

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION



MINUTES

OF THE

IRVINE ASSOCIATION

OF

UNITED BAPTISTS,

HELD WITH

THE PILOT KNOB CHURCH, MADISON COUNTY, KENTUCKY.

SEPTEMBER 21, 22, AND 23, 1880.



OFFICERS.

ELD. N. B. JOHNSON, Moderator, Waco, Ky.

J. G. PARSONS, Clerk, McKee, Ky.

A. H. WILLIAMS, Assistant Clerk, McKee, Ky.

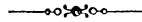


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STANFORD, KENTUCKY.

# —MINUTES—



## FIRST DAY.—MORNING.

PILOT KNOB, September 21, 1880.

The Twenty-first Annual Session of the Irvine Association of United Baptists met with the Baptist Church at Pilot Knob, Madison county, Ky., at 11 o'clock A. M. After prayer by Elder S. V. Potts, the Annual Sermon was preached by Elder W. B. Estes, from Romans VIII:28, after which the Association was called to order by the Moderator of the last session, Elder N. B. Johnson. The Letters of the various Churches were then read and the names of Delegates enrolled as follows:—

- PINE GROVE..... John Swinford, N. C. Henry, II. Kindred, R. A. Swinford.
- DROWNING CREEK...D. Thomas, C. C. Ogg, W. C. Todd, Elder N. B. Johnson.
- LIBERTY.....Isam Seals, John Wilson.
- PILOT KNOB.....Elder T. L. Lawson, F. Golden, T. J. Calahan, H. P. Barclay, W. B. Haley.
- CHINQUEPIN.....Elder W. S. Adams, J. B. King, G. W. Cope.
- BETHLEHEM.....G. Foley, J. Todd, L. B. Witt, H. McKeehan, W. O. Tharp.
- CLEAR CREEK.....Elder A. G. Stanberry, W. C. Mansfield.
- BIRCH LICK .....Isaac Sparks, Louis Sandlin, H. Slone.
- COW CREEK.....Jesse Barnea, R. S. Tipton.
- CLOVER BOTTOM.....Miss Katie Harrison.
- PROVIDENCE..... Elders J. J. Edwards, L. P. Johnston, Robert Kerby, M. Terpin, G. Partwood.
- SOUTH FORK.....Elder J. G. Parsons, Levi Sparks, A. D. Sparks, A. H. Williams, H. D. Sparks.
- PLEASANT POINT.....Samuel Pigg.
- RIVERSIDE.....Letter. No Messenger.

The Association was organized by the election of Elder N. B. Johnson as Moderator, and Elder J. G. Parsons, Clerk. Association adjourned to meet at half past one o'clock, P. M. Benediction by J. W. Maren.



## AFTERNOON.

Singing by the congregation, and prayer by Bro. M. Todd. An opportunity was then extended for the reception of churches into our body.

A letter from Pleasant Point was presented and read, and being found correct, was received, the Moderator extending to her delegates the right hand of fellowship.

A Committee on Divine Service was appointed, consisting of Elder T. L. Lawson, F. Golden, T. J. Calahan, H. P. Barclay, W. B. Haley and A. J. Baker, who reported that Elder J. M. Bruce preach to-day at 2 o'clock.

A call for correspondence from sister Associations was made. The following were represented, by delegates only:—

TATE'S CREEK ..... Elders J. G. Pond, James Kindred, S. V. Potts,  
J. M. Bruce, W. A. Simmons, Bros. D. A.  
Chenault, M. Todd.

BOONE'S CREEK ..... N. B. Norris, R. F. Martin.

LAUREL RIVER ..... Elders W. B. Estes, J. W. Maren.

MT. PLEASANT (col'd). Elders T. H. Broadus, T. Read.

Circular Letter called for, and referred to the following Committee:—  
D. Thomas, Robert Kerby and R. S. Tipton.

The following Committees were appointed: On State Missions and Destitution—Elder J. J. Edwards, Levi Sparks and R. S. Tipton. Sunday-Schools—Elder A. G. Stansberry, W. C. Todd and M. Terpin. Religious Periodicals—Elders J. G. Parsons and L. P. Johnston. Finance—M. Terpin and G. Foley. Orphans' Home—Elder L. P. Johnston, John Swinford and Jesse Barnes.

Elder A. G. Stansberry was appointed to write the Corresponding Letter. A. H. Williams appointed Assistant Clerk.

It was resolved that the hours of meeting during the session of this Association be as follows: Meet at 9 o'clock A. M. and adjourn at 11 o'clock A. M.; meet at 1½ o'clock P. M. and adjourn at pleasure. The Association then adjourned. Benediction by Elder A. G. Stansberry.



## SECOND DAY.—MORNING.

Moderator in the chair. Singing by the congregation, and prayer by Elder L. P. Johnston. Minutes of preceding day called for, read and received.

The Committee on Divine Service reported that Elds. J. G. Pond preach at 11 o'clock A. M., W. A. Simmons at 2 P. M., and J. G. Parsons and J. J. Edwards at 6 P. M.

Circular Letter called for, read and adopted.

Ordered that our next Association be held with the Church at South Fork, Jackson county, Ky., on Tuesday before the fourth Saturday in September, 1881.

Eld. J. J. Edwards was selected, by private ballot, to preach the next Annual Sermon, with Eld. L. P. Johnston as his alternate.

Eld. A. B. Williams was appointed to write the next Circular Letter.

Report of Committee on State Missions and Destitution called for, read and after remarks by Elds. W. B. Estes, J. G. Pond, Smith V. Potts and L. P. Johnston, was continued until afternoon. Association adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock. Benediction by Eld. W. B. Estes.

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AFTERNOON.

Moderator in the Chair. Singing, and prayer by Eld. J. W. Maren.

Report of Committee on State Missions and Destitution taken up, with an amendment, and after remarks by Elds. J. M. Bruce and N. B. Johnson, was adopted.

Ordered that we appoint one member of each Church as a Board, to carry on the Missionary work in the bounds of this Association, and that five of this Board compose an Executive Committee for the transaction of business; the following brethren to be the members of the Board: W. C. Mansfield, W. T. Barnes, Levi Sparks, J. B. King, W. C. Todd, Isaac Sparks, John Swinford, G. Foley, L. P. Johnston, W. B. Haley, Wm. Smith, Elisha Robinson, James Roberts, and that the Board meet and organize at 8 o'clock in the morning.

Corresponding Letter called for, read and adopted. The following brethren agree to bear the same:

TATE'S CREEK.....Held at Drake's Creek, Tuesday after the 4th Saturday in August, 1881; Elds. N. B. Johnson, L. P. Johnston.

BOONE'S CREEK.....Tuesday after 2d Saturday in Sept., 1881; Elds. J. J. Edwards, N. B. Johnson, T. L. Lawson, A. G. Stansberry, M. Terpin, R. Kerby; held at Salem, Estill county.

BOONEVILLE.....Elds. A. G. Stansberry, W. S. Adams, A. H. Williams; held at Ell's Branch, Clay county, Thursday before 4th Saturday in September, 1881.

LAUREL RIVER.....Elds. T. L. Lawson, A. G. Stansberry, Wm. Standiford, John Swinford.

MT. PLEASANT, Col....Elds. T. L. Lawson, A. G. Stansberry, C. C. Ogg.

Report on Sunday-Schools called for, read, and after remarks by various brethren, amended and adopted.

Association adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock in the morning. Benediction by Eld. L. P. Johnston.

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THIRD DAY.--MORNING.

After singing, the Association was called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Eld. James Kindred. Minutes of second day read and approved.

Committee on Divine Service made its final report as follows: Elds. J. G. Pond at 11 o'clock A. M., S. V. Potts at 2 P. M., and W. B. Estes at 6 P. M.

A Committee appointed to investigate the proceedings of the South Fork Church in the case of D. T. Lamb, composed of the following brethren: Eld. T. L. Lawson, M. Terpin and W. B. Haley.

Report of Committee on Religious Periodicals called for, read and adopted.

Report of Committee on Orphans' and Widows' Home called for, read and received. Ordered that we take up a collection at the stand for its benefit.

Report of Committee on the case of Bro. D. T. Lamb called for, read and ordered to be appended to our Minutes.

Report of Committee on Finance called for. It reports \$16.00.

Ordered that after the present year, where Churches contribute nothing for the printing of the Minutes, that they receive no Minutes; and that they be distributed in proportion as each Church contributes. Ordered, also, that Eld. N. B. Johnson superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes.

The Association then adjourned, to meet with the Church at South Fork, Jackson county, Ky., on Tuesday before the 4th Saturday in September, 1881.

N. B. JOHNSON, Moderator.

J. G. PARSONS, A. H. WILLIAMS, Clerks.

#### CORRESPONDING LETTERS.

*The Irvine Association now in session with the Baptist Church at Pilot Knob, Madison County, Ky., to our Sister Associations, with whom we correspond.*

DEAR BRETHREN:—We rejoice that through the mercies of our Heavenly Father we are permitted to assemble again in an Associational capacity, to devise means for the promotion of the cause of Christ. We are at peace and have fellowship one with another. Our Churches are complaining of coldness, and a lack of efficiency in the vineyard of the Lord. We hold the truth as it is in Christ; let us give it to the world—let us at once occupy the ground. Brethren, we regret to see so small a correspondence. We rejoice to receive you into our midst; to exchange fraternal greetings; to discuss the things that pertain to the Master's Kingdom. We have received this session one new Church, by baptism 49. Our total number is about 1,250. Our next Association will be held at South Fork, Jackson county, Ky., commencing Tuesday before the 4th Saturday in September, 1881.

#### STATE MISSIONS AND DESTITUTION.

BRO. MODERATOR:—Your Committee make the following report: The General Association is trying to occupy the State; but from their Minutes we see that they only received a little over \$5,000, not a tithe of the

amount that is necessary to occupy the destitution of the whole State; and that while we sympathize with them and bid them God speed in their good work, and as we are needy, we would respectfully ask them to aid us a little in trying to relieve some of our destitution; and as the most destitution in our bounds—very few Churches being self-sustaining—as a means of supply, we recommend that we appoint a Board, centrally located in our Association, and that they appoint an agent to visit the Churches and collect funds to be used in sending some one to preach to the weak Churches, as they may require.

Yours Respectfully,

J. J. EDWARDS,  
LEVI SPARKS,  
R. S. TIPTON.

—o—o—o—o—  
SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

So far as your Committee have been able to investigate, there seems to be some destitution in regard to Sunday-Schools. We would advise all pastors and Churches to go forward in organizing Sunday-Schools in those destitute places. We also recommend the Churches to report the number and progress of each Sunday-School at our next Association.

Yours Respectfully;

A. G. STANSBERRY,  
W. C. TODD,  
M. TERPIN.

—o—o—o—o—  
RELIGIOUS PERIODICALS.

We, the Committee to whom was assigned the duty of reporting to this body on Denominational Literature, beg leave to submit the following: First; can we as a denomination be successful without the means of communication? Can we meet arguments and criticisms hurled on us as a denomination? Would we train up our children in Baptist faith and doctrine? If so, let us furnish them with sound Baptist Literature. For this purpose, we heartily recommend the *Western Recorder*, a Baptist paper published at Louisville. It teaches Baptist faith and doctrine. Also, we recommend the *Orphan's Friend* to our membership. First, the Bible, for in it we have a literature that is sound and wholesome.

J. G. PARSONS,  
L. P. JOHNSTON.

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ORPHANS' HOME.

We, your Committee on Orphans' Home, learn that there were forty children received into the Home last year, and homes found in good families for as many more. There are at present forty children in the Home. We, as an Association, should remember that this is a Baptist Institution for the homeless and friendless, and we recommend it as worthy of our prayers and sympathies.

Yours respectfully,

L. P. JOHNSTON,  
JESSE BARNES,  
JOHN SWINFORD.

—o—o—o—o—  
CASE OF D. T. LAMB.

We, your Committee, find that Bro. D. T. Lamb is standing as an excluded member from the Church, but still holding his credentials and

preaching, contrary to Gospel order. We therefore recommend that he be published in our Minutes as such.

T. L. LAWSON,  
W. B. HALEY,  
M. TERPIN.

*Resolved*, That we return our thanks to the brethren, sisters and friends of Pilot Knob Church and vicinity for their hospitality in entertaining us during our session.

#### ORDAINED MINISTERS, AND THEIR POST-OFFICES.

N. B. Johnson, Waco, Ky.; J. J. Edwards, Winston, Ky.; J. G. Parsons, Sand Spring, Ky.; W. S. Adams, Gray Hawk, Ky.; A. B. Williams, Sand Spring, Ky.; T. L. Lawson, Speedwell, Ky.; D. M. Ward, Pond Fork, Ky.; John Ward, Pond Fork, Ky.; Joseph Parsons, Sand Spring, Ky.; L. P. Johnston, Berea, Ky.; A. G. Stansberry, Irvine, Ky.; H. S. Ponder, Manchester, Ky.; R. G. Murray, High Knob, Ky.; Wm. Standifer, Clover Bottom, Ky.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call to order by the Moderator of last session; or, in his absence, by the Secretary or Moderator *pro tem*.
2. Introductory Sermon.
3. Reading Church Letters and enrolling names of Delegates.
4. Permanent organization; election of Moderator and Clerk.
5. Invitation to new Churches for membership.
6. Appointment of Committee on Divine Service.
7. Call for Corresponding Associations.
8. Visiting ministers and brethren invited to seats.
9. Reading of Circular Letter.
10. Appointment of some one to write Corresponding Letter.
11. Committee on State Missions and Destitution.
12. Committee on Sunday - Schools.
13. Committee on Religious Periodicals.
14. Committee on Orphans' Home.
15. Place of holding our next Association.
16. Who shall preach our next Annual Sermon.
17. Appoint some one to write Circular Letter.
18. Appoint Committee on Finance.
19. Reading Corresponding Letter.
20. Appointment of Corresponding Delegates.
21. Report of Committee on State Missions and Destitution.
22. Report of Committee on Sunday-Schools.
23. Report of Committee on Religious Periodicals.
24. Report of Committee on Orphans' Home.
25. New business.
26. Reading of Minutes.
27. Adjournment.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	Contributions for Minutes						
		By Baptism	By Letter	Relation	Dismissed by Let.	Excluded	Died	Total
Pine Grove.....	Rockcastle	5	6	2	1	1	44	\$ 90
Drowning Creek.....	Madison	1	2	2	2	2	60	1 40
Liberty.....	Jackson	12	1	1	1	1	53	1 00
Pilot Knob.....	Madison	2	1	1	1	1	71	1 55
Chinquepin.....	Jackson	12	3	1	1	1	64	1 25
Bethlehem.....	Madison	1	1	1	1	1	100	2 00
Clear Creek.....	Estill	1	4	2	2	1	42	1 00
Clover Bottom.....	Jackson	1	1	2	6	2	18	50
Providence.....	Estill	1	1	1	1	1	216	1 50
South Fork.....	Jackson	1	1	1	1	1	86	1 15
River Side.....	Clay	3	1	1	1	1	20	1 00
Pleasant Point.....	Clay	1	1	1	1	1	47	.....
Pleasant Run <sup>s</sup> .....	Clay	1	1	1	1	1	45	.....
New Hope <sup>s</sup> .....	Owsley	1	1	1	1	1	64	.....
Cane Spring <sup>s</sup> .....	Estill	1	1	1	1	1	36	.....
Mt. Gilead <sup>s</sup> .....	Jackson	1	1	1	1	1	55	.....
Wind Cave <sup>s</sup> .....	Jackson	1	1	1	1	1	22	.....
Union <sup>s</sup> .....	Estill	1	1	1	1	1	80	.....
Birch Lick.....	Jackson	1	1	1	1	1	22	95
Rock Lick <sup>s</sup> .....	Jackson	1	1	1	1	1	26	.....
Mt. Zion <sup>s</sup> .....	Estill	1	1	1	1	1	88	.....
Cow Creek.....	Estill	16	3	1	4	4	91	1 70
Totals.....		49	17	12	15	11	1320	16 00

\*Not represented. Totals taken from old Minutes.

### CIRCULAR LETTER.

PREPARED AND READ BY ELD. J. G. PARSONS.

The subject on which we address you at present is that of Prayer. Prayer is of Divine appointment, and is the breathing of the soul unto God the desires of the heart, by which we hold communion with God. Prayer appears to be not only a privilege, but a duty, confined to neither sect nor denomination; for says Paul: "I will that men pray everywhere." 1st Timothy II:28. It is also that by which we draw nigh unto God, and converse with Him by faith. Hence says the Apostle: "Let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith." Heb. x:22. Prayer is not merely the uttering of words, but it is the sincere desire of the heart; and faith is the vehicle through which it is conveyed to a Throne of Grace by the spirit of God, for says an inspired Apostle: "His good spirit helpeth our infirmities and maketh intercessions for us, with groanings that can not be uttered." Romans VIII:26. Prayer appears to have been practiced from the birth of Enos, the son of Seth, Genesis IV:26. And, from that time throughout the different dispensations, we learn that prayer has been attended to by God's people; and in various instances we discover the effects of it, as in the case of Jonah, who prayed and was heard, or, the Canaanitish woman, who was heard in behalf of her daughter. Matt. XXI:28. Peter cried: "Lord, save me, or I perish!" and was rescued from a watery grave. Now, brethren, we are not of the opinion that a mere outward form, or lip service, is to be



accepted in the sight of God, for where the heart is not found, the sacrifice is not accepted. We would not be understood as holding an idea that we can bring God under any obligations to us by our prayers; yet, we are His creatures and are dependent upon him, and he is a God who will be sought unto for all things by the House of Israel. Prayer, then, is enjoined on all God's creatures. Now, brethren, think on the languid state of Zion. Does it not appear that something ought to be done? Shall the people of God sit down contented, and still look for the spirit of God to be poured out on the people? By no means. Do we not hear the Holy Spirit, by the mouth of the Prophet, saying: "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion!" Amos vi:1., which plainly shows that we have something to do; and we read again: "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth laborers into His harvest." Matt. ix:38. And for our encouragement, Jesus says: "If ye shall ask any thing in my name I will do it." Again: "If two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father," &c. Matt. xviii:19. But, brethren, the limits of a Circular would not contain our subject. We would, therefore, recommend and exhort that we be more zealously engaged in this all-important duty, seeing that we have so much need of help, and being conscious that all our help comes from God. Perhaps some are ready to say: "I can not pray," but we are apprehensive if they were truly sensible of their own salvation, and that of their fellow-mortals, their language would be as fervent as that of the Publican, who said: "God be merciful to me a sinner!" Now, brethren, were we all thus solemnly impressed, would we see so much languor in the world as it respects vital religion? We think not. But, on the contrary, we would see crowded assemblies attending the worship of God; Zion would be travailing and bringing forth and her gates would be crowded with young converts. Then let us be up and doing, for says Solomon: "By much slothfulness the building decayeth, and through idleness of hands the house droppeth through." Eccles. x:18. Let us be more engaged in the solemn duty of prayer, as well as all the other duties which God hath enjoined upon us. Being thus exercised, we would enjoy more of the presence of God and the sweets of religion. That we should see numbers of our fellow-mortals closing with the overtures of mercy, and walking in the ways of holiness; we should not find so many obstacles in our pilgrimage through this vale of sorrow. Therefore, brethren, let us endeavor to arise from our state of dead lethargy, and pray God to clothe us with zeal and fortitude to run the Christian race with patience, and to enclose our children, our neighbors and neighbors' children in the net of the Gospel, that we may see numerous households leaving the cares of the world behind them and pressing toward the Heavenly Jerusalem, to enter that rest which remains for the people of God. And now, dear brethren, we commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to make you wise unto salvation; and may He prepare us all for a mansion in His kingdom above, is our prayer for His name's sake.