

MINUTES,

OF THE SALEM ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS, HELD AT MILL CREEK MEETING-HOUSE, Nelson county, on the 4th, Friday and Saturday in September 1817, being the 26th, and 27th, of said month.

1st. THE Introductory Sermon was preached by brother James H. L. Moorman, from the 3d. Chapter of the Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Collossians, 1st. 2d. 3d. and 4th, verses "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God; set your affections on things above, not on things on the Earth. For ye are dead, & your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." 2d. Received letters & Messengers from the following Churches, to wit:—
(Those in *Italicks* are Ordained Ministers.)

CHURCHES.	HISTORICAL SOCIETY LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY MESSENGERS.	STATISTICS							
		Baptized.	Dismissed by Letter.	Received by Letter.	Excommunicated.	Restored.	Dead.	Rec'd. by Relation.	TOTAL.
Cedar Creek,	Joshua Morris, Wm. Abell, James Rogers,	3	9	2			1		99
Cox's Creek,	Moses Pierson, J. Taylor, Wm King, A. King,	11	11	2	3		1		199
Simpson's Creek,	Wal. Stallard, W. Davis, S. M'Kay, D. Lewis,	57	5	2	1			1	27
Mill Creek,	Benj. Edwards, T. Hubbard, Wm. Kendrick, } John Batsel,	10	5	5	1				129
Mount Moriah,	Joseph Brown, Thomas Wells,	9	4	1			2		110
Wilson's Creek,	David Walker, Benj. Irwin,	2	8	1			1	2	4
Bethel, B. C.	James H. L. Moorman,		7	1	2				32
Rock Creek,	Charles Stuteville,	1		4	1				45
Rolling Fork,	Moses Thomas, Samuel Miller,	1	1	1			1		39
Severn's Valley,	Samuel Anderson, Samuel Abel,	2	8	6	1				49
Nolin,	Alexr. M'Dugal, G. Helm, Caleb Carman,	1	1	6	1	1			80
Beaver-dam Creek,	Philip Dale,	1			1		2		30
Bacon Creek,	John Smoot, Senr.		1	1	2		2		48
Bethel, H. C.	Warren Cash, Martin Utterback,	1	2	3	1				54
Mill Creek, H. C.	J. J. Shelton, T. R. Vanmeter, Jas. Nall,	8	3	6	1		1		52
Union,	Eneas Harned, Jeremiah Cash,	14	1	2			1		47
Goshen,	Isaac Green, Grant Owen,			2	1				40
Little Union,	Alex. M'Donald, Geo. Wells, E. Wiggington,	18	7	3	1		1		134
Caney Creek, G. C.	Letter, no Messenger,		1						19
Pleasant Run, G. C.	Gabriel Smith,		1	2					10
Gilead, I. State,	Charles Polke, Thomas Polke,			6		1	2		27
Otter Creek, H. C.	Shadrach Brown, T. Robinson, Asa Chambers,	4	5	6	1		1		69
Rough Creek, O. C.	Samuel Lewelling,		7				1		26
Concord, G. C.	William Walker,								38
Pisgah, B. C.	Henry Rusher, Charles Clarkson,	8	15	7	2	1			30
New-Hope,	Benj. Watis, Warner Cobb,	1		1					14
Mount Pleasant, O. C.	No letter or Messenger,								
Salem,	William Kendall, Joseph Lewis,			5		2			25
Panther Creek	No letter or Messenger,								
Walnut Grove, B. C.	Isaac Whitaker, John Pawley,	1	2	2				2	29
Mount Zion,	James Haycraft, John Wilson,								9
		153	114	68	23	6	16	3	180

3d. Brother Walter Stallard, chosen MODERATOR, and Joseph Lewis, CLERK.

4th. Received Letters and Messengers from the following Corresponding Associations, to wit: from Elkhorn, by brother Jeremiah Vardiman; from Long Run, by Brethren, George Waller, W. Stout, Joshua Brooks; from Russel's Creek, by brethren, David Elkin, Jacob Miller, Samuel Owens; from Green River, by brother Ralph Petty, from Gasper river no letter or Messenger, and from South District, by brethren William Stirman, Richard Elliott, Jeremiah Briscoe, Thomas Hutchins and Joseph Whitehead.

5th. Mount Zion Church, Hardin county, petitioned for admission into this Association, received and Messengers James Haycraft and John Wilson took their seats.

6th. Brethren, Walter Stallard, Joseph Lewis, J. H. L. Moorman, Alexander M. Dugal and Moses Pierson, appointed to arrange the business of the Association.

7th. Brethren appointed to write letters of Correspondence, William King, to Elkhorn and Isaac Taylor and William Davis, our Messengers. Abner King, to Long Run, Walter Stallard, Alexander M. Dugal and Daniel Walker, Messengers. Martin Utterback, to South District; Joseph Lewis, Thomas Hubbard, and Isaac Taylor, Messengers. Charles Clarkson, to Russel's creek; Charles Stuteville, Warren Cash and Martin Utterback, Messengers. William Davis, to Green River; Warren Cash, Caleb Carman and Isaac Whitaker, Messengers and J. H. L. Moorman to Gasper River; no Messenger appointed to bear it and Correspondence discontinued.

8th. Brother Joseph Lewis, our Corresponding Secretary, presented and read a letter from Doctor William Staughton, Corresponding Secretary of the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions, which was referred to the Committee of Arrangement.

9th. Adjourned till to-morrow 10 o'clock; prayer by brother Pierson.

10th. Saturday the 27th, September 1817. The Association met according to adjournment; prayer by brother Moderator.

11th. Received a Letter of Correspondence from the Silver Creek Association, by brother Henry Harris, wherein they appear willing to drop the Correspondence; agreed, & brother Alexander M. Dugal appointed to write a friendly letter to that body.

12th. Brother J. E. Welch, a Missionary to the West, appeared and was invited to a seat with us.

13th. The brethren appointed to arrange the business of the Association made their Report, read and received.

14th. Brethren J. H. L. Moorman & Warren Cash, who were appointed by last Association to visit New-Hope Church, reported that by reason of affliction the Church did not appoint Messengers. The Association are satisfied.

15th. Query, from Union Church "would it be disorder for the Church to take a member in of our Faith and order, only differing from us about the keeping of the Sabbath, that is to say the Seventh day in place of the First." Answer, We are of opinion that it would be disorderly.

16th. Answer. Received a letter from the Corresponding Secretary of the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions, presenting the thanks of the Mission Convention for the aid afforded by us to that Institution; which this Association Cordially receives, with a parcel of the Third Annual Reports.

17th. The Circular Letter, read, amended, and approved.

18th. Answer to the request of Nolin Church and Bethel Church, Hardin county. We recommend it to our Ministering brethren, that they be actively engaged in their work and supply as far as possible all destitute Churches.

19th. A request from Mill Creek Church, Hardin county "that the meeting of the next Association should commence on the Second Friday in October next." Voted out.

20th. The next Association to be held at Simpson's Creek Meeting-House, Nelson County, on the Fourth Friday in September next.

21st. The Corresponding Letters to the different Associations were read and approved.

22d. Brother Joshua Morris appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon at our next Association and in case of failure brother Alexander M'Dugal.

23d. Brother Alexander M'Dugal appointed to write the Circular Letter for the next year.

24th. The following Churches petitioned for letters of Dismission, to-wit: Rough Creek Church, Ohio county. Goshen Church, Breckenridge county. Pisgah Church Breckenridge county. Bethel Church, Breckenridge county. New-Hope, Breckenridge county. Caney Creek Church, Grayson county. Concord Church, Grayson county. Pleasant Run, Grayson county and Gilead Church, Indiana state:— granted.

25th. Brethren, Joseph Lewis, Walter Stallard, Warren Cash, Martin Utterback, Shadrach Brown and George Helm, appointed as helps to constitute an Association at Goshen Church Breckenridge county.

26th. Brother Thomas Hubbard appointed to superintend the Printing the Minutes and Circular Letter.

27th. Mount Pleasant and Panther Creek Churches have liberty to join the New Association.

28th. It is recommended to all the Churches of this body to meet on Thursday after the third Sabbath in November next and unite in Fasting and Thanksgiving for the mercies conferred on us this Season, and to meet on the Thursday after the third Sabbath in March next, for Fasting and Prayer for the mercies of the next Season and the Success of the Gospel.

29th. The next Elkhorn Association to be held at South Elkhorn, Fayette county, second Saturday in August 1818. Green River Association to be held at Panchon Camp Meeting-House, Barren county, the Friday before the Fourth Sabbath in July next. South District at Union Meeting-House in Mercer county, the third Saturday in August 1818. Long Run, at New Castle, Henry county, Drebing's creek, the first Friday in September 1818, and Russel's creek at Brush creek Meeting-House, Green county, on the third Saturday in September 1818. Adjourned, Prayer by brother Morris.

WALTER STALLARD, *Mod.*
JOSEPH LEWIS, *Clk.*

CIRCULAR LETTER.

THE Elders and Brethren of the several Churches belonging to the Salem Association of Baptists met together at Mill Creek, Nelson County, September the 26th, 1817

TO THE CHURCHES IN UNION WITH US SEND CHRISTIAN SALUTATION.

DEARLY BELOVED IN THE LORD,

We rejoice that the Father of Mercies has permitted us once more to meet in order that we might unitedly pursue the promotion of that cause which we believe is unspeakably precious to the Churches, we have the honor to represent, but the success of our feeble efforts to advance the important object in view, depend wholly on the blessing of him, who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will; to him therefore we humbly commit the concerns of Zion in general, and the transactions of this, our meeting in particular, fervently beseeching him that of His abundant grace and mercy. He would grant our labour may not be in vain in the Lord.

Dear Brethren, let us raise our thankful acknowledgments to Heaven, for the inestimable gift of a Dear Saviour, with the promise of the Holy Ghost as a comforter, to take of the things of Christ, and shew them to His people. God is a wonder working God; He has done and is still doing great things for us in our highly favoured land; even among some of the Churches of our Union, the Gospel has recently been the power of God, to the salvation of numbers.— Yet remember Brethren, you are in an enemies land, many & potent are the enemies of Gods people; the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life are not of the Father, but of the world. A conformity to these, or any of them is rebellion against God. *Sharon*

the Lord redeemer and wounding to the conscience.—We would therefore Dearly Beloved, exhort first, that you diligently read, and carefully examine the Sacred Scriptures; from this source of Divine Revelation, you obtain your knowledge of Jesus Christ, and the comfortable hope of eternal life in Him.

2nd: The Duties arising from the Gospel are to be carefully observed by all the sincere followers of Christ. Prayer is one of the greatest weapons that ever was wielded by the Christian; the Eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His Ears open unto their prayers. Prayer is a weapon that has been used by Christians in all ages of the world, and all that use it in faith, come off more than conquerors through Him that loved them, and gave Himself for them. Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, and it rained not for the space of three years and six months, he prayed again, and the Heavens gave rain.—We are informed when Peter lay bound in Prison, between two Soldiers, that prayer was offered up by the Church incessantly for him; and the Lord sent his Angel and delivered him from his Chains, in answer to prayer. Oh! let Closet and Family Prayer be strictly observed by all the followers of Christ, try as much as lieth in you to raise your Families in the nature and admonition of the Lord.

3d, Endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, which will lead you into one mind, and one judgement, and afford you sweet Fellowship one with another, and will evidently distinguish you from the world, whose true character is hateful and hating one another, and you are expressly forbidden a conformity to this world, in all, or any of its forms or fashions.

4th, Fill your seats in the House of God, and forsake not the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is.

5th, Frequently wait at the throne of grace, and pray one for another, for the furtherance of the Gospel, and conversion of sinners.

6th, We conclude with the Exhortation of the Apostle to the Philippians. Be careful for nothing, but in all things by prayer, and supplication, with thanks giving, let your requests be made known unto God, and the peace of God which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally Brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Grace be with all them, that love our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

WALTER STALLARD, MOD.
JOSEPH LEWIS, CLK,

BARDSTOWN, KY.

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