

MINUTES.

2
June

The Liberty Baptist Association held its Thirty-sixth Annual Session with Zion Hill Church, Union County, Ark., on Friday, before the second Sabbath in September, 1881.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder H. T. Britt, using as a text the 14th verse, 24th chapter of Matthew, "And this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be Preached in all the world, etc." Subject: "The establishment and prosperity of Christ's Kingdom on earth."

After preaching, a recess was had to partake of refreshments furnished on the ground. At the expiration of two hours, the delegates assembled under the harbor, and were called to order by J. M. Hart, former Moderator.

The delegates were called on for letters from the various churches in the Association, which were read and names enrolled as per statistical table.

In order to a permanent organization the body proceeded to elect by ballot, a Moderator and Clerk, resulting in the choice of J. M. Hart for Moderator and Geo. E. Murphy for Clerk.

On motion the order of business of the previous session was adopted.

By regular order, ministers and members of our faith were invited to seats with us.

Next in regular order proceeded to appoint the following committees:

On Preaching—Brethren H. G. P. Williams, L. Swilly and L. Smith, requesting the pastor and deacons of Zion Hill Church to act in concert with said committee.

On Documents—Elder D. D. Booth and Brethren O. G. Quinn and J. E. Green.

On Finance—Brethren D. W. Ward, A. R. Lagrone, J. R. Rodgers, and R. Price.

God's Church
Washita
Arkansas
1892
Dr. J. G. McCain
1892
On Sunday-Schools—Elders H. T. Britt and J. U. H. Wharton, and Brethren A. J. Williams and R. M. Burnett.

On Publications—Elders J. G. McCain and W. G. Simmons, and Brother C. A. Suggs.

On Nominations—Brethren E. T. Cook, A. R. Cobb and J. E. Haynie.

On Ministerial Education—Brethren B. W. M. Warren, H. G. P. Williams and A. C. Jones.

Temperance—F. E. Morgan, R. A. J. Moore, T. W. Wheelis and Elder W. G. Simmons.

By order, call was made for correspondence.

Washita Colored Baptist Association responded by letter and delegate in the person of Brother Frank Merryweather, and on motion was recognized by the body.

Concord Association in the person of Elder S. T. Cobb. On motion received.

By regular order returned the following correspondents:

To Columbia Association—Elders D. D. Booth, J. U. H. Wharton, and Brethren O. G. Quinn and R. A. J. Moore.

To Concord Association—Brethren R. Price, J. M. Wolsey, R. M. Burnett, J. W. Hudson, and Elder D. D. Booth.

To General Association of Southeastern Arkansas—Elder H. T. Britt and Brother F. E. Morgan.

To Washita Colored Baptist Association—Elder J. G. McCain and Brother C. A. Suggs.

On motion the following names were appointed as a special committee on Foreign Missions:

Elder J. G. McCain and Brethren A. C. Jones and J. W. Hudson.

On motion the following delegates were appointed to the Arkansas State Convention:

Brethren H. T. Hawkins, O. Lamar, B. W. M. Warren, A. C. Jones and Elder J. M. Hart.

On motion delegates to the State Convention be empowered to insert the name of any member of our Association as a delegate if there is a vacancy among those regularly appointed.

On motion adjourned until Saturday morning at 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING 9 O'CLOCK.

House called to order.

By regular order reports of committees were called for.

All of the committees asked for more time except the Committee on Ministerial Education, who made the following report, which, on motion was adopted:

"Your Committee on Ministerial Education beg leave to submit the following report: In a report necessarily concise to find space in the minutes of our proceedings, it is not expected that we can present the many cogent reasons which should induce us, as a denomination, to bend all of our energies to have an educated ministry. In fact, in the present advanced state of culture and civilization, such a report would be a work of supererogation. Nearly all of our brethren see, feel and recognize the necessity of an educated ministry. Experience teaches that any vocation in life will be rendered easier and ten-fold more successful by the aid of a liberal education. We, as parents in the education of children, when our means are limited, however educate them according to the profession in which we expect them to engage. If we contemplate or desire them to engage in the practice of law, medicine, or politics, we will give them all the advantage in our power. And shall we, as members of Christ's family, regard these professions as occupying a more important sphere in the economy of life and the general make-up of the world's history, than we do the preaching of the Gospel of peace? The church is Christ's executive on earth, and through her the Gospel is to be preached to all the world for a witness. And the great Head of the church looks to and expects you Brethren to stand in the relation of parents to the young ministers within your bounds. And if you fail to afford them the means by which they may become efficient and effectual workmen that need not be ashamed, and fully able to declare the whole counsel of God, He will not hold you guiltless. Believing you are satisfied that it is your duty thus to look after the interests of Christ's Kingdom through her young ministry, your committee would suggest that the deacons of all our churches be requested to collect from each member of their respective church at least the sum of fifty cents per capita, and report the same to our executive committee for the furtherance of this grand and noble object." Respectfully submitted,

B. W. M. WARREN.

On motion adjourned for preaching.

The stand was occupied by Brother G. G. Wise, of Columbia

Association. Subject, "The great necessity of prayer by the church."

After preaching a recess was had for refreshments.

Saturday evening, 2 o'clock body called to order.

Committee on Documents made the following report, which, on motion, was adopted:

"Your Committee on Documents submit the following report: The number of baptisms during the year, 40; total number of members, 934; which is a decrease of 163 of last report. We think this decrease is owing to the fact that Camden, Union, Louisiana and Gilgal Churches are not represented. We find but few of the churches in a prosperous condition. Three churches, El Dorado, Hillsboro and Champagnolle, report Sabbath-Schools. The churches at El Dorado and Champagnolle ask that the next session of your body be held with them.

D. D. BOOTH, Chairman.

Committee on Finance reported the following, which, on motion, was adopted:

We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to report that we find sent up for minutes, \$47 95; for ministerial education, \$1 00; missions, \$5 00; home missions, \$7 50; and foreign missions, \$9 00.

D. W. WARD, Chairman.

(For a complete report see statistical table.—CLERK.)

Committee on Sabbath-Schools made the following report, which, on motion, was adopted:

We, your committee on Sabbath-Schools, would offer the following report: Considering Bible knowledge and religious training of the youth of the first importance to social, moral, political and Christian greatness, and conceiving of no place more proper or appropriate than the place where the Bible is exclusively read, and its great doctrines taught, and its holy principles inculcated, and considering no place more proper and perhaps no place so appropriate as that of the Sabbath-School, where persons of all ages and sexes may unite and engage to great profit, and seeing so little interest taken in this great question, we would earnestly urge our people to greater activity in this work, and not to be satisfied until there is a place of Sabbath resort in every neighborhood where the word of God is taught."

H. T. BRITT, Chairman.

Committee on Publications made the following report, which, on motion, was adopted:

We, your Committee on Publications, would respectfully

submit the following report: We find the effects of false teaching both from the pulpit and press. Therefore we would recommend that our brethren carefully examine all the productions published in our denominational papers and discard all that has the appearance of evil. We accept the Bible as the infallible word of truth, and as such we recommend it, and urge upon the members of this Association to regard the injunctions to Timothy, "To search the Scriptures." We further recommend the reading of good religious literature, especially Baptist literature, to the exclusion of dime novels and blood-curdling stories as found in such books, as the lives of such desperadoes and outlaws as the James Boys, and such other literature as will tend to poison the morals of our youth. We especially recommend as worthy of the patronage of our people the following periodicals, to-wit: Baptist Messenger, The Baptist, and The Arkansas Evangel.

J. G. MCCAIN, Chairman.

Committee on Nominations read the following report, which, after inserting the name "Champagnolle," for El Dorado, was, on motion, adopted:

We, the Committee on Nominations, beg leave to report that we have selected Champagnolle Church as the place for the next meeting of this body, and we have appointed Elder J. U. H. Wharton to preach the introductory sermon, and Elder G. Norsworthy as alternate. Time—Saturday before the second Sabbath in September, 1882.

E. T. COOK, Chairman.

The minority report of the Committee on Temperance, after striking out the words "to vote," was, on motion, adopted, as follows:

We, your Committee on Temperance, find it difficult to make a satisfactory report. However, we submit the following: Inasmuch as we have from time to time made our most earnest appeals to the brethren to abandon all alcoholic beverages, and warned them that "eat and drink" with the drunken, that the Master says that they shall be given their portion with the hypocrites. Therefore we would recommend that our ministry, the "Watchmen," sound the alarm against the approach of King Alcohol, and if possible arouse every man and woman from one end of the land to the other, to use all their influence to drive the dreadful enemy from our land and church. If we have to drive its advocates from the church all the better, from the fact that they are bitter enemies of Jesus and his church,

W. G. SIMMONS, Minority.

Special Committee on Foreign Missions read the following report, which, on motion, was adopted:

"We, your Committee on Foreign Missions, beg leave to make the following report: Realizing the vastness of our subject we feel ourselves unable, in the short time allowed us, to do the subject justice, and will be contented with making only a few suggestions. First, there remains not a doubt in our minds as to the necessity of immediate and prompt action by this Association in this very important matter, because of the injunction of our Saviour to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. Secondly, that the ministers of this Association be requested to investigate fully the subject of Foreign Missions and lay it before their separate congregations between this time and the next meeting of this body, and also urge upon their people to take the matter into prayerful consideration so that they may fully understand their duty; and further, to impress upon their minds the blessedness of giving of their substance to the cause of Christ. Thirdly, that this Association enlarge the powers of the existing Executive Board so as to enable them to use all the moneys sent up by the churches for the object for which it is appropriated. Fourthly, that the board be directed to correspond directly with the Foreign Mission Board on this subject and turn over all moneys appropriated for Foreign Missions to that body.

J. G. McCAIN, Chairman.

Executive Committee made the following report, which, on motion, was adopted:

Your Executive Board beg leave to report that there was no funds on hand at their disposal, and that they had made no effort to employ a missionary to work within the bounds of the Association during the past associational year. For the same reason we have not expended anything for Foreign Missions. We paid to Brother J. B. Wise at Clinton, \$34 55.

On what a tangled web we live!
When first we practice to deceive!
Julie

O. LAMAR,
 H. G. P. WILLIAMS,
 J. M. PERDUE,
 H. T. HAWKINS,
 J. R. LANGFORD.

On motion the amount of \$5 00 be deducted from the money left in the hands of the Clerk last year and sent to the State Convention for minutes, and the remainder, \$17 00, be turned over to the Executive Committee for Ministerial Education.

On motion Clerk receives \$15 00 for services, and the remainder to be appropriated for minutes and distributed according to the amount sent by each church.

On motion the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That we tender our profound thanks to the members of Zion Hill Church and citizens of the community for their hospitality in taking care of the delegates and visitors attending the present session of this body.

On motion adjourned.

G. E. MURPHY
Clerk.

J. M. HART,
Moderator.

*Success is counted the sweetest
to those who never reached* Today

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by different churches in our union, who on producing their credentials shall be entitled to seats.

ART. 2. The members thus chosen and convened shall be known by the name of the Liberty Baptist Association, who will not usurp any authority over the churches in our union, nor infringe any of their internal affair, but shall be considered merely as an advisory counsel in all matters relative to their internal concerns. Nevertheless it becomes necessary in some cases to have a uniform rule of procedure, namely: If one church commit an offense against another, it shall be the duty of the offended to labor with the offender for satisfaction. If she fail of success she shall call the aid of two or more churches in our union to assist in laboring for satisfaction, and if final satisfaction, in the opinion of the helps thus called, be not obtained, the aggrieved may bring the case before the Association, which shall be taken up and be decided upon according to its merits. If a serious difference should arise in an individual church, which, upon due labor cannot be reconciled, she shall call the aid of two or more sister churches to assist in the work, and if a reconciliation be not effected, the help so called or the church may bring the case before the Association to be acted on according to its merits. But the Association will take cognizance of no case of the above kind, unless a due course of procedure shall have been previously pursued, according to the economy of the church discipline found in 18th chapter of the gospel of St. Matthew and other parts of the Scriptures which define the nature of offenses and the manner of bringing offenders to trial.

ART. 3. The churches in our union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association a written communication

specifying the names of delegates, their number in fellowship, baptised, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, restored and deceased since the last session, shall be read and minuted accordingly.

ART. 4. Every church in our union shall be entitled to representation in the following manner, viz: Each church shall be entitled to send three delegates for the first fifty members or under, and one for every fifty over. Any church failing to represent herself as above prescribed shall state her reasons at the next session.

ART. 5. New churches may be admitted into our union by delegates bearing petitionary letters. If upon due examination they be found orderly and orthodox, the Moderator shall manifest their admission by giving their delegates the right hand in token of Christian fellowship.

ART. 6. The Association when convened shall be governed by a regular proper decorum, which she is authorized to form and amend according to her own view.

ART. 7. At every Association a Moderator shall be appointed by and from among the delegates present, whose duty it shall be to see that the rules are strictly observed, and to take the voice of the Association on all subjects legally introduced. A clerk shall also be appointed, whose duty it shall be to take proper and correct minutes of the proceedings and record the same in a well bound book kept for that purpose.

ART. 8. The Association shall have the power to withdraw from the union of any church that may violate the Constitution or depart from the orthodox principles of the gospel.

ART. 9. The Association shall furnish the churches with the minutes of every session.

ART. 10. Every query sent by a particular church must be included in her letter certifying that she endeavored to reconcile it but failed. In such case, the Association shall take it under consideration and the voice of a majority shall be considered an advisory answer, which shall be entered on the minutes.

ART. 11. Queries which immediately concern the general union of the churches, sent by a particular church, or introduced by proper motion, shall be taken and decided on as soon as practicable.

ART. 12. Any church in our union having a preacher whom she deems worthy of ordination, shall call a presbytery of ministers from sister churches to officiate in the work. Presbyteries in the ordaining of ministers or deacons, or in the con-

stitution of the church shall be governed by the Abstract of Faith, adopted by the Association. Nevertheless, where minister's aid cannot be obtained conveniently, one minister may constitute churches with the assistance of a deacon and shall be dissolved by a like Presbytery.

ART. 13. The Association shall have a fund supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches, and all moneys thus contributed shall be transmitted from the churches by their delegates and handed over to the Committee on Finance. This committee shall be appointed annually, whose duty it shall be to receive in charge the Association fund, and dispose of same agreeable to order, and make at every session a fair and circumstantial report of their proceedings.

ART. 14. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of the Association to keep a regular file of the printed minutes of every session of this body.

ART. 15. The Association shall not adjourn any session until she shall have finished all the business on hand, except in extraordinary cases.

ART. 16. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the session rises.

ART. 17. In all cases the Association shall be governed by a majority only when conflicting with the constitution.

ART. 18. Amendments to the Constitution may be made by submission of the Association, which shall be then be adopted by the Association.

28. ST. R. L. C. 1

ABSTRACT OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1. We believe in one true and living God, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.

ART. 2. We believe that the Scriptures composing the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the rule of faith and practice.

ART. 3. We believe in the doctrine of election as founded in the foreknowledge of God, through sanctification of the spirit unto obedience, and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.

ART. 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin by the fall of Adam.

ART. 5. We believe in man's incapacity, by his own free will and ability, to recover himself from his fallen state in which he is by nature.

ART. 6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Christ only.

ART. 7. We believe that saints shall be preserved in grace and never fall finally away.

ART. 8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of baptism, and that immersion is the apostolic mode.

ART. 9. We believe

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STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	POST OFFICES	DELEGATES.	Baptized	By Letter	Dismissed	Excluded	Restored	Dead	Total	Minute Fund	PASTORS.	Day of Meeting
1ST DISTRICT.												
Camden	Camden											
Pleasant Ridge	Camden	J R Bogers, J B Allen	6	5	2	3			43	3 50	B N Hultsman	1
Salem	Mt. Holly	A E Davis		1	7				28	2 00	J U H Wharton	3
Pleasant Grove	Lisbon, Ark	O G Quinn, S J Nolly			6				47	1 75	A W Tiffin	1
Shiloh	Three Creeks	J G Adams, J W Hudson	1		1				25	2 00	H T Britt	4
Hopewell No 3	New Port Ldg	J D Neely, E Hardin	4	1	2				51	2 10	D N Mullin	4-2
2ND DISTRICT.												
ElDorado	ElDorado	J M Hart, O Lamar, T E Morgan, W L Hodge	4	5	4		1	2	108	5 00	J M Hart	1-3
Holly Grove	Summerfield	R M Burnett, M M Molsey, T A Smith		2	6			2	31	2 50	T J Brashier	4
Hopewell No. 1	Three Creeks	J U H Wharton, A C Jones, R A J Moore			3			1	54	2 50	J U H Wharton	4
New Hope	Three Creeks	R Price, C G Britt	7	4				2	63	2 00	J U H Wharton	3
Spring Hill, Ark.	Caledonia	L Swilly, A R Cobb, S W Cobb	3	2	2	3	1		50	2 50	J U H Wharton	1
Zion Hill	ElDorado	W D Ward, W J Ward, Wm Fitzgerald			3	4		1	33	1 50	J G McCain	4
Ebenezer	ElDorado	A J Harrel, A J Williams, R Leverett	3	4	1				41	2 00	W G Simmons	2
3RD DISTRICT.												
Union, Ark.	Lambert	D D Booth, J D Graves, D W Ward			5	12			62	2 50	H T Britt	3
Cane Creek	Hillsboro	W G Simmons, L Burnside, J E Green		2	6				37	1 50	W G Simmons	1
Spring Hill, La	Oakland, La	Geo. E Murphy, J M Smith, T W Wheelis	7		3	7	1	3	98	3 00	J M Hart	4
Gilgal	New London											
Mt. Olive	Love Well	J E Haynie		1	5	1		1	48	3 00	L B Abbot	2
Hillsboro	Hillsboro	H G P Williams	5	2	3		1	2	38	3 00	J M Hart	2
Union, La	Laprole											
Oakolona	Oakland	J T Barden, J H Gatherright		4					16	1 00	M P Newsom	
Champagnolle	Champagnolle	J G McCain, E T Cook, C A Suggs		4					28	2 50	G Norsworthy	1
Liberty	Hillsboro	Lawson Smith, B W M Warren, A A Ward		2				2	32	2 00	G Norsworthy	4