MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

OF

THE CAMPBELL COUNTY ASSOCIATION

OF

REGULAR BAPTISTS,

HELD WITH

THE CHURCH AT LICKING VALLEY,

ON THE

20th OF AUGUST, 1858.

CINCINNATI:

WRIGHTSON & CO., PRINTERS, 167 WALNUT STREET,
1858.
MINUTES.

The Campbell County Association convened, with the Church at Licking Valley, in Campbell county, Ky., on the 30th of August, 1858.

Elder Wm. Stillwell preached the introductory sermon.

The Letters from the Churches were then called for, read, and Messengers' names enrolled as follows:

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<th>CHURCHES AND MESSENGERS' NAMES</th>
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<tr>
<td>LICKING CHURCH — Elders Wm. Stillwell, Daniel Harris and N. C. Pettit, and Brethren C. Murman, Hiram Dean, Joseph Vickers, John Ware and Wiley Bates.</td>
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<td>FOUR-MILE — Brethren John Sutton, Amos Stillwell.</td>
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<td>TWELVE-MILE — Elder Jesse Beagie and Joshua Johnson.</td>
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<td>NEWPORT — A. Connelly, James Stillwell.</td>
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<td>BRCURSEY CREEK — Elders Josiah Herbert and G. G. Chambers, and Brethren James Cornwell and John Pratt.</td>
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<td>PLEASANT RIDGE — Elder Wm. Grizzle, and Brethren G. H. Gibson and G. W. Martin.</td>
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<td>LICKING VALLEY — Elder James Spillman, and Brethren J. C. White, Wm. Ware, H. E. White, John P. Spillman, A. E. Leroy and Richard Smart.</td>
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Reading letters being closed, Elder James Vickars was chosen Moderator and N. C. Pettit Clerk.

Elder George Hunt led in prayer.

An opportunity was given for the reception of new Churches. Whereupon a letter was presented from the Church at Boman, with an application for admittance as a member of our body. After hearing the Articles of Faith an objection was raised to the seventh article, whereupon the application was withdrawn by the delegates.

1. The delegates of Boman Church were invited to seats with us.

2. Invited visiting brethren to participate in our deliberations.

3. Corresponding letters were called for, read, and Messengers’ names enrolled as follows:
   From North-Bend—Elders S. L. Helm, James Kirtley and Brother John Duncan.
   From Ten-Mile—Brother F. S. Watkins.
   From Union—Brother T. R. Bradford (but no letter).
   From Elkhorn—Elder George Hunt.


5. The Circular Letter written by Wm. Stillwell was called for, and referred to a committee of the following brethren, to wit: Ed. Morin, Thos. Vickars, N. C. Pettit and the writer, to examine and report to-morrow.

6. Voted to hold our next Association with the Church at Twelve-Mile, commencing on the 3d Friday in August, 1859.

7. A letter was presented from Elder A. Broadus, Corresponding Secretary of the General Association of Kentucky, soliciting our co-operation with that body. Whereupon a committee of the following brethren were appointed to consider the proposition and report to-morrow, to wit: Edward Morin, Wm. Stillwell and N. C. Pettit.

8. Moderator and Clerk to prepare order of business for to-morrow.

Adjourned, to meet Saturday morning at 10 o’clock.
Prayer by Brother Helm.

Saturday Morning, 10 o’clock.

Association Met.—Brother Moderator led in prayer.

1. Adopted the bill of arrangements.

2. Appointed Brethren G. B. Chambers, Thomas Vickars and C. Dickson a committee on obituaries.

3. Corresponding letters called for, read, and Messengers appointed to bear them, as follows: To North-Bend, when met at Sand Run, in Boone county, Ky., on Tuesday after the first Saturday in September, John Pruit, James Vickars, James Cornelius, Wm. Stillwell and J. M. Jolley; to Union, when met at Colemansville, in Harrison county, Ky., on the fourth Saturday in August, A. W. Mullins and Josiah Herbert; to Ten-Mile, when met at Crooked Creek, in Pendleton county, Ky., on the first Saturday in September, Garland Vickars; To Elkhorn, when met at Stamping-Ground, in Scott county, Ky., on Tuesday after the second Saturday in August, 1859, Daniel Harris, James Vickars, John Nelson and P. Taliaferro.

4. Appointed J. M. Jolley to preach the next introductory sermon, and N. C. Pettit alternate; and N. C. Pettit to write the next circular letter.

5. Elected, Brethren James Kirtley and George Hunt to preach to-morrow, and Wm. Spaldon to conclude the exercises.
6. The committee to whom the Circular Letter was referred, reported in favor of its adoption, which, after reading, was done unanimously.

7. The committee on obituaries reported the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, It has pleased God, in his providence, to take from us an unusual number of our brethren and sisters during the past year, therefore

Resolved, 1. That we deeply deplore our loss, and feel called upon to be also ready.

2. That we tender to the families and friends of our deceased brethren and sisters our heartfelt sympathies, especially to those of our much esteemed brother Wm. J. Morin, who labored so long and faithfully in the vineyard of his Lord; and also to those of Wm. Decoursey and Daniel Ware, who were pioneers in the Churches; also to Sister Vickars, who was the wife of Elder James Vickars.

8. The Committee on Sabbath Schools reported that within the bounds of this Association there are about twenty Sabbath schools, conducted, in whole or in part, by the Baptists. These schools number about one thousand scholars, and have books to the amount of about three thousand volumes. That although many of the schools are languishing, yet the cause of Sabbath schools is on the increase.

The same committee was continued, and A. W. Johnson added, to make a more full report next year.

9. The committee to whom was referred the proposition of Brother Broadus, reported favorably to its adoption, which, after speeches by brother Helm and others, was unanimously received, with instructions to our Executive Board to make the most judicious arrangements possible.

10. Appointed, Brethren James Shaw, A. W. Johnson, J. W. Stephens, Wm. Riley and N. C. Pettit an Ex-

cution Board, to conduct the affairs of our home missionary enterprise.

11. Considered the claims of our State Paper.

After several animated speeches commendatory of our paper, the Western Recorder and Christian Repository, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Association, the Western Recorder and Christian Repository, as now conducted, demands a prominent place in our family reading, and would recommend our brethren to sympathize with the editor, and patronize them as far as possible.

Appointed, Brother N. C. Pettit to superintend the printing and distribution of one thousand copies of our Minutes and Circular Letter.

Adjourned in great harmony.

Prayer by Brother Edward Morin.

JAMES VICKARS, Moderator.

N. C. PETTIT, Clerk.
ADDENDA.

We give below the names of Post-offices of all the ordained Preachers in this Association:

Elam Grizzle, Canton, Kenton county, Ky.
George Grader, Alexandria, Ky.
James Spillman, Cold Spring, Ky.
James Vickars, Newport, Ky.
Josiah Herbert, Covington, Ky.
Jessee Beagle, Alexandria, Ky.
Wm. Grizzle, Alexandria, Ky.
A. W. Mullins, Morningsides, Ky.
Wm. Stillwell, Newport, Ky.
G. B. Chambers, Cold Spring, Ky.
J. M. Jolley, Flaggins, Ky.
Thomas Vickars, Newport, Ky.
N. C. Pettit, Cold Spring, Ky.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

Very Dear Brethren: Convinced as we are that the time has come, in which we can respond to the call of dying millions of our race, who are still in nature's night and know not God, we feel that we could not present for your prayerful consideration, a subject of more momentous interest than the subject of Missions.

Ours is an unparalleled age, an age of sublime enterprise in all the arts and sciences; no conception too sublime, no task too arduous to forbid an effort. As a result of zeal and energy we travel almost with the swiftness of the wind, whilst the lightning writes our thoughts in other climes, eclipsing the glory of by-gone ages, and pointing with bright anticipation to the future. Having proved the efficacy of means, it does not require a prophetic eye to see, that, at no very remote period of time, Christian influence must come in close contact with those influences which are so detrimental to the social happiness and the interests of man. The missionary cause combines within itself elements of the highest and holiest character; the object, the glory of God and the salvation of immortal souls—the most glorious enterprise which was ever linked with the destinies of fallen man.

Will not the Christian world awake more fully to the interests of Messiah's kingdom, and pray for that zeal that once animated the disciples of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? By reviewing the history of the past, we find that, when the Apostles were gathered home, man's
energy abated in the missionary cause. The result was, the missionary spirit greatly abated until the days of the Reformation, when a few sought to know and to do the will of God. These servants of the Most High God have passed away, but their works follow them; and from the days of the Reformation until the nineteenth century a feeble few have been contending against the powers of darkness, amidst persecution, famine, disease and death.

We hail the nineteenth century as the time pointed to by the prophet Daniel in viewing the time in which "many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." Our world is now inhabited by nearly one thousand millions of human beings. Of this vast number something over two hundred millions profess Christianity. Perhaps not more than one hundred million are truly the disciples of Christ. We think, after having surveyed the field before us, that not less than eight hundred millions are without a knowledge of the plan of Redemption through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and are crowding the broad road to death. Jesus Christ, our great Missionary from heaven, hath said, "The field is the world." "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Let us look briefly at the world, geographically. First, glancing an eye over our bright and happy land, we discover that a large part of our Western territory is inhabited only by ruthless savages who are trampling upon the blessings of Heaven. It can be truly said of them "they dwell in habitations of cruelty." Ever and anon we hear the war-cry as it recedes in the distance, and we plainly see "the axe is laid at the root of the tree." Shall we not try the weapons of our spiritual warfare effectually, before we are compelled to wage a war of extermination against the larger portion of the red men of the West? The Gospel of Christ alone can save them from impending ruin, and if they refuse the heavenly message we shall soon witness the truth of the sentiment uttered in "The Poor Indian's Lament":

"They waste us, Ah! like April snow,
Now in the morn we sink away;
And fast they follow us; we go
Towards the setting day.
And they shall fill the land, while we
Are driven into the western sea."

We have their lands, and shall we refuse them the Bible? The way is fairly opened before us; let us co-operate with our brethren who are laboring in the western wilds. From the west turn the eye to that once favored land where the angelic missionaries from heaven proclaimed "Good tidings of great joy." Nearly the whole of that once favored land is spell-bound by Mohammedan delusion, except here and there a Syrian church or a missionary station. Although the Northern nations are under the government of a Christian prince, they are scarcely nominally Christian. Who could stand by the ruins of once highly favored churches, now the resort of the bat and the owl for protection from the noon-day sun, amidst the almost unbroken silence—broken only by the whistle of the quail, the cawing of the crow, or the Turk returning with his flocks seeking his humble hut—without reflecting upon the just judgments of a sin-avenging God. Let our churches take warning. We will next turn to Africa. How little of this vast continent has been reclaimed by missionary labor! The remainder is bound by the brutal manacles of idolatry, which, like the blasting simoon, has withered the mind, destroying parental affection, urging the mother to tear from her bosom her smiling babe and throw it in the Nile to feed the monsters of the deep. In
many portions of the country, bands of lawless banditti frequently lay waste the villages of the defenceless inhabitants. In Europe one nation stands pre-eminently above all others in the cause of evangelizing the world, whilst many of them still slumber, needing the assistance of missionaries among them, bound by the fetters of papal superstition—the result of which we see in Italy, with her prisons crowded with condemned criminals waiting the time of their execution. In France, the great emporium of human folly, how little is known of the religion of Jesus. A feeble few are struggling against the powers of darkness, and calling loudly for continued aid from this side of the Atlantic. China with her deluded millions has become restless under the galling yoke of superstition, and like some mighty giant is struggling to throw off her chains. Already much fruit of missionary labor is seen there. Shall we not co-operate with our brethren who have gone to China to preach Christ crucified, by our prayers and contributions? Go where we will we find man the same fallen creature, following the blind infatuation of his own heart, rushing with impetuosity to the bosom of destruction; for it is written, “Without holiness no man shall see the Lord.” Where can be found a holy heathen? Of their religion it is a shame to speak. But let us return to our own land. We see in many portions there is great destitution. He who is a Christian most certainly will inquire, “Lord what wilt thou have me to do?” To him who is chosen of God, Christ speaks and says, “Go ye therefore and teach all nations.” How often do we hear this reply—“I would do more if I could, but the interests of my family require my attention, whilst the worth of immortal souls is pressing heavily upon my heart; but I must provide for my own.” Here we make a solemn ap-
Licking Valley, Aug. 21, 1858.

A meeting of Ministers and Messengers was called, Elder James Vickars was appointed Chairman and A. W. Johnson Secretary.

The object of the meeting being to take some preliminary steps to organize a Ministers' Deacons Association. A committee was appointed to prepare a Constitution and By-Laws, and report at the first regular meeting; N. C. Pettit, S. L. Helm, and A. W. Johnson to be the committee.

Appointed J. M. Jolley, James Kirtley and James Spillman to prepare an order of exercises for the next meeting—to report immediately. The committee made the following report: S. L. Helm to preach the introductory discourse. Subject, Regeneration.

Essays.

N. C. Pettit to write an essay on Sabbath Schools; James Kirtley an essay on ministerial deportment; Wm. Stillwell an essay on the importance of faithfully enforcing New Testament Discipline in all our churches.

James Vickars to deliver an address on ministerial support.

James Spillman an address on spirituality essential to the usefulness of the ministry and the prosperity of the churches.

Addresses on miscellaneous subjects by Jolley, Beagle, Thos. Vickars, Mullins, Grizzle and Graden. Adjourned to meet at Alexandria on Thursday before the 5th Sunday in Oct., 1858.

JAMES VICKARS, Chairman.

A. W. JOHNSON, Secretary.