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1858 Minutes of the Kings Mountain Baptist Association

Kings Mountain Baptist Association

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MINUTES

OF THE

KING'S MOUNTAIN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

At its Ninth Annual Session,

HELD AT

OLIVET MEETING-HOUSE,

CATAWBA COUNTY, N. C.,

OCTOBER 22 1858, AND DAYS FOLLOWING.

FRIDAY, OCT. 22, 1858.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder Jas. Suttle, from 16th chapter of John, and part of the 38th verse; "What is truth." When after a recess of 20 minutes, the Delegates from the Churches re-assembled in the Meeting-house, and solemn prayer was offered by the Moderator.

A call was then made on the churches for their correspondence, when letters were handed in from all the churches in union, except two, which were read; and accounts minute.

In consequence of a difficulty having been communicated, as existing in the church at Shelby, the letter and delegates from said church, were therefore rejected by a vote of the Body, until the same shall be amicably adjusted by said church.

The Association then proceeded to ballot for a Moderator and Clerk, when Elder G. W. Rollins was duly elected Moderator, and brother J. W. Green, Clerk.

Called for correspondence from sister Associations, and received from Green River, a letter. From Broad River a letter and Minutes, and Elder Wade Hill, and Bro. D. Ray messengers. From the Catawba River, a letter, and Elders J. C. Clark, T. J. Hamilton and brother J. Brumfield, messengers. From the Taylorsville, a letter, and Elder J. Oxford, messenger.

Invited visiting ministers, not delegates, to seats with us, and received Elder E. Dodson, Agent for the Board of Foreign Missions; and Elder L. M. Berry, Agent for Domestic and Indian Missions.

Appointed brethren, J. Suttle, H. Harrill, J. R. Logan, G. W. Rollins, and J. W. Green, a committee of arrangement, with instructions to report on to-morrow morning.

On Motion—Adjourned until to-morrow 10 o'clock, A. M. Prayer by Elder W. Hill.

SATURDAY, OCT. 23.

The Association met according to adjournment.
Prayer by Elder R. P. Logan.

Called the roll of Delegates.

On motion, the Committee of Arrangement reported, and was discharged.
Appointed brethren J. Turner, J. C. Ho and W. B. Lovelace, with the Eldership of Olivet Church, a Committee preaching.

On motion, Read the Constitution, Rules of Decorum, and Abstract of Principles.

The Moderator announced the following nominees, viz:

On Union Meetings, brethren J. C. Latim, J. M. Roderick, & P. R. Elam.

On Finance, brethren J. A. Roberts, A. A. Swain, and Wm. Moore.

On Sabbath Schools, Brethren R. Poston R. Logan, and G. M. Webb.

On Correspondence, Brethren F. S. Rams, J. J. Jones, and W. H. Green.

On Periodicals, Brethren J. Suttle, J. C. Imore, and J. R. Logan.

Called for Circular Letter, when Elder R. Logan (the person appointed to write,) said that he had not preparany, and offered reasons that were satisfactory.

On motion, the Clerk was ordered to lay Constitution, Rules of Decorum, and Abstract of Principles of this Association, inserted in the Minutes of this session.

Elected Elder G. W. Rollins to preach the Introductory Sermon to the next Association; Elder R. Poston, his alternate.

Elected Elder J. Suttle to write a Circular letter to the churches in union, and his subject be "Prayer," and especially to of Family Prayer.

Elected Elders L. M. Berry, W. Hill, and W. Rollins, to preach to-morrow in the order of their names; Elder W. Hill to preach on the subject of Missions.

On motion, appointed J. J. Jones, A. Molt, B. Mansort, and J. M. Webb, a committee of enquiry, to visit the Broad River church, and ascertain, if possible, the reason why they are not, nor have been, represented for several years in this Body, report at the next session.

On motion, the Board, appointed last year, employ a Missionary to ride in the Catawba Valley, reported that they have failed to employ any person, and that they have now on hand, the sum of \$54.40, which was paid over into the hands of the Clerk, and the Board discharged.

A motion, for this Body to become auxiliary to the Western Convention was lost by a vote of the Association.

On motion, a subscription was taken up for Missionary purposes in the Catawba Valley, when the amount of \$101, was subscribed. See Appendix, A.

On motion, continued the subject of Missions, until Monday, next.

On motion, adjourned until Monday, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Elder R. Poston led in prayer. Benedictio by Elder W. Hill.

SUNDAY, OCT. 24th.

The word of life was faithfully exhibited, by those appointed to preach, with apparent good effect. Immediately after the sermon on Missions by Elder W. Hill, a public collection was taken up, amounting to \$22.23.

MONDAY, OCT. 25.

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

On motion, the Committee on Finance reported \$39.60, sent up for Minutes, and was discharged.

On motion, the Committee on Sabbath Schools reported, and was discharged. See Appendix, B.

On motion, the Committee on Correspondence reported, and was discharged. See Appendix, C.

On motion, the Committee on Periodicals reported, and was discharged. See Appendix, D.

On motion, the Committee on Union Meetings reported as follows, viz: The first to be held at High Shoal Meeting House, embracing the 4th

Lord's day in July, 1859. Elders, W. M'Swain, G. W. Rollins, Jas. Suttle, and J. J. Jones, to attend it, by appointment.

The 2d to be held at Mt. Sinai M. H., embracing the 3rd Lord's day in August, 1859. Elders R. P. Logan, R. Poston, and A. A. M'Swain, appointed to attend it.

The 3d to be held at Corinth, embracing the 1st Lord's day in Sept. 1859. Elders G. W. Rollins, J. Suttle, R. Poston, J. M. Williams, appointed to attend it.

On motion, took up unfinished business. On Missions: after some discussion and consultation as to the manner of operating, there was a motion for the Moderator to appoint a board of five, whose duty it shall be to employ a Missionary or Missionaries, with such means as may come to their hands; to labor in the Catawba Valley, in such manner as may be considered most advantageous to those interested, and the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom. The motion being agreed to, the Moderator proceeded to appoint brethren J. C. Latimore, H. Harrell, J. W. Green, W. B. Stroud, and E. J. Lordlace, to act as the aforesaid Board.

Elders L. M. Berry and E. Dodson, by permission, presented their claims upon this Association as Agents of their different departments.

On motion, granted the request of Pleasant Hill church, that the next King's Mountain Association be held at their Meeting House, 5 1-2 miles S. E. of Shelby, N. C., to commence Friday before the 4th Lord's day in October 1859.

The name of Lonis Sparks and wife Sarah are reported by Sandy Run Church, as excluded members holding letters of dismission, and refusing to return them to the church where granted, when so required. Baptist churches will therefore not receive their letters of dismission.

Resolved, That this Association is greatly pained at hearing of the recent misfortune of Elder J. R. Graves of the Tenn. Baptist, in the shape of charges, which, from their nature, we can only regard as emanating from an evil and malicious persecuting spirit on the part of his personal enemies; we therefore, as a body, tender to our Brother our condolence and sympathy, and hope that he may be preserved and continued, under the providence of God, in his course of great usefulness to the cause of truth, in which he has so long been engaged.

Resolved, That the several churches composing this Body, be requested to send up their free-will offering to the next session of this Association, to aid in the support of the Mission, now under the patronage of the King's Mountain Association.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Body, be tendered to the brethren and friends in the vicinity of Olivet Church, for the kindness and hospitality, manifested by them, in the accommodation of the Delegates composing this Association.

Resolved, That the Clerk have as many copies of the Minutes printed, as the funds on hand will pay for, after retaining \$10.00 for his services.

On motion, read and adopted the Minutes of this Session.

On motion, adjourned to the time and place appointed.

Prayer by Elder A. A. McSwain.

G. W. ROLLINS, Mod.

J. W. GREEN, CLK.

APPENDIX—A

FOR MISSIONS.—J. Suttle, \$5.00; J. W. Green, 5.00; R. P. Logan, 5.00; J. R. Logan, 5.00; J. Latimore, 5.00; G. W. Rollins, 5.00; P. R. Elam, 5.00; R. Poston, 5.00; V. H. Elliotte, paid 5.00; I. F. Willson, paid 5.00; G. M. Webb, 2.00; Wade Hill, 3.00; A. A. M'Swain, 2.00; S. H. Elliotts, 2.00; J. A. Roberts 2.00; D. Durham, 2.00; A. Goodson, 2.00; R. M. Patterson, paid 2.00; J. W.

Murray, 2,00; J. Davis, 2,00; E. J. Hamilton, 2,00; F. S. Ransour, paid 2,00; S. Willson, paid 2,00; R. E. Porter, paid 2,00; J. Moore, 2,00; J. M. Williams, paid 2,00; J. M. Roderick, 2,00; D. C. Cochran, 2,00; J. Poston, 2,00; M. T. Clark, 1,00; W. Moore, 2,00; W. H. Green, 1,00; T. W. Love, 2,00; D. Ray, paid 1,00; W. Stroud, 2,00; H. Padgett, 1,00; W. B. Lovelace, paid 1,00; I. W. Moore, 1,00.

APPENDIX—B.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools having had the matter under consideration submit the following report, ss:

That Sabbath Schools, if properly managed, may well be called the "Nursery of the church, wherein the rising generation—the youth of the country, are to be trained for usefulness, no one will hesitate to admit; and that great, and we may hope permanent good in a moral and religious aspect has resulted therefrom already, none will, in this enlightened age presume to deny. Your Committee therefore, in view of these things, seeing the untiring and persevering efforts, that are being made by other denominations, to educate and proselyte the young people of the country into what we conceive to be a course of error as it regards some of the fundamental principals of the Gospel, and ordinances of the house of God, do therefore the more strenuously urge our churches to awake from their lethargy, and contend earnestly for the true faith as once delivered to the saints; and as an instrumentality in this behalf we further urge upon the attention of the Association the importance of advising the several churches in union, to continue the schools already established, and where not established that they may be immediately set on foot; and that parents and heads of families give the same their attention and patronage, watching strictly over the moral and religious departments; and that the several churches hereafter report to this Body the condition and progress of the Scho. Is in the Associational bounds.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. LOGAN, }
G. M. WEBB, } Com.
R. POSTON, }

APPENDIX—C.

The King's Mountain Baptist Association, to her sister Associations, with whom she corresponds, viz; Green River, Broad River, Catawba River, Beth el, and Taylorsville Associations, sendeth christian salutations:—Dear Brethren, through the kind providence of God, we have again been permitted to meet in an Associational capacity, in which we have been favored with nearly a full representation from all the churches in our union. Some of which convey to us the glad tidings of gracious revivals of religion, as a consequence of which a considerable accession has been made to our number.

During the present Session our business has been transacted in a christian spirit. The Word of eternal Truth has been faithfully exhibited to an attentive congregation, and we hope that the effort of the session will prove a blessing to the section of country where it has been dispensed.

Correspondence from your several Bodies has been received, as stated in the Minutes of our Session, which was reciprocated by us, and duly appreciated. Our next Session will be held with the Church at Pleasant Hill, 5 1-2 miles S. E. of Shelby, N. C. at the usual time, embracing 4th Lord's day in Oct. '59. Respectfully submitted,

J. J. JONES, Chairman.
P. S. Appointed to go as Messengers to Associations, with which we correspond, viz; To Green River, Elders J. Suttle, G. W. Rollins, A. A. M Swain, J. M. Williams, and Brethren H. Padgett, G. M. Webb, J. R. Logan, and J. W. Green.

To Broad River, Elders J. Suttle, R. Poston, and A. A. M Swain.
To Catawba River, Elders M. Williams, and Bro. J. M. Roderick.

To Bethel, Elders J. J. Jones, A. A. M Swain, and P. B. Elam.

To Taylorsville, Elders G. W. Rollins, J. J. Jones, and P. B. Elam, whom we hope you will receive in the Lord; and not neglect, or fail to come and see us at our next Session.

J. W. GREEN, Clerk.

G. W. ROLLINS, Mod.

APPENDIX,—D.

The Committee on religious Periodicals, in the discharge of their duty, submit the following report: Believing that a great deal of good is realized by the Churches from the circulation, and perusal of religious journals, containing able and well written essays in defense of the true faith of Baptists; and also, containing valuable statistics of the progress of Churches and Associations, etc., etc., your committee would, therefore, commend to your attention, and that of the brethren generally, in the bounds of the Association, "The Biblical Recorder," a weekly journal, by Elder J. J. James, in the city of Raleigh, N. C.—Terms \$2.90, per year. Said paper is ably conducted, and is well adapted, from its locality, to supply the wants of the denomination as their organ for the State. Your committee would also commend to your notice "The Carolina Baptist," by Prof. W. A. G. Brown, Hendersonsville, N. C., Terms \$1.50, per year.

"The Home & Foreign Journal," Richmond, Va.—Terms 25 cts.—a monthly paper. Also, "The Tennessee Baptist," by Elder J. R. Graves & Co., Nashville, Tenn.—Terms \$2.00, per year. The latter is a weekly journal; an able, energetic, and enterprising concern, deserving patronage and encouragement by Baptists generally. "The Southern Baptist Review," by Elders Graves, Pendleton & Crawford, Nashville, Tenn.; at \$2.00 per year, is a Quarterly periodical, of sterling merit, and deserves patronage by our denomination every where. In view of the great amount of edification to the brethren, that may be derived from the perusal of the foregoing periodicals, or journals, your committee would, therefore, indulge the hope that, the same may receive their attention and patronage.

Respectfully,
J. R. LOGAN, Chairman

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 proceedings, 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) can not 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 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 representative 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 dismission 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 whom 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 leave 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 brother 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 the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

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.

D. Durham paid 95 cts. for Minutes.

