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Baptists. Virginia. Middle District Association, 1802.

Minutes ... at Tussekiuh ... October ... 1802.

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ViRU copy.

*George Smith's minutes*

MINUTES

OF THE

BAPTIST MIDDLE DISTRICT  
ASSOCIATION,

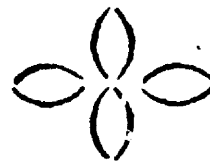
HOLDEN AT

*Tussekiah Meeting-House ;*

IN

LUNENBURG COUNTY,

OCTOBER, IX, X, and XI—1802.



RICHMOND :—PRINTED BY  
JOHN DIXON AND JOHN COURTNEY,

MDCCCII.

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## MINUTES, &c.

**A**T an association holden at Tuffekiah Meeting-House, in Lunenburg county, the second Saturday in October 1802.

John Robertson preached the introductory sermon, from Galatians vi. and 7. 8.

After divine service, read the letters sent to see who composed the association.

Members that were not present have \* affixed to their names.

### *Churches*

1. Nottoway,
2. Sailor creek,
3. Dinwiddie,
4. Reedy creek,
5. Ash Camp
6. Sandy creek,
7. Appomattox,
8. Spring creek,
9. Cubb creek,
10. Muddy creek,
11. Cedar creek,
12. Tuffekiah,
13. Powhatan,
14. Liberty,
15. Skinquarter,
16. Tomahawk,
17. Rocks,
18. Mountain creek,
19. Buckingham, [no letter]
20. Chesterfield,

### *Messengers.*

- John Bass, John Borum,  
Abner Watkins, Hezek. Ellington,  
Peter Wynne, John Chadoin,  
Jas. Shelborne, sen. Jas. Robertson,  
William Mitchel, George Foster,  
John Scurry, Thomas Green,  
James Saunders, Ralph Harris,  
Benjamin Watkins,  
Bernard Todd,  
\*Thomas Walten,  
Stephen Jones, Peter Hawthorn,  
William Ellis, Joel Johns,  
Samuel Roper, John Wooldridge,  
George Smith, Littleberry Pattenon,  
\*Charles Forsee, Edmund Goode,  
William Flournoy,  
William Hill,  
Henry Lester, Armistead Millar,  
Rane Chastain.  
\*Daniel Hutson, \*John Baker.

After reading the letters, chose Rane Chastain, moderator, who chose Benjamin Watkins, clerk; and Bernard Todd, assistant.

On motion, the following brethren invited to seats : James Hurt. Edmond Johns, Jordan Martin, Richard Poindexter, John Baldwin, William Fears, James Shelborne, jun. Thomas Wood and John Robertson.

Brethren James Saunders, James Shelborne, sen. the moderator, clerk, and his assistant, chosen to arrange the business of the association, and to make report on Monday morning.

Brethren Abner Watkins, Joel Johns, John Scurry and Richard Poindexter, chosen to write the circular letter, and report on Monday morning.

Agreed, that John Bass and Littleberry Patteson receive the churches bounty, and settle with the treasurer, and make report.

On motion, the following brethren chosen to preach on the Lord's day, Rane Chastain, James Hurt & James Saunders, worship to begin at 11 o'clock, A. M.

After worship, adjourned to Monday morning 9 o'clock.

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The LORD'S DAY was spent in public worship, a large audience attended the ministry of the word, and we trust there were evidences of the Lord's presence.

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MONDAY MORNING, October 11, 1802.

Met pursuant to adjournment, and after divine service, proceeded to business.

The committee chosen to arrange the business of the association, do make the following report, viz.

1. The members chosen to attend the general meeting of correspondence, to report.

2. Query from Mountain Creek church: "Is it right or is it not, for an arm of a church to be established between two constituted churches, which are not above 12 or 13 miles apart?"

3. A letter received from Chesterfield church to be considered.

4. The committee chosen to write the circular letter, to report.

5. Commissioners appointed to receive the churches bounty, and settle with the treasurer, to report.

6. The time and place of the next association. The report being received, the committee were discharged.

James Saunders and Rane Chastain (two of the brethren chosen to attend the general meeting at Muddy creek meeting-house in May last) offered their reasons why they did not attend the said meeting, which were considered as sufficient. Benjamin Watkins, another of the brethren appointed to attend the said meeting, attended thereon, and reported the proceedings of said meeting which report was considered as not fa-

tisfactory : We however do not disapprove of our messengers conduct, altho' he voted contrary to the sense of this association, because he was not at the association, which appointed him, and therefore had never received the necessary instructions.

The query from Mountain Creek church taken up, and answered thus ; " Agreed, That we send them a committee in order to give a full solution to the above said query, who are, Rane Chastain, James Shelborne sen. James Saunders, and William Ellis, and to make report to our next association."

A letter from Chesterfield church, answered in the following manner: " Agreed that we refer the same until such time as we can have an interview with said church by her messengers."

The committee appointed to prepare the circular letter, reported, and was received, and so discharged.

Commissioners chosen to receive the bounty and settle with the treasurer, reported, that they find in the hands of the treasurer, after the necessary appropriations, for the last year.

Received from the several

£ 8 : 1 : 1	
5 : 7 : 7	
13 : 8 : 8	

To allowing the Clerk for attending the general meeting, three dollars,  $0 : 18 : 0$

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£ 12 : 10 : 8

The above report was received, and the brethren discharged.

Agreed, that 250 copies of our minutes be printed under the same direction as the last session.

Agreed, that our clerk send copies of our minutes to the different corresponding associations.

The next association to be holden at Beth-el Meeting house, in Chesterfield county, the second Saturday in May next.

After divine service, were dismissed.

RANE CHASTAIN, Moderator.  
BENJAMIN WATKINS, Clerk.

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## CIRCULAR LETTER.

*Dearlly Beloved Brethren,*

WE have the happiness to inform you that pursuant to our appointment, and under the protection of Divine Providence, once more we have met in association, wherein we have been much comforted, hoping and believing, that the unity of the spirit hath prevailed amongst us. Having also received nineteen letters of communication, some of which bring us glad tidings of good things, to wit: the blessed work of the Lord Redeemer, in a glorious manner, proving efficacious in cal-

ling many from darkness to light, as well as lively hopes of its continuation.—To which end, may we join our hearty prayers, that God in his tender mercies, would make it more general, that sovereign grace may be extended to the subversion of wickedness and downfall of infidelity.—We wish also brethren, to impress upon your minds the importance of a lively exercise, in our various christian duties, which we conceive to be of great importance to evidence the sincerity of our hearts before Almighty God, as also in the view of a carnal and unbelieving world.

1st. That of love and unity, you are sensible dear brethren, that the blessed Jesus laid it down as the common trait in the Christian character, by which they are distinguished from the world, viz. “Love to one another,” to which St. J. subjoins his invincible testimony. It is not sufficient to do it indeed and in truth.

2dly. Another duty much incumbent on us, is that of keeping the ordinances as they were delivered, in the performance of which God hath promised his immediate presence and divine blessing; together with a strict adherence to church discipline, upon which depends much of our happiness in society: and at the same time, as much as possible let all our decisions be in moderation, agreeable to St. Paul, “Let your moderation be known unto all men.” And for our encouragement amidst the noise of infidelity, and the too prevalent spread of immorality, let us observe the rising glory of Zion; behold her emerging from darkness, in spite of all opposition, darting rays in many of the different parts of the globe. And we trust that God will yet accomplish a more glorious work. Call to mind the vast numbers who are flocking to Jesus at present, in various parts of the world. From these and other considerations we have strong reasons to believe the promised millenium, is at hand, when the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; even so, come Lord Jesus. Amen.