

minution

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SEVENTH

ANNUAL SESSION

OF

SPRING RIVER BAPTIST

ASSOCIATION.

HELD WITH

JACKSON CHURCH, RANDOLPH CO.,

SEPTEMBER 25TH & 27TH, 1875.

J. W. TOWNSEND, MOD.
M. D. BOWERS, CLERK.

RECEIVED of B. F. Holford \$13.40 for printing
600 minutes.

J. W. Townsend.

MINUTES

The 7th annual session of this association was held with Jackson church, Randolph county, Arkansas, on Saturday and Monday, the 25th and 27th days of September, 1875.

PROCEEDINGS.

Saturday morning, 10 o'clock, the introductory sermon was delivered by Elder B. F. Holford, from 1. Tim. i. 11.

According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to me:

After an intermission of one hour, the association was called to order by the Clerk, the Moderator being absent, the names of the churches called, their letters read, and the names of messengers enrolled as follows, to wit:

Churches.	Post Office.	Messengers.
Ash Flat,	Ash Flat,	No letter nor messengers.
Big Creek,	Maxville,	No letter nor messengers.
Big Creek,	Smithville,	No letter, nor messengers.
Even'g Shade,	Evening Shade,	No letter nor messengers.
Friendship,	Walnut Ridge,	No letter nor messengers.
Harmony,	Walnut Ridge,	No letter nor messengers.
Wm's Chapel,	Smithville,	J. P. Sparks and J. Clemens.
Opewell,	Smithville,	J. H. Williams.
Jackson,	Jackson,	F. M. Stennett, M. D. Bowers, D. R. Williams.
Liberty,	Pocahontas,	No letter nor messengers.
Little Spring,	Poughkeepsie,	No letter nor messengers.
St Vernon,	Jackson,	A. Dawson, J. Peren, E. F. Mitchel.
New Hope,	Smithville,	J. H. Judkins, G. B. Borah.
St Grove,	Smithville,	B. F. Holford, J. G. Dent.
Oak Grove,	Pocahontas,	Lewis F. Frasier, John Cox.
Pine Hill,	Even'g Shade,	No letter nor messengers.
Pleasant Hill,	Smithville,	No letter nor messengers.
Smithville,	Smithville,	J. W. Townsend, John P. Goodwin.
Union Hill,	Hazle Grove,	No letter nor messengers.

The messengers proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted in the choice of Elder J. W. Townsend for Moderator, M. D. Bowers for Clerk and Elder B. F. Holford for Treasurer. The Moderator remarked, "Brethren, I appreciate the honor you have conferred. May it redound to the glory of God, and promote the unity of this body." The association proceeded with business as follows, viz:

1. Called for petitionary letters. Two were read; one from Calamine church, and the other from Shiloh church. The church at Calamine was received, the hand of fellowship extended to brother Robert Maxwell, and his name enrolled as her messenger. The one from Shiloh was continued until Monday morning 9.

2. Called for correspondence, and received a letter from Independence, and minutes from State Line associations.

3. Invited visiting ministers to seats with us. Elder J. R. Pratt accepted the invitation.

4. It was moved and unanimously carried, that the proposed amendments to our Rules of Decorum, as published in our last minutes, be and the same are hereby adopted.

5. The Moderator annuounced the following committees, to wit: 1, On Preaching, the messengers from Jackson church; 2, On Finance, Judkins and Borah; 3, On the State of the Churches, Holford, Frashier and Williams; 4, On Destitution, Holford; 5, On Missions, Clemens, Dent and Bowers; 6, On Sabbath Schools, Cox, Sparks and Maxwell; 7, On Correspondence, Dent; 8, Baptist Literature, Bowers, Holford, and on motion, the Moderator: 9, On Education, Frasier and Bowers.

6. Adjourned to Monday morning, 9 o'clock. Prayer by brother Sparks.

—:O:—

Preaching Saturday night by brother Judkins, Sunday at 11 o'clock by brother Townsend, at 2 o'clock by brother Pratt, and at night by brother Holford.

—:O:—

Monday Morning '9 o'clock, the association assembled and was opened with prayer by the Moderator, and, after roll call, proceeded to business as follows, to wit:

1. The minutes of Saturday were read and approved.

2. The petitionary letter of Shiloah was taken up, the church received, the hand of fellowship extended to her messenger, Jacob Moore, and he took his seat with us.

3. Report of the committee on complaint of Pleas't Hill church against Dry Creek church was called for, received, and committee discharged.

REPORT.—Your committee, to whom the complaint of Pleasant Hill church against Dry Creek was refered, find that, at the time the grievance was committed, Dry Creek and Pine Hill churches had connected themselves with a colored association according to previous understanding with this association. Respectfully submitted, J. W. Townsend, Ch.

It was moved and carried that we drop the names of Dry Creek and Pine Hill churches from our roll.

4. Report of the committee on Finance called for, received, and the committee discharged.

REPORT.—Your committee respectfully report \$5.40 minute funds.

John B. Judkins, Chairman.

It was moved and carried that brother Townsend print the minutes, and distribute them among the churches.

5. Report of the committee on the State of the Churches called for, received and the committee discharged.

REPORT.—Your committee respectfully report, that peace and unity prevail in the churches throughout the association. Most of them have regular pastors; a few are destitute; some, during the year, have enjoyed refreshing seasons; some seem to make but little progress, if they do not actually languish; on the whole, we have reason to feel thankful and take courage.

B. F. Holford, Chairman.

6. Report of the committee on Destitution called for, received and the committee discharged.

REPORT.—Your committee submit that, there is, on the east of Black river, Spring river, Eleven Points river, and along the western boundry of this association, neighborhoods destitute of Baptist preaching, some wholly, and some partly so.

B. F. Holford, Chairman.

Resolved, That we request the churches to supply the destitute places in our bounds with preaching, so far as they are able to do so, and that they take up collocations for this purpose.

7. Report of the committee on Sabbath Schools called for, received, and the committee discharged.

REPORT.—Your committee report, that, in their judgment, properly conducted Sabbath schools are of great utility as means of imparting intellectual and moral instruction to the youth.

John Cox, Chairman.

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend the churches of this union to vigorously prosecute the Sunday school work, and report results to our next association.

8. Report of the committee on Correspondence called for, received and the committee discharged.

REPORT.—Your committee have but little out of which to make a report. Independence association held her 25th session with Rehoboth church, on the 11th of this month, and seems to have had a pleasant meeting. Her total increase, during the associational year, is 41; baptisms, 75, in fellowship, 863. The 2nd session of the State Line association met with Pleasant Hill church, October 9th, and report 15 baptisms, and 356 in fellowship. The last session of Rocky Bayou association assembled with La Cross church, on October 12th, and report 151 baptisms, and 1216 in fellowship. No word from Cane Creek, or Bethlehem.

J. G. Dent, Chairman.

Arranged correspondence as follows, to wit:

To Independence, Judkins, Borah, Townsend. To Rocky Bayou, Clemens, Bellamy, Townsend. Cane Creek, Pratt. Bethlehem, Holford, Borah. State Line, Holford, Bowers, Cox. This minute is our correspondence.

9. Report of the committee on Baptist Literature called for, received, adopted and the committee discharged.

REPORT.—Your committee believe, that a sound Baptist literature is an

indispensible necessity of the age, and therefore, recommend Kind Words to the juvenile reader, and the Baptist, Baptist Battle-Flag, Central Baptist, and, to Arkansas Baptists particularly, the Western Baptist to the general reader.
Milton D. Bowers, Chairman.

19. Report of the committee on Education called for, received, adopted, and the committee discharged.

REPORT.—Your committee do not believe it possible to over estimate the magnitude of education. Ignorance, in order to be seen in all its native deformity, must be brought in juxtaposition with intelligence; and liberty, one of the stars in the galaxy of blessings secured by our holy religion, be guided by the companionship of learning, or it will sink into licentiousness. It was in the dark ages of ignorance and its companion, superstition, that the earth was deluged with the blood of martyrs; and the causes that produced this effect then, other circumstances being equal, will produce a like effect again. Then, if we would not see the banner of religion and freedom trail in the crimson gore of intolerance, proscription and persecution, the courtiers of despotism, itself an outgrowth of ignorance, let us educate our children; which consists in the communication of intellectual and moral instruction, and in the development of the mind and heart; and this ought to begin in the cradle and continue through life. Mothers, more particularly than fathers, ought to be educated: for it is from them that the first, as well as the most erasible impressions are imparted; and if they are ignorant and superstitious, their children will, in all probability, be so. As auxiliary to home instruction, let us encourage and patronize Sabbath schools, Common schools; and, particularly, the Smithville Institute, where a thorough education can be procured on favorable terms.
Milton D. Bowers, Chairman.

11. The report of the Smithville Institute Trustee was received and Elder D. Wagster re-elected Trustee.

REPORT.—Your Trustee respectfully reports: Total number of students matriculated 76, educated free 12.
David Wagster, Trustee.

12. QUERY. Is washing feet a test of fellowship with this association? Answer, No.

13. On ballot, next association will be held with the church at Smithville, Elder M. D. Bowers preach the introductory sermon, Elder D. Hunt alternate, and Elder J. W. Townsend to write circular letter.

14. Resolved, That each minister in this association be requested to report his labors to our next association; and each church state, in her letter, the amount she will pay a missionary the next year.

15. Reports. Penn.—Sermons 48, exhortations 4, prayers 39, miles 455. Holford.—Sermons 95, exhortations 73, baptisms 39, churches const. 1. Townsend.—Sermons 41, exhortations 37, prayers 28, miles traveled 479, baptisms 1.

16. On motion, while singing, the brethren took the parting hand, prayer by bro. Holford, and adjourned.

J. W. TOWNSEND, MOD.

MILTON D. BOWERS, C'K.

STATISTICS.

Names of Churches.	When Constituted,	No. in Constitu- tion,	Rec'd by Baptism,	Rec'd by Letter,	Restored,	Dismiss'd by Letter,	Exclusions,	Deaths,	Meetings,	Rec'd by Baptism,	Rec'd by Letter,	Restored	Dismiss'd by Letter.	Excluded,	Deceased,	In Fellowship,	Contributions,		Names of Ministers.	Post Office.
																	Ordained.*	Licensed.†		
Ash Flat - - -									1							49		Jesse R. Pratt,*	Pocahontas, Ark.	
Big Creek - - -									4							43		David Wagster,*	Smithville, Ark.	
Calamine - - -	1874	20	5	15		3	2		1	5	15		3		2	41	1 25	Joab B. Johnson,*	Maxville, Ark.	
Evening Shade -									2							19		Jno. W. Townsend,*	Smithville, Ark.	
Friendship - - -	1872								1							12		John W. James,*	Pocahontas, Ark.	
Harmony - - -	1872								3							19		John M. Hill,*	Smithville, Ark.	
Hill's Chapel -	1872	7	17	27		3	1		2	5	13				1	50	1 50	Jackson H. Oldham,†	Powhatan, Ark.	
Hopewell - - -			36		2				1	2	2	2		2	1	34	1 00	B. F. Holford,*	Smithville, Ark.	
Jackson - - -	1873			3		5			3	13					1	61	1 55	John W. Wicker,*	Poughkeepsie, Ark.	
Liberty - - -									2							14		Richard J. Penn,*	Smithville, Ark.	
Little Spring -									3							59		William M. Johnston.*	Maxville, Ark.	
Mount Vernon -									2				8			34		John H. Williams,†	Smithville, Ark.	
New Hope - - -									2	13	9		2	4	1	139	2 40	G. O Howard,*	Jackson, Ark.	
New Prospect -	1874	10	7													17		P. M. Pearce,*	Pocahontas Ark.	
Oak Grove - - -					6				1	4	6	6				80		S. B. Bellamy*	Smithville, Ark.	
Pleasant Grove -									4	10	2		17	8	1	106	2 50	Milton D. Bowers,*	Jackson, Ark.	
Pleasant Hill -	1871		69	8					1							81		George B. Borah,†	Smithville, Ark.	
Shiloh - - -	1875	9														24	1 00	John B. Judkins,†	Smithville, Ark.	
Smithville - - -	1866	9	36	28	1	8	2	7	1	1	4		2			47	2 00	— — — East,†	Jackson, Ark.	
Union Hill- - -	1874		28													42		Hugh M. Price,†	Smithville, Ark.	
																		— — — Carlisle,†	Smithville, Ark.	
Total Numbers,									53	51	8	32	14	7	968	12 45		David Hunt,*	Smithville, Ark.	