

MINUTES OF THE  
TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION

of the

BETHEL  
*Primitive Baptist*  
Association

Held with Tallapoosa Church, Carroll County, Ga.  
September 2, 3 and 4, 1927



Officers:

Elder Lee Hanks, 2 Edwin Place, Atlanta, Ga.

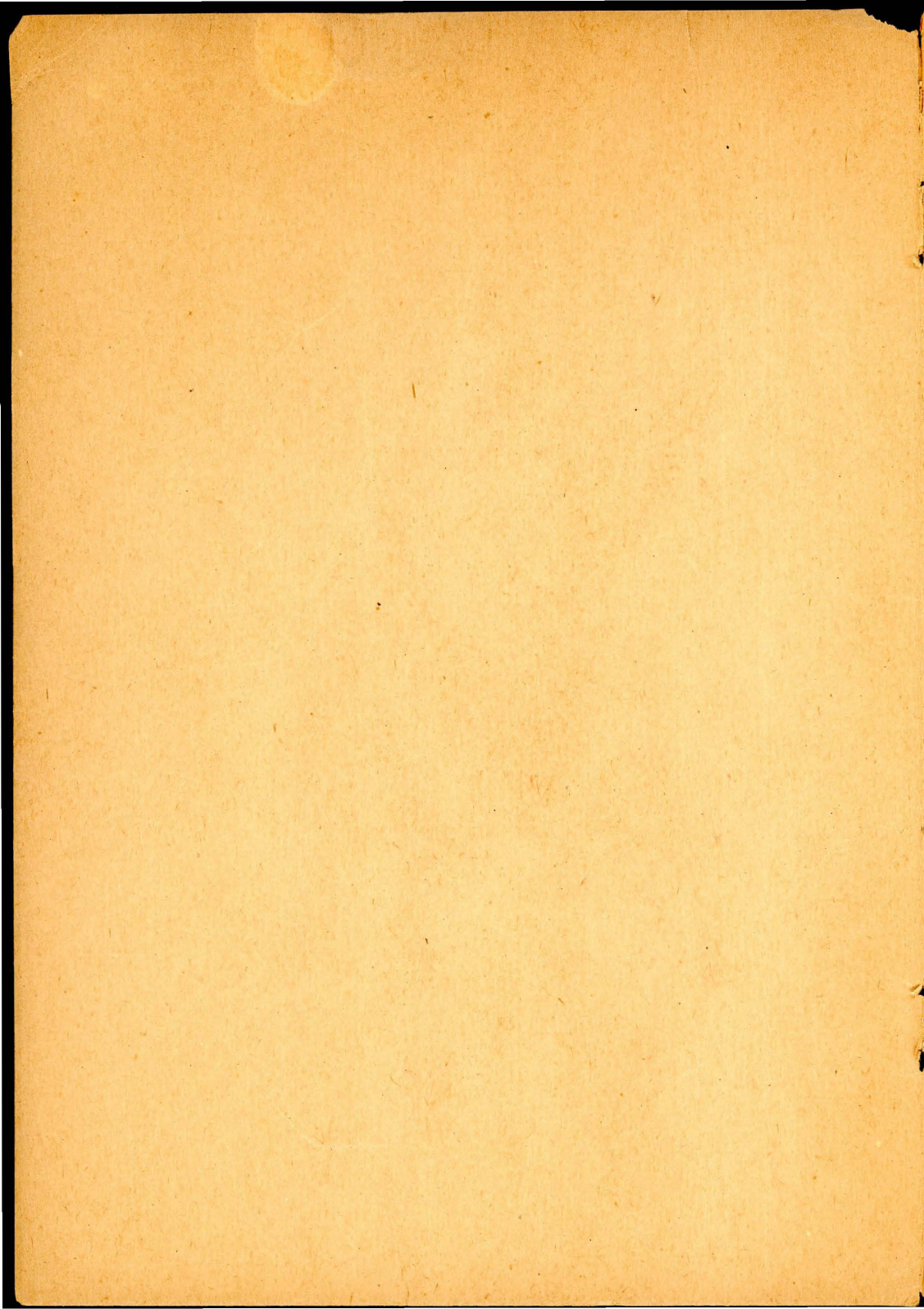
J. H. Burson, Clerk, Bowden, Ga.

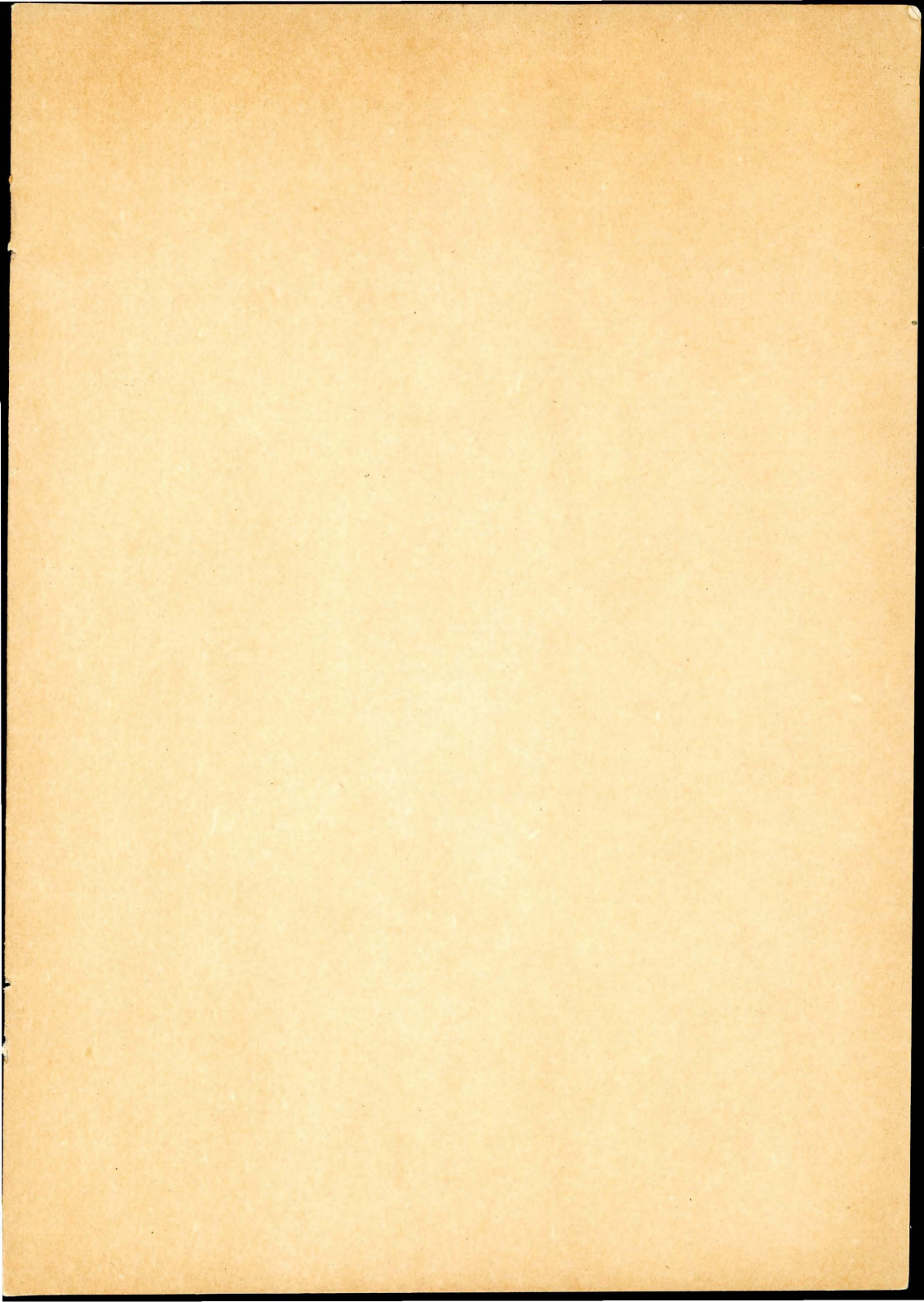
N. E. Denney, Assistant Clerk

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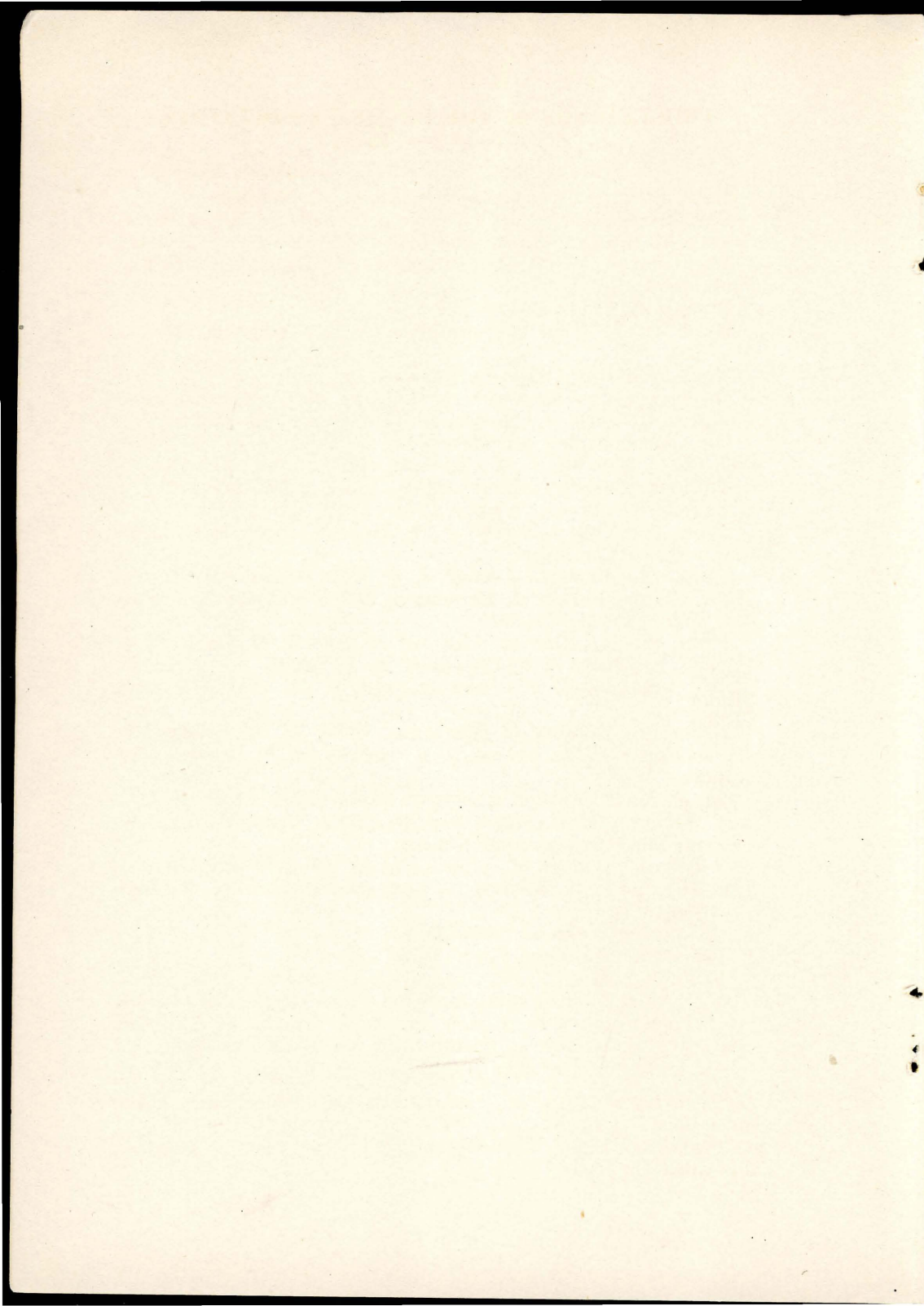
Next session will convene with the church at  
Hopewell, Heard County, Ga., Friday,  
Saturday and first Sunday in September, 1928.











## PROCEEDINGS OF THE BETHEL ASSOCIATION FIRST DAY—FRIDAY

Friday, Sept. 2nd, 1927, Tallapoosa Church.

Met. Song and prayer by Deacon R. C. Merrell.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder W. J. Greene of the Ocmulgee Association. Text: 1 Pet. 2, 1-10.

The Church went into conference by inviting visiting members to seats.

Prayer by Elder B. G. Parker.

Read letters from the churches and all members invited to seats.

Appointed the following committees:

On Preaching—Brethren R. H. Duke, R. C. Merrell, Sammie Arnett, with the messengers of Tallapoosa Church.

On Contributions—Brethren L. H. Burson, S. W. Maxwell, R. C. Merrell, J. B. Copeland and Sammie Arnett.

To write Corresponding Letter—Elder W. P. Merrell.

Called for correspondence from sister associations.

From the Yellow River—J. R. Jackson, Elder Lee Hanks and wife, with minutes.

From the Marietta—Elder Z. C. Hull, Deacon H. F. Upshaw, Sisters Sarah E. McLendon, Dollie McLendon, Lonnie McLendon, O. M. Granath.

From the Mt. Zion of Alabama—Elders J. N. Bobo, B. G. Parker, Brethren S. E. Copeland, A. F. Smith, H. G. Smith, J. P. Copeland, J. W. Barnett and F. M. Patrick, with minutes.

From the Hillabee of Alabama—Elder W. B. Denney, H. H. Goodman, H. A. Nelson, J. W. Sparks, A. O. Brooks, with minutes.

From the Primitive Western—Elders Rees Prather, Morgan Williams. F. L. Fuller and wife, J. L. Brazell.

From the Wetumpka of Alabama.

Received package of minutes from the Washita Association, Oklahoma, petitioning correspondance with us. Request granted.

On motion received visitors.

From the Ocmulgee Elder W. J. Green.

From Bethel of Texas—Elder L. J. Gresham, Mud Creek, Ala. Elder W. T. Flanagan, from Cane Creek, Ala. Elder T. J. Parish and wife, J. H. Wade, J. D. Smith, W. A. Butler and wife, H. N. Butler, Sister Kidd and W. F. Henson.

## SECOND DAY—SATURDAY.

Saturday, 8:30 a. m., the church reconvened her conference.

Prayer by Elder W. J. Greene.

Called the roll.



Renewed the call for correspondents and visitors.

Appointed correspondents to sister Associations as follows:

To the Yellow River—Send minutes.

To the Marietta—Brethren N. E. Denney, M. M. Mulloy, J. B. Copeland, G. W. Merrell, W. T. Brock.

To the Mt. Zion—M. M. Mulloy, L. H. Burson, J. B. Denney, J. B. Copeland, S. W. Maxwell.

To the Hillabee—L. H. Burson, S. W. Maxwell, J. B. Copeland, J. B. Denney, R. C. Merrell.

To the Primitive Western—M. M. Mulloy, N. E. Denney, G. W. Merrell, S. W. Maxwell, L. H. Burson.

To the Wetmpka—Send minutes.

To the Washita—J. B. Copeland, L. H. Burson, and Elder Lee Hanks.

Cane Creek—Correspondence was renewed and Brethren S. W. Maxwell, R. C. Merrell, L. H. Burson, J. B. Copeland agreed to attend.

Appointed next union meeting to convene with Tallapoosa church, Friday, Saturday and fifth Sunday in July, 1928.

Appointed next session of this Association to convene with Hopewell Church, Heard County, Ga., 12 miles south of Bowdon and 18 miles from Carrollton, Ga., Friday, Saturday and first Sunday in September, 1928.

On motion adopted corresponding letter by unanimous vote of all Primitive Baptists present.

Report on contributions: \$19.50 for minutes. \$120.00 for visiting ministers.

On motion a vote of thanks was extended to Tallapoosa Church and the good friends for their kind hospitality while in their midst.

Minutes read and adopted.

ELDER LEE HANKS, Moderator.

J. H. BURSON, Clerk.

N. E. DENNEY, Assistant Clerk.

### ORDER OF PREACHING.

Friday A. M.—Elder J. W. Greene.

Friday P. M.—Elder L. J. Gresham.

Friday P. M.—Elder Morgan Williams.

Saturday A. M.—Elder Rees Prather.

Saturday A. M.—Elder W. B. Denney.

Saturday P. M.—Elder Z. C. Hull.

Saturday P. M.—Elder J. N. Eobo.

Saturday P. M.—Elder F. L. Fuller.

Sunday A. M.—Prayer by Deacon M. M. Mulloy.

Sunday A. M.—Elder W. P. Merrell.

Sunday A. M.—Elder H. H. Goodman.

Sunday A. M.—Elder W. T. Flanagan.

Closed by Moderator. Took the parting hand. Closing prayer by Elder W. J. Greene.

Friday night—Elders J. N. Bobo and W. T. Flanagan at Bro. J. J. Lee's. Elders W. B. Denney and H. H. Goodman at Bro. L. H. Burson's.

Saturday night—Elders W. T. Flanagan and B. G. Parker at J. B. Copeland's. H. H. Goodman and W. B. Denney at Bro. R. C. Merrell's. Elders W. J. Greene and Z. C. Hull at Bro. L. H. Burson's. Elder Morgan Williams at Bro. Smith's.

The preaching was able, soul cheering and unifying. A great meeting indeed.—L. H.

### CORRESPONDING LETTER

The Bethel Primitive Baptist Association, in our twelfth session, to her sister associations with whom we correspond, sendeth greeting:

Dear Brethren in the Lord:

We have held another session of our body in sweet love, unity and fellowship. Your correspondents and visitors have gladdened our poor hearts by your presence with us and of the sweet privilege of engaging in the solemn worship of God together. We thank God for your able ministers who came to see us so richly laden with the Gospel of Christ. The preaching has been so able and comforting from start to finish that our poor drooping hearts have been greatly revived. We feel that great and lasting good will result from this wonderful meeting. We thank God for your sweet fellowship and correspondence. We are glad to state that we are all in peace and are satisfied to ever remain in the old paths, standing aloof from all the doctrines and commandments of men. We as an Association have no fellowship for arminianism, non-resurrectionism, two-seedism, universalism, no endless punishment for the wicked, absolute Predestination of sin and wickedness, evolutionism and desire to contend for the good old faith and practice upon which our churches were organized. We love the sweet doctrine of grace and that Christ Jesus on the cross did make perfect satisfaction for all the sins of all His people.

Our next Association will convene with Hopewell Church, 18 miles from Carrollton, Ga., Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1928, where we hope to have you visit us again.

ELDER LEE HANKS, Moderator.

J. H. BURSON, Clerk.

N. E. DENNEY, Assistant Clerk.



## ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES

1. We believe in only one true and living God, and that there are three that bear record in Heaven—the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one. (John 1:1; 1 John 5:7.)

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the written word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice. (2 Peter 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:16.)

3. We believe that God elected or chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world, that they should be holy and without blame before Him in love. (Eph. 1:4, 5; 1 Peter 1:2; Rom. 8:29, 30; Psalm 68:4.)

4. We believe the doctrine of original sin, and of man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability. (Rom. 5:12; John 6:44; Rom. 3:9-23.)

5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ. (Rom. 5:19; 1 Cor. 1:30; Rom. 3:24; 4:5; 7, 8, 24.)

6. We believe that God's elect shall be effectually called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit and shall be preserved in grace and never fall finally away. (2 Tim. 1:9; John 6:63; Rom. 8:29, 30; John 10:27-30; 1 John 3:9.)

7. We believe that baptism, the Lord's Supper, and washing the saints' feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances and the true mode of baptism is immersion. (Mark 1:9; Rom. 6:4; Matt. 26, 27; John 13:5.)

8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead physical body and a general judgment and the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous will be eternal. (John 5:28, 29;

9. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinances only such as are called by God, as was Aaron and come under the imposition of the hands by a Presbytery and is in fellowship with the church of which he is a member. (Mark 3:14; 1 Tim. 4:14.)

10. We believe that God has ordained good works, that His children should walk in them, and that good works are only such as God commanded in His word and not such as without warrant thereof, are devised of men out of blind zeal, or any pretense of good intentions. (Matt. 28:19, 20; 2 Tim. 3:16; Eph. 2:10, Tit. 3:8.)

11. It is and has been the sense of the churches composing the Bethel Primitive Baptist Association not to hold in fellowship any church, member or minister who holds the following: boards, conventions, Missionary societies, Sunday schools, theological schools, Epworth Leagues, instrumental music in the worship of God, a salaried ministry or assessing or taxing the members, Free Masonry, Odd Fellows, or other secret orders or religious societies that do now exist or may hereafter exist, founded upon the wisdom of men, together with any of the modern attempts to reform the church of God, or the heretical doctrines of sin being a fruit of God's decree or denying endless punishment for the wicked.

12. We hold it to be disorderly and a public offense against the church of God in the aggregate to receive members from a sister church on confession of faith, even if the church has error in it, until Gospel labor has been bestowed and the church has been scripturally withdrawn from. We further hold that it is gross disorder to receive an excluded member from a church until a church has been deposed or has gone out of existence. We hold it to be disorder for an association to usurp authority over her own churches, Associations and ministers of sister associations as dictators and regulators. We further



hold that discipline belongs exclusively to the church and the church cannot transmit or delegate her authority to any man or set of men to discipline members or churches.

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#### MEMORIAL

DEACON W. C. SHADINGER died December 7, 1926. Buried at his home church, Emmaus, aged 69 years. He was one of the most model men, humble, sound, firm, conservative Primitive Baptists we ever knew. He is sleeping in the loving arms of Jesus, awaiting the coming of the Lord Jesus, who will change his mortal body and fashion it like His glorious body, soul and body reuniting and the body, soul and spirit will be forever with the Lord. The dear bereaved family has our deepest heartfelt sympathy and prayers.

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#### MINISTERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES.

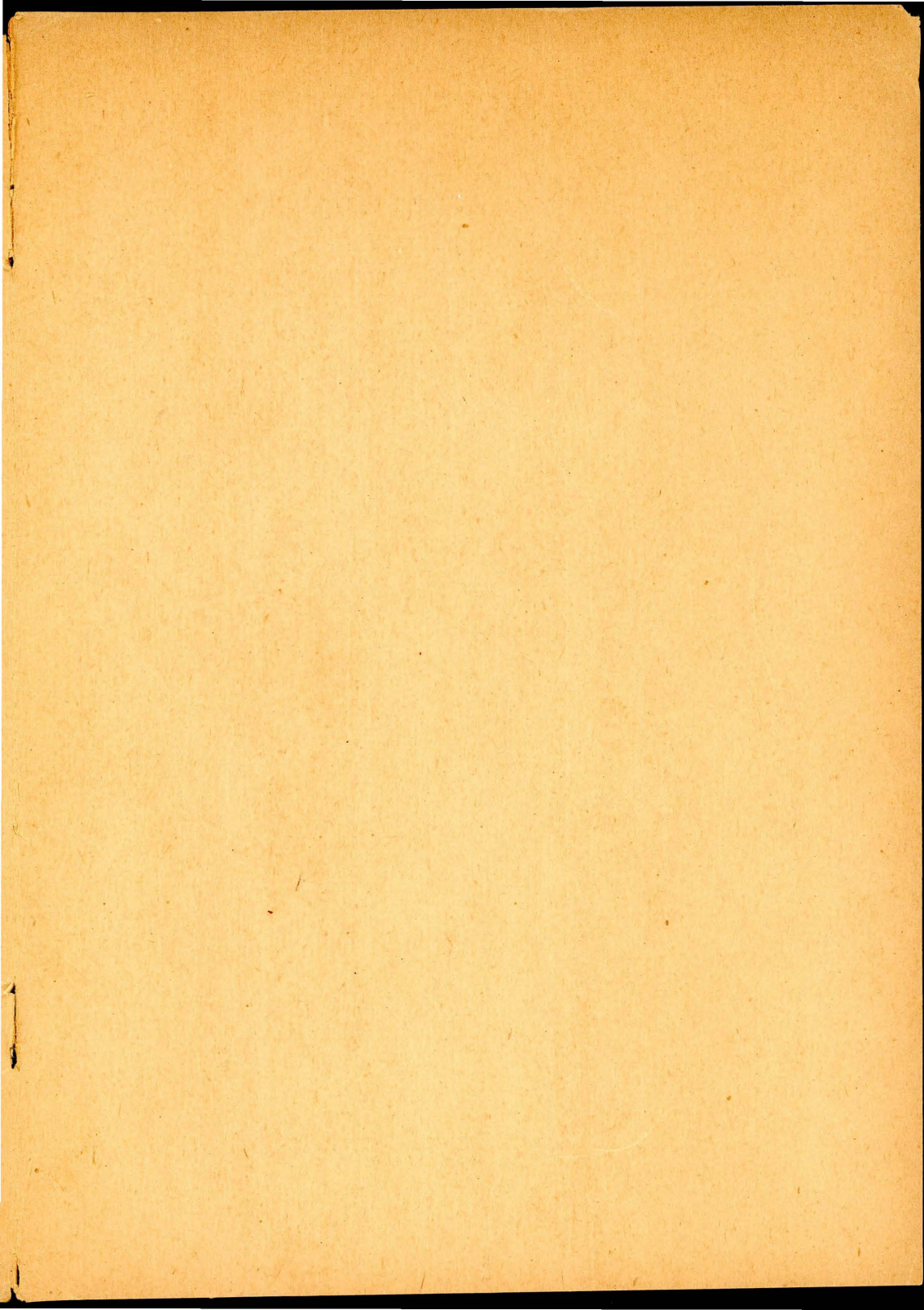
Elder Lee Hanks, 2 Edwin Place, Atlanta, Ga.  
Elder W. J. Greene, Gray, Ga.  
Elder H. H. Goodman, Ashland, Ala.  
Elder W. B. Denny, Ashland, Ala.  
Elder B. G. Parker, 2123 8th St. West, Birmingham, Ala.  
Elder J. N. Bobo, Boaz, Ala.  
Elder Z. C. Hull, Atlanta, Ga.  
Elder L. J. Gresham, St. Jo, Texas.  
Elder W. T. Flanagan, Paint Rock, Ala.  
Elder Rees Prather, Grantville, Ga.  
Elder F. L. Fuller, Hogansville, Ga.  
Elder Morgan Williams, Warm Springs, Ga.  
Elder T. J. Parish, Hightower, Ala.

#### HOME PREACHERS

Elder W. P. Merrell, Roopville, Ga.  
Elder J. N. Arnett, Newnan, Ga.









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