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MINUTES

OF THE

Elkhorn Baptist Association,

HELD AT

SOUTH ELKHORN, FAYETTE C'ty. Ky.

AUGUST, 8th, 1818.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8th, 1818.

Met pursuant to appointment, at half past 10 o'clock A. M. The introductory sermon was delivered at the stage by Elder John Ficklin.

After preaching, the members of the Association repaired to the house, and opened business by singing and prayer.

Letters from the several churches were read and their messenger's names enrolled as follow :

Churches	Messengers	rec'd by Bap.	by Let.	Restored	Dismiss'd	Excluded	Deceased	Total
Town Fork,	W. Stone, Joseph Craig, L. E. Turner,	4	5		2			75
Tates Creek	Joshua Quinn, H. Ballard,			1	4		1	25
Clear Creek	Henry Tolar, J. Hawkins, J. Graves, S. Sullivan,	6	4	2	7	2	2	146
S. Elkhorn.	<i>f. Shaskleford,</i> J. Keller, John Parker, James Craig, W. Gist,	21	2	1	25	13		334
G. Crossing,	<i>f. Suggett,</i> Tho. Henderson, James Johnson, W. Suggett, Reuben Craig,	95	5	4	17			359

The names of ministers are in italics.—This mark * denotes not present

Churches	Messengers	rec'd		Restored	Dismissed	Excluded	Deceased	Total
		by Bap.	by L. et.					
Bryan's,	{ J. C. Richardson, John Darnaby, Asa Thomson, C. Thomson,	18	3	2	6	5		157
Boon's Creek,	{ S. Burbridge, D. Watts,* M. Moore,	14	7		7	1		107
Mt. Moriah,	{ James Deen, F. Howard,	6						41
M'Connel's Run,	{ R. Smith, M. Duvall, Oliver Craig,	57	4		29		12	176
Mt. Island,	{ B. Lambert, J. Guill,	27	2		53	1		28
Fk's Elkhorn,	{ Wm. Hickman, W. Grayham, C. Blanton,*	13	3		31	4		119
Silas,	{ D. Biggs, J. Chinn, W. B. Chinn,	11	2		11			126
N. Elkhorn,	{ John Graves, S. Graves, Edward Dingle,			1	1	4	2	99
Glens Creek,	{ Robert Dale, James Ford, John Edwards,	17	5	1	13	2	1	179
Dry Run,	{ E. Brockman, Younger Pitts,			1	1			24
N. Fork,	{ John M'Donald, Rolly Hopper, Henry Bradley,	36	8		8		2	79
C. Bottom,	{ F. Elgin, R. M. Thomas, S. Buckhannon,	30	2		1		1	74
Hillsborough,	{ W. Dale, R. Long, W. Tillery,	1	4		6		1	109
Davids Fork,	{ J. Vardeman, A. Wilson, J. Welch, E. Darnaby, Thomas Ellis,	50	9		12	3	2	406

<i>Churches</i>	<i>Messengers</i>	rec'd by Bap.	by Let. Restored	Dismissed	Excluded	Deceased	Total
Mt. Pleasant,	{ E. Creed, M. Singleton Joseph Bonnel, S. H. Craig,	7	6	15	13	2	270
Mt. Gilead,	{ G. G. Boone, B. Kiley, N. Riley, J. Scroggum,	28	15	3		1	95
Long Lick,	{ John Foster, E. Sherley, M. Sinclair,	46	7	3		2	60
Bethlehem,	{ Tho. Edes, W. Roggess,	3	2	3			21
Georgetown,	{ John Thomson, Martin Hawkins, John H. Ficklin,	8	7	1		1	44
Hartwood,	{ B. Fields,* Eli Short, G. Threlkel,	5	2	2		1	42
Versailles,	{ J. Creath, Tho. Bullock, P. Conover.	10	5	2			32
Big Springs,	{ G. Hollaway, W. Ayres,	14	5	4		1	51
Providence,	{ D. Bryan, L. Bryan, P. Higby, James Mars,	28	7	18	5	1	150
1st Bap. Ch'r in Lex.	{ James Fishoack, Samuel Ayres, M. Elder, Benj. Stout,	8	21	4		1	65
Mt. Union,	{ Wm. Boone, Samuel Boone, E. Bryan, R. Petty,	9	12	2	1		70
Paris,	{ James Sims, Joel Pruet, N. Talbot,						88
TOTAL		564	133	142	90	51	23,3586

1. The Association being organized proceeded to the choice of Moderator and Clerk, when Thomas Bullock was chosen Moderator and Thomas Henderson Clerk.

2. Opportunity was then offered for the admission of newly constituted Churches; upon which, a letter was presented by messengers from a new constitution in Paris, and called by that name: the letter was read and the Church admitted into the Union of this Association.

3. Letters were received from the following corresponding Associations, viz. From North Bend, by brother Geo. Swan; Green River, brother William Warder; Tate's Creek, brethren Rich'd. Morton and Robert Fryer; Bracken, brethren Walter Warder and Henly Roberts; Union brethren Richard King and James Chambers; N. District, brethren John Smith and John Jamison; Franklin, brother John Adkins; South District, brethren John Rice and Robert Asher attended, and reported that a letter had been written, but by some means had not fallen into their hands; from Long Run there was neither letter nor messenger; brethren E. Barnes, J. Black and J. M. James attended from Cumberland. Brother Barnes informed the Association, that a letter had been written, but had been misplaced. From Russels Creek we received neither letter nor messenger.

4. The names of the corresponding messengers were called and they invited to seats.

5. The Association then proposed that opportunity be given for any sister Association to open a correspondence; upon which brother James Craig, from Beaver Association in the state of Ohio and Pennsylvania, made known the wishes of that Association; the question being taken, unanimously agreed to open correspondence by letter, & when convenient, by messenger.

6. Brother Jeremiah Vardeman presented a letter from the board of missions for foreign missions, and brother James Suggett presented one from the Kentucky Board for domestic Missions, which were read and submitted to a select committee, viz. Peter Higby, R. Smith, M. Duvall, P. Conover and J. Thomson, or any three of them.

7. Brethren J. Johnson, L. Sullivan, J. Creath with the Moderator and Clerk were appointed a committee of arrangement.

8. Brother S. M. Noel, who was appointed at the last association to write a Circular, having removed his membership to the Franklin Association and consequently failed: agreed, therefore, that brother B. Stout write one and present it on Monday.

9. On motion agreed to invite brother J. E. Welch from St. Louis, and E. Rogers from England, to seats in the Association.

10. On motion agreed, that brethren J. Hawkins, J. Graves, M. Hawkins, J. Sims and C. Thomson be appointed a select

committee to form an answer to the 1st Baptist Church in Lexington, on the subject of the Masonic and Tamany Societies, and report on Monday.

11. Appointed brethren E. Rogers, Walter Warder, Wm. Warder, James Fishback, J. Vardeman and John Smith to preach on the Sabbath: three of whom to preach at the stage, and the other three at the house.

12. Adjourned until Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

MONDAY, AUGUST 10th.

Met according to adjournment, and after singing and prayer proceeded to business.

1. On motion, ordered that the rules and constitution of the Association be read.

2. Called for the report of the committee of arrangement, which was read and received.

3. Called for the Circular letter, which was also read, received and ordered to be printed.

4. Called for the report of the select committee on the business from the 1st Baptist Church in Lexington, which was presented; and after considerable discussion, agreed to commit it to the same committee, with the addition of brethren J. Johnson, W. Warder, and J. E. Welch, for re-consideration.

5. Appointed the following brethren to corresponding Associations, viz. To GREEN RIVER, James Suggett; TATES CREEK, brethren Davis Biggs, G. G. Boone, R. Petty and B. W. Riley; LONG RUN, J. Creath, W. Hickman, G. Hollaway, E. Creed and J. Suggett; SOUTH DISTRICT, J. Creath and James Suggett; to CUMBERLAND, a letter was written but no messenger; SALEM, J. Vardeman and R. Long; BRACKEN, J. Vardeman, D. Biggs and J. Scrogam; UNION, G. Threlkeld and Tho. Edes; N. DISTRICT, J. Creath, J. Sims, R. Petty, Jas. Fishback, J. Vardeman and G. G. Boone; FRANKLIN, Wm. Hickman, J. Creath, B. Stout, B. W. Riley, G. G. Boone, Jas. Fishback and T. Craig jr.; RUSSELS CREEK, S. Buckhannon; BEAVER, a letter was written by brother Vardeman and sent by brother J. Craig, her own messenger; N. BEND, J. Suggett, T. Craig jr. P. Conover, J. Creath, J. Graves and B. Stout.

6. The select committee on the business from the 1st Baptist Church in Lexington again reported as follows:

The first Baptist Church in Lexington passed a resolution, in which it was considered inconsistent for the members of her body, hereafter, to unite themselves to the Masonic, Tamany, or any other society, the principals of which is secrecy. As respects the Free Mason society, we refer that Church to the minutes of this Association for 1817; and as respects the Tamany society, we find that some of its principals of Union, particu-

larly in the 3d, 12th and 16th Art. seem to be secrecy; we therefore, without being understood to cast any reflections on that, or any other society, either civil or political, give it as our opinion that the Church in Lexington acted correctly in entering into the above resolution. We further beg leave to recommend to the friends of Christianity, to aid said church as far as convenient with funds to build their Meeting-House, if necessary.

7. Called for the report of the committee on Missionary business, which was handed in and after some discussion re-committed to the same committee, with the addition of brethren James Johnson and William Warder.

8. Pursuant to arrangement, *agreed*, to consider the letters from Great Crossing and M'Connells Run, on the subject of uniting with the brethren of the Licking Association. After some very feeling and interesting debates on the occasion; *agreed* unanimously, that this Association now propose to open a friendly correspondence and union with the Licking Association, and, that brethren James Johnson, J. Fishback and J. Vardeman be a select committee appointed to prepare a letter against Tuesday morning.

9. Adjourned until Tuesday morning 9 o'clock.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11th.

Met agreeably to adjournment, and after singing and prayer proceeded to business.

1. Called for the ~~letter~~ of correspondence with the Licking Association which was read, received, and the following brethren agreed to bear it, viz. brethren H. Tolar*, James Johnson, J. Vardeman, G. G. Boone, James Suggett, James Fishback, John Foster and Tho. Henderson.

2. *Agreed*, that brother Jas. Fishback write the next Circular letter.

3. *Agreed*, that brother H. Tolar preach the introductory Sermon for next Association and, in case of failure, brother J. Fishback.

4. *Agreed*, that the next Association be held at Big Spring in Woodford county, on the 2d Saturday in August 1819.

5. *Ordered*, that 1400 copies of the minutes for the present year be printed, and that the sum of \$15 be allowed the brother Clerk for superintending and distributing the same.

6. Called for the second report of the select committee on missionary business, which was as follows, viz. The committee to whom was referred the papers of missionary import, beg leave to report that the Association is highly gratified with

* As brother Tolar was not present, the Association agreed to nominate him.

the attention paid her by the missionary societies and wish them success in the highly important cause, in which they are engaged.

7. *Resolved*, That brother Ben. Stout be the Secretary of this Association, to keep up the correspondence with the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions, for the U. States, in place of the Rev. S. M. Noel, who has removed from this Association.

8. This Association having been informed by a prospectus and other publications, that M. Smith has it in contemplation to write a history of the Baptists, in the western country, do hereby *Resolve*, that it is her opinion that he is totally disqualified for such a work, and therefore explicitly disapproves of it.

9. Adjourned until Association in course.

THOMAS BULLOCK, *Modr.*

THOMAS HENDERSON, *Clerk.*

CIRCULAR LETTER.

The Elkhorn Association of Baptists, met at South Elkhorn, on the 8th of August, 1818; to the churches composing the same, send Christian salutation.

DEARLY BELOVED IN THE LORD,

It is our happiness once more to record the Goodness and Mercy of our God in our preservation, and allowing us another opportunity of meeting together as an Association, in such comfortable circumstances, and, according to custom, of presenting you with the state of the Churches of our connexion; many of whom, you will perceive by our Minutes, have been abundantly blessed by the out pourings of the Divine spirit, by which many precious souls have been brought as we humbly trust and believe, from under the power and Dominion of sin into the light and liberty of the Gospel, and by an open and public profession, united themselves to the household of faith. It has also been our happiness, in the present refreshing interview, to hear of an uninterrupted state of peace, love and harmony, existing in the Churches composing our body: and the like pleasing information from our sister Associations in correspondence with us; from some of them we have had the heart cheering accounts of the triumphs of redeeming love and reigning grace in the conviction and conversion of sinners. It would give us great pleasure, did not our limits forbid it, to spread before you some general accounts of the spread and advancement of Messiah's Kingdom in the world, in the conversion of the Jew, the Mehomitan, the Hottentot, and indeed some of the most ferocious and savage of every kindred and name on the face of the whole earth; Missionary Bible and tract Societies established & Missionaries raised up by whom the sacred volumn is conveyed to every quarter of the inhabited globe, and its sublime and soul ravish-

ing doctrines are preached to perishing sinners of every name and colour. Dear Brethren, when we contemplate these things, we cannot help indulging the pleasing hope, that the latter day glory is fast approaching us, and that ere long the glorious effulgence of the son of righteousness will be so bright that the darkness of popery, of mehomitanism, of heathenism of ignorance and sin shall entirely be dispelled from the face of the whole earth, and from every human heart; and the wilderness and the solitary places made to rejoice and blossom as the rose; and where none shall say know the Lord, but when all shall know him from the least to the greatest; when there shall be but one shepherd and one fold, and Zions watchmen all see eye to eye, and the whole earth be filled with the glory of Ananuel. Such, dear brethren, appears to us a small outline of the signs of the times, in which we live, and we trust we are not mistaken in our conclusion, that on us is coming the end of the world as spoken of by the son of God, Matthew xxiv. 14. But dear brethren, whilst such are the glorious prospects presented to our minds, in the holy scriptures and present appearances, let us not forget that we are still in the flesh, that we still have the world, the flesh and the devil to contend with. - Our spiritual enemies are strong; they are numerous, and they are constantly on the alert, seeking by they may annoy and distress those they cannot destroy. Let us therefore, take unto us the whole armour of God, that having the shield of faith, the sword of the spirit, and, for an helmet the hope of salvation we may be able to stand in the day of trial.

Dear brethren, in justice to the person appointed last Association, to write the circular for the present, and as some little apology for this desultory address, permit us to say he failed to perform that duty.

Dear brethren, we hasten to conclude by exhorting you to the performance of every christian duty, and the cultivation of every christian grace; to a diligent and daily searching of the scriptures; to a conscientious observance of private and family devotion, and to fervant charity, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the holy ghost.

Now the God of peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus; that great Shepard of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever, *Amen.*

THOMAS BULLOCK *Mod'r.*
THO. HENDERSON, *Clerk.*