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MINUTES

OF THE

Seventeenth Annual Session

OF THE

MOUNTAIN UNION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

COMPOSED OF DELEGATES FROM THE
REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCHES
IN OUR UNION.

CONVENED WITH

MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH,

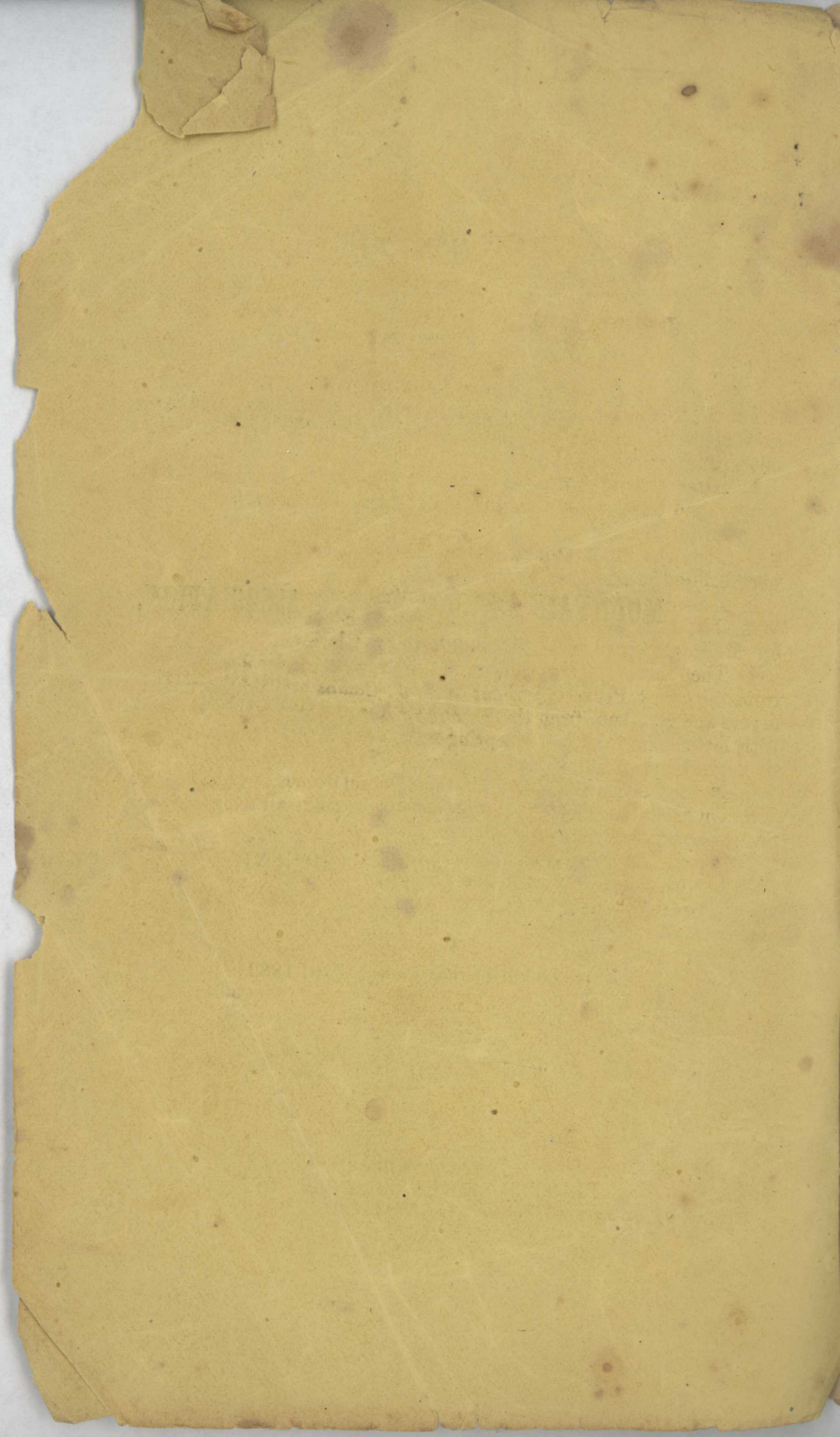
Alleghany Co., N. C.,

OCTOBER 12TH AND 13TH, 1883.

{ THOS. J. JONES, Moderator. }
{ I. W. LANDRETH, Clerk. }

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INDEPENDENCE, VA.
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1883.



MINUTES
OF THE
MOUNTAIN UNION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

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FRIDAY MORNING, October 12, 1883.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder Isaac M. Carter, from Mark ix chapter and latter clause of the 50th verse: "Have sa't within yourselves," &c.

1. After a short intermission, the Delegates assembled in the church, and were called together with singing and prayer by Elder Jacob Eller.

2. Then the Moderator called for Associational letters, when 18 were handed in and read by the Clerk.

3. Then organized, by calling upon Elders James Parsons and Wm. J. Combs to act as tellers, who report Elder Thomas J. Jones for Moderator, and Isaac W. Landreth for Clerk.

4. Then invited corresponding brethren, when Elder Jas. Parsons, from the Stony Fork, and Elder Wm. J. Combs and brethren T. C. Myers and S. Lyon, from the Primitive Association, came forward, with letters and minutes, accepting seats—the Moderator giving them the right hand of fellowship in token of Christian love.

5. Invited transients, when Brother Daniel Joines accepted a seat.

6. On motion authorized the Moderator to make all temporary appointments during this session.

7. Appointed Bros. John Osborn, Thos Higgins and Ezekiel Joines, with the delegates of this Church, to arrange the ministry, who report for to-morrow: 1st, Elder Isaac M. Carter; 2d, James Parsons; 3d, Jacob Eller.

8. Appointed Elder A McKnight, Bros. Henry Waggoner and A. Ashler as a Committee of Finance.

9. Appointed Bro. J. W. Pruitt to write a corresponding letter to the Primitive, and Bro. F. M. Eller to the Stony Fork Association.

10. Appointed as a Committee of arrangements, Elders R. Jones, Wm. J. Chapel, Wm. M. Baldwin, Henry Farmer, and Brother Wm. A. J. Fowlkes, with the Moderator, Clerk and corresponding brethren to sit with them.

11. On motion, this body adjourns until to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

Prayer by Elder James Parsons. Benediction by the Moderator.

SATURDAY MORNING, October 13, 1883.

Services were opened with singing and prayer by Elder Wm J. Chapel.

1. The Clerk called the Roll of Delegates, a quorum being present answering to their names.

2. Then, upon motion, the Committee of Arrangements made their report, which was received, and they discharged.

3. The Clerk reads the Constitution and Rules of Decorum.

4. Called upon our corresponding brethren who were appointed to visit Sister Associations, when the following report was made, viz: Elders I. W. Landreth and R. C. Parsons visited the Primitive, and Elder M. Church the Stony Fork Association, and were kindly received by those brethren. The brethren who failed to go were excused.

5. Elder Jackson Blevins, who was appointed last year to write on Ministerial Duty, submits the following, which is hereby adopted, viz: It is the duty of ministers to 'preach the Word,' be instant in season, out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine. It is the duty of ministers to keep that which is committed to their trust, as a good servant. My brethren, more is expected from us than others. We should be conversant with the Gospel; how else can we lead others into it? We are servants of God, intrusted with his word—of its use and abuse at another day. We will have to render an account to God. The qualifications He requires of his ministers is Love. Jesus saith to Simon Peter, "Lovest thou me?" "Yea, Lord, thou knowest I love Thee." He saith unto him, "Feed my sheep." He would not trust them with one who did not love Him. To discharge this duty as it demands is a great matter. Therefore, we should earnestly contend for the Faith which was once delivered to the Saints. Under shepherds cannot furnish the pasture; the utmost we can do is to lead them into it. Ministers are required to discharge that trust as good and faithful servants. The term "good" stands opposed to unprofitable. A good and faithful servant is a profitable servant. The Apostles preached Christ Jesus the Lord, and this is the grand theme of the Christian Ministry. Preach Christ, or you had better be anything than a preacher. "Take heed unto thyself and unto the Doctrine—continue in them, for in so doing this thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee." Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. My brethren, see that the doctrine you teach and the duties you inculcate be not yours, but His who sent you. A right seed is necessary to a profitable harvest. You must likewise do the will of Christ, as well as teach it, and that after His example; how else can you exhort and rebuke? You should hold up the blessings of His salvation for acceptance, even to the chief of sinners. This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. It is a work which involves the happiness of our species. It

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must occupy our whole attention in this work. opposition. Satan will dispute every inch of ground with member the suffering of the Apostle Paul. "Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck." He would not be deterred by fear of man from declaring the whole counsel of God. It is our duty, my brethren, to insist on every divine truth and duty. Preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. Let us consider ourselves as standing engaged to teach all that hear us, rich and poor, young and old, godly and ungodly, warning the wicked, lest their blood be required at our hands. And seek the salvation of every man's soul. Fuller says: "Never degrade the pulpit by indulging in personalities; these are for private admonition." Rebuke with all authority, but let our personal rebuke be private. To introduce them in the pulpit is unmanly and would render us despicable. Speak but the truth in love, and speak the whole truth, and we will commend ourselves to every man's conscience when we can do no more. The Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

ELDER JACKSON BLEVINS.

6. Article on Sabbath Schools, by Elder Jacob Eller, which was adopted by the body, viz: Having been appointed by the Association, at its last session, to write on Sabbath Schools, I therefore pen a few lines on that subject for your consideration. Being an advocate of Sabbath Schools, if they are organized upon true principles, and for the benefit of the youths of the land, in educating them in the ways of truth according to the Holy Scriptures, which we are commanded to read and search; for Christ says: "Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me." And we are also commanded to bring up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. And Solomon says: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."—Proverbs xxii. 6. We should teach our children to fear the Lord, "For the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." We, therefore, recommend that the Churches in our Union organize Sabbath Schools, and cultivate the mind of the young, and encourage them to read the Scriptures. Respectfully submitted. ELDER JACOB ELLER, SR.

7. The Finance Committee makes the following report, viz: Received from the Churches, \$20.08; in hands of Treasurer, 45cts.;—making a total of \$20.53, which is hereby received. Authorize the Clerk to have 700 copies of the minutes printed and distribute as usual, allowing him \$5 for his services.

8. On motion, Elder Jackson Blevins is still requested to write an article on the Gospel Duty of Deacons.

9. On motion, appointed Bro. John Osborn to write on the subject of Temperance.

10. Appointed as Corresponding Messengers, Elder A. Mc-

1. J. Jones and I. W. Landreth to the Prim-
aries Wm. J. Chapel, I. M. Carter, Wm. M. Brooks
D. Eller to the Stony Fork Association.

11. The brethren who were appointed to write corresponding letters to Sister Associations handed them in, and were discharged.

12. Appointed our next Association to convene with Silas Creek Church, Ashe county, N. C., commencing on Friday before the 2d Lord's Day in October 1884—Elder M. Church to preach the Introductory Sermon, I. W. Landreth alternate.

13. Elder Wm. M. Baldwin announced to the Association that he wished to call the attention of the Association, the hour having arrived. After Elder Wm. M. Baldwin read and explained certain papers repelling an unkind and ungenerous assault made on himself and us by one John Ammons, a traveling agent of the Western North Carolina Baptist Convention, in a paper called the "Blue Ridge Baptist," published in Hendersonville, N. C., a motion prevailed, by a unanimous vote, heartily approving Bro. Baldwin's course in defending himself and us, and pledging our future and ardent support of all such efforts to repel such unwarrantable insults and libellous abuse.

14. The Committee on the Ministry report for to morrow: 1st. Elder R. Jones; 2d, Wm. M. Baldwin; 3d, Wm. J. Combs.

15. Appointed Elders Wm. M. Baldwin, M. Church, and I. W. Landreth as a committee to visit South Fork Church during the year, look into the cause why she fails to represent, and make report to the next Association.

16. Resolved that we now return our thanks to our brothers, sisters and friends for their kind and generous hospitality to us during this session.

17. On motion, adjourned to time and place appointed.

Prayer by Eld. W. J. Combs. Benediction by the Moderator.

ELDER THOS. J. JONES,

ISAAC W. LANDRETH, Clerk.

Moderator.

SABBATH.—Services opened with prayer by Elder A. McKnight; 1st sermon by Elder R. Jones, text Luke xiv. 17; 2d, Elder Wm. M. Baldwin, text II. Timothy i. 12; 3d, Elder Wm. J. Combs, text Isaiah xxviii. 16. The brethren preached with great zeal, during which great confusion and disorder prevailed on the outskirts of the large congregation, which was annoying to many. Hoping that the Word spoken was not in vain, &c.

CLERK.



STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	POST OFFICE.	PASTORS.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.										Contri- butions.					
			Con- victed	Dis- missed.	Restored	Ap- pication	By Let- ter.	By Bap- tism	Sat- urday	De- ceased.	Ex- cluded.	Dis- missed.	Restored	Ap- pication	By Let- ter.	By Bap- tism	Sat- urday	Total.
Big Spring.....	Edmond, N. G.	A McKnight	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	21
Baptist Chapel Helton,	"	I M Carter	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	85
Double Springs	Furches	M Church	1	3	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	50
Grassy Creek.	W'vrs Ford	Thos J Jones	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	56
Liberty	Silas Creek "	Jacob Eller	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	35
Mount Carmel	Elk creek "	R C Parsons	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	56
Mount Zion.....	"	Wm J Chapel	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	22
Mount Pleasant	Apple Grove"	I M Carter	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	47
Mount Pleasant	Walnut Hill"	I M Carter	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	56
New Salem	Independence Va	I W Landreth	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	32
Pine Grove.....	Sparta, N. C.	None	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	22
Prather's Creek	Stag's crk, N C	Thomas J Jones	9	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	85
Rock Springs...	Pruthrs crk N C	I W Landreth	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	28
South Fork.....	Norman	N C A McKnight	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	28
Silas Creek.....	Scotsville	N C None	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	30
Shoal Creek ...	Helton	N C R Jones	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19
Sugar Grove ...	Independence Va	R C Parsons	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	121
Three Forks . .	App. Grove N C	H Farmer	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	18
Three Top	Solitude	N C Jacob Eller.....	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	57
Union	Creston	N C I M Duncan	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	35
Zion Hill.....	Husk	N C Wm J Chapel	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	113
	Helton	N C T J Jones	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	23
			3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	45
			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	45
			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	46

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