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[Half-sheet Periodical.]

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
NORTH DISTRICT
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT WHITEHALL,
GREENE COUNTY ILL.

SEPTEMBER 8th, and 9th, A. D. 1848.

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PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

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G. B. PRICE, Printer, Carrollton, Ill.
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CONSTITUTION.

ART. I.—Sec. 1. This body shall be known by the name of the North District Baptist Association, and shall be composed of the ministers of the churches within its bounds, and of delegates who shall be members of the churches they represent.

Sec. 2. Each church shall be entitled to three delegates, with an additional delegate for every twenty-five members.

ART. II.—The object of this Association shall be to promote union and harmony among the churches, and to devise and recommend such measures as are designed to advance the Redeemer's Kingdom throughout the world.

ART. III.—Sec. 1. The officers of this body shall be Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer.

Sec. 2. The Moderator shall preside and lead in all the transactions of the body, and see that order and decorum are observed by every member.

Sec. 3. The Clerk shall keep minutes of the proceedings, and take charge of the records and papers of the body and conduct its correspondence.

Sec. 4. The Treasurer shall receive all monies belonging to the Association, keep an accurate account of the same and the object for which they were designed, pay them out according to the order of the Association, and report the state of the Treasury before the close of each session.

Sec. 5. The officers shall be chosen annually, by ballot, and shall continue in office until their successors are elected.

ART. IV.—Churches which wish to be received into this union may apply by letter and delegates, and giving satisfactory evidence of their being sound in doctrine, and correct in practice, may be received; and as a token of the same, the Moderator shall give their delegates the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the Association.

ART. V.As an associational body we utterly disclaim all power over the churches, in respect either to their independence or their discipline; yet, should any church become unsound in faith or incorrect in practice, this Association would have the right to drop all correspondence and connection with that church, provided said church refused to be counselled and advised.

ART. VI.—This Association shall have right to open and hold correspondence with other Associations, and any religious body they may think proper.

ART. VII.—This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the body by a concurring vote of two-thirds of the members.

ART. VIII.—This Association shall meet annually at a place previously determined upon, the Friday before the 2d Sabbath in September, when an introductory sermon shall be preached by such brother as the body shall have appointed.

RULES OF ORDER.

ART. 1. At every sitting, business shall be opened and closed by prayer, under the direction of the Moderator.

2. No member of the Association shall absent himself during its session without leave of the Moderator.

3. No subject shall be discussed without a motion first made and seconded.

4. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject, unless by permission of the Moderator.

5. Ministers and visiting brethren may be invited to seats with us, and may speak on all subjects, but vote on none.

6. If any proposition or motion under discussion contain two or more points, it shall be divided, at the request of any member, and the vote taken on each separately.

7. The minutes of this Association shall always be carefully read and corrected before the adjournment of the same.

8. The Moderator may speak on any subject, provided he call some member to fill the chair during the time.

9. Any person about to speak, shall rise and address the Moderator, and shall confine his remarks to the subject under consideration.

10. These rules shall be distinctly read by the chair, immediately after the organization of the body.

11. Any member who shall, willingly and knowingly, break any of these rules, shall be dealt with as the body may think proper.

Minutes of Proceedings.

WHITEHALL, Sept. 8th, 1848.

1st. The Association met according to appointment. The introductory sermon was preached by J. N. Tolman, from Isaiah LII. 1. "*Awake Awake, put on thy strength O Zion.*"

2. The Association was called to order, the letters from the churches were read, and the following statistics taken :

CHURCHES AND CLERKS.	MINISTERS AND. MESSENGERS.	Baptised.	Rec. by let.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Died.	Pres't No	Money for Minutes.
BETHEL. <i>G. R. Garretson</i>	E. M. Pease, John Gil- worth, Smith Miner.				2	5		43	75
BLUFFDALE, <i>D. Woolley.</i>	No Letter nor Messen- ger.								94
CARROLLTON, <i>J. O. Graves.</i>	J. N. TOLMAN, David Pierson, W. Fales, A. Kelly, Jas. O. Graves, Wm. Crane.	3	1	5	3			61	2 00
DELAWARE, <i>A. Eastham.</i>	S. D. Braynard,					2		34	1 00
JERSEYVILLE, <i>J. C. Graham.</i>	W. F. BOYAKIN, J. E. Cooper, Jas. Post, J. K. Stelle, N. Miner,	1	8	1	3	3		61	1 50
KANE, <i>M. Bowman,</i>	JOEL TERRY, E. Corey, H. C. Christy, T. S. Frary, A. Stewart, E. Grandy.	2	8		5	1	1	106	2 55
LOFTON'S PRA'E. <i>John J. Briggs.</i>	CHARLES HOWARD, Ja- cob Utt,			2	3			46	1 00
M'T. GILEAD, <i>R. H. Scroggins</i>	J. B. Wood, C. A. Hard- wick.			2		7		26	1 50
TAYLOR'S CR'K. <i>Western Perry.</i>	No information.								
WHITEHALL, <i>Wm. Carr.</i>	V. Higbee, Wm. Carr.				2		1	13 590	1 00 12 24

3. W. F. Boyakin was chosen Moderator—J. N. Tolman. Clerk—David Pierson, Treasurer.

4. J. N. Tolman, V. Higbee, Wm. Carr, were appointed a committee on religious exercises.

On motion adjourned—Prayer by Joel Terry.

FRIDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

5. Association met pursuant to adjournment.
Prayer by J. Stelle.
6. Corresponding members and visiting brethren were invited to a seat with us. Following took seats :
EDWARDSVILLE—Wm. H. Briggs—Wm. Roberts—I. D. Newell.
SPRINGFIELD—James Dunlap.
MCLEAN—S. W. Dunning.
BLACK RIVER ASSOCIATION, N. YORK.—F. Jackson.
SHURTLEFF COLLEGE—I. D. Newell, Agent.
7. The following Committees were appointed:
To audit Treasurer's account, Cooper, Graves and Grandy.
On next session of Association—J. N. Tolman—S. D. Braynard and Post.
On Benevolent objects—Terry, Briggs, Boyakin, Graves, Pierson.
On Resolutions—Tolman, Howard, Roberts, Cooper, Fales.
8. Delegates to corresponding bodies appointed.
EDWARDSVILLE—Boyakin, Tolman, Howard, Pease, Terry.
Friday before 4th Sabbath in May, at Alton.
SOUTH DISTRICT—Friday before first Sabbath in October, Bethel. Send Minutes.
QUINCY—Boyakin, Roberts—meets Saturday before second Lord's day in August--Union church.
VANDALIA—Send Minutes.
MCLEAN—Send Minutes.
COLORED—Boyakin, Howard, Utt.
SPRINGFIELD—Boyakin, Terry, Tolman--To be held at Springfield, Friday, before 1st. Sabbath in September.
GENERAL ASSOCIATION—Terry, Howard, Boyakin, S. Miner, J. Utt, and Roberts.
9. The following recommendation was adopted :
Whereas, the churches at Bluffdale and Taylor's Creek, have ceased to correspond with us, and we have learned that they are in a low and scattered condition, we deem it advisable that chosen brethren should visit them and counsel with them as to the course they should pursue.
The following volunteered to visit them :
Roberts, Tolman, Terry Pease, Christy and Braynard.
On motion, adjourned. Prayer by C. Howard.
SATURDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.
10. Association met pursuant to adjournment.
Prayer by J. N. Tolman.
11. Committee on next session of the Association recommend next session to be holden at Carrollton. W. F. Boya-

kin to preach introductory sermon, C. Howard be his alternate. Adopted.

12. Committee on Benevolent operations reported the following which was adopted :

Your Committee, in the abundance of benevolent operations that claim our attention would beg the special attention of the Association to the following, as demanding, in the estimation of your committee, a hearty co-operation.

1. *The American and Foreign Bible Society*, and distribution of the word of God.

A peculiar feature of this age of Christian action, is the general desire of the Christian world to translate the Bible into the language of every inhabitant of the globe, and put it into the hands of every man, wherein he may read in his own tongue the wonderful works of God.

To make these *translations faithfully*, translating every word, and transferring none, is the avowed object of the American and Foreign Bible Society. An object of the greatest magnitude, both to the present and future generations of the world.

2. *The word preached in heathen lands.*

Until the latter half of the last century, the church of Christ was comparatively indifferent to the perishing condition of the hundreds of millions of heathens who live in our world.

The spirit of Missions fell on the churches of America about the commencement of the present century, and we are happy to say that the Baptists among other denominations, are now becoming deeply imbued with that spirit, and are actively engaged in sending the gospel to the heathen. Our missionaries are now found in almost every province of darkness on the earth:—East and West, North and South, with a zeal and efficiency worthy of the cause, proclaiming a crucified Saviour.—And God is owning the sacrifice made by the ministry and churches, in the conversion and ingathering of thousands of souls.

3. *The work of Home Missions.* The Western Valley, particularly, is emphatically a home missionary field; already teaming with millions of human beings. As yet, too much scattered in many parts to be brought directly under a settled ministry, the itinerant, or evangelical system seems designed as the happiest means of approaching thousands with the gospel. Every year adds evidence of the deep importance of our Home Missionary operations.

4. Intimately connected with the Home Missionary operations, your committee would urge the cause of education; general, literary and theological. The common school system, with the higher pretensions of an Academical and Collegiate education, male and female.

Shurtleff College, occupies, your committee believe, the highest seat in the affections of the churches, as it evidently has the highest claims on their benevolence. The financial and general condition of *Shurtleff College* is of a healthy character. The faculty is an able and devoted one, the number of students is larger now than on any former occasion, and the financial Agent, Rev. I. D. Newell, has raised upwards of \$12,000 towards clearing the college of pecuniary embarrassments, and the endowing of permanent professorships.

Under the wing of the College, the Illinois Baptist Education Society, is performing a noble duty. Six young men now studying at *College* for the ministry, are beneficiaries of the *Illinois Baptist education society*. Many others would be there if there were friends of the society to meet the demands. This society, brethren, needs friends. We recommend especially this society to your regard.

5. The dissemination of Bible knowledge through good books and pamphlets such as may be obtained of the *American Baptist Publication Society*, your committee also deem of vital importance to the present and future well-being of the churches. And last, though not least—the Sabbath School system, as addressing itself irresistibly to your affections.

JOEL TERRY, *Chairman*.

13. On motion, suspended business for preaching. Sermon by W. F. Boyakin. Psalms, XVI 6.

2 o'clock, P. M.

14. Association met. *Prayer by I. D. Newell*.

15. Committee on Resolutions reported the following which was adopted:

Resolved, That the American Baptist Missionary Union, American Baptist Home Mission Society, American and Foreign Bible Society, and Illinois Baptist Education Society, are worthy the patronage of every Baptist within our bounds. Inasmuch as the lack of system in our benevolent operations is the main cause of embarrassment to the same—therefore,

Resolved, That we recommend that some Deacon or other brother in each church be appointed who shall procure a blank book in which he shall insert the name of each member of the church to which he belongs, and call on the same to subscribe for each one of the above named objects.

Resolved, That as a medium of religious intelligence at home, the Watchman of the Prairies is second to none; and for intelligence from our Foreign Mission operations, the Missionary Magazine and Macedonian, are indispensable. We, therefore, recommend the above named periodicals as worthy of sympathy and support.

Resolved, That the Sabbath School enterprise has every claim

upon our prayers and efforts as an efficient auxiliary in evangelizing the West, particularly in bringing the young to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus.

Resolved, That Shurtleff College, at Upper Alton, and Peoria Female Seminary, being the only Institutions of the kind under the patronage of the Baptist denomination in Illinois, claim the sympathies, patronage and support of our entire denomination, as well as the friends of education generally, and that they can and must be amply sustained.

Resolved, That the decrease of numbers within our bounds during the past year, without a corresponding increase, calls for humiliation and prayer that God will revive his work in our midst.

Resolved, That we recommend the churches of this body, to observe the first Monday in January as a day of fasting and prayer for the general spread of the gospel at home and abroad.

Resolved, That we believe it the duty of each church, and indispensable to the prosperity of the same, to meet together according to Bible practice upon every Lord's day for worship, and we recommend those churches which are destitute of Pastors, to make every effort to obtain them.

Resolved, That we recommend the monthly concert of prayer for Missions to be faithfully observed by each church.

Resolved, That the Baptist Publication Society, in the multiplication of tracts, Sabbath School books, and books of a devotional and practical character of our denomination, and the Colporteur system for their distribution, have our ardent affections and demand, and shall receive our liberal patronage.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to counsel with the brethren of Whitehall church on the subject of obtaining a Pastor, and make an effort to obtain aid from the Home Mission Society in reference to this object. BOYKIN, TOLMAN and TERRY, were appointed.

Respectfully submitted,

J. N. TOLMAN, *Chairman*.

16. Treasurer reported—found correct by auditing committee and ordered to be printed.

17. Directed Clerk to write the corresponding letter.

18. Ordered that the thanks of this Association be tendered to the friends at Whitehall for their kind entertainment of this body during its session.

19. Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to J. O. Graves, for services as clerk of the association in years past.

On motion, adjourned. *Prayer by W. F. Boykin.*

W. F. BOYKIN, *Moderator*.

J. N. TOLMAN, Clerk and }
Corresponding Sec'y. } *Carrollton, Ill.*

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The North District Association to Corresponding Associations.

BELOVED BRETHREN—Through the kind Providence of God, we have been permitted to enjoy another anniversary season.—Our meeting was a harmonious, and we believe profitable one.—Some of your messengers were present (we should have been glad to see more) to cheer us with their presence and aid us in our deliberations. We are not permitted to speak of revivals, as in some former years, yet we hope and pray for an increase of faith and grace.

We greatly need several more self denying ministers within our bounds. Our next session is to be holden at Carrollton, commencing Friday before the 2d Sabbath in September, 11 o'clock, A. M.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

D. PIERSON, Treasurer, in account with the N. D. Association.	
Dr. To	Contribution at the last Association for minutes,.....11,50
" "	Contribution from Lofton's Prairie Church for Domestic Mis. 5,67
" "	Collection towards ballance due E. Dodson,..... 1,50
" "	Collected on subscription for Domestic Missionary,..... 2,50
" "	Collection at the last Association for Missionary Union,.... 8,10
	Do " " for Home Missions,..... 2,95
	Do " " for Shurtleff College,....12,72
	Do " " for A. & F. Bible Society, 10,91
	\$55,85
Cr. By	Paid for printing minutes,.....11,50
" "	Paid Elder E. Dodson,..... 9,67
" "	Paid Tr. of General Association for Home Mis. 2,95
" "	Do for Missionary Union, 8,10
" "	Paid I. D. Newell College agent,.....12,72
" "	Cash on hand for A. & F. Bible Society,.....10,91

\$55,85

We have examined the above and believe the same to be correct.

J. E. COOPER,	}	Audit'g. Com.
J. O. GRAVES,		
E. GRANDY,		

CONTRIBUTIONS.

Collection on the Sabbath after Sermon, by I. D. Newell, for Illinois Baptist Education Society,.....	10,25
Contributed by Carrollton Church for Am. Bap. Miss. Union-----	23,72
Contributed by Kane Church for Am. Bap. Missionary Union,-----	2,50
Contributed by Lofton's Prairie Church for Home Missions,.....	5,67