

MINUTES
—OF THE—
DISSOLUTION



—OF THE—
Central and Velvet Ridge

Missionary Baptist Associations,

AND THE ORGANIZATION
—OF THE—
STEVENS CREEK ASSOCIATION,
—HELD WITH—

Providence Church,
WHITE COUNTY, ARK.,

—ON—
NOVEMBER 14, 1891.

Rev. W. M. Owen. Moderator. Bald Knob, Ark.

J. W. Pollard. Clerk. Clay, Ark.

The next session of this Association will convene with
Independence Church, Jackson County, Ark, one-half
mile East of Denmark, on Saturday before the
Third Sunday in October, 1892.

1892:
Citizen Printing House,
Searcy, Ark.

Minutes of the Dissolution of the Central And Velvet Ridge Baptist Associa- tions and the Organization of the Stevens Creek Association.

PROCEEDINGS.

Persuant to an adjournment of the Central Missionary Baptist Association, at Shady Grove Church, White county, Arkansas, on Saturday, September 26, 1891, and the Velvet Ridge Association, at Union Hill Church, Jackson county, on Saturday, October 10, 1891, the two Associations met at Providence Church, White county, Arkansas, November 14, 1891, for the purpose of consolidating, or forming a new Association, having taken the proper steps, and given legal notice to all the Churches belonging to said Associations, and the same being approved by the Churches. After singing and prayer by Rev. J. J. Stevens, W. M. Owen, moderator of the Central Association, called the house to order. J. W. Pollard, clerk of Central Association, read minutes of the adjourned meetings of the associations; minutes adopted as read. Roll of messengers called; quorum present. By move and second both associations disbanded, and met in convention for the purpose of organizing a new association by electing Rev. W. M. Owen, moderator, and J. W. Pollard, clerk pro tem. The organization proceeded as follows:

The clerk called the churches of the old Central Associa-

tion and the following responded, the messengers therefrom enrolled as follows:

Salem—J. J. Stevens, Josiah Hoffmon; Providence—J. J. McDanell, Sam Arnold; Shady Grove—W. M. Owen; Holy Springs—J. W. Pollard, W. S. Jowers; Harvey's Chapel—J. M. Norton, Allen Gentry.

Churches from the old Velvet Ridge Association called: Union Hill—G. W. Fraser; G. W. Scoggins; Independence—W. B. Morgan, W. S. Scoggins, W. J. Westmoreland. After which the articles of faith, Constitution, Rules of Decorum, of the old Central Association were read and adopted.

On motion, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, 1st, That this association shall be known as the Stevens Creek Association.

2nd, That the next session of this body shall meet on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1892.

The association then proceeded to a permanent organization, by the election of the following officers:

Mod-erator, Rev. W. M. Owen; Clerk and Treasurer, J. W. Pollard.

A call was then made for petitionary letters and Bethel church responded and was, on motion, received into the association, and the hand of fellowship extended to the messengers, Thos. Hudson, T. P. Jones, Felix Boyce.

Independence church, Jackson county, was selected as the place of holding the next meeting of the association.

The following corresponding messengers were appointed to sister associations:

Carolina—Thos. Hudson, J. J. Stevens; Independence—J. J. Stevens, G. W. Scoggins; Little Red River—J. W. Pollard, J. J. McDanell.

Resolved, That the clerk of this association superintend the printing of the minutes and distribute pro rata according to money sent by the churches.

Resolved, That the clerk prepare a form of church letter to the association for the convenience of the church clerks and have the same printed in the minutes of this association, and each church clerk is hereby requested to copy from the same in making their annual report to the association.

On motion the association went into an election for some one to preach the Introductory Discourse at the next session of this body, which resulted in the election of Rev. S. B. Vick. Rev. W. M. Owen was selected as alternate.

After singing a hymn, and the messengers extending the parting hand one to the other, the association adjourned to meet with Independence church, Jackson county, on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1892.

Benediction by Rev. W. M. Owen.

J. W. POLLARD, Clerk.

FORM OF CHURCH LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

The Church, to the Stevens Creek Baptist Association, of Arkansas, when assembled with Church, county, October, 189.. Annual report of church, for the year ending the 189..., Greeting:

Resolved brethren, That we send as delegates, to aid and assist you, with their advice and council, in your deliberations, and as alternates.

Our statistical report is as follows:

Changes in Membership During Last Year.

Baptized
 Received by letter,
 Received by relation or voucher,
 Restored
 Total accessions
 Dismissed by Letter
 Excluded
 Deceased
 Total Diminution
 Present membership

There are ordained ministers in our churches whose names and addresses are as follows:

..... County, P. O. Ark.
 and Licentiates County P. O. Ark.
 Prayer meeting every
 Sabbath School every
 Number of Sabbath School officers and teachers,
 Number of Sabbath school scholars,
 Total in Sabbath school,
 Amount contributed for association missions,
 Amount contributed for State missions,
 Amount contributed for foreign missions,
 Amount contributed for association minutes,
 Total contributions for all purposes \$.....

Our annual meetings occur on the Sunday and Saturday before, in each month.

Rev. is pastor, P. O. address, county, Ark.

Done by order of the church, on the day of 189... Moderator.
 clerk of church, P. O. Ark.

CONSTITUTION.

PREAMBLE: We, the Messengers from the Churches hereunto subscribed, being thoroughly convinced of the great utility of Christian combination, in order to cultivate and perpetuate union, love, fellowship and intelligence throughout the respective Churches within our bounds and to advance the Redeemer's Kingdom in these parts of the country, do unanimously agree to adopt the following Articles:

Article I. Name.—This Association shall be known as the Stevens Creek Baptist Association.

Art. II. Messengers.—The members composing the Annual Meetings shall consist of Messengers sent by the Churches.

Art. III. Numbers.—The Messengers sent from each church shall not exceed three.

Art. IV. Meetings.—The Association shall meet annually, at such time and place as shall have been previously appointed.

Art. V. Officers.—The Officers of the Association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by a majority at the Annual Meeting.

Art. VI. Objects.—This Association shall have no power to control or regulate the internal affairs or discipline of any church, but it may adopt and recommend all such measures as shall be considered best calculated to produce harmony and prosperity in the churches and advance the Redeemer's Kingdom; advise and consult upon such matters as the churches may at any time present for its consideration and advice, and may receive churches into the fellowship of this Association, in good order, and dismiss by letter when in good order; inquire into the state of religion within her bounds, and any church holding any unscriptural doctrines or practices shall be reported to the Association, and on proof shall be excluded from the Association, and the cause be placed on the minutes. The Association shall not exercise any legislative power over any of the churches, but shall be a common bond of union of the same.

Art. VII. Amendments.—No amendment shall be made to this Constitution, except by request of the churches.

Art. VIII. This Association shall have no power to make any appropriation of any monies, only as the churches direct.

Art. IX. That no churches in this Association shall receive members from any church of our faith and order without a letter, or until the church from which they might come shall have first been declared out of order by a council from other churches.

RULES OF DECORUM.

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

Art. II. The Moderator of the previous 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 the Moderator and Clerk elected.

Art. III. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the meeting during the session and shall have a right to speak on all subjects, by calling a member to the chair, and shall not be entitled to a vote, except in case of a tie.

Art. IV. The Committee on Finance shall receive all the money appropriated by the churches, and report to the Association the amount, and place it in the hands of the Treasurer.

Art. V. A Committee of Arrangements shall be appointed at the commencement of each session, whose duty it shall be to regulate the order of business.

Art. VI. The Churches shall designate their Messengers, and report their condition by letter.

Art. VII. Preachers in good standing, of our faith and order, when attending our Annual Meetings shall be invited to seats with us and have the right to speak on all subjects that come before the body.

Art. VIII. Any member may speak three times on the same subject under debate before the meeting, but not oftener without leave, and when speaking shall stand and address the Moderator. No member shall absent himself from the Association during session without leave.

Art. IX. Any person who shall violate the Constitution or Rules of Decorum shall be reported to the Church for disorderly conduct.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Art. I. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union; and the supreme standard by which

all human conduct, creed and opinion should be tried.

Art. II. We believe there is but one living and true God.

Art. III. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only rule for faith and practice.

Art. IV. We believe that man, in his creation, was upright, but he has fallen from that into sin.

Art. V. Adam being our representative, we believe when he fell we all fell in him; and man in his fallen state is not able by anything he can do to recover himself from his sinful state.

Art. VI. We believe that the offering of Christ has met the demands of the law and laid the grounds of pardon in the government of God.

Art. VII. We believe the spirit of God in the gospel is the efficient cause of sinners coming to Christ for pardon.

Art. VIII. We believe that all who come to Christ and receive a free pardon of all their sins will never be lost, but will persevere through grace to glory.

Art. IX. We believe that baptism is an ordinance of Christ contained in the New Testament, and that immersion is the mode; that when persons believe and are baptised, they are legally added to, and lawful members of Christ's church.

Art. X. We believe the Lord's Supper to be an ordinance of the gospel, commanded by Christ and practiced by the Apostles.

Art. XI. We believe in a universal resurrection of the dead and final judgment through Jesus Christ, and the glory of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked to be eternal.

Art. XII. We believe that the Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest or religious devotion.

A Table Showing the State of The Churches.

CHURCHES:	MESSENGERS.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POSTOFFICES.	Contributions									
					Dismissed by Letter	Deaths	Excluded	Restored	Rec'd by recommendation	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Exp—Baptism	Days of Meeting	Membership	
Salem.	J. J. Stevens, Josiah Hoffman, J. B. Hoffman.	Wm. Crutchfield.	L. D. N. Huff.	Judsonia, Ark.		1			1	4	3	1	36	8 1 75
Providence.	J. J. McDaniel, Sam Arnold.	W. M. Owen.	J. C. Humphries.	Clear Water, "	2				2				19	1 00
Shady Grove.	W. M. Owen, Sam Gruthrey, J. H. Prince.	J. J. Stevens.	H. O. Edwards.	Bald Knob, "				1		1			43	1 50
Holly Springs.	J. W. Pollard, W. S. Jowers, W. S. Griffin.	J. J. Stevens.	J. W. Pollard.	Clay, "		1	7			4			50	1 40
Harvey's Chapel	Allen Gentry, J. M. Norton.	W A Crutchfield.	J. M. Wyatt.	Searcy, "				1		4			19	1 90
Union Hill.	G. W. Fraser, G. W. Scoggin.	Don Reddit.	G. W. Scoggins.	Denmark, "		2	3	2			5		47	1 50
Independence.	W B Morgan, W S Scoggin, W J Westmoreland.	J. D. Whitlow.	G. W. Gond.	" "									53	1 00
Bethel.	T. P. Jones, Felix Boyce, Thos. Hudson.	Thos. Hudson.	T. P. Jones.	Russell, "									22	1 00
TOTAL:									289	14	9	3	4	19 4 14 811 05

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

NAME	POSTOFFICE	COUNTY
Thos. Hutson	Russell	White.
James J. Goad	Bradford	"
S. B. Vick	"	"
W. M. Owen	Bald Knob	"
W. S. Griffin	Judsonia	"
J. J. Stevens	"	"
W. H. Middleton	Pleasant Plains	"
W. A. Crutchfield	Garner	"
Don Reddit	Oil Trough	Jackson

LICENTIATES

J. A. J. Fraser	Denmark	White
J. L. Gaus	Searcy	"
Wm. Barner	Little Red	"
Geo. Joiner	"	"