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MINUTES

OF THE

Elkhorn Association,

BEGUN AND HELD AT DAVID'S FORK MEETING HOUSE,
ON SATURDAY THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1827.

INTRODUCTORY SERMON: preached by Elder JACOB CREATH, from Psalms LXIV. 11,—“For the Lord God is a son and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.”

Letters received and read, and the Messengers' Names enrolled from the Churches, composing this Association, as follows, to wit:

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS' NAMES	Recd By Letters, By Baptism,	Restored, By Letters,	Dis'm'd by Letters,	Excluded	Deceased.	Present Number,	Day of Meeting.	
South Elkhorn,	John Parker, Wm. Sullivan, and Wm. Gist	0	2	0	1	2	0	113	4
Clear Creek,	L. Sullivan,* J. Lancaster, Benj. Watkins, J. M'Quaddy W. Rice,	1	5	0	8	4	3	233	3
Great Crossings	W. Suggett, B S. Chambers. J. T. Johnson, and TH HENDERSON,* Church dissolved.	9	7	0	10	3	7	287	1
Town Fork, Bryan's	Jno. Darnaby Sam'l M. Patterson, B. A. Hicks, and A. Thomson,	1	1	0	3	5	0	157	4
Stamp'gground,	Rodes Smith,* Tol. Craig, John Lucas, and J. D. BLACK,	5	9	0	10	1	4	171	4
Silas,	Wm. B. Chinn, Abner Shropshire and Nelson Smith,	16	1	0	3	2	1	119	1
North Elkhorn,	John Graves, John G. Eve, Calch Carlton, and Edw. DINGLE	5	4	0	4	0	1	112	6
North Fork,	John M'Donald, John Smither,* and Henry Jenkins,*	0	1	0	4	0	0	34	5
David's Fork	J. VARDEMAN, A. Wilson, E. Darnaby, H. Ellis, and J. Withers,	4	0	0	9	7	3	282	
Mt. Pleasant	EDMUND WALLER, M. Singleton, P. Withers, and Sam'l H. Craig,*	0	5	0	13	2	1	209	1
Long Lick,	Jas. Perry,* A. Roberts, and Man- noah Smith,*	1	4	0	4	2	0	43	
Bethlehem,	WM. MORTON, John King, Thomas Eades, and Asa Foster,	2	0	0	4	0	1	46	3
Big Spring,	GEO. BLACKBURN, G Holloway, Tho. Suter and Nathan Ayres,*	2	1	0	0	0	0	49	2
Versailles,	JACOB CREATH, Thos Bullock, G. Carter, and JOSEPHUS HEWETT,	1	4	0	15	0	0	69	2
		67	46	0	84	28	23	1436	

		BROUGHT OVER.				47	44	00	84	38	23	1965
Georgetown,*	W Z Thomson, Rob't Reed, and U. B. Chambers.	0	1	0	11	0	0	66	3			
Hartwood.	Earl Scott and Purnel Short,	0	2	0	10	0	3	26	4			
Providence,	Lewis Bryan, Wm. T. Bryan, Bur- rus Arnet, James Marrs,	0	1	0	12	0	1	96	2			
First Baptist Church at Lex- ington.†	Wm Poindexter, Jas. Beach, Jo- el Wallingsford, Peter Higby, and Wm. P. Smith,	1	2	0	10	44	2	89				
Paris,	GUARDON GATES, Lloyd Warfield, and S. Bryan,	3	3	0	5	1	1	169				
Mt. Vernon,	Henry Wallace, David Harris,* G. F H Crockett and Brice Steel,	6	6	0	1	0	0	53	4			
Mount'n Island, First African Church at Lex.	No Letter nor Messenger. Under the care of the First Bap- tist Church at Lexington.	14	4	11	3	12	13	366				
TOTAL		72	65	11	136	86	43	2830				

This (*) denotes those that were absent. Preacher's names in SMALL CAPITALS. † The figures in the last column, denote the Saturday on which the Churches hold their regular meetings

Brother Thomas Bullock appointed Moderator, and Brother B. S. Chambers, Clerk.

Letters from Corresponding Associations received and read, and the Messengers' names enrolled, as follows:

From Bracken—John Clemens, Robert Edwards, Wm.* Powell, George Bishop,* and Wm. Vaughn.

Tates Creek—Thos. Bronson, Henry Ballard, and Isaiah Collins.

North District—John Smith, John Clemens, Jas. Mitchell, Walker Chambers,* and John Coons.

Franklin—John Taylor, Silas M. Noel,* and Wm. L. M'Quaddy.

Salem—Spencer Clack,* Asa Chambers, and David Thurman.*

South District—Elias Fisher, Thomas Vaughn,* Chilton Rice,*

* The Letter from the Church at Georgetown, has the following P. S.—
“Since the foregoing letter was written, we have had a most agreeable change of times, and our anticipations have been realized. We have almost constantly been supplied with faithful and successful preaching from the Rev. M. BUCK, and others, whose labors have been accompanied with a glorious work of Divine grace. Since the first appearance of brother BUCK among us, sinners have been bowing to the Cross of the Redeemer, and subsequent to the date of the foregoing letter, there have been added to the Church by baptism, twenty; by restoration, one; and by recantation and experience one; so that our present number is 88, and the work seems to be still progressing with unabated advances. Done by order of the Church this 10th day of August, 1827.”

† Two letters were presented to the Association, purporting to be from the First Baptist Church at Lexington. One under the original name of the First Baptist Church at Lexington, and the other under the name of “The Church of Christ on Mill Street. A motion was made to read both letters, which was overruled; the causes of the division of that Church being set forth in discussion.—And on motion the letter, with the original name and style of the Church, was read by a unanimous vote, and the Messengers therein named took their seats.

Benj. Daniel,* Isaac Allspaugh, John Rice,* and Lewis Wilhoit.*

Long Run—Joseph Kilby, John Stockton,* Thomas M. Buckley,* and N. L. Oliver.*

Boon's Creek—James Sims, Geo. G. Boone, L. Burbridge, A. Weldon, J. Sacrey, W. Webb, and J. Ashley.

Linking Association—Wm. Rash, R. T. Dillard, Samuel Jones,* R. Brooking,* Thomas Threlkeld, and Leonard Bell.

North Bend—Wm. Thompson,* Wm. B. Ewing,* Robt. Kirtley, Wm. B. Hayden,* Robt. Cornelius,* and Lewis Wells.

Union—Isaac Munson, Thos. Veach, Abner Vanhook, and Larkin Garret.

Brethren, John T. Johnson, Wm. Suggett, Benj. Watkins, together with the moderator and clerk appointed to arrange the business of the association and report on Monday next.

Brother B. A. Hicks, appointed to write a circular letter and report an Monday next.

Brethren, Peter Higby, George Blackburn, U. B. Chambers, Goodloe Carter and Mason Singleton, appointed to write letters to corresponding Associations and report on Monday next.

Brethren, Walter Warder, R. T. Dillard &—Morgan appointed to preach on to-morrow.

Adjourned for business till Monday morning nine o'clock.

SUNDAY, August 12, 1827.

Elder Morgan preached to a very large concourse of hearers from the parable of our Lord and Saviour of the sower and the seed, as recorded by St. Matthew. Elder R. T. Dillard followed from Isaiah XLIII, 1. "But now, thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, fear not; for I have redeemed thee I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine" and in conclusion Elder Walter Warder preached from Acts XVII, 2-3 verses. "And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three Sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, opening and alledging that Christ must needs have suffered and risen again from the dead; and that Jesus whom I preach unto you is Christ."

MONDAY MORNING, Aug. 13, 1827.

Met pursuant to adjournment, and after prayer by Elder Wm. Morton, proceeded to business.

The Committee appointed to arrange the business of the Association, made report which was adopted and the business taken up pursuant thereto.

1. Brother B. A. Hicks reported a Circular letter which was read, received and adopted, viz:

CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Messengers of the Elkhorn Association, to the Churches of which they are Members.

Dearly Beloved Brethren,

We most sincerely desire, to thank the Lord, that we have once more enjoyed, the high privilege, of meeting together, in an

associated capacity: And although our minutes, will shew you, a statement of our business, and will no doubt afford you pleasure, in noticing some addition, to our body, yet it is a matter, very much regretted by us, that a difference of opinion, respecting the denominative name of one of our Churches, has caused some distress, and unpleasant feelings amongst us. Still dear brethren, we desire to thank the Lord, that it is as well with us, as it is, humbly hoping, that ere long, it will be his good pleasure, to restore peace in all our borders. We have had a number of ministering brethren with us, many of them from a distance, have heard much good preaching, and hope our meeting, will not only prove a blessing to ourselves, but likewise a blessing, to those of our fellow travellers to eternity, who have been here present with us, and who, we fear are out of the ark of safety. We know dear brethren, we can do nothing to divine acceptance, without the aid of the Lord, that Paul may plant, and Appollas water, but God must give the increase; therefore dear brethren, let us all unite, in fervent prayer to God, that he would once more, visit us by the out pourings of his spirit, and bring many sons and daughters to himself. For remember it is written, "behold the day cometh that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly shall be stubble; and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them, neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name, shall the son of righteousness arise with healing in his wings, and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall." Beloved brethren, we would likewise remind you, of some of the good effects, resulting from brotherly love, and especially the exercise of it. The Saviour lays it down as a mark, whereby all men may know his followers; "by this (he says) shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." Again we know says the Apostle John, "that we have passed from death unto life because we love the brethren." And again "he that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is no occasion, of stumbling in him," and "if we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfect in us." When we reflect on the many good effects, flowing to the saints, from the reciprocal exercise of brotherly love, which forms the bond of union and christian fellowship, we are ready to exclaim with the Psalmist, "behold how good and how pleasant it is, for brethren, to dwell together in unity." Therefore dear brethren, in the language, of an Apostle, we beseech you, that ye increase more and more. And "now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."

2. The suggestion of the Church from Versailles, taken up as follows, viz:

"We will take the liberty brethren, to suggest to you for your consideration: the propriety of rejecting all queries on every sub-

ject whatever; as we think the introduction and discussion of queries are the production of great evil in our Associations, and the cause of disquiet among the members; we think the Association would be more profitably employed as a worshipping assembly instead of an advising council, which we find no authority for in the word of God."

And the following adopted in relation to that subject, viz:

Whereas many difficulties and great disorder have frequently taken place in this association at our annual meetings by the introduction of queries from the Churches in her connection in relation to their internal concerns and difficulties, much to the injury, we believe, of the cause of Zion and vital piety amongst us. Therefore, Resolved, that we recommend to the churches composing our body to endeavor by all means in their power to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace; to mark those that cause divisions amongst them, and never to suffer schism and division to take place amongst them until the last solemn effort known to the Holy scriptures be made to prevent it. The Churches themselves are the highest ecclesiastical authority known in the word of God, and we earnestly advise them never to bring their difficulties to the Association for adjustment, because we believe the Association to be an improper tribunal for the settlement of the difficulties and disorders of the churches and unfitted for the task by the nature of its creation and for the want of the high authority of Heaven to sanction its acts of adjudication in such cases.

3. The next Association to be held at Mount Pleasant Jessamine County.

4. Letters reported and read and messengers appointed to corresponding Associations as follows, viz:

To Bracken—G. G. Yates, Thomas Eades, William Morton, Wm. S. Bryan, Jeremiah Vardeman, Abner Shropshire and Wm. Rice.

To North Bend—Wm. Rash, Josephus Hewitt, John Lucas.

To Tates Creek—Wm. Morton.

To Union—Wm. S. Bryan.

To North District—Jacob Creath, J. Vardeman, Peter Higby, U. B. Chambers.

To Franklin—B. S. Chambers, George Blackburn, J. D. Black, J. M'Donald.

To Salem—Wm. Rice, J. Vardeman.

To South District—Mason Singleton.

To Concord—Tol. Craig, Wm. Rice.

To Long Run—Jacob Creath, Edmund Waller, Mason Singleton.

To Boons Creek—Geo. Blackburn, Josephus Hewitt, Peter Higby, Jacob Creath.

To Licking—Goodloe Carter, John Lancaster, J. G. Eye, Peter Higby, Burrows Arnet, Jacob Creath.

5. Elder J. Vardeman, appointed to preach the next introductory sermon, and in case of failure Elder Edmund Waller.

6. The Clerk appointed to superintend the printing of the minutes of this Association.

On motion the following statement was unanimously adopted.

It is with deep and sincere regret that this Association has learned that an unhappy difference has taken place in the first Baptist Church at Lexington, so as to rend that Church as it were asunder, on account of an attempt made by part of the Church, lead on by Dr. James Fishback, to change her denominative name. The difficulty has run so high that both parties claim to be the church—they have exercised in distinct and separate bodies the privileges and business of Churches; so that Dr. Fishback and his party have excluded 7 of the most prominent members opposed to them; and those opposed to Fishback and his party proceeded to exclude Dr. Fishback and his party to the number of 42 members. This association disclaims all interference in the internal government of the Churches composing her body. But being satisfied, that the first Baptist Church of Lexington, is the regular church at that place receiving her letter to the exclusion of that, presented by Dr. Fishback and his party; and they would earnestly advise the first Baptist Church at Lexington to use her best exertions, in charity, to restore fellowship and harmony in the Church; and the Association would also most solemnly warn that part of the Church attached to Dr. Fishback, of the awful danger and alarming tendency of causing divisions in society by the introduction of a system of things by which the name and character of the Baptist denomination would be essentially changed, and we adjure them in love to return to the Church from which they have rent themselves.

Adjourned till the 2nd Saturday in August, 1828.

TH: BULLOCK, *Moderator*

Attest, B. S. CHAMBERS, *Clerk*.