

BEGA

**CAITAN MEETING**

IN JEFFERSON COUNT

ON THE

*Monday preceding the fourth Lords Day in*

Six hundred copies, for thirty-six dollars.

CAHAWBA :

PRINTED BY WILLIAM B. ALLEN.

1822.

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... was delivered  
... 5th chapter of Isai-

*... and away, and it shall be coll-  
...—the wicked shall not pass over it, but it  
... way-fairing men, though fools shall not err*

... the association, the convening being  
... by brother Brown, proceeded to busi-  
... twenty-three churches were read and  
... counts enrolled. Seven churches peti-  
... and messengers for admittance into this  
... m being found to be orderly and ortho-  
... ed, to wit: Antioch, Fellowship, Beth-  
... lopewell, and Mount Zion—Cahawba  
... oriah was rejected, because they were  
... one preacher only; the opinion of the as-  
... ing, that there ought at least to be two or-  
... eachers, at the constituting of a church.  
... Charles Crow was then chosen Moderator, and Wil-  
... is Davis Clerk.

Resolved, That brother Brown, Holcombe, Ryan,  
Crowson, and Suttle, with the moderator and clerk, be  
a committee to arrange the business of this association,  
and report on Monday; and that brother Bains and  
M'Cain, be a committee of finances, to receive the churches'  
contributions, and make the necessary settlements.

Brother Hodges, Rogers, and Ronaldson, were re-  
quested to occupy the stand on the Lord's day.

Adjourned till Monday morning, 9 o'clock; prayer  
by the Moderator.

## STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

Note—Ordained ministers in *Italicks*, and licensed ministers marked thus \*

CHURCHES.	Counties.	Sundays ruling the meeting,	Baptized,	Rec'd by letter,	Disin'd by letter,	Expelled,	Restored,	Deceased	Total,	Contributors,
Mulbury, Joshua Wood, Edmund Beard,	Bibb, -	4	0	3	13	2	1	1	53	\$4 00
Bethel, Mitchel Watkins, (absent,) Richard Fowler,	Bibb, -	4	3	1	1	0	1	0	36	2 00
Enon, <i>John Henry</i> , William Irwin,	Jefferson, -	2	0	4	4	0	0	0	31	2 00
Ebenezer, <i>Daniel Brown</i> , Theophilus Hill,	Tuscaloosa, -	3	1	6	14	0	0	3	79	4 00
Bethel, <i>Thomas Baines</i> , Castleton Lyon,	Tuscaloosa,	1	0	6	6	1	0	1	42	2 50
Cahawba Valley, Henry Haggard,* Joseph Wood,	Bibb, -	1	3	5	3	0	0	2	26	3 00
Union, <i>Charles Crow</i> , Benjamin Herrin,	Perry, -	3	0	3	19	1	0	0	26	3 45
Salem, <i>Joseph Ryan</i> , Lewis Stephens, (absent,)	Greene, -	4	0	5	14	2	0	2	27	2 50
Canaan, <i>Mosea Holcombe</i> , Richard Rocket,	Jefferson, -	1	1	4	16	0	0	0	40	2 00
Ruhama, George L. Bailis, Thomas Barton.	Jefferson, -	0	0	0	9	1	0	0	16	1 00
Hebron, James Harshhorn, Job Mason.	Shelby, -	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	14	3 50
Rehoboth, <i>Isaac Suttle</i> , Cornelius Astry.	Bibb, -	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	2 00
Ebenezer, Enoch Hays, Robert Martin.	Bibb, -	1	0	5	18	0	0	0	51	3 00
Enon, Thomas Hargiss, Willis Davis,	Bibb, -	2	0	0	6	3	0	0	16	2 00
Newhope, Willis Smith,	Bibb,	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	12	3 00

CHURCHES.	Counties.	Sundays ruling the meetings,	Baptized,	Rec'd by letter,	Dis'm'd by letter,	Expelled,	Restored,	Deceased,	Total	Contributions,
Elijah Campbell, Oakmulga,	Perry, -	4	5	5	0	0	0	1	32	3 00
Noah Haggard, Reddick Simms, (absent.) Bethlehem,	Green, -	3	0	4	7	0	0	0	34	2 00
James Pedagrew, Stephen Ellis, (absent.) Concord,	Perry, -	1	3	4	0	1	0	0	49	2 00
William West, William Callaway, (absent.) Big Creek,	Tuscaloosa,	0	1	15	1	0	0	0	29	1 62
Robert Portwood, Charles Stewart,* Shoal Creek,	Shelby, -	3	1	9	3	0	2	1	40	3 00
Moses Crowson, Robert Howard, Sardis,	Tuscaloosa,	2	1	5	1	0	0	0	38	2 00
Ansalem Prewet, Jesse Pumfrey, Shelolo,	Perry, -	3	0	5	1	0	0	0	18	1 50
Andrew Mays, Green Jackson, (absent.) Five mile Creek,	Green, -	1	0	10	2	1	0	0	30	2 50
John M'Cane, Ezekiel Fuller, (absent.) Antioch,	Blount, -	4	3	3	0	0	0	0	19	1 50
Peter Kilfoyle, John Fowler, Fellowship,	Perry, - -	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	2 00
William Clark, Charles Watson, (absent.) Bethelrock Creek,	Jefferson, -	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	1 50
Joseph Brown, William Sanders, Hopewell,	Perry, - -	2	1	4	0	0	0	0	16	2 37
Dutton Sweeton,* Wilson M'Kinney, Mount Zion,	St. Clair, -	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	1 50
David M'Brayer, John Shinart, Cahawba,	Jefferson, -	1	1	16	3	0	0	0	24	0 00
Andrew Robertson, Sherwood Holley, (absent.) Mount Moriah,	Blount, -	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	1 00
George D. Staton, Solomon Murphree,										
			30	133	145	9	4	11	950	65 75

Note. Big-Creek Church report that she has licensed Charles Stewart to preach the Gospel.

## LORD'S DAY.

The brethren that were requested to preach, attended the stage; brother Hodges introduced the service of the day from the 4th chapter of the prophet Isaiah, and 22d verse,

*' Look unto me and be ye saved all the ends of the earth, for I am God and there is none else.'*

Brother Rogers, from the 2d chapter of the epistle of Paul to the Hebrews and part of the 3d verse,

*" How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation."*

Brother Ronaldson, from the 16th chapter of the Gospel according to St. Mark, 15th and 16th verse,

*" And he said unto them, go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.*

*" He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned."*

*Monday Morning, October 28, 1822.*

Met according to adjournment; prayer by the Moderator.

The committee of arrangements reported and were discharged :

1st. Corresponding letters called for; one handed in from the Muscle Shoal Association, by their messengers Henry W. Hodges and Jeremiah Ward, which was thankfully received and their messengers invited to seats. Also corresponding letters from the Alabama Association, but no messenger; and one from the Flint River Association, but no messenger, which was gladly received.

2d. The letters from Mount Moriah and Cahawba churches were called for and re-examined, and cordially received; and is recommended to the ministers not to constitute any church in future, unless there be two or more ordained preachers present.

3d. Brother Ronaldson, as agent of the Mississippi Missionary Society presented communications of an important nature in relation to the progress of Gospel missions, claiming the attention of the Association on this subject, and soliciting their co-operation in the labors of foreign and domestic missions.

4th. Resolved that it be earnestly recommended to the churches to take collection at some meeting in the en-

suing year, for the support of foreign and domestic missions; also that they signify their wishes and views with regard to the formation of a state's convention by the different Associations of this state; to form a constitution and a general plan of co-operation for the friends of Zion disposed to promote unanimity of sentiment and harmony of exertion in propogating the Gospel at home and abroad, and in diffusing useful knowledge throughout the connexion.

5th. Received the eighth annual report of the board of managers of the general convention of the Babtist denomination in the United States.

6th. According to the wish of some of the churches the division of the Association taken under consideration, and it is thought not to be expedient to divide.

*Resolved*, That a circular letter be annexed to our Minutes, which was presented and read: *Ordered*, that brother Brown, Crow, and Ronaldson, be a committee to examine and correct said circular, and that it be read again to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That this Association correspond with Alabama, Tombeckbe, Flint River, and Muscle Shoals Associations.

Brother Suttle and Calloway, to visit the Alabama Association; Suttle to write the corresponding letter.

Brother Crow and Ryan to visit the Tombeckbe Association; brother Crow to write the corresponding letter.

Brother Holcombe and Henry to visit the Flint River Association; brother Holcombe to write the corresponding letter.

Brother Crowson and Henry to visit the Muscle Shoals Association; brother Henry to write the corresponding letter.

*Resolved*, That the abstract of principles adopted by our Association, be annexed to our Minutes.

*Ordered*, That brother Thos. Baines be agent for the fourth district, in place of brother Roberts—also that the following new churches be attached to the first district, to wit: Antioch, Bethel rock creek, Mount Zion, Cahawba,

and Mount Moriah, and that Fellowship and Hopewell churches be attached to the third district.

*Resolved*, That the yearly meeting be in the first district, to commence on the Friday preceding the first Lord's Day in May, at Hebron meeting house. Brother Crow and Suttle to attend the same; and at Newhope meeting house, in district second, on Friday preceding the second Lord's Day in March; Holcombe and Ryan to attend the same.

At Hopewell meeting house in district third, on Friday preceding the second Lord's Day in June; Holcombe and Henry to attend the same.

At Bethel meeting house in district fourth, on Friday preceding the first Lord's Day in August; Crow and Ryan to attend the same.

At Salem meeting house in Green county; to commence on Saturday preceding the fourth Lord's Day in October, 1823; and that brother Holcombe preach the introductory sermon; in case of failure, brother Crow—and that brother Crow write the circular letter for next year.

*Resolved*, That the clerk prepare the minutes for the press; and that brother Crow superintend the printing of the same, and have six hundred copies struck, and convey them to the agents of the districts—reserving twenty copies for each Association that we correspond with.

Adjourned till Tuesday 9 o'clock—prayer by the moderator.

*Tuesday Morning, October 29.*

Met according to adjournment—prayer by brother Brown.

The circular, as corrected by the committee, was read and ordered to be annexed to the Minutes.

The committee of finances report that they find remaining in fund, after giving credit for printing last years minutes,

Received of the churches this year,

\$ 10 00

65 75

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75 75

Allowed brother Dennis for his services in superintending the printing of the minutes last year,	5 00
Allowed brother Ryan for attending the Tombeckbe Association,	15 00
Allowed the clerk for his services,	10 00
	<hr/>
	30 00
	<hr/>
	\$45 75

*Ordered*, that the sum of forty-five dollars seventy-five cents be placed in the hands of brother Crow to defray the expense of printing the minutes.

Dismissed in prayer by brother Ronaldson.

CHARLES CROW, *Moderator.*

WILLIS DAVIS, *Clerk.*

### ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

1st. We believe in one only true and living God the father the word and the holy ghost.

2d. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3d. We believe in the doctrine of election, and that God chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world.

4th. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

5th. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability.

6th. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

7th. We believe that God's elect shall be called regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

8th. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never fall finally away.

9th. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the subjects, and we believe that the true mode of baptism is by immersion.

10th. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and

general judgment, and that the punishment of the wicked and the joys of the righteous will be eternal.

11th. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as are regularly baptized, called and come under the imposition of hands by the presbytery.

12th. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's Table.

### CIRCULAR.

*Very dear Brethren,*

Under the auspices of a benign providence, we have met on our anniversary meeting once more; the wheels of time has performed another annual revolution, while we have continued to be the happy participants of the goodness of Jehovah, who has liberally filled our bosoms with his heavenly bounties, and we hope that we have likewise been made to share of the special blessings of his divine grace; his great goodness to usward calls for deep humanity of soul, and hearts overflowing with gratitude for such beneficence.

We have met for the purpose of uniting our efforts, in order to further the kingdom of the redeemer in the world, we ardently wish and sincerely hope that each one may act with a single eye to the glory of our redeemer.

We shall now endeavor to lay before you a few particulars relative to the subject of missions; various have been the surmises of people respecting the utility of missions, but our minds should not be in suspense any longer; for it is proven beyond contradiction, by incontestable evidence, that it is the work of Jehovah. It is written with a sun beam, so that he that runs may read; it is no wonder that the cause meets with opposition from the world, and even christians may hesitate in the midst of fears, when we take into view the effulgent beams of divine light which have been diffusing itself so conspicuously; we are obliged to attribute the cause to divine agency in the work.

Dear bretheren, what do we mean when our lips say thy kingdom come? let us think seriously of the matter and endeavor to imitate him who went about doing good.

Look to India, and see the great change which has taken place there since missionaries were first sent to that

land of darkness; view the hundreds of Idolators who have been brought to the knowledge of the true God: hear the tongue of the dumb singing for joy: see christian churches rising in regular succession on the ruins of Idolatry. See more than fifty native preachers now proclaiming the name of Jesus to their Idolatrous brethren.

Look to Burmah the sink of superstition; see a christian church raised in that benighted land, and one or two of the natives about to engage in the cause of Jesus whom they have found precious.

Look to the islands of the sea, and behold a nation born (as it were in a day;) look to Africa, and on the savage tribes of North America, see the rapid strides that civilization is making and the cause of the Redeemer gradually progressing; and will you not say "The kingdoms of this world are becoming the kingdom of our God and of his Christ;" can you look on all these things with indifference, while they are written as in capitals of gold, before your eyes? Jehovah forbid it, your own conscience must forbid it. These great revolutions have been chiefly accomplished through the instrumentality of missionaries; the contributions of the friends of the distressed and the blessing of Jehovah on their labors. Will any christian yet say that he stands in doubt of this being the work of the Lord? would God bless the efforts of men after this manner if the work was not his own? does he act inconsistent with himself or is his kingdom divided against itself? It has been affirmed that the Indians could not be civilized; but well known facts prove the assertion to be unfounded. No one should indulge sceptical notions respecting the missionary cause while we have such ample testimony before our eyes, in its favor: read Isaiah 60th chapter.

Christianity teaches that God is love; it teaches generosity and benevolence; it teaches the redemption of all tongues, kindred, nations and people; a redemption generous in its principle, and in its effects fixed sentiments of divine munificence. no man possessed with the least degree of feeling or compassion for the human race can deny the utility of the Gospel; and whosoever considers that the major part of the world is enveloped in the groo-est darkness, bound with the chains of savage barbarity &

immersed in the awful chaos of brutal ignorance, must, if he be not destitute of every principle of religion and humanity, concur with the design and applaud the principles of those who engaged in so benevolent a work. Who is there that have any concern for the souls of men, and love for truth and religion, but what must rejoice at the formation, numbers and success of those institutions, which have the everlasting welfare of men for their object? our hearts overflow with joy when we consider the happy and extensive effects which are taking place. The the untutored mind is receiving the peaceful principles of religion and virtue, the savage barbarians are receiving copious blessings and feeling the beneficial effects of civilization; the ignorant Idolator is directed to offer up his prayer and praise to the true God; and such salvation by Jesus Christ, the habitations of cruelty are becoming the abodes of peace and security, while ignorance and superstition are giving way to the celestial blessings of intelligence and joy. We would now call on you to look around on the many places in our own State, which are almost or altogether destitute of a preached gospel, and hear the cry of some of our brethren, who live in those dark corners, come and preach to us, come over and help us; can you hear their cries and not feel for them? we hope not.—We will refer you to the exertions of the Baptist Missionary Society of Massachusetts, as worthy of your imitation; see the happy consequences resulting from the labors of that society, which employs no less than twelve Missionaries in the course of a year, to travel in such destitute places; the God of missions has blessed their attempts in a wonderful manner, destitute churches have been supplied with the word of life and built up in their most holy faith new ones organized and a harvest of precious souls gathered in. Dear brethren we are fully persuaded that much good might be done in a similar way among us; think of these things, and may the Lord direct you by his spirit.

We now call your attention to the many great and precious promises which are made to those, who from pure motives are engaged in the good work of benevolence; “give and it shall be given unto you good measure, pressed down and running over; with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you; and unto you that have shall

more be given; he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully; every man as he hath purposed in his heart so let him give. not grudgingly or of necessity, for God loveth a cheerful giver. He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; He that watcheth shall be watched also himself; He that hath pity on the poor lendeth unto the Lord and that which he hath given will he pay him again: See Prov. 11 25, 19 17, 22 9, Mark 4 24, Luke 6 38, and 2d Cor. 9 6 7.

From the above infalible testimonies, can any one believe that that which he casts into the treasury of the Lord is lost? no surely unless he is blinded by avarice, or sceptical in his ideas; awake dear brethren to truth, arise from sleep and put off sloth; join in the good work of the Lord and show the benevolence of your hearts, by your liberal contributions. View the thousands that are daily dropping into eternity without hearing the name of Jesus; see the hundreds around you destitute of a preached gospel; suppose for a moment your selves in like circumstances; would not your hearts overflow with gratitude to some kind friend who should administer to your necessity? would you not pray for their names to be handed down to the latest posterity? we beseech you by the worth of immortal souls, one of which is of more value than all the kingdoms of the earth, for ten thousand ages; we beseech you by the mercies of God, and by the death of Him who bled on the cross, to come over to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

We now submit this very imperfect address to your consideration, and may the God of missions inspire your hearts with love, and make your hands ready to do his will, and may we so realize these things, with every truth of divine revelation, that when the last trumpet shall sound, and we be called to render our accounts to the Judge of all the earth, that we may hear the consoling plaudits well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joys of thy Lord. for thou hast been faithful in a few things, I will make the ruler over many.

Brethren pray for us and be assured that we remain yours in the bonds of the gospel of Christ.

CHARLES CROW, *Moderator.*

WILLIS DAVIS, *Clk.*