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Baptists. Georgia. Georgia Association.

Minutes of the Georgia Association ... October 1788.

[Augusta, 1788.] 4 pp.

(The only copy reported is defective.)

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MINUTE OF THE GEORGIA ASSOCIATION.

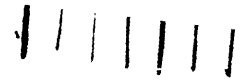


At an Association, begun and holden at Clark's Station, on the Saturday before the third Sunday in October 1788, and days following :

- T**HE Association opened with a Sermon, preached by brother *Charles Bussey*, from Rom. vi. 23.
1. Letters from thirty churches were read, three of which were constituted since our last Association, and the names of their Messengers enrolled.
 2. Brother *Abraham Marshall* chosen Moderator, and Brother *Jeremiah Walker* Clerk.
 3. The state of the corresponding Churches.
 4. H. B. Ordained Ministers printed in Capitals. Unordained Preachers in Italics. This week † denotes absent Delegates.

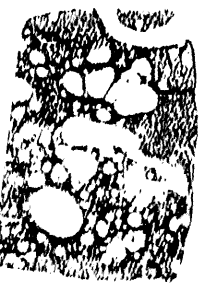
Church	Ministers	Present	By letter	Qualified	Unordained	Ordained	Admitted	Number of members
1772 Kioka, ✓	ABRAHAM MARSHALL, <i>Samuel Callagi, Jesse Saunders, James Sims, † Michael Smalley, †</i>	27	0	0	0	0	0	130
Horn's Creek, SC	HEZEKIAH WALKER, <i>John Landrum, † John Dillard, †</i>	0	4	0	2	0	0	---
1778 Briar Creek, ✓	JAMES MATHEWS, <i>Marys Hasker,</i>	11	2	0	2	0	0	100
Stephens's Creek, SC	CHARLES BUSSEY, <i>Drury Pass,</i>	16	0	1	0	0	0	17
1782 Fishing Creek, ✓	BANDERS WALKER, <i>John Muller, Thomas Wynne, † Stephen Heard, John Conter, Reuben Bellard,</i>	26	5	35	1	0	1	100
1784 Green-Woods, ✓	PETER SMITH, <i>Hezekiah Bussey, John Bentley, John Chandler,</i>	7	9	0	1	0	0	73

Richard Vincent,



Dove's

mutilated original



		Delegates.					Baptized.	Rec. by letter	Dismissed.	Excomm'd.	Restored.	Dead.	Number of Members.
1760	Philips's Mill, ✓	SILAS MERCER, <i>Stephen Gifford,</i> William Fletcher, Methech Turner, † Robert Harper,	3	5	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	35	
1770	Vann's Creek, ✓	DOZIER THORNTON, JOHN WHITE, THOMAS GILBERT, William Arnold,	16	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	42	
1775	Long Creek Ogeeche, ✓	JEPHTHAH VINING, Adam Jones, Jacob Bankton, Matthew Hubbard, James N'Cormick, †	9	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	200	
1780	Providence, ✓	JOHN NEWTON, George Smith, Isaac Dubois, †	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	
1780	Hebron, ✓	JEREMIAH WALKER, <i>John Calpepper,</i> Joseph Wilhams, Itham Morgan,	2	6	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	60	
1787	Sewell's Creek, Powellton, ✓	Henry Graybill, Matthew Rabun, Benjamin Thompson, John Bush,	12	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	120	
	Walker's Bridge, ✓		24	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	
1788	Whalley's Mill, ✓	JOHN McLEROY, Henry Haines, Joshua Martin, Moses Herring,	22	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	139	
	Buffalo, - SC.	Enoch Brizeale,	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	
1787	Ebenezer, ✓	Richard Davis, Nehemiah Edge,	20	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	
1788	Upper Brier Creek, ✓	WILLIAM FRANKLIN, Ebenezer Stearnes, Stancil Barbee,	4	3	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	39	
	Lower Rocky River, ✓	James Wembell, SC	6										
1787	Upper Rocky River, ✓	NATHANIEL HALL †										10	
1788	Rocky Creek, ✓	William Daniell, Benjamin Daffey, Richard Vincent,	4	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	

Churches.	Delegates.	Baptized	Ad. by letters	C	C	C	C	C	
1788 Dove's Creek, ✓	{ Henry Duncan, James Tottle, Abel Pennington, Thomas Burks,	33	4	0	0	0	0	0	81
1788 Clark's Station, ✓	{ MATTHEW TALBOT, Stephen Johnson, Thomas Gilbert, Godfrey Hartsfield, Timothy Carrington,	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	37
1788 Hutton's Fork, ✓	{ Jeremiah Reeves, James Spradling,	30	5	0	0	0	0	0	63
1788 Millstone, ✓	{ James Pye, Nathan Johnson, James Colley,	33	3	2	0	0	0	0	40
1788 Williams's Creek, ✓	{ Stephen Darden, Levi Fruitt,	18	7	0	1	0	0	0	97
1788 Tugaloe, ✓	{ JOHN CLEVELAND, Godfrey Isbell, William Crane,								53
Black Brethren, ✓	<i>Augusta</i> <i>Shawnee</i>	129	0	0	0	0	0	0	198
1788 Soap Creek, ✓	{ Thomas Highsmith, Gibson Wooldrige,	6	2	0	1	0	0	0	23
1788 Cloud's Creek, ✓	{ Joseph Embry, William Hendon,								28
1787 Falling Creek, ✓	{ Robert Moseley, Barnabas Pace,								22
1788 Indian Creek, ✓	{ Joseph Wise, David Allen,								29
General Amount		487.99	49.16	1	3	2	2	3	

5. A select Committee of the Moderator and Clerk, together with our ministering Brethren Peter Smith, Joseph Vining, Sanders Walker, John White, and John Newton, were appointed to consider a letter to this Association, from a District Association south side of James River, Virginia, and make report.
6. Adjourned the business of the Association till Monday morning 10 o'clock.
7. The Lord's Day was spent in public Worship. The numerous audience were entertained with sermons by our Brethren Alexander Scott, and Joseph Vining, and exhortations and prayers by several others.
8. Met on Monday morning according to adjournment.
9. On motion, our ministering Brethren Alexander Scott, Jacob Gibson, Thomas Mercer, Guy Smith, Ezekiel Campbell, Jesse Mercer, and Joseph Williams, were admitted as Helps.
10. Brother James Hutchinsen, formerly a Methodist Preacher, (and baptized by immersion on profession of faith by Mr. Thomas Humphries, one of their Preachers) having declined the Methodist discipline and communion, and having on a public declaration of his experience joined the church of Clark's Station, was admitted a Help.
11. A letter from Brother Joseph Burson, apologizing for the church of which he is the Minister in not corresponding this Association, was received and read.

from our last Association, viz. 1. Is it lawful for a christian having a fervent desire, to punish him for family-disobedience, without previously dealing with him in the name of saving faith in Jesus Christ, properly called the *gospel* of unbelief?

From our last Association, viz. How is a member to be dealt with, who breaks out without asking leave or shewing reason? Answer. When such a conduct does not arise from incontinence in point of distance, it must proceed from dislike and stubbornness; we therefore conceive such person still remains under the dealings of the church he left, and subject to excommunication if irreclaimable.

14. Query from Fishing creek, viz. What state of perfection is attainable in this life? Or, What is Gospel perfection? Answer. We conceive it is for persons already justified through the righteousness of Christ imputed, and having Christ formed in their hearts *to exercise themselves to have a conscience void of offence towards God and towards men.*

15. Query from Hebron. Is that part of Scripture contained in *James v. 14, 15, 16.* a rule of duty to christians in these latter days? Answer. About two years ago we answered a Query of the same import with this, in the affirmative; and we see no reason to recede from our former opinion.

16. Adjourned till to-morrow morning ten o'clock.

17. Met according to adjournment.

18. Query. What are the reasons why the *Baptists* will not hold communion with churches of other denominations? Answer. 1. Because all churches who make the Lord's Supper the badge of communion, suppose Baptism ought regularly to precede it. The primitive practice corresponds therewith. And as we conceive Infant Baptism to be null, because unscriptural, we would as soon commune with persons professedly unbaptized as with those baptized *only* in infancy. 2. No churches of other denominations contiguous to us are strictly congregational; and the manner in which their members are admitted, and their discipline exercised, is *so lax and unscriptural*, that were we to commune with them, our own excommunicated members might meet us at their tables, to the subversion of all order and discipline. 3. The sentiments of some churches with respect to the necessity of human literature, would nullify the ordination of most of our Ministers; and the practice of others in confining their Preachers to a sameness of doctrines, would exclude our Ministers their pulpits; so that only the shadow of communion would remain in such cases.

19. On receipt of a letter from Mr. *Hope Hull*, dated this present day, wherein were these words, "I understand Mr. Hutchinson has joined your church, and upon his examination, or being requested to declare his reasons for leaving the Methodists, he affirmed one of them was, *because the Preachers would not let him have the old and new testaments for his guide*; whereas — if Mr. Hutchinson affirmed any such thing, it is as false as God is true." The Association thought proper, as the whole affair had come under their immediate notice, in justification to Mr. Hutchinson, to declare that what he said on that subject amounted to no more, than "that he was required to yield obedience to other rules besides the Bible, which he could not conscientiously do." So that the information Mr. Hull received was *false*, but whether through *mistake* or *envy* his informant best knows.

20. The select Committee reported, that they had directed Brother *Smith* to prepare a letter to the District Association south side of James River, which was agreed to.

21. A letter of correspondence to the Committee of the United Baptist churches to meet in the city of Richmond, Virginia, was read and assented to.

22. Query from Greenwood. Is the phrase *baptized with the Holy Ghost* applicable to all christians, or does it respect miraculous gifts only? Answer. We suppose it is not used in reference to the converting and sanctifying influences, but to the extraordinary operations of the Spirit.

23. We recommend that a contribution be made in each corresponding church, and the money raised sent to our next Association for the printing of our minutes.

24. A Day of Fasting and Prayer is appointed the fourth Saturday in November, that God may avert the calamities of war, revive religion where it is declining, and make the Federal Government, shortly to commence, a blessing to these States.

25. The next Association to be holden at *Vining's Meeting-house*, on Long Creek of Ogechee, the Saturday before the third Sunday in May next.

Signed by Order,

ABRAHAM MARSHALL, Moderator.

J. WALKER, Clerk.

AUGUSTA: Printed by JOHN E. SMITH, Printer to the State.