

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Twenty-first Session

OF THE

*Wiseman Association of
Missionary Baptists*

HELD WITH

Friendship Baptist Church

Macon County, Tennessee

Wednesday, Oct. 23-25, '12

J. A. Sloan.....Moderator
J. T. Oakley.....Assistant Moderator
D. S. Reed.....Clerk
J. W. Lewis.....Assistant Clerk
J. W. Lewis.....Treasurer

Next meeting will be held with the Bledsoe Creek Church, at Bransford, Sumner County, beginning Wednesday after the fourth Sunday in October, 1912.

1912

MINUTES

The Messengers composing the Wiseman Association of Missionary Baptists met with the Friendship Church, Wednesday, Oct. 23, 1912. Devotional services were conducted by the former Moderator, Eld. J. T. Oakley, after which by request of Brother Oakley, the appointee to preach the introductory sermon, he being pastor at Friendship, Eld. J. W. Gillon, Secretary State Mission Board, preached the sermon from the first six verses of Galatians on "Burden Bearing." The sermon was a forceful presentation of our obligations to help the world bear its burden and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Adjourned one hour for dinner. Benediction by A. J. Sloan.

Afternoon Session

Brethren Grime, Pardue and C. P. Freedle were appointed to read the letters from the churches and the following responded and Messengers enrolled:

Bledsoe's Creek—T. H. Howard, Eld. J. L. Hawkins and J. L. Evans.
 Cedar Bluff—R. D. Scott, T. J. Summar and John Johns.
 Corum's Hill—Eld. A. D. Robertson, C. R. Wilks and J. C. Corum.
 Christman's Chapel—Ed. Graves, Will Graves.
 Dixon Creek—B. M. Gregory, Wm. Gregory and Booker Wilburn.
 Friendship—J. L. Dalton, Howell Wiseman and J. D. Oglesby.
 Goodwill—G. W. Taylor, J. N. Lynville and T. Cox.
 Hartsville—Eld. J. T. Oakley, C. P. Freedle and J. F. Lee.
 Hillsdale—F. M. Porter, Yates Gross and T. J. Thompson.
 Long Creek—G. W. Jenkins, W. K. Johnson and W. O. Johnson.
 Lafayette—S. A. Cotbron.
 New Harmony—Peyton Hesson, Ernest Fuqua and J. H. Eden.
 New Zion—S. H. Dillard and A. W. Blankenship.
 Meadorville—G. W. Claiborne, J. W. Parker and C. F. Burrugh.
 Pleasant Grove—Eld. R. Y. Hawkins and Eld. C. N. Simmons.
 Rock Bridge—T. B. Simpson, E. B. Martin and Frank Crowder.
 Rocky Mound—J. F. Overton and W. A. Meadow.
 Shady Grove—D. S. Reed.
 Siloam—T. C. Harrison, E. E. Bentla and E. D. Stinson.
 Spring Creek—J. L. Lawrence.
 Zion—Sisters Willie Puryear, Ola Stanford and Mittie Winn.

Permanent organization was effected by the election of the following officers: Eld. A. J. Sloan, Moderator; Eld. J. T. Oakley, Assistant Moderator; D. S. Reed, Clerk; J. W. Lewis, Assistant Clerk, and J. W. Lewis, Treasurer. The usual speeches of thanks were given by the officers elected, after which the Association proceeded to business.

Petitionary letters called for and none responded.

The following Corresponding Messengers and visitors responded:

Barren River Association—Eld. T. M. Tinsley.
 Enon Association—J. M. Williams.
 Nashville Association—Elds. E. E. Folk, J. W. Gillon, J. S. Pardue,
 W. J. Stewart, L. C. Smith.
 Concord Association—H. H. Hibbs, W. J. Watson and J. H. Grime.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

State of Religion—Eld. R. Y. Hawkins, C. B. Massey and J. D. Cook.

Religious Literature—E. E. Folk, J. L. Hawkins and Pate Hesson.

Prohibition—E. E. Folk, P. F. Burnley and G. W. Taylor.

State Missions—J. W. Gillon, J. F. Lee and C. P. Freedle.

Foreign Missions—J. H. Grime, G. W. Jenkins and S. A. Cothron.

District Missions—The Executive Board.

Home Missions—J. T. Oakley, J. M. Williams and J. W. Watson.

Orphans' Home—W. J. Stewart, A. W. Blankenship and Ernest Fuqua.

Ministerial Relief—J. S. Pardue, C. N. Simmons and W. J. Watson.

Finance—J. D. White, J. N. Lynville and J. M. Scott.

Correspondence—T. C. Harrison, E. E. Bentla and J. L. Lawrence.

Obituaries—T. J. Thompson, T. M. Tinsley and W. J. Graves.

Ministerial Education—J. W. Summar, J. L. Hawkins and A. F. Burnley.

Resolutions—W. K. Johnson, J. N. Carey and J. F. Overton.

The Committee on Order of Business reported as follows: "We submit the following order of business for the present session:

First—Orphans' Home. Second—State of Religion. Third—Foreign Missions. Fourth—Home Missions. Fifth—State Missions. Sixth—Prohibition. Seventh—District Missions. Eighth—Ministerial Relief. Ninth—Ministerial Education. Tenth—Finance. Eleventh—Correspondence. Twelfth—Resolutions.

(Signed.. J. W. FLEMING, Chairman.

Adopted.

Upon motion the body adjourned till 9 a. m., Thursday morning.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises announced that Eld. E. E. Folk would preach at the church at 7 p. m. Benediction by Brother Folk.

Second Day

Thursday morning, Oct. 24, 1912—The Association met pursuant to adjournment. After singing, prayer was offered by Eld. J. H. Grime. After roll call and reading minutes of preceding day and rules of decorum the body proceeded to business.

By unanimous vote Bledsoe's Creek Church at Bransford, on the L. & N. R. R., between Gallatin and Scottsville, was selected as next place of meeting and Eld. A. J. Sloan was elected to preach the introductory and doctrinal sermons with Eld. J. T. Oakley alternate.

Eld. J. T. Oakley was elected delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention at St. Louis, Mo., next May, Eld. A. J. Sloan alternate. Eld. J. L. Hawkins was elected delegate to State Convention at Murfreesboro, 13th of next month.

The Committee on Religious Literature submitted the following report:

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

"Reading makes a full man," said Lord Bacon. Full of what? It depends on what he reads. If he reads good literature he will be full of good thoughts, good words, good deeds. If he reads bad literature he will be full of bad thoughts, bad words, bad deeds. It becomes very important, therefore, that he should read only good literature. Literature of a pure, wholesome, helpful character, which shall have an uplifting, inspiring influence upon those who read it. We recommend literature worthy to be read by the members of this Association, the Bible, of course, the first of all, which is too often neglected; the books published by our various Baptist publishing houses, the literature of the Sunday School Board; the Foreign Mission Journal, the

Home Field, the Baptist and Reflector and all other sound Baptist papers and literature. We recommend that efforts be made by our pastors to put such literature in all the homes of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. FOLK,
J. L. HAWKINS,
PATE HESSON,

Committee.

Eld. J. T. Ooble, who was elected to preach the doctrinal sermon at the last Association made a statement that as he was pastor of the church where the present session is being held, he preferred that some one else be selected to perform that duty and suggested Eld. J. H. Grime, who was unanimously chosen and delivered a very impressive and soul-stirring sermon, in which he divided the second chapter of Acts into three divisions, namely: First, the historical; second, the sermon of Peter and, third, the altar or after services. The sermon had the old-time ring and was followed by hand-shaking and shouts of joy. Adjourned one hour for dinner.

Afternoon Session

The Association came together by singing and prayer by Brother Hawkins.

The reports on Foreign, Home, State and District Missions were read and then discussed by the chairmen and others and adopted. These reports are as follows:

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Our heavenly Father continues his blessings upon our Baptist efforts in the foreign fields and our missionaries at the front report more conversions and baptisms than ever reported before in any one year. Southern Baptists gave much more last year for this work than in any previous year, but not enough to avoid a debt at the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention at Oklahoma City, Okla. The nations are now open to the gospel and many thousands of them anxious to receive messages of the Cross. China, which has one-fourth the population of the globe, is seeking our Western civilization and it behooves us to give them the words of soul liberty as proclaimed by our Lord. There is now the greatest effort in the history of Baptists to give the world the gospel of Christ. It took 96 years to win the million souls on the foreign field, but the second million was won in twelve years.

J. H. GRIME,
G. W. JENKINS,
S. A. COTHRON,

Committee.

HOME MISSIONS.

By Home Missions we mean the work of Southern Baptists in their organized work to preach the whole truth in certain sections of the country. This feature of Mission work is managed by a Home Board appointed by the Southern Baptist Convention, which is located at Atlanta, Ga. Dr. D. B. Gray is its Secretary. The territory known as Home Mission territory are the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. In these States the Home Board conducts mountain schools, employs missionaries in the large cities as well as evangelists in a general sense to conduct meetings where, in the wisdom of the Board, they are needed and can

be conducted. The island of Cuba, the Panama zone and other sections are embraced in the bounds of Home Mission territory.

Special features of the work are The Laymen's Movement, Woman's Work, Church Building Department, Special Work Among Foreigners in the Cities, Mountain Schools, Cuban Work, Panama's Lifting Up, Work Among the Negroes and Evangelism.

The work has been signally blessed and the Board is inspired to survey a greater gleanings for the Master as the years come and go. For the work of this Board the Baptist churches of the South contributed last year the sum of \$366,000, which has been expended in fostering mountain schools, missionaries, evangelists and incidental expenses.

There are 29 mountain schools, 4,636 pupils, 75 ministerial students, 18 evangelists, 1,509 missionaries, 241 evangelistic meetings, 5,942 professed conversions in these meetings, 20,899 baptisms reported, 201 churches constituted. Total additions to churches, 47,728; Sunday Schools organized, 704; sermons and addresses, 155,132.

The Wiseman Association has contributed a small amount to this great field of work. Our Southland needs to be redeemed. The Home Board is endeavoring to accomplish something in this tremendous affair. Let us help.

J. T. OAKLEY,
J. M. WILLIAMS,
W. J. WATSON.

Committee.

STATE MISSIONS.

In Tennessee there are 180,000 white Baptists, who have set for themselves eight great tasks. These are State, Home and Foreign Missions, Orphans' Home, Sunday School and Colportage Work, Ministerial Education, Ministerial Relief, and Christian Education. These are each the practical expression of the work of our great doctrines to the world. They are all naturally the product of our doctrine as is an apple the product of an apple tree. Every man who gets to rightly understand our great doctrines will stand for each of these tasks. He will not merely stand for them, but give his means for their support. Notwithstanding this fact most of our churches and most of our people don't give their money to these causes.

State Missions is the denomination's only organized effort for the salvation of the lost in Tennessee and it seems that this would guarantee that every church in the State would support the work. The fact is, however, that 1,121 of the churches of the State gave nothing to this cause during the year 1911. Some of these non-contributing churches are found in this Association. This is true in spite of the fact that the work being done in the name of the State Missions and that the work is being signally blessed. During the conventional year there have been employed 76 missionaries, who occupied 82 fields of labor. Never in the history of the work have our workers been more signally blessed and honored of God. In addition to the missionaries we have had two evangelists who have given themselves wholly to the work of evangelism. In many places both in country and town they have had remarkable meetings and large additions to the churches. For all this work the eight tasks before us—we have spent \$25,000 during the year, of this amount we have raised \$23,000. The remainder we have borrowed from the banks and now owe to the banks. We have just seven days left to get this money. Not to get it would mean calamity to the work. In view of these facts we recommend that every church in the Association,

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which has a service next Sunday, take a collection for State Missions and send it immediately to J. W. Gillon on Monday.

Respectfully submitted,
J. W. GILLON,
J. F. LEE,
C. P. FREEDLE,

Committee.

DISTRICT MISSIONS.

Brethren of the Association: At the last Association \$10.15 came into our hands and we gave it to Bro. I. N. Simmons—\$5.00 on his salary as pastor of Christman Chapel and \$5.00 for building New Zion house, leaving 15 cents on hand. We also made application to State Mission Board to help Christman's Chapel pay her pastor, Eld. I. N. Simmons, and received \$36.50. This is the extent of our work.

Respectfully submitted,
PAUL JOHNSON,
JOHN COTHRON,
T. J. THOMPSON,

District Board.

As above stated these reports were read and discussed together. The clerk will state that Brother Gillon devoted most of his sermon to Missions and especially State Missions and that the Association thought enough time had been given to the subject, hence but little was said on any of the reports when read, but unanimously adopted.

ORPHANS' HOME.

The Tennessee Baptist Orphans' Home has been signally blessed during the past year. There had been very little sickness in the institution, and only one death, which was caused by a serious burn. The hospital rooms are at present unoccupied. On June 7, 1912, we moved the Home from the old building in West Nashville to the new plant on the farm, 12 miles south of the city. Three commodious buildings are now completed and occupied. Our farm is very fertile and adapted to truck growing. There are about 75 acres in cultivation, and the remainder of the 137 acres is in blue grass, which furnishes excellent grazing for our stock. A small creek flows through the farm, which furnishes stock water the year round. Our drinking water and water for domestic purposes, comes from a bold spring, half a mile away through a four-inch pipe line. This spring is 55 feet above the location of our buildings, and hence comes to us by gravitation.

We need money. The dedicatory offering from the churches all over the State has been very gratifying. It amounted to nearly \$4,000, yet with large monthly expenses, and the cost of renovating all the old goods that were in the old building, and the purchasing of some new furnishings, this money has made a small impression on our indebtedness on improvements. Our property as it stands to-day has cost us \$42,000, \$10,000 of which has been borrowed from the local banks by the Executive Committee of the Board. We must have enlarged gifts from our churches to meet this debt and heavy running expenses to be met. We recommend our churches make regular and enlarged contributions to this most glorious and worthy cause, fostered by the Baptists of Tennessee. Respectfully submitted,

W. J. STEWART,
A. W. BLANKENSHIP,
ERNEST FUQUA,

Report adopted.

Committee.

On the first afternoon of the Association Brother Stewart was given time to present the claims of the Home, as he had to leave the second morning, and a collection was taken, amounting to \$14.00.

STATE OF RELIGION.

Your Committee on State of Religion submits the following:

Religion is at a very low ebb in most of our churches, doubtless growing out of too much idleness among Baptists. We suggest that each church in the body be engaged more earnestly in the Master's work that the state of religion might be greatly improved among us. We find there has been only 87 baptisms reported from the churches, which indicates a falling off in the results of revival work. Let us pray for a better state of affairs than we report and when we pray let us help the Lord answer our prayers by saying, "Lord, here am I, send me."

Respectfully submitted,

R. Y. HAWKINS,
J. D. COOK,
C. B. MASSEY,

Committee.

This report brought out quite a discussion from R. Y. Hawkins, J. W. Lewis, C. B. Massey, J. S. Pardue, J. D. Cook, J. T. Oakley, and H. H. Hibbs, after which the report was adopted.

Eld. H. H. Hibbs, representing the financial interests of Tennessee's College for Women, our female school at Murfreesboro, being present, Brother Oakley moved he be given fifteen minutes to present his claims, which was granted. After which it was announced that Brother Hibbs would preach at the church at night when he took a collection of \$200.00 and at the close of the Association was given a few minutes, at which time \$115.00 was added, making \$315.00 given to the Murfreesboro school. Of this amount Friendship members gave \$200.00 and Hartsville members gave \$115.00. Adjourned till Friday morning. Benediction by Bro. John Pardue

Friday Morning

After singing and prayer by Eld. C. B. Massey the Association resumed business. First item of business was the reading of the report on Ministerial Relief, which was read as follows:

MINISTERIAL RELIEF.

Your committee submits the following:

Given this year by the Wiseman Association \$78.00 and we know of but one beneficiary, Bro. J. F. Lambert, who received \$22.00 more than was contributed by this Association. The State gave last conventional year \$1,227.00, which was divided between 13 beneficiaries, which was less than \$100.00 each for the year. An earnest effort and call has been made by the Ministerial Board of Relief that the Baptists of Tennessee give two cents each for this noble work, which would put into the hands of the Board the neat sum of \$19,200 and in two years we would have an endowment of \$38,400.00 to be expended for the comfort and support of our wornout ministers. We recommend that regular monthly contributions be given to this work and forwarded to George L. Stewart, Treasurer, Nashville, Tenn.

J. S. PARLUE,
W. J. WATSON,
C. N. SIMMONS,

Committee.

Speeches were made by Brethren Pardue and C. N. Simmons and upon suggestion of Brother Oakley a collection was taken for Brother

Lambert amounting to \$28.45, which was sent to him with a letter of sympathy and love for the old hero, now disabled and waiting the call for the other country.

The report was adopted.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

We rejoice in the fact that our churches are more and more seeing the need of an educated ministry, which is of paramount importance to the growth and development of the kingdom of God and the establishment of Baptist truths in the earth. The building up of the kingdom of heaven in apostolic times was largely due to the ministry of Paul, who was a man of profound learning and training. His training, with a strong faith, enabled him to fight with beasts of Ephesus and upset the claims of the adversaries of truth. We have reason to be happy to know that the Baptists stand at the front of all denominational schools and colleges. Christian education is now a great factor in the spread of the gospel at home and in foreign lands. As we behold our daughters being educated more and more and equipped for life's duties and our sons waking up to the value of training for usefulness in the world we should be stimulated to foster our institutions of learning and stand by them with our prayers and contributions. At the very forefront of our great Baptist institutions of learning is the Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky. Our fathers laid the foundation of this great institution firmly in the bed rock of New Testament truths which is but one way of saying Baptists truths and it has been going on from its foundation unto this good day in the training of our young ministers in New Testament truths and we most heartily commend this great school of the prophets to our young and rising ministry as a place for them to go for training in their great life work and to the churches as a splendid place to put their money for the Lord. It needs and constantly asks for the prayers of all the saints that it may be equal to the great work to which it is called. It gives us great joy to record that some of our churches in this Association have lately given very liberally to this noble institution and we recommend it to all others and ask them to do likewise. Respectfully submitted,

J. L. HAWKINS,
J. F. SUMMAR,

Committee.

PROHIBITION.

The Committee on Prohibition read its report as follows:

Temperance means three things: Moderate use of that which is good, total abstinence of that which is evil, helping others to abstain. We may help others by moral and legal suasion. Moral suasion means keeping the boy out of the way of temptation. Legal suasion means keeping the temptation out of the way of the boy, which is better.

In Tennessee the liquor traffic, both in its manufacture and sale, has been entirely banished as a legalized institution. It still exists, however, as an illegal form in the shape of soft drink stands, blind tigers and bootleggers. What is needed now is not only the maintenance of our present laws, but the enactment of additional legislation to insure their enforcement. To this end we recommend: 1. That we declare ourselves unequivocally in favor of the present laws and their enforcement. 2. That we will not support any man for office who favors their overthrow. It is time to vote for principles and for our homes and country against the domination of the whiskey gang now

trying to get in power in Tennessee. Respectfully submitted,
 E. E. FOLK,
 P. F. BURNLEY,
 G. W. TAYLOR,

Committee.

Discussed by Brethren Burnley, Hawkins, Massey, Fitzpatrick, Simpson and Pardue and unanimously adopted.

OBITUARIES.

Brethren of the Association: The letters from the churches report the visitation of the grim reaper into many homes during the past Associational year. We are thus reminded that quite soon those of us now living will soon be numbered with the silent majority. Death to God's children is the passport to rest and joy beyond the sorrows and disappointments of this God-forgetting world. The mention of 14 deaths during the past year brings in a sense of sorrow that we are to see them no more in this life, but there is the inspiring hope that as they were church members they are at rest with God and loved ones in the better country. Our Associations here at times are heavenly for us and some times trouble and anguish come as we are down in the battle ground for God against sin, but those mentioned as having gone to their graves brings to us the sweet and tender thought that they are in an Association which never breaks up and where sorrow and disturbances never come. At rest with Jesus is our hope concerning our dear ones who have crossed the silent river since our last meeting.

We mention in particular the death of Deacon Thomas Johnson, of Hopewell Church, who passed away the third Sunday in August. He was a noble man, full of faith and good works and dearly beloved by his church and neighbors. A few hours before his death his pastor said to him: "Brother Johnson, look on the bright side." He responded with a smile upon his face, saying: "Thank God, I am nearer the bright side than ever before." God bless his memory and give to the world more like him. Bidding our departing brethren and sisters a long farewell let us turn to the Master's work and by his grace and help cheer each other along the way until we, too, shall be called into his blessed presence where the sun never sets and sorrow never comes.

J. T. THOMPSON,
 T. M. TINSLEY,
 W. J. GRAVES,

Committee.

CHURCH AND PASTORS OF WISEMAN ASSOCIATION.

Eledsoe's Creek—J. L. Hawkins, Westmoreland, Tenn., R. 4.
 Cedar Bluff—J. H. Ramsey, Red Boiling Springs, Tenn., R. 6.
 Corum Hill—A. J. McNabb, Watertown, Tenn., R. 2.
 Dixon's Creek—C. B. Massey, Pleasant Shade, Tenn.
 Fairview—A. J. Sloan, Pleasant Shade, Tenn.
 Friendship—J. T. Oakley, Hartsville, Tenn.
 Goodwill—A. J. Sloan, Pleasant Shade, Tenn.
 Hartsville—J. T. Oakley, Hartsville, Tenn.
 Hillsdale—J. T. Oakley, Hartsville, Tenn.
 Hopewell—J. T. Oakley, Hartsville, Tenn.
 Lafayette—J. T. Oakley, Hartsville, Tenn.
 Long Creek—J. H. Ramsey, Red Boiling Springs, Tenn., R. 6.
 Meadorville—G. W. Ramsey, Difficult, Tenn.
 New Harmony—A. J. Sloan, Pleasant Shade, Tenn.

- New Zion—J. H. Ramsey, Red Boiling Springs, Tenn., R. 6. ✓
 Rock Bridge—J. L. Hawkins, Westmoreland, Tenn., R. 4. ✓
 Shady Grove—C. C. Ramsey, Hartsville, Tenn.
 Siloam—T. M. Tinsley, Scottsville, Ky. ✓
 Spring Creek—W. J. Summar, Lafayette, Tenn.
 Zion—J. T. Oakley, Hartsville, Tenn. ✓

CORRESPONDENCE.

We submit the following: Beloved brethren of Sister Associations, greetings—

We authorize any of our brethren who may be at your meetings to represent us as Corresponding Messengers. We respectfully invite you to meet with us at Bledsoe's Creek Church on Wednesday after the third Sunday in November, 1913. We are at peace. Respectfully submitted.

T. C. HARRISON,
 E. E. BENTAL,
 JOHN LAWRENCE,
 Committee.

Adopted.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. Resolved, That the preachers inform their churches on the subject of Associational work.
 2. We request each church to state in their letters the amount given for missions and through what channel given.
 3. We request the Moderator next year to appoint a committee on Gospel Missions.
 4. We request the Clerk to publish a form of letter from the churches to the Association and appear on the fly-leaf of the minutes.
 5. We tender our thanks to the Friendship Church and community for their kind hospitality to us while their guests.
 6. That the Moderator shall not succeed himself as Moderator.
- That the Clerk be allowed ten dollars for his services and the remainder of the minute fund expended for the printing of the minutes.

Respectfully submitted.

W. K. JOHNSON,
 J. H. OVERTON,
 J. H. CAREY,

Committee.

FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance submits the following: The churches have sent by the hands of their Messengers for printing the minutes \$34.16.

J. D. WHITE,
 J. D. LYNVILLE,
 J. M. SCOTT,

Committee.

Adopted.

Upon motion the Association adjourned to meet at Bledsoe's Creek Church, near Bransford, Wednesday before the third Sunday in October, 1913. Benediction by Eld. C. N. Simmons.

A. J. SLOAN, Moderator.
 D. S. REED, Clerk.

Remarks: The weather was ideal. The crowds large and orderly. Dinner in abundance on the ground each day. The preaching was excellent. After adjournment Eld. J. L. Hawkins, by request, preached a most helpful sermon on "Satisfaction Beyond the Graves", which was followed by much rejoicing and handshaking among the people. The Association closed by an old-fashioned hand shaking. Clerk.

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 October, 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 light, 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 vote of the members present.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the members present.
3. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall arise and address the Moderator by the appellation of Brother Moderator, and shall while speaking confine himself to the subject under consideration 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, failings or imperfections, but shall fairly state his views without sophistry or criticism.
4. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave of the Moderator.
5. No member shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the body.
6. Every motion and second shall come under the immediate consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by the one who made it.
7. No member shall whisper, laugh, or read any book or paper while the Association is in session.
8. No member shall address another by any other appellation than that of brother.
9. On the second day it shall be the duty of the Clerk to read the Rules of Decorum and call the roll of members.
10. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided the chair be filled; but shall have no vote unless the Association be equally divided.
11. Any person violating these rules, or at any time manifesting a spirit contrary to the Gospel, shall be reprov'd, or such other course taken with him as the Moderator may think proper, either at his own option or the intimation of any other member.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	Meeting Days.	In-crease		De-crease		Membership.	Pastor's Salary.	MISSIONS.				Orphans' Home.	Ministerial Education	Ministerial Relief	Home Church Expenses.	Minutes.	Total Contributions.	Sunday Schools.		
		Baptism.	Letter	Restored.	Exclusion.			Death.	State.	Home.	Foreign.							District.	Teachers.	Pupils.
Bledsoe's Creek	2	10				95	\$ 104 34	\$ 12 61			\$ 6 75		\$ 9 83							
Cedar Bluff	1			4	1	70	60 00								\$ 225 30	1 60	\$ 486 45	8	80	
Corum's Hill	4				1	63		4 00	5 00	5 00					176 15	1 31	237 31			
Christman's Chapel	2				1	32			2 00	1 00		5 00			20 25	1 25	39 25	6	63	
Dixon Creek	2	14	1	1	5	396	139 75			14 25	5 80	9 33		1 00		50	5 50			
Friendship	1	1				148	250 00	11 96	43 50	57 85		84 50		45 65	70 00	3 00	387 13			
Fairview	2		2			38	53 00	1 00				2 70		30 00	40 00	3 00	729 87	6	81	
Goodwill	4					75	75 00				2 00	6 00				75	59 45			
Hartsville	2	2			1	137	300 00	28 00	25 00	33 00		49 50				1 50				
Hopewell	2	4		3	1	88	200 00	6 00	12 00	14 00		2 50	2 50	247 00	3 00	705 50	8	75		
Hillsdale	1			8	2	245	200 00	25 00	29 00	40 00		7 00			228 00	3 00	267 00	4	35	
Long Creek	1					40						25 00		5 00	306 00	2 00	432 00	5	60	
Lafayette	4	4	1	2	3	109	100 00				2 00	2 25		5 10	10 00	75	20 80			
Meadorville	1	18	7	2	3	136		2 07	2 07	2 07	2 07	2 07		40 00	2 25	142 25	6	71		
New Harmony	2	1	2	1	2	165	72 80	2 81		75		7 56		5 50	134 00	1 50	11 85			
New Zion	4	6	2			35			50	75		75			2 00	201 67				
Pleasant Grove	2		1	1	1	57		1 00			1 00	1 10				75	4 25			
Rock Bridge	4	2		1		68	18 55					4 21			38 10	1 00	6 86			
Rocky Mound	2	12	1	6		72					39	2 39				1 00	3 78			
Shady Grove	3	4				118	50 00	1 75				1 75				1 00	89 20	5	36	
Siloam	1	1	2	2	5	122		5 00				5 00			33 20	1 00	11 50	5	60	
Spring Creek	4	14	2	1		69			2 50		2 50					1 50	11 50	5	60	
Zion	2					21	60 00	1 00	1 00	1 00		1 00				50	5 50			
Total		80	24	2	10	1124	\$1082 04	\$102 06	\$122 67	\$ 175 67	\$ 16 61	\$227 94	\$ 7 50	\$ 89 75	\$1608 00	\$ 34 16	\$3989 02	47	560	