

MINUTES

Of the Lower Canoochee Association, in Session with the Mill Creek Church, Bulloch County, Georgia, from the 10th to 12th October, 1863.

1st. The Introductory was preached by Elder A. KICKLIGHTER, from John the 1st chap. latter part of 5th verse, "God is light, and in him is no darkness at all."

2nd. After an intermission of fifty minutes, the messengers from the several Churches convened in the meeting house, and the Association was opened by singing and prayer by Elder W. F. ROGERS.

3rd. The letters from the several churches were called for, handed in and read, messengers names enrolled, and statistics minuted.

4th. Organized the body by re-electing brother J. G. WILLIAMS, Moderator, and electing brother J. WILSON, Clerk.

5th. Invited ministering brethern of our faith and order to seats with us, and to help us in our deliberations.

6th. Appointed Committees as follows, viz: On preaching, J. Proctor, Wm. Lee and A. Jones, with the delegates from this Church. On business, Elder W. F. HOGARTH, A. KICKLIGHTER and J. WILSON. To examine corresponding minutes, brethren A. Jones, Wm. Lester and B. Aycock.

7th. Called for correspondence from sister Associations, and received as follows: from the Primitive Ebenezer a letter and minutes by her messengers Elder W. F. ROGERS and brethren J. T. Branan and Wm. Ryle, which were cordially received—the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to said messengers.

8th. The Committee on preaching report as follows: Sunday forenoon, Eld W. F. HOGARTH, followed by Elder J. W. FIELDS; afternoon, Elder D. J. LAMB, followed by Elder W. F. ROGERS.

9th. On motion, adjourned until Monday morning, 9 o'clock. Prayer by the MODERATOR.

SUNDAY MORNING, 10 o'clock.

In obedience to the arrangements, the brethren came forward in the order of their names, and preached to a large and attentive congregation.

MONDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

1st. The Association met pursuant to adjournment, prayer by Elder W. F. ROGERS.

2nd. Called the roll and read the decorum.

3rd. Called for, read and adopted the report of the brethren on the arrangement of business.

4th. Called for further correspondence, and received from the Upper Canoochee, a letter and minutes by her messengers, Elder D. J. LAMB and J. W. FIELDS, which were cordially received—the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to said messengers.

5th. Called for the circular letter prepared by brother Wm. Lee, which was read and adopted.

6th. Called for the report of the brethren to examine corresponding minutes, who report they find nothing that materially concerns this body.

7th. Appointed the brethren S. Banks, S. Kennedy and J. Deloach a committee to arrange general meetings who report as follows :

1st. At Bethlehem, Bulloch county, Ga., in November, 1863.

2nd. At Mill Creek, Bulloch county, Ga., in January, 1864.

3rd. At Fox Bay, Reedy Creek, Tattnall county, Ga., May, 1864.

4th. At Sardis, S. C., July, 1864.

All to commence on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in their respective months.

8th. Appointed our next Association to be held with Lott's Creek Church, Bulloch county, Ga., twenty miles South of No. 6 on C. R. R., commencing on Saturday before the 4th Lord's day in October next.

9th. Appointed Elder W. F. HOGARTH to preach the next Introductory and Elder J. A. DAVIS, his alternate.

10th. Appointed Elder J. G. WILLIAMS, to write the next circular letter.

11th. Appointed correspondence to sister Associations as follows: To the Upper Canoochee, to sit with Providence Church, Johnson county, Ga., 10 miles South of Wrightsville, commencing on Saturday before the fourth Lord's day in October, 1863, Elders A. KICKLIGHTER, J. G. WILLIAMS and J. WILSON, and brethren B. Aycock and L. Car-

ter, to the Primitive Ebenezer to sit with Pleasant Plains Church, Wilkinson county, Ga., 12 miles South of No. 16, C. R. R., commencing on Saturday before the fourth Lord's day in September next, Elders A. KICKLIGHTER, J. G. WILLIAMS, J. WILSON and W. F. HOGARTH, and brethren B. Aycock, R. B. C. J. Yeomans, J. Procter, W. B. Lester and T. F. Banks.

12. Appointed Elder J. WILSON to prepare a corresponding letter.

13th. Called for the report of the brethren appointed by our last Association to visit Upper Lott's Creek Church and enquire into the condition of the same, who report that they have discharged that duty, and that said Church wishes the Association to bear with them another year.

14th. Agreed to have 800 copies of these minutes printed—the Clerk to superintend the printing and distribution of the same.

15th. Appointed the brethren J. Procter, R. A. Lane and W. B. Lester to visit the Fellowship Church, and answer the request of said Church sent up to this body in their letter.

16th. Called for contributions.

17th. On motion for adjournment, the minutes were read, and then closed by singing and prayer by Elder W. F. HOGARTH.

JOHN G. WILLIAMS, Moderator.

JASPER WILSON, Clerk.

CIRCULAR.

To the saints and faithful Brethren in Christ who compose the Canoochee Association, and to all the saints who have obtained like precious faith, grace, mercy and peace to be multiplied to you.

BELOVED BRETHREN AND SISTERS IN THE LORD:—Time has borne us through the dawn of another year that has closed upon us since our last annual meeting, and is now numbered with those that are past never to return, which reminds us that soon the days of our pilgrimage will pass away; and when we call to remembrance the continual care of our God over us in Providential dealings, we are constrained to exclaim, and say, "Lord, thy goodness and mercy toward us, is as a boundless sea," and while many of the nations of the earth have been visited with pestilence, sword and famine, the Great God of heaven and earth has been as a hiding place and a wall around his beloved Zion here; and with special care he has encircled his church with the walls of salvation, and has given assurance to his chosen ones, that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate them from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus. But let us remember that this blessed assurance of the immutable love of God belongs to those who are in Christ Jesus, and to none others. All, therefore, professing to be Disciples of Christ should examine whether they are in him, by a living faith. They that are not, have no part nor lot in these blessed assurances. They that are in him were chosen in him before the foundation of the world, Ephesians, 1st chap. 1st verse. 1st Peter 1st and 20th, 2d Timothy, 1st and 9th, John, 17th chap. the 9th and 24th verses, Acts, 13th and 47th, &c. Many more parts of the revealed truths in the Gospel might be cited to establish this point; but although the saints of the Lord are based on this sure foundation that never shall be moved, yet they are despised and taunted at by the minions of anti-Christ, as a degraded people, and their names cast out as evil. But why should we repine at this brethren, seeing that this is the lot in common of all the saints? See Mathew, 24th chap. and 9th verse. Mark 13th chap. and 13th verse, Luke 21st chap. and 17th vs, and our blessed Lord has said that this shall turn to you for a testimony. Let us therefore, cease from desponding because our numbers are few. Has not the blessed Lord taught us, that straight is the gate and narrow is the way that leadeth unto life and few there be that find it. Let us then see whether we be some of that little few. What points of action are we based on? Do we believe the immutability of God, and the eternity and unchangeableness of his will and his salvation by grace alone? We also believe that God is eternal and self-existing, and alone the proper object of worship—and in the perfection of his nature, he is only self-moved in all that he has done or ever will do—and that he did set up, ordain and appoint the man, Christ Jesus, the Mediator of his will in behalf of all the heirs of promise, and as Mediator between God and man. He was made the head of the Church and Saviour of the body, and all spiritual blessings and graces were given to the Church in him. We also believe that nothing is hidden from God but that he has declared the end from the beginning, and no new event can derange his eternal purpose, nor frustrate his grace, nor in anywise make void his sovereign will. These are some of the prominent points of doctrine, dear brethren, set forth by Christ, and promulgated by his holy Apostles and Prophets, and has ever been, and now is held by those old fashion and despised Baptist. Seeing, then, brethren we are thus founded on the rock of ages, is it not matter for rejoicing to us, when we are reviled and persecuted, and all manner of evil said against us falsely for the sake of Jesus, who has said, ye are blessed, and great is your reward in heaven. For so they persecuted the Prophets which was before us. Mathew, 5th chap. 11th and 12th vs. For as much as ye are declared to be kept by the power of God, through faith unto salvation, and are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people, that standeth alone, and is not reckoned among the nations of the earth, that he should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into the marvellous light.

JOHN G. WILLIAMS, Moderator.

JASPER WILSON, Clerk.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Lower Canoochee to Sister Associations with whom she Corresponds.

DEAR BRETHREN IN THE LORD:—Through the goodness and mercy of our Heavenly father, we have been enabled to meet together in another annual meeting of our body, in which our churches were all represented except four. Dear brethren, we can say, some of our churches have had an ingathering during the past year—and we hope the time is not far distant, when the good Lord will visit his beloved Zion, Brethren; we desire to be thankful to God for the liberty given thy servants in the exhibition of thy word during our meeting; and we hope you will continue your friendly correspondence with us. Our next Association will convene at Lower Lott's Creek, Bulloch county, Ga., Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1864, twenty miles South of Station No. 6, C. R. R.

JASPER WILSON, Clerk.

J. G. WILLIAMS, Moderator.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. WE Believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead: the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
2. WE Believe in the Fall of Man, and his inability to recover himself.
3. WE Believe Jesus Christ to be the Son of God.
4. WE Believe in particular Election, effectual Calling of the Elect, and final perseverance of the Saints.
5. WE Believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the word of God.
6. WE Believe that Baptism, the Lord's Supper and the washing of the Saint's Feet, are Ordinances of Jesus Christ, and true believers are the only fit subjects of those Ordinances, and believe the only true mode of Baptism is Immersion.
7. WE Believe that no minister has the right to the administration of the Ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, only such as are regularly called and come under the Imposition of hands by a Presbytery.
8. WE Believe in a Final Judgment; in the future state of reward and punishment, and that of eternal duration.

JOHN G. WILLIAMS, Moderator. •

JASPER WILSON, Clerk.

RULES.

By which the Lower Canoochee Association shall be governed while in Session.

1. This Association shall be composed of Messengers from the Churches whose names are inserted in their Letters.
2. This Association shall have a Moderator and a Clerk, chosen by the Messengers present.
3. This Association shall open by Singing and Prayer.
4. This Association shall attend to all petitions and queries found in the Letters from the churches; and make such regulations and give such advice as they think proper.
5. All business shall come into this Association by a move and a second; and every move that is seconded shall be taken up by the Association and decided, except it be withdrawn by the mover.
6. There shall be no talking in time of public speech, and no reflections shall be cast upon the speaker.
7. No person shall be interrupted in the time of public speech unless he depart from the subject in debate, and then only by the Moderator.
8. No person shall speak more than three times on one subject without leave from the Moderator.
9. A majority of this Association shall govern in all cases, and no member shall absent himself at any time without leave from the Moderator.
10. All violations of these Rules shall be reproved by the Moderator.
11. A majority of this Association may alter or amend these rules at any time.
12. And as there are so many institutions of men, (called Benevolent Institutions) and this Association believing it to be her duty to provide for the general union of the Churches, she, therefore, declares non-fellowship with all the unscriptural institutions of the day, such as Theological Schools, State Conventions, Missionary Societies, Bible Societies, Tract Societies, and Temperance Societies, (so called) and all their kindred relations, holding them as unscriptural.

JOHN G. WILLIAMS, Moderator.

JASPER WILSON, Clerk.

SCALE OF THE CHURCHES

Number.	CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	Ordained Ministers' Names in SMALL CAPS. MESSENGERS' NAMES.	Received by Letter.	By Confession of Faith.	Recommended.	Restored.	Excluded.	Dead.	Total Number.	Contributions.	Time of Meeting.
1	Lower Black Creek.....	Bryan.....	S. Banks, N. J. Dugger.....						1	81	5 00	2
2	Ashe's Branch.....	Bulloch.....	S. Lanier, B. Aycock.....						1	26	5 00	
3	Lane's M. H.....	".....	R. A. Lane, William Lee.....						1	57	5 00	
4	Bethlehem.....	".....	A. Brannen, A. Campbell.....		2				1	31	2 65	
5	Mill Creek.....	".....	J. W. Jones, W. B. Lester.....						2	54	8 00	1
6	Deioache's M. H.....	".....	William Deioach, J. Deioach.....						2	26	5 00	
7	Lake M. H.....	".....	J. Green, J. Carter.....						1	47	6 35	
8	Upper Black Creek.....	".....	A. Jones, J. Proctor.....						1	44	10 00	
9	Lower Lott's Creek.....	".....	J. G. WILLIAMS, A. KICKLIGHTER.....						3	56	7 00	1
10	Fellowship.....	".....	A Letter but no Delegates.....						1	22	4 00	
11	Nevil's Creek.....	".....	No Representation.....									
12	Upper Lott's Creek.....	".....	No Representation.....									
13	Beard's Creek.....	Tatnall.....	T. P. Banks.....						1	39	5 00	
14	Mt. Horeb, Cedar Creek.....	".....	S. Kennedy.....	9					1	38	7 00	
15	Anderson's M. H.....	".....	B. M. Coalson, J. Lynn.....	6					1	23	6 45	3
16	Fox Bay, Reedy Creek.....	".....	S. Fenly, S. Sapp.....	1					1	27	3 00	
17	Prince Williams.....	S. C.....	W. F. HOGARTH, R. B. C. J. Yeomans.....	2					1	100	5 00	
18	Black Creek.....	".....	No Representation.....								1 00	
19	Sardis.....	".....	William Malphorus, T. M. Craps.....						5		2 00	

Received of Jasper Wilson, Clerk, \$50 for printing 800 copies of these Minutes....PRINTERS.

\$87 45

