

LIBRARY

PROCEEDINGS

—OF—

*The Big Creek
Missionary Baptist Association,*

—HELD WITH—

MACEDONIA CHURCH, BYRON, FULTON COUNTY, ARK.,

September 21, 22 and 23, 1899.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION.

OFFICERS.

W. H. BOWLING, Moderator,	-	-	-	-	Salem, Ark.
F. W. HARRIS, Clerk,	-	-	-	-	Union, Ark.

*Next Session to be held with Shady Grove Church, six miles West of
Salem, Fulton County, Ark., Commencing Thursday before
the Fourth Sunday in September, 1899.*

PROCEEDINGS.

Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association convened with Macedona church, Byron, Ark., at 11 a. m., Thursday, September 21, 1899. Elder J. H. Soden not being present, Rev. W. H. Bowling preached the annual sermon. Text: 2 Cor., 5th ch., 18, 19 vs.

Adjourned until 1 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Association met at 1 p. m.

After singing and prayer the Moderator called the house to order and proceeded with business.

Rev. T. G. Hawkins and J. D. Cochran were appointed reading clerks.

Call for churches. Response by Oak Grove, Diamond Springs, Liberty Hill, Enterprise, Salem, Mt. Zion, Union Hill, whose messengers were received and enrolled.

By motion, all messengers present, knowing themselves to be elected by their churches as messengers to the Association, whose letters had not arrived, were allowed to vote.

A permanent organization was effected by re-electing Rev. W. H. Bowling, Moderator, and F. W. Harris, Clerk.

With a few well-chosen remarks the Moderator assumed the chair.

New churches called for. No response.

Call for corresponding messengers. No response.

Call for visiting brethren, whereupon Rev. R. T. Farthing, of Rocky Bayou Association, and Rev. J. C. Holman, of White River Association, responded and received the right hand of fellowship by the Moderator and invited to seat with the brethren.

The Association took a recess while the Moderator made out the list of the several committees.

The house reassembled by singing and the following committees:

Devotional Exercises—J. W. Sherley, G. W. Gibson, J. G. Carroll.
Baptist Literature—J. D. Cochran, G. G. Pope, Rev. T. G. Hawkins.
Sunday School—Rev. J. E. Cargill, Lee Gibson, Ed. Dean.
Home Mission—R. E. Richardson, W. T. Livingston, Rev. J. R. Cooper.
Associational Mission—Rev. S. M. Oliver, H. B. Clinton, Henry Mc-

Elmurry.

State Mission—T. F. Cargill, G. W. Gibson, W. H. Hand.
Foreign Mission—Rev. H. B. Clinton, Rev. J. E. Cargill, S. W. Taylor.
Christian Education—Rev. T. G. Hawkins, W. T. Livingston, J. F.

Cristy.

Destitution—Joe Bratcher, R. E. Richardson, J. G. Carroll.
Temperance—S. Miller, W. T. Livingston, J. W. Sherley.
Orphans' Home—H. B. Clinton, T. G. Hawkins, R. E. Richardson.
Finance—Thomas Goodwin, Thomas Foster, B. M. Talley.

The committee on devotional exercises announced that Rev. J. C. Holman would fill the pulpit at 7 p. m.

Upon motion the query from Mt. Zion church was taken up for consideration. Query: Is it constitutional for any one to be a member of the Association who has not been appointed by the churches?

Motion that it was not constitutional carried.

Adjourned with prayer by R. E. Richardson until 9 o'clock Friday morning.

Pursuant to arrangements by the committee on devotional exercises, the audience reassembled at 7 p. m. Rev. J. C. Holman not being present, Rev. R. E. Richardson filled the stand. Concluded by Rev. W. H. Bowling.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

After singing and prayer the Moderator called the house to order and proceeded with business.

Roll call and minutes of preceding day's session read and approved.

Motion to reconsider the action of the Association in regard to query from Mt. Zion, carried.

Call for absent churches. Response by Shady Grove, Pleasant Grove and Liberty.

Renew call for new churches. Response by W. H. McCustian, bearing a petitionary letter from Pleasant Ridge church, which was

the Association and the Moderator gave the message the right hand of fellowship and invited him to a seat with the brethren.

Renew call for visiting ministers. No response.

Renew call for corresponding messengers. Response by Rev. D. W. Epley and Bro. A. J. Lewey, of Union Association, who were given the right hand of fellowship by the Moderator and invited to a seat with the brethren.

Report of committees called for. Response as follows:

By committee on Associational Missions. Report adopted as read. See appendix A.

By committee on Foreign Missions. Report adopted as read. See appendix B.

By committee on Destitution. Report read and resubmitted to the committee for correction.

Committee on Devotional Exercises announced that Rev. J. E. Cargill would fill the pulpit at 11 a. m.

By committee on Christian Education. Report adopted as read. See appendix D.

Adjourned until 1:30 p. m.

After 5 minutes recess the audience reassembled by singing and devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. J. E. Cargill
Text: 1 John, 3-9.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Pursuant to adjournment the Association reassembled at 1:30 p. m. After singing and prayer the Moderator called the house to order and proceeded with business.

Renew calls for reports of committees.

Response by committee on Temperance. Report adopted as read. See appendix E.

By committee on Orphans' Home. Report adopted as read. See appendix F.

Eld. W. H. Bowling proceeded to take up a collection for said Home and raised \$5.10, which was forwarded at once to the matron of the Home.

Committee on devotional exercises announced that Rev. J. C. Holman would fill the pulpit at 7 p. m.

Renew call for churches not represented. Response by Viola and Macedona.

Renew call for reports of committees.

Response by committee on State Missions. Report adopted as read. See appendix G.

Report of committee on Finance adopted as submitted, which was \$12.24, turned over to the clerk to pay for the publication of the minutes. See appendix H.

Adjourned until Saturday morning at 9 a. m.

Pursuant to the arrangement of the committee on devotional exercises, the congregation met at 7 p. m. and devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. J. C. Holman. Text: Rom. 1-16.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

After singing and prayer the Moderator called the house to order and proceeded with business.

Roll call and minutes of preceding day's session read and approved.

Renew call for churches not represented. No response.

Renew call for visiting messengers. No response.

Renew call for corresponding messengers. No response.

Renew call for report of committees. Responses as follows:

By committee on Home Missions. Report adopted as read. See appendix I.

By committee on Destitution. Report adopted as read. See appendix C.

Upon motion the Moderator appointed as a General Board one from each church, and five to compose a Central Board from the Association.

It is the duty of the General Board to take charge of the Associational Mission work in their respective churches and solicit contributions to pay a missionary in our Association, and forward the same to the Central Board. The Central Board is expected to meet each fifth Sunday in the year.

The Moderator announced the following names to compose the General Board:

J. P. Bowling, Salem; P. Keith, Liberty; Henry Dixon, Enterprise; T. F. Cargill, Viola; Ed Dean, Oak Grove; E. J. Brachter, State Line; Lee Gibson, Liberty Hill; Mrs. M. A. Cochran, Mt.

Zion; Stark, Prospect; Harve Chadwick, Cross Roads; W. H. McCustian, Pleasant Ridge; G. W. Finley, Diamond Springs; W. H. Hand, Union Hill; J. K. Battles, Shady Grove; J. W. Sherley, Macedona.

Following are the names and addresses of the Central Board:

S. Miller, Union; J. F. Barns, Union; W. T. Livingston, Salem; Bob Thompson, Viola; J. T. Hollaway, Ten Mile.

Renew call for report of committees.

Response by committee on Baptist Literature. Report adopted as read. See appendix J.

By committee on Sunday Schools. Report adopted as read. See appendix K.

Resolution offered by Rev. R. E. Richardson:

Be it resolved by this Association, That the clerk pro rate the minutes when published and give each church as they contributed for that purpose.

Query from Mt. Zion again called up. A motion to answer the query Yes, it is constitutional, for preachers by virtue of the office are members of the Association. Motion carried.

Call for report of Fifth Sunday Board. Responded and adopted as read. See appendix L.

Adjourned until 1:30 p. m.

The Association took recess five minutes and reassembled by singing, and devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. D. W. Epley. Text: Rom. 10-14, 15.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Pursuant to adjournment the Association met at 1:30 p. m.

After singing and prayer the Moderator called the house to order and proceeded with business.

The election of a President, Vice-President and Secretary for the supervision of the Fifth Sunday meetings for the ensuing year resulted in the election of Rev. J. E. Cargill, President, T. G. Hawkins, Vice-President, and H. I. Hiner, Secretary.

Oak Grove was chosen as the place for holding the Fifth Sunday meeting in October.

Shady Grove was chosen as the place for holding the next Association.

Rev. T. G. Hawkins was chosen to preach annual sermon.

Call for volunteers as corresponding messengers to other Associations with whom we are in connection by exchanging messengers.

To Rocky Bayou—J. L. Bowling, F. W. Harris, S. Miller.

White River—Rev. J. E. Cargill, J. G. Carroll, W. H. Hand, R. I. Hiner.

Union—Rev. T. G. Hawkins, Rev. J. E. Cargill, W. T. Livingston, J. D. Cochran.

Spring River—R. E. Richardson.

Upon motion Elds. W. H. Bowling and J. E. Cargill were elected delegates to the State Convention and W. H. Bowling was recommended as a member of the State Board.

Upon motion Rev. H. B. Clinton was elected a delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention and J. E. Cargill alternate.

Resolution by Rev. T. G. Hawkins that we cooperate with the Southern Baptist Convention.

Resolution by G. W. Gibson:

Resolved, That Section 2 of the Constitution of Big Creek Association be and remain as printed in the minutes of the year 1898, and that all laws or resolutions in conflict with said section be repealed.

Resolution by Rev. T. G. Hawkins:

Be it resolved by this Association, That we tender our thanks to the good people of Macedona for their kind reception and hospitalities shown us during the sitting of the body, to the Moderator and clerk for the faithful discharge of their duties, and the corresponding messengers for their presence and valuable assistance.

Adjourned with prayer by Rev. D. W. Epley, to meet with Shady Grove church on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1900.

W. H. BOWLING, Moderator.

F. W. HARRIS, Clerk.



APPENDIX.

A—ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

We, your committee on Associational Missions, beg leave to submit the following report:

Knowing, as we do, the destitution within our bounds, and the great need of a missionary to do the work, we recommend that some steps be taken to put a missionary in the field to do the work.

S. M. OLIVER,
H. B. CLINTON,
HENRY McELMURRY, } Committee.

B—FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We, your committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to submit the following report: There is but little being done for the foreign mission cause in our churches, therefore we recommend that each pastor be instructed to take up a collection from each church in our bounds for the support of foreign missions during this associational year

H. B. CLINTON,
T. F. CARGILL,
S. W. TAYLOR, } Committee.

C—DESTITUTION.

We, your committee on Destitution, submit the following: We find all territory east of Salem, except Mammoth Spring, and all west of Viola, except the extreme boundary line of our Association, destitute of Baptist preaching, and we recommend that this Association take some steps to have this territory supplied with Baptist preaching. Respectfully submitted.

B. E. RICHARDSON,
J. G. CARROLL,
E. J. BRATCHER, } Committee.

D—CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.

Christian education is a subject which ought to enlist the sympathy and cooperation of every Christian as a means of elevating and refining society in all its relations to the general welfare of our country. Our youths must be educated in order to prepare them to support our institutions, civil and religious. In this con-

nection your committee would earnestly recommend Mountain Home Baptist College as worthy of Baptist support and patronage. Ministerial education which places our young preachers on the higher plane attained by our progressive age and prepares them for more usefulness and power in the pulpit demands and requires our most devout and persevering prosecution. To accomplish this our young men ought to be encouraged to go to Ouachita College, or some other Baptist institution of learning. We advise the churches to encourage them by giving them necessary means of securing a thorough education.

T. G. HAWKINS,
W. T. LIVINGSTON, } Committee.
J. F. CHRISTIE,

E—TEMPERANCE.

We, your committee on Temperance, beg leave to make this our following report: Viewing the enormity of the evil of strong drink and the utter impossibility of the law to check the same, we would recommend that all Baptists in Big Creek Association use all the means in their power to check the making and trafficking or use of said evil.

S. MILLER,
W. T. LIVINGSTON, } Committee.
J. W. SHERLEY,

F—ORPHANS' HOME.

We, your committee on Orphans' Home, beg leave to submit the following report: We recommend the Home at Monticello, Ark., to all our people, and we believe that said institution should receive voluntary support from all the brethren of our Association to help feed the hungry and clothe the needy. And we further recommend that our pastors bring the matter before the churches and solicit contributions to sustain the noble enterprise.

R. E. RICHARDSON, } Committee.
H. B. CLINTON,

G—STATE MISSIONS.

We, your committee on State Missions, beg leave to submit the following: We believe the State Board is doing a great work in supporting our cause in destitute places. We, therefore, recommend that this Association cooperate with our State Board by contributing to the State Mission funds and by recommending some one as a delegate to our State Convention and as a member

of the state board. Respectfully submitted,

T. F. CARGILL, }
G. W. GIBSON, } Committee.
W. H. HAND, }

H—FINANCE.

We your committee on Finance report \$12.24 as the finance raised by your committee to defray expenses of this association.

THOMAS GOODWIN, }
THOMAS FOSTER, } Committee.
B. M. TALLEY, }

I—HOME MISSIONS.

We your committee on Home Missions beg leave to submit the following report: We recommend that all Baptists contribute liberally to Home Missions, and would ask that the pastors preach more in the future than in the past on this subject.

E. E. RICHARDSON, }
W. T. LIVINGSTON, } Committee.

J—BAPTIST LITERATURE.

We your committee on Baptist Literature beg leave to submit the following report: As all Christians should study to show themselves approved of God, we recommend that they make a special study of the Bible. We also recommend that the Baptists of this association study Pendleton's church manual and subscribe for at least one Baptist paper. Any family that cannot subscribe for but one paper, we recommend that they take the Arkansas Baptist, Western Recorder or some other good Baptist paper in preference to any secular paper. Respectfully submitted,

J. D. COCHRAN, }
G. G. POPE, } Committee.
T. G. HAWKINS, }

K—SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We your committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to submit the following: We earnestly recommend every church to organize a Sunday School, and believe that it is one of the means of teaching the gospel, and ask that the pastor of each church preach on this subject this fall and ask churches to organize to use the Bible and sound Baptist literature. Respectfully submitted,

J. E. CARGILL, }
W. L. GIBSON, } Committee.
ED. DEAN, }

L—FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS.

We held three Fifth Sunday meetings respectively at Pleasant Grove, Shady Grove and Macedonia. Some good has been developed and much good seed has been sown. We recommend the continuation of the present system, and that a president, vice-president and secretary be elected by this body for the incoming year.

T. G. HAWKINS, President.
R. E. RICHARDSON, Vice- Pres.
F. W. HARRIS, Secretary.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

G. W. Davis,	T. G. Hawkins,
B. L. Chadwick,	J. E. Cargill,
T. J. Holliway,	T. F. Cargill,
M. A. Chadwick,	J. R. Cooper,
W. H. Bowling,	S. M. Oliver,
J. L. Bowling,	R. E. Richardson,
H. B. Clinton,	G. W. Suggs.

FINANCIAL EXHIBITS.

CHURCHES.	Associa- tional Mis- sion.	Foreign Missions.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Minute Fund.	Val. Ch. Property	Pastor's Salary.	Repairs on Build- ing.	Fledges to Associa- tional Mission for next year
Oak Grove	\$.64	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diamond Springs25	.....	.....	.....	.....
Liberty Hill	1.00	\$125	\$11.50	.....	.....
Enterprise	1.50	400	.....	.....	\$5.00
Salem	1.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mt. Zion	\$14.00	.....	.....	1.00	600	50.00	\$12.00	.....
Union Hill35	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shady Grove	2.00	125	35.00	.....	.....
Pleasant Grove	1.15	300	25.00	.....	4.00
Liberty85	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pleasant Ridge50	.....	.....	.....	.....
Viola65	.....	30.00	.....	.....
Macedonia85	.....	.....	.....	5.00
Mammoth Spring50	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals	\$14.00	.....	.....	\$12.24	\$1,550	\$151.50	\$12.00	\$14.00

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be known by the name of Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association.

ART. 2. The members composing the annual meeting of the Association shall consist of the messengers sent by the churches, ordained ministers, and boards connected to this body by reason of appointment. (Original. See Minutes of 1893.)

ART. 3., The messengers sent by the churches to the annual meetings shall not exceed four from each church.

ART. 4. The Association shall meet annually at such time and place as shall have previously been appointed.

ART. 5. The officers of this Association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by a majority of the messengers, annually, at the annual meeting of the body.

ART. 6. This Association shall have no power to control or regulate the internal affairs or discipline of any church, but it may adopt or recommend all such measures as shall be considered best calculated to produce the harmony and prosperity of the churches, and advise and consult upon the matters as the churches may at any time present for their consideration and advice. It may receive churches in this Association, or dismiss churches from the body, inquire into the religion in its bounds, and suggest measures for its advancement, and be a common bond of union among the churches, but shall not exercise any legislative power over the churches.

ART. 7. This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided notice has been given at a previous meeting.



STATISTICAL TABLE.

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RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall commence with religious exercises and a sermon from some preacher, who shall have been previously appointed, unless the Association shall otherwise direct.

2. The Moderator of the session shall preside, and the former clerk shall act (provided they attend) until the letters from the churches connected with the body shall have been read and a Moderator and Clerk appointed.

3. It shall be the duty of Moderator to preside over the meetings during its session, and appoint committees (unless the Association shall otherwise direct), preserve order, reprove improprieties (except an appeal is made to the meeting by two members). He shall have a right to speak on all subjects, calling a member to the chair, and examine and correct the minutes if necessary.

4. The Clerk shall keep a correct copy of the proceedings of the meeting, and read the letters and documents, and may call any member to assist him at the close of the meeting. He shall take charge of the papers and documents, unless otherwise directed.

5. The churches shall designate their messengers, and report their condition by letter.

6. Preachers in good standing in other Baptist churches or Associations with whom we are in fellowship, when attending our annual meeting, shall be invited to a seat as correspondents, and these meetings shall always be opened and closed with prayer.

7. Every member may speak twice on one subject in debate before the meeting, but no more without leave, and when speaking stand and address the Moderator and use decorus and Christian language; and no member shall absent himself from the Association during the session without leave; and any person who shall violate these rules or constitution shall be reprov'd as the Association shall think proper.

8. These rules may be amended by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting.

9. The church shall contribute funds for the ordinary expenses of the body, such as printing the minutes and paying the traveling expenses of such members as the Association may send to other bodies.

10. A public collection shall be taken up at each session and applied to such benevolent purposes as the Association may direct.