

PROCEEDINGS.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1876-5

The Saline Regular Baptist Association, met pursuant to adjournment with Oak Grove church, Hot Spring county, on Thursday before the first Sunday in October A. D., 1875.

The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. C. F. Moore, (Eld. W. J. Neighbors, the appointee being absent, on the account of sickness,) from Jude 20th and 21st verses: But ye beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keeping yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

After the sermon, prayer was offered by Eld. R. M. Thrasher.

The association took recess for refreshment, until 3 o'clock p. m.

3. O'CLOCK, P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment. The association was called to order by the moderator, Eld. R. M. Thrasher. After singing, prayer was offered by W. Daniel.

1. Called for the letters from the churches, read the same, and enrolled the delegates names. (See table of statistics.)
2. Went into an election for officers, (moderator and clerk,) for the present session, whereupon Eld. R. M. Thrasher was elected moderator, and William Daniel, clerk and treasurer.
3. Called for petitionary letters. None.
4. Called for correspondence from sister associations. There was a letter presented and read from Caddo River Association, which was received as correspondence.
5. Appointed a committee on preaching, consisting of Breth. O. Busick, A. Kemp and J. W. Horton.
6. Omitted preaching to night, and instead thereof, that we haveayer meetings at the different houses where the delegates go.
7. All visiting brethren of this association were invited to seats with us, and also brethren from sister associations, whereupon Eld. M.

L. Langly, from Red River Association, and Eld. Alex. Tucker, in the bounds of this association, took their seats.

8. Adjourned until to-morrow morning 9 o'clock. Prayer by Eld. A. Tucker.

FRIDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. M. L. Langly.

1. Call for letters was renewed. None.

2. Call for petitionary letters. None.

3. Renewed call for correspondence from sister associations, where-upon Eld. A. Yates and Bro. D. C. Hall, were received as messengers, and the right hand extended by the moderator, and they cordially invited to seats with us to aid in council.

4. Appointed the following committees:

On Documents—John Guerin, J. J. Yates and Lewis Collie.

On Missions—C. F. Moore, D. R. Parker and D. Berry.

On Sabbath-schools—Wm. McColloch, Russel Williams, Houston Mills and E. W. Gentry.

On Ministerial Education—M. L. Langly, R. E. Allen and Wm. Adkins.

On Prayer Meeting—H. J. Clift, S. Muse and Alfred Day.

On Finance—Sherod Johnson, Peter Goza and Wm. R. Thornton.

5. An address by Eld. R. M. Thrasher, on the great Centennial movement, explaining its objects and the great utility it was to Baptists in their history, therefore the committee appointed by the State Centennial committee for Saline Association was confirmed, to-wit: R. M. Thrasher and R. M. Lindsey.

6. Adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m., prayer by Eld. A. Yates.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment. prayer by Bro. J. W. Norton.

1. Renewed the call for letters from the churches. Received a letter from Pleasant Hill church, and enrolled the names of the delegates.

2. Called for reports. The Treasurer reported; report read and adopted. Marked (A) for reports. (See appendix.)

3. Report on Missions read and discussed, and pending the discussion the following collection was taken up in cash and cash pledges, and corn to pay Bro. R. M. Lindsey our missionary for last year, for services rendered, and pending same, adjourned until to-morrow morning 9 o'clock, prayer by Eld. S. Stevenson.

CASH AND PLEDGES.

John J. Yates,.....	\$15 00	D. R. Parker, cash paid,...	\$2 00
J. B. Wallace,.....	5 00	Lewis Collie " ".....	1 00
J. W. Wallace,.....	2 50	Traskwood church ".....	75
Rockport church, 20 bu corn		Mrs. M. A. Yates, ".....	50
and cash paid,.....	4 00	R. F. Ross, cash ".....	1 00
J. A. Verser, 10 bu corn.....		Dallas Grove church ".....	4 00
Southfork church, by H. Mills,	5 00	Hickory Grove church.....	4 00
W. K. Johnson,.....	2 50	John Clem, 5 bu corn,.....	
J. A. Parker,.....	1 00	Eld. S. Stephenson, paid.....	1 00
W. G. Moore, Kentucky ch ..	5 00	Hot Springs church ".....	5 00
S. J. Muse, cash paid	50	Thomas Ebbs, ".....	50
Damascus church ".....	1 50	E N. Gentry, ".....	2 00
Russell Williams 5 bushel corn		H. J. Clift.....	5 00
Wm. Daniel,.....	5 00	O. J. Busick, ".....	2 00
C. Moore by J. A. Verser 5 bu corn,		A J. Johnson,.....	2 00

SATURDAY, 9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment, prayer by Bro. E. W. Gentry.

1. Read the minutes of yesterday and adopted same.
- 2 Called for letters from the churches, recieved one from New Hope church, Grant county, delegates names enrolled, also Bro. J. D. Hardridy from DeRock church was enrolled.

3. On motion, Eld. S. Stevenson was received as corresponding messenger from Pine Bluff Association, the right hand was extended by the moderator and he invited to a seat with us to aid in con cil.

4. The discussion of the report on missions was taken up, and after discussing the subject at considerable length, the report was adopted. (See Appendix B.)

On motion, adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m., prayer by Bro. J. J. Yates.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Met pursuant to adjournment, prayer by Bro. Wm. McColloch.

1. Report on prayer-meeting read, amending and adopted. (See Appendix D)
2. Report on Document read and adopted. (See appendix E)
3. The Association appointed the next session to meet with Ten Mile Creek church, on Tuesday before the first Sunday in October, 1876.
4. Report on Finance, read adopted (See Appendix F)
5. Report on ministerial education, read and discussed at considerable length and adopted. (See Appendix G.)
- 6 Adopted resolution as follows:

Resolved, That we recommend and request that all of our ministers and deacons of this association, stir up the pure minds of brethren by way of remembrance, to give of their temporal things to those who minister in spiritual things amongst us.

7. Adopted resolution as follows:

Resolved, That we return a vote of thanks to Oak Grove church and friends in this vicinity for the hospitable manner in which this body has been supported, and also to the Methodist brethren for the use of their church-house.

8. Adopted resolution as follows:

Resolved, That a public collection be taken up on to morrow at the close of 11 o'clock service, for foreign missions to aid our missionary in China, Bro Hartwell.

9. Adopted resolution as follows:

Resolved, That we recommend to the brethren and churches of this association, the WESTERN BAPTIST, published at Searcy, by Bros Boone & Espy, also the Baptist published at Memphis by J. R. Graves, D. D., as defenders of the Baptist faith.

Resolved, That the clerk superintend the printing of the minutes and distribute the same to the churches, and that he have twenty dollars for his services, and that he have as many minutes printed as the funds will pay for, after paying himself and the indebtedness of the association and fees allowed.

Appointed the following Bros. messengers to sister association: To Pine Bluff, C. F. Moore; to Judson, J. J. Yates, J. H. Camp and S. Johnson; to Red River, S. Stevenson, to bear a letter; to Caddo River, R. M. Thrasher.

On motion, adjourned to meet with Ten-Mile Creek church, Saline county, on Thursday before the first Sunday in October, A. D. 1876. Prayer by Bro. Wm. Daniel, after which a suitable song was sung, during the singing the parting hand was extended to each other with much Christian feeling and brotherly love.

ROBERT M. THRASHER, Moderator

WILLIAM DANIEL, Clerk.

P. S. As the association was late Saturday evening getting through the business, there was no minister appointed to preach the introductory, if there was I failed to make a minute of it. I would therefore suggest that every minister in the bounds of this association prepare himself for the occasion, and we will not fail to have an introductory sermon.

CLERK.

Appendix.

[A.]

TREASURER'S REPORT, 1875.

Dr.

Received of finance committee, 1874, \$67 25

Cr.

Paid for printing 600 copies of minutes and mailing same, \$39 75

Clerks fees per order of the association, 20 00

Balance due Treasurer, 9 25 69 00

Showing balance due Treasurer..... \$ 1 75

WM. DANIEL, Treasurer.

[B.]

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We your committee, beg leave to make the following report, to wit: We find from the reading of the several letters from the churches within the limits of this association that there is a great destitution among them; that there are there many churches that have no pastor or regular services. We believe that one or the principal cause of this destitution is because the brethren of churches do not read the Scripture sufficient upon this important point. It was the great commission of our Savior, and about the last instruction given by him before his ascension, go and preach. Now brethren, we ask how God ordained this gospel should be preached to every creature. He sent out his apostles, he directed them to select of those that were converted under their preaching, and set them apart for this work, those who possessed the required qualifications. God did not send his angels upon the earth for this work, but the work was to be supported and carried on by his people. Christ told his disciples that they were the light of the world. Christians occupy the same relation to Christ at this day, that they did then. We are called upon to spread the light, which the gospel throughout the world gives, and especially in the part of the globe we inhabit. How are we to do this. We are required by the Scriptures to glorify God in word and deed. Now we

are to live a godly life ourselves and to give our prayers and our means to advance his cause. As ministers we are to discharge that duty faithful. As members we are required by the Scriptures to support those brethren who spend their time in preaching the gospel. Paul speaks very plainly upon the subject. If we have sown unto you spiritual things is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things. Brethren, we are in arrears with our missionary for last year, R. M. Linsey. This body obligated themselves to pay a certain amount. Let us pray God that while we labor for the support of the body, we may also labor to advance his cause, to send the light of the gospel to our fellow men. As regards foreign missions, this association has done nothing as a body for some years. It is said of the learned commentator, Andrew Fuller, that he gave the following testimony upon this subject. The church of which he was pastor had been in a cold state for some time. No conversions, no additions to the church, finally the church became interested on the subject of foreign missions. They gave liberally of their means to advance this work. The Lord seemed in return to pour out his spirit upon them—many were converted and added to the church. Religious interest increased, pure and vital religion was increased in the hearts of the members of his church. Brethren let us work while it is called to-day, let us secure unto ourselves not simply an entrance, but an abundant entrance into the kingdom of heaven.

C. F. Moore, Chairman.

[C]

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Dear brethren, having examined the associational letters sent up by churches composing this association it is ascertained that the statistics of but two churches to-wit Hot Springs and South Fork report Sabbath-schools. and indeed can this be really true; that of all the churches composing this body only two Sabbath-schools in actual organization alas, alas, how lamentably ill-timed negligence. Then, dear brethren, you will doubtless agree with us, when we boldly assert there is a vast degree of negligence among the churches composing this body as regards maintaining Sunday-schools. Now a Sunday-school as a Bible school is of vast and vital importance to the prosperity if not to the perpetuity of the church. For how can we attain to the full standard of a Christian man or woman except instructed from the Bible. It has been very justly claimed by some that the Sunday-school is the nursery into the church. Be that as it may, one thing is highly essential, to wit: For each church to

organize and maintain a Sunday-school in disseminating the eternal truths of the Bible. Would to God the various church members, especially heads of families and pastors, might experience from their hearts the extreme degree of importance for this accomplishment. Ye mothers in Israel awake to the supreme obligation and responsibility which rest upon you, who have unregenerate sons and daughters, for the proportion of care you instruct them in the way of life eternal and Christian liberty. A very large majority who profess Christianity, state their mothers influence as vastly instrumental in their souls eternal salvation, while a vast number date that bright oasis as occurring during the attendance of some Sabbath-school. Then do we pray you take heed to the counselings to train up your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Fathers and mothers look well to the manner in which your children devote the Lord's day; observe properly not only abstaining from the secular pursuits merely, but worship God and have an abiding interest in Sabbath-schools attendance. And minister and pastors if you would preach upon this important subject until the churches come up to the new Testament model, meeting every Sunday to worship God, and studying the Bible the Sabbath-schools would of necessity, be encouraged. Therefore resolved that we recommend pastors to preach upon the importance of studying the Bible and help to maintain and organize a Sabbath-school in each church within this association during the coming year. That we recommend the members of the various churches to meet at their meeting houses each Sabbath for worship and religious instruction.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. M'COLLOCH, Chairman.

[D.]

REPORT ON PRAYER MEETINGS.

We your committee on prayer meetings beg leave to report as follows; While this great duty has been as much neglected in many churches, others have kept up their prayer-meetings in accordance with the command of God, and the advice of the association. God has blessed them with revivals of religion. If there is any church or brother that denies prayer-meetings being a good thing for church and neighborhood, we would refer them to the command of Jesus, and say, pray without ceasing and in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus to us all, brethren, watch and pray, lest we fall into temptation. Brethren, we your committee do recommend prayer-

meetings in every church and family, for this is a duty that is too much neglected. Brethren, when a church neglects duty, they grow cold and luke-warm, and a brother that leaves off praying, he has almost denied the faith. So, dear brethren, let us continue our prayer-meetings and exhort one another in every good work, hopping that we will hear some good results from the prayer meetings next association. For

"Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,
The Christian's native air,
His watch word at the gate of death,
He enters heaven with prayer."

H. J. CLIFT. Chairman.

[E.]

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your committee on documents ask leave to report, that we have had the letters from the churches to the association under consideration, and find nothing in them of interest, more than the usual business of such letters. We find that there is one church that has petitioned for the next session of this body, to-wit: Smith Creek, and South Fork sends her standing request through her delegates for the next session to meet with them.

JOHN GUERIN, Chairman.

[F.]

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Your committee on finance beg leave to make the following report: We find the amount sent up by the churches for printing minutes to be \$51.45, all of which is collected and ready to be paid over to the treasurer. Respectfully submitted,

S. JOHNSON, Chairman.

[G.]

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your committee on ministerial education submit the following report: In order to excel as a minister of the gospel a man should be educated. This would properly include, 1st. Literary knowledge. An illiterate man may be good and do some good, but he cannot do much in the great work of the reformation of the world. The minister should, if possible, understand the ancient languages in which the Holy Scriptures were originally written. 2nd. A knowledge of theology and ecclesiastical history. 3rd. A knowledge of the natural sciences especially should the minister

understand the science of mind, he should be able to declare the whole counsel of God, rightly dividing the word of truth. As education is very important in every profession and calling; it is the duty of the minister of the gospel to acquire the greatest amount of useful knowledge of which he is capable. And not only so, it is the duty of every Christian to aid in the good work of educating, young men who have natural and spiritual gifts for the ministry of reconciliation. Then let our churches and associations earnestly engage in this important work. The Baptists of Arkansas are able to educate their prospective ministry.

We recommend the Judson University as worthy of the confidence and support of the Baptists of our state. The cause of Christ demands an increase of ministerial power and efficiency. Let us have an improved ministry; the responsibility rests upon us all: Will our churches and associations select the proper men and educate them. Let every one do what he can in this good work.

M. L. LANGLEY, Chairman.

[H.]

ON PREACHING.

Your committee on preaching submit the following: C. F. Moore preached the introductory sermon on Thursday at 11 o'clock; Eld M. L. Langley, at 11 o'clock on Friday. followed by Eld A. Yates; Friday night, Eld. A. Yates; Eld. R. M. Lindsey, Saturday at 11 o'clock; Eld. S. Stevenson, Saturday night; Eld. A. Yates at 11 o'clock on Sunday, followed by M. L. Lindsey. At the close of services, a collection was taken up for foreign missions, amounting to something over seven dollars. At 3 o'clock p. m., Eld. S. Stevenson, met with the Sunday school mass meeting, and gave some good lectures to the children. Sunday night, preaching by Eld. S. Whitton.

J. W. NOETON .Chairman.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST-OFFICES.

J. H. Howard, Malvern.
 B. M. Phillips, De Roche.
 John Holcomb, De Roche.
 R. M. Lindsey, Fitzhughs Mill.
 S. Funk, Malvern.
 J. C. C. Evans, Owensville.
 John Clem, Malvern.
 J. P. Langley, Donaldson.
 R. M. Thrasher, Malvern.
 F. M. Sanford, Benton.
 S. Rowe, Hot Springs.

J. T. Thompson, De Roch.
 W. J. Neighbors, Hot Springs,
 J. A. R. Hunt, Hot Springs.
 John Spurling, Hot Springs.
 Jas. E. McGoveran, Gifford.
 A. J. Hutchingson, Little Rock.
 J. C. Henderson, Benton.
 C. F. Moore, Benton.
 J. J. Adams, Harold.
 E. L. Mainard, North Point.
 J. T. Eaves, Harold.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS.
Antioch.....	Saline.....	Not represented.....
Brush Creek.....	Grant.....	W. R. Cambers, J. J. Yates, J. L. Deer
Bethlehem.....	Garland.....	John Guerin, A. J. Ritter, T. H. Ritter
Big Creek.....	Hotspring.....	Not represented.....
Corinth.....	Garland.....	S. Rowe, Win. Farr.....
Coucord.....	Yell.....	Not represented.....
De Roche.....	Hotspring.....	J. D. Hardage, B. M. Phillips, James Fenter.....
Dallas Grove.....	Garland.....	C. T. Crabb, E. D. Tramel, H. Tramel.....
Damascus.....	Hotspring.....	S. Johnson, O. H. P. Norwood, F. H. Parker.....
Ellis Springs.....	Pulaski.....	Not represented.....
Friendship.....	Montgomery.....	Not represented.....
Franceway.....	Hotspring.....	H. J. Clift, Lewis Collie, D. Wallace.....
Fair Play.....	Saline.....	C. F. Moore, R. E. Ross, M. L. Nelson.....
Harmony.....	Montgomery.....	Not represented.....
Hickory Grove.....	Hotspring.....	William R. Thornton, A. B. Thornton, E. Tisdal
Hot Springs.....	Garland.....	J. N. Clide, R. E. Allen, W. W. McCulloch.....
Hopewell.....	Saline.....	N. Falkner, J. B. Wilson, L. N. Falkner.....
Kentucky.....	Saline.....	W. G. Moore, W. Henson, W. Terry.....
Lone Hill.....	Hotspring.....	John Clem, J. W. Norton, J. Otwell.....
Marble.....	Garland.....	J. B. Neal, J. Howard, D. H. Willhite.....
Magnet Cove.....	Hotspring.....	L. A. Cook, J. M. Power, J. A. Verser.....
Mt. Tabor.....	Garland.....	Not represented.....
Mt. Zion.....	Montgomery.....	Not represented.....
Mt. Pleasant.....	Garland.....	J. A. Muse, C. Cain, H. Beloot.....
North Fork.....	Saline.....	Not represented.....
New Hope.....	Grant.....	R. M. Lindsey, S. D. Bird, T. O. Lindsey.....
New Hope.....	Montgomery.....	Not represented.....
Onachita.....	Hotspring.....	J. P. Langley, R. Williams, D. Berry.....
Oak Grove.....	Hotspring.....	Wm. Daniel, E. W. Gentry, J. H. Howard.....
Pleasant Grove.....	Pulaski.....	Not represented.....
Pleasant Hill.....	Hotspring.....	J. B. Wallace, P. Goza, W. T. Parker.....
Philadelphia.....	Yell.....	Not represented.....
Rockport.....	Hotspring.....	R. M. Thrasher, H. McCallum, W. C. Collie.....
Rock Spring.....	Garland.....	Not represented.....
Salem.....	Saline.....	Not represented.....
South Fork.....	Garland.....	W. J. Neighbors, H. Mills, P. M. Cain.....
Smith Creek.....	Garland.....	J. C. C. Evans, J. B. Huchingson, J. M. Huchingson
Spring Creek.....	Saline.....	Not represented.....
Ten-mile Creek.....	Saline.....	B. F. Rigsby, J. W. Wallace, W. K. Johnson.....
Union.....	Saline.....	Not represented.....
Zion.....	Hotspring.....	Not represented.....

Totals.....

CAL TABLE.

PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POSTOFFICE.	Rec'd by Bapt.	Rec'd by Letter.	Dis. by Letter.	Excluded	Restored	Died	Total Mem'ship	Contributions.	Day of Meeting
	J T Roberts.	Whittington.						14	\$		
R M Lindsey	W R Chambers.	Sandy Springs	3					65	2 50	3d	Sabbath
W J Neighbors.	T H Ritter.	Harold.	2	3	2	1	1	46		4th	"
	H Elliott.	Gifford.						20		2d	"
S Rowe.	Wm Farr.	Hot Springs.						9	50		
	Peter A Green.	Bluffton.						10		1st	"
John Clem.	W B Holcomb.	De Roche.	1	4	3		1	50	3 00	2d	"
	Harrison Tramel.	Hot Springs.		2				15	50	2d	"
S F Funk.	E P Norwood.	Malvern.	3	2	4		1	14	1 50	1st	"
	James Ellis.	Little Rock.						22			
	H H Williamson.	Harold.						49		3d	"
Wm Tucker.	J H Camp.	Gifford.	1	2	3		1	24	2 00	4th	"
R M Thrasher.	J Newcomb.	Bob.		3	1			62	8 75	3d	"
	A B Buck.	Harold.						24		4th	"
	Wm R Thornton.	De Roche.		2	6	3		13	1 00		
R M Thrasher.	J M Olide.	Hot Springs.	3	12	1		2	47	3 90	2d	"
F M Sanford.	John B Wilson.	Benton.	2		10			20	2 00	1st	"
F M Sanford.	P H McFarlin.	Benton.		1	5	2		31	1 00	3d	"
J Clem.	J W Norton.	Malvern.		2	1			36	3 50	1st	"
W J Neighbors.	T A Baulding.	Whittington.	2	3	7	2		66	1 05	3d	"
O F Moore.	J A Verser.	Malvern.	2	2	1		1	42	3 00	2d	"
	F M Ratcliffe.	Harold.						22		4th	"
	C Sutton.	Harold.						27		3d	"
J J Adams.	Samuel J Muse.	Harold.		2				25	1 50		
	S A Burett.	Benton.						25			
R M Lindsey.	A Bagley.	Fitzhugh's Mill.			4			27	1 50	4th	"
	W Witherspoon.	Harold.						15		2d	"
S F Funk.	J J Bell.	Donaldson.		2				43	1 25	4th	"
J Clem.	Wm Daniel.	Malvern.	1	4	6	1		46	4 00	3d	"
	W W Prother.	North Point.						87		4th	"
S F Funk.	E D Goza.	Donaldson.		2	4			30	2 65	2d	"
	A J Hawks.	Onyx.						27		2d	"
R M Thrasher.	Wm H Collie.	Malvern.			1	1		22	2 75	1st	"
	W R Adams.	Harold.						20		1st	"
	T J Roberts.	Owensville.						51		1st	"
Wm J Neighbors.	W K Medlock.	Hot Springs.	2	4			3	52		1st	"
Wm J Neighbors.	J M Hutchingson.	Owensville.	1	3	2		4	49	2 25	2d	"
	H. S. Glenn.	Benton.						32			
E McGoveran.	J. M. Johnson.	Bob.			1		1	30	2 55		
	G W Wilson.	Benton.						19		2d	"
	George Cook.	Midway.						20			
			23	41	46	41	1	15	1296	\$46 65	