



MINUTES

OF THE

VIRGINIA CORRESPONDING MEETING,

HELD WITH THE

MOUNT ZION CHURCH,

Loudoun County, Virginia,

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY,

OCTOBER 13TH, 14TH AND 15TH,

1920.

J. E. BEEBE & Co., PRINTERS, MIDDLETOWN, N. Y.

W. M. L. E. T. E. S. K.

OF THE

Virginia Corresponding Members

OF THE

MOUNT NION CHURCH

London County, Virginia

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH

COLUMBIAN SEM. AND THE

1850.

J. F. Smith & Co. Printers, Philadelphia, Pa.

M I N U T E S .

WEDNESDAY, October 13, 1920.

Meeting opened with singing hymn No. 1 (Beebe's collection).

Prayer by Elder J. G. Eubanks.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder D. M. Vail, from Psalms xlvi. 4, 5.

The meeting was called to order by Elder H. H. Lefferts, Moderator, and K. C. Spindle, Clerk.

Letters from the churches in correspondence were read, and the following table prepared from their contents:

CHURCHES.	CLERKS AND ADDRESSES.	MESSENGERS' NAMES.	Baptized	Rec. by letter.	Rec. by exp.	Excluded	Died	Members
Mt. Zion	I. H. Thomas	Deacon I. H. Thomas, brother C. M. Turman	1		1			1 18
Frying Pan	R. L. Spindle	Deacon W. A. Thompson, brethren J. F. Oliver, G. C. Spindle and K. C. Spindle						1 32
Ebenezer	R. E. Robey	Deacon Eppa Norman						1 12
Bethlehem	Mrs. Hannah L. Johnson	Deacon John Garner					2	7
New Valley	T. S. Titus	Deacons T. S. Titus, S. B. Paxson and H. J. White, brethren W. F. Norman and A. G. McKimmy	2	1				1 41
Mill Creek	W. S. Miller	E. Jones						1 6

Messengers and other brethren in attendance from abroad, who are in fellowship with us, and in good standing where they belong, and bearers of letters from churches represented in the Minutes, were invited to seats with us.

A committee of the preaching brethren present was appointed to examine the Corresponding Circular Letter, written by Deacon I. H. Thomas.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Preaching in the afternoon by Elder J. M. Fenton, from Psalms l. 32; followed by Elder H. C. Ker, from Luke xv. 2.

THURSDAY, October 14, 1920.

Opened with singing hymn 1036 (Beebe's collection).

Prayer by Elder D. M. Vail.

Received correspondence and messengers from sister associations and meetings as follows:

Delaware River—Minutes, Brother Wm. Hobensack, Deacon O. R. Kugler.

Delaware—Minutes. Elder J. G. Eubanks.

Warwick—Elder H. C. Ker.

Salisbury—Minutes. Elders D. M. Vail and J. G. Eubanks.

Maine Association—Elder J. M. Fenton.

Kehukee and Contentnea—No communication.

Baltimore—Minutes.

Juniata—Minutes. Elder J. M. Fenton.

Roxbury—Minutes. Elder H. C. Ker.

Pocatalico—No communication.

Appointed our next annual meeting to be held, the Lord willing, with Ebenezer Church, Loudoun County, Virginia, beginning on Wednesday before the third Sunday in October, 1921.

Appointed J. E. Beebe & Co. to print and distribute the Minutes, and that the contributions from the churches, as stated in the several letters, be appropriated for that purpose.

Ordered, that we send Minutes to the several associations and meetings named in these Minutes, and that any member or members of the churches named in the Minutes, or brethren of our correspondence, who are present at this meeting, and who may be present at such corresponding associations or meetings, be requested to serve as our messengers to the same.

Appointed brethren J. F. Oliver, T. S. Titus and Eppa Norman a committee to examine and distribute the Minutes of corresponding associations.

The following contributions were received from the churches for printing the Minutes:

Mt. Zion, \$2.50; Frying Pan, \$4.00; Ebenezer, \$1.50; New Valley, \$3.50; Mill Creek, \$1.50.—Total, \$13.00.

The following contributions to ministers' fund were received from the different churches:

Mt. Zion, \$16.00; Frying Pan, \$20.00; Ebenezer, \$10.00; Bethlehem, \$4.00; New Valley, \$10.00; Mill Creek, \$8.50.—Total, \$78.50.

The committee appointed to examine the Corresponding Circular Letter reported, recommending its adoption. The letter was read and adopted.

Adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Preaching in the morning by Elder J. G. Eubanks, from Galatians ii. 19; followed by Elder D. M. Vail, from Psalms l.

In the afternoon by Elder H. C. Ker, from Luke xvi. 9; followed by Elder H. H. Lefferts, from Esther ix. 20-22.

FRIDAY MORNING, October 15, 1920.

Opened with singing hymn 708 (Beebe's collection).

Prayer by Elder H. C. Ker.

The committee appointed to examine and distribute the Minutes of corresponding associations reported the same had been attended to.

Appointed brother John F. Oliver to write the Corresponding Circular Letter for next year.

Minutes were read and approved.

Adjourned to meet, the Lord willing, with the Ebenezer Church, Loudoun Co., Va., on Wednesday before the third Sunday in October, 1921.

Preaching by Elder H. C. Ker, from John iii. 3; followed by remarks by Elder H. H. Lefferts.

H. H. LEFFERTS, Moderator.

K. C. SPINDLE, Clerk.

VISITING MINISTERS PRESENT.

H. C. Ker, Middletown, N. Y.

D. M. Vail, Clarks Summit, Pa.

J. M. Fenton, Philadelphia, Pa.

J. G. Eubanks, Newark, Del.

CORRESPONDING CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Virginia Corresponding Meeting, in session with the Mt. Zion Church, Loudoun County, Virginia, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 13th, 14th and 15th, 1920, to the churches composing the same, and to the associations and meetings with which we correspond, sendeth greeting.

BELOVED IN THE LORD :—Another year has come and gone forever, with its joys and sorrows, and we are permitted to meet together again as an association to worship that God who is too wise to err and too good to be unkind, and to transact the business of the association. According to a long established custom and your action at your last annual session, you expect something in the form of what we call a Circular Letter to accompany your Minutes, so we shall make the effort, realizing fully our weakness.

We read in the third chapter of John these words spoken by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: "I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." This remarkable and seemingly strange assertion was made by our Lord and Savior to Nicodemus, who knew that Jesus was more than an ordinary man, for he said, "No man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him," yet he could not understand the meaning of the words of the Lord when he said a man must be born again before he could see the kingdom of God. This misunderstanding leads us, naturally, to inquire what the spiritual birth is.

"Except a man be born again." To our mind God's elect, his chosen ones—the church and all its members, virtually received that birth when God in his wisdom and mind fixed, purposed and pre-

destinated all things before the foundation of the world. To be born again is the result of having been elected unto salvation. That birth was already a decreed fact before time was, yet that birth had to be made manifest in the coming of Jesus, his life on this earth, his sorrows and trials, his conviction and crucifixion. God's elect were spiritually born in the mind and purpose of God at the beginning of all things, and really it was the first birth, for then were they chosen in the Lord and made part of his body. "Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual." The Lord came on earth in both the flesh and the Spirit. He had eternally the Spirit, so had the elect in him. He came to make manifest his people's spiritual birth even before we had our natural birth. So while Nicodemus did not understand the Lord, yet the Lord told him only what was assured and settled. To be born is to manifest life. As our natural life is manifest by being born of woman, so is our spiritual life manifest when born spiritually, because the God of heaven first purposed it, as he did all things, and predestinated them to come to pass, as we all believe. Being born again means eternal life—salvation, and Jesus told Nicodemus that except a man be born again spiritually, or already saved eternally, he could not see the kingdom of God. This shows very plainly that we receive the new birth because our Lord received for us life from God at the very beginning, and as it was received or given us by God it was spiritual and eternal, for God is a Spirit. Dear brethren, how glorious, how exhilarating is the truth when realized. How it makes our poor,

helpless, sinful hearts rejoice when we can be given a belief or feel assured that our birth is spiritual and cometh from God out of the very beginning of all things, and that our eternal happiness is in no way, nor ever was, dependent on anything we may or can do. This same consolation which we have in the absolute predestination of all things here on earth and in heaven is the greatest joy we have or ever can have to our poor sinful hearts. May the God who rules all things guide, protect and keep you in unity and broth-

erly love in our deliberations, and at last receive his people to himself for evermore.

The next session of this Meeting is appointed to be held, the Lord willing, with the Ebenezer Church, Loudoun Co., Va., beginning on Wednesday before the third Sunday in October, 1921, and continuing three days. At that time we shall hope to again receive your ministers, messengers and correspondence.

H. H. LEFFERTS, Moderator.

K. C. SPINDLE, Clerk.

OBITUARY LETTER

...to give to our fellow-creatures and to last
...his people to himself for evermore.
...of this blessing is ap-
...the Lord with
...the Honourable Church, London, Co. V.
...beginning on Wednesday before the third
...Sunday in October, 1921, and continuing
...three days. At that time we shall hope
...to again receive your ministerial mes-
...sage and correspondence.

H. H. HUBBARD, Minister.
K. O. PRINCE, Clerk.

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