

MINUTES

OF THE

CANOOCHIE ASSOCIATION,

CONVENED AT

MILL CREEK, BULLOCH COUNTY,

COMMENCED ON

SATURDAY, BEFORE THE FOURTH SUNDAY

IN

SEPTEMBER, 1841.

Sabbath:

PRINTED BY THOS. PURSE.

1841.



MINUTES.

1. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Brother Archibald Odum, from the ninth chapter of Romans and sixth verse.—

"They are not all Israel, which are of Israel."

2. After a short intermission the Messengers from the different Churches convened in the Meeting House, and the Association was opened by Singing and Prayer by the Moderator.

3 Received and read Letters from twenty-five Churches and minuted their state.

4. Proceeded to organize this body, and re-elected Brother Isaac Norris, Moderator, and Joseph Hagin, Clerk.

5. Received and read a Letter desiring to join this body, to wit: from Bethlehem, Bulloch county, and it was joyfully received by the Moderator's giving their Messengers the right hand of fellowship.

6. Invited Ministering Brethren of the same faith and order to a seat with us and help us in our deliberations.

7. Appointed the following Brethren as a Committee to arrange the preaching during this Association, to wit: S. B. Tarver, Edward Brannan and Absolum Parrish, with Delegates of said Church.

8. Appointed the following Brethren as a Committee to arrange the business of the Association, to wit: Isaac Norris, A. Odum and S. Brantley.

9. Received the report of the Committee to arrange the Preaching. Brother F. Knight to commence at ten o'clock, followed by Brother J. L. Southwell; thirty minutes intermission then Brother J. Norris, and closed by Brother C. Cobb.

10. Called on Brother T. Knight for Circular Letter. It was read and received.

11. On motion, then adjourned until Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

12. Sunday morning the Brethren came forward in the order of their names and preached to a large and orderly congregation, and from appearances we hope their was good done in the name of the Lord.

13. Monday morning met according to adjournment, and the Association was opened by Singing and Prayer by the Moderator.

14. Called the roll and proceeded to business.

15. The report of the Committee for arranging the business of the Association was received and read.

16. The arrangement for general meetings: 1st, at Upper Lott's Creek, Bulloch county, to commence Friday before the fifth Lord's day in October, 1841; 2d, to be at Deloache's Meeting House, Bulloch county, to commence Friday before the fifth Lord's day in January, 1842; 3d, at Mount Gilead, Washington county, to commence Friday before the fifth Lord's day in May, 1842; 4th, at Jones' Meeting House, Emanuel county, to commence Friday before the fifth Lord's day in July, 1842.

17. Appointed our next Association to be at Limestone, Washington county, to commence Saturday before the fourth Lord's day in September, 1842, and Brother Curtis Cobb to preach the Introductory Sermon and Brother Wm. Groover his alternative.

18. Appointed Brother J. G. Williams to write the Circular Letter.

19. Agreed to have eight hundred copies of these minutes printed, and the Clerk to attend to the printing and distributing of the same.

20. Called for contributions.

21. Resolved, That we return our thanks to God and this vicinity, for their kind and affectionate attention to us during the meeting; and adjourned in order.

ISAAC NORRIS, *Moderator.*

JOSEPH HAGIN, *Clerk.*

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

| Churches, Counties and Messengers Names. | REC'D BY BAPTISM. | RECEIVED BY LETTER. | RECOMMENDED. | EXCOMMUNICATED. | RESTORED. | DEAD. | TOTAL. | CONTRIBUTIONS. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|-------|--------|----------------|
| Ordained Ministers Names in SMALL CAPITAL LETTERS. | | | | | | | | |
| Licensed Preachers' Names in <i>Italic Letters.</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Mount Gilead, Washington County, | 9 | 1 | | | | 1 | 18 | \$1,00 |
| Newhope, Emanuel Co. S. STRANGE, R. Edenfield. | | | | | | | 41 | 1,25 |
| Lower Black Creek, Bryan Co. J. Barber, J. Dukes. | 1 | | | | | | 32 | 1,50 |
| Beard's Creek, Tatnall Co. T. KNIGHT, S. KNIGHT. | 5 | 4 | 1 | | | | 61 | 1,50 |
| Lane's Meeting House, Bulloch Co. J. Brown..... | | | | | | | 13 | 1,00 |
| Oak Grove, Emanuel Co. J. NORRIS, J. BRANTLY,.. | 3 | | 6 | 3 | | | 26 | 1,25 |
| Upper Lott's Creek, Bulloch Co. M. Scarborough, A. Parish,..... | 6 | | 12 | 2 | 1 | | 44 | 2,00 |
| Lake Meeting House, Bulloch County, H. Bowen, J. Green,..... | 1 | 1 | | 2 | | | 20 | 1,00 |
| Water Mellon Creek, Tatnall County. D. Johnson, C. Blount,..... | | | 1 | 2 | | | 27 | 1,25 |
| Deloach's Meeting House, Bulloch County, A. Jones, B. Bennet, | 1 | 4 | | | | 1 | 26 | 1,00 |
| Hine's Meeting House, Emanuel Co. Wm. Hall,... | 6 | | | 1 | | 1 | 24 | 1,00 |
| Upper Black Creek, Bulloch County, W. GROOVER, M. Denmark, | | | 2 | | | 2 | 50 | 2,00 |
| Jones' Meeting House, Emanuel County, N. Burge, M. Mercer, | 1 | 2 | 6 | 3 | | | 31 | 1,50 |
| Lime Stone, Washington Co. S. B. Tarver W. Smith | 9 | | 2 | | | | 34 | 1,50 |
| Lower Lott's Creek, Bulloch County, J. G. Williams Edward Brannan, | 3 | 5 | 14 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 80 | 2,00 |
| Mill Creek, Bulloch Co. W. S. MOORE, J. Hagin,... | 6 | 1 | 5 | | | 1 | 93 | 3,00 |
| Hebron, Emanuel County, J. MILLER, J. Coward,... | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | | 3 | 64 | 2,50 |
| Wade's Meeting House, Scriven County, J. Simons John Morgan, | 3 | 1 | | | 2 | 3 | 36 | 1,50 |
| Cedar Creek, Mount Horeb, Tatnall County, J. Coe, J. Collins, | 5 | 5 | | 2 | 1 | 1 | 58 | 1,50 |
| L. Bethel, Emanuel Co. J. Miller, W. Proctor, | 1 | 4 | 1 | | | | 15 | 50 |
| Providence, do do A. ODUM, T. Kersey, | 9 | 1 | | | | 1 | 41 | 1,25 |
| Canoochee, do do C. COBB, | 4 | 5 | | | | | 34 | 2,50 |
| Nevil's Creek, Bulloch Co. M. Wilson W. Hendricks | 1 | 1 | | | | | 38 | 1,00 |
| Bethlehem, do do S. Brannan T. Aldermen | 2 | 5 | | | | | 18 | 50 |
| A Letter from Fox bay, Reedy Creek, Tatnall Co... | 1 | | 5 | | | | 29 | 1,25 |
| TOTAL, | 79 | 44 | 57 | 19 | 5 | 15 | 933 | 36,25 |

ISAAC NORRIS, Moderator.

JOSEPH HAGIN, Clerk.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

Dear Brethren in the Lord:

The time is now, when we should address you by way of a circular. We shall call your attention concerning the practical part of religion. Dear Brethren, have we any right, because we are born of the spirit, to sit down at ease and do nothing? We answer no. Let us now look at home and abroad at the common conduct of those who have professed to be born of the spirit. When we come to due reflection of the teachings of our Lord and Saviour, who has commanded us to pray for such things as we need, and we surely are needy creatures, and yet so neglectful of our duty to God, we are admonished in the Scriptures to grow in grace. Brethren, our crops grow the best when they are cleaned out, and a growth in grace would be to search the Scriptures and live in the discharge of our duty that we are justly due to God; the slothful may say that the wise man Solomon recommends us not to be over much righteous. We would reasonably suppose that the Pharisees were over much righteous with all others that pretend to that which they do not possess, for we find it thus written that a Pharisee and Publican went into the temple to pray, the Pharisee stood and prayed within his own strength, no doubt, while the Publican smote on his breast saying Lord be merciful to me a sinner, and was justified rather than the other. But, dear Brethren, our Saviour said except you deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple; and the wise man saith fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. And among all the gracious promises how cold and dull are we in religious practices, how many families are raised by professing parents and never heard them pray. Brethren, we ask the question, is this occasioned by sloth and pride? You are subject to say I have no gift; we are aware that all men has not the gift to preach the Gospel, but prayer being only the desire of the heart, we think all Christians should pray with their families, for a light set on a hill cannot be hid. Is this all the practical part of religion? We answer, no; a pious walk and Godly conversation belongs to the Christian, and Christians belongs to them.

We believe the immoral conduct of professors to be injurious to the cause of religion; therefore, in as much as we are on a short journey to the celestial city, let us all go the way that Christ told us, lest if we take any by-path or road we should miss arriving where we have professed to start to. We are well aware that practical religion is vain in those who are in nature's darkness—but is beneficial to the true Christian; for we believe the Christian desires to serve God while he is exercised in faith; but, in as much as we are informed that the Devil is said to be as a roaring Lion, seeking whom he may devour, yes and devour our peace if he can, therefore we recommend practical actions in faith for the Christian to maintain his ground on. When we view the dull and cold state of religion, we would intreat the Brethren to awake to righteousness and sin not, be instant in season and out of season, hoping that God will revive his work of grace amongst us. It is a common phrase amongst us that if a thing is not worth asking for it is not worth having; therefore, if the blessings of God is worth having, let us ask for them in prayer and supplication at a throne of his grace, that the enemy may remain at a distance from us.

And may the Lord enable us to see what is our duty and grant us grace to enable us to do it, for Christ sake—*Amen*.

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