

Historical Sketch, Confession of Faith and Covenant, and Standing Rules

This printed pamphlet contained all of the items listed in the title for the First Church of Christ in Wabaunsee, Wabaunsee County, Kansas Territory. The church was also known as the Beecher Bible and Rifle Church.

Creator: First Church of Christ, Wabaunsee

Date: April 1, 1858

Callnumber: CK 285.8 C76K

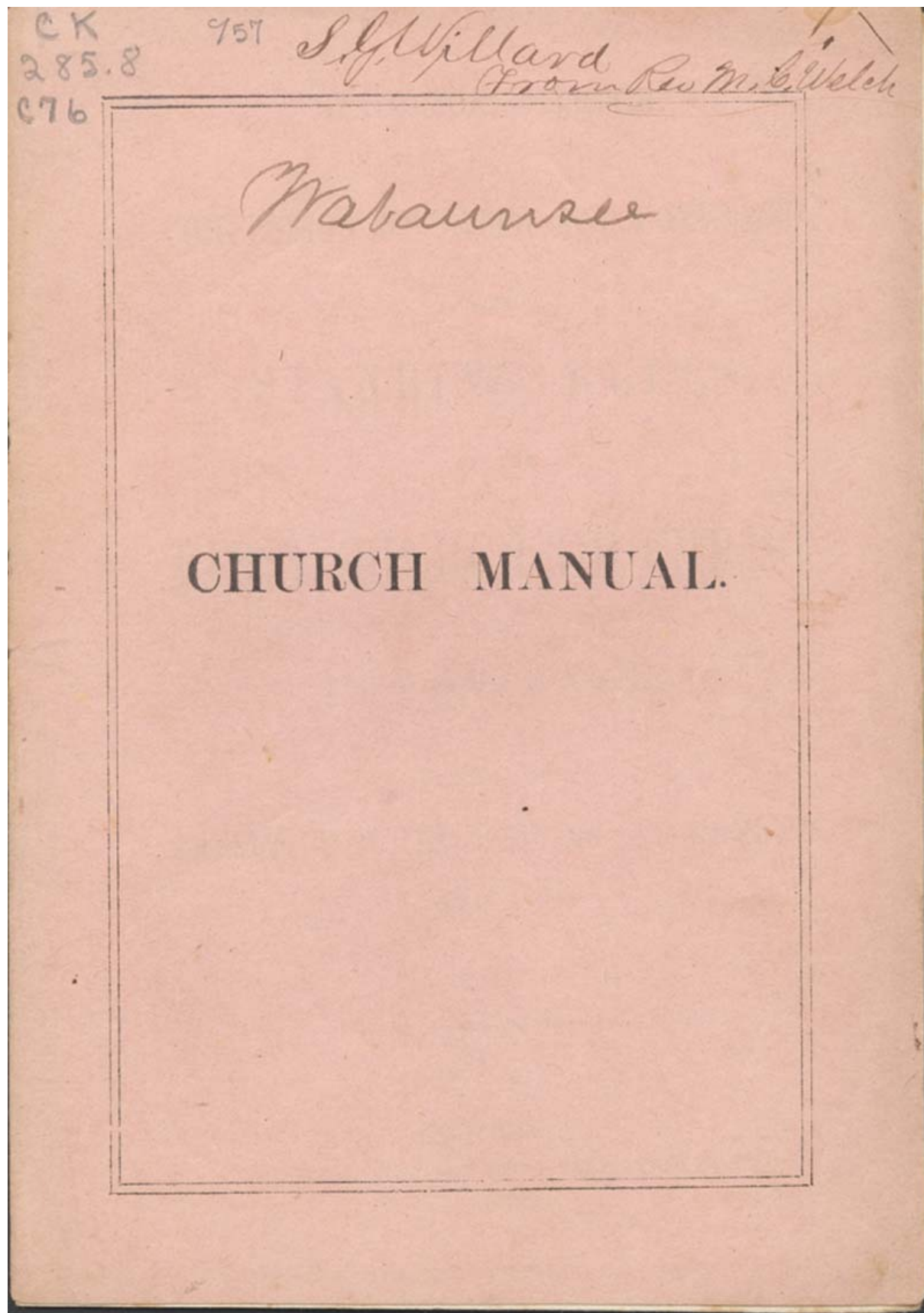
KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 4152

Item Identifier: 4152

www.kansasmemory.org/item/4152



Historical Sketch, Confession of Faith and Covenant, and Standing Rules

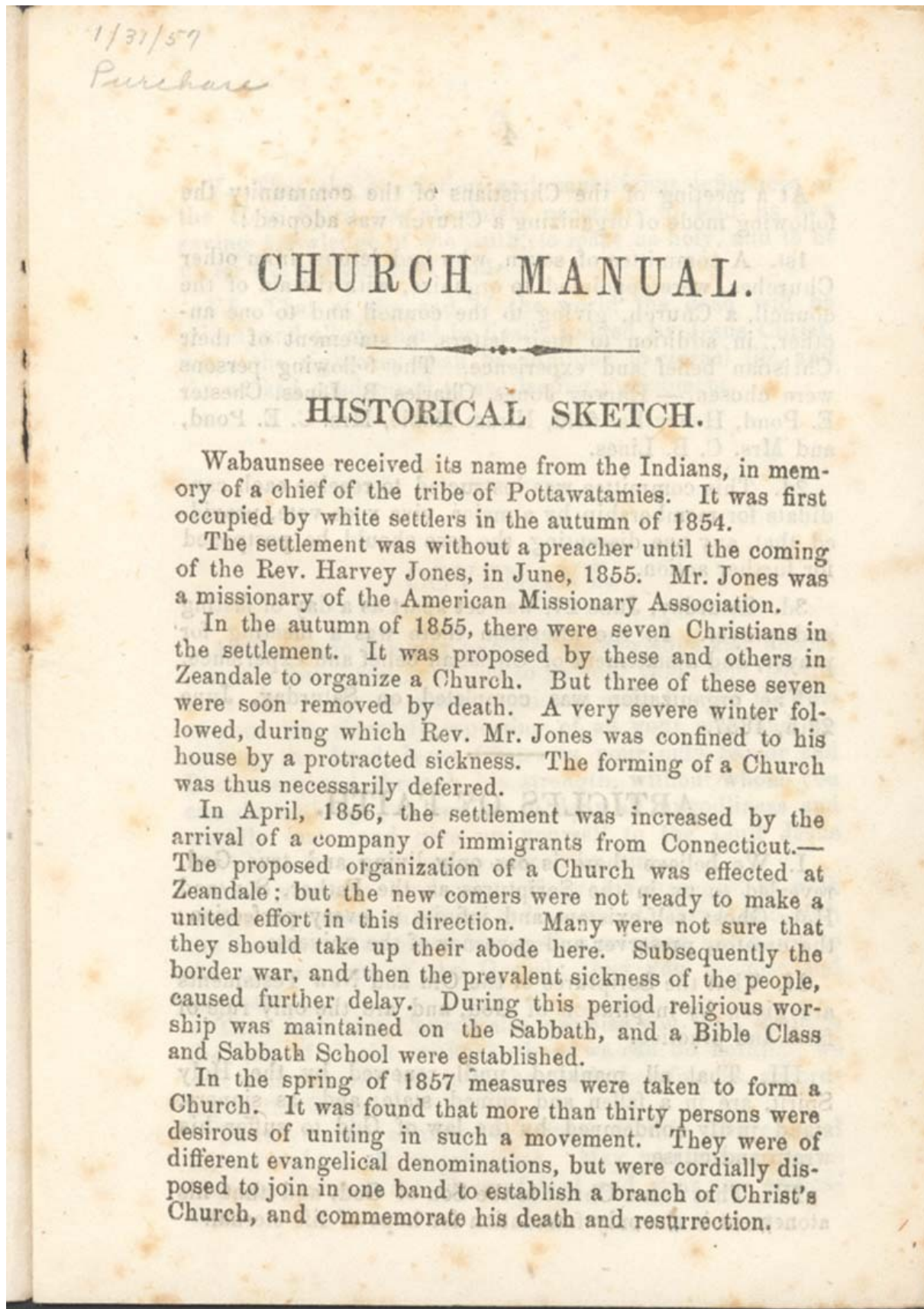


Historical Sketch, Confession of Faith and Covenant, and Standing Rules

HISTORICAL SKETCH,
CONFESSION OF FAITH AND COVENANT,
AND
STANDING RULES
OF THE
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST,
IN WABAUNSEE,
TOGETHER WITH A
CATALOGUE OF THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS,
APRIL 1, 1858.

LAWRENCE :
PRINTED AT THE LAWRENCE REPUBLICAN OFFICE.
1858.

Historical Sketch, Confession of Faith and Covenant, and Standing Rules





Historical Sketch, Confession of Faith and Covenant, and Standing Rules

4

At a meeting of the Christians of the community the following mode of organizing a Church was adopted :

1st. A committee of seven, who had letters from other Churches, were appointed to organize, with the aid of the council, a Church, giving to the council and to one another, in addition to their letters, a statement of their Christian belief and experience. The following persons were chosen, — Harvey Jones, Charles B. Lines, Chester E. Pond, Henry Fairfield, Hiram Mabie, Mrs. C. E. Pond, and Mrs. C. B. Lines.

2d. This committee was instructed to receive each candidate for membership by a major, viva voce vote, provided that, any one dissenting, the case should be postponed for further action.

3d. Saturday, June 27, was set apart as a day of fasting and prayer. In the afternoon there was a meeting for prayer, and a statement of Christian belief and experience.

The organization was completed on Saturday, June 28th, 1857.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

I. We believe there is one only living and true God, revealed to us in the Scriptures as the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, self-existent and infinite in every perfection; the creator, preserver and governor of the universe.

II. That the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are given by inspiration of God, and are the only rule of faith and practice.

III. That all mankind, until renewed by the Holy Spirit, are in a fallen and ruined state, and, as sinners, stand justly condemned by the law of God to suffer his wrath and curse.

IV. That Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that his atonement is the only foundation for hope of life eternal.

Historical Sketch, Confession of Faith and Covenant, and Standing Rules

5

V. That the convicting and sanctifying influences of the Holy Spirit are absolutely necessary to lead us to a saving knowledge of the truth, to make us holy, and to fit us for the enjoyment of God.

VI. That at the end of the world the dead will be raised, and all mankind be finally judged by Jesus Christ, when the righteous shall be admitted to eternal life, and the wicked condemned to everlasting punishment.

COVENANT.

And you do this day publicly acknowledge and choose the only living and true God to be your God; and by the assistance of divine grace promise to make his law the rule of your life, sincerely repenting of all your sins, and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as your only Savior and Redeemer; and through his strength, without whom you can do nothing, you resolve to deny all ungodliness and worldly lusts, and give up yourself to the Lord Jesus Christ, to be taught and governed by him.

And you also bind yourself, in his strength, to walk with this Church in all the ordinances of Christ, and with the members thereof, as becometh a member, according to the requirements of the Gospel: thus you promise and covenant.

Then doth this Church also promise you that, through the help of Christ, without whom we can do nothing, we will walk towards you in all brotherly helpfulness, according to the Gospel.

Thus you are admitted a member of this Church, and have a right to all its privileges. May you have grace to improve them to the glory of God and your own edification.

Historical Sketch, Confession of Faith and Covenant, and Standing Rules

STANDING RULES.

I. The name of this Church shall be,—THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN WABAUNSEE.

II. The officers of this Church, besides the Pastor, shall be a Clerk, a Treasurer, and a suitable number of Deacons, not exceeding four, who shall hold their office one year, and until others are chosen in their stead.

III. All business of the Church shall be transacted at meetings regularly called, by a major vote of the members present; the Pastor, or in his absence the senior Deacon, presiding.

IV. The discipline of the Church for personal offences shall be that prescribed by Jesus Christ in the 18th chapter of Matthew; and for general offences the offender must be answerable to the Church; the Pastor and Deacons being a standing committee to attend to all matters of discipline.

V. Persons desiring to unite with this Church, on profession of their faith in Christ, shall, after examination, be propounded at least two weeks, and, if no objection be made, they shall be publicly admitted in the usual form.

VI. Persons recommended by certificate, from other Churches, may be received at a regular meeting upon such examination as the Church may direct, their certificates being read to the Church at least two weeks previous to the public admission.

VII. The communion of the Lord's supper shall be administered once in two months, beginning on the first Sabbath in September.

VIII. There shall be a meeting for conference and prayer once in each week; and the ordinary business of the Church may be transacted at the meeting preceding the first Sabbath of each month, provided notice thereof be given the previous Sabbath.

Historical Sketch, Confession of Faith and Covenant, and Standing Rules

7

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

REV. HARVEY JONES, *Stated Pastor.*

Deacons,

MOSES C. WELCH, }
HARLOW ISBELL, } Chosen July 5th, 1857.

Trustees,

CHARLES B. LINES, }
CHESTER E. POND, } Chosen Dec. 31st, 1857.
JOHN H. NESBITT, }

Clerk,

MOSES C. WELCH.

Treasurer,

CHESTER E. POND.

CHURCH MEMBERS,

JUNE 28, 1857.

Harlow Isbell,
Anna Bushnell, wife of H. Isbell,
Chester E. Pond,
Mary Scott, wife of C. E. Pond,
Alpheus N. Allen,
Catherine A. Leonard, wife of A. N. Allen,
E. Dwight Street,
Mary Elmer, wife of E. D. Street,
Mary A. Matthews, wife of Timothy Read,
Maria A. Bristoll, wife of Austin Kelsey,
Caroline Cheney, widow of M. B. Foss,
Cornelia M. Lines, (Mrs. S. M. Thomas),
Charles B. Lines,
Henry Fairfield,
Hiram Mabie,
J. Evarts Platt.
Julius F. Willard,
Franklin H. Hart,

Historical Sketch, Confession of Faith and Covenant, and Standing Rules

8

CHURCH MEMBERS.

William F. Cotton,
Hezekiah M. Selden,
John S. Avery,
John H. Nesbitt,
Friend W. Ingham,
Daniel B. Hiatt,
John Willig,
Moses C. Welch,

MARCH 7, 1858.

Maria Wooding, wife of C. B. Lines,
Emeline H. Osborne, wife of H. Mabie,
Charles W. Parker,
Chauncey Noyes,
Luther H. Platt.