

MINUTES OF  
THE  
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
Indian Bottom Association  
OF  
Old Regular Baptists

HELD WITH  
Four Fork Church  
Hazen County, Ky.  
FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY,  
October 1-2-3, 1909.

Comd. Moderator, Eld. H. S. Hayward, Asst. Mod.  
J. P. Adams, Clerk  
The Eagle Print, Whitesburg, Ky.

## PROCEEDINGS

### Of the Fourteenth Annual Session of the Indian Bottom Association, October 1-2-3, 1909.

The Indian Bottom Association of Old Regular Baptist Churches of Jesus Christ convened with Poor Fork church, Harlan county, Ky., Oct. 1-2-3, 1909. The services were opened with singing by the congregation and prayer by Eld. R. H. Fields, Whitesburg, Ky. The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. Ira Combs, Jeff, Ky., from Prov. 9:2, second clause, "In the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

1. The delegates then assembled at the house and after prayer by Eld. J. D. Caudill, Indian Bottom, Ky., the letters from the several churches composing the Association were called for by the Moderator for last year, read and received and delegates and alternates seated, as shown in table of statistics. Letter from Kentucky church, Taney Co, Mo. received at hand of alternates; pastor of Clear Creek church sent personal letter in regular way; letter received from Mallet Fork but no delegates.

2. The Association was then organized by the selection of Eld. Ira Combs Moderator, Eld. D. M. Maggard, Maggard, Ky., Ass't Moderator, and J. P. Adams, Whitesburg, Ky., Clerk.

3. On motion the reading of Articles of Faith was omitted.

4. Called for letters from churches of same faith and order, but none responded.

5. Called for corresponding letters from sister associations and received one from Union Association together with file of minutes by the hand of her messenger, Eld. V. G. Rose; also received one from New Salem Association together with file of minutes by hand of messengers Eld. P. N. Caudill, Scott Burk, David Adams, John M. Akers. Each of said messengers were given the right hand of fellowship by the moderator and took seats with us.

6. Called for transient ministers and members of our faith and order, whereupon came Elds. John Struggill, John H. Riggs, D. F. Gilly, each of whom were given the right hand of fellowship and took seats with us.

7. The Moderator was then authorized to make all temporary appointments during this session of the Association.

8. Appointed a committee on arrangements consisting of 1 member from each church together moderator and clerk, corresponding and transient ministers and members invited.

9. Appointed a committee to arrange the ministry on the stand for Sat. consisting of one delegate or alternate from each church so represented, together with the entire delegation from Poor Fork church, who reported as follows: 1, Eld. P. N. Caudill to open, 2, W. G. Rose, 3, David Adams, 4, Scott Burk; and after business hours, 1, Eld. D. M. Maggard, 2, John M. Akers.

10. On motion it is ordered that we correspond with Union and New Salem Associations and appointed Eld. Charles Blair to write the letter to Union and the clerk to write the one to New Salem Association.

11. Adjourned till 9 o'clock Saturday morning, Oct. 2, 1909.

#### Second Day - Saturday

Met pursuant to adjournment and services were introduced with prayer by Eld. D. M. Maggard.

1. Called the roll and marked the absentees.

2. Called on committee on arrangement to report, report received and committee discharged.

3. Called again for transient ministers and members but none came.

4. Appointed committee on finance consisting of Breth. J. J. Mullins, E. H. Stidham, who received from the several churches and reported the sum of \$17.50. (See table of statistics)

5 Called for report of Treasurer, who reported debts all paid and 91 cents in treasury from last years' funds which together with amount received and turned over to him this year makes a total in treasury of \$18.41 now on hand.

6 Appointed J.P. Adams treasurer and to superintend printing of minutes. He will have 1,000 copies printed, reserving 200 for sister associations and distribute, by registered mail, the remainder among the churches in proportion to their contributions.

7 Appointed same committee on ministry as on vesterday to arrange for Sunday and said committee reported as follows, 1 Eld. J. D. Caudill, 2 J. H. Riggs, 4 D. F. Gilly, 4 Ira Combs; said committee was then discharged.

8 Called on brethren appointed yesterday to write corresponding letters to sister associations. The clerk read the one (prepared in blank) to Union Association which is to be used as a form for both, each of which will be later typewritten by him and signed by Moderator and Clerk. Appointed the following brethren as messengers: To Union Association to be held with Pilgrims Rest church, Pike Co. Ky. commencing Fri. before 3rd Sat. in Sept. 1910, Elds. John Sturgill, D. M. Maggard, Breth. Joei Sturgill, J. P. Adams, Sam Boggs, letter in hands of John Sturgill; to New Salem church, Floyd Co., Ky., commencing Fri. before 4th Sat. in Sept. 1910, Eld. J. D. Caudill, Breth. Hiram Combs, S. R. Blair, J. J. Mullins, Dixon Caudill, letter in hands of S. R. Blair.

9 Appointed Union meetings for 1910 and brethren to attend same as follows: 1 Big Leatherwood church 2nd Sat. and Sun. in June, Elds. Jas. McKnight, Jas. D. Caudill; 2 Indian Bottom church 1st Sat. and Sun. in Aug. Eld. D. M. Maggard Breth. E. H. Stidham, Dixon Caudill, and requests Eld. W. R. Boggs; 3 Oven Fork church 2nd Sat. and Sun. in Aug. Elds. James D. Caudill, James McKnight

10 Called on brethren appointed last year to attend union meetings and sister associations to report and satisfactory reports made.

Resolved, 1 That the clerk supply any omissions which may have been made by oversight; 2 That our Articles of Faith, Constitution, Rules of Decorum and blank form for letter to the Associated be reprinted in our minutes; 3 That we hereby tender our sincere thanks to the citizens of this vicinity for their extreme kindness and hospitality so lavishly extended to us during this session and we pray that they may be richly rewarded both in temporal and spiritual things, keeping in mind Matt. 9:41; 4 That our next Association be held with Mallet Fork church, Knott county, Ky., to commence Fri. before 1st Sat. in Oct. 1910, and that Eld. D. M. Maggard preach the introductory sermon and Eld. Jas. D. Caudill be his alternate.

11 Adjourned to time and place of our next session.

Done and signed by order of the Association.

ELD. IRA COMBS, Moderator.

J. P. ADAMS, Clerk.

ELD. D. M. MAGGARD, Asst. Mod.

### Third Day—Sunday

At an early hour there assembled a large and the best ordered congregation we have ever seen, all things considered. Services were introduced by Eld. Jas. D. Caudill in a few very appropriate remarks, singing by congregation, and a deeply feeling prayer. Then followed preaching in the following order, 1 Eld. J. H. Riggs from John 4:29 "Come see a man which told me all things that I ever did; is this not the Christ?"; 2 Eld. Frank Gilly from 2 Tim. 4:2 "Preach the word"; 3 Eld. Ira Combs from Heb. 5:8-9 "8 Though He were a Son yet learned He obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect. He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him."

Throughout the entire session the best of order prevailed and the most careful attention was given. It certainly seemed to be a modern instance of Paul's exhortation to the Roman brethren (12:10). If mortal can claim perfection in any instance we would say that perfect love reigned throughout. The preaching brethren seemed, indeed, to have tarried at Jerusalem. On Saturday three sis-

ters and on Sunday another came forward, amid much rejoicing, and joined our pilgrim band. Old and silver-haired fathers in Israel were free in the expression that, all things considered, it was the best Association they had ever seen. Our hearts unite in the petition "Heavenly Parent do thou grant that if we be permitted to again meet in like capacity it may be a repetition of such sweet humility and child-like service as this has been. Or if we be called hence, and in the meantime, be thou our guide, our defense, our shield, and our protector, until we meet in that fair clime, and be gathered into that Association with thee as our Supreme Grand Moderator,

'Where congregation ne'er break up,  
And Sabbaths have no end.'

Most humbly,

THE CLERK.

**Letter Form.**

Date . . . . . We, the Regular Baptist Church of Jesus Christ, now in session at . . . church . . . county, Ky., send greeting, our Christian love and salutations, to the ministers and messengers that may compose the Indian Bottom Association when convened with the . . . church . . . county, Ky., to commence on Fri. before . . . Sat. in . . . 19 . . . and the two following days: Dear brethren, we are glad that we can correspond with you, and we have chosen these our beloved brethren to bear this, our letter, to you, to-wit: . . . . . Dear brethren, we ask that you receive our letter and these our brethren to sit with you in your advisory council and in all your Godly deliberations, and may your work be such as the Lord will own at his second coming. We are (comment on the prosperity of the church). Since our last Association we have received by experience and baptism . . . , by letter . . . , by recommendation . . . , restored . . . , dismissed by letter . . . , excluded . . . , died . . . , total number at present . . . , contribution to minute fund sent \$ . . . ; done signed by order of the church, Eld . . . Moderator, . . . church clerk.

# STATISTICS---1909

CHURCHES	NAMES OF MESSENGERS	Rec by Ex & Bap	Rec by Letter	Rec by Restora'n	Dis'ed by Letter	Excluded	Died	Totals	Meeting Time	Contributions
Carrs Fork	S R Blair, J J Mullins, Noah Jent	6	3		5		3	94	4	\$ 2 65
Poor Fork	Ira D Hall, Wm Creech	3					1	24	3	1 75
Big Cowan	D M Maggard R H Fields, M C Fields, J P Adams, Jesse Caudill, Oby Fields, J D Caudill	9					4	84	4	2 20
Clear Creek	Jerry Combs, John Young, (Let. from Mod. failed to give sta'tics)									1 00
Oven Fork	Charles Blair, J J Lewis, Joel Sturgill, E H Stidham	8			2		1	87	2	2 35
Big Leatherwood	(Letter but no messengers)							22	2	55
Indian Bottom	Ira Combs, Hiram Combs, J P Caudill	5		1				91	2	2 00
Clover Fork	J D Caudill, J D Dixon	3		1				61	1	1 30
Kentucky (Mo.)	Jas McKnight, T J Creech, H H Dixon	2					1	33	1	1 75
	Alternates, Charles Blair, James McKnight	1					2	40	1	1 95
	Printers' bills.....							121		\$17 50
	Totals (except Clear Creek)....	84	1	2	7	1	12	536		



**CONSTITUTION**  
**ADOPTED 1907**

Having, by unanimous voice, changed our organization from an Annual Union Meeting to an Association, we therefore propose to keep the order and rules of an Association according to the following form of government:

- 1 The Association shall be called INDIAN BOTTOM ASSOCIATION.
- 2 The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our Union and duly sent to represent them in the Association, who shall be members whom they judge best qualified for that purpose, and producing letters from their churches certifying to their appointment shall be entitled to a seat.
- 3 In the letters from the different churches shall be expressed their number in full fellowship, those baptised, received by letter, recantation, application; dismissed, excluded and deceased since last Association.
- 4 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 any of the rights of any of the churches in the Union.
- 5 The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum.
- 6 The Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.
- 7, New churches may be admitted into this Union, who shall petition by letter and by delegates, and if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association and manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.
- 8 Every church in the Union shall be entitled to representation in the Association.
- 9 Every query presented by a church to the Association, being first debated in their own church, shall come under the consideration of the Association.
- 10 Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the party who made it.
- 11 We think it absolutely necessary that we have an Association fund for defraying the expenses of the same, for the raising of which we think it the duty of each church in the Union to contribute such sums voluntarily as they think proper and send it by the hands of their delegates to the Association and the money so contributed shall be deposited with the treasurer who shall be responsible to the Association and pay same out as the Association may direct.
- 12, There shall be an Association book kept in which the proceedings of every Association shall be regularly recorded by the secretary who shall be appointed annually by the Association.
- 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.
- 14 Amendments to this plan, or form of government, may be made at any time by a majority of the Union, when it may so desire.
- 15 The Association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with Minutes of the Association. The best method of effecting same shall be at the discretion of the Association.
- 16 All matters coming before this Association shall be decided by will of the majority of the suffrage present, except in receiving and dismissing churches and associations which shall be by a unanimous voice.
- 17 The Association shall have power to provide for the general union of the churches and to preserve an inviolable chain of communion among the same, giving the churches all necessary advice in matters of church difficulty, inquire into the cause why any church shall have failed to represent itself at any time in the Association, appropriate the money received to any purpose it may think proper, appoint any member or members, with their consent, to transact any business it may think necessary; withdraw from any church in the Union which may violate any of the rules of the Association or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion, admit any orderly minister of our faith and order to a seat in the Association; and adjourn to any time or place it may deem convenient.

## RULES OF DECORUM.

- 1 The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.
- 2 A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of members present.
- 3 Only one member shall speak at a time and shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator when he is about to speak.
- 4 The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by anyone except the Moderator until he is done speaking.
- 5 He shall strictly adhere to his subject and in no wise reflect on the preceding speaker but shall define his ideas on the proposition for debate so far as he can.
- 6 No person shall abruptly absent himself from this Association without liberty.
- 7 No person shall rise and speak more than three times on any one subject without permission of the Association.
- 8 No member of the Association shall have liberty to laugh during the sitting of the same, nor to whisper in time of public speech.
- 9 No member of this Association shall address another under any other appellation than that of Brother.
- 10 The Moderator shall not interrupt or prohibit a member from speaking, until he gives his views on the subject, unless he shall have violated the Rules of Decorum.
- 11 The names of the several members of the Association shall be enrolled by the clerk and called over as often as the Association may require.
- 12 The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as another member, provided the chair be filled, but he shall have no vote unless the Association be equally divided, in that event he shall give the casting vote.
- 13 Any member who shall willingly and knowingly violate any of these rules shall be reprimanded by the Association as it may think proper.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH.

- 1 We believe in one true and living God; and notwithstanding there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet there is but one in substance, equal in power and glory, not to be divided, and impossible to change in principle or practice.
- 2 We believe that the Old and New Testament Scriptures are the true written word of God and were given by inspiration of God, and there is a sufficiency in them contained for our instruction, and they are the only rule of faith and practice.
- 3 We believe in the doctrine of Original Sin, and that men sinned since the fall are by Nature the Children of Wrath.
- 4 We believe in the impotency or inability of men to recover themselves out of the state they are in; therefore, a Savior is absolutely needed.
- 5 We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.
- 6 We believe in the perseverance of the saints; that through Grace they are born again and adopted into the family of heaven; that they become equal with Jesus Christ in glory and that he will raise them up at the last day.
- 7 We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are Gospel Ordinances, and that true believers are the only proper subjects, and we admit of none others.
- 8 We believe the only true mode of baptism is by immersion—to baptize a person by their own consent, back-foremost in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
- 9 We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a General Judgment, where all will be judged according to the deeds done in the body.
- 10 We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and the joys of the righteous will be eternal after death.
- 11 We believe that washing one another's feet is a commandment of Christ, left on record with his disciples and ought to be practiced by his followers.
- 12 We believe that no one has a right to administer the Gospel Ordinances but such as are legally called and qualified thereunto.
- 13 We believe it to be the duty of all church members to attend their church

meetings, and that it is the duty of the church to deal with them for neglecting the same.

14 We believe it to be the duty of all church members to contribute for the support of the church by defraying all reasonable expenses of same, never neglecting the poor according to their several abilities.

15 We believe that any doctrine that goes to encourage or indulge the people in their sins, or cause them to settle down on anything short of saving faith in Christ for salvation, is erroneous, and all such doctrine will be rejected by us.

16 None of the above named articles shall be so construed as to hold with Particular Election and Reprobation so as to make God partial, directly or indirectly, so as to injure the children of men.

17 None of the above articles shall be altered without legal notice and free consent.