal rights of the churches.

6. If newly constituted churches, or others, desire to be admitted into this union, they shall petition by letter and delegates; and if found, upon examination, to be orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association, and such reception shall be manifested by the Moderator giving to the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

7. Each church in this Association shall be entitled to two delegates, and when her number of members shall reach twenty-five she shall be entitled to three, and for every additional increase of twenty-five members she shall be entitled to an additional delegate.

8. Every query sent to the Association by any of the churches in this union, shall be read, and put to a vote by the Moderator whether it shall be discussed; and if there be a majority for discussion, it shall be taken up and considered; if not, it shall be withdrawn: Provided, always, those be first considered which affect the union of the Church.

9. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it. The last motion shall be first in order.

10. Every person who speaks in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted while speaking, except he depart from the subject.

11. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject, without permission from the Association.

12. There shall be no talking or whispering in time of public speech, nor shall any reflection be cast upon the speaker.

13. No member shall absent himself from the Association without first obtaining permission from the body, or Moderator; and the Moderator shall only have power to act while the body is not in session. The Association is not considered closed until after the farewell sermon is preached.

14. If any member shall break the rules of this Constitution he shall be immediately reproved by the Moderator.

15. It is the business of the Association, 1st, to provide for the general union of the churches; 2d, to keep up a correspondence with Associations of the same faith and order, that the chain of communication may be preserved among the churches; 3d, to give the churches the best advice in matters of

difficulty, and if the communion between any of the sister churches be broken, to inquire into the cause of the breach and use the best means to remove the difficulty, but if the breach cannot be made up, to withdraw from any church whom they shall look upon as unsound in principle or disorderly in practice, until she be excommunicated; 4th, to admit any of the brethren in the ministry as assistants, if they shall deem it to be necessary; 5th, to appoint a Clerk to keep the records of every meeting of the Association, and to see that he is properly remunerated for his services; 6th, to have the Minutes read and corrected, if need be, before the Association rises, and have them printed if they think proper; 7th, to amend this plan of government at any time when a majority of the Association shall deem it necessary; 8th, to adjourn to any time or place considered most proper.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1. We believe in one true and living God, and that there is a Trinity of Persons in the Godhead—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and yet there are not three Gods but one God.—Mark xii. 32; Mat. iii. 16, 17; xxiii. 19; 1 Tim. i. 2, 5; Exod. xx. 1, 3; John i. 1, 4; v. 23; x. 30.

ART. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and that they are the only rules of faith and practice.—2 Tim. iii. 16, 17; 2 Pet. i. 21; 2 Sam. xxiii. 2; Rev. xxii. 18, 19.

ART. 3. We believe in the fall of Adam; and the imputation of his sin to his posterity; in the corruption of human nature, and the impotency of man to recover himself by his own free will and ability.—Isa. i. 5, 6; Psa. xiv. i, 3; Rom. v. 12; John vi. 44; 1 Cor. xv. 20, 1; Job xiv. 57; Eph. ii. 8, 10.

ART. 4. We believe in the everlasting love of God to his people and the eternal election of a definite number of the human race to grace and glory; and that there was a covenant of grace of redemption made between the Father and the Son before the world began, in which their salvation is secure, and they in particular are redeemed.—Jer. xxi. 3; John xv. 16, 17; Isa. xl. 8, 9; Eph. i. 4, 5, 11; Acts xiii. 48; 2 Thess. ii. 13; 1 Pet. i. 2; Rom. viii. 29, 30; Rom. ix. 11, 12, 23; xi. 4, 7; 2 Tim. ii. 9.

ART. 5. We believe that sinners, are justified in the sight of God only by the righteousness of Christ imputed to them.—Rom. iii. 21, 5, 56; Psa. xlv; John x. 9, 15; Rom. v. 1, 10; 1 Cor. i. 30.

ART. 6. We believe that all those who are chosen of God in Christ, will be effectually called, regenerated, sanctified, and supported by the Spirit and power of God, so that they shall persevere in Grace, and not one of them be finally lost.—John x. 29, 30; vi. 37; Phil. i. 6; 1 Peter. i. 3, 9; Heb. vi. 16, 20; John xvii. 2, 3; 2 Tim. i. 9, 10; Tit. iv. 4, 7; Eph. ii. 45; Rom. viii. 28, 31.

ART. 7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith; that they follow after justification, and that they only justify us in the sight of men, and are only evidences of our christianity.—Eph. ii. 10; James ii. 13; iii. 13; 1 Pet. ii. 3, 5; Mat. v. 16.

ART. 8. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead, and a General Judgment; and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of

the wicked, will be eternal.—Mark xii. 24, 27; 2 Cor. v. 10; 1 Cor. xv. 12, 29; Acts xvii. 31; Mat. xxv. 46; John v. 28, 29; Thess. i. 7, 10.

ART. 9. We believe that the Church of Christ is a visible congregation of baptized believers, who have gained christian fellowship with each other; and that immersion is the only scriptural mode of baptism.—Rom. vi.

ART. 10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great Head of his Church, and only Lawgiver, and that the government is with the body, and is the privilege of each individual; and that the discipline of the church is intended for the reclamation of those christians who may be disorderly either in principle or practice, and must be faithfully kept up for God's glory and the peace and unity of the Church.

ART. 11. We believe that Water Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Lord, and are to be continued until his second coming.

ART. 12. We believe that none but those regularly baptized and who are in fellowship with the church, have a right to commune at the Lord's Table.