

MINUTES

— OF THE —

COUNTRY LINE

Primitive Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

ROXBORO,

IN PERSON CO., N. C.,

August 17th, 18th & 19th,

1895.

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Landmark Steam Printing House,  
Wilson, N. C.  
1895.

## PROCEEDINGS.

1st. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder Jas. S. Dameron from Deut. 29:29.

2nd. The Association convened, and after prayer by Elder P. G. Lester, proceeded to business.

3rd. Elder Jas. A. Burch was chosen Moderator.

4th. Correspondents were invited to take seats with us, whereupon the following were received :

From Kehukee—Elder George Robertson and M. T. Lawrence.

From Black Creek—Elder P. D. Gold and Bro. C. W. Gold.

From Little River—Elders J. E. Adams, W. J. Stephenson and H. F. Peedin.

From White Oak—Elders Isaac Jones and Gardner Bryant, and Elder L. H. Hardy (visitor.)

From Mayo—Elder L. I. Bodenhammer.

From Lower Canoochee—Elder M. F. Stubbs.

From Eno—Elders T. Y. Monk and S. P. Terry, and Brother G. C. Farthing.

From Contentnea—

From Staunton River—Brethren W. H. Wilson, J. C. Shelhorse and W. H. Dawson.

From New River—Elder P. G. Lester.

From Yellow River—S. C. Huff.

From Bear Creek—Elder J. C. Williams.

5th. Rules of Decorum were read.

6th. Letters from the several churches were read and their standing minuted in the Statistical table.

7th. Elders H. F. Peedin and W. J. Stephenson were appointed to preach in the afternoon to-day (Saturday).

8th. Elders Jas. S. Dameron and P. D. Gold, with the moderator and clerk, were chosen a committee of arrangements, Brethren J. W. Neal and S. J. Hall a committee of finance.

9th. Adjourned the business of the Association till Monday morning 9 o'clock.

SUNDAY MORNING, 10 o'clock.

10th. Elder L. I. Bodenhammer opened the morning services from 1st Peter 1:6.

Elder P. D. Gold closed the morning services from John 10:28, 29, 30.

Elder M. F. Stubbs opened the evening services from Psalm 15.

Elder P. G. Lester closed the evening services.

MONDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

11th. The Association met according to adjournment, and after prayer by Elder M. F. Stubbs proceeded to business.

12th. The committees of arrangements and finance reported; their reports were received and they were discharged.

13th. Messengers appointed last year to visit sister Associations and Section meetings generally attended, and those who did not were excused.

14th. Messengers were appointed to visit sister Associations.

To Mayo—G. W. Carter and R. T. Williams and R. H. Pruitt.

To Kehukee—Elder J. A. Burch, Elder James Harris.

To Little River—Elders W. C. Jones, Jas. S. Burch and James Harris and brother J. W. Gilliam.

To Contentnea—Elders Jas. A. Burch and James Harris.

To Staunton River—Elder Jas. A. Burch.

To White Oak—Elders James Harris and J. A. Burch.

To Abbott's Creek—Elder James A. Burch.

To Black Creek—Elders Jas. A. Burch and J. M. Harris.

To Fisher's River—Elder W. C. Jones.

To Pigg River—R. H. Pruitt and W. G. Dix.

To Eno—Elders James A. Burch and Y. I. Chandler and W. C. Jones.

15th. Agreed to send files of minutes to the following Associations: Smith River, New River, Mill Branch, Mountain and Lower Canoochee.

16th. Elders Jas. S. Dameron, Jas. A. Burch and Y. I. Chandler were appointed to attend a Section meeting at Tar River, commencing on Friday before 4th Sunday in April, 1896, and Elders James S. Dameron, A. Blalock and F. L. Oakley to attend another at McCray, commencing on Friday before 3rd Sunday in April, 1896.

17th. The Circular Letter prepared by Elder Y. I. Chandler was read and received.

18th. Brother R. T. Williams was appointed to write a Circular Letter for next year.

19th. The Finance Committee reported as follows:

Received from the churches.....	\$25.50
Already in hands of Clerk.....	17.57
Total .....	\$43.07

EXPENDITURES.

Clerk's Fee.....	\$10.00
For printing 1300 copies of these Minutes.....	16.00
Balance in hands of Clerk.....	\$17.70

20th. Elders M. T. Lawrence, G. D. Robertson and I. Jones preached after nine o'clock to-day (Monday).

21st. Agreed that our next Association be held with the church at Moon's

Creek, in Caswell Co., N. C., about seven miles from Danville, Va., commencing on Saturday before 3rd Sunday in August, 1896, and that Elder F. L. Oakley preach the introductory sermon, Elder A. Blalock his alternate.

JAS. A. BURCH, Moderator.

C. A. HOWARD, Clerk.

R. T. WILLIAMS, Ass't Cl'k.

## NAMES OF CHURCHES AND CLERKS' POST-OFFICES.

1	Arbor .....	J. E. Simmons.....	Milesville,	N. C.
2	Big Meadow.....	H. W. Johnson.....	Gravel Spring,	"
2	Camp Creek.....	H. Blalock.....	Lyndover,	"
4	Country Line.....	Y. I. Chandler.....	Fitch,	"
5	McCray .....	J. Brooks.....	McCray,	"
6	Dan River.....	T. F. Ward.....	Nance,	"
7	Ebenezer.....	S. T. Chandler.....	Fitch,	"
8	Flat River.....	Wm. Davis.....	Roxboro,	"
9	Gilliams.....	J. W. Gilliam .....	Morton's Store,	"
10	Harmony.....	L. C. Murray.....	Pleasant Grove,	"
11	Lynch's Creek.....	W. R. Hawkins.....	Corbett,	"
12	Lick Fork.....	C. J. Terry.....	Reidsville,	"
13	Mt. Zion.....	G. B. Hite.....	Red Bank,	Va.
14	Moon's Creek.....	J. W. Neal.....	Gatewood,	N. C.
15	Prospect Hill.....	J. R. Hester.....	Prospect Hill,	"
16	Pleasant Grove.....	W. H. Brannock.....	Lennox Castle,	"
17	Roxboro .....	G. T. Burch.....	Roxboro,	"
18	Stories Creek .....	J. A. B. Waters.....	Roxboro,	"
19	Surl .....	J. K. Duncan.....	Surl,	"
20	Tar River.....	R. L. Newton.....	Berea,	"
21	Wheelers.....	John L. Phelps.....	Laws,	"
22	Wolf Island.....	T. R. Williams.....	Ruffin,	"

## CIRCULAR LETTER.

### THE MORE EXCELLENT WAY.

DEAR BRETHREN:—This perhaps will be the last Circular Letter I will ever write, and the subject one of the greatest importance. A more excellent way implies another way that is excellent. The latter is set forth in 1st Cor., 12th chapter, the other in 13th chapter. One is the way of gifts, the other the way of charity. The different gifts in the church are for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry and for the edifying of the body of Christ, etc., but we are taught that one having the greatest gifts and making the greatest sacrifices is nothing without charity. So we can see that to walk in love is the more excellent way. The trouble with the church at Corinth was that they were lacking in charity. They had their gifts and were very fond and over zealous in the exercise of them, and had become puffed up for one against another, and hence there were divisions among them. Strifes, envy, jealousies, also fornication. Brother going to law with brother, idolatry, disorder at communion times, also heresies, even some saying "there is no resurrection of the dead." Now if these brethren had been walking in the more excellent way, there would have been none of these things, but all perfectly joined together in the same mind and the same judgment. Now, brethren, is it not much the same case with the church in our day. If so, do we not need to be taught "the more excellent way," and grace to enable us to walk therein. Charity is better than gifts, because it is perfect and never faileth, but "prophecy shall fail, tongues shall cease, and knowledge vanish away," but love is everlasting. It is the fulfilling of the law. As we read "now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart and of a good conscience and faith unfeigned." It is also the bond of perfectness, and shall cover the multitude of sins. Therefore Peter says, "and above all things have fervent charity among yourselves," and again, "see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently," and Paul says, "above all these things put on charity." Thus we see we must have charity and then put it on, and then we are in the more excellent way. Charity suffereth long and is kind. It endures under afflictions, bears with and forgives them that offend. "Charity envieth not," i. e., does not grudge and dislike others on account of their prosperity or good name. "Charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up," i. e., does not boast and exalt self, being proud and self-important. It behaves well, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, i. e. not self-willed and seeking to have its own way, but like Paul, freely serving others, denying self even of things lawful lest he offend his weaker brethren or cause them to sin, not rendering evil for evil, but contrarywise blessing. It rejoices in the truth, beareth all things that come upon those who live godly in Christ. Charity believeth all things, all that God hath spoken according to the Scriptures. It hopeth all and endureth all things, does not fail. Is not this the most excellent way, even the foot-steps of Jesus, and he says "follow me." Gifts, when tempered with charity are profitable in time, but charity is the soul of true religion. It is not said in the scriptures that if any one is smart or a fluent talker and seems to have much knowledge of many things, that he is a child of God, but "if any man love God the same is known of God," i. e. God recognizes such a one as his child, "for he that loveth is born of God." Again "by this shall all know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." As the bond of perfectness it binds the people of God together in unity, covers the multitude of sins, and makes perfect in the faith and discipline of the church. Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God and God is love, and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God and God in him, and thus we have boldness in the day of judgment, because as he is so are we in this world.

Y. I. CHANDLER.

# STATISTICAL TABLE.

## NAMES OF MESSENGERS.

NAMES OF CHURCHES.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS.	Baptised.	Rec'd by Letter.	Restored.	Dism'd by Letter.	Exclud.	Deceased.	No. in Fellowship.	Finances.
1 Arbor .....	Elder V. I. Chandler, W. A. Florence and J. E. Simmons.	1						87	\$ 50
2 Big Meadow .....	Elder W. C. Jones and Bros. Eli Buckner and Levi Height.				2			17	1 00
3 Camp Creek .....	Elder A. Blalock and brethren H. Blalock, Thomas Adcock.				1			47	1 50
4 Country Line .....	By Letter							11	40
5 McCray .....	Robert Netherly and J. Brooks.	1						22	75
6 Dan River .....	T. F. Ward, W. G. Dix and R. H. Pruitt.							28	1 00
7 Ebenezer .....	S. T. Chandler and John Bowls.	4	1			1		17	50
8 Flat River .....	Elder D. R. Moore, D. A. Hicks and J. D. Furch.							69	1 50
9 Gilliams .....	Elder F. L. Oakley, John W. Gilliam and W. T. Bowles†.	2			2			17	75
10 Harmony .....	L. C. Murray and G. W. Brooks†.							17	50
11 Lynch's Creek .....	William Warren and W. R. Kawkins†.							19	50
12 Lick Fork .....	R. J. Jones†, E. R. Harris and C. A. Howard.	1						17	55
13 Mt. Zion .....	G. B. Hite.	5	1					70	2 50
14 Moon's Creek .....	Elder Jas. S. Dameron, J. R. Travis† and J. W. Neal.							13	
15 Prospect Hill .....	S. J. Hall, J. R. Hester†, E. R. Smith†.	1	1			1		22	75
16 Pleasant Grove .....	W. H. Brannock, B. B. McKenny†, J. H. Combs†.			2		1		39	1 25
17 Roxboro .....	J. S. Clayton, C. T. Hudgins, G. T. Burch†.	2			1	4		45	1 50
18 Stories Creek .....	J. H. Clayton, John O'brient, J. A. B. Walters.	2						25	1 50
19 Surf .....	D. R. Clayton, James K. Duncan and J. J. Lea.	2						25	1 25
20 Tar River .....	R. L. Newton and C. L. Wood†.	1	1					34	1 25
21 Wheelers .....	Elder J. A. Burch, A. V. Moore, E. S. Malone.	1		2	1	3		29	75
22 Wolf Island .....	G. W. Carter, R. T. Williams, T. R. Williams†.	5			1	2	11	111	2 50
		4					4	67	2 00
		31	6	8	5	20	826	\$25 50	

\*Ordained Ministers. †Absentees. ‡Licentiates.

