

11-7-1851

1851 Minutes of the Kings Mountain Baptist Association

Kings Mountain Baptist Association

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MINUTES

OF THE

King's Mountain Baptist Association, and Convention
of Delegates, held at
Double Spring Church,

CLEVELAND COUNTY, N. C.,

NOVEMBER 7, 1851, AND DAYS FOLLOWING :

THE Introductory sermon was preached by Elder D. Pannell, from John 17th Chap. and part of the 1st verse : "*The hour is come.*"

The Convention was then called to order by Elder J. Suttle, and on his motion Elder Thomas Dickson was appointed Moderator, and J. R. Logan clerk pro tem.

On motion, the letter of dismission granted the Churches by the Broad River Association, was produced and read before the Convention; whereupon said Churches were severally called, and their correspondence read, the names of their delegates enrolled, and the state of each minuted.

Read and adopted a Constitution, Rules of Order, and abstract of Principles for the government of the Association; and ordered the same to be printed with the minutes.

The Moderator then announced the Association as being duly formed; when, on motion of Bro. E. Turner, the body proceeded to ballot for officers, which resulted in the choice of Elder Thomas Dickson, Moderator, and Bro. J. R. Logan, Clerk.

1. On motion, ministering brethren not delegates to this body, were then invited to seats; and received as such Elder L. McCurry.

2. The Moderator then announced the following committees, viz :

On Finance, R. T. Hord, J. Bailey, W. H. Green.

On Union Meetings, J. Suttle, E. Turner, E. Jones, W. Covington, D. Hamrick.

On Correspondence with Sister Associations, D. Pannell, B. Putman, M. Gold, T. Dickson, J. R. Logan.

3. On motion, a general committee, consisting of D. P. Gold, T. Dickson, J. R. Logan, were appointed to arrange the unfinished business of the Session and report the same for transaction to-morrow.

Prayer by Elder J. Suttle, and the Association adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

SATURDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Association met according to adjournment. Prayer by the Moderator.

Called the roll of delegates and marked absentees.

5. On motion, the general committee of arrangement reported, and were discharged.

6. On motion, the committee on Union meetings submitted the following Report, which was adopted :

The committee on Union Meetings having had the subject under consideration, beg leave to report : That owing to the situation or locality of the several Churches in Union, they suggest the propriety of adopting First Broad River as a dividing line, forming two Associational sec-

MINUTES OF THE

tions, for the present year, and recommend that Union Meetings be appointed to be held, First, with the church at Boiling Spring, commencing on Friday previous to the 1st Lord's day in May next. Second, with the church at Zoar, commencing on Friday previous to the 2nd Lord's day in July next.

Respectfully submitted, J. SUTTLE, Ch'm'n.

7. Appointed *Elders* J. Suttle, D. Pannell, Geo. Rollins, T. Dickson, L. McSwain, and *brothers* Wm. McSwain, J. J. Jones, Robt. Poston, to attend the union meeting at Boiling Spring; and *Elders* J. Suttle, D. Pannell, Geo. Rollins, T. Dickson, L. McSwain, and *brothers* B. E. Rollins, Wm. McSwain, to attend the union meeting at Zoar.

8. Elected Elder J. Suttle to preach the sermon introductory to the next session of the Association, and Elder T. Dickson *alternate*.

9. Elected Brother J. R. Logan to write a Circular Address to the churches in union, to be read before the next session of the Association: subject—*The duty of church members towards each other*.

10. Elected Elders T. Dickson, J. Suttle and Geo. Rollins to occupy the Sacred Stand on the Sabbath, in the order of their names.

11. On motion the Committee on Correspondence reported as follows, which was adopted:

The Committee on Correspondence beg leave to report: That they have had the subject under consideration, and being fully aware of the benefits arising from a friendly correspondence with sister Associations do therefore recommend that a correspondence be solicited with the several Associations following, to wit: *The Broad River, The Green River, The Bethel, and The Catawba River*; and that messengers be appointed by this body to attend each of the foregoing Associations, with requests that they open a correspondence with us at our next session.

Your committee also suggest that the accompanying *Corresponding Letter* be signed by the Moderator and Clerk, and be printed with the minutes of this body.

Respectfully submitted, D. PANNELL, Ch'm'n.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The King's Mountain Baptist Association, To her Sisters, The Broad River, The Green River, the Bethel, The Catawba River Associations, Greeting:

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN:—

Through a kind turn of the providence of God our Heavenly Father, we have been permitted to meet together in an *Associate capacity*, and have enjoyed a pleasant interview.

This being the first session of our body since its organization, it will therefore be proper to inform those with whom we solicit a correspondence, that we have been detached from the Broad River Association, and erected into a new and distinct body, various reasons impelling us thereto, a few of which it may not be considered amiss to communicate in this Letter:—The Broad River Association, previous to its division, was a large body, extending over a considerable area of territory, interspersed with several large streams that not unfrequently, in time of high waters, intercepted the delegates from Churches in their attempt at going to and from the annual Sessions. Moreover, the churches numbering upwards of 40, rendered the business of the Sessions laborious and often complicated, while the delegations being consequently numerous, were therefore more burthensome to the citizens and brethren that usually support such bodies.

The foregoing reasons, coupled with a desire to be more conveniently situated, and with a belief that greater zeal and energy, with a corres-

ponding religious effort, will accompany the separation, have induced us to make the experiment; and we are not without hope that all the advantages and desirable results so fondly anticipated, will be more than realized; that our churches will feel greater responsibility and do more to spread the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; that his disciples may be greatly increased; that the churches may be filled with devoted converts; that the kingdom of our Lord may come with great power and glory, until all kindred and people shall become the willing servants of our Lord.

The information communicated in the letters from our churches in union, go to show that several of them, during a short space of time back, have enjoyed gracious revivals of Religion, and are made to exclaim, "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad." During the present Session our business has been transacted in harmony and brotherly love.

Our next Association will convene with the *New Bethel Church*, on Friday before the 4th Lord's day in October next, (1852,) 10 miles North from the town of Shelby, and 3 miles from Falls' Factory on 1st Broad River, at which time and place we shall hope to receive your correspondence.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.
THOMAS DICKSON, Mod.

J. R. LOGAN, Clk.

12. The following Brethren were appointed Messengers to sister Associations, to wit:

To *The Broad River*—Elders, Thos. Dickson, J. Suttle, and brothers J. R. Logan, J. Turner. To *The Green River*—Elders, D. Pannell, George Rollins, Joseph Suttle, Thos. Dickson, and brothers W. H. Green, J. R. Logan, B. E. Rollins. To *The Bethel*—Elders, L. McSwain, J. Suttle, and brothers B. E. Rollins, S. McBrayer. To *The Catawba River*—Elders, Thos. Dickson, Geo. Rollins, and brothers Robert Poston, J. J. Jones, Wm. McSwain.

13. On motion, The Committee on Finance made the following Report, which was adopted:

Amount of Contributions from Churches	\$20,21 $\frac{1}{4}$
" Rec'd. from Broad River Association	1,68 $\frac{3}{4}$

Aggregate amount	\$21,90
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Respectfully submitted,

R. T. HORD, Cl'm'n.

On motion of Elder J. Suttle,

Resolved, That the Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes among the Churches, that he have 1000 copies printed, and accept of \$5 for services. Motion sustained and Resolution adopted.

On motion of J. R. Logan,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Body are due, and are hereby tendered to the Brethren and friends in the vicinity of Double Spring Church, for the kindness they have manifested in the accommodation of this Association.

Adopted, *nem. con.*

On motion of Elder D. Pannell, the Minutes of the Session were read and signed by the Officers of the House,—and the Association adjourned to meet again at New Bethel Church, on Friday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1852. Prayer by Elder D. Pannell.

THOMAS DICKSON, Moderator.

J. R. LOGAN, Clerk.

No.	Churches.	Post Offices.	Ministers.	SUNDAY OF PROG	Church Clerks.	Delegates Names.	Members.	Contributions.
						Ordained Preachers in capital letters, Licentiates in Italics, and Laymen in Roman letters.		
1	Buffalo	Erwinsville, N. C.	T. Dickson	4	W. Hamrick	<i>B. E. Rollins</i> , E. Turner, W. Hamrick, J. Turner.	247	\$3 50
2	Sandy Run	Mooreboro', N. C.	J. S. Ezell	3	E. P. Jones	E. Jones, R. McBrayer, E. P. Jones, C. Bridges.	150	2 00
3	Zion	Shelby, N. C.	T. Dickson	1	J. Bailey	T. DICKSON, J. Bailey, W. Covington.	156	2 00
4	Zoar	Shelby, N. C.	T. Dickson	2	J. R. Logan	W. H. Green, J. R. Logan, B. Putman, W. H. Cabaniss.	153	2 50
5	Do'ble Sprig	Camp Call, N. C.	J. Suttle	2	M. Gold	J. SUTTLE, M. Gold, D. P. Gold.	120	1 60
6	Bethel	Webb's Ford, N. C.	D. Pannell	1	W. H. Hardin	D. PANNELL, G. Hamrick, W. H. Hardin.	28	87 1/2
7	B'l'g Spring	Sandy Run, N. C.	J. Suttle	1	WMCh'mp'n	D. Hamrick, D. D. Durham, A. Hamrick.	131	1 75
8	Mt. Sinai	Erwinsville, N. C.	L. M'Swain	3	J. Randall	John Webber.	47	98 1/2
9	New Bethel	Gardner's Ford, N. C.	T. Dickson	4	R. T. Hord	R. T. Hord, A. S. Elam.	160	2 00
10	Mt. Pleasant	Sandy Run, N. C.	G. Rollins	2	W. B. Hames	G. ROLLINS, M. Jolly, W. B. Hames.	47	1 00
11	Broad River	C. Iron Works, S. C.				No representation.		
12	Beaverdam	Fillmore, N. C.	R. P. Logan	4	J. J. Jones	W. McSwain, E. Eskridge.	44	1 00
13	Pleasant Hill	Swangstown, N. C.	G. Rollins	3	S. Putman	M. Martin, M. L. Ross.	42	1 00
							1925	\$20 21 1/2
								B.R. 1 68 1/2
								\$21 90

CONSTITUTION

OF THE KING'S MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION.

WE the united Baptist Churches of Jesus Christ, located in North and South Carolina, having obtained letters of dismission from the Broad River Baptist Association, and having all been baptized upon a profession of faith in Christ, are desirous of reciprocal union: We, therefore, propose to maintain the Order and Rules of an Association, according to the following system:

1. The Association shall be formed of members elected by the different Churches in our union; who, on producing certificates from their respective Churches, in support of their election, shall be entitled to a seat.

2. The members thus chosen and convened, shall be known by the name of the King's Mountain Association.

3. The Association thus organized, shall elect by ballot, a Moderator and Clerk, both of whom shall be representatives of some one of the Churches in union, and when so elected, shall hold their offices for one year.

4. This body shall have no coercive power to "lord it over God's heritage," or to infringe on any of the internal rights of the Churches in union, (while they remain orderly) but shall only act as an advisory Council, in all matters respecting their internal concerns: Nevertheless, it becomes necessary to establish some uniform rules of proceeding, in order to foster and maintain union and christian fellowship.

5. When offences committed by one Church against another may occur, it shall be the duty of the offended Church to labor with the offender for satisfaction, and in case of failure to obtain redress, then call in the aid of one or two other Churches in union to assist in the labor of reconciliation, and if satisfaction (in the opinion of the helps thus called in) cannot be obtained, then the aggrieved Church may bring the case before the Association, who are bound to act on it.

6. Also, when a serious difference may arise in an individual Church, which the members thereof cannot reconcile, they shall call in the assistance of one or two more Churches in the union to assist in the work: and if satisfaction (in the opinion of the helps) is not obtained, the case may be brought before the Association, who shall take it up and act upon it.

7. And should an individual member or members be excluded from any Church in our union, if he, she or they, after maturely considering their own conduct, and the act of the Church, shall feel themselves aggrieved, they may appeal to the Church for a new hearing, and if there cannot be a reconciliation obtained, the Church may call in the aid of one or two sister Churches; and, if in the opinion of the helps thus called in, the member or members have been unjustly excluded, the case may come before the Association to be acted on: Provided always, in all cases of grievances, reference has been had to the 18th Chap. of the Gospel by St. Matthew and other Scriptures which respects discipline, for the bringing to trial and determining on all cases of grievances; and the Association will not take up any case of the above kind, unless the above proceedings have been previously had thereon.

8. Every Church in the union having a membership not exceeding 50 in number, shall be entitled to a representation of two Delegates in the Association, and when their number exceeds 100 members, and does not exceed 150, they shall be entitled to three delegates, when over 150 and not exceeding 200, four delegates.

9. The delegates thus chosen and sent, are to be recommended to the Association by letter from the Churches by whom they are sent, which shall be expressive of their fellowship, also the number of those baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, and the number deceased since the last Association and the total number in fellowship.

10. Churches producing letters of dismissal from other Associations, and by petitioning, and also newly constituted Churches, who shall upon examination be found orthodox and orderly, by petitioning by letter and delegation, may be received into this union, and the same shall be manifested by the Moderator, giving them the right hand in token of fellowship.

11. The Association shall have power to exclude any Church from this Union, who shall depart from the orthodox principles of the Gospel.

12. The Association shall endeavor to furnish the Churches with the Minutes of their proceedings, and to enable it to do so, each Church shall be required to contribute such sums as may be proper and necessary.

13. Every Query sent by a Church, who has labored on it and fails within herself in getting a satisfactory decision on it, shall be taken up by the Association, and not otherwise.

14. Any Church in our union having a member possessed with preaching talents, who is a candidate for the Ministry may invite brethren from one, two, or more sister Churches, the aid of their Minister and other members, who in conjunction with the Church shall examine the candidate; and if deemed qualified, may license him to preach the Gospel among the Churches at discretion, which shall be reported to the Association and entered on the Minutes.

15. Any Church having a licensed preacher who they deem worthy of credentials, shall call a presbytery of Ministers of our union to officiate; and a presbytery thus called in, shall in all cases of ordinations, both of Ministers and Deacons and the Constitution of Churches, be regulated by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

16. The Association shall not adjourn until they have gone through the business regularly brought before them, except in extraordinary cases: but no act of the body shall go into operation until the close of the session.

17. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected (if need be) and signed by the Moderator, and attested by the Clerk before the Association rises.

18. The Association shall, in all cases, be governed by a majority of the members present.

19. Voting shall be confined exclusively to the body, in all acts respecting their internal concerns; but the Association may admit any of the distant brethren in the ministry as assistants who may be present at the time of their sitting.

20. The Association when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum, which they are authorized to form for themselves.

21. No alteration or amendment shall be made to the Constitution unless the same be concurred in by a majority of the members present, in two successive Associations.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.
2. The Moderator shall be deemed a judge of order, and shall have a right to call to order at any time: also it shall be his duty to see that the Rules of Decorum are attended to; to take the opinion of the Association on all questions properly brought before the body.
3. Any member not satisfied with his decision on any point of order, may appeal to the Association on the same day the decision is made, but at no other time.
4. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular record of the transactions of the Association.
5. But one person shall speak at a time; and he shall rise to his feet and obtain leave of the Moderator, and when he has done speaking he shall sit down, and shall not speak more than twice on the same question, nor more than twenty minutes at one time, unless he obtain permission of the Association.
6. The Moderator, when addressed for leave of speech, shall signify the same by naming of them or otherwise.
7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject on hand, or use words of personal reflection; or with a view of calling to order for some particular purpose. Any motion made and seconded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, except withdrawn by him who made it.
8. Every case taken up by the Association, shall be first decided upon, before another is offered.
9. When any thing is taken up by the Association, after allowing time for the debate, the Moderator shall put the question; and those in favor of the thing proposed shall rise to their feet, and those opposed to it keep their seats; the Moderator shall procure the decision before the standers take their seats.
10. No person shall depart the service of the Association without leave.
11. The appellation of brothers shall be used in our address to each other.
12. The names of the members shall be called as often as necessary.
13. No member shall be indulged in any practice that has a tendency to interrupt in the time of a public Speech, or any other practice that would dishonor the Association.
14. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as any other member, provided he appoints some other member to his seat while he is speaking, but shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided: then he shall give the casting vote.
15. Any person breaking these rules of Decorum, shall be reprov'd at the discretion of the Association, but only on the day the breach is made.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

1. We believe in one only true and living God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, three in one.
2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only true rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.
4. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and holiness.
5. We believe in the doctrine of *Election*, through sanctification of the Spirit, and belief of the truth.
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the merits of Jesus Christ.
7. We believe the Saints shall persevere in grace, and not finally fall away.
8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects; and conscientiously do believe the true mode is immersion.
9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and general judgment.
10. We believe that the joys of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.
11. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as has been called of God as was Aaron, and regularly baptized and approved of by the Church, and come under the imposition of hands by the Presbytery.
12. We believe that none but believers have a right to the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

⚭ COST OF PRINTING AND FOLDING 1000 COPIES, \$20.