


9-1854

## 1854 Annual Minutes

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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### Recommended Citation

Arkansas Baptist State Convention, "1854 Annual Minutes" (1854). *Arkansas Baptist State Convention Annuals*. 25.  
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# MINUTES

OF THE

## SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

### RED RIVER REGULAR BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

*Held September 14th, 15th and 16th, 1854, with Mt. Bethel Church,*

CLARK COUNTY, ARKANSAS.

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The introductory sermon was preached by Elder E. Haynes, from Act. 26 chap. and 22 vs. *"Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this witnessing both to small and great, saying no other things than those which the Prophets and Moses did say should come."*

After which the delegates assembled at the house and the Association was opened by prayer by Elder E. Haynes, Moderator; T. A. Heard, Clerk.

Letters from the different churches were then called for and read, and the delegates' names enrolled.

Elder E. Haynes was unanimously elected Moderator, and Thos. A. Heard Clerk.

Invited visiting brethren to take seats with us.

Called for petitionary letters. The churches County Line, South Fork and New Home, presented their letters and were received into our body.

Called for correspondence, and received a letter and minutes from Columbia Association, presented by Elder Wm. Daniel, who was invited to a seat with us.

Appointed R. M'Elroy, E. J. Bourland, in connection with the delegates from this church to arrange preaching.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning; prayer by Brother Stevenson.

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#### *Friday Morning.*

Met pursuant to adjournment, prayer by Bro. H. H. Coleman.

Renewed the call for correspondence; received a letter and minutes from the Saline Association, presented by Elder H. H. Coleman, who was invited to take a seat with us.

Brothers G. V. Stratton and J. W. Holt, appointed a committee on Finance.

*On Sabbath Schools*—Brethren S. Stevenson, T. A. Heard and M. L. Langly, to make a report at this meeting, and a more lengthy one at our next session.

*On Colored Population*.—Brothers B. L. Wright, J. McCulloch and R. M'Elroy.

*On Temperance*.—Brothers E. J. Bourland, B. L. Wright and S. J. Melton.

Appointed Correspondence, viz: Salem Association, Brethren S. Stevenson and Wm. Adams, Bro. Stevenson to write. *Liberty*.—Brethren M. L. Langley and James Gunter, Bro. Langley to write. *Columbia*. Brethren J. McCulloch, E. Haynes and S. J. Melton, Brother McCulloch to write. *Caddo*. Brethren Langley, Cornelius and Minick, Bro. Langley to write.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to morrow morning. Prayer by Bro. Langley.

Saturday Morning.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Bro. Coleman.

Called the roll and marked absentees.

Called for the circular, which was read and received.

Renewed the call for correspondence, received a letter from Liberty Association, presented by Elder A. J. Smith, who was invited to take a seat with us.

Report of the committee on Temperance, was presented, read and received. [See A.]

Report of the committee on colored population was read and adopted. [See B.]

Read and received the report of the committee on Finance and Sabbath Schools.

Appointed S. Stevenson, E. J. Bourland, T. A. Heard, delegates to the Arkansas Baptist Convention. Bro. Stevenson to write and express the sentiments of this body, viz: In as much as our churches and Associations do not co-operate heartily with the Convention; *Therefore resolved*, That this Association suggest the propriety of suspending operations for the present.

Appointed the next session of this body to be held with the County Line Church, Hempstead county, commencing on Saturday before the 3d Sabbath in September next.

Elected Elder M. L. Langley to preach the introductory sermon. Elder E. Haynes his alternate. Elder S. Stevenson to write the circular letter.

Appointed Elder E. Haynes to preach a sermon on Missions, on Sabbath of our next session.

Ordered that the clerk superintend and have 700 copies of these minutes printed and distributed to all the churches of this body, and have ten dollars for his services.

Adjourned to meet Monday morning 9 o'clock. Prayer by the Moderator.

*Monday Morning.*

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by the Moderator.

On motion, this body send thirty-two dollars, the amount raised on Sabbath, to the Arkansas Baptist Convention.

*Resolved*, That each church in this Association be requested to appoint some person to prepare a brief sketch of said church, with all dates, statistics and incidents of interest, and forward the same immediately by mail, to the Rev. P. G. S. Watson, Helena, Arkansas.

Authorised the Clerk to confer with the Clerk of the Saline Association; also, the Clerk of the Arkansas Baptist Convention, respecting the publishing of the minutes together—provided this can be effected without much additional expense.

Elder R. M. Thrasher offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted.

*Resolved*, That this Association heartily approve of the course of Elder J. R. Graves, Editor of the Tennessee Baptist, in relation to his opposition to, and exposition of Campbellism—also, that the Clerk send him a copy of these minutes.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Association are due the brethren and friends of Mt. Bethel church, for the very hospitable entertainment of this body, during the present session.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this body are due the Moderator, for the very able, dignified and courteous manner in which he has presided over its deliberations—and also, to the Clerk, for his patient and arduous, yet cordial services.

Adjourned with the usual services, to meet as appointed with County Line Church.

E. HAYNES, *Moderator.*

T. A. HEARN, *Clerk.*

[ A ]

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

*To the Honorable Legislature of Arkansas:*

The Red River Regular Baptist Association, composed of delegates from the churches in the counties of Ouachita, Columbia, Clark, Hempstead and Hot Springs, respectfully present to your Honorable body, their memorial in relation to the licensed sale of intoxicating liquors in this portion of the State. They earnestly remonstrate against the legal allowance of a traffic destructive of good morals, and attended with ruinous consequences to many of our thoughtless citizens. Your memorialist cannot perceive the consistency of Legislators who have enacted laws for the government of the people, and connived at or expressly sanctioned the legality of a pursuit whose immediate tendency, is to make men lawless and reckless by depriving them of their reason; without attempting to enforce by argument the propriety and correctness of their views, in relation to a measure, the bitter fruits of which are palpable even to the unobserving. Your memorialist respectfully urge the enactment of a law, which will leave the decision of the license or no license, in regard to the sale of spirituous liquors to the majority of the legal voters of each county, making it penal to violate the decision of the county, when it shall have prohibited such sale. Should any county under such a law

allow the continuance of the traffic, in life, health and character, your memorialist as in duty bound, must quietly acquiesce. But in those counties where large majorities of the citizens are opposed to it, it is but the right of self-preservation to urge the enactment of a law, which also expresses on its face, the first and fundamental principle of a free government in the assertion of the right, by the majority of the principle of self protection.

E. J. BOURLAND, *Chairman.*

[ B ]

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE COLORED POPULATION.

It has been a subject of daily observation and deep concern, that this class of the community in Arkansas, stands in a more remote relation to the institutions of the Gospel than exists in any of our sister southern States in the confederacy. The cause of this remote relation has been a matter of anxious speculation. The hope is indulged that the mischief will be pointed out and provided for, in the adoption of the following suggestions. 1st. That the several churches comprising this Association, are earnestly advised to make the necessary additions to their meeting houses for the accommodation of the colored people in their immediate neighborhoods. 2d. That the several churches be also advised to give to the masters of slaves, assurances that the attendance of their servants upon the instituted worship of Jehovah will be under the immediate supervision of the aforesaid churches. 3d. That the churches be further advised to insist upon the adoption by their private and ministerial members of a general system of personal invitation of the colored people to attend the Gospel. 4th. It is impressively advised that the same churches hold conferences on the Sabbath day whenever a wholesome administration of the precepts of the Gospel suggest the propriety of the same among the colored members of the church.

R. L. WRIGHT.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Pleasant Hill Church, Columbia,	\$4 00	Arkadelphia,	"	3 00
Macedonia,	2 00	Ozark,		3 00
Bethel, Union,	2 50	New Home,		1 75
Pleasant Hill, Clark,	2 00	County Line,		4 00
Pleasant Grove, "	1 50	South Fork,		1 00
Corinth, "	2 00	Union,		1 00
Antioch, "	4 00	De Roche,		2 00
Bethsaida, "	2 00	White Oak Grove,		75
Mt. Olive, "	1 50	Mt. Bethel,		2 00
Bethany, "	1 50	Hopewell,		1 00
Bethlehem, "	2 00			—
Amount from the Churches,				\$45 00
" in the Treasury,				50
Total amount,				\$45 50
All of which is respectfully submitted.				

G. V. STRATTON, *Chairman.*

## SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

*"And all the children shall be taught of the Lord."* Isa. 54. 13.

The cause of Sabbath Schools, commends itself to the heart of every christian. If there be a God, a heaven, and a hell; if man be immortal and need salvation, and if the youthful heart be most easily moved by *Divine Truth*; the great importance of early religious instruction, will be readily admitted.

No earthly power can release parents from the fearful obligations imposed on them by Divine authority. Those who neglect the spiritual welfare of their children, and fail to direct their feet in the paths to holiness and Heaven; will incur tremendous guilt, to be accounted for in the great and terrible day of the Lord.

The peculiar excellence of the Sunday School system, is, that it *"takes care of the children,"*—provides for the *spiritually fatherless*—for those unfortunate immortals who are treated as if they had no souls. No parental hand leads them to the house of God. *No family Bible* sheds its sacred light upon their pathway to immortality. No mother's lips speaks to them, with tenderness, of a Saviour's love. The sacrifices of thanksgiving is never offered upon the family altar.

Multitudes of such children are growing up even in this christian land, almost as ignorant of God, and unmindful of eternal things, as those who are enveloped in the darkness of paganism.

Sunday Schools prevent crime. Robert Raibs, the venerable founder of the system, stated that during twenty years, about three thousand children had been educated in the Sunday Schools at Gloucester, and that although he visited the prisons regularly during that time, he had met with but one of that number who had been convicted of crime.

Joseph Lancaster stated that of four thousand children who had received instruction in the Borough school, London, (though they were from the lowest classes of society) he never heard that even one of that number had been charged with any offence.

According to an authentic statement it appears that during the year 1831, about 17,000 Sunday School teachers and scholars, were hopefully converted in the U. States alone. The Lord "pours out the healthful spirit of his grace," on these nurseries of piety, and many are called from thence to spread abroad the unsearchable riches of God's grace to perishing sinners.

In this organization God has opened a most interesting and encouraging field of labor, entirely suited to the condition, capacity and wants of his people. His blessing has most signally attended this department of christian efforts.

In view of the culpable neglect of parents, the facilities offered in the Sunday School system, the worth of the soul, and the fearful judgment to come, Christ seems to say to every disciple, *"go labor in my vineyard."*

The great obligation of the minister to *"go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature,"* is admitted, and he is expected to labor *faithfully*.

But my dear christian brother, in what field do you labor? What have you done and what are you doing for the salvation of perishing sinners and the glory of God! To those who want Sunday School Books, we are pleased to know that they can be supplied by applying to S. Stevenson, Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

SAMUEL STEVENSON, Chairman.

# TABLE OF STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	DELEGATES.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Dismissed by Letter.	Ex-communicated.	Restored.	Dead.	Total in fellowship.	Ministers in Charge.	Post-Office.	S. Meeting.
Macedonia,	Hempstead,	J. McCulloch, *I. Kent, *J. J. Pelt, *J. T. Downs,	14	3	4	1			61	J. McCulloch,	Lamertine,	4
Pleasant Grove,	"	R. H. Bruce, S. F. Lesley, *J. Brown, *J. A. Ely,	2	0					25	B. L. Wright,	Washington,	3
County Line,	"	B. L. Wright, R. McElroy, *C. Briggs, (petitioned),							42	do	Mino Creek,	1
Ogan.	"	*J. H. Scoggin, J. W. Holt, Wm. Cooley,			6	2		1	43	J. McCulloch	do	3
Whiteoak Grove,	"	L. M. Maysis, (Statistics omitted), (Petitioned),								J. McCulloch	Washington,	3
Hope Well,	Pike,	Samuel Kelly.	16	5	1				27	S. Kelly,	Zebulon,	
Union,	Savier,	W. Greenlee, J. G. Copeland, *J. S. Winford, petitioned							20	D. M. Cochran,		4
New Home,	Clark,	J. Minick, *M. Wilson, J. Wilson, J. W. Melforse, do.,	9	10					25	J. Gunter,	Rome,	1
South Fork,	"	John Florida, *J. McKenzie, B. Gates, J. Hoffman, do.,	6	12					25	do	Arkadelphia,	
Pleasant Hill,	"	M. L. Langly, James Gunter, S. B. Cornelius,			3	1			39	M. L. Langly,	do	9
Bethany,	"	R. S. Tate, Jas. Akin, G. W. Wells, *J. W. Hoffman,	1	4	5	1			29	J. Gunter,	Rome,	1
Bethlehem,	"	*W. Wilson, E. J. Bourland, *C. C. McKinny,			4	4			25	M. L. Langly,	Beech Creek,	1
Arkadelphia,	"	S. Stevenson, T. A. Heard, R. McCargo,			1	2		1	45	H. H. Coleman,	Arkadelphia,	2
Bethel Union,	"	James Cash, W. B. Shaw, J. L. Stroope, [Emerson]	12	3					33	S. Stevenson,	do	1
De Roncho,	Hot Spring,	*A. J. Hardage, Wm. Hinkle, *G. B. Saunders, *G. W.	2		16	5		1	46	J. Dennington,	do	3
Corinth,	Columbia,	John Hill, Wm. Brooks, *Z. Ware,	5	1	2		1		15	F. Haynes,	Lamertine,	1
Mt. Olive,	"	*J. Bull, J. H. Boswell, L. B. Hazzard, F. B. Martin,	7	7	1	2			28	J. McCulloch,	Ms. Moriah,	9
Antioch,	"	*W. B. Ousley, *Peter Farrer, *Doris Scott, S. J. Melton,	47	14	2	0		1	80	E. Haynes,	Doreheat,	2
Pleasant Hill,	"	E. Haynes, *J. Haynes, G. V. Stratton, T. J. Watts, *M.	35	14	4	4		1	153	do	Lamertine,	3
Mt. Bethel,	Clark,	D. H. Ross, W. T. Crawley, L. N. Carter, [H. Edwards,	5	1	1				30	M. L. Langly,	Arkadelphia,	4
Bethsaida,	Ouschita,	*M. Black, W. S. Adams, H. Meeks, J. L. Meeks,	10	3					37	S. Delaughter,	Liberty,	3
New Hope,	Savier,	-Not represented,							39		Center Point,	
Beech Creek,	Columbia,	do. do.							12		Lamertine,	
Mouat Zion.	Hempstead,	do. do.							46		Washington,	
Absentees marked thus,*.												
			169	84	51	22	6	937				

## CIRCULAR LETTER.

"To whom shall I speak and give warning that they may hear."—JER. 6, 10.

Unaided by Revelation, man's knowledge of himself, and conceptions of his Creator, would necessarily and evidently be extremely imperfect.

It would be impossible to conjecture his wretched condition were he without even the most remote influences of DIVINE TRUTH.

Ignorance, degradation and misery unknown even in the dark annals of the past, would doubtless be manifested in fiercer combat, and brutal indulgences, to the entire destruction of our race.

That the "*Law of the Lord is perfect,*" is evident from its obvious influence in the world; and that "*the Holy Scriptures are able to make wise unto Salvation,*" multitudes of faithful witnesses have testified.

Circumscribed within the boundaries of the life that now is, the Bible is in the most unqualified and literal sense "*a lamp to our feet; and a light to our path,*" and in obedience to its divine injunctions, "*there is great reward.*"

It is not my purpose to call attention especially to the manifest divinity of the teachings of the "*Blessed Bible,*" or to attempt an exhibition of the glorious results that would follow a universal diffusion and practical application of its heavenly principles among men; but to make a few plain, practical and earnest enquiries with regard to its influence, or may I not rather say, to the lamentable want of its legitimate and peaceful influence on the hearts and lives of God's professed people.

Dear reader, it is not to your brethren, your neighbors, or even those who may be regarded as suitable subjects for church discipline, that I would address myself; but I would with God's blessing, and in view of your obligations, as a man, as a christian, or as a minister, examine narrowly into your manner of life. "*Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.*"

Aye more, I would as with a "*two edged sword*" in the burning light of eternal truth, pierce "even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit" and exhibit to your view, "*the thoughts and intents of your heart.*" "*Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.*"

We profess to receive the doctrines of the Bible alone as binding in religion—to entirely discard the traditions of men in every thing pertaining to the church. But do we with equal tenacity, cling to obedience, discarding all practices that are alike inconsistent with the teachings of the Word of Life. Do we observe all things whatsoever the Saviour has commanded! Is our "*delight in the Law of the Lord!*" Do we prove the correctness of our faith, by our works? Have we that faith that works by love—love to God,—love to the brethren and love to our enemies! Can you seek forgiveness, conscious that you do "*from your hearts forgive every one his brother their trespasses!*" Are we never found walking in the council of the ungodly, nor standing in the way of sinners!

I write not merely to preserve an inmemorial practice, nor yet to comply with an appointment made in the unalterable past much less do I write for literary distinction. No, dear reader, I have a higher and a holier object in view; even the glory of God, in your spiritual and eternal welfare.

We may never have met on earth, or we may have felt the

———— "bless the sacred tie that binds  
In sweet communion kindred minds.

We may often meet to part again, or our next meeting may be where the secrets of all hearts shall be revealed. God only knows. But certain it is, so far as you and I are concerned, "it won't be long till Christ shall come."

What we do must be done quickly. Every tie that binds us to earth, will soon be broken. Those delicate eyes that are now glancing along these lines, will soon be motionless in their sockets. The hands that now hold these leaves will



soon suffer in death. The wonderful mechanism of that body soon will moulder in corruption. May I not speak with pleasure since

"Life is the time to serve the Lord  
The time to insure a great reward."

May I not exhort you to the faithful performance of every duty. "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

SAMUEL STEVENSON.

## SABBATH.

Elder D. M. Cochran preached at nine; Elder E. Haynes at 11, on the subject of missions—and at the close took up a public collection of thirty-two dollars. At 2 o'clock Elder A. J. Smith preached. The audience during the day was very large and attentive.

## ORDAINED MINISTERS.

SAM'L STEVENSON, Arkadelphia, Ark.	E. CARY,	"	"	"
M. L. LANGLEY,	W. H. DODSON,	"	"	"
WM. L. ANDERSON,	SE. E. PEARCE, Zebulon,	"	"	"
J. A. LOCKWOOD,	S. KELLY,	"	"	"
W. T. HARDAGE,	R. JONES, Center Point,	"	"	"
JAMES GUNTER,	J. M'COLLOCH, Lonsartine,	"	"	"
S. B. CORNELIUS,	G. W. WELLS, Rome,	"	"	"
J. H. NELSON, Rome.	J. MINICK, Licentiate, Rome,	"	"	"
D. M. COCHRAN, Mine Creek,	J. W. M'HORSE,	"	"	"
B. L. WRIGHT,	"	"	"	"

## MINISTERS AND DEACONS'S MEETING.

MOUNT BETHEL CHURCH, CLARK CO. ARK.,  
September 10, 1854.

Ministery and deacons met pursuant to adjournment, and organized by calling bro. J. M'Colloch to the chair, and appointing T. A. Heard, Secretary.

On motion and second, appointed Bro. D. M. Cochran, to write an essay on church discipline to be read at the next meeting; also, appointed Bro. M. L. Langley, to write on the duty of Pastors to their churches; Bro. Samuel Kelly, on the duty of a church to its Pastor; Bro. B. L. Wright, on the duty of Deacons; Bro. G. W. Wells, on Repentance; Bro. J. M'Colloch, on the influence of the Holy Spirit in regeneration; Bro. S. B. Cornelius and J. W. M'Horse, on the Doctrine of Election; Bro. E. J. Bourland, on the subject of feet washing; Bro. T. A. Heard, on Temperance; Bro. D. H. Ross, on the power of prayer and Bro. Lesley on faith.

Adjourned to meet with County Line Church on Friday before the 3d Sabbath in September next.

J. M'COLLOCH, Chairman.

T. A. HEARD, Secretary.

# MINUTES

OF THE

## SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

### SALINE REGULAR BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Held September 23d, 24th and 25th, 1854, with New Hope Church,  
DALLAS COUNTY, ARKANSAS.

Saturday, September 23d, 1854.

The Introductory sermon was preached by Elder A. Bolt, according to appointment of the last Association, from the 126 Ps. And after a short recess the Association was called to order by the Moderator, N. G. Smith. Prayer by Elder J. Henson.

1st. The letters from the several churches were called for, read, and the delegates names enrolled. [See table.]

2d. The Association was then duly organized by electing H. J. Coleman, Moderator; and Aaron Yates, Clerk.

3d. Petitionary letters for membership in this body were then received from Rockport Church, and Pine Bluff Church; the petitions were granted; the right hand of fellowship given to the delegates, and they invited to seats with us.

4th. Invited visiting Preachers from other Associations to seats.

5th. Called for correspondence from other Associations. Received letter from the Caroline Association. Received from the Red River Association, letter by her delegate, Elder S. Stevenson. Received from the Liberty Association, letter by her delegate, Elder A. J. Smith.

6th. Appointed the following committees, viz:

1st. *On Preaching*.—E. W. Russell, R. M. Thrasher, Thomas Atkinson and Tillman Brawner.

2d. *On Business of the Association*.—Elder J. T. Craig, Elder S. Douthat and J. H. Yager.

3d. *On Documents*.—S. W. Nowlen, J. C. Tommie, J. V. McCulloch and John Henson.

4th. *On Finance*.—E. M. Harris, Wm. Daniel, E. N. Chisnolt.

5th. *On Distitution*.—R. M. Thrasher, J. Y. Lindsey and J. H. Yager.

6th. *On Sabbath Schools*.—A. Bolt, D. G. Burnett and R. M. Thrasher.

7th. *On the State of Religion*.—D. Dodd, N. G. Smith, and J. J. Cobb.

8th. *On Obituaries*.—S. Douthat, J. J. Cobb and J. V. McCulloch.

9th. *On the Slave Population*.—J. T. Craig, N. G. Smith and J. C. Tommie.

7th. Moved and seconded, that the money raised by public contributions on Sabbath, be put in the hands of the agent for the State Convention, for the use of the Convention. After some discussion the motion was laid over till Monday.

8th. Received the report of the committee on preaching, viz: Elder J. J. Cobb, to preach at 9 o'clock on Sabbath; J. C. Tommie, at 11 o'clock and H. J. Coleman at 3 o'clock P. M.

9th. Adjourned, till 9 o'clock A. M. Monday. Prayer by Bro. J. Y. Lindsey.

## S A B B A T H :

September 24th, 1851.

The Brethren preached in the order of their names, to a large and attentive congregation, and we trust, that the word spoken, will bring fruit in due season. After preaching was over at 3 o'clock, a Presbytery was formed, composed of H. H. Coleman, J. J. Cobb, J. Y. Lindsey and J. T. Craig, and in accordance with the request of Samaria church, proceeded to the ordination of Brother J. J. Harris to the office of Deacon; which closed the services of the day.

Monday 9 o'clock, September 25th, 1851.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Brother J. T. Craig.

10th. Renewed the call for correspondence from other Associations.

11th. Received a petition for membership in this body, from Hopewell Church. The petition was granted and the right hand of fellowship given the Delegates, and they invited to seats.

12th. Took up the motion made on Saturday, to put the money collected on Sabbath, in the hands of the agent of the State Convention, for the use of the Convention; which was decided in the affirmative.

13th. Called for the report of the committee on arrangements, which was received and adopted.

14th. Returned correspondence, viz:

To the Red River Association—Messengers, R. M. Thrasher, J. T. Craig and H. H. Coleman; Thrasher to write.

To the Liberty Association—Messengers, R. J. Coleman, J. J. Cobb and J. V. McCulloch; Cobb to write.

To the Bartholomew Association—Messengers, J. V. McCulloch, T. G. Bledsoe and J. B. Yager; Yager to write.

To the Dardanelle Association—Messengers, S. Douthat, E. N. Chinault and N. W. Nowlen; Nowlen to write.

To the State Convention—J. T. Craig, W. G. Smith, R. M. Thrasher, A. Yates and D. Vasec; Smith to write.

15th. Agreed to return correspondence to the Carolina Association, and appointed S. W. Nowlen, J. Y. Lindsey, E. N. Chinault; Chinault, to write.

16th. Received and adopted the report of the Treasurer for 1853. (See report.)

17th. Received the report of several District meetings, and adopted the following resolution, from the 3d District: *Resolved*, That we recommend the next Association, to appoint a Ministers and Deacons' meeting, to be held in each District, as now divided by the Association, at such time and place, as may be agreed on by the Delegates of the Association; and that those meetings have authority to meet on their own adjournment, and discuss such matters of doctrine and usage, as they may see proper; and to meet from time to time within the bounds of the present Districts. These meetings to be continued at the option of the Brethren; and after the ensuing session, the Association to be entirely relieved from appointing said Ministers and Deacons' meetings.

18th. Appointed Ministers and Deacons' Meetings, to wit:

First District to be held with North Fork Church, Saline county, to meet on Friday before the second Lord's day in September, 1855.

Second District to be held with Spring Hill Church, to meet on Friday before the fourth Sabbath in August, 1855; R. M. Thrasher, to preach the introductory sermon, D. G. Barnett, his alternate.

Third District to be held with Brush Creek Church, to meet on Friday before the third Sabbath in May, 1855; Elder J. T. Craig, to preach the introductory; R. M. Thrasher, his alternate.

19th. Appointed the next session of this body to be held with Philadelphia Church, Saline county, to meet on Saturday, before the 4th Lord's day in Sept., 1856; Jas. J. Cobb, to preach the introductory sermon, and R. J. Coleman his alternate; H. H. Coleman, to preach at 11 o'clock, on Sabbath, on the subject of Missions; J. V. M'Culloch, his alternate.

20th. Adopted the report of the committee on documents, and resolutions. [See appendix A.]

21st. Received the reports of the following committees, viz:

On Destitution—marked B.

On Sabbath Schools,—marked C.

On Finance—marked D.

On the State of Religion—Report and committee dispensed with.

On Colored Population—marked E.

On Obituaries, no report necessary.

22d. *Resolved*, That our Constitution, Abstract of Faith, and Rules of Decorum be printed in our Minutes. [See appendix M.]

23d. *Resolved*, That the Clerk be allowed to make an arrangement, if he can, equitably, to have the minutes of this Association printed in connexion with those of Red River Association and the State Convention.

24th. *Resolved*, That Brother R. M. Thrasher, be appointed to write the history of this Association, and forward the same to Bro. ——— Watson, of Helena.

25th. *Resolved*, That Brother H. H. Coleman, be appointed to write the Obituary notices of ministers and others in this Association, and forward to Brother ——— Watson.

26th. *Resolved*, That the Home Mission in connexion with this Association be abolished.

27th. Adopted Resolutions, marked F.

28th. Adopted Resolution, marked G.

29th. Adopted Resolution, marked H.

30th. *Resolved*, That the report of P. Watts, in connexion with the support of Bro. W. H. Wyatt's children, be inserted in our minutes. [See Appendix K.]

31st. *Resolved*, That the Clerk superintend the printing of these minutes, that he have 700 copies printed, if done in connexion with the Red River Association and State Convention, or 1000 if done separately, and send the same by mail.

32d. *Resolved*, That the Clerk receive \$15 00 for his services.

33d. *Resolved*, That we return our meet hearty thanks, to the brethren and friends in this vicinity, for the very hospitable manner, in which they have entertained this body.

34th. Adjourned in peace; to meet at the time and place appointed, for holding the next session of this body. Prayer by Brother James J. Cobb.

HAWES H. COLEMAN, Moderator.

AARON YATES, Clerk.

NOTE—The Clerk asks the indulgence of his brethren, for the omission of a part of one report, and one or two resolutions, they having been substantially passed twice.

### TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1853.

Received of Financial Committee, . . . . .	\$30 00
Paid for printing Minutes (1853), . . . . .	830 00
Clerk's Fee, . . . . .	15 00
Postage paid on Minutes, . . . . .	3 50
Yet in hand, . . . . .	\$1 20

A. YATES, Treasurer.

## APPENDIX.

### [ A. ]

Your Committee on Dissensions beg leave to report that the most important business of our consideration is the petition of a number of churches for letters of dismission, in order to form a new Association; your Committee is satisfied that the letters are not asked for on account of any unchristian feeling, but for the convenience of the extreme parts of this Association.

*Resolved.* That this question be taken up early Monday morning and disposed of.  
*Resolved.* That we recommend the churches composing this Association, to take into consideration the importance of raising a fund by the next Association for the purpose of purchasing denominational books for gratuitous distribution, or to sell at cost in the bounds of this Association, and that our ministers be requested to lay this matter before the churches, and request them to instruct their Delegates to the next Association, in relation to this matter; And,

Whereas, A number of churches desire letters of dismission from this Association, for the purpose of forming a new Association; Therefore,

*Resolved.* That any church or churches belonging to this Association, and desiring to unite in the organization of a new Association, are hereby allowed the privilege of doing so without the formality of letters, and will be considered dismissed from this body whenever united with another of the same faith and order.

### [ B. ]

Your Committee on destitution, beg leave to report, that notwithstanding the efforts of this body, and also of the Convention to spread abroad the glad tidings of great joy, which shall be unto all people, there is a great and general destitution prevailing throughout the bounds of this Association. Some of the churches are destitute of regular preaching, others have scarcely any at all, and there are many neighborhoods without churches or preaching. These solemn and lamentable facts, call loudly upon this body for speedy action, and efficient efforts to build up the waste places, and to extend the victories of the Cross. We hope the prevailing agitation on the subject of missions will result in the formation of a plan to preach the Gospel to every creature, in the bounds of this Association, and to many beyond.

R. M. THRASHER, Chairman.

### [ C. ]

Your Committee on Sabbath schools would report, that from the best information we can obtain, many of the churches composing this Association have felt and do feel the great obligation resting upon Christian parents, of bringing up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and for this purpose of more effectually performing that duty, as well as to extend the benefits of moral and religious instruction to the youth in general, they have organized Sabbath Schools, some of which are in successful operation. We would earnestly recommend this subject for the careful consideration of every church and community in the bounds of this Association, and elsewhere: all of which is respectfully submitted.

A. BOLT, Chairman.

### [ D. ]

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to make the following report, to-wit:  
The sum of fifty-four dollars and thirty cents, contributed by the churches, and one dollar and twenty cents remaining in the hands of the Treasurer, making the sum of \$55 50; fifty-five dollars and fifty cents. The amount sent up by each will appear in the table of "Statistics." Respectfully submitted.

E. M. HARRIS, Chairman.

### [ E. ]

Your Committee, to whom was referred the subject of the slave population, beg leave to submit the following report:

Seeing the great neglect of the colored free in our midst, and that many are passing into eternity without the knowledge of Christ, and that it is our duty to furnish

them with the means of instruction, we deem it a subject of great importance, and one that claims our serious attention and diligent action; and being aware of the happy results of instructing them in the great truths of the gospel, would recommend that the churches appoint a committee of brethren to instruct them, by sending to them the sacred Scriptures and otherwise; and also, that our ministers preach to them as often as they can. Respectfully submitted,

J. T. CRAIG, Chairman.

[ P ]

*Resolved*, That we sustain Brethren R. M. Thornber and H. H. Coleman, in their recent defence of our doctrine and usages from the attacks of M. H. Wadh and Mr. Littlejohn.

[ G. ]

*WHEREAS*, Our beloved and esteemed brother, J. R. Graves, editor of the Tennessee Baptist, has been charged by A. Campbell as not being a faithful exponent of Baptist doctrine and practice; therefore,

*Resolved*, That we regard him as a faithful exponent of Baptist (Bible) doctrine and practice, that he is only battling error, and contending for the doctrine for which our forefathers suffered.

*Resolved*, That we approve and encourage his attacks on Mr. Campbell's water system.

[ H. ]

*Resolved*, That [this] body appoint H. H. Coleman, J. J. Harris and N. G. Smith a committee, to draft a memorial to the Legislature of this State, respecting a law to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquor as a beverage.

## MEMORIAL.

To the Honorable, the Legislature of the State of Arkansas:

The Saline Association, composed of Delegates of the Baptist Churches of the counties of Dallas, Hot Spring, Saline, Jefferson, Ouachita and Calhoun, respectfully present their Memorial against the legalized sale of intoxicating liquors, to be used as a beverage by healthy men—your memorialists, in respectful language would ask, if the makers of laws can consistently sanction a practice, the direct tendency of which is, to make men reckless and lawless. If we understand aright the object of your assemblage, it is, by wise legislation to protect the lives, liberty and character of the citizens of our State. Can the same legislature which convenes with this great object in view, also sanction a traffic so destructive to life, character and estate, so fraught with misery to all connected with it? Your memorialists ask nothing for themselves as members of a religious association: they seek not, they have never sought the enjoyment of peculiar privileges denied to the body of their fellow-citizens. But, in the name of Christianity, in behalf of the tempted victims of an unholy traffic, for the sake of weeping widows and neglected children of our otherwise happy State, we urge the enactment of a law, giving or withholding a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors, according to the vote of the several townships—if the majority of the votes in the townships support the license system, we shall acquiesce; but if they oppose it, the execution of the will of the majority in our behalf, we claim as the first and fundamental principle of republican government. We do not attempt to present a logical argument in support of the subject of our memorial. We trust to your honorable body, the enactment of a law with such provisions and safeguards as will ensure to the well-being of the whole State.

Written by order of the Association.

A. YATES, Clerk,

PAWES H. COLEMAN, Moderniser.

[ K. ]

## REPORT OF PRESLEY WATT'S

Of money received for the benefit of the three youngest daughters of W. H. Wyatt, deceased, to-wit: Arminda, Jane and Martha Wyatt:

By W. D. Battell, collecting Agent.	Received by N. G. Smith from Tulip Church, . . . . .	\$42 50
	"    of W. S. Sommerville, . . . . .	6 00
	"    of M. W. McCraw, . . . . .	7 00
	"    of S. G. Smith, . . . . .	10 00
	"    of J. S. Kitcham, . . . . .	1 00
	Paid by R. M. Thrasher to John Randolph, . . . . .	17 25
	\$83 75	
Received of T. Cooper from Saline Church, . . . . .	\$12 00	
Contributed by P. Watts, . . . . .	5 00	
	100 75	

[ M. ]

## CONSTITUTION OF THE SALINE ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE 1st. This union of Churches shall be known and distinguished by the name and title of "The Saline Regular United Baptist Association."

2d. This Association shall be composed of Delegates from the churches in union. Each church shall be invited to three Delegates, who shall be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of their appointment by their several churches, before they take their seats.

3d. The Delegates, when convened, shall organize themselves into a deliberative body, by the appointment of a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by ballot, at each annual Association, and continue in office till their successors are chosen.

4th. The Association shall not interfere with the rights of the Churches of which it is composed; it shall regard them as independent bodies, in all matters of internal government, and shall only act as an advisory council, assuming no authority except what is expressly delegated to it by the Churches or evidently implied from the very nature of the compact. It nevertheless, claims authority over its own members—the Delegates from the Churches, and in justice and propriety, must have power to withdraw from and disown all churches which depart from the principles of this compact, by becoming heterodox in faith, or disorderly in practice. It should, therefore, regard all the churches united under this Constitution with a vigilant eye for good. Its principal business shall be to promote the declarative glory of God, by extending the Kingdom of Grace on earth, through the medium of preaching the Gospel, and the means in accordance with that Gospel, to cultivate union and fellowship with all the Churches of Christ, especially with those united in this Constitution.

5th. Newly constituted churches, or churches dismissed from other Associations, of the same faith and order, may be admitted into this union, on their sending up three Delegates to the annual meeting of this Association, with a petition for admission, and by their Delegates agreeing to the abstract of principles herewith published.

6th. The churches in this union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association a written communication, specifying the names of their Delegates, their number in fellowship, number baptised, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, restored, or deceased, since the last session, and all other information which the churches may deem important, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

7th. This Association shall have a fund supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches and all the money thus contributed, shall be transmitted from the churches and paid over through the committee of finance to the treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office during the pleasure of the Association; he shall retain and manage the funds agreeably to the order of the Association; and present annually, for insertion in the minutes, a clear and succinct statement of all the receipts and expenditures.

8th. This Association shall furnish the churches with the Minutes of every session.

9th. This Association shall take cognizance of no query, sent up from the churches, unless they have endeavored to solve the same, and have failed; nor of any difficulty between churches, unless they have pursued the directions in the 15th chap of Matthew, and have not been able to settle them: Then the Association shall take such matter into consideration, and act upon them at its discretion.

10th. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of this Association to keep a regular file of the printed Minutes of every session of this body, and deliver over the same to his successor in office.

11th. This Constitution may be altered or amended at regular meetings of the Association, by the concurring voice of two-thirds of the members then present provided such alteration or amendment be approved of by the churches composing this Association.

### ORDAINED MINISTERS.

H. H. Coleman,	Dallas County,	Cochran Post-Office,
J. T. Craig,	" "	Tulip "
J. V. McCulloch,	" "	Princeton "
R. M. Thrasher,	" "	Tulip "
A. Bolt,	Saline "	Benton "
J. Russ,	" "	" "
J. Y. Lindsey,	" "	" "
D. G. Barnett	Jefferson County,	Dorrisaw "
S. Douthat,	Saline, "	Benton "
John Henson,	Saline, "	Loxi Creek "
William Frost,	Hot Spring "	Rockport "
R. J. Coleman,	Dallas County,	Princeton "
J. C. Tomme,	Bralley "	Eagle Creek "

### LICENTIATES.

J. Birl,	Dallas County,	Tulip Post-Office,
A. Yates,	" "	Princeton "
J. B. Yager,	Stanhil " "	Freo "
G. R. Talbot,	Calhoun "	Cleveland "
E. N. Chismult,	Polaski "	Little Rock "
Charles Elliot,	Hot Spring County,	Rockport "
John S. Taylor,	Saline "	Dorrisaw "
S. W. Nowlan,	Polaski "	Little Rock "

### ABSTRACT OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1st. We believe in one true and living God, the Father, the Word, and Holy Ghost. 1st John. 5: 7; John 1 ch. 1, 2, 3 vs.; 1st Tim. 3 ch. 16 vs.

2d. We believe that the Scriptures comprising the Old and New Testaments, are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice. 2 Tim. 3: 15, 16; 2 Peter 1: 21; Rom. 15: 4.

3d. We believe in the doctrine of Election, according as God has chosen us in Christ before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love, in whom ye also trusted after that ye heard the word of truth, the Gospel of your Salvation, in whom also after ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise. Eph. 1: 4, 13; 1st Peter 1: 2; 1st Thess. 2: 13, 14.

4th. We believe in the doctrine of original sin, by the fall of Adam. Gen. 2: 6, 7; Ps. 5: 6; Rom. 5: 12, 14.

5th. We believe in man's incapacity by his own free will and ability, to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature. Is. 1: 5, 6; John 6: 44; Eph. 2: 1.

6th. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, by the imputed righteousness of Christ only. Jer. 23: 6; Rom. 4: 22, 24; 1st Cor. 1: 30.

7th. We believe that the Saints shall be preserved in Grace, and never fall finally away. Ps. 89: 25, 31; Heb. 9: 10, 12; John 10: 28.



3b. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ and that true believers are the only subjects of Baptism, and that by immersion is the Apostolic mode. Mark 16: 15, 16; Acts 2: 41, 42; Rom. 6: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7; Matt. 28: 19, 20; 1 Cor. 11: 23, 25.

4b. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and in general judgment, and that the souls of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal. John 5: 28, 29; 1 Cor. 15: 22, 23, Rev. 20: 12, 13, 14, 15.

10b. We believe that no Minister has any right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel but one who is regularly baptized, called, and comes under the imposition of hands of a presbyter. Matt. 28: 19, 20; 1 Tim. 4: 14; Titus 3: 10.

11b. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's Table. Acts 2: 41, 42; ch. 18: 8, 11; 1 Cor 11: 27, 28.

12b. We believe that the Lord's day should be observed as a day of rest, and religious devotion. Ex. 20: 8; Acts 20: 7; Rev. 1: 10.

## RULES OF DECEUM OF THE BALINE REGULAR BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Rule 1st. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2d. A Moderator and Clerk, shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

3d. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a right to call to order at any time.

4th. A member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association, on the same day, but at no other time.

5th. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise on his feet, and on obtaining permission, proceed.

6th. The Moderator when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise.

7th. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him that made it.

8th. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided, or withdrawn before another be offered.

9th. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the vote of the Association on the subject, and the members on affirmation of the question shall signify the same by rising from their seats, and those on the negative shall retain theirs.

10th. The Moderator shall pronounce the decision before the standers resume their seats.

11th. Any member wishing to give shall obtain permission of the Moderator.

12th. No member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition, without permission of the Association, nor more than once till every member wishing to speak shall have spoken; nor shall any proposition be made to close the subject till the debates have been carried through.

13th. The appellation of brother shall be used in the Association, by members in their addresses one to another.

14th. The names of members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

15th. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

16th. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoint another to his seat during the time, but shall not vote on any question unless the Association be equally divided.

17th. Any member violating these rules, may be reproved by the Moderator as discretion, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

# CONSTITUTION

OF THE

## ARKANSAS BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

**ARTICLE 1.** This body shall be styled the ARKANSAS BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

**ART. 2.** The Convention shall be composed of delegates from Baptist Associations, churches, and individual contributors, who are members of the Baptist Church, in good standing.

**ART. 3.** Associations shall be entitled to five, churches to three, delegates to the Convention.

**ART. 4.** It is distinctly understood, that this Convention shall have no ecclesiastical jurisdiction, nor even act as an advisory council, nor in any way interfere with the constitution of any Church, or Association.

**ART. 5.** The primary objects of this Convention shall be: to supply the destitute regions within its bounds, with the unadulterated Word of Life, and a living ministry, and to aid by appropriate and Scriptural means, all destitute and feeble churches, (contributors having the privilege of designating fields of labor, and missionaries to the amount of their donations), and also supply the community with such books as may be approved by this body, and as may be thought best calculated to communicate information as to distinctive doctrines and ordinances of the Gospel of Christ, as received by our denomination. The Convention may whenever consistent with the condition of the treasury, adopt means for the advancement of Education, and also for the cause of Foreign Missions.

**ART. 6.** The Convention shall, at its annual meetings, elect a President and Recording Secretary, who shall perform the duties usually assigned such officers during the session.

**ART. 7.** The Convention shall annually elect a President, two Vice Presidents, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and ten or more managers, who, together, shall compose the Executive Board; five of whom shall constitute a quorum. The Executive Committee shall transact all business during the recess of the Convention, and disburse the funds; shall fill all vacancies in its own body, and submit a report of their proceedings at each regular meeting. Each member of the Board shall be, ex-officio, a member of the Convention.

**ART. 8.** The annual session of this Convention shall commence on Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, of each year.

**ART. 9.** This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Convention, two-thirds of the members present concurring therein, except the fourth article, which shall ever remain untouched.

### Executive Board.

N. G. SMITH, *President.*

Rev. J. T. CRAIG,

“ R. M. THRASHER,

} *Vice Presidents.*

Rev. R. J. COLEMAN, *Cor. Secretary.*

E. M. HARRIS, *Treasurer.*

### Managers.

W. H. BROWN,

W. DANIEL,

M. W. McCRAW,

J. V. McCULLOCH,

FREBLEY WATTS,

AARON YATES,

J. J. HARRIS,

W. D. BETHEL,

D. G. STOKES,

W. DICKINSON,

J. McCARGO,

WILLIAM YARBY.

# TABLE OF STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	DELEGATES.	Registered.	Received by Letter.	Discontinued by Letter.	Ex-communicated.	Entered.	Dead.	Total in fellowship.	Contributions.	Ministers in Charge.	Post-Office.	Mileage.
Anchor,	Dallas,	Hiram Marsh, L. Bettis, H. H. Coleman,							35	\$1 50		Carbunado,	
Buff Spring,	"	J. T. Craig, Jas. Eason, P. N. Adams,			7	1			32	2 00	I. T. Craig,	Tulip,	4
Brush Creek,	Hot Spring,	W. T. Williams, J. A. Brown, E. Cunningham,		0	4	2			49	2 00	R. M. Thresher,	Tulip,	5
Bethesda,	Calhoun,	G. B. Talbot*, Thomas Atkinson, T. Brauer,	11	0	3			1	41	1 50	J. C. Tomer,	Chamberlainville,	1
Friendway,	Hot Spring,	J. Ashly, Joseph Clut, Hardy Elliot,	18	3	4	1	3		21	2 00	E. Douhat,	Rockport,	8
Friendship,	Saline,	J. Hesson, G. Lockhart, S. Smith,		1					18	1 00		Low Creek,	1
Hopewell,	Dallas,	Jeane Blaud, John Rhodes, D. Vermer,							12	1 00		Princeton,	3
Kentucky,	Saline,	J. Y. Lindsey, S. I. Chisault, R. H. Hicks*,	9	11			3	1	30	2 00	J. Y. Lindsey,	Benton,	1
L. Betty,	"	W. J. Poe, Jobn Watson, W. S. Sheppard*,	21	11			1		69	2 00	L. G. Harbert,	Benton,	6
Mt. Pleasant,	Montgomery,	G. E. Spear, George Blockhead, Peter Smith,		9	3				39	1 25		Akin's Store,	
Marble,	Saline,	J. J. Cobb, A. Cunningham, Sharp D. Glenn,	15	3					41	1 00	J. J. Cobb,	Princeton,	6
New Hope,	Dallas,	E. W. Russell, A. Yates, J. J. Curtin,			4		2		30	2 00	R. M. Thresher,	Princeton,	1
N. Harmony,	Ouachita,	D. N. Mullins, W. P. Cotton, J. B. Yager,			1				26	2 00	R. M. Thresher,	Figs,	4
Princeton,	Dallas,	R. J. Coleman, M. W. McCraw, P. Watts*,			5				29	2 00	H. H. Coleman,	Princeton,	4
Pleasant Hill,	Hot Spring,	Wm. West, T. H. Parker, W. L. Brumblow,	33	1		1			74	7 70	J. T. Craig,	Rockport,	2
Pleasant Grove,	Pulaski,	F. W. Nowlen, E. N. Chisault, A. J. Rusty,		15	1	1			49	2 00	Douhat,	N. Point,	4
Philadelphia,	Saline,	Henry Halbert, H. A. Gregory, James York,	4	1	8	1			69	3 50	D. G. Barnett,	Low Creek,	2
Pine Bluff,	Jefferson,	I. J. Reed, J. B. P. Alexander, William Majors,	20	15					54	3 00	W. V. Lee,	Pine Bluff,	2, 3
Rockport,	Hot Spring,	S. Douhat, A. C. Horton, Abel Walton,	2	1					8	1 00	S. Douhat,	Rockport,	
Spring Creek,	Saline,	David Dadd, H. Colbert, George Keeze,	6		10	1			56	3 00	D. G. Barnett,	Benton,	1
Spring Hill,	Jefferson,	D. G. Barnett, J. B. Taylor, S. B. Morris,	13	4	1		2	1	31	2 00	D. G. Barnett,	Verisaw,	1
Samarit,	Dallas,	E. M. Harris, R. W. Dickinson, R. M. Thresher,		4					22	2 00	R. M. Thresher,	Tulip,	9
Santa Fork,	Hot Spring,	S. T. Henderson, M. McCollum, I. J. Collins,	14	8	0	2	3	1	100	3 00	J. Y. Lindsey,	Wharrington,	1
Shilo,	Saline,	J. Reeves*, J. Vossy A. Sawyer,	3		3				12	1 50		Low Creek,	1
Salem,	Ouachita,	Owen Stanley, William Garnet*, Wm. James*	11	3	13				30	1 25	J. V. McCulloch,	Figs,	
Salem,	Saline,	George James*, Joel Brooks*, Wm. Chisault*,	2	2	1	3	1		31	1 50		Owensville,	3
Union,	"	A. Bolt, S. Chisault, J. S. Hatchingson,			23	3	2		41	2 00	A. Bolt,	Blair's P. Office,	4
Temp. Hill,	Dallas,	J. V. McCulloch, T. G. Bledsoe, James Benton,	8	4	7	4			22	1 25	J. V. McCulloch,	Princeton,	2
Tulip,	Dallas,	N. G. Smith, Wm. Daniel, P. M. Boss,	1	2	4		1		48	2 00	J. T. Craig,	Tulip,	1

Absentees marked thus\*

92 106 109 32 13 12 1222 854 00

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
**ARKANSAS BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.**  
FOR  
**MISSIONARY PURPOSES,**  
**1854.**

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The Arkansas Baptist State Convention, held its seventh Anniversary with the Baptist Church at Tulip, Dallas county, commencing on Saturday, the 30th of September, 1854.

The introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. S. Stevenson, to a large and attentive congregation, from, John 15. 7. "*If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.*"

The Convention was then organized by Rev. J. Hartwell, D. D. President; and Rev. S. Stevenson, Secretary.

At the request of the President, the delegates presented their credentials, and their names were enrolled as follows.

**ASSOCIATIONS.**

*Liberty.*—J. Hartwell, T. H. Compere, A. J. Smith, J. Aaron, G. W. Scoggin.

*Saline.*—J. T. Craig, R. M. Thrasher, A. Yates, D. Visser, N. G. Smith.

*Red River.*—S. Stevenson, Wm. Adams, T. A. Heard.

**CHURCHES.**

*Tulip.*—A. G. Nevil, William Daniel, R. W. Daniel.

*Princeton.*—R. J. Coleman, D. G. Stokes, W. R. Fowler.

*Camden.*—Jesse Hartwell, N. S. Graves, I. Lewis.

*Temperance Hill.*—J. V. McCulloch.

*Brushy Creek.*—Robert Ross.

**INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS.**

E. M. Harris, T. H. Brown, H. H. Coleman, M. W. McCraw, P. M. Bear, W. Dickinson, Presley Watts, W. H. Scott, J. McCargo, J. J. Harris, J. J. Curling.

The Convention then proceeded to the election of its officers, which resulted as follows:

REV. JESSE HARTWELL D. D., *President.*

" SAMUEL STEVENSON, *Secretary.*

Invitation was extended to visiting brethren, not members of the Convention, which was accepted by Rev. N. P. More of Searcy.

The following committees were appointed by the President, and approved by the Convention.

- On Arrangement—S. Stevenson, J. T. Craig, H. H. Coleman.  
 On Nomination—N. G. Smith, J. M'Carra, A. J. Burch.  
 On Ministerial Education—R. M. Thrasher, John Aaron, S. Stevenson.  
 On Duties to Servants—Wm. Daniel, H. H. Coleman, Premley Watts.  
 On Agencies—E. M. Harris, R. J. Coleman, J. M'Carra.  
 On Domestic Missions—James Hartwell, A. J. Smith, J. V. M'Calloch.  
 On Temperance—M. W. M'Carra, H. H. Coleman, John Aaron.  
 On Foreign Missions—A. Yates, S. Stevenson, T. H. Brown.  
 On Circulation of Books—Wiley Dickinson, P. M. Bass, J. V. M'Calloch.  
 On Finance—Wm. Daniel, G. V. Baker.

On motion, Convention adjourned to meet on Monday morning at 9 o'clock.  
 Prayer by Elder R. M. Thrasher.

## LORD'S DAY.

According to previous appointment, Rev. James Hartwell, D. D., preached on the subject of *Mission*. A deep interest was manifested by an unusually large congregation, while the venerable speaker dwelt upon some of the "*Glorious things*" that are spoken of the "*city of God*." After evincing the faithfulness of God's promises from a review of the prophetic past, he noticed the predictions respecting the triumphs of the Gospel, until he, with his numerous hearers seemed to enjoy a foretaste of that happy time, when "*the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea*." If the contemplation of HEAVEN for two brief hours, viewed as "through a glass darkly," produces emotions of pleasure, and thrills of joy, unspunkable; what will the full possession of its untold heights of glory, produce on the enlarged faculties of the soul in eternity!

Rev. N. P. Mora, of Serey, preached at 3 o'clock; and Rev. J. V. M'Calloch, at night.

### *Monday morning, 9 o'clock.*

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. John Aaron.

The report of committee on arrangements, was received and adopted.

The suggestion of Red River Association, to suspend operations for the present; and also that of the Saline Association, to dissolve for the purpose of uniting in a new organization, were fully and freely discussed; which manifested warm and devoted attachment to the Convention, by nearly all the delegates present, and seemed to inspire them with unwavering confidence in its future success.

*"If God be for us, who can be against us?"*

The few delegates then present, pledged the sum of \$340, payable in April next. The former advocates for dissolution, being among the most liberal in subscribing.

Reports of committees on agencies and circulation of books, were referred to the Executive Board.

Report of nominating committee was received and adopted. (See Executive Board.)

The following appointments were made for the next annual meeting of the convention.

Rev. R. M. Thrasher to preach the introductory sermon; Rev. J. V. M'Calloch his alternate.

Rev. H. H. Coleman to preach the Missionary sermon; Rev. John Aaron his alternate.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Convention:

*Resolved*, That the Executive Board meet at Princeton, on Saturday before the

fourth Lord's day in December next; and at Tulip, on Saturday before the first Lord's day in May, 1855.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk be authorized to print the Minutes in conjunction with the minutes of End Error and Balance Associations; and that he be allowed to draw on the Treasurer for the expenses of printing, together with the usual fee for his services.

*Resolved*, That this Convention heartily approve of the course of the Tennessee Baptist, in defending the great truths of the Bible, and that we recommend it as the denominational organ for this State.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Convention are justly due, and hereby tendered to the citizens of Tulip and vicinity, for the kind and hospitable entertainment furnished during this meeting; and also the Methodist brethren for the use of their meeting house.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Convention be tendered to our venerable President, for the kind, courteous, and christian manner, in which he discharged the duties of his office; and especially, that devout gratitude be cherished to "Our Father in Heaven," by whose grace we have been preserved in the midst of CONVICTIONS.

The President closed the business of the Convention, by a few solemn, appropriate remarks. While singing God's praise, the hand of christian fellowship was mutually extended by the delegates, and after prayer by the President, the Convention adjourned to meet at Princeton, on Saturday before the first Lord's day in October, 1855.

JESSE HARTWELL, President,

SAMUEL STEVENSON, Secretary.

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## REPORTS.

### ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The subject of Missions is one of vast importance. Man is naturally a worshipping being, and while he is ignorant of the true God, he will bow himself to idols—the work of his own hands; and as this is now the condition of a large portion of the world, we yet feel the obligation of the Great Commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." This great commission, though obeyed at the first, was, with the corruption of the dark ages, long neglected. It has during the last half century been heard, and in some measure regarded by the civilized world: Yet, its importance is not sufficiently felt, nor its extent adequately measured. Much has been done; but much remains to be done. The Scriptures have been translated wholly, or in part, into many different languages; Ministers have been sent into most parts of the world, who have preached Christ and his crucifix, as the only way of life and salvation to lost and perishing sinners. Thousands have been instructed, awakened and converted to God, so that, where the abominations of idolatry once prevailed, now the songs of the redeemed ascend to the Lamb, who loved them and gave himself for them. We have abundant reason to thank and praise the name of our God, that He has so signally blessed the efforts of his people to send the word of life to the heathen: for while, a few years ago, the missionary had access only to a small portion of China, through the Providence of God, that vast country is fast being opened for the reception of the Gospel; and the Gospel is now preached, to some extent, in almost every land. And although we can afford but little pecuniary aid to send the Gospel to the millions of heathen, yet we may, we can, we will, bow before the throne, and unite with thousands of Israel, in the cry, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Respectfully submitted,

A. YATES, Chairman.

## ON DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

*Dear Brethren:*--We have considered the subject, and feel disposed to present a summary of the Joings, and success of the Convention, in the great work in which it has been engaged. This may be a proper stimulant to future action.

This body was organized at Tulip (then Brownsville) in Sept., 1848, and has been in operation six years. A summary of its proceedings are as follows:

Year	Collected	Baptized	Ch. Con.	
1849,	\$752 00	50	"	1
1850	650 00	93	"	2
1851	491 00	47	"	3
1852	50 00	6	"	0
4853	672 00	57	"	2
1854	660 00	4	"	2
	<hr/> \$3,265 00	<hr/> 231		<hr/> 10

The reports of the time of service, sermons preached and other labors performed, are so imperfect in the printed minutes, that no satisfactory summary can be made, yet we are satisfied they compare favorably with the labors of our most esteemed Pastors. Our missionaries have found much destitution, and have been cordially received, and their repeated visits are earnestly solicited.

We know of no other way by which the destitute can be supplied, except by missionaries. Pastors are so much engaged in supplying their numerous churches, that they cannot traverse destitute regions, and our ministers are so few that many places have been sadly neglected. The man who devotes his whole time can visit many destitute places, and by preaching, conversing and praying may be productive of great good.

From the review of the past, we see the wide difference between *effort* and *neglect*, as may be seen in the above table. In 1852 we had no agent and no missionary. Almost nothing was done. In each other year, success has attended the efforts made. We may, therefore, "thank God and take courage." And though there may be obstacles in our way, yet we may adopt the motto, onward, and pursue our course, trusting the Lord for his blessing.

Hence, your committee would affectionately exhort their brethren to greater diligence, and to more earnest prayer for the blessing of God, as I wait and "expect great things." All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. HARTWELL, *Chairman.*

## ON DUTIES TO SERVANTS.

We very much regret that, with the limited resources of the Convention, no satisfactory provision can be made for supplying this much neglected portion of our population. But we trust and pray that the time may soon come, when the Convention will be able to occupy this important field of missionary effort.

In the mean time, we would most affectionately, and earnestly, exhort christian masters to the faithful discharge of the fearful duties growing out of this relation.

"Give to your servants that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a master in Heaven."

WILLIAM DANIEL, *Chairman.*

## ON TEMPERANCE.

*Dear Brethren:*--Temperance has many advocates and many enemies. It is a subject on which there should be no divisions. Men should see face to face. It should be either cherished or reprobated; either upheld or destroyed.

If its tendency is for the good of humanity, it should be upheld or supported by every rational being, whether he be a tawer of wood and drawer of water, or whether he be trimmed with silver and decked with gold. On the other hand if its tendency is to mar the comfort and destroy the happiness of the human family, it should be annihilated from the records of our country and from the hearts of her citizens.

Is the object of Temperance to make our citizens less patriotic or less honorable? Is it to make the husband less discreet and less affectionate? to make the wife less humane and less lovely? the son less obedient and less honorable? and the daughter less fair and virtuous? If so, myriads of our greatest philanthropists are in gross error,

*Resolved*, That it is the duty of every Elder, every Christian, and every philanthropist to use his influence, both by example and precept, to have the monster slain.  
M. W. M'CRAW, Chairman.

## ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF BOOKS.

**DR. BARTHOLOMEW.**—There is a great want of religious books within the bounds of the Convention. Some families are entirely destitute of the *"blessed Bible"*—God's revelation to man. There is an increasing demand for denominational works; together with other standard religious literature. Many families that never heard the gospel preached, might be reached, by efficient colonizers, hearing the bread of *Eternal Life*. God works by means—*"faith cometh by hearing,"* and God said by his Prophet, "my people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."

Your Committee would therefore recommend that a suitable fund be raised as early as possible for the purpose of supplying this department of our great destitution.

We are gratified to learn that Rev. S. Stevenson, of Arkadelphia, is prepared to furnish or order books of every kind. He has on hand a supply of Sunday-school books, which will be furnished at cost. All of which is submitted.

J. V. McCULLOCH.

## ON AGENCIES.

**DEAR BROTHERS:**—Your Committee on Agencies, believe that the interests of the Convention, and the cause of Missions, demand the constant labors of an efficient agent. The experience of the past shows that much more can be done with, than without an agent. Our brethren in other States act under the same impression—that agencies are necessary.

We would, therefore, recommend that an energetic agent be employed as early as possible; and if one cannot be secured immediately, the Executive Board be authorized to appoint one at any time hereafter.

And now, in conclusion, let us exhort you to take fresh courage, and with the blessing of Heaven, make one united effort—"a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull all together"—for the spread of the gospel, and the salvation of immortal souls.

R. J. COLEMAN, Chairman.

## AGENT'S REPORT.

**DEAR BROTHERS:**—I find many portions of our State without the ministrations of God's word, and the circumstances by which we are surrounded calls loudly for *immediate* and *united* action. There are large families growing up without the gospel, or even the word of God to read.

By a united effort on our part, and these destitute places can be supplied, not only with *Divine Truth*, but the *blessed gospel* may be preached to "every creature" in our State.

According to the Minutes of our associations, there are over four thousand Baptists within the bounds of this Convention.

There is an interesting church now at Pine Bluff. It was constituted 6th Nov. with nine members, and now numbers about fifty. The churches are on the increase in the southern portion of our bounds; and with the men and the means at our command, we cannot well say we are unable to supply our destination. There is, perhaps, no part of the United States, *overlooked* and *neglected* so much by the various *Missionary Societies* as *South Arkansas*. If we do not supply our own destitution, it will, so far as we can see, remain unsupplied for the present.

My labors have been, during the year, as follows:

I have traveled over four thousand miles, Preached 189 sermons; delivered 138 exhortations; baptized four persons; assisted in constituting two churches, and ordaining two deacons, and collected \$586 35.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. J. SMITH.



in the blackness of darkness. They contend, (and contend truly), that it benefits the human family both in a temporal and spiritual manner—both in time and eternity. He that says otherwise calls sweet, bitter, and good evil. The cause of humanity has exercised the minds of the greatest and best men that ever existed. Money, ease and life, itself, have been freely sacrificed at her altar. How many affectionate wives and children have been left with but few, if any, of this world's goods, by devoted husbands, who encountered the loss of money and this world's ease to proclaim the cause of temperance? When an English foe was trampling upon the rights of humanity, we were ready to make the above-mentioned sacrifices. When a foe hailed from the equatorial regions, those sacrifices were freely offered. Of all the enemies which prey upon poor human beings, which will compare with intemperance? You might as well try to number the drops in the oceans or the atoms in the universe, as to tell all the evils of intemperance. It stings, and even destroys, without respect to age, sex or condition. It renders valueless some of the most brilliant talents, it injures communities, destroys the peace of families, withers the fondest hopes of parents, reduces plenty to penury, makes the good vicious; and the vile, more diabolical. It is the stepping stone to every vice; it is competent to ruin any man or set of men; it enters palaces, huts, the different professions, even that of the sacred desk. No place is secure from its ravages.

Is there any philanthropist who would not be willing to make great sacrifices, to destroy the destroyer of millions, or even impede his onward march?

Look at the cause of the present European war. It originated between the Latin and Greek Catholics; the difference being as great as that between tweedledum and tweedledee. Notwithstanding enemies have been created and must be destroyed or pacified. Behold the sacrifices; money, men, navies, munitions of war, &c., &c. Suppose as great a sacrifice had been requested of Russia, Turkey, France and England to aid in putting down the fell destroyer, alcohol, would it have been granted? The greater the enemy, the greater, if necessary, should be the sacrifice. How great a sacrifice are the Baptists of Arkansas, willing to make to have the monster massacred in our State? Is there one bearing the name Baptist who would not be willing to sacrifice freely and largely to annihilate the monster? Are there not some who profess great friendship and regard for temperance who use alcohol as a beverage? They go forth, as it were, with professed friendship for temperance in one hand and a bottle of alcoholic fire in the other. Save me from such friends, and I will guard against my enemies. They exercise an influence more deleterious than confirmed sins. They are looked upon, with respect, tho' traveling the road that nearly every drunkard has trod, while sobriety is generally despised. The cause of temperance is onward and upward. Some of its truest votaries belong to the Baptist ranks, and as revolutions never go backwards, is it too much for us to hope that the day is near at hand when a Baptist cannot be found to plead the cause, by example or precept, of intemperance?

Paul reasoned of temperance when he made Felix tremble. Would that we had Pauls enough to make every Baptist tremble who uses alcohol as a beverage! In Gal. 5: 23, temperance is declared to be one of the fruits of the Spirit; in 2 Peter 1: 6, it is declared to be one of the christian graces; in Titus 1: 8, it is declared to be a qualification for a Bishop; and in 1 Corinthians 9: 25, it is said "And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things." Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we are incorruptible.

It will be admitted on all hands that God is Omnipotent and Omniscient; consequently his revelation to man does not contain one useless word. Now I would ask should temperance be struck from Revelation, what sort of a New Testament would we have? Is any Baptist, or any christian, or any philanthropist, willing to eradicate that word by his words or acts, from the New Testament? Its opposite "Biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder."

Permit us, in the language of another, to describe a railroad to ruin: "It is surveyed by avarice, chartered by county courts, freighted with drunkards, with gro-shops for depots, rum-sellers for engineers, bar-tenders for conductors, and land-lords for stockholders. Fired up with alcohol and boiling with *delirium tremens*. The groans of the dying are the thunders of the trains, and the shrieks of the women and children, are the whistles of the engines."

By the help of God, we will reverse the steam, put out the fire, annul the charter, and save the freight.<sup>21</sup> The committee respectfully offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Convention would rejoice to see the license law repealed and a stop put to the sale of all intoxicating drinks, except for sacramental, medical and mechanical purposes.



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MISS JESSIE HARTWELL, B. B., *Principal and Organist*  
MISS H. M. R. SOUTHWICK,

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MR. F. M. HAYDEN, *Instructor of Music.*

MISS M. H. H. MITCHELL, *Teacher in Music & Piano-playing.*

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