

DISCIPLINE - LOCAL CHURCHES IN MIDDLE GEORGIA 1860-1865

As analyzed in *Diverging Loyalties: Baptists in Middle Georgia During the Civil War* (divergingloyalties.com) by Bruce T. Gourley

Cases regarding absences and unspecified discipline references, including "difficulties" between members, not included; only moral failures.

Note about offenses: "Misconduct" includes "Disorderly Conduct" and "Unchristian conduct"; "Excluded" includes "Excommunicated"

Note about "Dismissed": means charges were dropped for lack of evidence

Note about forgiveness: "Forgiven" means offender admitted sin, expressed remorse, asked for and received forgiveness.

Note about alcohol: most churches used alcohol in communion (Poplar Springs appointed deacons to make wine Jan 23, 1864)

Note about slaves: in slave category, an * beside "former" indicates a post-war freeman referred to as "property of," "belonging to" or "servant of"

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>NAT.</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>ASSOCIATION</u>	<u>OFFENSE</u>	<u>DISCIPLINE</u>	<u>GEN.</u>	<u>SLAVE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Antioch	R	Washington	Washington	Joining Meth	Excluded	F		1860/06/09
Antioch	R	Washington	Washington	Drunkeness, Profanity	Excluded			1861/04/13
Antioch	R	Washington	Washington	Drunkeness, Profanity	Forgiven			1861/04/13
Antioch	R	Washington	Washington	Profanity	Excluded			1861/10/12
Antioch	R	Washington	Washington	Joined Meth	Excluded			1865/10/01
Mt. Carmel Prim	N	Crawford		Misconduct	Dismissed		Slave	1860/06/16
Mt. Carmel Prim	N	Crawford		Drunkeness	Forgiven			1860/06/16
Mt. Carmel Prim	N	Crawford		Stealing			Former	1863/03/14
Jackson	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness	Excluded (2)			1860/08/18
Jackson	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness	Dismissed			1860/10/20
Jackson	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness	Dismissed			1860/11/17
Jackson	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness	Restored			1860/12/15
Jackson	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness	Dismissed (2)			1861/01/19
Jackson	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Profanity	Forgiven			1862/01/04
Mineral Springs	SP	Washington	Washington	Immoral Conduct	Excluded	F		1860/06/30
Poplar Springs	N	Laurens		Stealing; Run Away	Excluded		Slave	1861/11/23
Poplar Springs	N	Laurens		Misconduct	Forgiven		Slave	1861/12/21
Poplar Springs	N	Laurens		Difficulties BM	Excluded			1862/05/24
Poplar Springs	N	Laurens		Stealing	Excluded (3)	1 F	Slave	1862/11/22
Poplar Springs	N	Laurens		Fighting Overseer, Lies	Excluded		Slave	1862/11/22
Poplar Springs	N	Laurens		Mistreating Wife	Forgiven			1865/01/04
Poplar Springs	N	Laurens		Stealing	Excluded (2)		Slave	1865/01/04

Poplar Springs	N	Laurens		Misconduct	Forgiven			1865/05
Poplar Springs	N	Laurens		Misconduct	Forgiven	F		1865/06
Poplar Springs	N	Laurens		Misconduct	Excluded	F		1865/06
Houston Factory	SP	Houston	Rehoboth	Contempt		F		1860/01/21
Houston Factory	SP	Houston	Rehoboth	Adultery	Excluded	F		1860/01/21
Houston Factory	SP	Houston	Rehoboth	Drunkeness	Forgiven			1861/07/27
Houston Factory	SP	Houston	Rehoboth	Fighting	Forgiven			1863/10
Houston Factory	SP	Houston	Rehoboth	Stealing	Excluded		Former*	1865/08/20
Midway Baptist	SP	Bibb	Rehoboth	Fornication	Not a Member			1863/02
Midway Baptist	SP	Bibb	Rehoboth	Contempt	Excluded		Former	1865/11
Midway Baptist	SP	Bibb	Rehoboth	Stealing	Excluded		Former	1865/11
Indian Creek	SP	Henry			Excluded (2)	F	Slave	1860/07/07
Indian Creek	SP	Henry		Adultery	Excluded	F	Slave	1861/06/08
Sandy Creek	SP	Morgan	Appalachee	Misconduct	Excluded			1860/03/24
Sandy Creek	SP	Morgan	Appalachee	Stealing	Excluded	F	Slave	1861/10/21
Sandy Creek	SP	Morgan	Appalachee	Dancing	Forgiven	F		1863/02/21
Sandy Creek	SP	Morgan	Appalachee	Dancing	Forgiven	F		1865/05/27
Sandy Creek	SP	Morgan	Appalachee	Not Living w/husband		F		1865/07/22
Sandy Creek	SP	Morgan	Appalachee	Lewdness	Forgiven	F		1865/07/22
Sandy Creek	SP	Morgan	Appalachee	Dancing	Forgiven	F		1865/08/25
Zion	SP	Newton	Stone Mt	Joining Anti-M Baptists	Excluded	F		1860/04/07
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer		Excluded (6)	4 F		1860/07/07
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Departing Baptist usage	Excluded (5)	2 F		1860/08/11
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Drunkeness, Profanity	Excluded			1860/09/08
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Drunkeness	Excluded (3)			1860/11/11
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Drunkeness	Forgiven			1860/11/11
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Joining w/ ch/ "diff. order"	Excluded			1860/12/08
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Joining Meth. Church	Excluded	F		1860/12/08
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Drunkeness	Excluded (5)			1861/01-05
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Drunkeness	Forgiven (7)			1861/01-05
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Adultery, Fornication	Excluded	F		1861/07/13
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Card Playing	Excluded			1861/09/07
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Drunkeness	Excluded			1862/01/11
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Dancing	? (3)			1863/02/07
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Adultery	Excluded	F		1864/06/11
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Adultery	Excluded	F		1865/06/10
Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Misconduct	Excluded			1865/08/12

Liberty	SP	Wilkerson	Ebenezer	Drunkenness, Profanity	Excluded			1865/09/11
Bethlehem	SP	Morgan		Insubordination, Res. Ov.	Forgiven		Slave	1861/07/21
Bethlehem	SP	Morgan		Adultery	Excluded	F	Slave	1863/02/28
Bethlehem	SP	Morgan			Excluded (at request)			1865/11/05
Bethlehem	SP	Morgan		Fighting	Forgiven (2)			1865/12/02
Bethesda	S	Greene	Georgia	Misconduct (own init.)	Forgiven			1863/02/14
Bethesda	S	Greene	Georgia	Dancing	Forgiven (2)	2 F		1863/03/14
Bethesda	S	Greene	Georgia		Forgiven	F	Slave	1863/03/14
Bethesda	S	Greene	Georgia	Stealing*	Forgiven		Slave	1863/12/17
Bethesda	S	Greene	Georgia	Fornication	Excluded			1864/03/19
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Drunkenness**	Forgiven			1860/01/21
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Joining Methodists	Excluded		Slave	1860/10/27
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Adultery	Excluded			1860/10/27
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Lying, Profanity	Excluded	F		1860/10/27
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Drunkenness	Forgiven			1861/01/05
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Lying, Stealing	Excluded (2)		Slaves	1861/07/06
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Misconduct, Profanity	Refused to Bapt	F		1862/11/01
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Drunkenness	Forgiven			1863/10/31
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Stealing	Excluded	F		1863/12/05
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Profanity	Forgiven			1864/08/06
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Joining Methodists	Excluded	F		1865/02/04
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Drunkenness	Excluded			1865/04/01
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Stealing	Excluded			1865/06/03
Siloam	SP	Greene	Georgia	Adultery	Excluded	F		1865/12/02
Harmony Prim	SP	Pike		Joining "Another Church"	Excluded (2)	1 F		1861/04/13
Harmony Prim	SP	Pike		Joining "Another Church"	Excluded	F		1861/05/11
Harmony Prim	SP	Pike		Killing a Hog (member's)***	Excluded			1861/08/10
Harmony Prim	SP	Pike		Lying	Excluded	F		1863/10/10
Harmony Prim	SP	Pike		Killing a Man	Excluded			1863/10/10
Harmony Prim	SP	Pike		Cutting down tree at ch.	Dismissed			1865/04/08
Harmony Prim	SP	Pike		Mason Member	Excluded			1865/12/09
Union	N	Spaulding	Flint River	Dancing	Forgiven			1860/02/25
Union	N	Spaulding	Flint River	Dancing	Forgiven			1860/03/24
Union	N	Spaulding	Flint River	Misconduct	Excluded			1860/03/24
Union	N	Spaulding	Flint River	Drunkenness, Profanity	Excluded			1861/01/26
Union	N	Spaulding	Flint River	Drunkenness	Forgiven			1861/09/28
Union	N	Spaulding	Flint River		Forgiven	F	Slave	1862/02/22

Union	N	Spaulding	Flint River	Fornication	Excluded	F		1863/03/26
Union	N	Spaulding	Flint River	Gambling, Drunkeness	Excluded			1865/06/24
Bethel	N	Jasper	Central	Drunkeness	Forgiven			1861/02/16
Bethel	N	Jasper	Central	Drunkeness, Profanity***	Excluded			1861/07/20
Bethel	N	Jasper	Central	Drunkeness (see 61/2/16)	Forgiven			1861/09/14
Bethel	N	Jasper	Central	Fornication	Excluded	F	Slave	1861/11/16
Bethel	N	Jasper	Central	Stealing	Excluded		Slave	1862/05/17
Bethel	N	Jasper	Central	Dancing	Dismissed			1864/03/19
Bethel	N	Jasper	Central	Stealing	Excluded			1865/06/21
Bethel	N	Jasper	Central	Stealing	Dismissed		Freedman	1865/09/23
Bethel	N	Jasper	Central	Drunkeness (see 61/2/16)	Forgiven			1865/11/27
Antioch	N	Morgan	Central	Adultery	Excluded		Slave	1860/06/09
Antioch	N	Morgan	Central	Incontenacy (?)	Excluded		Slave	1861/1/31
Antioch	N	Morgan	Central	Revoltng or running away	Forgiven		Slave	1861/02/09
Antioch	N	Morgan	Central	Stealing	Forgiven		Slave	1861/04/14
Antioch	N	Morgan	Central	Revoltng & assault on OS	Excluded		Slave	1861/04/12
Salem	N	Jones	Central	Joining Methodists	Excluded			1861/07/06
Salem	N	Jones	Central	Drunkeness	Dismissed			1862/04/05
Salem	N	Jones	Central	Fighting the Overseer	Dismissed		Slave	1862/05/31
Salem	N	Jones	Central	Joining Methodists	Excluded			1863/01/31
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness, Profanity	Forgiven			1860/03/10
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Adultery	Excluded			1860/05/12
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness	Forgiven			1860/06/10
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Lewdness, Profanity	Excluded			1860/10/12
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness	Forgiven			1861/02/09
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness	Excluded			1861/03/09
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Adultery	Excluded	F	Slave?	1861/05/11
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Adultery	Excluded	F		1861/06/08
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Adultery	Excluded	F		1861/11/09
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Misconduct	Dismissed		Slave	1861/12/07
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Misconduct	Excluded	F		1863/10/12
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Fighting	Forgiven			1863/10/12
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Stealing	Excluded		Slave	1863/12/12
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness	Forgiven			1865/02/11
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness	Forgiven			1865/04/08
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness	Forgiven			1865/09/09
Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Dancing (in the Ballroom)	Excluded	F		1865/12/09

Bethlehem	N	Laurens	Mt. Vernon	Fornication	Excluded	F		1865/12/09
New Hope	N	Greene	Appalalachee	Drunkeness (self-imposed)	Excluded			1860/03/18
New Hope	N	Greene	Appalalachee	Drunkeness	Forgiven			1861/10/19
New Hope	N	Greene	Appalalachee	Stealing	Baptism Refused			1863/06/20
New Hope	N	Greene	Appalalachee	Profanity (Lord's name vain)	Excluded			1864/01/14
New Hope	N	Greene	Appalalachee	Unspecified (army vet)*****	Forgiven			1865/08/19
Madison	N	Morgan	Central	Drunkeness	Excluded		Slave	1860/09/27
Madison	N	Morgan	Central	Abandoning Husband	Excluded		Slave	1860/09/27
Madison	N	Morgan	Central	Profanity, Drunkeness	Excluded			1860/12/01
Madison	N	Morgan	Central	Drunkeness	Excluded			1863/04/03
New Bethel	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Profanity, Drunkeness	Forgiven			1860/01/21
New Bethel	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Joining Campbellite Ch.	Excluded	F		1860/02/25
New Bethel	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Drunkeness, Gaming	Excluded			1860/05/26
New Bethel	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Stealing, Fighting	Forgiven			1860/09/22
New Bethel	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Gambling, Drunkeness	Forgiven			1862/07/26
New Bethel	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Stealing	Excluded			1864/05/22
New Bethel	N	Washington	Mt. Vernon	Fornication	Excluded	F	Freedwoman	1865/12/23
Providence	N	Jasper	Central	Dancing	Forgiven	F		1864/01/14
Providence	N	Jasper	Central	? (illegible)	Excluded	F		1864/01/14
Providence	N	Jasper	Central	Dancing (2nd time,64/01)	Forgiven	F		1864/05/14
Providence	N	Jasper	Central	Fornication	Excluded	F		1865/01
Providence	N	Jasper	Central	Adultery	Excluded (2)	2F	"Servants"	1865/07/16

* "The case of Tom (a servant of Brother Lyne) charged with theft Tom came forward _ stated to the church that he did take a small portion of syrup from his master at the mill when they first commenced making _ namely took a little to eat _ was sorry that he had ever done that & wished the church to forgive him. On motion he was forgiven and the Pastor made a few remarks to him cautioning him against a repetition of the same or any like offense."

** Four months later this man was excluded from the church for non-attendance

*** Found guilty of "maliciously killing" a sister member's hog

**** Man found guilty of drunkeness, profanity, fleeing from wife and creditors

***** James H. Perkins, army veteran confessed to falling into "temptation" while in the army and bringing "reproach upon the name of Christ, asked for forgiveness and was forgiven