

ARKANSAS BAPTIST HISTORICAL

# MINUTES

—OF THE—

## Thirty-Fifth Annual Session

—OF THE—

# Red River Baptist Association

—HELD WITH—

## UNION CHURCH, CLARK COUNTY, ARKANSAS,

September 23 to 25, 1883.

### OFFICERS.

T. P. COPELAND, Wolf Creek. Pike county Ark., Moderator.  
T. A. HEARD. Arkadelphia, Clark county, Arkansas, Clerk.

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Next Session to be held with Clear Spring Church, twenty miles west of Arkadelphia, Clark county, Saturday before 4th Sabbath in September, 1884.

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clerk, after balloting, Bro. J. P. Copeland was elected Moderator, and T. A. Heard, re-elected Clerk.

Call for petitionary letters for membership. Received letters from Shiloh, Clark county; Walton Valley and Caney Fork of Pike county. Upon motion, were received into the fellowship of this body, and the hand of fellowship was extended by the moderator to the delegates.

A communication was read by Bro. Jameson from Providence church in relation to the death of Bro. John Aaron, which was received with tears, and ordered to be printed in the minutes.

Call for correspondence—Bro. Wm. Brown, of Union association, Bro. Isaac E. Welch, of Caddo Association with letters, were received as messengers, and cordially invited to seats in the body.

Brothers S. S. McDaniel, J. H. Holt, A. G. Stuart and the pastor of this church were appointed a committee to arrange preaching during this session.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

Sunday-schools—Bros. Horn, J. T. Hall and Burk.

Temperance—Merrell, Cross and Price.

Documents—Hall, Edwards and J. D. Rogers.

Finance—Malcomb, Little and Bruce.

Obituaries—Merrell, Z. T. Rogers and Fortson.

Missions—Allerson, Clingon and Price.

Literature—Bell, Langley and Davis.

Education—Cross, Kenedy and Z. T. Rogers.

Destitution—Brown, Edwards and Henderson.

Bro. Harper, delegate from Bethlehem church, asked to be excused for sickness. his request was granted.

Bro. N. J. Davis. moved that this body hold a prayer-meeting at 9 o'clock on Sabbath morning, and the subject of prayer be, that God would impress upon the churches of this Association the importance of better supporting their pastors. Motion carried, and Bro. Merrell was appointed to conduct the meeting.

Bro. G. W. Clingon by his request, was excused from preaching on Sabbath at 11 o'clock, as alternate for Bro. J. T. Jenkins by appointment at last session, and the committee on preaching appointed Bro. J. M. Weeks to fill his place.

Committee on preaching reported that Bro. D. D. Corbin preach at night at Bethsaida church to be followed by Bro. Z. T. Rogers, Bro. J. D. Jameson at this church, to be followed by Bro. Merrell.

On motion, adjourned to 8 o'clock Monday morning. Prayer by Bro. Merrell.

## SABBATH.

The prayer-meeting was conducted by Bro. Merrell, as appointed at 11 o'clock the house not being sufficient to hold one-third of the congregation seats were carried to shady places near the house Bro. Weeks after reading 6th chapter of Romans, preached to a large and attentive congregation, setting forth the doctrine and belief of our denomination in a plain and forcible manner. Bro. Jameson, by request of the committee on preaching, followed in behalf of Home Missions, and after very impressive remarks, a collection was taken up, amounting to \$46.15. At 3 o'clock the stand was filled by Bro. Isaac F. Welch, of Caddo Association, followed by Bro. Bell. At night Bro. Price preached, followed by Bro. Davis. At Bethsaida church Bro. Z. T. Rogers preached, followed by Bro Welch. During the Sabbath day and night the brethren filled the hours as appointed, and faithfully preached the word.

## MONDAY MORNING.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and after singing, "O for a closer walk with God," prayer was offered by Bro. Hamlin.

The body was called to order by the moderator.

Renewed the call for correspondence and invited visiting brethren to seats. Bro. J. M. Weeks from United Association was received as a visiting minister.

Called the roll and marked absentees.

Bro. Merrell, chairman committee on obituaries, read his report. On motion, report was re-committed.

Bro. Merrell, as chairman of the committee on temperance, read his report as follows, which was adopted:

We, your committee on temperance submit the following:—We are glad to know that Baptists are becoming aroused on this subject, and that temperance is being inscribed upon our banners. We would recommend to the Baptists of Red River Association to do all in their power to aid local option and the cause of temperance generally.

E. MERRELL, Chairman.

Bro. Allerson, chairman committee on Missions, read his report. After discussion, Bro. Cross offered an amendment, which was adopted with the original report.

We your committee on Missions submit the following report: Feeling a great interest in the spread and prosperity of the gospel of our Lord, therefore the conclusion has been forced upon us that the present system of missions will not accomplish the work desired, therefore we recommend that it be changed to that of a local work.

T. J. ALLERSON, Chairman.

## AMENDMENT.

Resolved further, that the executive board be authorized to canvass the churches for mission money and employ ministers of the gospel in these bounds to supply the destitute within our bounds by monthly appointments; and we further recommend that amounts so raised be disbursed in this way and reported to the next association, and that

all the churches send up all they are able to pay for such work.

W. J. Cross, Chairman,

Bro. Cross moved that the speeches be limited to ten minutes  
Motion carried.

Bro. E. Merrell, as missionary, read his report which was  
adopted:

To the brethren composing the Executive Board of Home Missions:

Dear brethren; I started out on my missionary work about the 1st of Nov. 1882, and have traveled and peached over five months during the associational year. Total number of sermons preached, 82, churches organized 1, families visited religiously 101, number baptized 5, miles traveled 552. We were received with gladness of heart and treated kindly by all the people in the destitution and the gospel seemed to have the desired effect. Many were heard crying for mercy and several converted. To God we give the glory for all the good work done in his holy name.

E. MERRELL.

Bro. Kenedy, chairman committee on education, read the following as his report which was adopted, after the importance of education was freely discussed.

We your committee on Education submit the following:

Dear brethren, There is no greater responsibility resting upon us than the education of our children. God has given them to us, and we are responsible for their early development. The key note of our age is progress, and while other people are alive to this, we as Baptists should arouse from our spirit of slumber and see to it that our children have the advantage of this mighty power in helping to perpetuate the glorious truths and doctrines of the gospel. Shall we sleep and let others educate their children while ours grow up in ignorance? The day is coming when ignorance will no longer be bliss, but he who enters the ranks unarmed with this mighty power will be driven from the field. We would recommend the brethren all over the bounds of our association to prayerfully consider this important subject and see to it that as Baptists we be not only forward for the truth but forward also for all the advantages God has given mankind for dispensing the same, and among the first of the advantages is education. We recommend the Baptist High School at Arkadelphia, which is now under the control of Prof. Dunn, a fine educator, a thorough Baptist and worthy of our confidence and patronage, as being the place for the education of our sons and daughters. We should make this school a specialty, it being the property of the Red River Association and accessible to all within the bounds of the same.

J. E. KENEDY, Chairman.

Brother N. J. Davis was appointed to preach the next introductory sermon, and Brother N. J. Price to be his alternate.

Appointed correspondents to sister Associations. Caddo—Brothers Kenedy, Hamlin and G. Deaton; Union—Brothers Price, Heard, Cross, Robinson, S. S. Langley and Merrell; Columbia—Brothers McDaniel, Z. T. Rogers; South Western—Brothers Copeland, Corbin, Holt, Merrell, Clingon and Cross; Judson—Brothers Cross and N. J. Davis; Saline—D. T. Johnson and W. J. Cross.

Brother Jno. B. Langley, as one of the committee on literature, read their report which was adopted.

We, your committee on Literature report as follows: First of all we recommend a careful perusal of the Bible, and as it is absolutely necessary for our distinct principles to be known in order to be appreciated, we earnestly insist that the Baptists of our Association secure and examine those books that set forth these principles. As standard works, we recommend D. B. Ray's, "Baptist Succession"; Orchard's "History of Baptists"; S. H. Ford's "Mile Stone" and the works known as "Grace Trumah," "Theodosia Earnest," "Iron Wheel" and "Trilema." We also recommend the EVANGELIST of our State Baptist paper, also the Tennessee Baptist.

Respectfully,

M. D. BELL, Chairman.

Brother Merrell, as chairman of the committee on obituaries read the following reports which were adopted.

We, your committee on Obituaries submit the following as our report: Since our last annual meeting death has invaded our ranks and claimed one of our brightest stars, to-wit: Elder Jno. Aaron. But while we no longer have the wise council of Brother Aaron in our annual meetings, and while the churches of his charge are deprived of his earnest admonitions, we bow in humble submission to the will of an all-wise God, who doeth all things well. Feeling assured of the fact that Brother Aaron has fought a good fight, that he kept the faith, and that he to-day is ready to receive the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give. Brethren let us emulate his life that we may be permitted to meet Brother Aaron in that grand Association above.

Respectfully,

E. MERRILL, Chairman.

We, your committee on Obituaries submit the following report: Since our last annual meeting death has taken two of our beloved deacons, to-wit: Brother L. N. Carter and Brother A. P. Nizar. Brother Carter has been a Deacon of Mt. Bethel church for about two years, and has lived a life worthy of imitation. He was a great worker in the Sunday school, and though he be dead, his work and influence still live and will live for years to come. And Brother Niza was an active Deacon of Pleasant Home church and a devoted Christian worker in the Master's cause and while we mourn their loss we bow in humble submission to the will of an all-wise God, who doeth all things well. And also God has called our beloved Brother Stephen D. Niely from his labors on earth to his reward above, who is now sharing the association of the redeemed of God. While we mourn his irreparable loss we bow in humble submission to the will of an all-wise God, who doeth all things well.

E. MERRELL, Chairman.

Brother J. C. Brown, chairman of the committee on Destitutions read his report which was adopted.

We, your committee on destitution find there is a great destitution in the bounds of Red River Association, and therefore we insist that the churches of this Association assist their pastors and send them out to preach the gospel to those destitute hearts,

J. C. BROWN, Chairman.

Brother J. T. Hall, as chairman of the committee on Sabbath schools read his report and Brothers J. P. Copeland, J. T. Hall, J. C. Brown and J. E. Kenedy.

We, Your committee on Sunday schools report: that we believe that the great mission of Baptists is to despoil the nations. No man can do his duty and not take part in it, and no man should be content until the work is grandly consummated and every creature down to the end of the world is brought under the dominion of the cross. Every legitimate means should be employed to secure this grand result. God's plan to evangelize the world is by the preaching of the gospel, and he calls men to do this great work. He has put great honor on their efforts in all ages. But it must not be supposed that the whole responsibility of leading men to Christ rests on the ministry. Every man saved by the grace of God is under solemn obligations to do what he can for the salvation of others, and as every man cannot occupy the pulpit he must seek some other field in which to serve the Divine Master. It is the cause for profoundest gratitude that the Sunday school offers this field. That it is a duty to establish and carry forward these schools in the church is no longer a question. They can never take the place of preaching, this is frankly admitted. But it is also true that nothing can take their place. And in this active and progressive age no church can afford to dispense with them. The Bible is the only standard; it is that on which our faith is founded. Its mighty principles and hallowed promises sustain the only blessed and imperishable hopes of our frail humanity. It is our solitary infallible guide in things divine and blazes out the only path that leads to a higher and brighter world. It illuminates human history, uncovers the mysteries of creation, reveals a great plan of salvation and make the endless future immitting with a glory which is at once real and divine. These facts admitted it is the greatest of all wonders that there should be a Baptist in any church who is not deeply anxious to study the Bible. And since it is claimed that religion made men largely and grandly philanthropic, it is no less a wonder that those who possess it are not deeply anxious to teach others the way of life.

It appears to your committee that Baptists not engaged in this work are loosing a great opportunity to do good and are failing utterly to meet one of the highest obligations resting upon them as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We would therefore urge that the members of each Baptist church in this Associa-

tion meet every Sabbath for the study of God's word and to teach its holy precepts to both the young and old. This service of study, of teaching and training will both develop the strength of church members and lead the unsaved to the blessed Lamb of God. If the church would take up this work and press forward in it with a tearful and prayerful interest in the great work of evangelization, it is believed that God would put his approbation on it by saving many precious souls. And in order to assist in the organization of these Bible schools in all the churches now without them and promote the growth and healthy development of those already organized, we would recommend that a committee of four persons at some central point be appointed to arrange for holding at least one Sunday school institute during the year in each section of the Association, and that this committee name the churches which shall compose or constitute each of the four sections, and make all such arrangements as may be necessary to hold happy and successful meetings or institutes.

We find that only nine churches in this Association report Sunday schools and only two the statistics of the Sunday schools as was recommended by the last body. We would urge that every church report their Sunday school together with statistics, so we shall be enabled to tell what is doing and what has been done in the Sunday school cause in this Association.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. HALL, Chairman.

H. J. P. HORN, Committee.

**On motion adjourned to 1 o'clock; prayer by Brother Kenedy.**

**At 1 o'clock the Association met pursuant to adjournment; prayer by Brother Tillman Howell.**

**Report of Committee on Documents read by R. K. Hall and the following adopted:**

Increase—By baptism, 119; by letter, 93; restoration, 5. Decrease—By death, 23; by exclusion, 17; dismissed by letter, 131. Total in fellowship, 1,465. We find very few churches report statistics in Sunday schools, some of the church letters report gracious revivals with numbers of accessions. Three new churches have petitioned for membership, and we further desire to report that Valley church in her letter is silent on receiving excluded material from other churches of our faith and order. Yet we are creditably informed that such is the case, thoroughly departing from our faith and practice as a religious body, and we therefore recommend that Valley Church be admonished to rescind her action in receiving excluded members from Derouch Church of the Saline Association.

Respectfully,

R. K. HALL, Chairman.

**Appointed the next session of this body to be held with Clear Spring Church, commencing on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in September next, 20 miles west of Arkadelphia on the Washington road.**

We, your committee appointed to divide the Association into Sabbath school districts, report: After carefully considering the location of the churches report as follows: District No. 1—Arkadelphia, Unity, Mt. Bethel, Gum Springs, DeGray, Pleasant Hill, Shiloh No. 2. District No. 2—Okalona, Terre Noir, Clear Spring, South Fork, Holly Wood, Bethlehem. District No. 3—Wolf Creek, Watton Valley, Caney Fork, Liberty Hill, Maple Spring. District no. 4—Providence, New Home, Shiloh No. 1, Pleasant Grove, Piney Grove, Ozark. District No. 5—Union, Bethsaida, Amity, Liberty, Valley.

Respectfully submitted,

J. P. COPELAND, Chairman.

J. P. HALL.

J. C. BROWN.

**Resolved, That we recommend all the churches to report in their letters to next session the amount gotten up during the year for Missions.**

**Resolved, That the delegates of this body be appointed as a committee with the pastors of their churches to solicit money to pay Brother Merrell the balance due him as our Missionary.**

W. J. Cross.

**Resolved, That some brother be appointed to prepare a circular letter on the subject of the duties of deacons, to be read at the next meeting of this body. And Brother A. E. Kenedy was appointed to write the circular.**

The following was read by Brother Cross and adopted :

Resolved, That we as a body will hold any church as heterodox who refuses to discipline any member who embraces, or defends, or approves of latter day spiritualism, it being unscriptural, anti-christian and ruinous in its doctrine, and subversive of every principle of salvation through Christ.

Respectfully,  
W. J. CROSS.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are heartily tendered to the brethren and friends of this church for their kindness to us during our stay with them.

W. J. CROSS.

Report of the Executive Board read and adopted, and Brothers T. J. Allesron, R. K. Hall, W. J. Cross and J. P. Copeland, were added to the Home Mission Board,

Ordered that 800 copies of these minutes be printed and distributed to the churches, and that the clerk be allowed \$15 for his services

After the minutes were read and adopted, while singing "On our way to Canaan," the parting hand was extended by the brethren, and prayer being offered by brother Tallmou Howell, the Association adjourned to meet with Clear Spring church, on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in September, 1884.

J. P. COPELAND, Moderator,

T. A. HEARD, Clerk.

LICENTIATE MINISTERS.

J. A. Fortson, Arkadelphia; W. A. Ingle, Arkadelphia; Reuben Thomas, Antonie; D. Y. Wells, Gurdon; D. M. Shaw, Arkadelphia; Robt. Dunn, Arkadelphia; G. F. Williams, Okalona; O. A. McDaniel, Caney Fork; D. S. Burch, Gurdon; R. H. Waddell, Wallisburg; M. P. Thomas, Amity; W. D. Britt, Prescott.

T. A. Heard, Treasurer, in account with Red River Association :

To amount on hand.....	\$ 7 50	
" " received from Finance Committee for printing Minutes.....	49 15	
Total		\$56 65
By amount paid printing minutes.....	\$30.00	
" " postage and Express charges.....	6 00	
Allowed for services clerk.....	15 00	
Total		\$51 00
Balance on hand		5 65

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

We, your committee, report the amount sent for minutes to be	\$49 15
Arkadelphia church for missions	\$ 8 00
Arkadelphia Sabbath School	5 00
Mt. Bethel church	10 00
Okalona	15 25
De Gray	5 40
Caney Fork	1 50
New Home	1 00
Total	\$46 10
Amount for minutes and Missions	95 25

Respectfully submitted  
B. F. MALCOLM, Chairman.



Pledges to be paid to Brother Merrell for balance due him as Missionary :

W. J. Cross, \$2.50 ; J. L. Bozeman, \$2.50 ; J. J. Mays, 2.50 ; E. Lanley, \$2.50 ; G. W. Wells, \$1.00 ; G. W. Carter, .50 ; Unity church to be paid quarterly, \$20.00 ; total, \$31 50.

After this is paid there is yet a balance due Brother Merrell of \$47.95. The Moderator requested the delegates on the return home to raise the amount and forward to him.

Home Mission Board report that we have employed Brother E. Merrell as Missionary at fifty dollars per month, and have collected the following amounts as shown by vouchers in our possession : Collected on old pledges—New Home church, \$5.00 ; Liberty church, Clark county, \$5.00 ; Providence, \$5.00 ; Mrs. Moncrieff, 50 cents ; Wm. Moncrieff, 25 cents ; Master Isaac Gatlin, .05 ; from Brother Heard for Mt. Bethel church, \$11.60 ; De Gray church, \$9.10 ; Okalona church, \$10.00 ; Clear Springs, \$4.90. On new pledges, E. Merrell, \$5.00 ; W. G. Scoggins, \$5.00 ; different parties through Brother J. D. Rogers, 4.50 ; J. T. Holt, \$10.00 ; total,

Collection on Sabbath	\$65 90
Sent up by churches	\$46 05
Paid by Brother Copeland	46 10
Paid by Brother Hall for Arkadelphia church	2 50
“ “ Union church	5 00
Paid by Brothes Merrell	2 50
Total	2 50
Balance due Brother Merrell	\$170.55
	79 45

Respectfully,

J. T. HOLT, Chairman.

Brother Merrell reported five months preaching at \$50 per month \$250 00

#### ORDAINED MINISTERS.

R. S. Wallis, Arkadelphia	G. M. Shaw, Clear Springs
D. S. Williams “	G. L. Hamlin, Alpine
N. J. Davis, “	B. F. Cannon, Wallaceburg
H. H. Coleman, “	Geo. W. Clingon, Arkadelphia
W. A. Forbes, “	D. Bright, Amity
James Gunter, Curtis	J. E. Kenedy, Amity
M. L. Langley “	R. H. White, Bingen
Z. T. Rogers, Wolf Creek	D. D. Corbin, Wolf Creek
J. P. Copeland, “ “	M. B. Bell, Holly Wood.
J. B. Roundtree “ “	J. M. Weeks, Prescott
N. J. Price, Boughton	J- D. Rogers, Bingen
E. Merrell, Bingen	T. J. Funderburk, Caney Fork

#### RULES OF DECORUM.

1. When the delegates of the several churches shall assemble at the place appointed for the session of the Association, the Moderator shall open the business by praise and prayer in person, or by proxy. If the former Moderator or Clerk be absent, the Association shall appoint one, pro tem.

2. Immediately after the opening session, the church letters shall be read by persons whom the Moderator may appoint, and the names of the delegates enrolled by the Clerk.

3. When the delegate's names are enrolled and called by the clerk, the Association shall then elect by ballot, a Moderator and Clerk, the plurality of the votes governing the election.

4. All motions and amendments to motions must be seconded before they can be entertained by the Moderator. When motions, or amendments to motions are made, the last one made shall be first in order, and so on in inverse order to the original motion

but the mover may at any time withdraw his motion.

5. Any person wishing to make a motion or to speak of any matter before the Association shall rise to his feet, and respectfully address the Moderator, and if he be in order, the Moderator shall signify the same by calling the person or otherwise, and no one, thus in order, shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or personal reflections, nor shall any member speak more than twice on any subject, without leave from the Association or to explain some of his former remarks.

6. Whenever sufficient time has been allowed for discussion of any subject before the Association, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association, and declare the result, a plurality governing in all cases except those provided for.

7. No member may vacate his seat without the consent of the Moderator, while the body is in session.

8. When one member shall speak to, or of one another, he shall call him brother.

9. The Moderator may have the names of the delegates called whenever it is necessary.

10. The Moderator may speak on matters of debate as other members, by calling some one to fill his seat while speaking, but not until all others have spoken who desire to speak.

11. The Moderator may invite visiting members in good order to seats in the council, who may speak, but not vote.

12. The Minutes of the Association may be read as often as it think necessary.

13. The Moderator shall be judge of order; the objector may appeal to the body, a majority of whom shall determine the point of order.

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## 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. The Association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which it is composed, it shall regard them as independent bodies in matters of internal government, and shall only act as advisory counsel, assuming no authority, except what is expressly delegated to it by the churches, or evidently implied from the very nature of the compact. It, nevertheless, claims authority over its own members, the delegates from the churches, and, in justice and propriety, must have power to withdraw from and disown all churches which depart from the spirit of this compact, by becoming heterodox 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 of 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 or churches dismissed from other Associations of the same faith and order, may be admitted into this union by their sending up three delegates to the annual meeting of this Association with a petition for admission, and by their delegates agreeing to the abstracts of principles herewith published.

ART. 6. The churches of 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 accordingly.

ART. 7. This Association shall have a fund, to be supplied by voluntary contributions of the churches, and all the money thus contributed shall be transmitted from the churches and paid over through the Committees 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 sufficient statement of all the receipts and expenditures.

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.

ART. 9. This Association shall take cognizance of no query sent up from the church-

es, unless they have endeavored to solve the same, and have failed; nor of any difficulty between the churches, unless they have pursued the directions in the 18th 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 the Association, by the concurring voice of two-thirds of the members then present; provided, such alteration or amendment be approved by the churches composing the Association.

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## ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in the one true and living God.
2. We believe that the Scriptures, comprising the Old and New Testaments, are the words of God, and the only rule 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 originals in by the fall of Adam.
5. We believe in man's incapacity, 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 judgment, and that the felicity of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.
10. We believe no minister has any right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel but one who is regularly baptized, called and comes under the imposition of the hands of the Presbyter.
11. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's table.
12. We believe that the Lord's Day should be observed as a day of rest and religious devotion.

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## CONSTITUTION OF THE ARKADELPHIA BAPTIST HIGH SCHOOL.

Be it resolved by the Red River Baptist Association, in this, its twenty-eighth session, held with the County Line Church, on the sixteenth day of October, A. D., 1876, being in the county of Howard, and in the State of Arkansas, that we adopt the following Constitution for the organization and maintenance of a High School for males and females, to be located in Arkadelphia, in the county of Clark, in the interest of the Baptist denomination.

ARTICLE 1. This institution shall be known as the Arkadelphia High School, and shall be under the joint control of the Red River Baptist Association, and a joint stock company, contributing to the building, furnishing and endowing of said institution.

ART. 2. The Red River Baptist Association shall have and maintain the right to appoint five of a Board of Trustees, to hold their offices seven years, and to fill all vacancies that may occur at any time among that number, and the five appointed shall work jointly with seven other members, who shall be elected by the stock company, and hold their office for a term of seven years, the stock company filling all vacancies that may occur at any time among the seven.

ART. 3. The members of the Board of Trustees appointed by the Association shall proceed at once, as if they were a full Board, to open books for taking stock, and to transact such other business as shall be expedient for the opening of the school, and as soon as a company holding one hundred shares shall be obtained, they shall call for an election of the seven members, to be of their own number, to be added to the Board of Trustees, after which there shall be a meeting of the whole, who shall organize by electing a President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer of the Board of Trustees.

ART. 4. The joint stock company shall be composed of persons contributing one or

more shares of stock into the company. A share shall consist of twenty dollars, and shall be secured by note, payable in three installments; the first in three months, the second in six months, and the third in twelve months. The first installment to consist of five dollars, and the other two of seven dollars and fifty cents each.

ART. 5. The members of the stock company shall be entitled to vote for the members of the Board of Trustees personally, or by proxy, by ballot, and additional ten shares, or fraction thereof, not exceeding ten votes, which shall be the largest number of votes allowed to be cast, by any one man. The members of the Board of Trustees thus elected, must be members of the stock company.

ART. 6. All property for the use and benefit of the Arkadelphia High School shall be held by the joint Board of Trustees of said college, in the name of the "Red River Baptist Association and Arkadelphia Baptist High School," and shall be secured by all proper and legal titles to the same.

ART. 7. The Board of Trustees of the Arkadelphia Baptist High School shall transact all business pertaining thereto. After a full board of twelve shall have been constituted, seven members, at least, shall be required to form a quorum for business.

ART. 8. The Board of Trustees shall elect all teachers in the faculty. The teachers may be elected for any length of time the trustees may see fit, and shall be subject to reprimand or dismissal by them for any misconduct, inconstancy, or incapability at any time. No teacher shall be elected who cannot produce a good recommendation for good, moral habits, faithfulness and punctuality. One of the teachers shall be elected President of the Faculty, to preside at all meetings of the Faculty, and to superintend the order and regulation of the school, and shall be a member ex-officio, of the Board of Trustees. It shall be required of the President of the Faculty, that he shall be a member of the Baptist Church in good standing, and experienced as a teacher, and a good administrator of school government, having power of self-government, a failure to maintain which, shall subject him to a reprimand or dismissal.

ART. 9. The Board of Trustees shall petition the Legislature of the State of Arkansas at its next session for a charter for the Arkadelphia Baptist High School, incorporating the Red River Baptist Association and Baptist High School, entitling the Trustees of said college to confer the usual title upon those students who have fulfilled the prescribed course of study in said college, and certified to by the faculty of the Institution.

