

HARVEY  
LOWE

Harvey Lowe

MINUTES  
OF THE  
SIXTEENTH  
ANNUAL SESSION

OF  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

REGULAR BAPTISTS

HELD WITH  
THE ELK CREEK CHURCH  
MINGO COUNTY, W. VA.

September 18-19, 1903.

EL. BR. J. W. SMITH, Moderator.  
ELDER H. M. WARD, Clerk.

*(Small, faint text, likely a reference to a previous volume)*

PAWPAW, W. VA. 1903  
BY THE PUBLISHERS

MINUTES  
OF THE  
SIXTEENTH  
ANNUAL SESSION

OF  
SARDIS ASSOCIATION

REGULAR BAPTISTS  
HELD WITH  
THE ELK FORK CHURCH  
MINGO COUNTY, W. VA.

September 18-19, 1908.

ELDER J. W. SMITH, Moderator.  
ELDER H. MAYNARD, Clerk.

*"Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.—Mark 16-15.*

PAWPAW PRINTING CO., JOB PRINTERS,  
CATLETTSBURG, KY.

James B in memory

**FRIDAY'S SESSION.**

The Association convened with the Elk Fork Church, Mingo county, W. Va., on Friday, September 18, 1908.

Introductory was delivered by Hi Maynard, text, Heb. 12 ch. and 28 v: "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which can not be moved" etc. Delegation went to church house and after prayer by Eld. Moses Williamson, letters from different churches called for and read and received and delegates seated as shown in table of churches.

The Association was organized by electing Eld. J. W. Smith, Moderator; Eld. W. B. Estep, Assistant; and Eld. Hi Maynard, Clerk, and Eld. A. L. Dempsey, Assistant.

Newly organized churches called for and none responded.

Bros. Sam Crum and Joseph Curry appointed to see that the stand be occupied by ministers for the day.

Letters from our Sister Associations called for and received as follows:

ZION—At the hands of Elds. Wm. Crum and Aaron Stepp.

NEW SALEM—At the hands of Elds. L. Farmer, John Akers and Bro. C. Compton.

BETHLEHEM—At the hand of Eld. Sam Vance.

NEW ZION—Received no letter but received delegate—Eld. Moses Williamson.

MT. PLEASANT—At the hand of Eld. J. W.

4  
Caudil. All the above brethren received the right hand of fellowship and were seated with us.

Transient ministers called for and Elds. G. W. Maynard, James Frederick, A. L. Dempsey, John Kazee, Robert Elswick, W. B. Estep, P. H. S. Curry, A. S. Maynard, Mont Williamson, W. A. Hurley, J. Estep and T. J. Muncey came forward and received the right hand of fellowship.

Moved that we correspond with Zion, New Zion, Bethlehem, New Salem and Pineville District Associations.

The following brethren appointed to write corresponding letters:

Eld. W. B. Estep write one to Zion.  
Eld. H. Maynard write one to New Zion.  
Eld. John Kazee write one to New Salem.  
Bro. Ira L. Farley write one to Bethlehem.  
Eld. A. S. Maynard write one to Pineville Dist.  
Committee on ministry, consisting of one delegate from each church, appointed who reported 1st, W. H. Hensley; 2nd, J. W. Caudil; 3rd, Moses Williamson; 4th, John Akers.

Committee on arrangements for to-morrow appointed as follows: Elds. John Kazee, A. L. Dempsey, G. W. Maynard, with the Moderator and Clerk. Corresponding and transient ministers invited.

On motion we adjourn till tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

5  
SATURDAY, September 19, 1908.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.  
Prayer by Eld. W. H. Hensley.

Roll call. Rules of Decorum read.

Committee on arrangements made their report.  
Committee discharged.

Bros. J. M. Hensley and Ira L. Farley appointed finance committee. They reported \$20.50.  
Report received and committee discharged.

Treasurer reported \$4.45 balance on hand last yr. Report accepted.

Ministers chosen in Union Meetings and Associations last year made their reports, which were accepted.

Letters to different Associations called for and read, received, and delegates to bear the same appointed as follows:

ZION—Elds. H. Maynard, W. B. Estep, G. W. Maynard and James Federick when convened with the Union church, Martin county, Ky., on Friday before 2nd Saturday in September, 1909.

NEW SALEM—Elds. A. S. Maynard, W. H. Bolden, Robt. Elswick and Bro. Jos. Ray when convened with the Joppa church, Knott county, Ky., on September 25, 1908.

BETHLEHEM—Elds. J. Estep, W. A. Hurley, Lindsey Smith and P. H. S. Curry when convened with Mt. Sinai church, Wayne county, W. Va., on Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1909.

NEW ZION—Elds. J. Estep, G. W. Maynard, Jas. Frederick, Bros. Sam Crum, P. Cline, Ira L. Farley and Chas. Frederick when convened with the Walnut Grove church, Wayne county, W. Va., on Friday, the 2nd day of October, 1908.

PINEVILLE DISTRICT—Eld. W. A. Hurley when convened with the Pineville church, Wyoming county, W. Va., on the 25th day of September, 1908.

Ordered that the following churches have Union meetings:

SARDIS—4th Saturday in July, 1909, Elds. W. Maynard, Hi Maynard, A. L. Dempsey and L. Farmer attend.

BRUSHY FORK—First Saturday in July, 1909. Elds. W. B. Estep, Hi Maynard, J. Estep, L. Farmer, John Kazee and A. S. Maynard attend.

MT PLEASANT—2nd Saturday in July, 1909, Eld. Hi Maynard, W. B. Estep, J. Estep, W. A. Hurley, L. Farmer and J. W. Smith attend.

PLEASANT HOME—3rd Saturday in July, 1909, Wm. Crum, W. B. Estep, J. W. Smith, Chas. Frederick and Hi Maynard attend.

LITTLE DOVE—First Saturday in Sept., 1909, Eld. A. L. Dempsey, P. H. S. Curry, W. B. Estep, John Kazee and Hi Maynard attend.

ENON—First Saturday in August, 1909, Elds. P. H. S. Curry, Robert Elswick and John Kazee attend.

ELK FORK—3rd Saturday in August, 1909, Eld. W. A. Hurley, W. H. Hensley and W. B.

Estep attend.

REBECCA—2nd Saturday in August, 1909, Elds. Wm. Crum, John Kazee, Mont Williamson and Aaron Stepp attend.

SIDNEY—Friday before 4th Saturday in August, 1909, Eld. A. L. Dempsey, Hi Maynard, W. A. Hurley, A. S. Maynard, Wm. Crum and L. Farmer attend.

BIG BRANCH—J. W. Smith, W. A. Hurley, A. L. Dempsey, John Kazee and Mont Williamson attend on the 3rd Saturday in August, 1909.

BENT BRANCH—3rd Saturday in August, 1909, Elds. J. W. Smith, L. Farmer, Robt. Elswick, Mont Williamson and John Kazee attend.

BETHLEHEM—3rd Saturday in July, 1909, Eld. G. W. Maynard, J. W. Smith and Joshua West attend.

Committee on Ministry reported for tomorrow—the Lord's day—1st, John Kazee; 2nd, L. Farmer; 3rd, Moses Williamson.

On motion it is ordered that Bro. Clerk superintend the printing of minutes and distribution of same and have 700 copies printed.

On motion it is ordered that we advise Sidney church to not allow any man in the ministry who has more than one living wife or who has a wife that has another living husband.

On motion it is ordered that we ask our sister Zion Association in love to not retain in her churches ministers who have more than one living wife, as we are informed that such exist

in the White Stone church.

Ordered that our next Association be held with the Sidney church, Martin county, Ky., beginning on the Friday before the third Saturday in September, 1909.

Ordered that Eld. W. B. Estep preach the introductory sermon and Eld. A. S. Maynard be his alternate.

Moved that we tender our heartfelt thanks to the Elk Fork church, and friends in general of this vicinity, for their kind entertainment during this association.

Moved that we adjourn to the time and place above mentioned.

Closed by prayer by Eld. Wm. Crum.

By order of Association.

ELD. J. W. SMITH, MODERATOR.

ELD. HI MAYNARD, CLERK.

#### SUNDAY'S SERVICES.

On Sunday morning a large congregation assembled at the stand and after remarks by Eld. W. A. Hurley, the good old hymn "Brethren we have met to worship," was sung with melody in our hearts to the Lord, then the brethren united in petition and prayer to the God of Israel. Eld. John Kazee preached, text, John 3rd chap. 3rd v. 2nd, Eld. L. Farmer, text, Gen. 44 chap. 16 v., 3rd, Eld. Moses Williamson closed the services by exhortation. It was a joyful meeting, inde

and in our farewell handshake we had God's love manifested in our midst. The Lord bless our association and all true worshipers. Amen.

HI MAYNARD, CLERK.

#### CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experience, we, the churches of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptized upon our profession of faith in Jesus Christ, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches, in order to perpetuate a union and communion among us, and preserve, maintain and keep the rules and orders of an association, according to the following plan or form of government:

ARTICLE 1 The association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches, and only sent to represent in the association who shall be members whom they shall think qualified for that purpose, and producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment shall be entitled to a seat.

ART. 2 In the letters from the different churches shall be expressed their number in full fellowship, their baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead, since the last association.

ART. 3 The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor shall they have any clerical power over the churches, nor shall they infringe on the eternal rights of any church in the union.

ART. 4 The association when convened shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum.

ART. 5 The association shall have a Moderator and assistant, a Clerk and assistant, who shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

ART. 6 New churches shall be admitted into our union who shall petition by letter and delegate, and if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the association and manifested by the Moderator giving the hand of fellowship.

ART. 7 Every church in the union shall be entitled to representation in the association.

ART. 8 Every query presented by any church to the association being first debated in their own church, shall be taken up by the association.

ART. 9 Every motion made and seconded shall be taken up by the association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

ART. 10 The association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of the association.

ART. 11 The churches shall send money by the delegates of each church to pay for printing the minutes of the association.

ART. 12 There shall be a record book kept wherein the proceedings of each association shall be regularly recorded by a Secretary appointed for that purpose.

ART. 13 The minutes of the association shall be read and corrected, if need be, and signed by the

Moderator and Clerk before the association rises.

ART. 14 Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made at any time by a majority of the union when they may deem it necessary.

ART. 15 All matters coming before the association shall be decided by the will of the majority.

ART. 16 The association shall have power: 1—To provide for the general union of the churches; 2—To preserve inviolably a chain of communication among the churches; 3—To give the churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty; 4—To inquire into the cause why the churches fail at any time to represent themselves

in the association; 5—To appoint any member or members by and with their consent to transact business which they may think necessary;

6—To withdraw from any church in this union which shall violate the rules of this association or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion;

7—To admit any orderly minister of our order to a seat with us in the association; 8—To adjourn to any future time and place most convenient to the church or union; 9—No minister shall be ordained unless forwarded by a church and it shall require two or more ordained ministers to compose a presbytery for that purpose.

#### ARTICLES OF FAITH

We, the churches of Jesus Christ, of Regular Baptists, are constituted on the following faith, viz:

ARTICLE 1 We believe in one only true and living God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth and all things that are therein contained.

ART. 2 We believe in Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, who is Head and King of His church.

ART. 3. We believe in the Holy Ghost, the Sealer and Applier of the redemption purchased by Christ.

ART. 4 We believe in the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and these three are one.

ART. 5 We believe in the scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the infalible word of God, take it for our only rule of faith and practice, and nothing is to be added to it or taken from it.

ART. 6 We believe in the free atonement of Jesus Christ, and that He tasted death for every man and that salvation is offered to all men and women upon the terms of the gospel.

ART. 7 We believe that repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are necessary prerequisites to baptism and that immersion is the only right way of administering the ordinance.

ART. 8 We believe that Christ has but one true gospel church and that it will finally persevere through grace to glory.

ART. 9 We believe in the communion of the Lord's Supper, that is the taking of the bread and wine by the church of Jesus Christ in commemoration of the death and suffering of the Son of God until His second coming.

ART. 10 We believe that feet washing is an ordinance of Jesus Christ and ought to be observed and kept up by His church until His second coming.

ART. 11 We believe that Jesus Christ is the first resurrection from the dead and that He lives forever.

ART. 12 We believe in the resurrection of the just and unjust.

ART. 13 We believe in the final punishment of the wicked and in the eternal happiness of the righteous.

#### RULES OF DECORUM

ARTICLE 1 The association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

ART. 2 A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

ART. 3 Only one member shall speak at the same time who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator when he is about to make his speech.

ART. 4 The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech, except by the Moderator, till he is done speaking and shall strictly adhere to the subject and in nowise reflect on the person who spoke before or make remarks on his slips and failures and imperfections, but shall reverently state the cause and matter as nearly as he can, so as to convey his light or idea.

ART. 5 No person shall rise and speak more



than three times on one subject without liberty obtained from the association.

ART. 6 No person shall abruptly break off or absent himself from the association without liberty obtained from it.

ART. 7 No member of the association shall have the liberty of laughing during the sitting of same, nor whispering in time of public speech.

ART. 8 No member of the association shall address another by any other title or appellation than that of brother.

ART. 9 The Moderator shall not interrupt a member until he gives his idea upon the subject except he breaks the rules of decorum.

ART. 10 The names of the members of the association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over as often as the association requires.

ART. 11 The Moderator shall have the same privilege of speech as another member, provided the chair be filled, but shall have no vote unless the association be equally divided.

ART. 12 Any member who shall willfully and knowingly break any of the rules shall be reprov- ed by the association as it may think proper.

ART. 13 But three members shall take a seat in the association from each church.

ART. 14 No person shall speak more than five minutes at the same time without liberty obtained from the association.

ART. 15 These rules of decorum shall be read by the clerk at the commencement of every association.

Statistical Report of Sardis Association of Regular Baptist, 1908.

Churches	When Organized	Delegation September 18, 1908.	Baptism	Restored	Records	Letters	Expended	Death	Total	Net Time
Sardis	March 10, 1888	Mordecia Hayward, St. Veinatta, P. A. Farley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Brushy Fork	Nov. 1888	Joseph Ray, Wm. Nickles, H. Maynard	4	1	1	1	1	1	7	3
Big Branch	Nov. 1888	J. R. Taylor, H. McCoy, Thos. McCoy	2	1	1	1	1	1	4	2
M.L. Pleasant	Nov. 11, 1893	Joshua West, J. M. Hensley, Joe Varney	3	1	1	1	1	1	5	2
Rebecca	Oct. 1881	A. J. Kayna, Paul Runyon, Jra L. Farley	3	1	1	1	1	1	5	1
Enon	Oct. 1881	O. B. Ketchum, Isaac Sloan	6	2	2	2	2	2	9	3
Bethlehem	Feb. 1894	John B. Ketchum, Compton Stafford	3	1	1	1	1	1	4	2
Bent Branch	March, 1896	Joseph Smith, J. W. Bevins, G. Smith	7	1	1	1	1	1	9	1
Little Dove	March, 1896	Henry Dimesey, John Hall, H. Dempsey, Sr.	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2
Elk Fork	Oct. 29, 1904	Comton White, F. A. Lowe, Eli Curry	16	2	2	2	2	2	19	3
Sidney	June, 1906	Peter Chiles, Chas. Frederick, Andy Scott	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	3
Pleasant Home	Dec. 15, 1906	Lindsay Smith, Shilias Markun	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4
Mary Elizabeth	Dec. 15, 1906	Jerry Smith, W. L. Low, Will Smith	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4
Totals			63	6	6	6	6	6	77	14

Gain by Loss by