

Dup 103

## MINISTERS' MEETING AND UNION CONFERENCE.

### MINISTERS' MEETING.

Ministers' from the various conferences met with the church at Micro, Johnston county, on Tuesday, October, 10th, 1912.

The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. E. T. Phillips. Text: I. Cor. 12:31. "Covet earnestly the best gifts, and yet show I unto you a more excellent way."

The meeting was organized by electing Eld. Geo. W. Davis, president and E. T. Phillips, secretary.

The following ministers were enrolled:

From Central Conference—E. D. Hathaway.

Western—Geo. W. Davis, W. M. Howell, A. R. Flowers, Geo. W. Ferrell, L. M. Mitchell, J. R. Morris, H. W. Johnson, J. H. Whitley, L. T. Phillips, Nathan Wall, E. T. Phillips, J. R. Morris.

Eastern—Lloyd Vernon.

Cape Fear—Jas. A. Smith.

Rockingham—A. B. Peavy.

Dr. E. L. StClaire of the South Georgia Association of Ga., was present and made welcome.

After the enrollment, prayer was offered by Eld. H. W. Johnson.

The following were appointed, a committee of arrangements: Eld. L. M. Mitchell, Joe Tugwell, Jno. F. Wellons.

On motion, all the delegates to the Union Conference be allowed a voice in the meeting.

The committee reports that Lloyd Vernon preach tonight.

The query committee submitted the following: (1) A new song book. Several talks were made showing there was a great sentiment for a new book.

On motion, the meeting close until 9 o'clock Wednesday.

Praise by the congregation.

Prayer by Eld. G. W. Davis.



## WEDNESDAY.

Meeting opened as per adjournment. Prayer by J. H. Whitley.

The hymn book question was taken up and discussed. Talks were made by Elds. Geo. W. Ferrell, J. H. Whitley, W. M. Howell, E. T. Phillips and others. The matter was finally left with the Union Conference.

THE QUERY. What is the proper mode of receiving members for baptism? Was discussed by Elds. Howell, Mitchell, E. T. and L. T. Phillips, G. W. Ferrell and others.

It was generally agreed that they should be received by a vote of the church and extending the hand of welcome by the church.

The following query was discussed: Is a brother eligible to the communion service before the laying on of hands? Presented by Eld. G. W. Ferrell. Discussed by Elds. Ferrell, Whitley, L. T. and E. T. Phillips, Geo. W. Davis and others. It was held that we should hold to the practice as a Gospel ordinance, but no more essential for membership than communion and other ordinances.

On motion, the resolution was tabled.

On motion, this body become a part of one general State Convention of the Original Free Will Baptist, to meet annually.

The devotional committee report that Eld. Howell open tonight at 8:o'clock and Eld. J. H. Whitley preach.

At what point does a member fly from the jurisdiction of the ruling elders that makes it open excommunication? Was presented for discussion by Eld. W. M. Howell. Discussed by Elds. L. T. Phillips, A. B. Peavy, Dr. E. L. StClaire and others.

It was decided that when the elders are treated with contempt, the offenders are in a position to be dealt with by the church.

On motion, conference adjourn to meet at 9:o'clock, Thursday.

Praise by the congregation and prayer by J. H. Whitley.

## THURSDAY.

The meeting met as per adjournment. Praise and prayer.

Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

On motion by Eld. L. T. Phillips, that all ministers be requested to practice laying on of hands or show reason why they do not. The motion was discussed by Eld. L. T. Phillips and Dr. E. L. StClaire. It was decided that the order should be faithfully observed.

There was a motion by Eld. W. M. Howell that we have a form for receiving members and have it inserted in our next book of discipline. Same to be done by a committee appointed for that purpose. Amended that it be left with the editor of the next discipline to make any needed change as to forms etc.

On motion the meeting close, Singing by the congregation. Prayer by the president.

GEO. W. DAVIS, President,  
E. T. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

## CONSTITUTION OF MINISTERS' MEETING.

ARTICLE 1. A Ministers' Meeting of the Original Free Will Baptist of North Carolina shall meet at least once every year, Tuesday before the meeting of the Union Conference and hold until the opening of the same, at appointed place for the Union Conference.

ART. 2. An introductory sermon shall be preached at the sitting of the ministers' meeting each year.

ART. 3. The minister who preaches the introductory shall preside over the meeting until a president is elected.

ART. 4. Each meeting shall have power to elect such officers as may be needful.

ART. 5. The meeting shall be to devise for plans for the advancement of the Gospel of Christ.

ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the meeting to keep unity between the brother ministers and to understand each other's work, so that our preaching will not conflict in preaching the Gospel.

ART. 7. All ministers of our faith in good standing in their respective conferences or associations throughout the State are considered members of this meeting.

ART. 8. All members composing said meeting shall be required to attend annually, unless providentially hindered.

ART. 9. The meeting shall have power to exclude any member of said meeting for any disorderly walk.

ART. 10. This meeting shall have power to make or amend any rule or by-law they may think necessary in carrying out its benevolent purposes.

ART. 11. All members composing this meeting shall be required to vote pro or con, unless excused by the president.

ART. 12. The president shall have supreme power to call any person to a point of order during the sitting of the meeting.

ART. 13. No person shall speak over ten minutes on the same subject without the consent of the president, and shall be allowed to speak twice if necessary.

ART. 14. The proceedings of the Ministers' Meeting shall be published in connection with the minutes of the Union Conference.

## UNION CONFERENCE.

The twenty-fourth session of the Union Conference met with the church at Micro, Johnston Co.

The introductory sermon was preached by Dr. E. L. St Claire. Text: I. Tim. 4:16. "Take heed unto thyself and to the doctrine."

After an intermission of one hour the union met and elected D. B. Sasser of Kenly, Moderator.

The following ministers were enrolled:

From Central Conference—E. D. Hathaway.

Western—J. R. Watson, E. T. Phillips, G. W. Ferrell, L. T. Phillips, J. H. Whitley, J. E. Davis, J. K. Ruffin, W. M. Howell, N. B. Wall, J. I. Blackman, H. W. Johnson, A. R. Flowers.

Eastern—Lloyd Vernon.

South Georgia—E. L. St Claire.

Cape Fear—Jas. Smith.

Rockingham—A. B. Peavy.

The following delegates were enrolled:

Central Conference—Eld. E. D. Hathaway, A. T. Dawson, Joe Tugwell, J. H. Whitley.

Western—R. B. Simmons, E. G. Holland, O. P. Ross, Samuel Fields, J. C. Spivey, W. T. Davis, J. S. Overman, J. B. Atkinson, G. C. Scott, Edward Vail, J. E. Mercer, J. C. Bunn, C. M. Johnson, Britton Smith, D. B. Sasser.

Eastern—C. K. Dunn.

Rockingham—Eld. A. B. Peavy.

Cape Fear—Nathan Barefoot.

The following committees were appointed:

Devotional—Britton Smith, Ira Blackman, J. H. Whitley.

Finance—A. T. Dawson, Joe Tugwell, E. G. Holland.

Education—E. L. St Claire, A. R. Flowers, C. M. Johnson.

Sunday Schools—W. M. Howell, C. K. Dunn, N. B. Wall.



Sabbath Observance—Elds. H. W. Johnson, J. H. Whitley, Geo. W. Ferrell.

Temperance—Loyd Vernon, L. T. Phillips, Ira Blackman.

Missions—E. L. StClaire, E. D. Hathaway, A. R. Flowers.

Prayer was offered by Eld. Loyd Vernon.

The roll of churches was called. (See table of statistics.)

On motion, the body discuss the question of making this with the Ministers' Meeting, a body known as a State Convention.

The following resolutions by Dr. E. L. StClaire, were read section after section and adopted.

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#### RESOLUTIONS TO CHANGE TO STATE CONVENTION.

To the delegates and elders of the Union Conference, now in session at Micro, N. C.

BRETHREN: In order to increase our Zion and get our brethren united into one convention. Be it resolved: (1) That the name of the body be changed to The North Carolina State Convention of the Original Free Will Baptist. (2) That the officers be a president and vice president, a secretary for the convention and a corresponding secretary, a treasurer and a executive committee of three members. A State Home Mission Board of not less than five members and one or more State Evangelist.

(3.) That a committee be appointed of not less than five members to draft a new constitution and by-laws at the next setting of the body.

(4) That an effort be made by the corresponding secretary to get all the Free Will Baptist in the Western part of the State to represent in the State Convention.

(5) That each church in the State may represent in the convention.

The following were elected officers of the State Convention:

D. B. Sasser, President, M. C. Prescott, Vice President, E. T. Phillips, Secretary of the Convention, C. M. Johnson, Corresponding Secretary, A. T. Dawson, Treasurer.

Executive Committee—Eld. J. W. Alford of the Eastern Conference, Eld. G. C. Vause of the Central, and Eld. J. H. Whitley of the Western.

State Mission Board—R. F. Pittman of the Western Conference, J. F. Casey of the Cape Fear, Geo. W. Prescott of the Central, H. W. Johnson of the Western.

Committee on Constitution and by-laws: C. M. Johnson, C. K. Dunn, Geo. W. Ferrell, D. B. Sasser, J. E. Sawyer.

The report of this committee is to be the first business of the next meeting.

State Evangelists—Elds. C. O. Armstrong and G. C. Vause.

On motion each pastor be requested to take up one collection during the year at each of his churches for Home Mission work and forward the same to A. T. Dawson, Treasurer, LaGrange, N. C., R. F. D., No. 1.

Devotional committee report, E. T. Phillips open and G. W. Ferrell preach tonight, (Thursday.)

On motion the meeting adjourn to meet at 9:0'clock Friday.

Praise by congregation. Prayer by A. R. Flowers.

#### FRIDAY.

The meeting met as per adjournment.

Praise by the congregation. Prayer by J. K. Ruffin.

Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

Bro. G. G. Reeves, Editor of the Mervale Star of Walnut, N. C., of the French Broad River Association, being present, was made welcome in our midst.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The following reports were read discussed and adopted:

**SABBATH OBSERVANCE.**—Whereas there is a great disposition to desecrate the Sabbath. We feel it our indispensible duty to make a special effort to emphasize the necessity of Sabbath Observance. We insist on all pastors to make special appeals to their churches to use their influence toward the furthering the cause of Sabbath Observance.

H. W. JOHNSON, }  
 J. H. WHITLEY, } Committee.  
 GEO. W. FERRELL. }

**SABBATH SCHOOLS.**—Whereas, we are admonished by the Holy Scriptures not to forget the assembling of ourselves together. We feel and see the great necessity for early Christian training. We further feel the necessity for a uniting of the Christian people of each community in bringing up the children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Therefore be it resolved: (1) That we earnestly request our members everywhere to attend the Sunday Schools as much as possible and give their talent and influence in making them a success. (2) That we request them to make persistent and systematic effort to get the children of the community to attend. (3) That we ask the pastors of our various churches to make an effort to have Sunday Schools organized and then give such advice and assistance as will help to secure their permanency. (4) That our schools everywhere use our own literature published at Ayden, N. C.

W. M. HOWELL, }  
 C. K. DUNN, } Committee.  
 N. B. WALL. }



HOME MISSIONS.—We do prayerfully submit the following:

(1) We joyfully recognize the fact that God has opened to us the door of opportunities. We desire therefore to obey this command: Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

(2) We urge that our ministers enforce the opportunities offered them in the Home Mission work, and that they establish wherever possible. We ask that the churches assist in the work with their means and prayers.

(3) We request that our ministers endeavor to awaken a more enthusiastic spirit among our churches on Home Missions.

(4) We recommend that all the churches have a Missionary Society and that they report to a mission board.

(5) We recommend that each conference appoint a Mission Board.

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| A. R. FLOWERS,<br>E. D. HATHAWAY,<br>E. L. STCLAIRE, | } | Committee. |
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TEMPERANCE.—We your committee on temperance beg leave to submit the following:

(1) We recommend that all Free Will Baptist members totally abstain from the use of intoxicants as a beverage.

(2) We recommend that all ministers use their influence against the use of intoxicants as a beverage.

(3) We recommend that all pastors be requested to preach at least one temperance sermon each year in all their churches.

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| LOYD VERNON,<br>L. T. PHILLIPS,<br>IRA BLACKMAN, | } | Committee. |
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EDUCATION.—We your committee on education submit the following report:

We heartily endorse the work of our Seminary and urge all Free Will Baptist to give the School their patronage and support. We insist on all Free Will Baptist churches making liberal donations to the support of the institution through whatever medium they can best raise funds. We further insist on our pastors to emphasize the absolute importance of education among our people and that they acquaint them with the needs of the School.

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| E. L. STCLAIRE, | } | Committee. |
| A. R. FLOWERS,  |   |            |
| C. M. JOHNSON,  |   |            |

E. T. Phillips was elected treasurer pro tem.

The treasurer made the following report, which was adopted.

|                            |   |   |   |                |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|----------------|
| On hand from last Meeting, | - | - | - | \$1.05         |
| Received at this Union,    | - | - | - | \$43.82        |
|                            |   |   |   | Total, \$44.87 |

E. T. PHILLIPS, Treas., pro tem.

On motion of Dr. E. L. StClaire, Elds. J. E. Davis, L. T. Phillips and G. W. Ferrell, be appointed a committee to draft a resolution as to the advisability of establishing an infirmary for the aged and infirm and orphans.

Eld. A. R. Flowers made an interesting talk on Sunday School work.

On motion, the time and place be left with the Executive Committee and they be requested to report through the paper within the next sixty days.

On motion of Eld. J. K. Ruffin, we advise that a committee of one be appointed from each conference to meet with the Zion's Free Will Baptist Song Book Co. and Zion's Hymn Book Co to arrange for a church Hymnal.

On motion of E. L. StClaire, the secretary be empowered to devote one page in the minutes to the memory of Elder P. T. Lucas.

On motion of C. M. Johnson, this body appoint a delegate to attend the State Convention of Ga., to be held at Glennville, Ga., commencing on Thursday before the first Sunday in November. C. M. Johnson was elected delegate and E. T. Phillips alternate.

On motion, A. R. Flowers preach the introductory at the State Convention next year and J. H. Whitley be his alternate.

On motion, we have as many minutes printed as our means will admit and that they be distributed among all our churches in North Carolina to the best possible advantage. That the clerk supervise the printing and distributing the same and that he be allowed \$15.00 for his services.

A talk was made by E. L. StClaire in the interest of seating the auditorium of the school at Ayden, N. C. A collection was taken up by Miss Clyde Watson of Kenly and \$16.20 was donated.

On motion, we thank Dr. StClaire for his presence with us and we extend to him a cordial invitation to be with us at our next meeting.

A vote of thanks was extended the community of Micro church for the very generous manner in which they entertained the meeting.

Devotional committee reported that A. R. Flowers preach to-night. After prayer and praise the meeting closed.

D. B. SASSER, Moderator.

E. T. PHILLIPS, Secretary.



### Constitution of the Union Conference.

ARTICLE 1. This body shall be known as the Original Free Will Baptist General Conference.

ART. 2. The object of this conference shall be to promote Christ's kingdom among men by means in strict conformity to the Holy Scripture, in our co-operation together in having the doctrine of Christ preached for the salvation of souls.

ART. 3. The officers of this body shall be a moderator, treasurer, corresponding and recording secretary, who shall be elected for a term of two years, who shall hold their office until their successors are elected, which election shall take place one year previous to their entering upon the duties of their office.

ART. 4. This conference shall be composed of the ministers of the several conferences or associations of the Original Free Will Baptist of North Carolina and of delegates from the different conferences, associations or churches. Every 300 members or fraction thereof being entitled to one delegate.

ART. 5. The delegate from each church shall bear to the conference a letter certifying his appointment, showing the amount of contribution raised for benevolent purposes during the year, and total number of members and nothing more.

ART. 6. This conference may, at each regular meeting, elect as many boards or standing committees as may be necessary in carrying out its benevolent purposes. These shall keep a record of their proceedings and make a report of at each regular meeting of this conference.

ART. 7. The moderator may extend to visiting brethren all the privileges of the body save that of voting.

ART. 8. Each conference is a distinct and independent organization with full authority to manage its own internal affairs, elect its own officers.

ART. 8. This constitution may be amended at any regular session by a vote of two thirds of the members present.

## SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF ELDER P. T. LUCAS.

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The subject of this sketch was born near Lucama, Wilson county, on the 3th day of September, 1854, and died near place of his birth on the 2nd day of July, 1912, making his stay on earth near 58 years; was the son of Silas and Martha Lucas of well known repute. He leaves one sister and five brothers. He was one of the charter members of Little Rock church and united under the preaching of Elder Daniel Davis in 1872. He was licensed to preach Aug. 17th, 1877, and was ordained to the ministry Aug. 30th, 1884, at Holly Springs church, Johnston county, the presbytery being Elders Daniel Davis, J. H. Worley, and B. H. Boykin. He was married in January, 1877 to Miss Frances Newsome. To them were born twelve children: Mary Etta, Martha Ellen, Minnie Effie, Lou Emma, Malachi Daniel, Loutoria, John Patrick, Cora Elizabeth, Loyd Thomas, Sadie Frances, Silas Redding and Earnest Carr. Lou Emma died in infancy and Malachi Daniel died after being married some time. The married children are Mrs. Sidney Rentfrow, Mrs. J. J. Morris, Mrs. A. M. Branch and John P. Lucas.

Elder Lucas was sick twelve months or more prior to his death and was confined to his bed four months. His remains were laid to rest in the Lucas burying ground on July 3rd. Funeral services were conducted by Elders L. T. Phillips and G. W. Ferrell. He was buried with the honors of the Masonic order of which he was an honored member. He preached his last sermon at Marsh Swamp church on the first Sunday in March, 1912.

Truly Elder Lucas was one of God's noblemen. He grew up a dutiful and worthy son. In his domestic life he was a devoted husband and loving father. He provided well for his household and through toil and honest effort accumulated a good living and left his family in good circumstances. Above all he was devoted to the work of his heavenly Father and has left a glorious heritage in a life full of good works. He went far and near to carry the good news of salvation, and when he reached the heavenly throne there must have

been many stars to adorn his worthy crown. He had great faith in God and many were born into the kingdom under his ministry, May we all meet him in the celestial land and with him and his enjoy the rich felicities of heaven.

E. T. P.

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### ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Enrollment of those entitled to membership.
3. Organization.
4. Appointment of committees.
5. Call for petitionary letters.
6. Hand of fellowship to visiting brethren.
7. Reports from churches.
8. Reports from committees.
9. Resolutions.
10. Miscellaneous business.
11. Adjournment.



## STATISTICAL TABLE.

| CHURCHES.             | COUNTIES.           | DELEGATES.                       | Number<br>Members | Value of<br>Ch. Prop., | Benevolent<br>Purposes | Minute<br>Fund |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Holly Springs.....    | Johnston.....       | E. G. Holland.....               | 125               | \$ 450                 | \$ 74                  | \$1.00         |
| Kenly.....            | "                   | D. B. Sasser.....                | 134               | 1500                   | 150                    | .50            |
| Piney Grove.....      | "                   | B. A. Scott, J. A. Spivey.....   | 80                | 500                    | 60                     | 1.00           |
| Pleasant Plain.....   | "                   | O. P. Rose, S. Fields.....       | 67                | 350                    | 75                     | .50            |
| Micro.....            | "                   | Britton Smith, C. F. Bagley..... | 140               | 1200                   | 100                    | 1.02           |
| Branch Chapel.....    | "                   | J. W. Blackman.....              | 38                | 500                    |                        | .50            |
| Union Grove.....      | Wayne.....          | Jasper Overman.....              | 124               | 1200                   | 58                     | 1.00           |
| Pleasant Grove.....   | "                   | Edward Vail.....                 | 151               | 2000                   | 100                    | 1.00           |
| Spring Hill.....      | "                   | C. M. Johnson.....               | 62                | 1500                   | 175                    | 1.00           |
| Pleasant Hill.....    | "                   | J. C. Bunn.....                  | 90                | 1000                   | 100                    | 1.00           |
| Casey's Chapel.....   | "                   | By letter.....                   | 59                | 550                    |                        | 1.00           |
| Walnut Creek.....     | "                   | By letter.....                   | 62                | 750                    | 5                      | .50            |
| Antioch.....          | "                   | By letter.....                   | 40                | 600                    | 250                    | .75            |
| Woods Grove.....      | "                   | Wm Gurley.....                   | 157               | 1200                   |                        | 1.10           |
| Marsh Swamp.....      | Wilson.....         | G. C. Scott.....                 | 160               | 1100                   | 380                    | 1.00           |
| Saint Mary.....       | "                   | J. B. Atkinson.....              | 182               | 600                    | 150                    | 1.33           |
| Aspen Grove.....      | "                   | By letter.....                   | 92                | 500                    |                        | .50            |
| Rose Bud.....         | "                   | J. E. Mercer.....                | 59                |                        |                        | 1.00           |
| Bailey.....           | Nash.....           | By letter.....                   | 25                | 2500                   | 250                    | 1.00           |
| Rock Spring.....      | "                   | By pastor.....                   | 115               | 1500                   | 40                     | 1.00           |
| Hull Road.....        | Greene.....         | A. T. Dawson.....                | 225               | 2000                   | 250                    | 1.00           |
| Howell Swamp.....     | "                   | J. H. Whitley.....               | 213               | 1200                   | 175                    | 1.00           |
| Spring Branch.....    | "                   | By letter.....                   | 84                | 1000                   | 100                    | 1.00           |
| Harrell's Chapel..... | "                   | By letter.....                   | 65                | 50                     | 25                     | .45            |
| Sts. Delight.....     | Franklin.....       | By letter.....                   | 50                | 450                    | 65                     | .50            |
| King's X Roads.....   | Pitt.....           | Joe Tugwell.....                 | 76                |                        | 82                     | .50            |
| Gum Swamp.....        | "                   | Eld. E. D. Hathaway.....         | 261               | 1500                   | 200                    | 1.05           |
| Ayden.....            | "                   | By letter.....                   | 110               | 1500                   | 150                    | 1.00           |
| Bethany.....          | "                   | By letter.....                   | 195               | 800                    | 150                    | 1.00           |
| Pleasant Hill.....    | "                   | By letter.....                   | 96                | 500                    | 50                     | 1.05           |
| Piney Grove.....      | "                   | By letter.....                   | 205               | 600                    | 100                    | 1.00           |
| Union Chapel.....     | Washington.....     | By letter.....                   |                   | 100                    |                        | 1.00           |
| Mount Olive.....      | "                   | By letter.....                   | 120               | 700                    | 150                    | .61            |
| Arapahoe.....         | Pamlico.....        | C. K. Dunn.....                  | 206               | 1000                   | 250                    | 2.30           |
| Trent.....            | "                   | By letter.....                   | 194               | 2000                   | 250                    | 1.00           |
| King's Chapel.....    | Wake.....           | By letter.....                   | 34                | 2000                   | 75                     | 1.05           |
| Woodington.....       | Lenoir.....         | By letter.....                   | 100               | 1000                   | 75                     | .50            |
| Dailey's Chapel.....  | "                   | By letter.....                   | 148               | 1000                   | 100                    | .50            |
| Sandy Plains.....     | Vance.....          | R. B. Simmons.....               | 55                | 800                    | 250                    | 1.00           |
| Savannah Hill.....    | Samson.....         | N. Barefoot.....                 | 38                | 500                    | 50                     | .50            |
| Oak Grove.....        | Bladen.....         | By letter.....                   | 108               | 1500                   | 5                      | 2.50           |
| Core Creek.....       | Craven.....         | By letter.....                   | 181               | 1000                   | 175                    | 1.21           |
| Reunion Chapel.....   | "                   | By letter.....                   | 50                |                        |                        | .40            |
| Snow Hill.....        | Duplin.....         | By letter.....                   | 62                | 1000                   |                        | .50            |
| Ephesus.....          | Robeson.....        | By Eld. A. B. Peavy.....         | 21                | 600                    | 25                     | .50            |
| Raynor's Chapel.....  | Cumberland.....     | "                                | 23                | 400                    | 75                     | .50            |
| Bethlehem.....        | Chesterfield, S. C. | "                                | 27                | 250                    | 117                    | .50            |