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Baptists. South Carolina. Charleston Association, 1799.

Minutes . . . at the Congarie, November 2d, 1799.

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MINUTES

OF THE

CHARLESTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

Met at the Congaree, November 2d, 1799.

1st. **T**HE two first days were employed in the usual attendance on public ordinances: two sermons being delivered on Saturday, and three on the Sabbath; after which the Lord's Supper was administered.

2d. On Monday, the 4th instant, the association sermon was delivered by the Rev. JAMES SWEAT, from I Kings, xviii, 21: "*If the Lord be God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him.*"

3d. Letters from sixteen churches were read, and the names of their delegates enrolled.

4th. Rev. Richard Furman was chosen moderator, and Mr. Joseph B. Cook, clerk.

5th. Letters and minutes were received from the Philadelphia and Warren associations; also from the Georgia and Bethel associations, by their messengers, Rev. Charles Bussey, and Rev. James Fowler. Letters and minutes likewise were received from the Neuse association, N. C.; and a packet of minutes of various associations at the Northward, transmitted by the Rev. Mr. Brame.

6th. Rev. Messrs. Evan Jones, Jesse Mercer, and Edward Pigg, being present, and not messengers, were invited to a seat with us.

7th. Appointed Mr. Furman to write to the Philadelphia and Warren associations; Mr. Sweat to the Bethel; Mr. Fowler to the Neuse; Mr. Roberts to the Hephzibah; and Mr. J. B. Cook to the Georgia association.

8th. Rev. Mr. Holcombe, who was appointed at our last association, to write our circular letter, failing to send it forward, the moderator is requested to prepare one on the following subject, viz What are the probable causes of the present languishing state of religion among us in these southern states? Mr. Holcombe is requested to bring his letter forward for the next year.

9th. A petition was received, by their messengers, Rev. James Coleman and Mr. Charles Williams, from a church on Black Creek, formerly a part of Mount Pleasant church, and lately constituted by Rev. Messrs. David Cooper and Samuel Bonds. Satisfaction respecting their faith and order being obtained, they were admitted.

10th. Received a letter from Rev. Ralph Jones, near Winnsborough, signifying, that he considers himself and the people to whom he ministers, members of the church at the Congaree, and that they approved of said church's joining the association.

11th. The committee appointed last year to investigate the causes

of an unhappy division in the church at Bethel, Black River, reported favorably respecting the body of the church.

A motion was made to take into consideration some things which were said to have escaped the notice of the committee, and others which had taken place since in the transactions of said church, which were represented to be of importance in the controversy which had existed among them, and to affect the peace and honor of the union. But on a proposal by another member, to leave enquiries of this kind to persons who might feel themselves concerned on the subject, and would use their private endeavors with the church to restore perfect harmony, the author of the motion withdrew it, and the association concurred in the proposed measure.

12th. Agreeable to request, took into consideration the state of the church at the Congaree, and appointed the following brethren to visit and preach to them occasionally, and to assist them in regulating their church affairs, viz. John M. Roberts, Lewis Collins, John Cato, Solomon Thomson, and Edward Pigg.

13th. The church at Rocky River having failed for a length of time to support their representation in the association, the following brethren, Charles Cook, John Cato, and Frame Woods, were appointed to visit them, and to enquire into their state and conduct.

14th. Read and approved the letters appointed to be written to corresponding associations; also the circular letter to the churches.

15th. Agreed to comply with the request of the Georgia association, to unite with them in solemn humiliation, and prayer for a revival of religion, on the Tuesday after the fourth Sabbath in June next.

16th. Appointed Rev. Messrs. Sweat and Collins messengers to the Bethel association; Roberts and J. Cook to the Hephzibah and Georgia associations.

17th. Agreed that our next meeting be at the Deep Creek church, the Saturday before the first Sunday in November, 1800.

18th. Appointed Rev. John M. Roberts to preach the sermon introductory to business, and in case of failure, Mr. J. B. Cook.

19th. Collected the money for printing the minutes; and requested Mr. Furman to superintend their printing and distribution.

20th. Agreed to continue the quarterly meeting in every church, for extraordinary prayer, for the revival of religion, and the spread of the gospel: viz. the first Tuesday in January, April, July, and October.

Concluded with exhortation and prayer by the moderator.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

Proceeded to the election of officers. Rev. Richard Furman was re-elected president, Mr. Thomas Screven treasurer, and Mr. Thomas Rivers an assistant; elected Mr. Henry B. Inglesby assistant, and Rev. John M. Roberts secretary.

The following churches have contributed to the fund this year, viz. Charleston, 4*l.*; Mr. Cook, for the Euhaw, 2*l.*; High Hills of Santee, 5*l.* 7*s.*; Welch Neck, 1*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*; Mr. Thomson, for the Bethel, 4*s.* 8*d.*; and Mr. Cato, for the Lanes Creek, 2*s.* 4*d.* Expenditure this year 4*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* Remains, belonging to the fund, 169*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* Members of the committee present at this meeting, Richard Furman, John M. Roberts, Joseph B. Cook, Solomon Thompson, John Cato, Evander M'Iver.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

The Ministers' names are in capitals; Licensed Preachers in Italics; Churches distinguished with an asterisk () we had no account from, their numbers stand as they did last year; Pastors and Messengers, to whose names an obelisk (†) is affixed, were absent; a dash (—) denotes a vacancy.*

<i>Churches.</i>	<i>Messengers.</i>	<i>Baptized.</i>	<i>Rec. by letter.</i>	<i>Dismissed.</i>	<i>Ex. com.</i>	<i>Restored.</i>	<i>Deat.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Charleston,	RICHARD FURMAN,	9	3	1	1		5	270
Euhaw,	—, Joseph B. Cook,	7		1				142
Welch Neck,	John David, Evander M'Iver,	10		1			8	131
Mount Pleasant,	EVAN PUGH, †							38
Coosawhatchie,	AARON TISON, † Moses Spivey, Arthur Roberts,		1		2		1	52
Pipe Creek,*	—							46
Ebenezer,*	—							63
High Hills Santee,	JOHN M. ROBERTS, Amos Dabose,						1	92
Lynch's Creek,*	—							11
Cheraw Hill,	JOSHUA LEWIS, †	5		1	1	2	3	89
Beauty Spot,*	—							75
Bethel, Bik. River,	SOLOMON THOMPSON, Bellington Taylor,	1		4	6	2	1	77
Black Swamp,*	ALEXANDER SCOTT, †							55
Little Saltcatcher,*	—							96
Upper F. Lynch's Creek,	WM. DENMAN † Charles Ingram, James Rich,	3	6	5	1		1	103
Swift Creek,	LEWIS COLLINS, Tho- mas Elliott,	5	1	6	2	1	3	53
L. F. Lynch's Crk.*	—							68
Rocky River,*	—							134
Ansoncounty, N. C.	CHARLES COOK, Abra- ham Ruthing,	2	5	2				49

<i>Churches.</i>	<i>Messengers.</i>	<i>Baptized.</i>	<i>Rec. by letter.</i>	<i>Dismissed.</i>	<i>Excommun.</i>	<i>Returned.</i>	<i>Dead.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Great Saltcatcher,	————, William Carr,			2			1	26
Deep Creek,	FRAME WOODS,† George Bullard,	1					1	55
Little Peedee,*	————							26
Enon,*	————							16
Georgetown,*	EDMUND BOTSFORD,†							34
Gap Way,*	DAVID OWEN,†							28
Bethesda,	JAMES SWEAT, Michael Swicard,							39
Lane's Creek,	JOHN CATO,		2	1	2		1	24
Congaree,	————, Thomas Jack- son, John Morrow,		22					54
Lower Three Runs,	————, Thomas Mathews,							14
Black Creek,	JAMES COLEMAN, Charles Williams,							22
Total,		41	40	24	15	7	24	1982

By exclusion of the church at Edisto, the decrease of numbers this year is 95; otherwise there would have been an increase of 47.

