

# MINUTES

OF THE

Thirty-Second Annual Session

OF THE

MT. VERNON

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH

SILEM CHURCH,

PHILLIPS COUNTY, ARKANSAS.

*October 19th, 20th & 21st, 1888.*

## OFFICERS

R. G. HEWLETT, Moderator.

W. H. PASLAY, Treasurer.

L. K. OBENCHAIN, Clerk.

Next Session to be Held with the Oak Hill Baptist  
Church, St. Francis County, Arkansas, near  
Colt. Friday, before the Third  
Sunday in October, 1889.

1888:

FORREST CITY TIMES PRINT,  
FORREST CITY ARK.

# ORDER OF BUSINESS.



1. Called together by the Moderator for the purpose of hearing the Introductory Sermon.

## AN INTERMISSION.

Messengers reassemble. Moderator and Clerks in their seats.

2. Letters read and Messengers enrolled.
3. Election of officers for ensuing year.
4. Petitionary letters.
5. Call for correspondence.
6. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
7. Committees appointed:—Missions—Associational, State, Home and Foreign.  
Education.  
Sabbath Schools.  
Nominations.  
Temperance.  
Finance.  
Religious Exercises.  
Correspondence and Messengers of sister Associations.
8. Contributions from Churches received.
9. Resolutions and propositions in order.
10. Report of committees.
11. Report of Board.
12. Printing Minutes—number determined.
13. Reading Minutes before adjournment.
14. A parting address by the Moderator.
15. Publications.

# PROCEEDINGS.

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Pursuant to adjournment—the Mt. Vernon Baptist Association met with the Salem Baptist Church, Phillips county, Arkansas, October 19th, 1888.

R. G. Hewlett, the appointee, preached the introductory sermon from 1 John, 5:19.

After an intermission of five minutes the Association was called together for the transaction of business. L. K. Obenchain, former clerk, in the chair.

The former Moderator being absent on account of sickness, Elder R. G. Hewlett was elected Moderator, pro tem.

W. H. Paslay and A. Flora read the letters from the various churches, and names of messengers enrolled as follows:

Helena—G. O. Dickson.

Level Valley—John Walker, B. Ables.

Salem—W. McKinney, B. Q. Cary, W. H. Allison.

Clarendon—T. B. Porter.

Mt. Gilead—S. A. Thompson, T. G. Bridges.

Barton—L. C. Wiley, Thos. Wallace, J. L. Belsha.

Marvel--T. J. Lucado, M. Cole.

Pleasant Grove—G. W. Hill.

Love Chapel—A. Grizzle, J. Jacobs.

Rehoboth—J. F. Langston.

Center Grove—R. A. Butts, W. H. Douglas.

Pine Fork--W. Scott, J. R. Whitted.

Brinkley—G. C. Goodwin, A. Flora, G. Sugden.

Hebron—S. D. Johns.

Mar's Hill—E. B. Shafer, C. A. Breachel.

Marianna--J. P. Farrar, Sr., L. Slaughter, W. A. Bobbitt.

Friendship—C. P. Chappell.

Pleasant Valley—M. V. Williams, A. J. Williams.

Ash Grove—G. T. Tomlinson, J. C. Fisackly.

Haynes—L. K. Obenchain.

Forrest City—W. H. Paslay, J. J. Taylor.

Poplar Grove—J. B. Hodges, W. S. Heustiss, J. A. Wittendon.

Oak Grove—R. J. Bickerstaff, W. A. Spivey, F. L. Gustavus.

Forest Chapel—W. W. McDaniel.

New Hope—C. W. Hickey.

Oak Hill—R. G. Hewlett, W. C. Kelso, N. H. White.

Cypress—C. S. Bolsha, Z. T. West, J. W. Smith.

On motion of W. H. Paslay, proceeded to election of officers, which resulted in the election of R. G. Hewlett, Moderator; L. K. Obenchain, clerk; W. H. Paslay, treasurer.

Petitionary letters were presented from Haynes, Pleasant Valley and Friendship churches, and on motion were received and hand of fellowship extended to messengers.

On motion the Ash Grove church was restored to fellowship.

On motion adjourned to meet to-night at 7 p. m.

## FRIDAY NIGHT.

Association met at 7 p. m., and after singing (Am I a Soldier, etc.) and prayer by J. L. Wilson, was called to order by the Moderator.

Letter from Cypress church received and names of messengers enrolled.

On motion adopted order of business of last year.

Moderator appointed committees as follows:

Associational Missions—W. H. Paslay, Jesse Hodges.

State Missions—J. J. Taylor, J. F. Langston.

Home Missions—G. C. Goodwin, Geo. O. Dickson.

Foreign Mission—S. D. Johns, W. C. Kelso.

Education—J. P. Farrar, Sr., J. A. Wittendon.

Sabbath School—A. Flora, R. A. Butts.

Nominations—W. A. Bobbitt, Henry Douglas, W. W. McDaniel.

Temperance—J. L. Wilson, A. C. Ball.

Obituary—W. H. Paslay, F. L. Gustavus.

Religious Exercises L. Slaughter, L. C. Wiley, W. H. Allison.

Queries J. L. Wilson, R. A. Butts, R. G. Hewlett.

Finance A. Flora, J. P. Farrar, J. B. Hodges.

Publications J. Walker, Heustiss, C. W. Hickey.

Committee on religious exercises reported S. D. Johns to preach to-night, L. K. Obenchain to-morrow at 11 a. m.

On motion the association suspended business to hear preaching by S. D. Johns. Text : James 1:17.

After preaching the Association resumed business.

On motion the hours of meeting and adjournment were fixed as follows:

Meet at 8:30 a. m.; spend half hour in devotional exercises; adjourn at 12:30 p. m. Meet at 2 p. m. and adjourn at will. Meet at 7 p. m. and adjourn at will.

Moderator appointed delegates to State Convention, which meets at Jonesboro, November 1: L. K. Obenchain, W. H. Paslay, S. D. Johns, W. C. Kelso and J. P. Farrar, Sr.

Invitations given to visiting brethren, whereupon Eld. M. D. Early, Corresponding Secretary of State Convention, responded and made some remarks.

R. G. Hewlett and W. C. Kelso were appointed corresponding messenger to Mt. Zion Association. L. K. Obenchain was elected messenger to Southern Baptist Convention, to meet at Memphis, Tenn., May, 1889, and R. G. Hewlett alternate.

On motion, agreed to have the committees report as follows:

State Mission tomorrow, 9 a. m.

Home Mission " 10 a. m.

Associational Mission " 3 p. m.

Foreign Mission " 8 p. m.

By request W. H. Paslay read constitution of the Association.

On motion a committee was appointed to revise list of ministers and their post offices. Committee—W. H. Paslay and J. L. Belsha.

On motion a committee, consisting of L. Slaughter and A. Flora, was appointed to obtain information within bounds of this Association for Baptist Year Book.

Adjourned to meet tomorrow at 8:30 a. m.

Prayer by J. L. Wilson.

## SATURDAY MORNING.

After devotional exercises conducted by the moderator, the Association convened for business.

Committee on State Missions reported as follows:

Your committee would submit the following: The State Board of Missions has had during the year in its employ fifteen missionaries, some in the towns, some in the country. From all of these fields have come up good reports. It has cost the Board about \$300 per quarter, and the Home Board at Atlanta, Ga., has paid them \$250 per quarter. The work is moving on well and we have many reasons to thank God and take courage. The Board is anxious to enlarge the work another year. Our state is growing rapidly. Many towns and villages are springing up and many important fields in the country are needing the Gospel.

The State Board is doing all in its power to supply these fields with the Word of Life. Many of the Associations are doing much to build up in the country.

The State Board does not, in any way, want to interfere with the work being done by the various Associations.

The Board therefore very greatly desires to co-operate with the Boards of all our Associations, and where they are unable to do their work it wants to help them.

Where they are able to occupy their own fields the State Convention is anxious to have all their missionaries commissioned by the State Board.

This is important since we cannot get representation in the Southern Baptist Convention, except upon the monies reported to its Board. We, as your committee, urge that this Association take such action as will put us into co-operation with the State Board.

J. J. TAYLOR, { Committee.  
J. F. LANGSTON, }

On motion, after speeches by M. D. Early, W. H. Paslay and J. J. Taylor, was adopted.

Committee on Home Missions reported:

The Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention,

during the years past, has done a great work among our people in the south.

First. The Board has assisted in building many churches and helped in the support of many missionary pastors in the various states.

Second. Its work among the Indians has been blessed in the salvation of many of this people.

Third. One of the greatest works now being done by this Board is the work in Cuba. Less than three years ago we entered this field of the Roman cross; and during this short time more than eleven hundred Cubans have been baptized, and eight thousand more have applied for baptism at the hands of our missionary, Diaz.

Fourth. This Board has, during the past ten years, given Arkansas ten thousand dollars with which to help prosecute the work in our state. The Board has asked our state this year for one thousand dollars to help in spreading the Gospel of the Son of God throughout the Home field.

Your committee would therefore recommend that this association help raise this amount. One postage stamp from each Baptist in Arkansas would more than raise the amount asked.

Fifth. The Board is also doing a good work among the colored people of the south, and proposes to help us among this people in our state.

G. C. GOODWIN, } Committee.  
G. O. DICKSON, }

On motion, after speeches by W. H. Paslay, M. D. Early, J. J. Taylor, Geo. O. Dickson, and a collection taken for Cuba of \$25.55, was adopted.

Committee on religious exercises further reported that J. J. Taylor would preach to-night, M. D. Early at 11 a. m. to-morrow, G. C. Goodwin at 3 p. m. to-morrow, and W. H. Paslay at 7 p. m. to-morrow night.

On motion business was suspended for preaching by L. K. Oberkirin. Text: 2 Tim. 3:16.

Adjourned to meet at 2 p. m.

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE AFTERNOON.

Association met pursuant to adjournment, after singing a hymn and prayer by J. J. Taylor, resumed business.

Committee on publications reported:

We, your committee on publications submit the following:

We think we should read the Bible above all things. In the line of denominational literature we would submit that the "Arkansas Baptist" has special and primary claims on us, and that we should pay for and read it.

In the line of Sunday school literature the Kind Words publications at Atlanta, Ga., are nearest to us in the South; and the Foreign Mission Journal, of Richmond, Va., published by our Foreign Mission Board, we would recommend as the best source from which to obtain information in regard to our foreign mission work.

JOHN WALKER, } Committee.  
W. S. HEISTESS. }

On motion the report was laid on the table till after report of foreign missions should be disposed of to-night.

Committee on obituaries reported:

Dear Brethren, Since our last association we have to note the death of Bro. B. E. Thomas, who passed away last July to receive the reward of his labors. Bro. Thomas was an unflinching Baptist, an able minister and a friend and helper in every good word and work. In his death the association lost one of its most valuable members. May our Heavenly Father comfort his wife and children and grant them a happy reunion on the other shore.

We have also to chronicle the death of Bro. J. M. Thompson, a member of the Forest Chapel Church. He was one of our most efficient deacons, an active Sunday school worker, and his loss is great to his church and community. May his mantle fall on some consecrated brother, and may the grace of our blessed Savior sustain and comfort his bereaved family.

It is also proper to make mention of the death of our beloved Sister Slaughter. Her name and virtues are by-words in almost every family that knew her, and her chastity and piety are widely known.

Sister S. was the devoted wife of our late Moderator, Bro. H. P. Slaughter. The Lord has reunited them on the other shore.

Thus one by one we are passing away to join the sanctified host in the Paradise of God. May the God of Jacob prepare us for the solemn summons.

W. H. PASLAY.  
F. L. GUSTAVUS. } Committee.

Report adopted.

Committee on nominations reported :

We, your committee, beg leave to recommend as members of the Executive Board, J. P. Farrar, Sr., Wm. Thompson, R. A. Butts, F. L. Gustavus, S. H. King.

To preach the introductory sermon, J. L. Wilson; alternate, W. H. Paslay. Place of meeting, Oak Hill.

W. A. BOBBITT.  
W. H. DOUGLAS,  
W. W. McDANIEL. } Committee.

On motion, after speeches by W. H. Paslay, J. J. Taylor, W. A. Bobbitt, and W. H. Douglas, adopted.

Committee on education reported :

We are glad to note the facilities our state affords for obtaining a liberal education for our sons and daughters, and more especially the efforts being put forth by our denomination in that direction. There are good facilities at Searcy and Judsonia; and at Arkadelphia we have a flourishing school supported by the denomination, which for cheapness and thoroughness are surpassed by few if any, all of which merit and are entitled to the support of our denomination, and while we would not underrate or disparage the claims of any of these schools, we feel that our college at Arkadelphia pre-eminently demands our patronage. It has already met with unprecedented success, and if our denomination will rally to its support, it will soon be second to no school in the south. We are sorry to know that many of our people are sending to schools in other states, to the detriment of our own schools. Such a course is suicidal and should be arrested at once if we would keep pace with other states in their educational march. We would especially note the facilities this school offers to those desiring a ministerial education, and we hope ere long to see this department patronized.

J. P. FARRAR, SR.,  
J. H. WITTENDON. } Committee.

On motion, after speeches by J. J. Taylor and M. D. Early, was adopted.

### Committee on associational missions reported :

We, your committee on associational missions would submit the following :

We are glad to state that since our last meeting two ministers, D. Johns, and G. C. Goodwin, have settled within our bounds and are occupying the destitute portions in the northern division of our association.

We need a consecrated man to supply Rehoboth, Marvel, and some other contiguous points, which, by combining, could and would support him.

We also require two ministers full of the Holy Spirit to supply the pastorless churches in the western division. With these additions, our territory would be supplied, and we urgently request these churches to use all available means to secure pastors.

We think the plan pursued by our Executive Board the most feasible, and recommend a continuance of the same. And that the board may not be trammelled in the work, we solicit every church to instruct her messengers what amount to pledge each ensuing year.

Brethren, since our labors have been so abundantly blessed, let us thank God and take courage.

W. H. PASLAY,     J. Committee.  
J. B. HODGES.

On motion, after speeches by W. H. Paslay, G. O. Dickson, G. C. Goodwin and J. J. Taylor, was adopted, and pledges were taken as follows :

Helena .....	\$ 25 00
Level Valley.....	5 00
Clarendon .....	5 00
Salem.....	15 00
T. G. Bridges, paid.....	2 50
Barton.....	5 00
Marvel.....	12 50
G. W. Hill.....	2 00
Lone Chapel.....	5 00
J. F. Langston.....	2 50
R. A. Butts.....	2 50
W. H. Douglas.....	5 00
Brinkley.....	10 00
Mars Hill.....	5 00

J. P. Farrar, Sr.....	\$ 5 00
L. Slaughter.....	5 00
W. A. Bobbitt.....	2 50
Poplar Grove.....	10 00
Forrest City.....	50 00
Cypress.....	10 00
Oak Grove.....	10 00
Forest Chapel.....	10 00
Oak Hill.....	5 00
Friendship.....	5 00
M. V. Williams.....	2 50
Haynes.....	5 00
T. V. Porter.....	5 00

The Committee on Temperance reported.

After speeches by W. H. Paslay, G. C. Goodwin, M. D. Early, A. Flora, J. J. Taylor, on motion by G. C. Goodwin, was laid on the table.

On motion adjourned to meet tonight after preaching.

Benediction by W. H. Paslay.

## SATURDAY NIGHT, 7 P. M.

After preaching by J. J. Taylor to a large and attentive congregation from 2 Cor. 2:16, the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

The Committee on Foreign Missions reported.

We, your Committee on Foreign Missions, would submit the following:

Foreign Missions differ little from Home Missions, as it is just a little further portion of the one common field, since the world is the field.

The Master has said: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, and he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark, 16:15, 16.

Notwithstanding this command has been submitted to every generation of people since it was first uttered by the Master, it re-

main yet to be accomplished by the present Christian generation of the world in the much favored day of even the nineteenth century.

Your committee is of the opinion that there are surplus men and means now on hand in Christian lands to accomplish this good work of carrying out the great commission of preaching the glorious Gospel of Christ to all the world in twenty-five years, if they could be applied to that end.

The spirit of foreign missions must have prompted the church even in the Apostolic age of the world.

It was the spirit of foreign missions that prompted the modern missionaries, such as Cary, Judson, Rice and others, who gave up all home pleasures and went into foreign lands to bear the Gospel to the heathen world. Since that time much has been done, and much remains to be done.

Dr. Tupper speaks very encouragingly of the progress of foreign missions.

It is gaining ground every year, while the Board is trying to extend the work as men and means afford.

We are encouraged not only by what the men are doing, but also by what the women are doing in extending a helping hand in the good work.

They paid to the Foreign Mission cause last year \$18,000. He further speaks of the grand work of the twenty thousand Christian women missionary Societies of all Christian lands, who paid in last year to the foreign cause \$2,221,640.57. So you see that if every one of the friends of foreign missions would give only a little the work would soon be done and the world would hear the Gospel of Christ.

The Board is anxious to extend the work by using more men and building needful houses in foreign lands.

We, your committee, hope that Mt. Vernon Association will not be behind other Associations of our State in helping in this good work.

S. D. JOHNS, (Committee.  
W. C. KELSO.)

On motion, after speeches by W. H. Paslay, J. J. Taylor, M. D. Early and a collection of \$27.00, was adopted.

Report on Publications was then taken up and after speeches by W. H. Paslay, J. J. Taylor and securing seven subscribers for the Arkansas Baptist, by W. H. Paslay, and thirty-two subscribers for the Foreign Mission Journal, by J. J. Taylor, was adopted.

On motion agreed to have report on Sabbath schools tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock in Sabbath school mass meeting.

Committee on revision of list of ministers and postoffices reported.  
(SEE LAST PAGE.)

Committee on statistics for Baptist Year Book reported:

For home expenses, \$5.038; home Sunday school expenses, \$333; number of volumes in library, 120; number meet all year, 9; number of pupils enrolled, 688; baptized from school, 7; missions, all kinds, \$103.60; ladies' aid societies, \$177.25; number of churches, 21; parsonages, 1; value of all, \$24.225

LON SLAUGHTER, } Committee.  
A. FLORA.

Adopted.

Report of Executive Board:

We, your Board, acting upon the authority vested in us, procured the services of Brethren A. C. Ball and W. H. Thompson to work two months each, and are glad to state that their labors were greatly blessed. They travelled about seven hundred miles, preached one hundred sermons, baptized thirty, restored twelve, and report thirty-nine professions; held six protracted meetings, and organized one church, Pleasant Valley; collected \$13.00 on the field, received from treasurer \$100.00, which leaves a balance due them of \$86.96, for which we will draw on the treasurer, who has the funds in hand. We think the young brethren did excellent work, when we take into consideration the political excitement that prevailed all over the country.

Brethren, let us take courage and not slacken our zeal until every portion of our Association has the pure Word of God preached unto them.

S. H. KING, } Executive Board.  
W. A. BOBBITT, et al.

On motion, after speech by M. D. Early, was adopted.

On motion adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, Sunday, at 9 o'clock.

Benediction by J. J. Taylor.

## SUNDAY MORNING, 9 A. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment, after devotional exercises conducted by Moderator, in Sunday school mass meeting. Prayers by Brethren A. C. Ball and W. H. Douglas.

Committee on Sunday schools reported:

We, your committee on Sunday schools, beg leave to report the following:

From the letters of the different churches we find there is a greater interest than there has been for many years; yet there is not the interest manifested by many of our churches that should be. We find quite a number of our churches have no Sabbath schools. Out of thirty-seven churches we have only twenty-two that report schools, with an average attendance of 625. There seems to be a disposition to think that the Sunday school is for children only. Therefore many of the older brethren manifest little interest in the work.

We regard the Sunday school work as one of the greatest and grandest of men. We most earnestly suggest to the churches that have no schools to bestir themselves in this direction and organize schools in their churches, and push the grand work on and up to where its importance demands. Again, we recommend that Baptist literature be used by all the schools of this Association, and when possible Baptists should be chosen as teachers. We further recommend that each church make a full report of their Sunday school work to our next Association in their church letters.

A. FLORA, Chairman.

On motion, after speeches by A. Flora, L. P. Anderson, J. L. Wilson, W. A. Bobbitt and R. G. Hewlett (J. L. Wilson in the chair), adopted.

On motion adjourned to meet after services to-night.

Benediction by W. H. Paslay.

## SUNDAY, 11 A. M.

Pursuant to appointment, M. D. Early delivered an interesting address to a large and attentive congregation. Subject: "Signs of the Times." After which a collection was taken, amounting to \$51.85, for state missions.

## SUNDAY, 3 P. M.

G. C. Goodwin preached an instructive sermon from text: 2 Peter, 3:18.

## SUNDAY NIGHT, 7 O'CLOCK.

After preaching by W. H. Paslay the Association convened for business.

Committee on queries reported (J. L. Wilson in the chair):

Query No. 1. Is it lawful or expedient, right or proper, for a minority or a fractional part thereof, of the members of a Baptist church to meet in special conference in the absence of the pastor, at a time and place separate and apart from the usual time and place of the church meeting, and receive members into the church to which they may belong, or transact other business pertaining to the interest of the church?

Answer. We deem it inexpedient and unlawful for a minority or fractional part thereof, of the members of a Baptist church to act as supposed in the query, and that such course of action is calculated to subvert all order and discipline among our churches, and thus work great injury to the cause of Christ.

On motion, after speeches by W. H. Paslay, Geo. O. Dickson, R. G. Hewlett, A. C. Ball, Wm. Thompson and W. A. Bobbitt, adopted.

Query No. 2. Is not the term "missionary" a misnomer when applied to an individual or church that does nothing nor gives anything to propagate the Christian religion?

Answer. Yes.

Query No. 3. Is there in existence such a body as "the Baptist Church of Arkansas," or of "the United States?"

Answer. No.

Query No. 4. Can an unordained minister become the pastor of a church?

Answer. If a church of Jesus Christ is meant, no, not according to the Scriptures.

Query No. 5. What ought to be done with a church member who is able to pay for the support of the Gospel at home, and also

send it to the nations of the earth, who, after he has been taught his duty, will absolutely refuse to do his duty in this grace?

Answer. He should be excluded from the Church for refusing to obey the teachings of the Word of God.

Query No. 6. Should any person be allowed to teach in a Baptist Sunday school who is not a member of a Baptist church?

Answer. If it be the object of a Baptist Sunday school to teach fully the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we deem it highly essential that the teachers therein be orderly members of a Baptist church.

R. G. HEWLETT, }  
J. L. WILSON, } Committee.  
R. A. BETTS, }

On motion, after speech by M. D. Early on No. 5, No.'s 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 were adopted by rising vote.

Query No. 7 was offered. What should be done with church members who attend public fairs and enter their stock for a premium?

On motion, after speeches by M. D. Early, W. H. Paslay, A. Flora, B. Q. Cary and Wm. Thompson, was adopted by answering "nothing."

Treasurer reported as follows:

1887.		
Oct. 16.	Balance on hand.....	\$ 40 48
" "	To amount received from Finance Committee.....	312 60
" "	For Ministerial education, Bro. Douglas.....	5 00
Nov. 15.	To cash for missions.....	50
1888.		
Apr. 10.	From Helena Church.....	10 00
" "	From Wm. Thomson.....	5 00
Aug. 4	From Helena Church.....	20 00
Oct. 2	From Sister Laura Farrar.....	2 50
" 2	From Sister Alice Farrar.....	2 50
" 2	From Sister Thomas.....	2 50
		<hr/>
		\$400 83

CONTRA.

Oct. 16.	By amount paid Bro. Ball.....	\$ 94 70
" "	By amount paid Bro. Wilson.....	10 00
" "	By amount paid Bro. Clerk.....	10 00

Oct. 17.	By amount paid Bro. Early, State mission.....	27 00
" "	By amount paid Bro. Early, Cuban mission.....	11 50
" "	By receipt from Marianna and Level Valley for Home and State missions.....	20 75
	By money orders and postage.....	86
	By Clerk for Minutes and postage.....	37 00
	By amount for Foreign missions.....	25 00
Apr. 15.	By amount paid Bro. Armstrong.....	20 00
Sept. 25.	By amount paid our missionaries.....	100 00
		<hr/>
		356 81
Sept. 25.	By balance on hand.....	44 02
		<hr/>
		\$100 83

## Finance committee reported:

We, your committee on finance, beg leave to report the following:

Received for State missions.....	\$ 6 00
Received for Home missions.....	2 00
Received for Foreign missions.....	12 20
Received for Associational missions.....	144 00
Received for ministerial education.....	10 85
Received for minutes.....	45 80
Collection for Foreign missions.....	27 00
Collection for Cuban mission.....	25 55
Collection for State missions.....	51 85
	<hr/>
	324 45

ANDREW FLORA. }  
J. P. FARRAR. } Committee.  
J. B. HODGES. }

On motion, adopted.

On motion the Finance committee was instructed to turn over finances to treasurer.

On motion the clerk was instructed to have 500 copies of minutes printed, that he be allowed \$10.00 for his services, and \$2.00 for postage; and that he send blank associational letters to the clerks of churches.

Resolutions offered by A. Flora:

First. Resolved, That the churches of this Association be, and are hereby, requested to send up in their letters to the Association a

financial statement of all money expended by them for religious purposes during the associational year.

Second. Resolved, That this body tender to the church and citizens our hearty thanks for their kind and cordial hospitality, given us during our stay with them.

On motion both were adopted.

The Moderator then addressed the Association.

On motion of J. J. Taylor, after singing "Sweet By and By" and extending the parting hand, the Association adjourned to meet with Oak Hill, St. Francis county, on Friday before third Sunday in October, 1889.

Prayer and benediction by M. D. Early.

— K. ONENCHANS, Clerk,

Haynes, Arkansas.

R. G. HEWLETT, Moderator,

Colt, Arkansas.



# RULES OF DECORUM.



ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be opened by singing and prayer.

ART. 2. The Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot by the members present.

ART. 3. The Moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any member not satisfied with his decision may appeal.

ART. 4. The Moderator shall be entitled to the privilege of speaking as other members, but not to vote unless a tie.

ART. 5. All questions shall be introduced by motion, and if seconded shall be opened for discussion, unless withdrawn by the mover or his second. When a subject has been discussed a reasonable time the Moderator shall, when the question is called for, proceed to take it by calling for the yeas and nays, and if a call for a division is made, he shall call for a standing vote.

ART. 6. Any member wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Only one shall speak at the same time, and shall not be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject to make personal reflections.

ART. 7. No person shall speak more than once upon any subject, until all who wish to speak have had an opportunity, nor more than twice without permission.

ART. 8. Every subject introduced for discussion shall be decided before another is offered, unless it be laid over by motion with the consent of the mover and the Association.

ART. 9. The names of the messengers shall be called whenever the Association shall direct, and absentees marked. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

ART. 10. The appellation of "Brother" shall be used in addressing each other.

ART. 11. Any member violating the rules shall be subject to reproof by the Moderator.

ART. 12. Amendments or alterations may be made to these rules when a majority may deem it necessary.

ART. 13. Any case coming before the Association not provided for in these rules shall be governed by general parliamentary rules.

# CONSTITUTION.

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1. This confederation of churches shall be called by the name of "Mount Vernon Baptist Association."

2. The object of this Association shall be to promote the glory of God on earth by the preaching of the gospel of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior; the universal spread of the Bible, the word of the true and living God, and by other appropriate means.

3. This Association shall consist of messengers from the churches now forming this Union, and such other Baptist churches as may hereafter be received as constituent members thereof.

4. Every church shall be entitled to three representatives without regard to the number of their members, respectively, and to an additional one for every fifty members exceeding fifty; Provided, That no church shall ever be entitled to more than five. A certificate of appointment or letter from their respective churches shall be evidence that they have been so delegated.

5. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, a Clerk or Clerks, a Corresponding Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by ballot, by a majority of the members present immediately after the names of the delegates enrolled, which officers shall perform all duties, respectively, usually devolved on such officers, and continue to exercise their respective functions until they shall be superseded by a subsequent election.

6. The Clerk shall preserve a regular record of the Association and have it present at the meeting of the body, and when they vacate their offices deliver the same, with all other books and papers relative to said office, to their successors.

7. The Association shall regard the churches as independent bodies in all their internal affairs and exercise no ecclesiastical jurisdiction, or claim any legislative or judicial prerogative over them; nevertheless, the Association may exercise authority over its own members, the representatives of the churches, and power to withdraw from all churches which may depart from the Gospel as understood and held by this body by becoming either heterodox in faith or disorderly in practice, and should therefore regard the churches united in the association with a vigilant eye for good and may give

at its own discretion, and in its own way, advice or information when sought to any church connected with it.

8. It shall be the duty of the Association to ascertain the general condition of its constituent's churches; devise means to promote their harmony and increase their spirituality and efficiency to promote the cause of truth and righteousness.

9. The Association shall hold annual sessions to convene on Thursday before the first Lord's day in October, in each year, and not adjourn until all the business shall have been regularly finished except circumstances imperiously demand. The place of meeting shall be determined at each previous session and published in the minutes.

10. Baptist churches not before united in the Association, or those dismissed from other Associations, may be admitted as members into this Union on application by a written petition or letter, presented by one or more messengers duly appointed by such church or churches, provided, they give satisfactory evidence that they are orthodox in faith and correct in the practice of the gospel ordinances.

11. Every minister of the Gospel, (either ordained or licentiate) whose membership is in or who may be a pastor of any church belonging to this body shall be ex-officio a member of the Association, with the privilege of offering resolutions and speaking, but not of voting, unless specially delegated by some church.

12. When in session, the Association will be governed by such rules of decorum as it may adopt for itself.

13. It shall be the duty of the churches, respectively, annually to report to the Association their general condition; the number of members in fellowship; the number baptised, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored, and dead during the year, and the names and post office address of all ministers, whether ordained or licensed, designating each and also the name and address of their clerks. They shall also report on any special matter required, and send up such contributions as they may willingly contribute to aid the body to disseminate more widely the truth as contained in Holy Scriptures and the establishment of the Redeemer's kingdom on earth.

14. The neglect or failure of a church to be represented by a messenger, or messengers, in the Association for three consecutive years shall be cause to withdraw from such churches at the discretion of the Association.

15. This Association may correspond by letter or messenger with any other religious body of the same faith or order.

16. A board consisting of five members, any three of whom shall constitute a quorum, shall be elected at each annual meeting, whose duty it shall be to devise means to carry forward the benevolent objects of the Association, and the officers of this Association shall be ex-officio members of the board.

17. The minutes of the Association shall be publicly read and corrected, if necessary, and then signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association adjourns.

18. Any amendment may be made to this constitution at any meeting of the Association by a vote of two thirds of the members present, provided, the same shall have been published in the minutes of the preceeding year.



# STATISTICAL TABLE

## CHURCHES.

## PASTORS.

## CLERKS.

## POST OFFICES.

Marvell.....	A. C. Ball.....	W. H. Ward.....	Marvell.....
Helena.....	W. H. Barnes.....	W. R. Miller.....	Helena.....
Barton.....	L. K. Obenchain.....	J. L. Belsha.....	Barton.....
Clarendon.....	G. C. Goodwin.....	J. M. Dooley.....	Clarendon.....
Salem.....	W. H. Paslay.....	J. F. Jarrett.....	Marvell.....
McGillad.....	M. A. Thompson.....	J. H. Graham.....	Dunn.....
New Hope.....	L. K. Obenchain.....	E. P. Burrows.....	LaGrange.....
Cypress.....	J. L. Wilson.....	B. L. Belsha.....	Turner.....
Pt's Mt Valley.....	A. C. Ball.....	A. G. Williams.....	Holly Grove.....
Level Valley.....		John Brown.....	Marvell.....

## SECOND DISTRICT.

Reheboth.....		A. M. Hopkins.....	Vineyard.....
Brinkley.....	G. C. Goodwin.....	Ar. Flora.....	Brinkley.....
Lone Chapel.....	G. C. Goodwin.....	R. M. O'Neal.....	Brinkley.....
Ash Grove.....	S. D. Johns.....	D. H. Gibson.....	Cotton Plant.....
Center Grove.....	R. G. Hewlett.....	R. A. Batts.....	Spring Creek.....
Pine Fork.....	N. L. Wilson.....	G. Vandorn.....	Moro.....
Friendship.....	S. D. Johns.....	L. H. Wintrey.....	Deview.....
Pt's Mt Grove.....	S. D. Johns.....	H. H. Joiner.....	H. well.....
Hebron.....	S. D. Johns.....	W. S. Smith.....	Wheatley.....
Philadelphia.....	G. C. Goodwin.....	G. W. Hollam.....	Brinkley.....

## THIRD DISTRICT.

Mariana.....	W. H. Paslay.....	J. P. Farrar, Sr.....	Mariana.....
Poplar Grove.....	W. H. Paslay.....	J. M. Massey.....	McDaniels.....
Mars Hill.....	N. L. Wilson.....	W. K. Leach.....	Palestine.....
Forest Chapel.....	L. K. Obenchain.....	W. W. McDaniel.....	McDaniels.....
Oak Hill.....	R. G. Hewlett.....	N. H. White.....	Cole.....
Forrest City.....	J. J. Taylor.....	J. T. Fondren.....	Forrest City.....
Oak Grove.....	L. K. Obenchain.....	F. L. Gustavus.....	Moro.....
Haynes.....		J. W. Rogers.....	Haynes.....

Total.....

# First District.

Baptized.	Rec'd by Letter	Restored.	Comm. by Letter	Excluded.	Died.	Total Membership.	No. in S. S.	Minutes.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Sunday School Contrib'ts	Pastors Salary	Association Missions.	State Missions.	Ministerial Education
1	2	1	2	1	1	25	80	1 60	10	5 00	87 20	75 00	25 00	10 00	10 00
2	3	1	3	1	1	72	80	3 00	10	5 00	87 20	75 00	20 00	10 00	10 00
3	4	2	4	2	2	72	80	1 50				800 00		4 00	
4	5	3	5	3	3	45	25	1 65				100 00	2 50		
5	6	4	6	4	4	46	25	2 00				200 00	15 00		
6	7	5	7	5	5	43	25	1 20							
7	8	6	8	6	6	30	36	1 50				150 00		1 35	
8	9	7	9	7	7	30	36	1 00	5			120 00			5 00
9	10	8	10	8	8	17		1 00					1 00		
10	11	9	11	9	9	34		1 00					3 00		

## SECOND DISTRICT.

1	2	1	2	1	1	56	37	1 50			6 30				
2	3	2	3	2	2	52	34	2 00	3 00	30 00	150 00	10 00	5 00		
3	4	3	4	3	3	35	15	1 00		2 75	75 00				
4	5	4	5	4	4	52		2 50							
5	6	5	6	5	5	43		2 00	5 00	2 25	125 00	4 00	2 00		
6	7	6	7	6	6	31	23	1 00		1 00	40 00				
7	8	7	8	7	7	50		1 50			75 00				
8	9	8	9	8	8	30		2 00							
9	10	9	10	9	9	47		1 50							
10	11	10	11	10	10	78		2 00			75 00	2 50			

## THIRD DISTRICT.

1	2	1	2	1	1	49	37	2 50		68 00	300 00	12 00			
2	3	2	3	2	2	34		1 50	2 35		150 00	10 00			
3	4	3	4	3	3	20		1 00							
4	5	4	5	4	4	54	33	2 00		9 00	200 00	10 00	3 00	5 00	
5	6	5	6	5	5	80	25	1 50	5 00			5 00			
6	7	6	7	6	6	94	49	2 75	16 00	82 50	600 00	20 00	63 25	25 00	
7	8	7	8	7	7	62	30	1 50		5 00		2 50	2 00		
8	9	8	9	8	8	9		1 50							
100 95	10 50	22 43	1221 474	\$46 70	\$15	\$36 45	\$292 00	\$225 00	\$145 50	\$60 70	\$45 00				

THE OUACHITA  
COLLEGE  
ARKADELPHIA, ARK.

FACULTY.

J. W. CONGER, A. M.,

President—Moral and Mental Science, Greek.

B. J. DUNN, A. M.,

Professor of Latin and Mathematics.

LEWIS F. SALLEE, B. S.,

Professor of Natural Science.

MRS. ALICE MAUPIN, A. M.,

English Literature and History.

MISS EMILY E. WINWOOD, A. B.,

Modern Languages, Vocal Music.

MISS MARY BARRETT.

Principal Music and Elocution Department.

MRS. ESTELLE BLAKE.

Primary Department.

MRS. TENNIE C. CONGER.

Art Department.

ELD. J. B. SEARCY, AGENT.

This institution is under the supervision of the ARKANSAS BAPTIST CONVENTION, and should receive the hearty support of the entire denomination in the State.

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For further information, address

J. W. CONGER, PRES'T.

ARKADELPHIA, ARK.