

MINUTES

—OF THE—

EIGHTH SPRING SESSION

—OF THE—

Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH THE—

Church at Philadelphia, Rutherford County, N. C.,

April 30th and May 1st and 2nd, 1892.

—ALSO OF THE—

Sixty-First or Fall Session,

—HELD WITH THE—

Bethany Church, Anson County, N. C.,

October 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1892.

Compiled by J. W. JONES, Clerk; White's Store, N. C.

MONROE, N. C.:

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1892.



BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Proceedings of the Spring Session, 1892.

Introductory sermon was delivered by Elder J. F. Mills, from Zechariah, 9th chapter and 9th verse. After intermission the association convened in the house; opened with praise and prayer by Elder P. D. Gold.

1. Called for the letters from the several churches in the association, read them and states minuted.

2. On motion, appointed Elder J. F. Mills, Moderator, and A. G. Morton, Clerk.

3. Invited visiting brethren to seats. Elder P. D. Gold appeared and took his seat.

4. Invited brethren from sister associations to seats.

5. Appointed as a committee of arrangements, Elder P. D. Gold and Wilson Chaney with Moderator and Clerk.

6. Appointed Elders P. D. Gold and J. F. Mills to occupy the stand on tomorrow; service to commence at 10 o'clock, A. M.

7. On motion, adjourned to 9 o'clock Monday morning.

8. Dismissed by the Moderator.

SUNDAY, May 1st, 1892.

Services opened by Elder J. F. Mills, from Acts, 3rd chapter and 15th verse. Elder P. D. Gold closed services of the day by the use of Eph., 2nd chap., 8th, 9th and 10th verses. The brethren seemed to be blessed with great liberty, and we hope much good was done.

MONDAY MORNING, May 2nd.

9. Met according to adjournment. Praise and prayer by Elder P. D. Gold.

10. Called on committee of arrangements to report. Report received and committee discharged.

11. Called names of messengers and noted absentees thus X and read rules of decorum.

12. Called on Presbyteries to report. No report.

13. On motion, we extend thanks to this church and people of this vicinity for their kindness and hospitality during this present meeting.

14. On motion, we return thanks to the C. C. R. R. for the benefit of reduced rates to this meeting.

15. Appointed Bro. J. L. McDaniel to visit the Silver Creek association.

16. Dismissed by Elder J. F. Mills, Moderator.
A. G. MORTON, Clerk.

On Saturday, while association was in session, Elder P. D. Gold occupied the stand and preached from 2nd Cor., 6th chapter and 2nd verse. He also preached Monday morning from Songs of Solomon, 8th chap., 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th verses.

Elder J. F. Mills used on Monday for his text, Luke 2nd chap., 11th verse.

A. G. MORTON, Clerk

Statistical Table of Spring Session, 1892.

CHURCHES.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS.	By Experience.	Rec. by Letter.	Baptised.	Dis. by Letter.	Excluded.	Deceased.	In Fellowship.
Bear Creek.....	A. F. Honeycutt* E. F. Honeycutt* D. Page..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
Bethany.....	N. G. Jones, Jr.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Freedom.....	W. H. Poplin,* Elder J. Brown.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	14
High Hill.....	W. Chaney, O. Baucum,* M. Medlin,*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	64
Jones Hill.....	Eld. S. C. Little,* A. G. Morton, M. Walters,*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
Liberty.....	B. F. Williams,* W. E. Williams,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
Lawyers Spring	S. Edwards, Shep Edwards, T. Tyson,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
Meadow Creek	Not Represented,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Watson.....	Eld. J. F. Mills, A. Baucum,* J. M. Austin,*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
Crooked Creek	Not Represented.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Philadelphia.....	J. McKinney, J. W. Beam, F. M. Gardner,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Pleasant Hill.....	J. S. Norris,*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	7
Liberty Hill.....	Not Represented.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jerusalem.....	A. Helms, J. Thomas, B. Thomas,*	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	14
Mountain Creek	A. Vanhoy,* J. T. Russell,*	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	11
		.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	4263

ABSENTEES MARKED THUS *.

Proceedings of the Fall Session.

SATURDAY, Oct. 1st, 1892.

1. Introductory sermon delivered by Elder N. M. Clark, from 119th Psalm and 104th verse: "Through thy precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way."

2. Called for the letters from the several churches and read them.

3. On motion, appointed Elder S. C. Little, Moderator, and J. W. Jones, Clerk.

4. Called for correspondence from sister associations. Elder R. W. Snider and I. P. Beam of Abbotts Creek, took seats. Brother Snider reports they are now in peace.

5. On motion, we invite visiting brethren of sister associations to seats.

6. On motion, we appoint a committee of arrangements, viz: Elders N. M. Clark, Jesse Brown and Brother S. L. Mullis, with the Moderator and Clerk.

7. On motion, appoint Brethren C. P. Griffin and W. H. Poplin a committee on finance.

8. Elected by ballot the following Elders to preach on tomorrow: S. C. Little, G. L. Chaney, Jesse Brown and I. P. Beam; services to commence at 10 o'clock, A. M.

9. Adjourn until half past 9 o'clock Monday morning. While the association was in the house Licentiate I. P. Beam was called to the stand and preached from Hebrews, 7th chapter and 19th verse. Words of the text, "For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did, by the which we draw nigh unto God."

SUNDAY, Oct. 2nd.

Services opened by Elder G. L. Chaney. His text was 2nd Timothy, 1st chapter, 9th and 10th verses. "Who hath saved us and called us with a holy calling, &c. Elder S. C. Little followed and preached from Revelations, 22nd chapter, 14th verse. "Blessed are they that do his commandments that they may have right to the tree of life and may enter in through the gates into the city." Intermission for one hour, after which Elder Jesse Brown preached from Jeremiah, 23rd chapter, 28th, 29th and 30th verses, "The prophet that hath a dream let him tell a dream and he that hath my word let him speak my word faithfully," &c. I. P. Beam closed services. His text was Joshua, 24th chapter and 15th verse, "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord choose you this day whom

ye will serve," &c. The word was preached in faithfulness, and we believe God was glorified and the saints built up and edified.

MONDAY MORNING, Oct. 3rd.

Services opened by praise and prayer by Elder N. M. Clark.

10. The committee of arrangements make their report. Report received and committee discharged.

11. Called names of messengers and noted absentees thus X.

12. Called on corresponding messengers to sister associations to report. The brethren appointed failed to attend and at their request were excused.

13. Called on Presbyters to report. Bro. J. F. Mills reported that himself and Elder P. D. Gold formed a Presbytery at Philadelphia church and ordained Brethren Beam and Gardner deacons of that church. Bro. J. M. Austin also reported that Elders G. L. Chaney, A. Gardner and J. C. Williams formed a Presbytery at Watson church and ordained Bro. J. F. Mills to the work of the ministry.

14. Appointed corresponding messengers to sister associations as follows: To Abbott's Creek, Elder Jesse Brown and Brother T. P. Ledbetter; to Mill Branch, Elder S. C. Little; to Silver Creek, Brethren J. S. Norris, B. F. and W. E. Williams; to Mountain District, Brethren J. S. Norris, B. F. and W. E. Williams; to Center, Elder Jesse Brown; to Cool Springs, Elder J. F. Mills and Brethren J. W. Jones and J. W. Huntley.

15. Moved and carried that we have our Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum published in these minutes.

16. Treasurer reports \$5.27 from last year.

17. Committee of Finance reports: Sent up by the churches, \$20.50; total \$25.77.

18. At the request of the Philadelphia church, she was granted a letter of dismissal to join some other association.

19. On motion, appointed the clerk to superintend printing 500 copies of these minutes, and distribute as heretofore; and that he have \$8.00 for his services.

20. On motion, appointed a committee to visit Mountain Creek church, looking to their disciplinary standing, and report to our next association. A committee of twelve was appointed as follows: Elders S. C. Little, Jesse Brown, G. L. Chaney, N. M. Clark, J. C. Williams, J. F. Mills,

and Brethren W. H. Poplin, A. Whitley, Green Alman, J. M. Austin, Thomas Tyson and J. W. Jones; and that they visit said church on Saturday before the 5th Sunday in October, 1892.

21. On motion, we request the clerk to have the times and sittings of this association published in Zion's Landmark

22. On motion, we withdraw the 12th article in our May minutes of 1891.

23. Called for the circular letter; read and approved.

24. On motion, Elder J. F. Mills was appointed to write our next circular letter.

25. On motion, we amend the 4th article of our faith so as to read thus: "We believe the doctrine of election; that God choose his church in Christ Jesus before the world began."

26. Appoint the next spring session of this association to convene with the Watson church, Union county, North Carolina, 10 miles northeast of Monroe; that Elders Jesse Brown preach the introductory sermon, Elder S. C. Little, alternate; and that the fall session convene with the Meadow Creek church, Stanly county, N. C., two miles north of Locust Level and eight miles west of Big Lick; and that Elder J. F. Mills preach the introductory sermon, Elder G. L. Chaney, alternate.

27. Does this association believe that a brother Baptist is violating the laws of discipline in the legal manufacture of spiritous liquors? Answer, no.

28. On motion, we return thanks to this church and people of this vicinity for their kindness and hospitality during this association.

29. Anjourned to time and place above mentioned in these minutes.

ELDER S. C. LITTLE, Moderator,
J. W. JONES, Clerk.

Monday, while the association was in session, Elder R. W. Snider and G. L. Chaney were called to the stand. Elder Snider's text not known. Elder Chaney preached from Hebrews, 2nd chapter, 2nd and 3rd verses, "For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?" &c.

J. W. JONES, Clerk.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

It becomes our duty to address you by way of a circular letter, and not being confined to any particular subject, but left to follow the leadings of our mind, so we proceed to stir up your pure minds to a duty which we think is of great importance to ourselves and to others, and to the encouragement of the several churches of this association; that of giving due attention to the brethren of low degree. Strengthen ye the weak arms and confirm the feeble knees. It seems that Apostle James in writing to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, which embraced the whole church of God, which seems to be the drawing of our mind today and for many days past and gone.

To visit the churches composing the Bear Creek Association, also visit the little ones who dwell beyond the limits of our associational bounds, in consequence of affliction sometimes of body but mostly in spirit. For it is our spiritual things we speak mostly. We feel the members of the Bear Creek Association are our people. For Jesus says, "For whosoever will do the will of my father which is in Heaven the same is my brother, sister and mother."

While we rejoice over these wonderful words of Jesus, we should remember our brother and sister of low degree. For the Lord Jesus has remembered them by the words of the Apostle James and should be the topic of our minds today, not only to the friends of the brethren but to show ourselves as such by our brotherly kindness towards them, which is a work that should be present with us, for we find our hearts warmed up with that heavenly fire of love towards our poor and afflicted brethren, and when we find the same fire burning in our hearts it is good evidence that we are the sons of God, for he says by the apostle, "Hearken my beloved brethren, for hath not God chosen the poor of this world, rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him."

This seems to be the mind of Christ, for he says to his disciples when he called a little child unto him and set him in the midst of them, "Verily I say unto you, except you be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter the kingdom of Heaven." And again he says, "Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my

name receiveth me; and whosoever shall receive me receive me but him that sent me."—Mark ix, 37.

By the foregoing scriptures we see by this Heavenly spirit imprinted upon the heart by the things of God, who is the author of this tender love towards the little ones of low degree, which is the end of the law and fulfils the royal law according to the Scripture, where it says, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, if so ye do well, for greater works than these no man can do, which work proves that he hath faith, and faith is productive of good works. Was not our father Abraham justified by works when he had offered Isaac, his son, upon the altar."—James xi, 21. "Seeth thou how faith wrought with his works and by works was faith made perfect." As such, we hope by this circular to visit the several churches comprising this association, and then the hearthstone of those whose opportunities are so limited that they cannot attend associations. Such privileges we deem as most sacred. It seems like meeting in Heaven where saints meet and never part; where eternal joy never cease; where sickness and sorrow are not known; where none of God's children are denied the privilege of meeting together; where none shall be called little, but all great. "For as many of you as have been baptised unto Christ have put on Christ; there is neither male nor female, for ye are one in Christ, for our conversation is in Heaven, from whence also we look for the Savior, Jesus Christ, who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things to himself; where all God's children shall be enabled by him to render unto him undivided praises for ever and ever. Amen.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ELDERS IN THIS ASSOCIATION.

S. C. Little, Big Lick, Stanly County, N. C.
 N. M. Clark, Big Lick, Stanly County, N. C.
 Jesse Brown, Porter, Stanly County, N. C.
 G. L. Chaney, Monroe, Union County, N. C.
 J. C. Williams, Monroe, Union County, N. C.
 J. F. Mills, Beaver Dam, Union County, N. C.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Article 1st. We believe in one only living and true God, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

Art. 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, providence, grace and glory, and in relative union with the Divine Word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Art. 3. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain the only written revealed word of God, and are the only perfect rule of faith and practice for God's church in her militant state while here on earth.

Art. 4. We believe the doctrine of Election, that God chose his church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Art. 5. We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam their federal head.

Art. 6. We believe in the doctrine of Original Sin.

Art. 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Art. 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and his righteousness only.

Art. 9. We believe that God's elect or church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Art. 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.

Art. 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are ordinances of Christ's appointment and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the supper; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances are to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men

Art. 12. We believe that no man as a minister has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptised, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular presbytery.

Art. 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and the unjust, and a general judgment.

Art. 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

Statistical Table of the Fall Session, 1892.

	CHURCHES.	CLERKS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS.		By Experience.	Baptised.	Rec. by Letter.	Restored.	Dis. by Letter.	Excluded.	Deceased.	In Fellowship.	Contributions.
Bear Creek.....	A. F. Honeycutt, Bloomington	E. F. Honeycutt, E. N. Herrin, * D. Page, *	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	\$1 50
Bethany.....	N. G. Jones, Jr., Bennett.....	E. J. Jones, P. Vaughan, J. W. Huntley, .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	1 50
Brooked Creek.....	W. R. Helms, Oak Grove.....	W. Benton, J. E. Williams, E. C. Williams, .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	1 50
Freedom.....	J. A. Holt, Whitley.....	Elder Jesse Brown, W. H. Pophm, .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16	1 00
High Hill.....	I. N. Medlin, Monroe.....	W. Chaney, A. J. Dees, (J. S. Medlin, .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	56	1 50
Jones Hill.....	A. Whitley, Big Lick.....	Elder S. C. Little A. Whitley, N. Hanson, .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	1 35
Jerusalem.....	J. D. Nance, Goodman.....	A. Helms, J. W. Medlin, J. Thomas, .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	1 25
Liberty Hill.....	J. C. Gilbert, Big Lick.....	Elder N. M. Clark, J. C. Gilbert, A. Smith.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16	1 00
Liberty.....	J. W. Helms, Monroe.....	W. E. Williams, J. W. Helms, B. F. Williams	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	1 25
Layvers Spring.....	J. W. Jones, White's Store.....	C. P. Griffin, T. Tyson, J. W. Jones, .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	2 65
Meadow Creek.....	F. P. Barbee, Locust Level.....	T. P. Ledbetter, F. P. Barbee, .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	1 00
Mountain Creek.....	A. Vanhoy, Bilesville.....	J. T. Russell, * A. Vanhoy, * .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11	1 00
Philadelphia.....	J. McKinney, Euto.....	F. N. Gardner, * J. McDaniel * J. McKinney* .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21	1 00
Pleasant Hill.....	J. S. Norris, Rock Cut.....	J. S. Norris .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	1 00
Watson.....	S. M. Mullis, Richardson's Creek.....	J. M. Austin, A. Bancom, Elder J. F. Mills, .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21	2 00

ABSENTEES MARKED THUS *.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1st. A Moderator or chief speaker and clerk may be chosen by the suffrages of the members present, and the chief Moderator shall take his seat at the hour to which the Association shall be adjourned, and after prayer, shall proceed to business. It shall be his duty to keep order, and shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as that of another member, provided he appoint one of the members to fill the chair during the exercise of such privilege, and in no case shall he give a vote unless the Association be divided.

2nd. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the chief speaker by the appellation of brother, and while speaking shall confine himself strictly to the subject in question and shall not be interrupted unless he digress from the subject, and shall in no wise reflect on any speaker, so as to make remarks on his slips, failings or imperfections, but shall fairly give his own views of the case without sophistry or criticism.

3rd. No person shall speak more than three times to one subject, without leave of the Association.

4th. No person shall absent himself from the association without leave.

5th. No member of the association shall address any other member by any other term or name than that of "brother."

6th. The chief Speaker or moderator shall not interrupt one member to prohibit him from speaking unless his speech is finished, except he break the rules of decorum.

7th. The names of all the members of this association shall be enrolled by the clerk, and be called over as often as the association may require.

8th. Any member who shall willingly and knowingly break or violate any of the foregoing rules of this association shall be reproved by the association in any way they may think most proper.

STATEMENT.

Over from last year,.....	\$ 5 27
Sent up this year,.....	20 50
Total,.....	<u>\$25 77</u>
Clerk's fee,.....	\$ 8 00
For printing these Minutes,.....	12 00
Total,.....	<u>\$20 00</u>
Balance on Hand,.....	\$ 5 77