

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTH SESSION
OF THE

Rusby Mountain Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

OAK FOREST CHURCH,

Wilkes County, North Carolina,

September 28th, 29th and 30th, 1876.

REV. R. L. STEELE, MODERATOR, TAYLORSVILLE, N. C.
JAMES B. POOL, CLERK, TAYLORSVILLE, N. C.

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PROCEEDINGS
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THURSDAY MORNING, 11 A. M., Sept. 28th.

By appointment from last Association the Introductory was delivered by Elder C. C. Pool from II Kings, 2nd chap. and latter clause of the 9th verse: "and Elisha said, "I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me."

After an intermission of 30 minutes the Delegates assembled in the house, the Moderator of last session called them to order by singing Hymn: "How did my heart rejoice to hear," &c. Prayer, Elder Wm Pool leading.

Letters were then read from twenty-seven of the Churches forming this Association, from which the Statistical Table appended was compiled; Center having dissolved, and Concord not being represented.

The Association proceeded to the election of Officers, which resulted as follows: R. L. Steele, Moderator, and J. B. Pool, Clerk; Elders J. W. Hall and Wm. R. Gwaltney being tellers.

Invitation given to newly organized Churches to unite with the Association.

Invited Correspondents, when Elder J. W. Hall from Three Forks, Elder R. W. Wooten from Brier Creek, and Elder W. R. Gwaltney from South Yadkin Associations, accepted.

Invited Transient Ministers.

On motion, the Moderator was authorized to appoint all Committees during the session.

Appointment of Committees:

Arrangements: Elders Wm. Pool and Jas. McNeil and brethren W. C. Meadows, J. H. Foote and E. B. Phillips with the Moderator and Clerk. Correspondents were invited to sit with said Committee.

Devotion: Delegates of Oak Forest Church.

Education: Elder G. W. Green and brother D. W. Pool.

Periodicals: Elder C. C. Pool and J. B. Greer.

Finance: Brothers R. A. Spainhour and E. K. Walsh.

Missions: Elders Wm. A. Pool and J. P. Gwaltney.

Sabbath Schools: Elder James McNeil and brother Jas. H. Foote.

Temperance: Elders L. Land and F. P. Clark.

Resolutions: Elder G. W. Green and brother James H. Foote.

Committee on Devotion appointed Elder J. P. Gwaltney to preach to-night.

On motion, adjourned to 10 a. m. to-morrow. Sing: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," &c.

Benediction by Elder R. L. Steele.

R. L. STEELE, Moderator.

JAMES B. POOL, Clerk.

FRIDAY MORNING, 10 A. M., Sept. 29.

Met as per adjournment; Sing, "There is a fountain filled with blood," &c. The Moderator reads and the Delegates and other sing, "I love the sons of Grace," &c. Prayer, Elder R. L. Steele leading.

Called Roll and marked absentees.

The Committee of Arrangements submitted the following: 1. Read Constitution and By-Laws of the Association; 2. Call on Correspondents to report; 3. Appoint Correspondents to sister Associations; 4. Call on Delegates to Baptist State Convention to report; 5. Appoint Delegates to Baptist State Convention; 6. Call on Committees to report; 7. Consider the propriety of changing time of Association; 8. Call on Treasurer to report; 9. Consider request of Lower Creek and Piney Grove Churches; 10. Consider propriety of sending brethren to visit delinquent Churches; 11. Consider propriety of holding Union meetings; 12. Appoint place of holding next Association; 13. Appoint to preach Introductory; 14. Appoint to superintend printing of Minutes; 15. Miscellaneous, &c.

Invitation given to Correspondents; Elders W. F. Adams, W. A. Myres and brother B. P. Johnson from the Brier Creek Association accepted.

Read and adopted Minutes of yesterday.

Read Constitution and By-Laws and Abstract of Principles of this Association.

On motion, the Moderator was authorized to take up the items submitted by Committee of Arrangements and present them to the Association for action.

Called on Correspondents to report: I. N. Haynes attended the Brier Creek, J. T. Shell attended the Catawba, Geo. W. Green attended the South Yadkin, J. H. West and A. Johnson attended the Three Forks Associations, and were cordially received as Correspondents; those not attending were excused.

Appointed Correspondents to sister Associations: To Brier Creek, Wm. Pool, I. N. Haynes, F. B. Parkes, J. H. Foote and George W. Green; To Catawba, J. T. Shell, J. W. Shell and C. C. Pool; New River, James McNeil and A. Johnson; South Yadkin, G. W. Green, W. A. Pool and J. P. Gwaltney; Three Forks, J. B. Greer, William Pennel, L. Land, Wm. Pool, W. C. Meadows and J. H. West; Yadkin, I. N. Haynes, R. A. Spainhour and J. H. Foote.

Called on Delegates to Baptist State Convention: Elder G. W. Green attended. The thanks of the Association were given brother Green for the same.

Appointed to Baptist State Convention Elder G. W. Green and bro. W. C. Meadows.

Called on Committees to report. Committee on Sunday Schools reported as follows:

Your Committee are happy to report the good feeling and interest which seems to prevail in the bounds of this Association; most of the Churches bring us the glad tidings of the good effect resulting from attention to this Divine institution, and the evidence of God's blessings attending the efforts of our brethren in the Sabbath Schools. We look with deep and heart-felt gratitude to Him who has put it in the hearts and minds of our people to make use of this as one of the means to build up Christ's cause on earth.— Hand in hand with the preaching of the Gospel, the old and young unite in spreading light and knowledge, especially among the youths, to rear up a still more highly useful generation to dispel darkness and superstition from the land. May God grant that every Church in this body may have the pleasure of reporting at our next and successive anniversaries a large increase of zeal and prosperity in this direction, so that, generations yet unborn may rise up at the end of the next great Centennial of our Country's history and look back upon the untold blessings of this glorious Christian Work.

JAS. H. FOOTE, { Com.
JAS. McNEIL, }

After a recess of one hour met as per adjournment, when business was resumed.

Committee on Finance reported \$37.46 from the Churches. See Appendix.

On motion the Clerk was appointed to superintend the printing of the Minutes; that he have 700 copies struck and distribute as heretofore, and that he be allowed \$6.00 for his services.

Committee on Education reported. Addresses by W. A. Pool and G. W. Green. Adopted as follows:

Many persons think that Education is desirable only because it will help us to make money. But Education is good in itself. We ought to educate ourselves and our children, even if we make less money. The rising generation ought to be educated that they may be useful citizens and useful church members. They ought to be educated because God has given them powers to be developed, to be improved for His glory. Can we claim to be faithful stewards when all our time and all our thoughts are given to caring for the body, and no attention is given to the mental powers that God has given to us? We are glad to believe that there is in the bounds of our Association and neighboring sections a revival of interest in the subject of Education.— At several places within our bounds houses are being erected and attempts are being made to build up permanent schools. Some of these schools are under Baptist control, and some are not under denominational control. We hail with joy all these efforts to advance the cause of education.

Wake Forest College still offers great inducements for securing a first-class education. It is greatly to be regretted that so few of our young men get the benefit of the advantages offered at this institution. For those who desire a more thorough knowledge of the Word of God the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary presents unrivalled advantages. For young ladies the Baptists have in North Carolina three first class schools at Thomasville, Raleigh and Murfreesboro. Either of these we can cordially recommend. There is no lack of schools for young men and young ladies—the great need is sufficient interest in the subject to lead them to seek the advantages offered by these schools.

G. W. GREEN, } Com.
W. A. POOL, }

Committee on Periodicals reported. Addresses by C. C. Pool and others. Adopted as follows:

A well conducted Religious paper is essential to the growth and prosperity of a church; we therefore recommend to this Association the *Biblical Recorder* as a true exponent of our faith, and *Kind Words* for the Sunday Schools; and we further recommend the Pastors of the Churches everywhere to endeavor to get their congregations to take those papers. We further recommend to the brethren the appointment of a committee in each Church for the purpose of getting religious intelligence in every family.

C. C. POOL, } Com.
J. B. GREER, }

Committee on Temperance reported. Addresses by J. McNeil and W. A. Pool. Adopted as follows:

Temperance has been truly defined as a moderate use of all things necessary and a total abstinence from all things unnecessary; and as we hope much good has already been accomplished in advocating the cause of Temperance, yet much more may be accomplished; therefore, *Resolved*, That we advise all our churches to use their utmost influence for the cause of Temperance.

F. P. CLARK, } Com.
L. LAND, }

Treasurer reported \$1.15 on hand.

Appointed J. H. Foote and Elder G. W. Green to revise the Abstract of Principles of this Association.

Appointed Elder J. McNeil, brothers E. K. Walsh and J. B. Greer to examine the Gospel authority of the ordination of brother J. F. Eller from Pilgrim Church, by request of brother Eller.

Appointed Elders Wm. Pool, Jas. Kerley and J. P. Gwaltney to attend the delinquent Churches and report to the next Association.

Devotional Committee reported: Elder J. B. Pool to preach to-night and Elder J. W. Hall at 11 a. m. to-morrow.

On motion, adjourned to 10 a. m. to-morrow. Hymn, "Once more before we part," &c. Prayer, W. R. Gwaltney leading.

R. L. STEELE, Moderator.

J. B. POOL, Clerk.

SATURDAY MORNING, 10 A. M., Sept. 30.

Met as per adjournment. Sing, "Awake and sing the song of Moses and the Lamb," &c. Prayer, J. H. West leading.

On motion, the Report on Missions was withheld until the other business of the Association was attended to.

On motion, the time of holding the Association was changed, beginning on Thursday before the 3rd Sunday in October.

Committee on Abstract of Principles reported as follows, and upon motion, they were adopted and ordered to be spread upon the Minutes.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

1st.—We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are One.

2nd.—We believe that the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of Faith and Practice.

3rd.—We believe in the impotency of man to deliver himself from his present fallen State.

4th.—We believe that Salvation is by Grace, through Faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

5th.—We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances instituted by Jesus Christ and should be practiced by all true believers.

6th.—We believe that Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water by a qualified administrator, and that only persons thus baptized should take the Lord's Supper.

7th.—We believe in the final perseverance of the Saints in Grace to Glory.

8th.—We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a General Judgment.

9th.—We believe that the happiness of the Righteous and the punishment of the wicked will both be eternal.

JAMES H. FOOTE, } Com.
GEO. W. GREEN, }

Committee on brother J. F. Eller's ordination reported as follows:

We, the Committee on brother J. F. Eller's case, report: So far as we are able to see from the evidence before us, we think his ordination legal.

E. K. WALSH, } Com.
J. B. GREER, }
JAMES MCNEIL, }

On motion, appointed four Union Meetings. Appointed A. Eller, J. B. Greer and E. K. Walsh to locate said meetings, who reported as follows: 1st, Lewis Fork, begins Friday before 1st Sunday in November, 1876, attended by J. Gwaltney, L. Land, James Kerley, William Pool and J. B. Pool; 2nd, Bethel, begins Friday before 2nd Sunday in April, 1877, attended by Geo. W. Green, J. McNeil and I. N. Haynes; 3rd, Little River, begins Friday before 1st Sunday in May, 1877, attended by W. A. Pool, J. H. West, C. C. Pool and J. P. Gwaltney; 4th, Taylorsville, begins Friday before 3rd Sunday in August, 1877, attended by G. W. Green, Wm. Pool and James McNeil.

Appointed next Association to be held with Union Church, Caldwell county, N. C., 9 miles east of Lenoir, on the road leading to Taylorsville, beginning on Thursday before the 3rd Sunday in Oct., 1877.

Appointed Elder I. N. Haynes to preach the Introductory with Elder Geo. W. Green, alternate.

RESOLUTIONS.

1st. WHEREAS, Elder G. W. Green, a minister of this Association, has established and is building up a permanent school at Sulphur Spring, Alexander county, therefore

Resolved, That we recommend said school to all our people as one in all respects well worthy of their patronage; here board can be had cheaper than at any other school of like grade in the South; and *resolved*, further, that we can heartily recommend said school to all our Ministers in this mountain portion of our State as a place where they may be soundly taught to an extent in systematic Theology, and thus greatly aided in acquiring a further acquaintance with God's word and their duties as Pastors.

W. A. POOL.

2nd. *Resolved*, That in the death of brother W. T. Davis, the cause of Education has lost a faithful and efficient teacher, the Baptist cause in the Brushy Mountain Association an earnest defender, a zealous worker and a promising minister.

G. W. GREEN, } Com.
J. H. FOOTE, }

Devotional Committee appointed Elder J. H. West to preach at 2 p. m. this evening; Elders R. L. Steele and Wm. Pool to-night; Elder W. A. Pool to-morrow at 10 a. m.; Elder G. W. Green at 11 a. m., and Elder W. R. Gwaltney at 2 p. m.

Preaching for this evening and to-night was dispensed with on account of the rain.

Committee on Missions reported; addresses by W. R. Gwaltney and W. A. Pool, as follows:

Your Committee on Missions would respectfully report the following:—The commission under which we labor extends to all the world. We scarcely think it necessary to argue the duty of working in this great cause of spreading the Gospel; but think it patent to the minds of all. It becomes us to look about us and see whether we have done what we could to give the Gospel to the destitute places in our own commonwealth and in the regions beyond. We regard Home and Foreign Missions as being the same, and there probably never was a time when our labor in this department of Christian work met with such speedy and satisfactory results. The doors of the whole world are thrown open for the reception of the truth; then it becomes us of all others to work in the spread of the Gospel, holding as we believe the truth with less adulteration than any others. Now with all due respects, your Committee would recommend that each Church take special collections at such times as convenient for Missions; and we further recommend, that the Pastors see to it that these collections be taken.

Respectfully submitted,
W. A. POOL, } Com.
J. P. GWALTNEY, }

After which took collection to be paid State Mission Board amounting to \$13.85; paid by Zion Hill Church for Missions, \$8.45; paid by Bethel Church for Missions, \$1.35; total, \$23.65.

Collection for to-morrow to be applied to State Missions, the above is paid to Elder G. W. Green.

Give the right hand and sing, "There is a fountain filled with blood," &c.

Adjourned to time and place of next Association. Benediction by the Moderator.

R. L. STEELE, Moderator.

J. B. POOL, Clerk.

STATISTICAL TABLE COMPIL

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST-OFFICES.	TIMES OF
Antioch,	Wm and J B Pool,	S P Austin,	Little River, Alexander,	4th Sabb
Bethel,	A Johnson,	E C Faw,	South Fork, Ashe,	3rd Satu
Buffalo,	A Johnson,	M Lewis,	Beaver Creek, do	1st do
Beaver Creek,		M McNeil,	Yellow Hill, Wilkes,	3rd do
Concord,				
Charity,	CC and J B Pool,	W W Stafford,	Wittenburgs, Alexander,	1st Sabb
Cub Creek,	L P Gwaltney,	R A Spainhour,	Moravian Falls, Wilkes,	1st do
Dudley Shoal,	CC Pool,	T C Sherrill,	Petra Mills, Caldwell,	2nd Satu
King's Creek,	J B Powell,	M L Greer,	King Creek, do	4th do
Lewis Fork,	D Wilborn,	J W West,	Maple Spring, Wilkes,	1st do
Little River,	J Kerley,	P J Barnes,	Taylorville,	1st do
Lower Creek,	J B Powell,	C W Clark,	Lenoir, Caldwell,	2nd do
Mt. Olive,	P Tritt, A Bumgarner,	A L Price,	Taylorville,	2nd Sabb
Mt. Zion,	L Land,	W Waters,	Elkville, Wilkes,	4th Satu
Mt. Pleasant,	Jas McNeil,	A M Church,	Lewis' Fork,	2nd do
Macedonia,	J Kerley, W A Pool,	H Christopher,	Taylorville,	2nd do
New Hope,	James McNeil,		Paricars' Creek,	4th do
Oak Forest,	W G Brown,	F B Parks,	Dellaplane,	2nd do
Pilgrim,	D Wilborn,	H M Bumgarner,	Wilkesboro,	3rd do
Piney Grove,	I Smith, L Land,	M C Pennel,	Fort Defiance,	1st do
Pleasant Hill,	William Pool,	S Harrington,	Taylorville,	1st Sabb
Sulphur Spring,	L P Gwaltney,	J L Davis,	do	2nd do
Sardius,	D W Conway,	J R J Annas,	Love Lady, Caldwell,	4th Satu
Taylorville,	W A Pool,	W J Harrington,	Taylorville,	3rd Sabb
Three Forks,	CC Pool,	D W Pool,	do	3rd do
Union,	J H West,	C Downs,	Cedar Valley, Caldwell,	1st Satu
Walnut Grove,	J P Gwaltney,	W L Price,	Moravian Falls, Wilkes,	3rd do
Zion Hill,	do	C Carlton,	Boomer, do	4th Sabb

