

AMERICAN BAPTIST MINUTES
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WITHDRAWN

V. B. H. S.

FEB 26 1947

OF THE

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

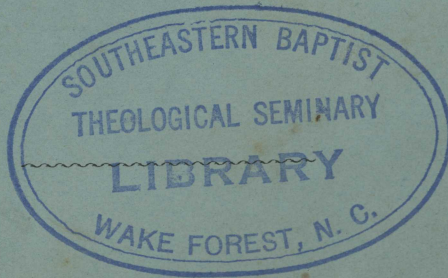
COLUMBIA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD BY APPOINTMENT WITH

THE BROAD RUN CHURCH,

FAUQUIER COUNTY, VA.,

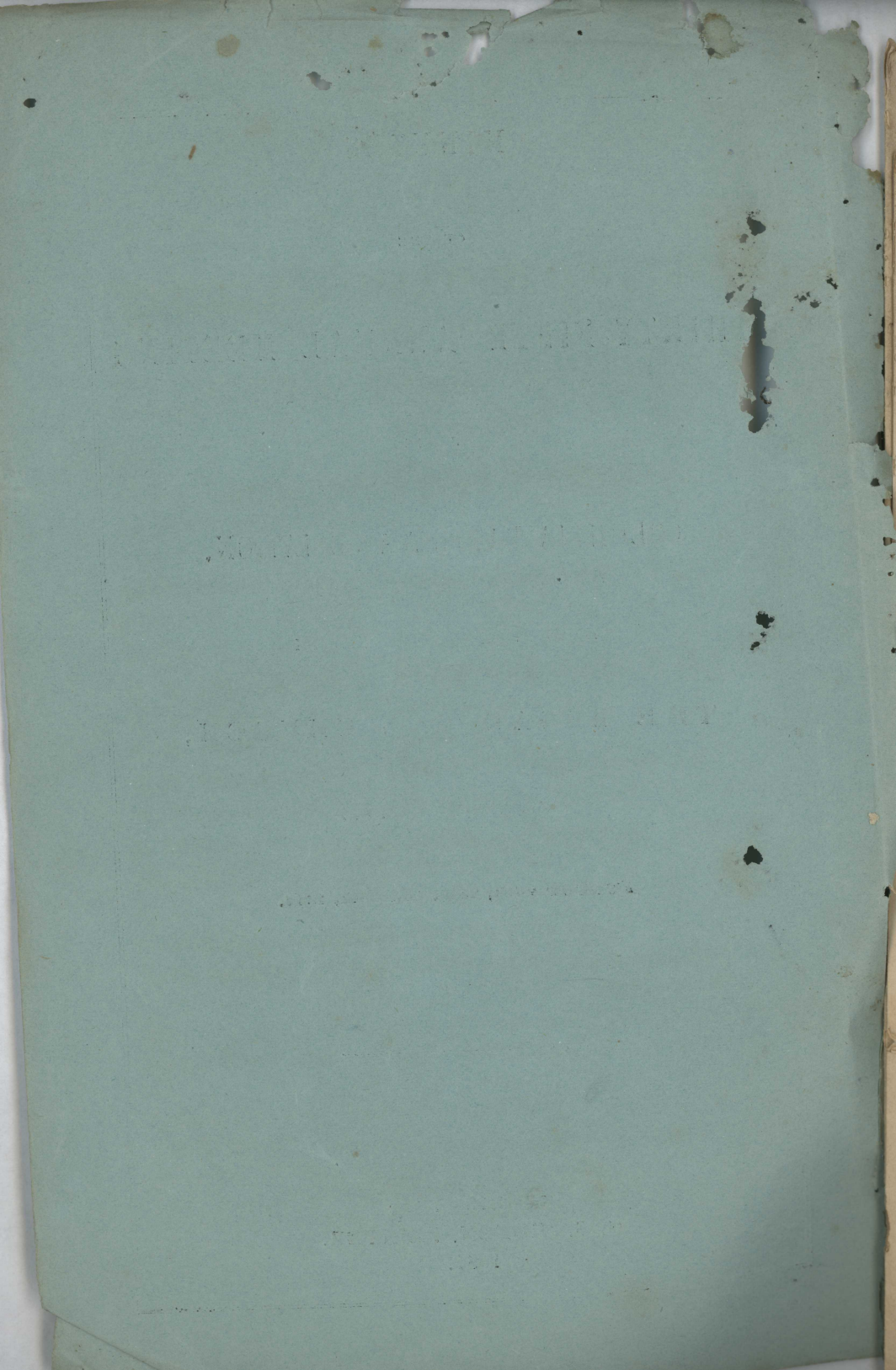
AUGUST 24th, 25th, and 26th, 1854.



WASHINGTON:

G. S. GIDEON, PRINTER.

1854.



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MINISTERS
OF THE
COLUMBIA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,
WITH THEIR
POST OFFICE ADDRESS.

LOVEL MARDERS,	Centreville, Fairfax county, Va.
EDWARD KINGSFORD,	Alexandria, Va.
STEPHEN P. HILL,	Washington, D. C.
H. H. TUCKER,	Alexandria, Va.
W. OWENS,	Fredericksburg, Va.
A. H. BENNETT,	Morrisville.
A. H. SPILLMAN,	Warrenton, Fauquier county, Va.
W. F. BROADDUS,	Fredericksburg, Va.
B. GRIMSLEY,	Washington, Rappahannock county, Va.
JOSEPH BAKER,	Winchester, Va.
G. W. HARRIS,	Stephensburg, Frederick county, Va.
CUMBERLAND GEORGE,	Culpeper C. H., Va.
T. W. GREER,	Middleburg, Fauquier county, Va.

23
24
"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, **EVEN LIFE FOR EVERMORE.**" *Psalm 133.*

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are **TRUE**, whatsoever things are **HONEST**, whatsoever things are **JUST**, whatsoever things are **PURE**, whatsoever things are **LOVELY**, whatsoever things are of good **REPORT**; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, **THINK ON THESE THINGS.**" *Paul.*

MINUTES.

THURSDAY, *August 24th*, 1854.

The Association met at the Broad Run church, in Fauquier county, Virginia, at 11 o'clock.

1. The introductory sermon was preached by Bro. Stephen P. Hill, of Washington city, from 1 Thess., v. 11, on *Mutual Edification*, its *spirit*, its *objects*, and its *means*.
2. After prayer by Bro. Cumberland George, the Association was called to order by the Moderator of last year, who called for the reading of the letters from the churches. Their statistical details will be found on the following page.

STATISTICAL VIEW OF THE CHURCHES.

The names of ordained ministers are in SMALL CAPITALS. Vacant churches are distinguished by a dash (—).

Names of churches, their clerks, and when constituted.	Location of the churches, and names of pastors and delegates.	Days of preaching.	Received by letter.								
			Baptised.	Restored.	Dismissed. Excluded.	Deceased.	Whites.	Blacks.			
Little River, 1769. Jas. C. Green.	Loudoun county. LOVELL MARDERS..... Joseph Taylor, Sandford Rogers.	1st L. D.	1	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	60
Back Lick, 1791. Willis Henderson.	Fairfax county. EDWARD KINGSFORD.... Willis Henderson, Reuben Kelsey.	2d & 4th.	—	3	—	—	—	—	21	27	48
Pleasant Vale, 1799. John J. Ashby.	Fauquier county. B. GRIMSLEY..... J. W. Newman, Hugh Rogers.	2d & 4th.	—	—	—	5	1	2	—	—	70
First Washington, 1802. John W. Clarke.	Washington, D. C. STEPHEN P. HILL..... Isaac Clarke, Wm. J. Rhees.	Every.	4	4	—	5	1	5	—	—	145
Alexandria, 1802. Wm. H. Rogers.	Alexandria county. H. H. TUCKER..... Silas J. Sanders, Wm. H. Rogers, Zephaniah English.	Every.	6	15	—	6	—	2	89	—	89
Grove, 1812. S. G. Embrey.	Fauquier county. WARREN OWENS..... S. G. Embrey, N. T. Stringfellow.	2d.	16	3	—	6	1	1	173	72	245
Rock Hill, 1812. John A. Starke.	Stafford County. WARREN OWENS..... Jefferson Heifling, H. Dodd, T. Ramey.	3d.	17	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	85
Zoar, 1812. Jesse Peters.	Fauquier county. A. H. Bennett, R. H. Payne, W. A. Smith.	1st.	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	125
Fredericksburg, 1825.	Fredericksburg. WM. F. BROADDUS..... George P. King, W. A. Beazely.	Every.	73	33	11	22	16	4	168	564	732

STATISTICAL VIEW OF THE CHURCHES—Continued.

Names of churches, their clerks, and when constituted.	Location of the churches, and names of pastors and delegates.	Days of preaching	Baptised.	Rec'd, &c.	Restored.	Dismiss'd.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Whites.	Blacks.	Total.
Broad Run, 1830.	Fauquier county. A. H. SPILLMAN..... A. Utterback, Alfred Glasscock, John Carnall.	2d L.D.	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	119
Jerusalem, 1840. Coleman Kidwell.	Fairfax county. L. MARDERS..... Josephus Cross, R. T. Scisson.	3d.	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Union, 1843. C. S. Walker.	Culpeper county. W. OWENS..... John B. Humphreys, Richard Cole, Alexander Hall.	4th.	6	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	107
Second Ebenezer, 1842. John L. Powell.	Loudoun county. H. W. DODGE..... George Keene, John Butcher, jr. Burr P. Fredd.	1st.	-	1	-	-	-	-	53	-	53
Zoar of Jefferson, 1844.	Jefferson county. Jos. BAKER..... David Sheffield, A. D. Hudspeth, Wm. Manuel.	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Winchester, 1844. G. W. Ward.	Frederick county. J. BAKER..... J. W. Jones, Robert Newman.	3d.	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	53
Hebron, 1849.	Frederick county. GEORGE W. HARRIS..... Alfred Garrett, George Brown.	1st.	4	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	31
Warrenton, 1849. J. T. James.	Fauquier county. CUMBERLAND GEORGE... A. H. Spillman, John Smith, Lewis Shumate.	3d.	16	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	63
Berea.	Stafford county. W. OWENS..... Benjamin Hall.	1st.	4	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Waterford, 1853.	Loudoun county. T. W. GREER..... Jonah Orrison, Washington Myers.	4th.	1	4	-	1	-	1	-	-	42
Total			158	97	11	51	22	21	-	663	2132

Nineteen churches. Total of last year

Nett increase

At the close of the Association, the deaths of Deacons Thos. P. Shearman and Thomas Rogers, were feelingly and appropriately referred to by the Moderator, at whose suggestion prayer was offered by Bro. W. Owens that this bereaving dispensation of Divine Providence might be sanctified to the churches of which our brethren were efficient and beloved members, and also to this Association, by whom their worth was known and appreciated.

3. Brother Edward Kingsford was chosen Moderator.
4. The pastor and delegates of this church were appointed a committee to arrange the religious services during the session of the Association.

Adjourned till 10 a. m. to-morrow.

Prayer by Brother Martin T. Sumner, agent of the American Tract Society.

FRIDAY MORNING, *August 25th.*

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Brother George F. Adams, of Baltimore.

5. Ministering brethren present were very cordially invited to take seats with us, and also to participate in our deliberations. The invitation was accepted by Rev. M. T. Sumner, General Agent of the American Tract Society for the State of Virginia; Brother Sedgwick, agent for the Baptist Memorial.
6. The committee to arrange religious exercises reported Bros. G. F. Adams and I. Cole this morning, and M. T. Sumner, this afternoon.
7. The Moderator announced the following committees:
 - Committee on Benevolent Efforts—Brethren S. P. Hill, M. T. Sumner, and H. Rogers.
 - Committee to examine the letters of the churches—Bre'n L. Marders, G. W. Harris, and W. Owens.
 - Committee to audit the Treasurer's account—Bre'n J. Smith and Isaac Clarke.
8. Members from corresponding associations reported themselves as follows:
 - SALEM UNION—Brethren Dodge, Simpson, T. H. Herndon, R. Herndon, B. Taylor, and E. Taylor.
 - SHILOH—Bro. C. George.
 - ALBEMARLE—No communication.
 - RAPPAHANNOCK—Bro. Addison Hall.

GOSHEN—No communication.

MARYLAND UNION—Brethren I. Cole, G. F. Adams, and Professor Huntington.

DOVER ASSOCIATION—Bro. M. T. Sumner.

9. Rev. M. T. Sumner, General Agent of the American Tract Society, asked leave of the Association to lay before them a brief statement of the plans and aims of the American Tract Society. The request was promptly and heartily agreed to, and Bro. Sumner presented a glowing picture of the pressing necessities of a large portion of the inhabitants of our own State, and of the readiness of the American Tract Society to meet these necessities if adequate means are placed at its disposal.

In view of the above facts Bro. W. F. Broaddus offered the following resolution, which he sustained by a few very pertinent remarks, and the relation of an anecdote, which made a deep impression upon the audience:

Resolved, That the American Tract Society deserves the confidence and support of our brethren.

10. *Resolved*, That Brethren Greer and Baker, together with its author, be a committee to examine the circular letter.
11. Corresponding messengers were appointed as follows:

General Association of Virginia—Brethren Baker, Greer, and Broaddus.

Salem Union—Brethren Spillman, Greer, Marders, S. Shumate, J. Taylor, and W. F. Broaddus.

Goshen—Brethren Broaddus and Bennett.

Shiloh—Minutes.

Rappahannock—Brethren Broaddus, Greer, and S. P. Hill.

Dover—Minutes.

Maryland Union—Brethren Broaddus, Kingsford, and Greer.

12. Brother John W. Jones was appointed to write the circular letter.
13. Brother Spillman was requested to write the corresponding letter for this year.
14. *Resolved*, That the next association be held with the Baptist church in Alexandria; Brother W. F. Broaddus to preach the introductory sermon, and in case of failure, Brother L. Marders.
15. *Resolved*, That it be a standing rule of this Association, that any brother being at any association with which we correspond, whose name is recorded upon our minutes, be considered a messenger from this Association to that body.

16. *Resolved, unanimously*, That it be earnestly recommended to the churches and brethren to contribute liberally, according to the means which God has given them, to the support of missionary labors, both in our own and foreign lands.
17. *Resolved, unanimously*, That in witnessing the desecration of the Sabbath, or Lord's day, which prevails to so great an extent, the members of our churches be requested to guard themselves, with special watchfulness and care, against giving countenance to this evil by their example; and that the pastors of the churches be requested to bring the subject before their respective congregations at least once a year.
18. *Resolved*, That this Association commend the Columbian and Richmond colleges to the pecuniary aid, as well as to the prayers of the members of the churches composing this body; and they also recommend them to the patronage of young men studying for the gospel ministry, and of parents who desire to educate their sons for usefulness.
19. *Resolved*, That the work of missions, in which so many of our churches are engaged, both at home and abroad, is an enterprise upon which the countenance of God is lifted up in all its cheering, enlivening, and invigorating influences, and that, therefore, it is our solemn duty to be up and doing, and remain steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the use of all proper means for its advancement.
20. *Resolved*, That this Association recommend to all the churches within its bounds to procure books from the Baptist Publication Society, and establish libraries in each, and encourage the members to read them, especially the young, or any other member of the congregation.
21. *Resolved*, That the American and Foreign Bible Society, in its principles and designs, demands, and should receive, the support and counsels, the prayers and contributions of the members of our churches, corresponding, in some good degree at least, with *their*, and the *wants* of the world.
22. *Resolved*, That Brother Kingsford be still requested to furnish for the Baptist Preacher a copy of the sermon preached by him in the First Baptist Church, Washington, on the death of our late venerated and highly respected brother, O. B. Brown, and Elizabeth, his wife; together with such biographical sketches of the same as he may deem proper.

23. *Resolved*, That two hours or more of the second day of our next Association, commencing at 9 o'clock, be spent in solemn conference. This conference shall embrace, amongst other topics, 1st, the *state of religion* in the churches composing this body, and the *mental, moral, and religious* condition of the inhabitants within its bounds.

2. *The marks of religious decay.*

3. *The probable causes of that decay, and the means by which it may be removed.*

Resolved, That for the sake of order and dispatch, the delegates shall make a brief statement, embracing the topics specified in the above resolution, in the order in which the churches stand on the minutes, and afterwards a freer and more general conference shall take place.

Resolved, That whilst it is desirable that the conference should take the turn indicated by the above topics, yet it is by no means intended rigidly to confine any speaker to these, the great object contemplated by this arrangement being the advancement of *truth*, the *growth of true piety*, and the *glory of God*.

24. *Resolved*, That the churches be requested to embrace in their next annual letter a brief historical sketch of their origin and progress up to the present time.

25. *Resolved*, That the balance in the hand of the treasurer, after defraying the expenses of the Association, be paid over to the treasurer of the Missionary Society of the Association.

26. The circular letter prepared by Brother Marders was read and adopted.

27. A letter was presented from the First African church of Alexandria, desiring to be admitted into this Association.

The letter and request were referred to the following committee:

Brethren Baker, Spillman, Greer, and Henderson.

28. The query from the Hebron church was taken up, and dismissed without discussion.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock, to give place for the meeting of the Missionary society, which, by appointment, is to convene this afternoon.

Prayer by Brother W. F. Broadus.

SATURDAY MORNING, August 26, 1854.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Brother Dodge.

The committee to arrange the preaching, report Brethren Baker and Harris this morning, and Brother Owens this afternoon.

The committee upon the application of the First African church in Alexandria to become a member of this body, report, that they are divided in their opinion as to the propriety of receiving this church into the Association. Two are in favor, and one against. Whereupon the following resolution was offered by Brother W. F. Broaddus, as a substitute for the report of the committee, and was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the application of the First African church in Alexandria to be united with our body. The duty of this committee shall be to examine into the laws of Virginia with respect to the privileges which colored churches may enjoy as separated bodies, and to report at our next session whether, and on what terms, said First African church of Alexandria should be received into this body. Committee to consist of Brethren Broaddus, Kingsford, Hill, and Tucker.

The committee on Benevolent Efforts presented the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

The committee on Benevolent Efforts beg leave to present the following brief report:

First. That, with great pleasure, they have observed that the amount of contributions of our brethren to the various evangelical enterprises in which the churches are engaged for the spread of truth, is gradually increasing from year to year. *Secondly*. In the above fact they see the evidence of an increasing proof that they are not their own, but Christ's, whose they are, and whom they serve. *Thirdly*. That the result of these operations plainly indicates their usefulness, adaptation, and necessity to furnish the great authorized agencies for the final triumph of a pure evangelical christianity. *Fourthly*. Can we then doubt what is our duty? Shall we withhold the word of life to the dying millions of our race? Shall we abate our efforts; diminish our interests? No! While one family on earth is destitute of the word of God we will offer our prayers, which shall be accompanied by our alms, that this precious legacy to man may be possessed by all. *Fifthly*. That we recognise in the system of colportage a powerful agency of good, well calculated to supply the destitution arising from a scarcity of ministers, laboring as it does through the instrumentality of *personal*,

direct application of Divine truth, and the circulation of religious tracts and publications, calculated to comfort the distressed, and alarm the unconcerned. *Sixthly*. Thus we may let these messengers have wings, and fly to every human abode. Let them go: let FLAVEL, OWEN, BUNYAN, PIERCE, MARTYN, PIKE, BAXTER, and others, speak again, as once they did speak, in terms of love, encouragement, and alarm.

Brethren, the eye, as well as the ear, must be addressed. Every possible access afforded to the understanding must be called into requisition, and laid under tribute to the demands of the gospel. Your committee would suggest, that the report on this subject, as published in last year's minutes, is deserving of another reading, and should claim the serious attention of the churches.

Respectfully submitted.

S. P. HILL, *Chairman*.

The committee appointed to audit the treasurer's accounts made the following report:

Cash received for printing minutes, and in part for missionary purposes for 1853.....	\$103 00
Cash paid by him to H. Rogers, treasurer of the missionary fund	\$78 00
Cash paid to Bro. Hill for printing the minutes.....	25 00
	<hr/> 103 00

NOTE.—The balance of the missionary fund is directly in the hands of Hugh Rogers, treasurer, and consequently does not appear in the above statement.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CHURCHES FOR 1854.

Fredericksburg.....	\$5 00	Back Lick.....	\$3 00
Alexandria.....	5 00	Warrenton.....	3 00
Grove.....	4 00	Zoar of Jefferson.....	1 25
Hebron.....	2 75	Rock Hill.....	3 00
Winchester.....	1 75	Pleasant Vale.....	5 00
Jerusalem.....	2 10	Broad Run.....	5 00
1st Washington.....	5 00	Little River.....	3 00
2d Ebenezer.....	5 50		
Waterford.....	2 00		
Union.....	3 50		
Zoar.....	4 75		
Berea.....	2 00		
			<hr/> \$66 50

JOHN SMITH,
ISAAC CLARKE.

Resolved, That the constitution of the General Association of Virginia, as revised at the last June meeting, be approved by this Association. This resolution was passed by a prompt and unanimous vote.

Resolved, That Brethren Kingsford, Hill, and Tucker be a standing committee, whose duty it shall be to present at each Association a report setting forth the claims of the General Association, which claims shall be discussed, and a public collection taken to promote the great objects of that body.

Ordered, That one thousand copies of the minutes be printed, and that Brethren Hill and Kingsford be requested to superintend the printing and distribution of the same, and that twenty-five dollars be appropriated for the printing; also, that any expense that the above

brethren may have incurred in the last year's distribution, or which they may incur in the present, be paid them by the treasurer of the Association.

Ordered, That the clerk receive ten dollars for his services.

The committee on the letters of the churches made the following report, and recommended for adoption the resolution appended to it:

The committee beg leave to report, that they find nothing of special interest in the letters placed in their hands for examination, with the exception of an important suggestion from the Fredericksburg church, concerning which they beg leave to submit the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, The churches of Salem Union and Columbia Associations are so mingled and interspersed as to make great geographical inconvenience: And whereas, Goshen and Shiloh Associations also have churches involved in the same geographical difficulty: therefore

Resolved, That in our judgment it is desirable to hold a convention of delegates from these several associations, to take into consideration the expediency of arranging these bodies with regard to geographical compactness, so as to relieve the inconvenience above referred to.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to visit the several associations mentioned above, and to lay this matter before them at their next sessions, respectively.

Resolved, That if any or all of said associations concur in the above views, the committee above appointed shall be our delegates to a convention to be agreed upon by the several delegations that may be appointed for that purpose. The said convention shall report to each association which may be represented in it at its ensuing session.

The preamble and resolutions having been unanimously adopted, the following brethren were appointed to carry them into effect: W. F. Broaddus, Lovel Marders, Hugh Rogers, Stephen P. Hill, and A. H. Bennett.

On motion, the Moderator, Bro. E. Kingsford, was added to the number.

Resolved, That any one or more of the above committee, being present at any of the associations, shall be authorized to act in the premises, so that the important object contemplated by this measure may be carried into effect with the least possible delay.

29. *Resolved, unanimously*, That the hearty and sincere gratitude of this Association be tendered to the kind friends who have extended to us their generous hospitality, the impressions of which we would take this opportunity to assure them are very deep, and will be long and affectionately cherished by us.

During the session of the Association the spiritual wants of the public were amply provided for. Preaching from the stand was frequent each day, including the Sabbath; and we can but cherish the hope that the seed sown upon that occasion will, in due season, vegetate and bring forth fruit to the honor and glory of God, to whom, as is justly due, be ascribed might, majesty, dominion, and power for ever. It is very gratifying to remark, that the Association enjoyed a most delightful, harmonious, and interesting session. The only circumstance which cast a gloom over the assembly was the notice of the death of two valuable and sincerely beloved brethren, whose faces for many years were seen in this Association, radiant with the peace and hope of the Gospel; but even this gloom passed away as we listened to the voice of inspiration, which said, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

EDWARD KINGSFORD, *Moderator*.

A. H. BENNETT, *Clerk*.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

DEAR BRETHREN: We again present to you our annual epistle, that you may know our love for you, and our ardent desire for your spiritual welfare. There is one subject, brethren, which cannot be too much insisted on, because it stands paramount to all others in God's book, the charter of human redemption; and this is, holiness, christian holiness, of heart and life, designed to be the distinguishing badge of our holy profession. The naming of such a subject suggests its deep importance, and ought to awaken interest in every pious mind. We trust, therefore, while we press on you its consideration, you will properly appreciate our motives, and duly weigh our reflections. If we were to define the term here used, we should say it is purity of moral character, exemption from sin, from pollution, from all moral defilement. And is this absolutely necessary? It is, brethren. This is the glorious prize for which we are called to fight; after which we are called to run. We must be holy, brethren, or we never can be happy. The christian religion is the only religion on earth that reveals a plan to make men, unholy men, happy, by making them holy. Holiness is the glory of God's character; all his attributes are holy, so holy, so pure, that nothing unclean can come with acceptance in His sight. He cannot look on sin with allowance; can make no apology, no excuse for it; it is utterly abhorrent in His sight. How pure then must be His worship! How holy His worshippers! God's merciful purpose, then, is to make man holy again, without which "he cannot see the Lord." All false religions aim to lower the Divine Being to the human standard, but the true religion seeks to elevate man to the divine standard.

Archimedes desired a fulcrum strong enough, somewhere in space, and a lever long enough to lift the world out of its place. We have it, brethren! The blood and righteousness of Christ, fixed in that awful space between infinite purity and holiness, and the regions of sin and death, are sufficient to afford the assurance "that He is able to save, to the uttermost, all that come unto God by him." And the lever, too, is long enough and strong enough to lift a ruined world out of its place, from sin and pollution, to holiness and glory. And do you ask what it is? We answer, faith, trust, holy confidence. Yes! brethren, God shall beat Satan with his own weapon. The instrument of our ruin shall be the instrument of our recovery. Yes, the influence of belief shall burn up all the devil's fuel, and purify the mind, heart, and life. But the question arises, how can this faith be superinduced into a mind already occupied by lies and deceit? "God gives it." How? Without the truth, apart from the truth? No, but by the truth, and through the truth, the powers of the soul are assaulted by the influence of God's holy truth, until the mind, the will, the judgment, the heart are captivated, and brought in submission to the truth, and hence "the obedience of faith." What! Without the influences of the holy spirit? No! But the holy spirit operates through the truth, with the truth, and by the truth, and not without the truth, and therefore "he is called the spirit of truth;" and so we are "begotten by the word of truth," we are born of the spirit. Thine, O God, be all the glory, and "man's the boundless bliss." Thus, brethren, it is that God works in us to will and to do of his good pleasure; "works all our works in us," that we may "work out our own salvation with fear and trembling." Yes! God thus carries on the holy work of cleansing through the truth within, that we may work without. And how? Let Paul teach you thus: "Put off the old man, with his deeds, which is corrupt, according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new man, which, after God, is created in righteousness and true holiness." This is the sum of our duty to ourselves; and oh, what a privilege it should be to work with God, or rather to concur with him in his glorious designs of mercy and love. The old man must be crucified, for "if ye live after the flesh ye shall die;" "but if ye, through the spirit, do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live." This is the sum of every Christian's duty to himself. To undress and to dress, to put off and put on. How expressive the metaphor! Think of the place, the state, the company to which you are bound, "an innumerable company of angels, the spirits of just men made perfect. To God the judge of all, and to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant." O! Brethren, are you ready? Oh, will it be said of us, "The bride hath made herself ready?" "They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb?" That this may be, let us imitate Paul: "so run not as uncertainly, so fight not as one that beatech the air, but keep under our bodies, and bring them into subjection." "Fight the good fight of faith, and lay hold on eternal life." The prize is worth so running and so fighting. "He that overcometh shall inherit all things." But we have also social duties to perform. God hath made every man, in some important sense, his "brother's keeper." We use here the words of the first guilty murderer—a vain attempt

to shake off the obligation which his guilty conscience felt; we are the guardians of each other's welfare, therefore it is said, "thou shalt in no wise suffer sin on thy brother, but shalt by all means rebuke him." "Bear ye one another's burdens;" "look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." Have we discharged our duties to our fellow creatures as men, as Christians? Look around you, at home, in your own borders, in America, in Europe, in Asia, in Africa. How many millions are "under sin!" These are all your brethren, children of the same parents; have we delivered our skirts of their blood? It may be required at our hands. What a fearful thought! But we have done something. Yes! Contributed a few fractions, and reserved the units, the tens, the hundreds, the thousands. For what? To feed, perhaps, the lusts and passions of that old man which must be destroyed, or we are undone. Whose is the silver and gold? To what purpose could it be better employed than in sending the pure word of God abroad; than in sending the tidings of salvation around the globe, that all nations may read and hear, in their own tongues, wherein they were born, the "wonderful works of God." A wail of anguish comes up to the ears of the churches from the four winds, from nations perishing for the lack of vision. O brethren, shall we at last have to feel and say with Joseph's brethren, "we are verily guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the anguish of his soul when he besought us, and we would not hear." What a thorn for a dying pillow! No, we would not. O! shall we sell our brethren for gold? Look to glory, brethren, and learn the legitimate use of gold; it forms pavements there on which the redeemed walk. Pave, if you will, your path to glory with it; walk on it; keep it under your feet here; send it on ahead; lay it up in the Heavenly city; put it in God's bank, a "treasure in heaven." Be "rich in good works;" "ready to distribute, willing to communicate." But oh, we beseech you, pave not the way to ruin with solid ingots, while you dare to give the mere filings to the cause of truth and holiness. If you dare to hoard it up here, the "rust thereof will be a swift witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire." Brethren, we have not done right with God's bounty; we have abused his mercies, and indignant Heaven seems about to take the matter in his own hands in holy displeasure, and mortify those passions we would not mortify. "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." The joint worm, the grasshopper, the drought, seem likely to break the "whole staff of bread." "If you will not take heed to give glory to God, I will curse your blessings, yea, I have cursed them already." But he still says, "return unto me and I will return unto you." O, brethren, let us turn and lead new lives of holy devotion to God and his cause, and "be holy, for God is holy." "Turn us, O God, and cause thy face to shine on us, and we shall be saved." "Then all things shall work together for good to those who love God, who are called according to his purpose."

To God, only wise, be glory in the church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end, Amen.

EDWARD KINGSFORD, *Moderator.*

A. H. BENNETT, *Clerk.*

THE COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION,

To Sister Associations with which she corresponds.

BELoved BRETHREN:—Through the indulgence and protection of a kind Providence, we have been permitted to meet again as an association for the year 1854. It gives us pleasure to let you hear from us, although we have nothing of a peculiarly interesting character to communicate. The churches composing our Body are living in peace and harmony, and the Lord has added to their number more or less by baptism this year; for which we should unite with the angels in heaven in praise and rejoicing. We were glad to meet with some of your messengers once more, and can assure you they were received with open hearts and hands. We should have been more delighted at the appearance of a larger number, and hope in the future that the number of messengers from sister associations will be greatly increased, as we believe this friendly intercourse tends greatly to promote the edification and instruction of the ministry and membership. You will see, by our minutes, *where* and *when* our association will meet next year.

May grace, mercy, and peace be with all the Israel of God forever. Amen.

EDWARD KINGSFORD,

Moderator.

A. H. BENNETT, *Clerk.*

REPORT

OF THE

MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE COLUMBIA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1854.

The Missionary Society of the Columbia Association was called to order by the President, Dr. Kingsford; and after prayer by Brother Harris, the President made a most interesting and instructive address on the subject of Domestic Missions.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a committee of two be appointed to nominate a Board of officers for the ensuing year, consisting of Brothers Marders and Spillman.

The Treasurer's report being called for, it was read; and, on motion, received and adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Missionary Society of the Columbia Baptist Association,

In account with Hugh Rogers, Treasurer.

1853—Aug. 27.	To cash paid Clerk of Association.....	\$10 00
“ “	To cash paid Willis Henderson, account vs. Association...	28 00
“ “	To cash paid Rev. T. W. Greer.....	120 00

\$158 00

CR.

1853—Aug. 27.	By cash from late Treasurer and churches.....	\$158 00
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1854—Aug. 25.	Receipts from Little River church, \$22; First church, Washington, D. C., \$20; Waterford, \$3; Zoar of Jefferson, \$5; Winchester, \$5 75; Second Ebenezer, \$40; Alexandria, \$30 13; Jerusalem, \$10; Grove, \$15; Union, (Culpeper,) \$9 50; Berea, \$19; Warrenton, \$27 50; Pleasant Vale, \$9; and Rock Hill, \$5 30. Making in full from all the churches, in the hands of the Treasurer.....	\$222 18
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HUGH ROGERS,

Treasurer.

The committee to appoint a new Board recommended Brother Kingsford for President, and the Board to consist of Brothers Baker, Hugh Rogers, Treasurer, and Jones, as Secretary. Which, on motion, was adopted.

Brother T. W. Greer, Missionary, presented his report, which was read and accepted, viz:

I have preached 191 sermons during the last Associational year; baptized 47 persons; visited 331 families, and circulated 165 volumes of religious books; collected for General Association, and accounted to them, \$33; collected for Columbia Association \$64 10, and about \$3,000 to erect a meeting-house in Waterford, which is nearly completed.

T. W. GREER, *Missionary.*

To services for you one year.....	\$200 00
By amount collected.....	64 10

Balance due me.....\$135 90

T. W. G.

It was moved and seconded that the appointment of Brother Samuel Rogers as Missionary, by the General Association, be confirmed. Agreed to.

On motion, Brother T. W. Greer was continued as our Missionary.

Brother Baker then offered the following:

Resolved, That we request our Missionary, Brother Greer, to visit Zoar church in Jefferson county, and hold a meeting with them, conducted as he may think best for the glory of God. Which was adopted.

Brother S. P. Hill presented the following:

Resolved, That in view of the moral destitution within the limits of this Association, we will, relying on Divine aid, increase our efforts to supply that destitution by employing at least two colporteurs in addition to our present missionaries, to labor in such fields as this society may designate, and that we will pledge ourselves to the amount necessary to support them. Adopted.

On motion of Brother Marders, it was resolved that our aid be continued to the church of Back Lick, and elsewhere; and carried.

On motion of same, our missionary was directed to preach one Sabbath in each month at Little River church.

It was then moved that the next meeting of the society be held with the Baptist church of Alexandria, on the second day of the Association.

On motion, the society then adjourned, by singing, prayer, and the benediction.

EDWARD KINGSFORD, *President*.

JNO. W. JONES, *Secretary*.

THE NEXT ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD WITH THE CHURCH
IN ALEXANDRIA, ON THURSDAY, THE 23^d DAY OF AUGUST, 1855.

BRO. W. F. BROADDUS to preach the introductory Sermon, in case of failure of Bro.
L. MARDERS.

