

Records

of the

Chic. River

Yearly Meeting

called

Free-Will-Baptist
organized

August 24th 1833

at

Backonswisdig - Gallie County Ohio

Ames ch 23
 Alexandria ch 24
 Alexandria ch 12
 Chester ch 15
 Rutland ch 18
 Springfield ch 12
 Warkoon ch 30
 Weymouth ch 41
 Willsboro ch 3

Middlebury ch 21
 Harrison ch 1
 Porter ch 34
 Vernon ch 9

137

Oldens in the Yearly Meeting

Asa Stearns, Weymouth
 James Shurtliff " "
 John Soper Bedford
 Samuel Thorne Chester
 John B Wallis Rutland
 Henry Branch Porter
 Samuel Lewis Madison
 Eli Stearns Rutland
 Lewis Colvin Harrison

Given Dates in 2d Mtg
 Dea. Abner & Wm, Alex
 extended notes & Brown Warkoon
 Selah Barrett Rutland
 Isaac Felton Madison

Peakroom August 24th 1833

Agreeable to a previous appointment in conjunction of both Quarterly meetings viz Misses French Baptist & Little Sisters 2d. Met at the Beaver meeting house in Peakroom township Gallia Co, Ohio, to form a Yearly meeting After Prayer by Eld Branch - Chose Eld Asa Stearns Moderator and Eld James Shurtliff Standing Clerk

1st After being motioned to discontinue shall we form ourselves into a Yearly Meeting - and was carried unanimously

2nd Resolved that this Yearly Meeting be called the Ohio River Yearly Meeting

3rd Resolved that this Yearly Meeting have a constitution and - to this purpose select the following committee to draft a constitution and present it while this conference is sitting - To wit = Bro David Wait, Eld H. Branch A. Stearns James Shurtliff Bro Andrew Post 5 in number

4th Called for the letters from the Q. M. S. Whole No of churches is Eleven Whole No of members 243

5th Amount of subscriptions in the Y. M. 200,00, about

6th Agreed that each Q. M. support their own Q. M. S. Preachers, for the year to come

7th adjourned until one o'clock some day

8th Met according to adjournment

9th Agreed that Eld James Shurtliff shall ride on a part of the Misses 2d. M. To wit, W. Alexander, Peakroom, Amestown, & Carter and Lewis churches until April next and shall receive from the Misses 2d. M. 100, Dollars for the 8 months

10th Agreed that Eld John B. Wallis ride on the other part of the Misses 2d. M. To wit 2nd. M. Union, Sister, Putland, Springfield, Galipolis Churches until April next 8 months and shall receive from the Misses 2d. M. 100, Dollars

11th Agreed that each Circuit support their own preachers.

12th Agreed that Eld. H. Branch shall ride in the Little Sixe 2^d. or Circuit, and they support their own preachers.

13th Agreed that Eld. J. Shurtleff be released from his old contract, having rode 18 months instead of 12. He and begin a new circuit from the 1st Meeting.

14th Heard the Report of the committee drafted with the constitution drafted - and - unanimously accepted it - it being read by individual Articles.

15th Appointed Bro Samuel S. Branch Treasurer of this Yearly Meeting.

16th Resolved that the Contributions made on Quarterly Meetings and on Yearly Meetings be put into the Ohio River Yearly Meetings be put into their respective Treasurers, devoted to Religious purposes.

Agreed that the next yearly Meeting be held with the church at Porter C in the Little Sixe 2^d.

James Shurtleff L. M. M.

- * See Resolution 4, Page 20.
- + See Resolve 10, Page 23.
- + See Resolve 5, Page 23.

Constitution ⁽³⁾Art 1st

This Body shall be known by the name of the Ohio-River Yearly Meeting of the Freewill Baptist Churches

Art 2nd

The members who shall compose this Y.M. shall be such as are regularly organized into Quarterly Meetings, for convincing, with a Constitution for the churches, and for its Elders, similar to the Missions Quarterly Meeting

Art 3rd

This Yearly Meeting shall hold its Sessions once a year viz. on the 4th Saturday in August in each year convenient for the whole

Art 4th

This Y.M. shall exercise no jurisdiction over individual members, or churches, other than shall be committed to them

Art 5th

It shall be the duty of this body to elect a member at its sessions for a Moderator for the time being, a Secretary and Treasurer who shall be chosen annually *

Art 6th

No Quarterly Meeting or church, can be admitted into this body who entertain opinions, contrary to the body known as Freewill Baptist, or who may not be willing to be subject to his or their brethren on Gospel principles

Art 7th

Any member of this body, who may depart from its known rules, shall be dealt with, and after the 3rd trial and no reform shall be expelled

Art 8th The delegates for the transactions of this body, shall be elected from the laity and Presbytery, others may be admitted as members by the concurrent voice of the whole elected body

Art 9th Two thirds of the delegates of this body shall determine all the transactions of the same

Art 10th It shall be the duty of the clerk to make records of this body, and the treasurer to receive all moneys and account for the same to the body

Art 11th All the sittings of this body shall be preceded by prayer to Almighty God for his aid on all occasions - and the rule by which this ^{body} shall be governed in point of faith and doctrine shall be the Bible - the doctrine of the prophets and apostles - Jesus Christ being our head in all things pertaining to this life and that which is to come

Art 12th This body shall report its 12 yearly transactions the middle of the Morning Star, and shall act in concert with the rest of the year's meetings unless distance, or diversity of sentiment shall prevent

Art 13th This body may dissolve itself ^{at any time} by the concurrence of two thirds of its members

Art 14th Any alterations may be made in this constitution by the concurrence of two thirds of its members

Art 15 It shall be the duty of the members of this body to encourage and support ministry within its power

Emended Aug 10, 1849. See page 31

Art 16th

(2)

It shall be the duty of the Ministers
of this body to have an annual meeting one
day preceding the annual meeting of this
body to consult union of faith and pr-
-actice in public ^{deliberating} ~~and~~ private instructions
& shall have a constitution by which it shall
be governed. See also page 9 Article.

Porter August 23^d 1834-

Met agreeably to an appointment, previously, at the house
of bro David Wait to transact the business of the Yearly
1st - of prayer meeting by prayer & praise

Chor. Eld. Henry ~~Ward~~ Moderator of ~~meeting~~

- It bro David Wait ~~was~~ present for the 2d meeting
3d adjourned conference to 4 o'clock Sunday
near the ~~house~~ at end old house

Met agreeable to adjournment - & because the
date ~~all~~ had not arrived with the Records
adjourned to 9 o'clock sabbath morning

Met 9 o'clock sabbath morning pursuant
to appointment called for the letters from
the B, M, which were read after being
nominated & approved the next

session of this Yearly meeting to keep with
the Brethren Church calling on in quest
next
David Wait

Letter from Miss 2 Mr ~~was~~ - no. term
by its messengers, viz.

Bros John D. Pierce, Samuel Phorn
bro Samuel D. Brown, Hancy Goble,
Abel Stearns, John M. Chase, Samuel S
Brown, A. Pabbell, Timothy Varyan, W
Burnett, John Goodwin, Reported by
union but a low time in Religion