

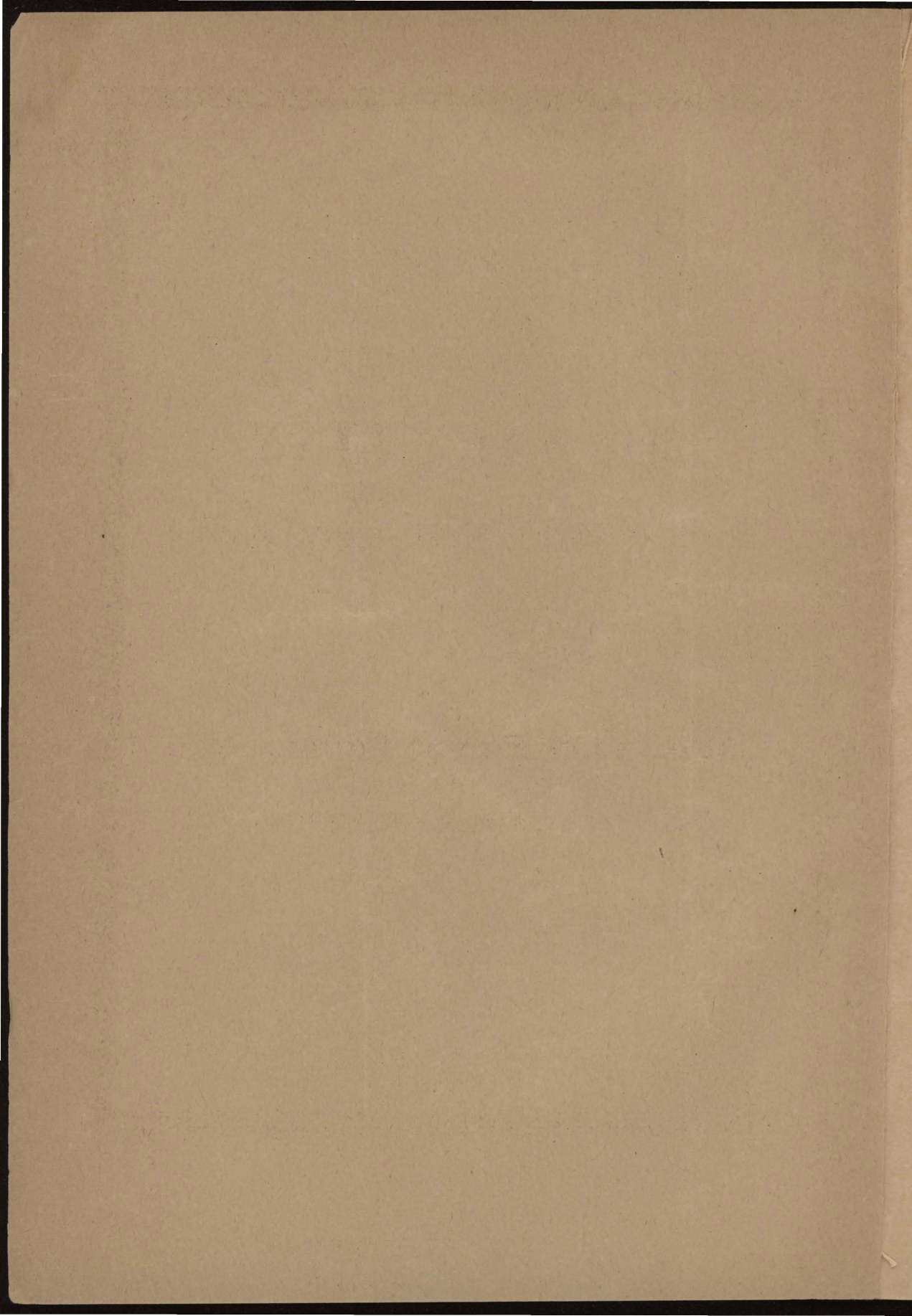
MINUTES
OF THE
COUNTRY LINE
Primitive Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

Flat River, in Person County, N. C.

AUGUST 18TH, 19TH AND 20TH, 1900.

Landmark Print
Wilson, N C



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PROCEEDINGS.

1st. The Introductory sermon was preached by Elder Y. I. Chandler from Isaac 25:9.

2nd. The Association convened and after prayer by Elder T. N. Walton proceeded to business.

3d. Elder J. A. Burch was chosen Moderator.

4th. The correspondents were invited to take seats with us, whereupon the following were received: From Black Creek, Elder P. D. Gold; from Little River, Elders W. A. Simpkins and J. E. Adams; from Fisher's River,——; from Pigg River——; from White Oak, Elders I. Jones, G. Bryant and brother M. W. Brown; from Mayo,——; from Eno, Elder T. Y. Monk and G. C. Farthing; from Contentnea, Elders T. C. Hart and W. B. Williams; from Stanton River, Elder T. N. Walton and Bros. W. H. Wilson and W. S. Dodd; From Yellow River,——; from Abbott's Creek, Elder P. W. Williard; New River;——from Kehukee, Elder G. D. Roberson.

5th. Rules of Decorum were read.

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

7th. Elders J. E. Adams and W. B. Williams were appointed to preach to-day, (Saturday.)

8th. The messengers of this church with the Moderator and Clerk were chosen a committee of arrangement and brethren J. W. Neal and G. W. Carter were appointed a committee of finance.

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

SUNDAY MORNING, 10 O'CLOCK.

10th. Elder P. D. Gold opened the morning service from John 1, 29-36 and Elder G. D. Robertson closed from Rev. 22:14. Elder G. Bryant opened the evening services from Heb. 9, 14-15, which was closed by Elder I. Jones from 1st Cor. 15:22.

MONDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

11th. The Association met according to adjournment and after prayer by Elder J. E. Adams proceeded to business.

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

13th. Messengers were appointed to visit sister associations as follows:

To Mayo—Elder Y. I. Chandler and Bro., J. W. Gilliam, G. W. Carter and G. M. Trent.

To Kehukee—Elders L. H. Hardy and Jas. A. Burch.

To Little River—Elders Jas. A. Burch and A. Blalock and brother Jno. O'Brient.

To Contentnea—Elders L. H. Hardy and Jas. A. Burch.

To Staunton River—Elder Jas. A. Burch and brother C. A. Howard.

To White Oak—Elders Jas. A. Burch and A. Blalock.
 To Abbott's Creek—Elders W. C. Jones and Jas. A. Burch.
 To Black Creek—Elders Jas. A. Burch and A. Blalock.
 To Fishers' River—Elder Jas. A. Burch.
 To Pigg River—Bro. W. G. Dix.
 To Eno—Elder L. H. Hardy and brother S. J. Hall and Elder Jas. A. Burch.

14th. Elders Y. I. Chandler, L. H. Hardy and Jas. A. Burch were appointed to attend a section meeting at Gilliam, commencing on Friday before the 1st Sunday in April and to continue three days and Elders L. H. Hardy and A. Blalock and W. C. Jones to attend another at Dan River on Friday before 4th Sunday in April and hold three days.

15th. Elder F. L. Oakley was appointed to write a circular letter to be read at the next Association on Saturday.

16th. The finance committee reported as follows:

Received from the churches.....	\$ 25.15
Already in hands of the clerk.....	6.42
	<hr/>
	31.57
Clerk fees.....	\$10.00
For printing 13.00 of the Minutes.....	16.00
	<hr/>
	26.00
Balance in hands of clerk.....	\$ 5.57

The circular letter was read and received.

The following Elders preached after 9 o'clock Monday: P. W. Williard, W. A. Simpkins and T. Y. Monk.

17th. Agreed that our next Association be held with the church at Wheelers Church in Person county, commencing on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in August, 1900 and Elder L. H. Hardy to preach the introductory sermon, Elder A. Blalock his alternate.

JAS. A. BURCH, Moderator.

C. A. HOWARD, Clerk.

W. A. WARREN, Assistant Clerk.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

To the churches composing the Country Line Association with her corresponding sister associations, Greeting.

According to a long established custom we send to you this our annual Circular Letter, and as we think it a fit time for the consideration of such a subject, we will address you on Associations.

If we properly understand this matter Associations are meetings appointed by the churches who may compose the same where they may meet together for the mutual edification of each other in preaching the gospel, hearing the preaching of the gospel, visiting with each other and talking to each other of the goodness and mercy of God in his daily deliverances which He so graciously reveals to them by His Spirit through our Lord Jesus Christ. Such meetings are no more nor less than a meeting of all the brethren and sisters with the one church wherever the invitation has been given for such an assembly of the saints, and where they have so met together they are the guests of that church with whom they have assembled.

This being true the church with whom this meeting is held has no jurisdiction over the churches whose members have come to visit her any more than we, in our social hospitality, have jurisdiction over the homes and private business of our guests. To try in any way to dictate to them in matters of their home church discipline would be a usurpation and would destroy the purpose of the assembling together.

Again, the brethren and sisters whose privilege it is to thus assemble by the general invitation of this church have no jurisdiction over her private discipline any more than our guest have to dictate to us in the private affairs of our homes and families, to do which would be a violation of all rules of consistency and decency.

We, as brethren, should try to know our places in our home churches and when we are visiting our sister churches in their common meetings or in our annual meetings, and knowing them, we should abide in them.

For an association to send any number of those assembled to inquire into the internal affairs of any of the churches is to judge that that church is not worthy nor capable of keeping house and to usurp authority which by no means belong to such an assembly of the saints; and for any church whose members may compose a part of this Association or general assembly of the saints to desire of such general meeting to appoint a number of Elders or other members to inquire into, or in any way to dictate any part of her private business is to recognize ecclesiastical authority where no such authority has ever been vested by our Lord nor His apostles, and therefore to resign her powers to those to whom they in no wise belong.

Every church and her pastor should study for themselves to know the word of the Lord as to her government and then to walk therein in love and Godly fear, and if at any time there is a difference between the brethren as to the proper course to be pursued and they cannot get together, the brethren should lay aside their opinions and fast and pray to God to guide them by His Holy Spirit and be patient and wait on the Lord for he will come and will not tarry. If the case becomes so stubborn that no agreement can be reached, let the church, with all parties present, make a statement of her troubles to two or three sister churches and ask them to come and help in the matter, letting the churches petitioned to appoint of their members as they may feel best and not as the aggrieved church nor any part of her members may dictate, and let them come together in prayer for the peace of Zion. Do not bring these things to the Association for we do not come together for such business, and these meetings have no jurisdiction over such things.

The church is the only ecclesiastical authority on the earth and no other should ever be recognized by us.

For associations to pass resolutions of fellowship or non-fellowship is a usurpation for only the churches have the right to judge in this matter, and each church has the right to say who shall come into her communion or fill her pulpit. Each church may extend to the members of other churches who may be with her in her meetings the privilege of speech if a case of fellowship is involved, but such visiting brother should not feel that the church has yielded to him any of her authority, but, for her own benefit and to show her appreciation of his presence, she gives him this privilege. Instead of being exalted over this he should feel humble, knowing that the cause in which he is requested to speak is the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ.

These matters should not come into the Associations. They belong solely to the churches, let them remain there.

Associations are not meetings for business and just as little business should be done as possible, and in as short a way as possible so that all the brethren could get to hear the preaching, for that is the bread of heaven on which our souls feast, and in which we rejoice in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to whom be glory, power, praise and dominion forever. Amen.

L. H. HARDY, For the Association.

WHEREAS, the Good Lord, in the visitations of his providence, has been pleased to call from earth our beloved brother, Elder D. R. Moore, Therefore,

Resolved, That we, the Country Line Association, do feel that we have lost one of our most faithful and useful ministers.

Resolved, That we tender to the churches he served our sincere sympathies in their loss of him as pastor, and to the bereaved children in their loss of a very kind, loving and indulgent father.

Resolved, That we extend to the family of our dear brother Elder J. S. Dameron and to the churches he served our heartfelt sympathies in their troubles, because of the afflictions of our dear brother, and we do pray, if it is the will of our Heavenly Father, He will restore him unto them whole and in his right mind.

Resolved, That we extend our thanks to Sheriff Sims and his deputies for their efforts in trying to keep order in the immense congregation during the time we have been convened together.

Resolved, That we extend to the brethren and friends of this community for their kindness in caring for us so hospitably during this session of the Association:

OBITUARY OF ELDER DAVID R. MOORE.

DEAR BROTHER GOLD:—By order of the church, in conference assembled at Flat River Church, Person county, N. C., I write you for publication the obituary notice of Elder David R. Moore.

This dear brother and highly esteemed minister of our Lord Jesus Christ was born March 20, 1821, in Person county, N. C., and died April 23, 1900, making his stay on earth 79 years, 1 month and 3 days. His wife was Miss Jane Bumpass, who bore to him 13 children. His wife and eight of his children preceded him to the grave.

He was concerned about his sins from his earliest recollection. At the age of 30 years he obtained a hope in Christ Jesus. He went before the church at Flat River at their June meeting, 1857, and related the dealings of the Lord with his soul, and was received and baptized into the fellowship of the church, where he remained a member until the day of his death.

Soon after he was received into the church the brethren discovered in him a gift to the gospel ministry, and at their May meeting, 1859, they licensed him to exercise his gifts in the bounds of the Country Line Association. He was ordained to the work of the ministry November, 1860, and while he lived he never reproached his holy calling. He was unanimously called as pastor at Flat River Church in November, 1865, where he remained pastor until his death—an under shepherd, going in and out, preaching the word, ever warning the church against evil and sin, exhorting them to duty, and to let brotherly love continue, contending for salvation by grace, and grace alone, election and foreknowledge of God.

He bore afflictions with great patience. He bore up under trouble as one only could do that was sustained by the Lord. If the Lord be for us, who can be against us? He possessed that meek and quiet spirit, and honored his profession with an orderly walk and godly conversation, ever ready to give God all the praise and glorify his name. He was Moderator of the Country Line Association for a number of years, which place he filled with honor.

He was a father in Israel—indeed, a faithful witness, earnestly contending for the faith once delivered to the saints. He was sound in doctrine, firm in the faith, and bore the marks of Jesus. He was

one of the most successful and most beloved pastors in the Country Line Association. The churches he served were generally blessed with peace, and when they needed advice they sought it of their pastor. They were some of the most prosperous churches in the association.

During his ministry he served Eno, Mt. Lebanon, Prospect Hill, Wheeler's, Flat River, Surl and Dutchville churches. Surl and Dutchville were built up under his ministry, and he had the care of Flat River and Surl at the time of his death. He was not a searcher into the deep, unfathomable things of God, but was content to give the word to the children as God gave it to him, and by the word of his mouth many hungry souls were fed, and there the weary found rest. He did not occupy a great deal of time in his discourses, but what he did occupy was well filled with the good things of the kingdom of our God.

He was not a great rambler in the ministry, though he did travel some, for he always felt that the sheep near home needed feeding. In some things he met much opposition at times, but when he was in the pulpit he was never known to refer to any differences between himself and his brethren, for he knew it was cowardly to thus take advantage of his brethren. He was a firm believer in God's absolute sovereignty, and he hated sin and loved righteousness. He was one of the most humble men I ever knew. He felt sure he would not get well. At times he was not fully in his mind, unless the subject of religion was mentioned, and then he was perfectly rational. In a dream he preached on the resurrection, when it was more plain to him than it had ever been before, and from that time he spoke of it with a great deal of sweetness.

This writer visited him during his last sickness, and found him sound in the faith and perfectly resigned to God's will. He was taken sick on the 11th of March, and seemed to think from the first that his time was nearly out. He asked his daughter, with whom he lived, to sing the hymn, "And let this feeble body fail." He got the hymn book and found the hymn, and said it had been ringing in his mind for some time. She sang the hymn for him. He was helpless nearly all the time. He would tell people that came to see him

that his daughter nursed him like a baby. He was always pleased at any thing they did for him. He said his children had always been kind to him, and his neighbors had been kind to come to see him, and his brethren had treated him with great respect. All that had pretended to be enemies came to see him. He talked a great deal. He told them everything he wanted done, told them all about how he wanted to be buried.

He was taken worse in the morning, before he died in the evening. He never stopped talking one minute. He told his daughter to sing. She replied she did not feel like she could. He told her he knew it was trying on her, but God would give her strength. He then commenced to

sing. His daughter helped him. They sang two or three songs; then he commenced preaching and preached for one hour, loud and strong. After he became so weak he could not talk he sang the tunes of songs as long as he could make any noise. He then lay quiet, with his hands folded across his breast, and died easy. His departure was sweet and pleasant.

Thus one of the Lord's faithful servants finished his course, fought a good fight and fell on sleep. The Lord comfort and bless the bereaved that they may rejoice in the same blessed hope.

Your brother in hope,

W. R. BLALOCK.

NAMES OF CLERKS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

CHURCHES.	CLERKS.	POSTOFFICES.	
Arbor.....	J. E. Simmons.....	Milesville,	N. C.
Big Meadow.....	Eli Buckner.....	Gravel Springs,	"
Camp Creek.....	H. Blalock.....	Lyndover,	"
Country Line.....	T. H. Rudd..	Fitch,	"
McCray.....	J. Brooks.....	McRay,	"
Dan River.....	S. F. Ward.....	Mayfield,	"
Ebenezer.....	Elder L. H. Hardy.....	Rayenswood,	"
Flat River.....	W. R. Blalock.....	Roseville,	"
Gilliams.....	J. W. Gilliam.....	Morton's Store,	"
Harmony.....	L. C. Murray.....	Pleasant Grove,	"
Lynches Creek.....	W. R. Hawkins.....	Carr,	"
Lickfork.....	C. J. Terry.....	Reidsville,	"
Mt. Zion.....	H. F. Wilkins.....	Red Banks,	Va.
Moons Creek.....	J. R. Travis.....	Gatewood,	N. C.
Prospect Hill.....	Dr. J. R. Hester.....	Prospect Hill,	"
Pleasant Grove.....	T. A. Stanfield.....	Lenox Castle,	"
Roxboro.....	G. T. Burch.....	Roxboro,	"
Stories Creek.....	J. A. B. Walters.....	"	"
Surl.....	J. K. Duncan.....	Surl,	"
Tar River.....	R. L. Newton.....	Berea,	"
Whealers.....	John L. Phelps.....	Bushy Fork,	"
Wolf Island.....	R. T. Williams.....	Reidsville,	"
Burlington.....	J. S. Ward.....	Burlington,	"

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Deceased.	No. Fellow-ship.	Finance
Arbor.....	Elder Y I Chandler, J A King and J E Simmons*.....	3					4	74	1 00
Big Meadow.....	Elder W C Jones, Albert Whitfield and Henry Johnston.....	1				1		23	1 25
Burlington.....	J S Ward and A J Tillman.....							8	50
Camp Creek.....	Elder A Blalock and Bro Hasten Blalock, F. Ellis*.....						3	47	1 50
Country Line.....	T H Rudd and Thomas Dabs*.....							14	50
McCray.....	Robert Netherly.....							14	50
Dan River.....	T F Ward, J T Martin and W G Dix.....	1						31	1 00
Ebenezer.....	Elder L H Hardy.....						1	13	50
Flat River.....	D A Hicks and William Weaver.....	1			2		5	54	1 25
Gilliams.....	Elder F L Oakley, John W Gilliam, and W T Bowles*.....	3	2				1	16	1 00
Harmony.....	L C Murray and J W Brooks*.....							17	50
Lynch's Creek.....	W R Hawkins and Elder L H Hardy.....					1		17	90
Lick Fork.....	C A Howard, C J Terry* and Robert Jones.....					1	1	73	2 50
Mt. Zion.....	G B Hite, C C Hite and William Griffin.....							11	50
Moons Creek.....	J R Travis* and J W Neal.....							19	75
Prospect Hill.....	S J Hall, D L Wells,* Dr. J R Hester*.....	1				1	1	43	1 25
Pleasant Grove.....	B B McKenney, P M Walker* and J H Combs*.....					1	2	1	50
Roxboro.....	Elder L H Hardy, J A Carver and J H Rodgers.....	1	4				2	27	1 25
Stories Creek.....	J H Clayton, John O'Brient and W D Yarboro.....						3	29	1 25
Surl.....	Elder J W Peed, brother J S Clayton and David R Clayton.....	5						47	1 00
Tar River.....	R L Newton and C L Woods.....							35	75
Whealers.....	Elder James A Burch and brother W A Warren and A V Moore.....	1				1	5	88	2 00
Wolf Island.....	G W Carter, G M Trent and R S Summers.....	6	1		1			69	2 00
Absentees marked thus*		23	7		6	10	22	809	\$25 15

