

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE  
WISEMAN  
ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS

HELD WITH  
NEW HARMONY CHURCH  
Macon County, Tenn.  
September 23, 24, and 25  
1903

Next meeting to be held with New Hopewell Church, Sumner  
County, Tenn., Wednesday before the fourth Sunday  
in September, 1904. Introductory Sermon  
by Bro. J. S. Pardue; alternate  
C. N. Simmons

HORSE CAVE, KY.  
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1903

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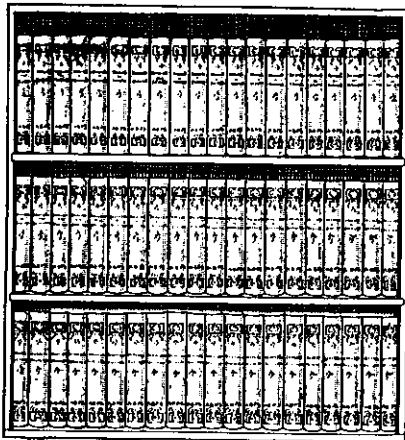
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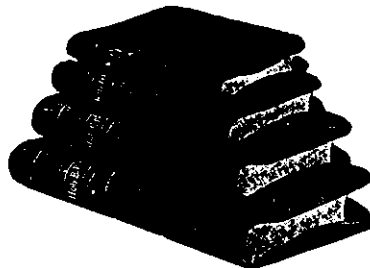
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AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY

## MINUTES.

### First Day.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 23, 1903.—MORNING SESSION.

The Messengers composing the Wiseman Association met with the Baptist church at New Harmony, Macon county, Tenn., Wednesday, Sept., 23, 1903, at 10 o'clock a. m. After singing, and prayer by W. M. Gammon, Bro. W. M. S. Wilks who was appointed to preach the introductory sermon, was present and preached the sermon: text, John 10:11: After the sermon, brethren T. W. Mathews and W. H. Smith were appointed to read the lettes from the churches and the following messengers responded:

Bledsoe Creek—John S. Pardue.  
Cedar Bluff—J. D. White, A. G. Stone and A. A. Bennett.  
Corum Hill—No letter.  
Christman Chapel—Letter, no messenger.  
Dixon Creek—J. W. Massey, B. M. Gregory and W. S. Oldham.  
Friendship—J. W. Lewis, J. M. Carr and T. A. Bass.  
Fairview—W. E. Lyle and Jas. Cook.  
Goodwill—J. W. Harper, A. H. Blackwell and Thos. Gregory.  
Hartsville—  
Hillsdale—J. J. Dyer, Wiseman Cathron and T. J. Thompson.  
LaFayette—W. M. Gammon, J. S. Johnson and J. R. Gammon.  
Long Creek—W. K. Johnson, John Smith and G. W. Jenkins.  
Meadorville—Dave Glover, J. H. McClard and E. L. Meadow.  
Mt. Olivet—No messenger.  
New Hopewell—W. M. S. Wilks, J. M. Wilks and A. J. Fitzpatrick.  
New Harmony—Gus Fuqua, J. W. Hughs and J. A. Parker.  
Pleasant Grove—C. N. Simmons, Chas. Simmons and R. Y. Hawkins.  
Rock Bridge—J. W. Dorris and William West.  
Rocky Mound—J. E. Overton and I. N. Knight.  
Shady Grove—H. B. Reed and D. S. Reed.  
Siloam—A. J. Robertson, J. A. Hawkins and J. M. Lambert.  
Spring Creek—S. S. M. Blankinship and S. H. Dillard.  
Zion—No messenger.

TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY

The Association was then regularly organized by electing W. M. S. Wilks, Moderator, and reelecting D. S. Reed, Clerk, and W. M. Gammon, Treasurer.

Petitionary letters were then called for and presented. The following visiting brethren were present and invited to seats; New Salem, none. Liberty, Ky.; W. H. Smith, Don Q. Smith. Enon: J. T. Talmon, T. W. Matthews, J. J. Dillehoy, J. P. McDonald, W. E. Pipkin. Bay's Fork: none. Salem: none. Nashville: none.

The Moderator then appointed the regular committees. On motion all of the visiting brethren were invited to seats with us. Welcome address by Gus Fuqua. Responded to by W. H. Smith, Field Editor for the Western Recorder. After some announcements by Bro. W. H. Smith, C. N. Simmons and T. W. Matthews, representatives of the Baptist and Reflector, Western Recorder and American Baptist Flag, adjourned for dinner. Prayer by J. L. Talmon.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Singing and prayer by J. J. Dillehoy. The Moderator called the house to order and proceeded with the regular business. On motion it was ordered that this body select a place to hold the next annual session of this body, and New Hopewell church, Sumner county, Tenn., was selected. Bro. J. R. Pardue was elected to preach the Introductory Sermon, with C. N. Simmons alternate.

Report on Divine Service: Bro. Don Q. Smith to preach at 3 o'clock at this church today, Bro. W. H. Smith at this church Thursday at 11 o'clock.

**Report on Order of Business.**

We your committee make the following report: 1, Religious Literature. 2, Education. 3, State of Religion. 4, Prohibition. 5, Sunday School and Colportage. 6, Orphans' Home. 7, Ministerial Relief. 8, District missions. 9, State Missions. 10, Foreign Missions. 11, Home Missions. 12, Obituaries. 13, Finance. 14, New Business. 15, Resolutions.

J. F. LEE, W. K. JOHNSON, W. M. GAMMON—Committee.

**Report on Religions Literature.**

We your committee submit the following report: People will partake of the spirit of the literature they read. Every enterprise worth the money has been greatly helped by literature. Every Baptist house should be supplied with such literature as will best serve to enlighten and instruct, tend toward denominational unity and cooperation. The Baptist and Reflector, Western Recorder, and Baptist Flag are just such papers as will help every home, and should have the hearty support of the brethren.

W. H. SMITH, J. S. PARDUE, J. W. MASSIE—Committee.

After being ably discussed by W. H. Smith, C. N. Simmons, T. W. Matthews and others, adopted.

On motion it was ordered that each speaker be limited to 10 minutes for the chairman of each subject, and others 5 minutes, to speak on any subject. On motion it was ordered that this body

dispense with preaching and proceed with the regular order of business. After some announcements the body adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock, Thursday, Sept. 24. Prayer by Don Q. Smith.

### Second Day.

#### THURSDAY MORNING, SEPT. 24.

After singing and prayer by J. L. Talmon, the Moderator called the house to order. The Clerk called the roll, and a quorum being present the body then proceeded with the regular order of business. The Clerk read the Rules of Decorum.

#### Report on Education.

We your committee submit the following report: By education we mean the development of a physical, mental, moral and spiritual power. There is great need of such development in this Association, and only our denominational schools and colleges can accomplish this work. We therefore recommend the Southern Baptist University at Jackson, Carson and Newman Colleges at Jefferson City, for our young men; and Bosobel College at Nashville and Brownsville Female College at Brownsville, as schools for young ladies, that are worthy of your hearty support. We urge our Baptist parents to give more time and attention to the education of their children than they have ever before done.

T. W. MATTHEWS, T. A. BESS, M. A. MARTIN—Committee.

After being ably discussed by T. W. Matthews, J. S. Pardue, W. H. Smith, W. M. S. Wilks and P. F. Burnley, adopted.

#### Report on State of Religion.

We your committee submit the following report: Brethren, from the letters to this Association we see that there is not the prosperity, spiritual activity, holy consecration and self-denial that should exist. Some of our churches make fair reports and others bespeak spiritual lethargy, selfishness and religious indifference. Brethren, we would recommend a more orderly and Christ-like walk among our membership, a more rigid enforcement of church discipline, or, in brief, a more thorough study of God's word and conformity to its teachings. We also suggest a Sunday school in each church as a means to this end. We see from reading the letters from the churches, that during the past year we have received by experience and baptism 132, by letter 24, restored 5—total 161. Dismissed by letter 32, excluded 21, dead 22—total 75—leaving 109.

J. J. DYER, T. J. THOMPSON, G. W. JENKINS—Committee.

After being discussed by J. J. Dyer, J. J. Dillehoy, J. S. Pardue, W. H. Smith, I. P. McDonald and others, adopted.

#### Report on Prohibition.

We your committee submit the following report: We the factors of the Wiseman Association, composing that beacon light which should shine as a blazing cornet to the outside world, should portray before them in living colors the virtue of morality and temperance, and warn them in thoughts that breathe and words that burn of the dreadful consequences of the liquor traffic, by precept as well as example, and we earnestly pray and fully urge this body to go forth in one solid phalanx, invoking the blessings of our Heavenly Father against the common enemy of souls.

A. J. FITZPATRICK, W. W. LYLE, J. F. LAMBERT—Committee.

After being discussed by A. J. Fitzpatrick, J. F. Lambert, J. M. Wilks and J. S. Pardue, adopted.

On motion it was ordered that this body adjourn for preaching. Bro. W. H. Smith, Field Editor of the Western Recorder, preached at 11 o'clock. Text II Corinthians, 13th chapter, 14th verse, after which the congregation joined in an old-fashioned handshaking and singing. The body then adjourned for dinner. Prayer by J. S. Pardue.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

After singing and prayer by Don Q. Smith the Moderator called the house to order and proceeded with the regular order of business.

#### Report on Sunday Schools and Colportage.

We your committee submit the following report: We are glad to report a greater interest in Sunday school work than our last report, yet we are sorry to have to report that from reading the letters from the various churches we find that there are yet some without Sunday schools. Brethren, we need more earnest work in cooperation with our colporter from the brotherhood of our churches by the old brethren and sisters, because we believe we need their influence as well as that of the younger brethren and sisters. We find, brethren, that the work done by and through our colporter last year has so developed that there has been manifested a greater interest in Sunday school work this year in our Association than has ever been before. We find that he has gone into the school house as well as the churches and organized Sunday schools, which have proven a great success. We also find that he has organized a Sunday school convention which has been a great success in arousing a great interest among all people, both saint and sinner.

HENRY HARPER, J. F. LEE, J. M. CARR—Committee.

After being discussed by Henry Harper, J. F. Lambert, J. J. Dyer and J. M. Wilks, the above report was adopted. A collection was taken up for this work amounting to \$47.50.

#### Report on Orphans' Home.

We your committee submit the following report: Dear brethren, we rejoice that we are so highly favored by the Giver of all good as to be privileged to help in the support of that institution of our denomination which looks to the collecting together for protection and elevating and ennobling the fatherless and motherless, and therefore helpless children, in the State of Tennessee. We say it is a privilege. Yes, it is a privilege, and one to which we are glad that Wiseman Association is responding cheerfully and nobly. We notice that last year Dr. Holt said we gave \$408.63, which, he adds, is more than ever done before in our history. This year we are rejoiced to report a very material advance over last year, for the reports from the churches show that during 1903 we have given in cash \$73.52, and one box in addition, \$29.73, making a total of \$103.25. We thank the Lord and take courage. Brethren, we find the home is conducted on sound financial principles, and is doing great good, and we pray the churches to continue in this grand work with renewed zeal and energy.

J. M. WILKS, J. W. HARPER, B. M. GREGORY—Committee.

After being discussed by J. M. Wilks, W. H. Smith and J. S. Pardue, the above report was adopted.

**Report on Finance.**

We your committee submit the following report: Collected from the churches for the use of the Association, \$31.14.

(Adopted.)

J. D. WHITE, J. W. HARPER, B. M. GREGORY—Committee.

On motion it was ordered that the Clerk be allowed to prorate the minutes to each church according to the amount of money sent for said purpose.

Report on Divine Service:—T. W. Matthews to preach at this church Friday at 11 o'clock.

On motion it was ordered that the body postpone all reports on missions till Friday, Sept. 25, and proceed with other reports.

**Report on Obituaries.**

We your committee submit the following report: We find by examination of the various churches represented here that there have passed into the great beyond from our ranks twenty-two of our beloved brethren and sisters. They no more pass in and out with us, they no more lend a helping hand in furthering the interest of the cause we profess to love. These have now crossed the dark river to which we all are fast hastening. Their work has ended and we trust they have passed through the gates into the city to receive the plaudit, "Well done good and faithful servants." Brethren, let the facts that they have gone and they can no more labor with us, stir our hearts to greater zeal in order that we may fill well the stations allotted us ere we too are called hence.

J. M. LAMBERT, G. D. GLOVER, W. S. OLDHAM—Committee.

After being discussed by Bro. J. J. Dyer, who made some very touching remarks, adopted.

Adjourned to meet Friday morning, Sept. 25, at 9 o'clock. Prayer by C. N. Simmons.

**Third Day.**

FRIDAY MORNING, SEPT. 25, 1903.

After singing, and prayer by J. E. Overton, the Moderator called the house to order, The roll was called, and a quorum being present, the Clerk read the Rules of Decorum and the body proceeded with the regular order of business.

**Report on Ministerial Relief.**

We your committee submit the following report: The work of the Gospel ministry is the highest calling among the children of men. There are in our State a number of aged and infirm ministers who find themselves unable to obtain a livelihood in the line of work in which they have spent their lives, yet who have not the means to live in comfort in their declining years. We believe the great Baptist hosts of Tennessee should come to the assistance of such aged ministers. We are sorry to inform this Association that the amount contributed to this work is not sufficient to meet the necessary demands.

## TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY

We have in the State ten beneficiaries, with several applications, and only \$379.66 was contributed for this purpose last year. We recommend to the churches that they take more interest in this work in the next Association year than they have been doing.

T. W. MATTHEWS, R. L. RAGLAN, V. A. SANDERS—Committee.

On motion it was ordered that this body elect a committee of three to act as a ministerial relief committee. J. M. Wilks, T. J. Thompson and M. A. Martin were elected as said committee, and that they be empowered to use and appropriate all the means that come into their hands for this purpose, as they deem best.

On motion it was ordered that all the reports on missions be read and discussed together.

**Report on District Missions.**

We the District Board beg leave to make the following report: We have not had preaching at any point the past year. We have no real destitute field in our bounds, but we have some weak churches that need assistance, and our strong churches should not neglect to lend them a helping hand. We had left over at last Association \$20.15; have received from the churches this year, \$12.60, which would make \$32.75. We have paid the following amounts: to W. C. Golden, as Secretary for Sunday schools and colportage work, \$7.00; to R. Y. Hawkins for services at Fair View church, \$10.00; to Bro. W. K. Johnson, \$1.71; overpaid for Sunday school and colportage work for incidentals, 50 cents—leaving \$10.44. Received since above report, \$2.05; total, \$12.49.

(Adopted.)

GUS FIGUA, W. K. JOHNTON, J. W. HARPER—Ex. Board.

**Report on Foreign Missions.**

We your committee submit the following report: The purpose of a report is to state facts and suggest action. The facts we wish to state are: 1st, There are in the foreign field 125 missionaries, who are preaching the old story of the Cross with grand results. 2nd, There has been a considerable increase in the conversions and baptisms during the last year, but the harvest is so abundant that there is a continuous call for more reapers. The responsibility of sending these rests upon the churches. The churches of Tennessee are asked to contribute of the means God has given them \$13,000.00 for foreign missions this year. We feel that this Association should give more to the work than she has been doing. We therefore recommend to the churches that they raise \$200.00 for foreign missions this association year, and that the pastors keep this work before their churches.

J. L. TALMON, J. J. DILLEHOY, J. B. JOHNSON—Committee.

**Report on Home Missions.**

We your committee on Home Missions report as follows: There are 674 missionaries at work under the home board. These missionaries are at work in our large cities, in our mountain districts, on our frontiers, in Cuba, among negroes and among the Indians of Indian Territory. You see the field to be occupied by the Board is large, and to do the work more laborers are needed, and this requires more means. We call attention to the fact that this Association gave for this work last year \$76.72, and probably not as much this year. We recommend that the churches of this Association raise for home missions this year \$200.00. If the pastors will take the lead and press this work the amount suggested can be raised.

(Adopted.)

DON Q. SMITH, J. W. LEWIS, C. N. SIMMONS—Committee.



**Report on State Missions.**

It is a fact that there are still large destitute districts in our State, including several counties with no self-sustaining Baptist church, and many of them with only one or two; also there are vast regions of miserable destitution in our cities. The total contributed for this work in the last year was \$14,077.96. This Association gave for this purpose last year \$61.94. We would earnestly urge that our churches greatly increase their contributions for this cause. Some of them have greatly increased this year.

W. H. SMITH, J. J. DYER, J. F. LAMBERT—Committee.

After all the mission reports had been ably discussed by Gus Fuqua, Don Q. Smith, J. F. Lambert, W. H. Smith, J. L. Talmon, J. M. Wilks, W. K. Johnson and J. S. Pardue, they were adopted.

On motion by J. M. Wilks, it was ordered that the Association turn over all money collected for district missions to the District Board. On motion it was ordered that the body adjourn for preaching by T. W. Matthews at 11 o'clock, after which the brethren joined in an old-fashioned hand-shaking. The Association then adjourned for dinner. Prayer by J. S. Pardue.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**

After singing, and prayer by J. S. Pardue, the Moderator called the house to order, and proceeded with the regular order of business.

**Report on Correspondence.**

We have just closed our twelfth and most interesting session. Many of our churches report gains, numerically and financially, as our minutes will show. We regret that more of you were not present. We hope to have more of you with us at New Hopewell, near Castillian Springs, at our next meeting, Wednesday after the third Sunday in September, 1904.

C. N. SIMMONS.

The following churches pledged the amounts opposite their names for colportage work for the year 1904: Bledso, \$1.00; Dixon Creek, \$5.00; Friendship, \$5.00; Fairview, \$1.00; Hartsville, \$5.00; Good Will, \$5.00; Hillsdale, \$5.00; Hopewell, \$3.00; Long Creek, \$1.00; Meadorville, \$5.00; New Harmony, \$2.00; Pleasant Grove, \$2.00; Shady Grove, \$2.50; La Fayette, \$2.00; Siloam, \$2.50; Spring Creek, \$2.00.

On motion it was ordered that the Clerk open a column in the statistical table from year to year for inserting amounts contributed for ministerial relief and that the churches make this an object in raising funds from year to year, in order to keep funds in the hands of the permanent committees appointed to look after this business.

**NEW BUSINESS.**

On motion it was ordered that this body retain the same brethren as an Executive Board.

**Report of the Treasurer.**

I have collected for various missions for this Association year, \$30.47, which I have paid out as directed, and took receipt for same.

W. M. GAMMONS, Treasurer.

The following brethren agreed to go to the various Associations; New Salem—A. J. Fitzpatrick. Liberty, Ky.—J. M. Wilks, J. S. Pardue. Enon—J. F. Lambert, J. J. Dyer, R. L. Raglan, Henry Harper, Gus Fuqua, J. E. Overton, J. S. Johnson, W. K. White, D. H. White and B. M. Gregory. Barren River—J. F. Lambert, S. S. M. Blankinship, Henry Harper, G. W. Jenkins, Gus Fuqua, W. K. Johnson, Henry Dillard. State Convention—On motion it was ordered that Bro. J. M. Wilks be elected by acclamation to represent this body in the State Convention which meets at Murfresburo, Tenn., Oct. 28, 1903. Southern Baptist Convention—On motion it was ordered that Bro. J. F. Lambert be elected to represent this body in the next Southern Baptist Convention, which meets in Nashville, Tenn., in May, 1904. Bro. W. M. S. Wilks, alternate.

**Report on Resolutions.**

We your committee submit the following report: Resolved, 1: That we tender our thanks to the people of this community for their kind hospitality shown us during our stay in their midst. 2: That we appreciate the services of our Moderator and Clerk for the very efficient manner in which they have discharged their duties. 3: That the Clerk be allowed \$10.00 for his services.

I. P. McDONALD, J. W. DORRIS, T. B. SIMPSON—Committee.

**The following was added by Bro. J. M. Wilks:**

In as much as we as a people stand pledged by our professed strict adherence to obedience to God's commands, and in as much as there is a command standing out with blazing emphasis in his word to remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy; Therefore, Resolved, That we place ourselves on record as denouncing the growing tendency to desecrate this sacred day in cities and towns and country in the way of amusements, in business, in rumblings, and recommend to the churches to awake on this great subject and admonish their members, and if necessary, discipline them for flagrant and persistent violations of God's holy day.

J. M. WILKS.

There being no further business before the body, adjourned to meet at New Hopewell church, Sumner county, Tenn., on Wednesday after the third Sunday in September, 1904.

W. M. S. WILKS, Moderator.

D. S. REED, Clerk.

W. M. GAMMONS, Treasurer.

## Receipts of Wiseman Association

For the Year Ending September 25, 1903.

Churches,	Number of Members.	Orphans' Home.	Sunday School and Colportage	District Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	State Missions.	Ladies' Aid Society.	Ministerial Relief
Bledsoe Creek	83					\$1 50			
Cedar Bluff	82	30							
Corum Hill									
Christman Chapel	24								
Dixon Creek	298	5 00		7 35		7 55			
Friendship	144	10 00		2 10	9 25	11 60	12 75		10 00
Good Will	107	2 55				1 20			
Hartsville	130	56 05	4 31		6 30	6 50	8 30	\$35 00	12 64
Hillsdale	150	13 25			19 18	47 30	14 47		
New Hopewell	125	10 00			5 33½	5 33½	10 67½		
La Fayette	55					1 00			
Long Creek	33	2 50	1 00	53					1 75
Meado, ville	106	32				1 15			
Mt. Olivet									
New Harmony	121	3 30		1 75					
Pleasant Grove	57	1 00			2 80	2 80	2 80		
Rock Bridge	49	2 50							
Rocky Mound	47	2 00				25			
Shady Grove	101	10 00		25	25		25		25
Siloam	145	9 30		2 87	2 87	2 87			
Spring Creek	72					9 00			
Zion									
Fairview	30	1 00			25				
Totals	1959	\$129 07	\$5 31	\$14 85	46 23½	97 85½	49 23½	\$35 00	\$24 64

**Statistical Report of Wiseman Association**  
For the Year Ending September 25, 1903.

Churches.	Rec' by Exp and Bap Received by Letter.	Restored	Dismissed by Letter.	Deceased.	Excluded.	Number of Members.	Printing Fund.	Pastor's Salary.	No. S. S. Students.	Average Attendance.	Pastors and Post Offices.	Clerks and Post Offices.
Bledsoe Creek	2			2		83	50	\$60 00	63	63	J A Stone . . . . . Belote, Tenn	J M Pardue . . . . . Bransford, Tenn.
Cedar Bluff				2		82	90				C N Simmons, Westmoreland "	J W Blankinship . . . . . Echo "
Corum Hill												
Christman Chapel	4	1				24	50				J W McQueen, Sugar Grove, Tenn	Mrs. Ellen Absher, Sugar Grove "
Dixon Creek	24		4	4		298	2 00				J H Swan . . . . . Willette "	J W Massey . . . . . Cato "
Friendship	3		2	7	1	144	3 50	180 00	25	25	E N Dicken, D. D., Franklin, Ky	J W Lewis . . . . . Willard "
Fairview	14	1				80	45				R Y Hawkins, Westmorland, Tenn	W E Lyles . . . . . Westmoreland "
Good Will	8	2				107	2 00				J J Dyer, . . . . . Hillsdale "	F P Duty . . . . . Dixon Springs "
Hartsville	3	1		3		130	3 00	200 00	75	50	W H Smith . . . . . Horse Cave, Ky	M A Martin . . . . . Hartsville "
Hillsdale	8			3		150	2 00	162 00			Don Q Smith, . . . . . Rowletts "	T J Thompson . . . . . Hillsdale "
New Hopewell	5			5		125	3 00	250 00	40	30	W M S Wiiks, Enon College, Tenn	J L Wiiks . . . . . Enon College "
La Fayette				2	2	55	1 00				T J Estes . . . . . Watertown "	W M Gammon . . . . . La Fayette "
Long Creek	10	5				33	75				R Y Hawkins, Westmoreland "	G W Jenkins . . . . . La Fayette "
Meadorville	17			2	1	106	1 50				J H Swan . . . . . Willette "	E L Meador . . . . . Meadorville "
Mt. Olivet												
New Harmony	8	1		1	1	121	1 25				J J Dyer . . . . . Hillsdale, Tenn	Gus Fuqua . . . . . Prior, Tenn.
Pleasant Grove	17	4	1	1	1	57	1 30	60 00			J W McQueen, Sugar Grove "	S E Summer . . . . . Sugar Grove "
Rock Bridge	10		1			49	1 00	37 25	36		J W Swan . . . . . Portland "	J W Dorris R F D 4, Bethpage "
Rocky Mound	4	1		2	3	47	45				A W Keen . . . . . Bearfoot "	W J Bradley . . . . . Bearfoot "
Shady Grove		5				101	2 00	60 00			J H Swan . . . . . Willette "	W T Bundy . . . . . Hartsville "
Siloam	14	3	1	3	1	145	1 00		85	85	C N Simmons, Westmoreland "	T C Harrison, Westmoreland "
Spring Creek				2		72	1 00				C B Massey . . . . . Bearfoot "	S H Dillard . . . . . La Fayette "
Zion												
Totals	151	24	5	32	24	28	1959	\$29 10 10	25	253		

WISAMAN ASSOCIATION

### Constitution.

Article I. This body shall be known as Wiseman Association.

Article II. These Associations shall be composed of members duly chosen by regular and orderly Missionary Baptist churches within our bounds.

Article III. The letters from the churches to the Association shall give the number of members in fellowship, received by experience and baptism, received by letter, restored, excommunicated and dead since last annual letter.

Article IV. Each church shall be entitled to three Messengers.

Article V. These Associations shall elect annually as officers, a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, whose duties shall be to serve their brethren in their several capacities.

Article VI. These Associations shall never interfere with the independence of any church or claim any ecclesiastical powers or rights of supervision over any of the churches.

Article VII. It shall be the object of these Associations to promote the union of the faith of the Gospel with our educational and mission interests.

Article VIII. These Associations shall meet annually on Wednesday at 10 o'clock, A. M., after the third Sabbath in September, and continue three days, the meeting to be held at such places as may be agreed upon by the Association at its annual sitting.

Article IX. A majority of the members of any regular meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Article X. It will be expected that these meetings will be missionary in practice as well as theory.

Article XI. New churches may be admitted into this Association, who shall petition by letter and delegate or delegates, and on examination, if found orthodox and orderly, may be received and made known by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to the delegate or delegates present.

Article XII. The Association may exclude from union any church or churches that are heterodox in principles or disorderly in practices.

Article XIII. The Association at its sittings may admit any other visiting brethren present to sit with them, who shall have liberty to discuss any question and give their lights, but not to vote except on subjects of general union.

Article XIV. Any alteration may be made to this Constitution at any regular annual meeting, by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present.

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### Rules of Decorum.

I. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

II. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the members present.

III. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall use and address the Moderator by the title, Brother Moderator, and while speaking shall confine himself strictly to the subject in question, and shall not be interrupted unless he digress from the subject, and shall in no wise reflect on any other speaker so as to make remarks on his slips, failures or imperfections, but shall fully give his views of the case without sophistry or criticism.

IV. No member of this Association shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.

V. No member shall speak on any subject more than three times without leave of the body.

VI. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the immediate consideration of the body unless withdrawn by the person making it.

VII. No member shall whisper, laugh or read any book or paper during the session of the Association.

VIII. No member shall address another by any appellation than Brother.

IX. On each day of the session it shall be the duty of the Clerk to read the Rules of Decorum and call the roll of members.

X. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, should the chair be filled, but shall have no vote unless the Association be equally divided.

XI. Any person violating the Rules of Decorum, or at any other time manifesting a spirit contrary to the mildness of the Gospel, shall be reprov'd, silenced or such other course taken to warn him as the Moderator may think proper, either at his own option or the intimation of another member.

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