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N. 81
1805

MINUTES

OF THE

North-District Association of Baptists;

HELD AT BETHEL MEETING HOUSE, IN THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, STATE OF KENTUCKY, FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH DAYS OF OCTOBER, 1865.

—20—

SATURDAY, October 5.

BROTHER James Quessenberry, preached the introductory sermon, from Coll. ii Chap. 6th verse. After sermon, letters from the Churches were read. Brother Jilson Payne was chosen Moderator, and Brother Jas. French Clerk.

Churches.

Messengers.

<i>Spencer Creek,</i>	{ Jos. Hensely, Jas. Alexander, David Rice, Dawson Wade.
<i>Lulbergud,</i>	{ Jilson Payne, William Oreal, James French.
<i>Salt Lick,</i>	{ Thornton Farrow, Elijah Fitzjarrel, Jas. Dean.
<i>Boon's Creek,</i>	{ David Watts, William Tinsley, Samuel Boone.
<i>Providence,</i>	{ Robt. Elkin, Dan. Ramy, Jas. Haggart, Thomas Berry, jun.
<i>Unity,</i>	{ James Quessenberry, John Haggart, Dan. Rout.
<i>Bald Eagle,</i>	{ Josiah Fugate, Moses Sharp, John Coshow.
<i>Locust Creek,</i>	{ Mahallegel Shackle, Manley Brown.
<i>Bethel,</i>	{ Moses Bledsoe, Thos. Jamison, Jno. Jamison, Francis Taylor.
<i>Log Meet'g House,</i>	{ Jas. Prather, David Bruton, Wm. Braselton,
<i>Salem,</i>	{ Charles Finnel, Joseph Pond, William Blalock.
<i>Johnson's Fork,</i>	{ William Moss, Daniel Moss.
<i>Red River,</i>	{ Nichs. Burgher, Geo. Vanbuskirk, Jas Fowler.
<i>Greer's Creek,</i>	{ Edward Trabue, Robert Bowman.
<i>Howard's Upper Creek,</i>	{ Edward Kindred, James Elkin, William Haggard, Vachell Foddee.
<i>Red Lick</i>	{ William Kindred.
<i>Hopewell</i>	{ Isaac Crutcher, Jno. Brown, Jesse Gradda.
<i>Long Branch,</i>	{ Jonathan Prather, Jas. Prather, Benjamin Eaton.
<i>State Union,</i>	{ Jacob Williams, Edwd. Parker, Joseph Carter.
<i>Mount Pleasant,</i>	{ Jos. Craig, Dan. James, Wm. Hall, Lewis Nall.
<i>Sheanore,</i>	{ Dan. Williams, Ambrose Jones, Wm. Hopper.
<i>Cane Springs,</i>	{ Jonathan Floyd, James Webber.
<i>Goshien,</i>	{ Charles Tracy, David Thompson.
<i>Grassy Lick,</i>	{ Joshua Yeats, Henry Sanford, Reuben M'Donald, Wm. Jeans.
<i>Mount Sterling,</i>	{ David Barrow, Jacob Coons, William Smith.
<i>Stode's Station,</i>	{ Maximillian Bawren, Benjamin Blackwell.
<i>Log Lick,</i>	{ David Snoden, Samuel Keithly.
<i>E. F. Flat Creek,</i>	{ Leonard Turley, Henry Rice.
<i>Cane Creek,</i>	{ Wingate Jackson, Sam. Jackson, Geo. Coler.
<i>New Church,</i>	{ George Stewart.
<i>Ohio River,</i>	{ }

<i>Present No.</i>	<i>Accounted.</i>	<i>Dismissed.</i>	<i>Rec'd. 1st Time.</i>	<i>Rec'd. 2^d Time.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	
65	5	5	2	2	65	
53	2	2	3	3	53	
49	18	4	3	4	49	
49	2	1	1	1	49	
137	4	6	2	2	137	
145					145	
53	1	1	5	5	53	
23	1	1	2	2	23	
120	1	1	1	1	120	
160	3	5	9	9	160	
119	7	4	2	4	119	
51					51	
48	1	3	1	3	48	
14		6			14	
93	2	3	5	5	93	
19	2	4			19	
103	8	12	1	12	103	
30		5	1	5	30	
42	6	3	2	3	42	
193	1	1	1	2	193	
106	5	3	1	5	106	
47	5	3			47	
63	1	6	3	3	63	
151	4	11	1	11	151	
55	1	7	2	7	55	
33	1	2	1	2	33	
25	1	9	2	9	25	
13	2	2	1	2	13	
68	2	8	5	8	68	
41					41	
<i>Total.</i>	16	27	216	95	72	2169

This last Church was received this Association.

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Letters of correspondence from Elkhorn, from Bracken, from Tate's Creek, and from South District Associations were read, and their Messengers invited to seats. The Bracken Association exhibited five charges against Brother David Barrow.

Brethren Jilson Payne, Robert Elkin, Moses Bledsoe, James Quessenberry, and James French, appointed a Committee, to arrange the business of the Association, and report on Monday.

Brother Henry Sandford to write a letter for Elkhorn; Brother William Orear to write a letter for Bracken; Brother Edward Trabue to write a letter for Tate's Creek; Brother William Jeans to write a letter for South District; and Brother Isaac Crutcher to write a letter for Green River Associations, and report on Monday.

Brethren Ambrose Dudley, Robert Elkin, and Moses Bledsoe, to preach on to-morrow.

The Association then adjourned until Monday morning, 9 o'clock.

MONDAY, October 7.

The Association met according to adjournment.

The Association determined, that all questions should be considered lost, unless carried by a majority of affirmative votes, more than equal to the negative votes, and the neutrals counted together.

Log Meeting House Church:

"DEAR BRETHREN:

We pray you to reconsider the reception of that body of Baptists, assuming or bearing the name of the South District Association." For answer, the Association agrees to write to the South District Association, and to the conference, formerly part thereof, advising them to have a meeting, to try for a reconciliation between the members, and call if they think proper, for help from Baptists in the Union.

The charges from Bracken Association, against Brother David Barrow, were taken up, and after hearing the Messengers from Bracken Association, and such auxiliary and corroborating evidence as they thought proper to adduce in support of their charges; and after hearing Brother David Barrow in his own defence, his explanations of his intentions, such evidence as he produced, and such apologies as he thought proper to make, This Association is of opinion, that Brother David Barrow gave cause of hurt to the Bracken Association, by meddling with emancipation, and that his explanations and apologies are satisfactory.

Providence and Doon's Creek Churches enquire, how a Church should deal with a Minister, that propagates unsound doctrine, or pernicious to peace and good order? The Association advise, that a Church in such case, withdraw all the power she gave such Preacher; and two Preachers may suspend or stop such Preacher from preaching, until he can be tried by a Council of five Ministers, whose decision in such case ought to be obeyed, until reversed by the Association.

The Association then adjourned until to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, October 8.

The Association met according to adjournment.

Query from Long Branch and Bald Eagle Churches—"Is it agreeable to the order of the Baptist Society, for members of Churches to withdraw from their Churches, and get themselves constituted into a Church, without the consent of the Churches to which they pertain?" Answer. No.

Query from Bald Eagle Church—"What shall be done with Preachers who propagate Infant purity?"

Answer. If they are Preachers in the North District Association, we refer you to the advice given Providence, and Boon's Creek Churches, respecting Preachers.

Query from Red Lick Church—"What ought to be done with Ministers and Messengers appointed by the Association, who neglect such appointments?"

Answer. They are accountable to the Association for such neglect.

Salt Lick, Johnson's Fork, Red River, and Bald Eagle Churches request a yearly meeting each. The Association advise, that Churches who hold yearly meetings, appoint for themselves, and procure Preachers the best way they can.

Brethren Jilson Payne, Robert Elkin, Moses Bledsoe, James Quisenberry, and Edward Kindred, appointed a Committee of enquiry and mediation, to attend any call that may be made upon them, by the South District Conference; to assist in removing difficulties that stand in the way of union, between them and us, and report to next Association.

Letter of correspondence to Elkhorn Association, read and approved; Brethren Jilson Payne and David Barrow, to carry the same.

Letter of correspondence to Bracken Association, read and approved; Brethren William Moss and Leonard Turley, to carry the same.

Letter of correspondence to Tate's Creek Association, read and approved; Brethren Robert Elkin, James Quisenberry and Edward Kindred, to carry the same.

Letter of correspondence to Green River Association, read and approved; and Brethren Vachel Fodder, and Lewis Bledsoe, to carry the same.

Letter of correspondence to South District Association, read and approved; and the Brethren, our Committee of enquiry, and mediation, to carry the same.

Letter to South District Conference, read and approved; and the aforesaid Brethren of the Committee, to carry the same.

The Association advise the Churches, to enjoin it on their Messengers to Associations in future, to attend the same to the close, unless they obtain leave of absence.

Circular Letter read, amended and approved.

Next Association to be held at Grassy Lick, in the County of Montgomery, and to commence on the first Saturday in October next.

Brother Robert Elkin to preach the introductory sermon, next Association, and in case of failure, Brother Moses Bledsoe.

Brother James French to write a Circular Letter for next, and also to intend the printing the minutes of this Association.

JILSON PAYNE, Moderator

Jonathan Newton
J. D. D.

(CIRCULAR LETTER.)

The North District Association met at Bethel Meeting-House October
the 5th, 1805,

TO THE CHURCHES WE REPRESENT.

BELOVED BRETHREN;

WE are in the course of Divine Providence, once more permitted to meet together in your behalf. In token of our regard for your present and future welfare, send you this letter. Our minutes will state to you what we have advised.

The Churches considering the coldness and indifference to religious duties, are in peace. This amidst the many trials and difficulties we are called to encounter, has given us joy, and affords us matter of thanksgiving; nevertheless, we cannot but with real sorrow and the deepest concern, behold the rapid strides that error is making, in this our day of splendid profession.

*"Spring from the man, whose guilty fall,
Corrupts his race, and taints us all."*

This sentence of Dr. Watts's, must be more or less, the experimental language of every regenerate soul. By reflecting properly on the Fall, we shall be led to see, that through disobedience men became sinners, and derived a corrupt nature; through the influence of which, we became practically unrighteous, and consequently actual transgressors before God. This being properly considered, the soul will be led to look further than self, for pardon and deliverance from sin; for "The grace of God that bringeth salvation, hath appeared to all men; teachign us, that denyng ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and Godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God, and our Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."

We are then persuaded Brethren, that you will see your duty and your privilege, to guard against those errors in particular, which prevail amongst persons professing Godliness.

The first error we shall mention, is, that baneful and pernicious principle of Antinomianism; that horrid doctrine, which makes God the author of sin; by charging it on his absolute decrees. Thus the ad-

vacates for that doctrine turn the grace of God into licentiousness, and thereby attempt to bring the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ into disesteem. The pernicious influence which this doctrine hath upon the mind, too evidently appears in the lives of its advocates.

Secondly. The Legalists run to the other extreme, by placing the work of the creature improperly, and thereby expect the pardon of sin, and their justification before God, on account of their own works; which the scriptures clearly disapprove of, in the point of our justification before our great Creator; but our redemption and salvation, is only of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; who "trod the wine press alone, and of the people, there was none with him;" but the discharge of our duty, which we owe, in point of obedience to God, are good works, when done with proper motives, and go to prove our faith in God, and our love to his word and his declarative glory; and a proof of our own faith to the children of God, and the answer of a good conscience to ourselves.

Thirdly. Some are so far deluded, that their printing, preaching, and private conversation, go to encourage disobedience in servants, and a revolution in our Civil Government, contrary to the wholesome words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the repeated injunctions of his Apostles, who insisted on, and specially enjoined the relative duties which were due from the husband to the wife, and from the wife to the husband—those that were due from parents to children, and from children to parents—those that were due from the master to the servant, and from the servant to the master—and the obedience that was due from every soul of man, to Magistrates, and every ordinance of man, for the Lord's sake. The Apostles spake things which became sound doctrine, enforcing different duties on various characters, in their different stations in this present world—Therefore Brethren, we beseech you to flee from these evils; contend earnestly for the power of the gospel, and for the effects and evidences of union with Christ, through sanctification and holiness, without which, no man shall see the Lord; and inculcate those relative duties, enjoined on us in the word of God, to perform in our several stations, which God in his wise providence has been pleased to place us: for the Apostle Paul in his writings to Timothy, informs him, "If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions, and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strifes, railings, evil surmising, perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness; from such withdraw thyself."

Suffer then Brethren the word of exhortation; examine yourselves; search the scriptures: for in them you have the mind and will of God,

relative to your faith and practice; remember that rebellion against God and his government, in those who know his will and do it not, shall be beaten with many stripes. O! contemplate on the love of God to the children of men; that he spared not his only begotten Son, but gave him up freely to die, the just for the unjust; that whosoever believeth on him, should not perish, but have everlasting life. Is not this love of God, which is so profusely exhibited in the gospel, enough to stir us up, to render obedience to all his ordinances and commands? 'And contemplate on the evil of sin, which has produced so many sorrows and calamities in this world, and which has been the cause of all the punishment on rebels in the world to come. Here then ought the people of God to honor him? By living in obedience and rejoice with thanksgiving, that they are delivered from the throl- dom of sin and everlasting punishment, through the grace of Lord Jesus Christ.

NILSON PARNE, *Modr.*

When David Garret met
Philip Charles
Nathan Saco with
David Thomas the man

PHILIP CHARLES
NATHAN SACO
DAVID THOMAS

