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MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTY FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

FLAT RIVER

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE

NEW BETHEL CHURCH, WAKE COUNTY, N. C.

August, 12th, 11th, 1854.

METROPOLITAN, Print:
Raleigh, N. C.

PROCEEDINGS.

NEW BETHEL, *Wake County, N. C.,* }
Friday, August 12th, 1854. }

The Flat River Association met according to adjournment. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder John E. Montague from 1 Tim. 3: 15. "Which is the church of the living God," &c.

After a short intermission the members again assembled for business, and the Association was called to order by the Moderator—singing and prayer conducted by Elder J. J. James.

The letters from the churches were called for and read.

The Association then proceeded to organize by the election of officers for the ensuing year—when Elder, E. Hester was chosen Moderator and R. I. Devin, Clerk.

A petition from the newly constituted church at Sandy Level, Wake County, asking admittance into the Association, was read, and on motion, it was unanimously received; the Moderator then extended the right hand of fellowship to the delegates, and invited them to seats.

Corresponding messengers from sister Associations were invited to take seats with us, and participate in our deliberations, when Elder J. J. James from Beulah, brethren John Robertson, J. Winston and J. S. Purify from Raleigh, G. Lewis and C. J. Egerton from Tar River, and T. S. Yarbrough from Sandy Creek, appeared and took seats.

Visiting brethren in the ministry were then invited to seats—whereupon J. C. Marcum, Wm. M. Wingate, T. H. Prichard, and J. W. F. Rogers, accepted the invitation.

On motion, brethren G. W. Thompson, J. C. Bumpass, and Thomas Hester, were appointed a committee of Finance.

On motion, appointed brethren W. A. Atkinson, G. W. Thompson N. E. Cannady and C. J. Rogers, a committee to arrange the religious services during the sitting of the Association.

On motion, appointed J. E. Montague, W. A. Atkinson, and B. D. Rogers with the Moderator and clerk, a committee of arrangements.

On motion, committees on the following subjects were appointed to report during the sitting of the Association:

HOME MISSIONS.—N. E. Cannady and B. D. Rogers,
FOREIGN MISSIONS.—J. C. Bumpass and Elijah Meadows,
EDUCATION.—G. W. Thompson and H. Thompson,
BIBLE SOCIETY.—C. J. Rogers and Wm. Currin,
TEMPERANCE.—J. E. Montague and A. Clay,
PERIODICALS.—Alex. Jones and J. M. Howell,
SABBATH SCHOOLS.—W. A. Atkinson and J. Peed,
THE STATE OF RELIGION within the bounds of the Flat River Association—
J. J. James, J. E. Montague and R. I. Devin.

The committee of Finance reported that they had received from the churches \$30,52 1-2, and on motion, the report was adopted, and the committee discharged.

The Treasurer, made his report, and, on motion, it was adopted.

On motion, the Association adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Singing and prayer conducted by brother Montague.

SATURDAY, August 12.

The Association met according to adjournment. Prayer by brother Wm. E. Oakley.

Proceedings of Friday read. Roll called.

On motion, the committee of arrangements was called on to report, which report was received and adopted.

Correspondents to sister Associations were called on to report—Elder J. E. Montague and brother D. A. Harris attended Dan River Association, Elder A. Jones and B. Borroughs, Beulah, Elder J. E. Montague, Raleigh.

Proceeded to appoint correspondents to adjoining Associations as follows,
To Sandy Creek Association, Wm. Duskin, B. J. Hackney and B. D. Rogers.

To Tar River—G. W. Thompson, J. G. Norwood, W. W. Dement.

To Raleigh—W. A. Atkinson, C. J. Rogers, Wm. E. Oakley, Jas. King and J. C. Montague.

To Beulah, R. I. Devin, J. E. Montague, D. A. Harris and Wm. H. Lawson.

A report on Home Missions was read by brother N. E. Cannady, and after remarks by J. S. Purify, E. Dalby, N. E. Cannady, R. I. Devin, G. W. Thompson, J. J. James, and T. S. Yarbrough, on motion, the Association then took a recess of thirty minutes.

The Association came together, and on motion, the report on Home Missions, was laid on the table to be called up again.

A report on Foreign Missions was read by brother J. C. Bumpass, and after remarks by brother J. J. James, it was adopted.

On motion, permission was given to Rev. T. H. Prichard to address this body as Agent of Wake Forest College; after an interesting address respecting the endowment of the College, he was followed by Prof. Wm. M. Wingate. G. W. Thompson, J. J. James and Jas. S. Purify with appropriate remarks. A Scholarship was then taken in the name of the Flat River Association.

On motion, the report on Home Missions was called up, and, after considerable discussion it was laid on the table till Monday morning.

On motion, Rev. T. S. Yarbrough, general Agent of the Convention was requested to explain the objects of the Convention and take up a collection for the same, after delivering the Missionary sermon to-morrow.

On motion, the Association adjourned to meet Monday morning 9 o'clock. Prayer by brother Wm. M. Wingate.

SABBATH, August 13, 1854.

Elder Wm. M. Wingate commenced the services of the day with a sermon from 2 Cor. 5: 20. "We pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God."

Elder R. I. Devin, according to appointment, followed and preached the Conventional sermon from 1 Cor 1: 21. A collection was then taken up amounting to \$41,58 for the convention.

After an hour's intermission, Elder J. J. James delivered a sermon from Hosea 10: 12.

MONDAY MORNING, August 14, 1854.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment—Prayer by brother James. Minutes of Saturday read.

In the absence of Elder E. Hester, Moderator, who was providentially called away, on motion of the clerk, brother G. W. Thompson was unanimously requested to take the chair and act as Moderator during the remainder of the session.

On motion, the report on Home Missions was called up, and adopted. The following is the report.

Resolved, That we deem it expedient to procure the services of an efficient Missionary and Colporteur to travel within the bounds of the Flat River Association during the ensuing year.

N. E. CANNADY, ch'

On motion, the clerk was requested to call over the list of the churches, and let the delegates present, pledge the churches or themselves as to the amount they would raise to employ a Missionary colporteur to labor in this Association. When, it was ascertained that a sufficient amount could be raised for that purpose, the Association proceeded to take steps to accomplish the object.

On motion, the following brethren, N. E. Cannady, Edward Dalby, C. J. Rogers, J. C. Bumpass and J. O'Brian, were appointed a committee on the subject of recommending and employing a missionary and colporteur. After retiring for a short time they reported the following, which was adopted:—

The committee on the subject of employing the services of a domestic Missionary and Colporteur to travel in the bounds of this Association respectfully recommend that brother James W. F. Rogers be employed to labor in the bounds of the Flat River Association for twelve months, and that this Association pledge themselves to pay him \$150, with the amount of profits, he may make by the sale of religious books, or be paid in that proportion for the time his services may be obtained.

N. E. CANNADY, ch.

Rev. Lewis Dupree of South Carolina was introduced to the Association and invited to a seat.

On motion the following brethren, R. I. Devin, G. W. Thompson, T. T. Grandy, Edward Dalby and N. E. Cannady were appointed an executive committee to superintend the Missionary and Colportage interests connected with this body, and also to take charge of the scholarship in Wake Forest College, which was taken by the Association.

The report on education was read by brother G. W. Tompson, and after remarks by brother T. H. Prichard, Agent of W. F. College, and brethren Norris and James, it was adopted.

Rev. C. J. Rogers from the committee on the Bible Society read the following preamble and resolution which was unanimously adopted.

The Bible being the Bread of Life, should be distributed throughout the earth; therefore,

Resolved, That this Association recommend to each church composing this body to use their influence in sending the word of God to the destitute.

Elder J. E. Montague read a report on Temperance, which on motion, was unanimously adopted.

Brother Alex. Jones from the com., on Periodicals offered the following resolution.

Resolved, That we heartily recommend the Biblical Recorder, and the Home and Foreign Journal to the liberal support of this Association. After remarks by brethren Purify, James, Devin, Norris, and Thompson, it was adopted.

Elder W. A. Atkinson read a report on Sabbath Schools, which, on motion was unanimously adopted.

On motion the Association took a recess of thirty minutes. The members of the Association came together and proceeded to business. Bro. John E. Montague offered the following resolution, and after remarks by various brethren it was unanimously received and adopted.

Resolved, That this association recommend Oxford Female College to the support and patronage of our denomination and the public generally.

On motion, the Association decided to hold its next session with Mt. Moriah church, Orange County, N. C., to commence on Friday before the second Sabbath in August, 1855, Elder R. I. Devin to preach the Introductory sermon, and Elder Samuel Wait, D. D., the Conventional sermon on Sabbath.

On motion, appointed E. Hester, G. W. Thompson Z. M. P. Downy, B. D. Rogers and C. Burroughs, delegates to the next Baptist State Convention.

On motion, the clerk was directed to have 800 copies of these minutes printed, and distributed among the churches and be allowed \$10 for his services.

On motion,
Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to the brethren and friends of this neighborhood, for the very kind and hospitable manner in which its members have been entertained during the session.

Treasurer's Report.

Balance in hand		\$9,80
Rec'd from Finance com. 1853	29,09	\$38,89
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Printing Minutes,	\$25,00	
Clerk's fees,	10,00	
Postage,	24	\$35,24

Balance in hand, \$3,65
Having gone through with all the business, on motion, the Association adjourned to meet again at the time and place above mentioned.

After uniting in singing a hymn and prayer, the Association closed a pleasant and profitable session.

G. W. THOMPSON, *Moderator pro tem.*

R. I. DEVIN, *Clerk.*

List of Ordained Ministers and their Post-Offices.

W. A. Atkinson,	Roger's Store,	Wake county.
Samuel Duty,	Oxford,	Granville county.
R. I. Devin,	Oxford,	"
E. Hester,	Dutchville,	"
James King,	Blue Wing,	"
J. E. Montague,	Young's X Roads,	"
Wm. E. Oakley,	Berea,	"
J. P. Montague,	Beaufort	Granville N. C.

Report on Sabbath Schools.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of Sabbath Schools beg leave to report, that they have had the same under consideration, and regret to find so much indifference upon this subject, only a few of the churches having reported schools, within this body. A well conducted Sabbath School is a blessing in any community, it draws the children together where they can learn the Scriptures from their youth, it prepares the way for the reception of the gospel. We cannot pay too much attention to the improvement of youth. Therefore,

Resolved, that this association recommend to the churches composing her body to use their influence to establish schools in each. All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. A. ATKINSON, *Chairman.*

Report on the State of Religion.

Your Committee appointed to report on the present state of religion in the churches of this body, having had the subject under consideration, respectfully submit the following report.

While nothing of a serious character detrimental to the christian faith or practice is reported by the churches in their letters, still but little of revival news or additions by baptism have been communicated. The numerical increase as a whole has been very small, while many of the churches report a cold state of religion amongst them and ask to be remembered by us at a throne of grace.

Lukewarmness in religion, and indifference to its claims are but too apparent as a general fact; and it is an enquiry of the most serious character as to whether christians are not insensible to their duty, and obligations, while blessed with the bounties of Providence. We are liable to be occupied too much with temporal things, to the neglect of those which relate to the prosperity of Zion and the salvation of sinners.

Is it not time for the churches to awake to more zeal and activity, giving more attention to the ministration of the word, and supplicating the influences of the Divine Spirit? The language of the pious prophet, we might adopt as suited to the present state of religion amongst us. "O Lord revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known, in wrath remember mercy," Heb: 3. 2. Committee.

Report on Education.

The com. to whom was referred the subject of education beg leave to report, that whereas, in all the relations of life the benefit of a sound and virtuous education, are so apparent, your committee deem an elaborate defence of this subject, unnecessary at this time, to commend it to popular favour. And that whereas we regard its connection with the great work of the Gospel Ministry, as constituting the most powerful instrument in giving a world-wide extension to Christ's Kingdom on the earth: And that whereas, the mind of the church, as we conceive, has become so fully impressed with the importance of the great truth that we every where behold the various Branches of the christian church resorting to it as the grand instrumentality of doing good to the world and advancing the future prospects of their respective churches: Therefore,

Resolved, That we the members composing the Flat River Association believe it to be our interest as well as duty, to patronize the various male and female schools and colleges established by our own denomination, particularly those within the bounds of our own State, and heartily recommend them as worthy of being sustained by the best united efforts of our Baptist Brethren and the friends of education generally.

Report on Temperance.

Your committee beg leave to state, that from the best information we can obtain, the temperance reform is progressing. And those who have had their minds open to receive light on the subject, cannot avoid feeling that a general temperance reformation would be a great blessing. And we think that all who love their race, and especially christians, should lend their aid, in the accomplishment of this good work.

Resolved, therefore, That this Association recommend temperance to the prayerful consideration and practice, of the churches within its bounds. Respectfully submitted.
J. E. MONTAGUE. Ch.

Report on Foreign Missions.

Your committee to whom was referred the subject of Foreign Missions,ask leave to report,

That in consequence of the short time, allowed for its consideration, they have not been able to enter into an extended detail, but will be confined to the presentations of a few facts, and of resolutions expressive of the true policy, which resolutions we offer for your consideration.

The duty of foreign missions may be safely argued from the great commission: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Its importance from the fact that over nine hundred millions of the human family are without the knowledge of the only true and living God. The necessity of energetic action from the fact that we are fast hastening "to that bourne from which no traveler can return," and what, we do in our master's cause, we must do quickly; and the church of Christ is the only medium by which the sublime truths of our holy religion is to be imparted to their benighted minds.

That it has the approval of Heaven is evident from our success. In consideration of which we offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the church was in its early stage an energetic missionary body, that it was and is now charged with the duty of propagating the gospel through the earth.

Resolved, That we will use our efforts to bring about a state of speedy and energetic action for the cause which enlists our warmest sympathies. Respectfully submitted.

JAMES C. BUMPASS, *Chairman*.

A list of the names and the amount subscribed by each individual in procuring a scholarship in Wake Forest College.

Geo. W. Thompson,	- - - - -	\$50,00
B. J. Rogers,	- - - - -	50,00
Hillary Thompson	- - - - -	50,00
Edward McCullers,	- - - - -	25,00
Sophronia McCullers,	- - - - -	10,00
J. M. Howell,	- - - - -	25,00
A. M. Veasy,	- - - - -	25,00
Elijah Meadows,	- - - - -	25,00
S. Y. Ragsdale,	- - - - -	25,00
Thos. Hester,	- - - - -	25,00
B. D. Rogers,	- - - - -	25,00
Edward Dalby,	- - - - -	25,00
Z. M. P. Downy,	- - - - -	25,00
Wm. A. Currin,	- - - - -	25,00
Richard Peed,	- - - - -	25,00
W. W. Dement,	- - - - -	25,00
John T. C. Norwood,	- - - - -	25,00
Jesse Jones,	- - - - -	15,00
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		\$500,00

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	DELEGATES.	Churches when constituted.	Baptised.	Rec'd by letter.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Died.	Total.	Asso. Fund.	Contributions to Missions.
Mount Zion,	Thos. Honer, J. O. Brian, Sam'l Howard,	1840	1	1	4	2	3	3	102	1,87	
Concord,	J. R. Walker, E. Dalby, D. H. Foreythe,	1805				1	1	1	105	2,00	
Mount Pleasant,	E. Meadows, Jesse Meadows*, Thos. R. Avery,	1850	1	1				28	1,50		6,00
Hester's,	R. H. Vass*, Wm. A. Currin, Z. M. P. Downey,	1823	9	1	1	3	2	3	313	3,00	
F R Union,	Thos. Groom, R. Peed, J. M. Ashley,	1845			2	2	1	1	86	2,00	
Mount Moriah,	A. Carol, B. D. Rogers, C. T. Burroughs,	1823	1		2	2	2	2	82	1,50	
Shady Hill,	J. W. Parker*, Wm. Latta, Wm. Bowling*,	1840						11	1,00		
New Light,	Hillary Thomson, Jesse Jones, Lewis Knipper,	1793	5	1	4	2	3	3	189	2,00	
New Bethel,	G. W. Thompson, Hutson Yearby, Edwin McCullers,	1822	5		2	3	3	3	148	1,50	
Fellowship,	Alex. Jones, Alex. Byrd, C. J. Rogers,	1846	1	5			1	44	1,00	10,00	
Brassfield's,	Wm. Davis, S. H. Cannady*, N. E. Cannady,	1823			3			162	2,05	30,00	
Tabb's Creek,	W. W. Dement, N. H. Breadlove, John Barnett*,	1792	6		2		4	50	1,00		
Island Creek,	J. M. Norwood, N. M. Norwood*, J. T. C. Norwood,	1836	20	4			2	198	1,15		
Poplar Creek,		1820									
Corinth,	J. M. Howell, J. H. Tippett*, Archibald M. Clay,	1835						128	1,00		
Oxford,	W. Parham*, J. B. Hobgood*, R. I. Devin,	1848	3	5				51	1,00		
Grassy Creek,	Thos. Hester, S. Y. Ragsdale, J. B. Stone*,	1765	7	3	8	4	6	364	3,00		54,00
Oliver Branch,	J. C. Bumpass, H. S. Nelson, J. W. Townsend*,	1831	2	2	8			173	1,50		
Bethel,	D. A. Harris*, G. Jones*, J. D. Woody*,	1774	3	9	1		5	130	2,00		
Sandy Level,	R. S. Ross, D. C. Gleen*,	1853						16	50		
EX-OFFI' MEM.—	Wm. E. Oakley, W. A. Atkinson, J. S. Purify.—Elders E. Hester,	72	33	2	38	18	30	28	80	30,52	100,00

REQUEST.—Clerks in their next letters will please insert number of white males and females, also number of colored members. *Absent.

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