# MINUTES

OF THE

SECOND ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

## Tuckasiege Baptist Association,

HELD AT THE MEETING-HOUSE, AT

LOCUST OLD-FIELD,

HAYWOOD COUNTY, N. C.,

COMMENCING AUGUST 20, 1831.

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1831.

# MINUTES

OF THE

# Tuckasiege Baptist Association.

The Second Anniversary of the *Tuckasiege Baptist Association*, was held in the Meeting-House, at Locust Old Field, Haywood County, N. C., commencing on Saturday the 20th of August, 1831.

The Association Sermon, agreeable to appointment, was delivered by Elder Humphrey Posey, on *Acts* xv. 41., "And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the Churches."

The Delegates then assembled in the Meeting-House, and prayer being offered up, proceeded to business.

1. Letters from Nine Churches were read, and their Delegates names enrolled.
2. Elder H. Posey was chosen Moderator, and Brother J. Whitaker, Clerk.
3. On motion, read our Rules of Decorum, and received (Cowetah Church,) lately constituted.
4. Received Corresponding Letters, viz: A Letter and Minutes from Tugulo Association, by the hands of Elders Byers, and Hymer. From the French Broad, a Letter and Minutes, by the hands of Elders Stradley, and Kimsey.—And made the following appointments, viz: Posey, to write to Tugulo; Howel, Stiles, White, and Chastain, Messengers. Whitaker, to write to French Broad; Posey, Ammons, and Howel, Messengers. Corn, to write to Twelve Mile River; himself, Chastain, and Caler, Messengers.—Howell to write to Catawba; Webb, Hatfield, and Clark, Messengers.



5. Resolved, That the Moderator, Clerk, and Elder Byers, form a Committee of Arrangements.
6. Resolved, That Elders Corn, and Hatfield, form a Committee of Finance.
7. Agreed, That Elders Byers, Kimzey, and Hymer, occupy the stage to-morrow. Service to begin at 10, A. M.

Adjourned to Monday, 9 o'clock, A. M.

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## SABBATH, 21st.

The stage was occupied by those appointed. Elder Byers opened the service of the day, and preached on 1. Cor. ix. 25. Elder Kimzey followed, on Psalm, viii. 4. Elder Hymer, closed the preaching, on Rom., v. 10, which, after a few short Exortations by other Brethren, the service of the day was closed.

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## MONDAY, 22nd.

Met according to adjournment; Brother Pearson prayed.

8. The Corresponding Letters, were read and adopted.
9. The Circular Letter was presented by Brother Whitaker, read and adopted, and ordered to be printed.
10. On motion, Resolved, That Brother Posey write the next Circular Letter, on the duty of Church Members.
11. Resolved, That Elder Hatfield, preach the next Association Sermon, and Elder White, in case of failure.
12. Resolved, That our next Association be held at Mount-Zion, Haywood County, N. C., Saturday before the third Sunday in August, 1832.
13. The Committee of Finance, Report:

| | |
|---|---|
| Received in contributions from Churches, | $9.78½ |
| Do. from Samuel Sherrill, former Treasurer, | 1.50 |
| In the hands of Brother Whitaker, | 7.15 |
| | $18.43½ |
| Allowance to the Clerk for attending to the printing last year, | 5.00 |
| Total in the hands of Treasurer, | $13.43½ |

14. Requested Brother Whitaker, to attend to the printing of these Minutes. To get 400 copies,* and distribute them as usual.

15. On Motion, Resolved, That this Association recommend the establishing of Sunday Schools, in every neighborhood where it can be attended to, in connection with the American Sunday School Union.

16. Resolved, That we open a Correspondence, with the Chatahoochy Association, Brother Whitaker to write our Letter, and Brethren Ammons, and Morehead Messengers.

The Association then adjourned, Brother Moderator, prayed.

HUMPHREY POSEY, *Moderator.*
JAMES WHITAKER, *Clerk.*

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A TABLE,—Shewing the Churches, and Delegates Names; Ordained Ministers' Names in small CAPITALS, Licentiates in *Italics.* * is a mark of absence.

| | Baptized. | Rec. by Let'r. | Dismissed. | Excluded. | Restored. | Dead. | Number. | Contribut'ns. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Locust Old Field.—CHRISTOPHER HOWEL, Henry Howel, *William Haynes,* | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | | 1 | 30 | $1.00 |
| 2. Waynesville.—John Howel, Henry Platt, Abel Hyett, | | 1 | 4 | 2 | | | 29 | $1.00 |
| 3. Cullowhee,—ADAM CORN, James N. Bryson, James Cathey, | 4 | 3 | 1 | 3 | | | 53 | $1.00 |
| 4. Mount Zion.—STEPHEN WHITE,* Sam'l Gipson, Samuel Sherrill, *David Elder,** | | 6 | | 2 | | | 54 | $1.50 |
| 5. Franklin.—HUMPHREY POSEY, Jas. Whitaker, *Joshua Ammons,* | 2 | 7 | 17 | 1 | | 1 | 86 | $1.50 |
| 6. Head of Tennessee.—*John Chastain,* Jeremiah Webb, | 6 | 2 | | 2 | | | 41 | $1.00 |
| 7. Cowee.—JOSHUA HALL,* *G. F. Caler,* Elias Morehead, | 5 | 10 | 5 | | | 2 | 47 | $1.00 |
| 8. Crabtree.—George Clark, Silas Woody, | | 3 | 1 | | | 1 | 12 | $0.50 |
| 9. Scots Creek.—BENJAMIN E. HATFIELD, Daniel Bryson, John Clark, | 1 | 2 | 4 | | | | 20 | $0.75 |
| 10. Cowetah.—*Benjamin Stiles,* Lewis Fare, | | | | | | | 14 | $0.47 |
| Total, | 19 | 36 | 35 | 12 | | 5 | 276 | $9.72 |

Number of Ordained Ministers, 6.
Do. Licentiates, 6.

*Price of printing these Minutes, &c., $10.00



## CIRCULAR LETTER.

Agreeable to a resolve of last year, we offer you, a few thoughts on Church Government.

The subject will embrace the Materials, Officers, and Authority of the Church of Christ.

The word Church, as it is used in Scripture, has a two-fold meaning. First.—It embraces the whole Body of the Lord's people, from Adam, to the last of his redeemed Children. The Church is said in the Canticles, to be but "one, the only one of her mother, the Choice one of her that bare her."—And our Lord tells us, upon this rock (meaning himself,) will I build my Church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it. And therefore it is, that the Church is continued, from the beginning, to the end of the world, and is a spiritual, regular, and in some degree, visible body.—The Apostle calls her the General Assembly, and Church of the first born, which are written in Heaven, and she is perfectly secure, by the love of Christ, who gave himself for it.

Secondly; the word Church, will very fitly apply to the true worshippers of Christ, in congregated capacities; such as the Church at Jerusalem, at Rome, at Corinth, at Collosse, &c.

The materials of which the Church is composed, are next to be considered.—We have before shown, that she is a spiritual body. The constituent parts, therefore, must be spiritual. Thus, it is clear that those only who are by faith united to Christ, who believe, and profess his revealed truths, and submit to his ordinances, are in every age, her true Members.

In conformity with this view, is the declaration of our Lord to Nicodemus, "Except a Man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God." And, "except a Man be born of water, and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God."—John, iii. 3—5. And they must also be Baptized.—So says the Apostle.—See Romans, vi. 3.; Galatians, iii. 27.; Colossians, ii. 12. Thus we find the Great Law Giver in Zion, who is the head of the Church, together with his Apostles, have put it down in terms that he who runs may read, that none are fit materials for a Gospel Church, until they believe and are baptised; which Church, is said by the Apostle, to be the pillar and ground of truth.—1. Tim. iii. 15.

A Gospel Church, is a Commonwealth, in Celestial affairs. Her laws are Democratic, or Republic, if you please. She

acknowledges no Head but Christ, and submits to no Laws but those of the Bible. She is independent, with regard to power, and therefore from her decisions there is no appeal. She elects, (or chooses) her own officers, by the free suffrage of all her members, having regard to their gifts and qualifications.

In confirmation of all this we will refer you to the following: 1. Math. xviii. 15 to 18. Here our Lord, after telling the offended brother the course he should pursue, step by step, should he not succeed in reclaiming the offending party, he directs him to tell it to the Church. And here stops his labors; from which, it appears, that the Church is made the highest tribunal on earth, before whom offenders of their body are to be taken. And this idea, is much strengthened, from the manner in which John writes to the Seven Churches in Asia,—most of which had fallen into disorder. John was not told to write to them as a body of Churches, but to each Church, individually; and directed them to reform their own disorders.

And, again, when the Apostle Paul writes to Corinth, about the incestuous person, he directs the Church to put him away from among them.—See 1. Cor. v. 4—5., and also after the repentance of the same person.—2. Cor. ii.—he congratulates the Church, on the happy effects of their discipline, saying, sufficient unto such a man, is this punishment, which was inflicted of many, (or a majority.) Here was no appeal to another tribunal, the whole matter being transacted by the individual Church at Corinth.

In the discipline of the Church, it is all important, that the steps which the Gospel points out, should be taken, and the Church should see that the members scrupulously conform to the rules which Christ has ordained, in cases of offence. In relation to which, there are but two kinds, viz: public and private.

Offences of a public nature, are to be handled, before the whole Church. Of this kind, or mode of dealing, we have an example in the case of the incestuous person at Corinth, already referred to. For an examination of the second kind, or private offence, we refer you again, to the eighteenth chapter of Matthew, in which, it is distinctly said, "If thy brother tresspass against thee." Now, this is not an offence against the Church, or the Gospel, but against an individual. And



the steps to be pursued, are there laid down, as an invariable rule for all matters of private offences.

Thus brethren, we have given you our views on Church Government, in a very short manner; having only pointed at its general principles. But would at the same time, invite you to the Holy Scriptures, the charter of our liberties, and the Constitution and laws of our holy religion.

Finally, brethren, should this be the Scriptural form of Church Government, while we ought to cultivate Christian friendship, with those who have separated from it; it is nevertheless, our indispensable duty to contend earnestly for it; for there is such a connection in all truth, that a deviation from one part, is an open door to every error. But while we thus contend, let us always beware, lest the weapons of our warfare should be carnal. Let us pray for more Love, more zeal, more union; that the whole earth may speedily be filled with the knowledge of the Lord. And truth shine so conspicuously, that error of every kind, may be trodden down, as the mire of the streets. Brethren, farewell; may the Lord bless you. May he lift upon you the light of his countenance, and cause his face to shine upon Zion,—is the prayer of yours, in the Gospel.

HUMPHREY POSEY, *Moderator.*
JAMES WHITAKER, *Clerk.*