

1st. Kyger. — Aug. 9. 1895
2.00 P.M.

Ohio River Yearly Meeting has called to order by Rev. J. E. Pedler. Scripture lesson and prayer by Rev. R. J. Poston, Rev. J. M. Wavis, your elected moderator, and Rev. R. J. Poston assistant. Rev. C. N. Long, S. P. Humphrey and J. W. Holcomb were appointed as committee on credentials. Report of the committee chosen at the last session to investigate the claims of W. Powell in regard to the action of the St. Va. S. M. was read and adopted.

The following S. M's. reported by delegate and letter. Meigs, Athens, Gallia and St. Va. Jackson reported by Rev. J. E. Pedler.

Committee on devotion was appointed by the chair - Rev. J. B. Lash, L. H. Bing and B. Shuler. Committee to select delegates for State Association - Prof. C. O. Celark, W. Thomas and C. A. Mashiter.

On motion of W. J. Fulton ^{Aug. 10,} 9.30 o'clock was set apart to elect delegates to General Conference.

Report of committee on credentials received and adopted. Adjourned until Aug. 10. 8.00 A.M.

Aug. 10. 8.15 A.M.

Conference called to order by moderator. Scripture lesson and prayer by Rev. H. F. Bolton.

The following committees were then appointed by the chair - Missions; Matthias Holcomb, R. S. Carpenter and C. O. Celark. Publications; H. F. Bolton, Cecil Perry and L. C. Hoarsook. Business W. J. Fulton, Frank Stevens and L. H. Bing.

Even appointed

A verbal report was made by Rev. H. F. Bolton of the expenses of the committee to and from Flemington N. Va. in the Powell-Peden case. report showed expenses to be about \$23.40. Voted that an order be drawn on the Treasury in favor of Bro. H. F. Bolton for \$11.⁰⁰ S. J. Steed for \$6.20 and Joseph Heartsook for \$6.20. - Rev. J. C. Peden tendered his resignation as clerk of the A. M. and E. N. Long was elected his successor. The following nominations were made for delegates to the next session of General Conference. - Revs. H. J. Fulton, H. F. Bolton, E. N. Long, and Miss Ruth C. Brooker. On motion of H. J. Fulton the rules were suspended and Miss Brooker was elected by acclamation. Revs H. J. Fulton and E. N. Long were elected by ballot. Revs H. F. Bolton, J. B. Lash and Mrs. Bertie Arnel were elected alternates.

Delegates to Gen. Conf.

Conds. Council

By request of Isallia L. M. a council was appointed to examine Prof. C. O. Clark in view of his ordination. Council - Revs J. M. Harris, H. J. Fulton, R. J. Poston, J. B. Lash and L. F. Sheritt.

The following committees reported and reports adopted. Comis. on business, Missions, Publications, to select delegates to state assocn. Adjourned until 2. P. M.

2. P. M.

Prayer by E. N. Long. Report of Com. on location of next session of A. M. received and adopted. Report favored the Isallia L. M. On motion of H. J. Fulton, voted that the clerk

of the Ohio River C. M. be instructed to give
 the clerk of the W. Va. S. M. notice that the
 Ohio River C. M. as a body asks the W. Va.
 S. M. to rescind its action in discharging
 deposing Rev. David Powell from the gospel
 ministry. Also that a copy of such be
 given to Bro. Powell.

Adjourned.

E. H. Long, Clerk.

Adopted the following Reports:

Publications.

We recommend that our people read the
 Church covenant, and instruct themselves
 in our doctrines and usages. To do this
 it is necessary that they read our own
 publications. Therefore it is the sense of
 this committee that it is the duty of
 every pastor and teacher in our denom-
 ination to enforce this obligation upon all
 their people.

Missions.

It is with profound sorrow that we
 learn of the death of Bro. James Phillips.
 While we bow submissively to the will of our
 heavenly Father in taking him from his
 earthly labors to his reward in heaven,
 yet we can but feel, in respect to his earnest
 and untiring labor in Foreign Missions,
 we have sustained a very great loss. And
 while our numbers in this work are thus
 from time to time, depleted, we unite in
 our prayers to God that he will re-

others to take their places.

2^d. That the best tribute we, as a Yearly Meeting, can offer to the memory of Bro. J. L. Phillips, is increased contributions to the cause of missions, and to this end renew our zeal and enthusiasm, and pledge our hearty support to the apportionments made by the General Conference Board.

Delegates to the State Association.

The following named persons were elected delegates to the State Assn, Bro's J. B. Lash, Ho. F. Bolton, J. A. Jackson, W. J. Tipton, J. M. Davis, N. E. Musser, A. H. Lash, ^{Co. St. Louis} and J. H. Kynn. Sisters J. B. Lash, J. A. Jackson, Clara Benedict, Bertie Arnold, and N. E. Musser. Also Bro's J. C. Lross and J. J. Conighour.

Resolution, — Com. on Business.

1st. Resolved that we as a C. M. express our approval of the work being done by our State Association, and we pledge the Executive Board and Field Secretary our hearty cooperation in the work being done to build up our cause in the state.

2^d. And in view of the urgent needs of finance for our work, we recommend that the Sabbath morning collection be given for state missions.

3^d. That we ask, and urge, each L. M. in this C. M. to proceed at once to collect a sum equal to ten cents (10) per resident member to defray the expenses of our delegates to General Conference, and send the same to the C. M.

Committee of Investigation.

To the Ohio River Yearly Meeting of Freewill Baptists, assembled in annual session Aug. 9-11, 1895. The committee appointed at your annual session in Aug. 1894, to investigate the proceedings and action of West Virginia Quarterly Meeting against Rev. David Powell and Flemington Church, and the accusations made by Rev. David Powell against Rev. Thomas E. Peden, and the accusations made by Rev. Thomas E. Peden against Rev. David Powell, beg leave to submit the following report:

Agreeably to appointment, we visited the field of the West Virginia D. M. and spent all of Sept. 12 & 13, 1894, in discharge of our duties to the best of our knowledge.

We had previously notified Revs. Peden and Powell, and also the clerk of W. Va. D. M. of the time of our visit, and asked for all information each could give to aid us in our work. Revs. Peden and Powell each gave us a statement of grievances against the other, and gave names to whom we might refer for evidence; also, the D. M. clerk arranged for a meeting at Laurel Run Church, Sept. 13, to which meeting we presume the greater part of the members of the D. M. who had been active in the proceedings of the D. M. referred to, were present, and kindly aided us, by answering questions, making explanations, &c.; at which time and place we had access to the records of the D. M. We made our business as early as possible.

as we were able. Besides the public meeting, we visited the parties referred to, and made careful investigation. After all was done we unanimously agreed,

1. That the action of West Virginia D. M. against Rev. David Powell, and against Flemington Church, during the preceding year, was all irregular, consequently illegal.

(a) Charges preferred against Rev. David Powell, as given to the clerk, were without specifications

(b) A council was named by the plaintiff, - accepted and elected by the D. M., the members of conference not knowing the members of said council, and supposing they were ordained ministers and members of the Ohio River Yearly Meeting, - though they were connected with another D. M. and we are informed that one of them, Bro. Lifford, is not an ordained minister - voted for them in all good faith, because they were recommended by one in whom they had confidence; and accepted them without considering whether the defendant - who was absent, - and didn't know any action was to be taken against him - might have good and lawful reasons for objecting to the council in part or in whole.

(c) Without the defendant having opportunity for defence, and while he was not informed that any action was expected to be taken against him, without specifications to the charges, and without investigation, the D. M. proceeded and suspended the defendant from the ministry until such ^{time} council should take action in case

against him.

(d) Said council was objected to by defendant for reasons which commended themselves to your committee, as good and lawful; nevertheless, said council proceeded, and notified the defendant to appear at Scotoville, Ohio, a place more than two hundred miles from his home, and where the charges were made, to answer to ten charges, named without specifications, the time of notice being about two weeks before the time specified for the meeting.

The defendant refused to appear, for reasons approved by your committee; no defense was presented to the council, and they voted that the defendant should be deposed from the gospel ministry; which vote was subsequently approved by said D. M. in session April 28, 1894.

2. In the action against Flemington church, charges were preferred against said church, and without labor to investigate the charges, or to effect any improvement in the condition of said church, the D. M. voted to exclude Flemington church from the D. M., and from the Freewill Baptist denomination.

3. In case of the accusations made by Rev. Thomas C. Peden against Rev. David Powell, and vice versa, we heard many things said and reported as having been said, such as do not become Christian charity, and from which all brethren should abstain unless in case of positive assurance with

full proof; but we failed to find proof of any action on the part of either of the brethren in matters submitted to us, which we consider justifies disciplinary action: although their uncharitable talk should be disapproved, and if there are just grievances, regular action should be taken and evidence produced.

We notified West Virginia D. M. of our decision concerning their action and requested them to rescind what they had previously done in said case. We hold in possession a copy of the proceedings of said D. M. in the case mentioned, and of statements received by us in the whole matter.

Signed

S. J. Need.
Joseph Hartshorn. } Committee.
H. F. Bolton.