

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

TWENTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Gainesville Missionary Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

RECTOR CHURCH, CLAY COUNTY, ARK.,

September 21, 23, 24, 1889.

—OFFICERS:—

ELDER G. LIVELY, Moderator,	-	-	Piggott, Ark.
HENRY HOLCOMB, Clerk,	-	-	Advance, Ark.
H. B. WRIGHT, Treasurer,	-	-	Gainesville, Ark.

GREENWAY, ARK.,
CLAY CO. COURIER PRINT.
1889.

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MINUTES.

SATURDAY SEPT. 21, 1889.

The Gainesville Missionary Baptist Association convened with Rector church, pursuant to adjournment, at 11 o'clock, a. m. The Introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. R. Holcomb, Text, Romans I chapter, 16th verse: "For I am not ashamed of

the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

The body was called to order by the former moderator. A motion then carried to adjourn until two p. m. Benediction by Elder J. S. Edmonds.

EVENING SESSION.

At 2 o'clock p. m. the association was called together by singing; prayer by Elder G. H. Faulkner. Business resumed. The roll of churches was called and twenty responded by their messengers bearing letters. (See tabular statement.)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

On motion, the Association went into an election of Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer by ballot, which resulted in the election of Elder G. Lively, Moderator; Henry Holcomb, Clerk; H. B. Wright, Treasurer. The Moderator on taking the Chair, acknowledged his thanks to the brethren for their expression in this act of their confidence in him as a presiding officer, and invited them to bow in Prayer to be led by Elder E. P. Minton.

Petitionary letters were then called for by the Moderator. Letters of correspondence were called for:

Current River Association responded by her delegate, S. W. Abernathy, and Mt. Zion Association, by her delegate, Elder W. S. Barker, and by the Moderator was tendered seats in the body.

Visiting brethren were then invited to seats within the body, and Elders E. P. Minton, J. S. Edmonds and Brother L. P. Montgomery, of Mt. Zion Association, and Elder J. H. D. Carlin, of Spring River Association, responded, whose names were enrolled.

On motion Bro. B. F. Ward was admitted a Messenger in fact from Greenway church.

On motion, the Moderator proceeded to appoint the usual committees, to-wit:

Committee on Divine Service. Pastor and Deacons of Rector church.

Committee on Arrangements. H. B. Wright, J. R. Holcomb and S. K. Dungan.

Committee on Publication. G. H. Faulkner, D. M. Johnson and James Denniston.

Committee on Finance. W. P. Lawson, J. A. Hooks and C. M. Hurst.

Committee on Home Missions. J. J. Allen, James Robertson and W. T. Allison.

Committee on Foreign Missions. J. R. Holcomb, James Haden and J. M. Batton.

Committee on Sunday Schools. Newton Wright, J. J. Burton and B. C. Shirey.

Committee on Ministerial Education. H. B. Wright, J. J. Allen and J. J. Burton.

Committee on Obituaries. W. T. Vestal, James Denniston and W. J. Johnson.

Committee on Temperance. E. P. Holt, James Ramsey and T. H. Freeman.

Committee on Credentials. W. T. Williams, J. C. Thomas, and J. A. Smith.

Committee on State and Associational Missions. J. W. Roberts, J. H. Sammons, and T. H. Mothershead.

The committee on Divine Service asked permission and reported as follows: Elder J. S. Edmonds will fill the stand to-night at early candle-light; Elder E. P. Minton, to-morrow at 11 a. m., on the subject of "Missions;" Elder G. Lively, to-morrow at 3 p. m., and Elder G. H. Faulkner, to-morrow night at early candle-light.

On motion adjourned until Monday morning 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder J. H. D. Carlin.

Sunday morning 9 o'clock a large congregation assembled and engaged in Sunday school mass meeting conducted by S. K. Dungan.

At 11 o'clock the missionary sermon was preached by Elder E. P. Minton after which a collection was taken for state and associational work amounting to \$16.

Monday morning 9 o'clock September 23, 1889.—The association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Bro. J. S. Hadden. The roll was called and messengers answered to their names. The minutes of Saturday's proceedings were read and approved.

The committee on arrangements reported as follows, which was read, adopted and committee discharged. We your committee recommend the order of business to govern this session of the body as follows:

1. Calling the roll and reading the minutes.
2. Calling for petitionary letters.
3. Calling for letters of correspondence.
4. Inviting visiting brethren to seats.
5. Report of committee on education.
6. Report of committee on Ministerial education.
7. Report of committee on finance.
8. Report of committee on Home missions.
9. Report of committee on Foreign missions.
10. Report of committee on state and Associational missions.
11. Report of committee on Sunday schools.
12. Report of committee on credentials.
13. Report of committee on obituaries.
14. Report of committee on Temperance.
15. Report of executive board.
16. Report of Missionary.
17. Report of agent of Ministerial educational fund.
18. Report of Treasurer.
19. Calling for queries.
20. Miscellaneous business.
21. Resolutions.

J. R. Holcomb, Chairman.

Invitation still extended to visiting brethren, and accepted by elder W. A. Clark, Editor of Arkansas Baptist. Published at Little Rock. Report of committee of publications was presented read and adopted which was as follows: We believe the Bible is ever to be the guide of Baptist into the way of truth, that is the only standard of faith and practice known to us and should be searched more diligently by us as a people. We would also recommend as good literature and worthy of our patronage the Arkansas Baptist, edited by W. A. Clark, Little Rock, Ark.; and which we should especially cherish as our own state paper, the Baptist, edited by Graves and Moody, Memphis, Tenn., and the American Baptist, edited by D. B. Ray, St. Louis, Mo. And as Sunday school literature we would recommend the national Baptist Pub-

Education Society, and Kind Words, published at Atlanta, Ga., and the Arkansas Book House of Little Rock.

G. H. FAULKNER, Chairman.

The report of the committee on Ministerial Education was presented, read and adopted, and is as follows: The necessity of Ministerial Education is apparent to all. Our ministers have to meet educated men, and to meet them properly, they must be educated. More. they must be able to rightly divide the word of truth. We would recommend the continuance of an agent to solicit funds for this purpose. We would further recommend, that this matter be laid before each church in this Association, and at least one collection be taken during the year for this purpose.

H. B. WRIGHT, Chairman.

On motion adjourned to 2 o'clock p. m. for preaching and refreshments. Benediction by Elder W. A. Clark. At 11 o'clock a. m. and also at 7 p. m. Elder W. A. Clark preached to very large and attentive congregations.

At 2 p. m the Association was called together by singing and resumed business.

The committee on finance reported as follows, which was found correct and adopted.

Your committee have received for printing minutes from

Bloomington Grove church	\$1 50	Pleasant Grove.....	\$1 50
Post Oak.....	1 00	Hopewell	2 00
Rock Hill	2 00	Liberty.....	1 50
Piggott.....	1 25	Friendship.....	2 50
Epsaby.....	1 50	Fairview.....	2 00
Corning.....	1 00	Salem.....	2 50
Union Grove.....	1 50	Rector.....	1 10
Marmaduke.....	1 50	Center Hill.....	1 50
Providence	3 00	Land Mark.....	1 00
Greenway.....	75	New Hope.....	3 00

Total for minutes.....	\$ 33 60
Collected on Sunday for state and Associational Missions..	16 00
From Land Mark church.....	1 50

Total amount received.....\$51 10

W. P. LAWSON, }
J. A. HOOKS, } Committee.
C. M. HURST, }

The committee on Home missions reported as follows, which was read and adopted. The work of Home missions is one that should be encouraged by every God-fearing person, And we would suggest that each church raise by donation a certain amount above other expenses to be applied in way of advancing the cause of Home missions. The work is in a very prosperous and healthy condition now, especially throughout the Southern and Western states, and by the co-operation of this associaton several hundred dollars might be raised to swell the large fund now being expended to spread the gospel.

J. J. ALLEN, Chairman.

The committee on Foreign missions reported as follows which was read and adopted:

RESOLVED, That it is thê sense of this body that it shall be the duty of the Ministers, serving churches within this Association, to take up collections during the month of November, for Foreign Missions. That they forward same to the State Secretary, and that they report the amount sent with receipts for same to the next session of this body.

J. R. HOLCOMB, Chairman.

The committee on State and Associational Missions report as follows, which was read and adopted :

Would recommend that the Association appoint seven brethren to act as an Executive committee; that it shall be the duty of this committee, after its organization, to employ some suitable Minister to labor as missionary at such places as said board may direct. Four of said committee shall constitute a quorum. All contributions, which should be taken quarterly by the churches, be paid to the Secretary of said committee or accounted for by the Missionary to said Secretary when paid to him, and the committee and such Missionary shall make a report of their labors and success to the next session of this body.

J. H. SAMMONS, Chairman.

The committee on Sabbath schools reported as follows, which was read and adopted :

Brethren, from the letters from the various churches we find but two Sabbath schools reported. This is certainly not as it should be, in as much as the Sunday school is in a great measure the nursery of the church, and certainly its most powerful auxillary.

We believe it is the imperative duty of every church to have its own Sunday school that is a Baptist school, whose officers and teachers should be elected by the church, and where nothing but good sound Baptist literature should be tolerated, from the fact that early impression are the most lasting, hence the importance of correct teaching, and we would especially recommend as Sunday school literature, the Kind Words Publications, which is under the supervision of our Southern Board, and demands our support.

We would also recommend the importance of organizing a Sabbath school convention in the bounds of this Association for the purpose of infusing into the minds and hearts of our brethren more information in regard to this most important department of church work.

J. J. BURTON, Chairman.

The committee on Credentials reported as follows, which was read and adopted :

Your committee find that all the brethren present and participating are properly indorsed.

J. A. SMITH, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

Your committee on Obituaries, on investigation, find a number of our churches composing the Association, have been visited by the pale messenger, Death. The following named brethren and sisters have been summoned away : Bro. Thomas Pollard, and Sister Permenter, of New Hope church ; Bros. W. C. Galyean, and R. L. Galyean, and Sister Selia Garrett, of Salem church ; Bros. W. G. Butler, and Frank Sanphill, of Providence church ; Bro. W. H. Vestal, of Liberty church ; Sister M. J. Tucker, of Greenway church ; Bro. H. C. Woods, of Epsaby church ; Sister Belle Shepard, of M. A. church ; Elisabeth Rainwater and Parker, of Fairview church ; Sister Dora Brown and Julia Mead, of Piggott church. Although we have to weep over the sad separation, let us take courage and press forward in the conflict of our high calling until we shall be overwhelmed in the happy reunion in the far beyond.

W. T. VESTAL.	} Committee.
W. J. JOHNSON.	
JAMES DENNISTON	

The committee on Temperance reported as follows, which was read and adopted :

That Intemperance is an evil, is admitted by all that have given the subject a moments thought. That is, has been, and is now, the greatest curse known to the human race. That it breeds crime, encourages vice, and is the father of indolence, no one can doubt. That it destroys men physically, mentally, morally and financially who can deny. That it destroys both soul and body in hell, is a fact that cannot be denied. God says in his word, that no drunkard can enter or inherit the Kingdom of Heaven. Poverty, vice and disgrace, are the fruits of intemperance, and when we have learned all that we can, and told all that we have learned, then the half has not been told. The church is, or should be, the great moral light-house of earth. Then what is our duty in the premises, do we as a people, favor men going to hell? No! Then we ought to do all we can for Temperance; we should vote as we pray. Pray against license, vote against license. And your committee would further state, that no Christian man can be what he should be, who votes for, and encourages the whiskey traffic, if there was not one single word, in the scriptures against it, observation would be enough to cause us to flee from it as from a deadly poison.

E. P. HOLT, Chairman.

The Executive committee reported as follows, which was read and adopted:

Committee appointed at the last annual meeting of this body to which the mission work of the Association was assigned, would report that soon after our appointment by the body, we organized ourselves into a board by electing Chairman and Secretary. At a meeting of said board held October, 1889, at Paragould, Ark., the board resolved to appropriate equal of what should be raised to assist the following named points: Post Oak church, Piggott church, Marmaduke church, Greenway church, Williams Chapel church, and a point in St. Francis bottom near Mitchell's Point on the St. Francis river, the board having received from all sources \$60 cash and pledges, and disbursed the same as follows: Paid Elder J. R. Holcomb, for Post Oak church, \$10.00. Paid Elder G. Lively, for Piggott church, and Marmaduke church, \$20.00. Paid Elder W. J. Bearden, for Greenway church, \$10.00. Paid Elder W. P. Kime, for Williams Chapel church, \$10.00. Yet in hands of Board, \$10.00.

J. J. BURTON, Secretary pro tem.

The agent of Ministerial Education Funds reported as follows, which was read and adopted :

Total amount raised \$40.65; amount paid Elder J. D. J. Faulkner, who is now in school at Barren Fork, Ark., \$40.65, and indorsed by the Executive Board, of the Association. Your agent heartily recommends this effort of our Association to aid young ministers in this indispensable feature of preparation for our Master's service.

J. J. BURTON, Assistant Agent.

Report of Foreign Mission Agents, which was handed in, read and adopted as follows:

Received from Gainesville Association.....	\$12.25
Received from New Hope Church.....	3.60

Total amount sent to H. A. Tupper.....	\$15.85
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W. J. BEARDEN.

Received from Gainesville Association.....	\$5.00
Received from Friendship Church.....	7.50

Total amount sent to H. A. Tupper.....	\$12.50
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G. LIVELY.

The report of the Treasurer was made and adopted as follows:

Received from Finance Committee for minute fund, 1888, \$31.00	
Received amount collected on Sunday.....	11.90

Total.....	\$42.90
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CREDITS ASKED.

By amount paid clerk for Minutes for 1888.....	\$31.00
By amount paid Executive Board.....	11.90

Total.....	\$42.90
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H. B. WRIGHT, Treasurer.

On motion the Moderator appointed J. D. Markham and J. J. Burton, as agents to solicit funds to be termed the Ministerial Education Fund; to be disbursed as directed at the last session of this body.

And Resolved, that the Moderator appoint an agent in each church, to solicit funds for this purpose, and forward same to the general agents of the Association, and appointed as follows :

Rector church, J. J. Allen	Marmaduke church J. J. Ramsey
Friendship church, J. J. Burton.	Salem church, J. M. Batton.
Union Grove, Lee Bohanning.	Post Oak, D. A. Lemmons.
Fair View, John Sammons.	New Hope, J. R. Holcomb.
Rock Hill, James Loyd.	Piggott, W. C. Pickett.
Pleasant Grove, Z. T. Fletcher.	Greenway, B. F. Ward.
Center Hill, J. W. Craven.	Bloom'g Grove, D. A. Denniston
Epsaby, John Roberts.	Hopewell, D. M. Johnson.
Providence, H. B. Wright.	New Light, N. F. Carpenter.
Liberty, W. T. Vestal.	

On motion the same Executive Committee appointed for last year, be retained for the ensuing year.

On motion, that Corning church, and Williams Chapel church, by request of same, be dismissed from our body, to join Current River Association.

On motion the Treasurer pay over the amount for printing minutes to the clerk; that the clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes, and retain five dollars for his services.

QUERY NO. 1.

By what authority do we keep the first, in place of the seventh day of the week, as the Christian Sabbath? Discussed at length by Elders W. A. Clark, J. H. D. Carlin, and J. R. Holcomb; and tabled.

A motion then prevailed to adjourn until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Prayer by Bro. S. W. Abernathy.

TUESDAY MORNING 9 O'CLOCK, SEPTEMBER 24TH, 1889.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Bro. J. J. Burton.

The roll was called and messengers answered to their names.

QUERY NO. 2.

Has a body of baptized believers the Scriptural right, to organize themselves into a church, independent of Ministerial aid? Answered in the affirmative.

QUERY NO. 3.

Has an Ordained Minister the Scriptural right to baptize a believer, without the authority of the church? Answered in the negative.

On motion, that the Executive Board arrange and lay out the territorial bounds of this Association.

On Motion Elder W. J. Bearden, with Elder G. Lively, his alternate, were appointed to preach the introductory sermon at the next session of this body.

On call by the moderator, the following resolutions were offered, received and adopted :

RESOLVED, That the Association convene in its next session with Rock Hill church, 3 miles west of Paragould, on Saturday, before the fourth Lord's day in September, 1890, at 11 o'clock a. m.

RESOLVED, That this body tender its thanks to the members of the Rector church, and the citizens of Rector town, of Clay county, for their kind hospitality during the present session.

Thus closed the Twentieth Annual Session of the Gainesville Association, and on motion, the body adjourned to meet with Rock Hill church, Greene county, on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, A. D. 1890, at 11 o'clock a. m.

Prayer by Elder J. H. D. Carlin.

And during song service the parting hand was extended by the brethren.

At 11 o'clock Elder J. H. D. Carlin preached one of his able discourses.

HENRY HOLCOMB,
Clerk.

ELDER G. LIVELY,
Moderator.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS. P. O.
Blooming Grove,	J. H. D. Carlin.	N. A. Deniston, Rector, Ark.
Center Hill,	Thos. Williams.	W. H. Foster, Paragould, "
Corning,	W. P. Kime.	S. Bishop, Corning, "
Epsaby,	G. H. Faulkner.	J. T. Thorn, Gainesville, "
Fairview,	J. T. Edwards.	W. T. T. Allen, Paragould, "
Friendship,	G. Lively.	W. T. Allison, Gainesville, "
Hopewell,	J. H. D. Carlin.	D. M. Johnson, Tillmonville.
Liberty,	D. Thorn.	W. T. Vestal, Gainesville, "
New Light,	J. R. Holcomb.	N. F. Carpenter, Greenway "
New Hope,	W. J. Bearden.	H. Holcomb, Advance, "
Providence,	W. J. Bearden.	J. W. Ward, Gainesville, "
Pleasant Grove,	G. H. Faulkner.	Jas. A. Thompson, Finch, "
Piggott,	J. R. Holcomb.	S. Brown, Piggott, "
Rock Hill,	W. J. Bearden.	C. M. Grooms, Paragould, "
Salem.	J. R. Holcomb.	C. W. Bradshaw, Boydsville,
Union Grove,	G. H. Faulkner.	J. T. Faulkner, Crowley, "
Post Oak,	J. R. Holcomb.	C. M. Garrett, Boydsville, "
Greenway,	J. H. D. Carlin	B. F. Ward, Greenway, "
Rector,	W. J. Bearden.	B. C. Shirey, Rector, "
Marmaduke,	G. Lively.	F. D. Lewis, Halliday, "
Williams Chapel,	W. B. Kime.	D. W. Smith, Moark, "

GREENWAY, ARK.

CLAY COUNTY COURIER PRINT.

TABULAR STATEMENT.

CHURCHES.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE.	Rec'd by Baptism.	Rec'd by Letter.	Rec'd by Recom'd'n Restored.	Dismiss'd by Letter Excluded.	Deceased.	Membership.	Contribution for Minutes.
Blooming Grove.....	James Denniston, A. B. Winchester, J. A. Hooks.	J. H. D. Carlin.	Rector.	00 00 00 00	4 00 00	46	\$1 50			
Center Hill.....	T. A. Mothershead.	Thos. Williams.	Paragould.	9 00	00 00 00	48	1 50			
Corning.....	W. P. Lawson.	W. P. Kime.	Corning.	00 00	00 00 00	1 00				
Epsaby.....	John Roberts.	G. H. Faulkner.	Gainesville.	5 3	4 2 1	72	1 50			
Fairview	J. W. Langley, J. H. Sammons.	J. T. Edwards.	Paragould.	16 9	00 4 4 4	83	2 00			
Friendship	J. J. Burton, W. T. Allison.	G. Lively.	Gainesville.	5 1	12 2 00	70	2 50			
Hopewell.....	D. M. Johnson, J. C. Thomas, M. V. Reece.	J. H. D. Carlin.	Rector.	1 00	17 6 00	77	2 00			
Liberty.....	W. T. Vestal, C. C. Gasgal.	David Thorn.	Gainesville.	00 00	2 1 1	30	1 50			
New Light.....	No intelligence.			00 00	00 00 00					
New Hope.....	J. R. Holcomb, H. Holcomb, W. J. Johnson.	W. J. Bearden.	Advance.	12 1	2 4 3	142	3 00			
Providence.....	H. B. Wright, J. N. Wright, W. T. Williams.	W. J. Bearden.	Gainesville.	00 3	3 2 2	140	3 00			
Pleasant Grove.....	Z. T. Fletcher, G. W. Russel.	G. H. Faulkner.	Finch.	8 1	1 00 00 00	61	1 50			
Piggott.....	W. C. Picket.	J. R. Holcomb.	Piggott.	2 3	4 00 2	34	1 25			
Rock Hill.....	J. H. Wilcockson, J. T. McDaniel, Jas. Vickers.	W. J. Bearden.	Paragould.	00 1	7 00 2	54	2 00			
Salem.....	J. A. Smith, J. M. Batton, M. M. Lunsford.	J. R. Holcomb.	Boydsville.	00 1	8 00 3	86	2 50			
Union Grove.....	G. H. Faulkner, Lee Bohanning.	G. H. Faulkner.	Crowley.	00 2	2 00 00	44	1 50			
Post Oak.....	C. M. Hurst, J. S. Haden.	J. R. Holcomb.	Boydsville.	1 00	00 00 00	34	1 00			
Greenway.....	B. F. Ward.	J. H. D. Carlin	Greenway.	00 00	00 00 1	13	75			
Rector.....	B. C. Shirey, J. N. Robertson, J. J. Allen.	W. J. Bearden.	Rector.	00 00	00 00 00	28	1 10			
Marmaduke.....	E. P. Holt, James Ramsey, T. H. Freeman.	G. Lively.	Halliday.	2 4	00 00 1	19	1 50			
Williams Chapel....	S. K. Dungan.	W. P. Kime.	Moark.	3 00 00	1 00 00	15	1 00			
Total.....				64 29	1 3 70 21 20	1096	\$33 60			