

MINUTES.

OF THE

FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Red River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

PINEY GROVE CHURCH,

NEVADA COUNTY, ARK., SEPT. 26, 27 and 28, 1891.

OFFICERS:

JIM P. COPELAND, MODERATOR, Prescott, Ark.

T. A. HEARD, CLERK, Arkadelphia, Ark.

NEXT SESSION TO BE HELD WITH

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH, HEMPSTEAD CO.,

(Five miles from Ozan, on the Railroad from Hope to Nashville.)

On Saturday before Fourth Sunday in Sept. 1892.

+1891+

SIFTINGS PRINT.

MINUTES.

Red River Baptist Association met with Piney Grove Baptist church Nevada County, Ark., September 26, 1891.

The congregation was called together by singing and prayer at 10:30 a. m., which was continued until the hour of 11 o'clock.

The introductory sermon was then preach by Bro. I. F. Welch, by previous appointment. Text, 1st Chapter, 8th verse Acts. "But ye shall receive power, after that Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witness unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth." Theme persued was that all christians should be witnesses for Christ. The sermon was heartily received and endorsed by the congregation and brethren. The congregation was then dismissed to take refreshments which were bountifully served on the grounds and to meet at 1:30 o'clock.

At 1:30 o'clock the congregation met in the house. After singing a hymn, the Moderator, Bro. J. P. Copeland, read the 3rd Ch. Eph., prayer was offered by Bro. Burns, of Arkadelphia.

The church letters were then called for. Bro. Kennedy, of Amity, Bro. Edwards, of Arkadelphia and Bro. I. F. Welch, of Prescott, was appointed to read. After being read the roll was called and the names of the delegates present were enrolled.

Proceeded to the election of moderator and clerk by appointing Bros. Holt, Jones and Edwards to take the vote. While the vote was being counted, prayer was offered by Bros. J. B. Langley, Eastman and Wiley Dickerson.

The tellers reported that J. P. Copeland was re-elected moderator and T. A. Head re-elected clerk.

The moderator, after expressing a vote or thanks, declared the association duly organized and ready for business.

The delegates from this church J. T. Holt, Ozan; S. S. McDaniel, Macedonia; Bro. Howell, Amity, was appointed as a committee to arrange preaching during the session.

Called for petitionary letters for membership in this body. Letters from Caney Creek, Glenwood, and Ebenezar were read and the churches received and the hand of fellowship was given by the moderator to the delegates.

Called for correspondences. Bro. Walthal of Union Association; Dr. Searcy, of Arkadelphia, general agent of Ouachita College, secretary of Foreign Mission; Dr. Clark, of Little Rock, editor Arkansas Baptist; J. M. Hardage, Wiley Dickerson, M. C. Myrick, R. C. Edwards, of Arkadelphia presented themselves and were cordially invited to seats.

COMMITTEES.

Finance—J. J. Mays, W. P. Barton, Walter Adams.

Sunday-School—R. K. Hall, J. B. Langley, T. B. Griffin.

Temperance—J. E. Kennedy, J. R. Chappel, J. C. Brown.

Obituaries—J. O. Browning, J. R. Hardy, D. Howell.

Missions—G. W. Burns, J. B. Searcy, T. J. Bennett.

Education—I. F. Welch, J. T. Holt, J. E. Kennedy.

Destitution—N. J. Price, J. E. Kennedy, G. W. Burns.

Documents—N. J. Price, S. B. Griffin, J. W. Holt.

Ministerial Education—J. J. Haynes, B. F. Maicomb, J. P. Bourland.

Literature—J. B. Searcy, J. O. Browning, I. F. Welch.

Moved and carried that the collection to be taken on Sabbath be equally divided with Home, Foreign, State and Association missions. Motion made to amend that after the amount due to association missions was paid then the balance to be paid equally to missions. The amendment was adopted.

SATURDAY.

The Committee on divine services made the following report: To-night at this place, Bro. J. O. Browning. At Shady Grove church, Dr. Searcy. At Boughton, Bro. G. W. Burns. At Providence, Bro. J. E. Kennedy.

Sunday appointments—Prayer meeting at 10 o'clock a. m., conducted by Bro. Copeland; preaching at the new house at 11 a. m. by Dr. Clark, editor Arkansas Baptist. At the old house at the same hour Bro. J. J. Haynes at 2 p. m. Dr. Searcy to preach at the new church. Bro. J. P. Copeland at the old house. Sunday night at this place Bro. J. E. Kennedy. At Shady Grove, Bro. T. J. Bennett. At Boughton, Bro. G. L. Hamlin. At Providence, Bro. Walthall, Union Association.

On motion adjourned to 8 o'clock Monday morning. Benediction by Bro. Browning.

SABBATH.

Prayer meeting conducted by Bro. Copeland. After several prayers being offered and some talks by some of the old brethren of the association. Bro. Browning suggested that Bro. Hays, a blind man and a member of the first church in Little Rock be requested to address the prayer meeting, which was agreed to by Bro. Copeland. He was then introduced by Dr. Clark of Little Rock. Bro. Hays made a statement of his desire which was to preach the gospel, having once been a student in the seminary at Louisville, Kentucky, wished to return and complete his theological education. His remarks were very impressive and sympathetic, and \$27.35 was raised and handed to him for the purpose stated by him.

At 11 o'clock the house not being large enough to seat the congregation seats were moved to the grove. Brother Clark then preached to a large and attentive congregation. His theme was the Good Shepherd. Many were made to rejoice and praise God that He had sent his Son to be a Shepherd over His sheep, and that nothing could pluck them out of His hands.

MONDAY MORNING.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. After singing and prayer by Brother Langley of Mount Bethel, proceeded to business.

Brother Browning moved that the Moderator appoint a special committee of three whose duty shall be to redistrict this Association. Motion prevailed, and Brothers Browning, Hart and Ingram were appointed said committee.

Dr. Searcy, chairman Committee on Literature, read his report. Moved its adoption. After remarks from some the brethren the report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LITERATURE.

Your Committee on Literature would report that this is preeminently an age of reading. Printing presses were never so numerous and so busy as now. Catholics, Protestants and Baptists are flooding the land with literature. Also all shades of infidelity disseminate their doctrines by means of the printed sheet. The people will read and there is no scarcity of literature. It is said there is no surer way to destroy the health of a city than to poison the wells from which they draw their water, so there is no more effective way to ruin the morals and blast the lives of our children than to have them read trashy and evil literature. We are glad to recognize the Bible as divinely inspired in all

its parts, as complete and infallible rule of faith and practice, and a perfect treasury of heavenly instruction, which is the supreme standard by which all other literature must be tested. As to Sunday School literature we cheerfully recommend the A. B. P. Societies publications and especially those of the Sunday School Board of the S. B. Convention known as "Kind Words" series.

We are glad to recommend the Arkansas Baptist as our own paper, and one that is true to all our denominational interests. We urge every Baptist in our bounds to subscribe for this paper and read it. As a hymn book we recommend "Harvest Bells" for general use in our churches and Sunday Schools. The Baptist book rooms at Little Rock keep on hand at publishers prices most of the books our people ought to read.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. SEARCY, Chairman.

Bro. Haynes, Chairman Committee on Ministerial Education read his report, which was spoken to by Bros. Searcy, Clark, M. L. Langley, J. E. Kennedy, was adopted.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your committee submit the following: Brethren the demand is upon us as it ever has been to preach the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, and to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the Saints,

Therefore, we recommend that our churches covet earnestly the best gifts and give aid and encouragement to them by sending them to school. Furthermore we recommend that you give your aid and young preachers to the Ouachita Baptist College, where our young ministers get the very best of instructions free of tuition and are assisted in paying their board. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. J. HAYNES
B. F. MALCOM.
M. L. LANGLEY.

Brother Burns moved that a committee on nominations be appointed by the moderator. Motion carried, and Bros. J. C. Brown, W. P. Barton and G. W. Burns were appointed as said committee.

Bro. Burns, Chairman Committee on Association Mission read his report, which was adopted by putting Bro. Searcy in the place of Bro. Chapel.

Bro. I. F. Welch, Chairman Committee on Education read his report. Moved it be adopted, and his motion prevailed.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Our Baptist people are becoming awaken to this very important duty of educating their children. They see other people are interested in this matter, and that unless they educate they will be outstripped by others. We must educate if we expect to successfully keep and maintain the grand truth of the Bible before the rising generation. We must educate if we successfully meet educated error and infidelity. We must educate if we expect to command a respectable hearing from educated people.

We recommend that our people take a deeper interest in schools in their respective communities, and if they have children to send away from home to school, that they send them to Ouachita College or some other Baptist school

I. F. WELCH, }
J. E. KENNEDY, } Committee.
J. T. HOLT. }

There being no business before the body, prayer and singing was offered by Bros. Horn and Kennedy.

Bro. Howell read his report on Obituaries, which was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

We your committee on Obituaries find that it becomes the duty of this body to register the death of our worthy and esteemed brother. D. S. Bunch, a licensed minister, Deacon and clerk of the Holly Grove Missionary Baptist church, where his death took place about August 30, 1891. Aged, 59 years and 6 months. While we feel the loss of this, our esteemed brother, we feel submissive to Him who doeth all things well.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. BROWNING, Chairman.
J. R. HARDY,
D. S. HOWELL.

The hour having arrived, the report on Ouachita College was called for, and read by Bro. Haynes, chairman, who moved its adoption. His motion met with a second, after being fully discussed by Bro. Searcy its general agent, who made a statement of the debt unpaid and a part due Bro. J. J. Taylor for cash loaned the College. Bro. Hardage was requested to take a collection, and subscription which amounted to \$21.00 Taylor fund and \$50.00 to the College.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OUACHITA COLLEGE.

Brethren, your annual committee on Ouachita College is ready to submit the following: It is with profound gratitude to God, that we can report that Ouachita College has had, by far, the most prosperous year in its history. By reference to the catalogue, we find the number of pupils enrolled to be 330. Boarding pupils, 220; Males pupils, 157; Females, 173. With the enthusiastic opening of the present session on the 15th inst, we may reasonably expect 350, or 400 pupils this year, with the invincible President, J. W. Conger, with his corps of twenty five, progressive teachers, the College building and Ladies Home completed and well equipped and furnished, the outlook is very encouraging, and we confidently look forward in the near future when Ouachita College will be the best school in the South. The work done is so thorough, the government so complete, that every department of the school has

surpassed the sanguine expectations of its most ardent friends, put to blush its most critical enemies. Therefore we recommend our College to your prayerful consideration, support and patronage. Brethren of Red River Association, (For the College has special claims upon you) send your children and money to Ouachita College, and your prayers to Almighty God for his blessings to rest upon this institution of Christian education, and make it a powerful second only to the pulpit in the state in bringing souls to Christ. The work of this institution is already bringing forth fruit to the honor and glory of God. All the young preachers and teachers that have gone forth have been a success. This is gratifying. Last, but not least, there are grand possibilities a considerable debt on the building, and the committee of the board of trustees, has collected about \$5,000 this year, and the balance must be provided for. Can we, as Baptist, afford to let this much beloved institution suffer and have its influence and paralyzied on the account of financial failure? We hope and pray not, and as the College is located in the bounds of this Association, other Associations will expect Red River to be first with her money to liquidate this debt. So let us act nobly in our example. Respectfully, J. J. HAYNES, Chairman.

Bro. N. J. Price read his report on Destitution which was adopted.

REPORT ON DESTITUTION.

The field is widening. Destitution is opening up to us. There is territory and work, sufficient for two missionaries in the field. For instance, Calvery, Brushy Creek, Lemon's School house on the east, Murfresboro, Caney Fork, Pills P. O., etc., on the west, should be occupied at once, all of which is respectfully submitted.

Brother Browning, Chairman Committee on re-Districting the Association read his report. Amendments offered: That all that part of the report relating to the Missionary, be taken out, but the balance of the report and amendments were adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING.

The undersigned special committee to take into consideration the districting the Association into Mission Districts, recommend that all west of the Antoine Creek be known as the first district within the bounds of this association, and that all east of said creek within our bounds, be known as the Second District and the Mission Board be authorized to employ a missionary his full time one-half the year be devoted to one, and the other half to the other division, and that said missionary devote all his time within those destitute fields.

The above is to be understood as running from the mouth of Little Missouri River to the mouth of Antoine Creek, and up said creek to northern boundary of this Association. Also to be understood that the missionary is to remain in one half district one half the year, and the other half the year in the other district.

J. O. BROWNING, Chairman,
J. T. HOLT,
H. T. INGRAM.

Bro. Clark, Editor Arkansas Baptist addressed the body in the interest of his paper a short time, which was well received by all.

Bro. J. B. Langley read the report on Sabbath School and moved it be adopted. Bro. Welch moved that the churches be requested to send in their letters a tabulated statement of the Sabbath School. Report adopted as amended.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOL.

Bible Study, Sabbath Observance, Mission Revivals, Christian work, and church prosperity, are direct and continually promoted by the establishment of Sabbath Schools, and where no Sabbath Schools have been established these and all the interests of our church are correspondingly depressed. This being the case we are pained to find from the letters sent by the different churches of this Association, that so little interest is taken in this important work. There being only eleven churches out of thirty-three, reporting Sunday school; being only one-half the number reported last year. We recommend that pastors urge upon their churches the importance of maintaining Sunday schools. All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN B. LANGLEY, Chairman,
R. K. HALL,
S. B. GRIFFIN.

Bro. N. J. Price read the report on Documents, which was adopted; appointing the next meeting of the body to be held at Pleasant Grove church.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

We your committee make this report: We find from the report of the several Churches, that God has greatly prospered this cause in our hands the past year. We find that most of the churches have enjoyed revivals, and have had accession by baptism. Number baptised 200. Amount for ministers, \$46.50. Total amount for the different missions, \$584.15. No. churches represented, 33. No. churches received, 3. We therefore recommend that our churches and brethren continue their liberality for missions and church work. We find that Pleasant Grove and Liberty Hill churches have petitioned for the next Association. We recommend that Pleasant Grove have the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

N. J. PRICE.
S. B. GRIFFIN.
J. W. HOLT.

Motion to adjourned to be called together by singing.
Met according to adjournment. Prayer was offered by Bro. Myrick, Arkadelphia.

Called up report on Association Mission. 1st, 2d and 3rd sections was adopted separately. 4th section being read which seconded the adoption of Bro. J. J. Taylor by this Association, as Missionary to Brazil, which

brought several speeches from the brethren. A vote was taken and Bro. Taylor was elected as Missionary to Brazil, of Red River Baptist Association. The Moderator called upon Bro. Burns to offer prayer, asking the blessing of God to rest upon the Association for adopting Bro. Taylor as our Missionary to Brazil.

Bro. G. W. Burns, as Missionary, read a report and statement of his work, ending this association year, which was received.

Bro. Bourland, Chairman of the Executive board read his report, showing that they had employed Bro. Burns eight months at \$50.00 per month, and that there was a balance of \$29.68 due him on \$400.00; and that there were now due, on pledges made by individuals and churches at the last Association \$74.62.

Bro. Adams, Chairman Finance Committee, made the following report: Received from the Churches, for Association for printing minutes \$45.95; for Association Mission, \$12.45; for Foreign Mission, \$3.40; for Home Mission, 60c; making \$62.40.

J. WALTER ADAMS.

W. P. BARTON.

J. J. MAYS.

Bro. Burns, on nominations, reported that Bro. G. L. Hamlin, Rich Woods Church, preach the next introduction sermon on Saturday at 11 o'clock, and Bro. J. E. Kennedy, Amity be his alternate. The same executive board be continued except Bro. J. A. Ross, who asked to be relieved, and Bro. J. B. Langley, of Pleasant Hill church be appointed in his place, as chairman of the board, and Bro. J. M. Hardage, of Arkadelphia secretary of the board of ministerial education. The report was adopted.

Bro. Burns moved that pledges and cash be now taken to support a missionary to preach in the destitute parts of this association. List of pledges was taken by Bro. Bourland and appear in these minutes.

Appointed correspondence Union association—H. J. P. Horn, Robert Barron, J. J. Haynes, F. Carter, Dr. Searcy, S. Wooden, E. Merrell, T. J. Bennett, J. R. Hardy, W. B. Seargent, Caddo; J. E. Kennedy, J. M. Dean, Judson; J. B. Searcy, G. W. Burns, Saline; T. A. Heard, M. C. Myrick. State Convention—J. P. Copeland, J. E. Kennedy, G. L. Hamlin and J. O. Browning.

Southern Baptist Convention—J. B. Searcy; J. J. Haynes, alternate.

Bro. Browning moved that the clerk enter in the minutes, "unordained" instead of "licensed minister." The motion carried.

Bro. Searcy moved that Art. 2 in the Constitution be changed to read thus: "One delegate for each fifty number of fractional part thereof over one hundred." This has to be submitted to the church for their rejection, or approval, to be sent up in their next church letter to the association.

The clerk was ordered to have 1,250 copies of these minutes printed and distributed to the churches, and be allowed \$15 for his services.

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be tendered the brethren and friends of Piney Grove Church for their kind hospitality to this body during its session.

On motion the body now adjourned, to meet with Pleasant Grove church on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in September 1892.

While singing "Sweet by and By" the parting hand was given, and prayer offered by Bro. Horn.

J. P. COPELAND, Moderator.

T. A. HEARD, Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

M. L. Langley.....	Arkadelphia	J. D. Browning.....	Manchester
C. E. Toby.....	"	Thos. Merrell.....	Bingen
R. S. Wallis.....	"	Thos. Bennett.....	"
G. W. Clingan.....	"	I. Hitt.....	Boughton
G. W. Burns.....	"	J. P. Copeland.....	Prescott
A. Nelson.....	"	I. Welch.....	"
J. J. Haynes.....	"	N. Price.....	Boughton
J. B. Searcy.....	"	G. D. Hamlin.....	Curtis
D. S. Williams.....	"	J. J. Higgins.....	Alpine
James Gunter.....	"	J. R. Harly.....	Murfreesboro
C. M. Myrick.....	"	J. M. Dean.....	Clear Springs
J. M. Roddy.....	"	G. M. Shaw.....	" "
E. J. McKenney.....	"	J. P. Henderson.....	" "
J. E. Kennedy.....	Amity	T. J. Funderburk.....	Leard

UNORDAINED MINISTERS.

J. S. Anderson.....	Arkadelphia	N. Thompkins.....	Elyville
J. H. Turner.....	"	Judson Shaw.....	Clear Springs
Samuel Shaddock.....	"	W. M. Stephens.....	" "
Wiley Dickerson.....	"	R. E. Reed.....	" "
J. V. Browning.....	Hebron	W. T. Taylor.....	" "
W. U. Davis.....	Okolona		

GENERAL SYNOPSIS.

No. Churches.....	34	Value church property.....	20,000
Total membership.....	2,429	Pastor' salary.....	4,000
No. ordained ministers.....	32	Foreign Missions.....	142
No. unordained ministers.....	13	Association Missions.....	400
Sabbath Schools.....	20	Ministerial education.....	67
No. teachers and pupils.....	1,250	Home Missions.....	18
Church expenses.....	\$3,500	State Missions.....	50

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Call for church letter. | 5 Finance. |
| 2 Elect Moderator and Clerk. | 6 Obituaries. |
| 3 Call for petitionary letters. | 7 Missions—H., S. and Foreign. |
| 4 Invite visiting members to seats. | 8 Destitution. |
| 5 Appoint committees. | 9 Ouachita College. |
| 1 Divine service. | 10 Ministerial Support. |
| 2 Sunday schools. | 11 Education. |
| 3 Intemperance. | 12 Literature. |
| 4 Documents. | |

T. A. HEARD, AS TREASURER, AC'T WITH RED RIVER ASSOCIATION.

To amount Minute fund on hand last meeting.....	\$ 22.10	By amount paid minutes.....	\$ 32.00
Rec'd Finance Com.....	62.40	" " Clerk.....	15.00
Collected Bro. Haynes.....	27.35	" " Postage.....	4.00
		" " J. B. Searcy Foreign Missions.....	17.00
Total.....	\$111.85	By pd. Bro. Haynes.....	27.35
		Balance on hand.....	15.90
		Total.....	\$111.85

PLEDGES FOR ANNUAL MISSIONS.

Maple Springs church.....	\$ 2 00	J. H. Holt.....	5 00
Macedonia church.....	0 00	Unity church.....	5 00
Clear Springs church.....	0 00	E. S. Howell, (paid).....	1 00
T. J. Holt.....	0 00	T. J. Lisk.....	4 00
Pleasant Grove church.....	0 00	Richwood church.....	10 00
Providence church.....	0 00	Union church.....	2 50
N. J. Price, Provinence.....	0 00	Pleasant Hill.....	20 00
S. S. Langley (paid).....	50 00	New Home church.....	2 50
J. J. Mays, Piney Grove.....	2 50	Holly Wood church.....	10 00
Prescott church.....	5 00	Bethlehem church.....	5 00
John Wilson.....	2 50		
Glenwood church.....	1 00	Total.....	\$105 00
G. W. Burns.....	5 00		

J. J. TAYLOR FUND.

The following persons were appointed by the association to make collections from their churches for the support of Brother J. J. Taylor who has been adopted as its missionary, who is now preaching in Brazil.

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|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Salem church—H. T. Howell. | Unity—G. W. Burns. |
| Maple Springs—W. B. Sardin. | Shiloh—W. A. F. Wells |
| Macedonia church—J. R. Hardin. | DeGray—E. W. McBrayer. |
| Wolf Creek ch—J. R. Chappel. | Enon—J. J. Driggins. |
| Murfreesboro—J. B. Thomas. | Union—J. T. Howell. |
| Liberty Hill—C. C. Bolt. | South Fork—G. B. Carter. |
| Pleasant Home—R. B. Johnson. | Amity—J. E. Kennedy. |
| Ozan—J. T. Holt | Midway—L. W. Wimberly. |
| Pleasant Orove—N. Thompkins. | Pleasant Hill—J. B. Langley. |
| Providence—H. T. Ingram. | Centre Ridge—E. G. Dickerson. |
| Piney Grove—L. H. Hitt. | Clear Springs—J. M. Dean. |
| Prescott—J. O. Young. | Mountain Home—Jno. Harmon. |
| Ebenezar—J. D. Crofford. | Okalona—H. A. Cargile. |
| Glenwood—J. M. Gorman. | New Home—M. E. Hines. |
| Caney Creek—J. W. Jenkins. | Holly Wood—W. J. Hudgins. |
| Washington—J. W. Toland. | Holly Grove—R. C. Bigadite. |
| Arkadelphia—J. B. Searcy. | Bethlehem—W. L. Bunch. |
| Mount Bethel—C. E. Toby. | Mount Olive—J. W. Harrod. |
| Richwoods—G. L. Hamlin. | |

Report of Ladies Aid and Missionary Society of Arkadelphia Baptist Church:

Paid for church repairs	\$ 15 00
“ “ “ furniture	41 00
“ “ “ missions	5 00
“ ministerial education	10 00
“ Young Ladies home	430 00
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	\$501 00

MRS. S. C. TRIGG, Pres.
 MRS. R. S. WALLIS, Sec. & Treas.
 Arkadelphia, Ark.

Report of Arkadelphia Baptist Sunday school:

Officers and teachers	20
Pupils	200

Average attendance	144
Baptized	52
Volumes in Library	200
Paid missions	\$22 60
School expenses	\$110 90
J. C. WALLIS, Supt.	
Arkadelphia, Ark.	

Report of Ladies Aid and Missionary Society of Prescott Baptist Church:

Paid out for church aid	\$13 35
“ Church furniture	54 15
“ Foreign missions	5 00
	<hr/>
	\$72 50

FANNIE YOUNG,
 Secretary and Treasurer.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in a true and living God.
2. We believe that the Scriptures, comprising the Old and New Testaments, are the words of God and the only rules of our faith and practice.
3. We believe in the doctrine of election according to the foreknowledge of God, the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.
4. We believe in the doctrine of Original Sin by the fall of Adam.
5. We believe in man's inability of his own free will and ability to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature.
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imparted righteousness of Christ only.
7. We believe that the saints shall be preserved in grace and never fall finally away.
8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of Baptism, and that Immersion is the Apostolic mode.
9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and in the general judgement, and that the felicity of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.
10. We believe that no minister has any right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel but one who has been regularly baptised, called and comes under the imposition of the hands of the presbytery.
11. We believe that none but regular baptised members have a right to commune at the Lord's supper.
12. We believe that the Lord's day should be observed as a day of rest and religious devotion.

THE CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Union shall be known and distinguished by the name and title of the RED RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ART. 2. This association shall be composed of delegates from the churches in the Union. Each church shall be entitled to three delegates, who shall be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of their appointment by their several churches before they take their seats.

ART. 3. 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 until their successors are chosen.

ART. 4. This Association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which it is composed. It shall regard them as independent in matters of internal government, and shall act as advisory counsel, assuming no authority, except what is expressly delegated to it by the churches, or evidently implied from the nature of the compact. It nevertheless claims authority over its own members, the delegates from churches, and in justice and in justice and propriety must have power to withdraw from and disown all churches which departs from the spirit of this compact by becoming heretodox in faith or disorderly in practice. It should, therefore, regard all 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, 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 those united in this Constitution.

ART. 5. Newly constituted churches dismissed from other associations of the same faith and order, may be admitted into this Union by sending three delegates to the annual meeting of this Association, with petition for admission, and by their delegates agreeing to the abstracts of principles herewith published.

ART. 6. 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 baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, restored or deceased since last session, and all other information which the churches may deem important, which shall be read and minuted.

ART. 7. This Association shall have a fund, to be supplied by voluntary contributions of the churches. 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 inspection in the minutes, a clear and succinct statement of all receipts and expenditures.

ART. 8. This Association shall furnish the churches with the minutes of every session.

ART. 9. The 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 the churches unless they have pursued the direction in the XVIII Chapter of Matthew, and have not been able to settle them, Then the Association shall take such matters into consideration and act upon them at its discretion.

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

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