MINUTES

David OF THE Benedict

RED RIVER BAPTIST

ASSOCIATION,

HOLDEN AT

Cave Spring Meeting House,

ON SATURDAY

PRECEDING THE SECOND LORD'S DAY IN AUGUST, 1816,

IN ROBERTSON COUNTY, (TEN.)

RUSSELLVILLE, (Ky.)
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"WEEKLY MESSENGER."

Southwest Baptist College

MINUTES.

THE Congregation met at the Stage for worship, and Eld. Leonard Page delivered a sermon from Isa. 61st chap. 2d ver. The association assembled at the house for business, and after praise and prayer by Eld. Page, chose Eld. Reuben Ross, moderator, and Eld. Wm Aingell, clk.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS NAMES.	Baptised.	R. by let.	D. by let.	Excom.	Dead.	Total.	Contrib.
1. Red river	SUGG FORT, John Bell, James Broadstreet.	1	4	3	1	3	54	2
2. Half-pone	JOHN SHEVERS, John Stewart, William Felts.	1	4	1	0	1	37	1 50
3. W. F. R. R.	JESSE BROOKS, C. H. Mills.	4	1	28	1	3	49	2
4. Muddy R.	JAMES CONYERS, Peter Hansbraugh.	3	2	5	2	0	74	1 75
5. Goshen	JESSE FORD.	0	2	5	2	0	35	1
6. S. C. W. Fk	REUBEN ROSS, JOHN TRICE, Edward Trice.	3	6	3	2	1	78	2
7. Drakes Cr.	JOHN BENBROOKS, Frederick See, Martin Turner.	5	8	7	2	0	61	1 50
8. Sulphur Fk.	LEWIS WELLS, Thomas Beard, Gran. Bagget.	0	3	2	0	0	28	1 50
9. S. C. R. R.	JESSE MASON, John Williams Daniel Gunn.	1	3	3	3	0	88	2
10. E. F. P. R.	Saml. Ross, Barsl. Barnett.	0	1	3	0	1	43	1 12
11. Bethlehem.	William Reading, Lewis Solomon, Moses Beason.	0	2	1	0	0	39	1
12. Barren spr.	*Willis Meachum*, Jacob Waggoner, Archibald Lindsy.	1	6	2	1	0	43	1
13. Centre.	Samuel Pearson.	0	4	0	0	1	37	1
14. Whippoorwill	WILLIAM AINGELL, E. Herndon, Peter Fitzhue.	0	0	1	0	0	12	1 50
15. Ebenezer.	Luke Lacey, Benjamin Pannell, Jas. Williams.	0	1	1	0	0	24	0 75
16. Drake's pond.	Nicholas Darnall, Jos. Fort, James Reasons.	2	3	1	1	2	43	2
17. Cave spring.	MARTIN WALTON, Mer. Walton, Wm. Sail.	0	0	0	3	0	33	1 50
18. Poplar spring.	BENJ. JACKSON, *Isaac Steel Daniel Clayton*	0	2	1	0	1	33	75
19. Union.	LEONARD PAGE, Edm. Curd, Thomas Foster.	8	14	13	1	0	101	2
20. Lake spring.	Jacob Morris, Edm. Morris, William M'Guire.	3	14	6	1	0	49	1
21. S. C. S. fork.	THOS. PLASTERS, BARTON COATS, Jos. Farmer	0	5	0	0	6	53	1 50
22. Mount Gilead.	AMBROSE BOURNE, Stephen Trabue.	0	0	0	0	0	15	
23. Bethel.	WILLIAM TANDY, John Pendleton, Ezek Harrison.	0	0	0	0	0	32	1 50
		32	86	91	20	13	1061	32 37

The two last churches petitioned for admittance and being found orderly and orthodox were received.

Received with gratitude and pleasure a corresponding letter from Gasper river association, by their messenger elder Edward Turner; from Concord association by their messenger eld. Jacob Browning; from Green river, by their messenger brother Thos. Winn; from Little river association by their messenger eld. Fielding Wolf; also a letter from Kehukee, N. Carolina. No letter nor messenger from Wabash nor Cumberland associations.

Requested eld. A. Bourne, to write a letter of correspondence to Gasper river asssociation; eld. Leonard Page to Concord; eld. Sugg Fort, to Cumberland; eld. William Tandy, to Green-river; eld. Lewis Wells, to Kehukee, N. Carolina; bro. John Pendleton, to Little river; bro. Martin Turner, to Wabash association.

Appointed eld. Jesse Brooks, eld. Reuben Ross, eld. John Benbrooks, eld. William Aingell and bro. John Stewart, a committee of arrangement.

Appointed elds. Leonard Page, Jacob Browning and Edward Turner a committee, to examine the circular letter.

Appointed elds. Reuben Ross, Ambrose Bourne and Daniel Parker, to preach on the morrow, and worship begin at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Invited elds. L. Fortner, D. Williams, A. Biggs, D. Parker and J. Wren, visiting ministers, to take seats with us.

Resolved to open a correspondence with Russell creek association, and that bro. Stephen Trabue write a letter to the same.

After praise and prayer by eld. John Benbrooks, adjourned to Monday, 9 o'clock, A. M.

LORD'S day elds. Reuben Ross, Ambrose Bourne and Daniel Parker, according to request, occupied the stage; eld. Ross preached from Isa. 35 chap. 8 verse; eld. Bourne from 1 Pet. 2 chap. 4 verse; and eld. Parker Heb. 10 chap. 19 and 20 verses to a large congregation, with zeal and energy, which we hope will be followed with a divine blessing.

Monday morning assembled according to adjournment, and after praise and prayer by eld. Dudley Williams, proceeded to business.

The committee of arrangement called on to report, which was received and they discharged.

The rules of our decorum read.

Elds. Dudley Williams, Edward Turner and Jacob Browning, requested to preach to the people to-day.

Corresponding letters called in and the following brethren bear them: elds. Benjamin Jackson, Ambrose Bourne and bro. Jacob Morris, to Gasper river; eld. Jonas Shevers and bro. Josiah Fort, to Cumberland; elds William Tandy, James Conyers and John Benbrooks, to Green river; elds. Leonard Page, John Benbrooks, Thomas Plasters and Barton Coats, to Concord; elds. Benjamin Jackson and John Benbrooks, to Wabash; bro. Stephen Trabue and eld. Ambrose Bourne, to Russell creek; elds. Jesse Brooks and William Tandy, to Little river; a letter to Kehukee, N. Carolina, by mail.

Our correspondent with the board of foreign missions, reported that he had not yet received any particular information, but that he was in expectation of receiving an answer from said board, therefore deferred till next association.

Appointed brethren John Stewart and Edmund Curd, a committee of finance and settlement with the treasurer.

Resolved that our treasurer transmit to Little-river association, a proportionable part of $40, heretofore voted for the use of the general meeting of correspondence, which money was not used in that way.

Agreeable to the request of two churches, we have thought proper to recommend to the several churches of our body to express their approbation or disapprobation on the subject of the yearly meeting, in their letters to the next annual association.

The circular letter read, received and ordered to the press, with these minutes.

Query, from Poplar spring church. Any member coming among us from a sister church, with a letter of dismission, and should present it to us for fellowship, having acted disorderly within our knowledge, has the church a right to receive the letter and take the member under dealings or not. *Answer*—we think the church in this case should have nothing to do with the person, or the letter, but write to the church who granted the letter, stating the misconduct of such person.

On motion made and carried, agreed to exonerate bro. Josiah Fort from the office of treasurer, and also appointed bro. Edmund Curd in lieu of bro. Fort.

Resolved to recomend to the brethren in our bounds to observe the Friday before the second Lord's day in October next, as a day of FASTING and PRAYER, that Almighty God will return to us with his blessings and grant us a revival of religion.

Requested eld. Ambrose Bourne to preach the introductory sermon to next association; in case of failure, eld. John Benbrooks preach, and worship begin at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Requested eld. Leonard Page to write the next circular letter for our minutes.

Committee of finance reported they find in the fund	$2 50.
Received contributions this year - - - - - - -	32 50.
Making a total of - -	$35 00.

Resolved to allow eld. William Aingell $7 for his services.

Appointed eld. William Aingell to superintend the printing of these minutes, have 600 copies struck and distribute them as usual.

Resolved to hold our next association at Half-pone meeting-house, in Robertson county, Tennessee, on Saturday preceeding the second Lord's day in August, 1817, and worship begin at 10 o'clock, A. M.

After praise and prayer by eld. Sugg Fort, adjourned to the time and place before mentioned.

REUBEN ROSS, *mod'r.*

WILLIAM AINGELL, *cl'k.*

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,

It being of a long time customary for us to address you by way of circular letters, we, under providence, are once more favored with an opportunity of again addressing you the same way. We wish you to pay particular attention to the one addressed to you last year; and at present call your attention, first to the "signs of the times"—Christ said on this occasion, "behold I have told you before"; what did Christ tell his disciples? He told them many things, of which we will mention a few. He

let them know the certain prelude to the destruction of Jerusalem; so that not one of them perished in that ever lamented catastrophe. He informed them of the certain reign of Antichrists, with the cruel and bloody persecutions that should take place in their times, saying "upon this rock will I build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." He also informed them that in the latter days perilous times should come, that nation should rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, that they should hear of wars and rumors of wars and great commotions among the kings and political bodies of the earth. But amidst all those commotions they were not to be dismayed; for the gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached among all nations for a WITNESS as much as if he had said, tho the kings of the earth, with the powers of darkness, set themselves in battle array against the lord and his Anointed, yet my gospel shall be preached, that these will only tend to the furtherance of the same. Witness the persecution that arose about Stephen, "they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word; so it was through the days of the apostles, when persecution arose in one city, they fled to another as if they fled from trouble. But what was the end of the Lord? His gospel must be preached. Were we to cite you to the different times and places for those transactions, even among the Apostles, it would far exceed the bounds of this letter; much more so, were we to cite you to the many historical facts of this kind left on record in the different centuries. And the gospel has been preached not only at Jerusalem, and the regions of Judea, Asia, Africa and Europe, but thanks be to God Almighty, the good news of peace and salutation have reached the Western Hemisphere, the goodly land of America richly partake of the benefits of gospel grace. We would therefore, brethren, admonish you to observe the signs of the times, in which we live. Where is the nation or people under the sun who enjoy the sweet and cheering rays of divine goodness as we do; were we to cast our eyes over Christendom, where the gospel has been preached and Christ professed for centuries past, we would find them restricted by their feudal system and ecclesiastical establishment; were we to look toward the heathen world, we find them bound up in iron cast, worshiping the workmanship of their own hands. May we not, then, with propriety

adopt the language of one of old, " how goodly are thy tabernacles, O! Jacob," surely we are a people highly favored of the Lord indeed; may we not cry out in the language of the Psalmist, " bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." It appears to us from the signs of the times, brethren, that God's set time to favor Zion, is not far distant. Let us seriously and solemnly make the following enquiries among ourselves, i. e. are we ready to meet that time—do we make use of such means and measures as will have a tendency to cultivate and cherish that christain love and friendship that should be maintained and kept up among God's dear children—are we on the watch tower, waiting and longing for his appearance—finally, do you love as brethren, walking in all the commandments of the Lord blameless—or, are we like Ephraim of old, yet joined to our idols? May Israel's God have mercy on us, and raise us from sleep. Secondly, we will call your attention, by way of exhortation, to " LOVE and to GOOD WORKS." Behold what manner of love the father hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons of God; " therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not." Again, " God so loved the world," &c. Again, " I have loved thee with an everlasting love," &c. It appears from the above passages, with many more that might be cited, that we " love him because he first loved us." What greater inducement can we have to serve and obey God than these, his loving and shedding abroad his love in our hearts. And that our works may be good, it is necessary that the motive should be good, arising from a holy principle within; for " without holiness no man shall see the Lord." Therefore, we would exhort you to love one another and keep yourselves unspotted from the world. Be often engaged at the throne of grace, read God's word and meditate thereon. Let your light so shine among men that they may see your good works and glorify your father which is in Heaven. Remember, dear brethren, that ye are not your own, that ye are bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your bodies and in your spirits which are his. Finally, brethren, live in peace, and the very God of peace shall be with you.