

• • Proceedings • •

OF THE

Texarkana

Baptist ♣ *Association,*

HELD WITH

Tennessee Church,

Miller County, Ark., Oct. 23, 24 and 25, 1897.

~~~~~  
TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION.

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:- OFFICERS. :-

JOHN WINHAM, Moderator.

N. J. RACHEL, Clerk.

J. C. WATTS, Treasurer.

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Next session to be held with New Hope Church, Bowie  
county, Texas, Saturday before the fourth  
Sunday in October, 1898.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST CO. PRINTERS.

MINUTES  
OF THE  
TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
*Texarkana*  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,  
HELD WITH  
TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHURCH,  
*Miller County, Ark., Oct. 23, 24 and 25, 1897.*

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-:- EXECUTIVE BOARD. -:-

C. W. MATTHEWS, PRESIDENT. B. CHANCE, SECRETARY.
C. W. WEBB, E. T. FREIDELL, R. T. FULBRIGHT,
LEE LUMBLEY, J. T. RICE.

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STANDING RESOLUTION.

RESOLVED, That any member of this association, in good standing in his own church, bearing a copy of the minutes of this association, be authorized to represent us in any body with which we correspond.

# Proceedings.

*Tennessee Baptist Church, Miller Co., Ark., Oct. 23, 1897.*

The Texarkana Baptist Association met with Tennessee Baptist Church, Miller county, Ark., in its twenty-fourth annual session, October 23, 1897.

Devotional exercises led by the clerk. The association was then called to order and scripture read by the moderator; prayer by Eld. I. P. Langley.

The letters from the churches were read by Brethren T. L. Fulbright and C. W. Daniel, reading clerks.

The following messengers were enrolled:

Bethlehem—W. T. Clampet.

Bethsaida—J. R. Sellers.

New Boston—T. L. Fulbright, R. T. Fulbright, W. Jones.

Hubbard—S. Hewitt, T. H. Braswell.

College Hill—J. W. Barron, A. J. Richardson.

First Church, Texarkana—C. W. Daniel, C. W. Webb, J. C.

Watts.

New Hope—G. E. Pinkham.

Harmony—F. T. Felts, E. C. Greer, R. G. Nelson.

Mt. Pisgah—C. C. Elkins, Calvin Scott, J. F. Kesterson.

Olive Street, Texarkana—C. W. Matthews, B. Chance, I. P.

Langley.

Center Ridge—N. J. Rachel, W. L. Helms, I. W. King.

Dekalb—By letter.

Pleasant Ridge—John Hatte.

West Bowie—W. I. Butler.

Sand Hill—C. P. Lindsey.

Dalby Springs—By letter.

Ward's Creek—Henry Brooks, E. F. Bagwell.

Tennessee—John Winham, G. R. Robertson, Z. T. Gideon.

Myrtle Springs—Lee Lumbley.

Mt. Zion—Jesse Paulk, James Fawbush, C. P. Meadows.

Pleasant Grove—D. T. Meredith, C. I. Day, D. C. Meredith.



## MINUTES OF THE

P. Langley. Text: Matthew 28: 18-20. Collections for associational missions. Cash, \$26.50. Adjourned for dinner.

## EVENING SESSION.

At 2:30 p. m. the association was called to order. Prayer by Bro. Pinkham.

The rules of decorum were read by the moderator.

Reports of committees called for.

The report on Orphans' Home was read, discussed and adopted by taking collection for the building fund of the same; \$13.60 contributed.

Report on Sunday-schools was read and adopted.

Adjourned to 8:30 a. m. Monday.

## SUNDAY NIGHT.

Preaching by Eld. E. D. Meredith.

## MONDAY MORNING SESSION.

Met at 8:30 a. m. Scripture and prayer by Bro. Helms.

On motion a Committee on Temperance was appointed; to-wit: I. P. Langley, B. Chance, E. F. Bagwell.

The consideration of reports was continued. Report on Associational Missions was read, discussed and adopted. (See Appendix B.)

## MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

The following committee was appointed to nominate Executive Board: B. Chance, T. L. Fulbright, E. D. Meredith.

The committee presented the following named brethren as Executive Board: C. W. Matthews, B. Chance, C. W. Webb, E. F. Friedell, R. T. Fulbright, Lee Lumbley, Dr. J. T. Rice. Nominations confirmed by the vote of the body.

[NOTE.—The Executive Board is requested to meet at Myrtle Springs the fifth Sunday in January, 1898.—CLERK.]

The following resolutions were presented and passed by the association and ordered printed:

RESOLVED, That the clerk have 500 copies of the minutes published, and that he be allowed \$10 for his services, and all necessary postage to distribute minutes to the churches.

Moved that the association instruct the Executive Board of the Association to meet every fifth Sunday with the Sunday school Convention.

*Whereas*, There is, in the bounds of this association, one J. M. Carter who represents himself as a Baptist preacher; and

*Whereas*, He holds a letter from a so-called Baptist church; and

*Whereas*, The Green County Association of Missouri withdrew fellowship from the so-called church on account of deadly heresies preached by the said J. M. Carter; and,

*Whereas*, The said J. M. Carter is still seeking to impose himself upon our church and people as a Baptist preacher in good standing; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we warn all Baptist churches against the said J. M. Carter and advise them to have nothing to do with him.

#### RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

*Whereas*, The good people of this commonwealth had more to eat when this association convened, than any people we have seen for many days; and,

*Whereas*, If they have any left it is neither their fault nor ours; for their hospitality has been dispensed enormously; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we tender our heartfelt thanks to this church and community, with the assurance that their kindness shall never be forgotten.

On motion, the association adjourned to time and place of next meeting; sung "When the Roll is Called" and gave the parting hand. Prayer by Bro. Langley. Thus closed one of the most harmonious sessions of the Texarkana Association.

JOHN WINHAM, MODERATOR.

N. J. RACHEL, CLERK.

The following amounts paid by the different churches and not otherwise reported for pastoral support, missions, orphans' home, church expenses, etc.:

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| First church, Texarkana.....  | \$ 284 45         |
| New Boston .....              | 612 27            |
| Rock Creek.....               | 37 50             |
| Bethlehem .....               | 100 00            |
| Olive Street, Texarkana ..... | 258 61            |
| Harmony .....                 | 131 60            |
| Antioch .....                 | 40 00             |
| Total .....                   | <u>\$1,464 43</u> |

#### APPENDIX A.

Synopsis of the report of the president of the Sunday-school Convention:



## MINUTES OF THE

The convention held four meetings during the year at the following places: Center Ridge, De Kalb, New Boston and First church, Texarkana. Was instrumental in organizing two or three Sunday-schools and promulgating much useful knowledge concerning the Sunday-school work. It collected enough to pay a debt of \$50 contracted by executive board of the association for 1896, and leave a balance of \$9.95 subject to the association. While the president of the convention has seen fit to thank Elds. Fulbright, Daniels and Rachel for their presence and support, the association is due the president, Bro. C. W. Matthews, for his untiring zeal in the work of the convention.

N. J. RACHEL, Clerk.

## APPENDIX B.

We, your Committee on Associational Missions, submit the following: We find great need of missionary work, but sad want of missionary spirit upon the part of our churches. We recommend that this body take such steps as may be deemed wisest to advance a missionary spirit among our people. We would especially recommend that aid be extended to Dalby Springs, Texas, and to Sylvarena in Miller county, Ark., as special points very much in need. In regard to the resolution of Bro. Daniels, which was referred to us. We approve of the work done by the Sunday-school Convention as such and advise its continuance; but can see no need of two boards. Believing that the same results might accrue by the associational board controlling the Sunday-school Convention. Praying God to move upon the hearts and purses of our brethren to come together as a unit in this work.

R. J. FULBRIGHT, }  
W. T. HELMS, } Committee.

## FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The command to preach the gospel to all the world, necessarily includes Foreign Missions. "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached to all nations," said the Savior; and the mission of Baptists has not been fulfilled until in every nook and corner where people live, the gospel has been heard. It is no question with us whether Foreign Missions pay; our chief concern is not the number of converts on foreign fields. Our first duty is to obey Christ. Our Foreign Board has employed both native and foreigners, 190 missionaries occupying fields in all the leading heathen nations, including Mexico and Brazil. These missionaries report in 1896-7 660 baptisms at a cost to the country of \$102 000. Our reports show very little contributed to this work. We would entreat our pastors to place before their people the importance of this work and take collections for the Foreign Board.

T. L. FULBRIGHT, Chairman.

## SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

There has been some improvement in our Sunday-school work since our last meeting, yet we must say with sadness that a majority of our pastors and members of our churches are not interested in our Sunday-school work. We believe that the Scriptures should be taught to our children and young people, so they can give a reason for the hope within them, believing as we do that God will bless his Word to the salvation of souls, when faithfully taught. We commend the efforts of our Associational Sunday-school Convention, and would recommend a fuller attendance at all our fifth Sunday meetings; and, also, that we co-operate with the State Sunday-school Convention of Texarkana. Last, but not least, we beg for a Baptist Sunday-school in each of our churches in this association.

I. P. LANGLEY,

C. C. ELKINS,

JOHN HATTE.

## PUBLICATIONS.

We, your Committee on Publications, recommend the Bible, and that as we do so we realize that it is the Eternal God who has given us being, speaking to us individually and that for our eternal good. We would also recommend the reading of good religious literature in our homes and families and the use of our Sunday-school papers and literature of the American Baptist Publication Society, and the Southern Baptist Convention series published at Nashville, Tenn.

G. E. PINKHAM,

W. T. CLAMET,

B. CHANCE.

## DECEASED MINISTERS.

We find that it has pleased the Lord to make but one vacancy, and that by removing our beloved brother, R. J. Hairston, from our midst to higher circles of the blessed. Bro. Hairston, on account of physical disability, could never do as much in his Master's cause as he really desired to do. Yet, he was a man of strong faith, eminent piety, and a lover of every good work; therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, That in the death of Bro. Hairston we have lost an able counselor, a cheerful giver and a loving brother.

C. W. WEBB,

E. D. MEREDITH,

W. T. BUTLER.

## ORPHANS' HOME.

Among the many interests that engage our attention this is certainly one of the worthiest. Its history is well known to us, yet the need may not have been considered as carefully and



and as prayerfully as it should have been We, who are parents, know the trouble and expense of rearing children; then to think of a home of 375 children to be cared for, and knowing that they are totally dependent on the benevolence of the people, it ought to stir our hearts. That prompt action might be given to this work, as the Lord has said, "Visit the orphans in their distress; therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, That each pastor keep this matter before his people and take a collection once each quarter for this work.

E. D. MEREDITH,

B. B. RAMSEY,

H. L. HARVEY.

### FINANCE.

| CHURCHES.             | Minutes. | Associational<br>Missions. | Foreign<br>Missions. | Orphans'<br>Home. | Ministers'<br>Relief. |
|-----------------------|----------|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| College Hill.....     | \$1 80   | \$0 60                     | \$0 50               | \$3 85            | .....                 |
| New Hope.....         | 1 00     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Mt. Pisgah.....       | 1 50     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Bethel.....           | 1 50     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Center Ridge.....     | 1 50     | .....                      | 1 00                 | 2 00              | .....                 |
| Park.....             | 1 60     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Bethsaida.....        | 1 00     | .....                      | .....                | 1 00              | .....                 |
| New Boston.....       | 2 00     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Pleasant Grove.....   | 3 00     | 1 00                       | 1 00                 | 1 00              | .....                 |
| Tennessee.....        | 2 50     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Myrtle Springs.....   | 60       | 60                         | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Rock Creek.....       | 2 25     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Pleasant Ridge.....   | 1 50     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Mt. Zion.....         | 1 85     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Antioch.....          | 1 25     | .....                      | 75                   | 1 25              | \$1 25                |
| Harmony.....          | 1 00     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Dalby Springs.....    | 35       | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Olive Street.....     | 1 00     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Ward's Creek.....     | 1 15     | 1 45                       | .....                | 1 05              | .....                 |
| First, Texarkana..... | 3 00     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Sylvanerie.....       | 1 00     | 1 95                       | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| West Bowie.....       | 1 25     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| De Kaib.....          | 2 00     | 3 00                       | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Hubbard's Chapel..... | 1 15     | 50                         | 1 35                 | .....             | .....                 |
| Sand Hill.....        | 1 00     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Bethlehem.....        | 1 25     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Pisgah.....           | 3 15     | .....                      | .....                | .....             | .....                 |
| Totals.....           | \$42 25  | \$9 10                     | \$4 60               | \$10 15           | \$1 25                |

We, your Committee, recommend that both pastors and churches strive to improve on all missionary collections, particularly the collections to give the Gospel to all the people in our association.

JOHN C. WATTS,  
T. H. BRASWELL, } Committee.  
T. W. KING, }



## ORDAINED MINISTERS' NAMES AND POSTOFFICES.

| Names.             | Postoffices.   | State.    |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------|
| John Winham,       | Edison,        | Arkansas  |
| C. W. Daniels,     | Texarkana,     | Arkansas. |
| P. H. Hill,        | Texarkana,     | Arkansas. |
| S. H. Crawford,    | Texarkana,     | Arkansas. |
| S. E. Hale,        | Texarkana,     | Arkansas. |
| R. T. Ridlin,      | Texarkana,     | Arkansas. |
| I. P. Langley,     | Texarkana,     | Arkansas. |
| W. J. Simmons,     | Park,          | Texas.    |
| W. C. Echols,      | Park,          | Texas.    |
| E. D. Meredith.    | Park,          | Texas.    |
| N. J. Rachel,      | Maud ,         | Texas.    |
| J. A. Petty,       | DeKalb,        | Texas.    |
| J. B. Merchant.    | Dalby Springs, | Texas.    |
| J. S. Thomas, Sr., | Dalby Springs, | Texas.    |
| G. E. Pinkham,     | Dalby Springs, | Texas.    |
| J. T. Jenkins,     | Rolyat,        | Texas.    |
| T. T. Martin,      | New Boston.    | Texas.    |
| T. L. Fulbright,   | New Boston,    | Texas.    |
| W. B. Rhea,        | New Boston,    | Texas.    |

C. P. LINDSEY, Chairman.

## PASTORAL SUPPORT.

We do heartily indorse the ample and earnest support of our ministers.

We feel that by their ample support they may give their whole time to the work, and by so doing, much more good may be accomplished through their labors. "The laborer is worthy of his hire." Luke 10-7, Matt. 10 11, 1 Cor. 10-27, Matt. 10-10, 1 Cor. 9 4, 1 Tim. 5 18

The letters of the churches show a lack of proper support to our pastors. Some of them show the small average of 50 cents per day for their laborers.

Brethren, this is not according to the New Testament teaching. "The Lord loves a cheerful giver." They that preach the gospel shall live of the gospel.

Brethren, a man called of God to preach the gospel means preach the not work in some other way to make a living.

A pastor should not be hampered by anything to keep him from the study of God's word.

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| C. W. MATTHEWS, | } Committee. |
| J. T. RICE,     |              |
| E. C. GREER,    |              |

## STATE MISSIONS.

It is impossible for us to obtain statistics for the year just

past, covering the work of the State Board, as the report has not been published. From the report of Oct., 1896, we take the following general facts:

Missionaries employed 66, churches organized 19, baptisms 898, pages of tracts distributed 118,000, salaries paid missionaries \$14 821.00.

The work of the board during the past year has been doubly difficult on account of the general financial stringency of the times and the many criticisms that have been made on the board and its work. The board finished the year out of debt, with \$1,000 to its credit. Our State Mission Board is composed of as wise and consecrated men as may be found in any State, and should have our prayerful co-operation in their arduous labors. Texas is in a large measure a mission field. It is sparsely populated and people have but little opportunity to hear the gospel. Our territory is vast; lands very fertile; immigration is pouring in, and in a few years our population will be many millions. With the coming people there comes heathenism and all other isms; and it will require hard work for Baptists to keep pace with the growing population. Our association has only \$107.00 to report for this purpose. May God put it into the hearts of our preachers to keep our State work before the people and take collections for the same.

T. L. FULBRIGHT, }  
E. D. MEREDITH, } Committee.  
J. R. ASKINS, }

### EDUCATION.

Education does not consist (in the broadest sense) of a cultivated and enlightened mind only, but also of a religious and moral training.

We therefore recommend that our people patronize our denominational schools, which for moral and religious training can not be excelled. And especially would we recommend our own Baylor University, at Waco, as one of the best schools in the South.

We also recommend Burleson College, as affording great facilities for North and East Texas.

We further recommend Ouachita College, which for theological training cannot be excelled by any institution of its kind in the world. We especially urge this association to encourage the young ministry in her bounds and elsewhere to avail themselves of the advantages of these great schools.

B. CHANCE,  
W. J. SIMMONS,  
E. F. BAGWELL.



## HOME MISSIONS.

In past years the subject of Home Missions has either been misunderstood or neglected in our associational work.

By home missions, we mean the organized work of the Southern Baptist Convention for the purpose of supplying the destitution throughout the Southern States, Cuba and Indian Territory.

We would recommend that this question be given a place in our regular order of business, and be handled at each meeting of the association in like manner as Foreign Missions, Associational Missions, Orphans' Home, etc.

We recommend that the churches in the association be urged to make this a part of their yearly work for the Master.

We recommend that this association and all of the churches thereof be earnestly urged to co-operate with the regularly organized work of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Home Board of the Southern Baptist Convention for the last year reports:

|                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Missionaries .....            | 372   |
| Churches and stations.....    | 1,963 |
| Baptisms.....                 | 4,709 |
| Total additions.....          | 9 455 |
| Churches constituted.....     | 139   |
| Houses built.....             | 57    |
| Sunday-schools organized..... | 313   |
| Average cost—                 |       |
| Per missionary.....           | 360   |
| Per addition.....             | 130   |

C. W. WEBB,  
T. L. FULBRIGHT.

## TEMPERANCE.

As Baptists we are opposed to the sale and use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and we recommend that our pastors preach against this evil, and that the members of our churches use their influence to stamp out the habit of strong drink by refusing to vote for men or measures that encourage the use of the same; and that this association refuse to retain in its fellowship churches that will not exclude drunkards from their membership.

I. P. LANGLEY,  
B. CHANCE,  
E. F. BAGWELL,

## Declaration of Faith.

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ARTICLE 1. 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 the true center of Christian Union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

ART. 2. We believe there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent spirit, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and supreme ruler of heaven and earth, inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that in the unity of the God head there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

ART. 3. We believe that man was created in holiness under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but choice, being utterly void of that holiness acquired by the law of God, positively inclined to evil, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin without defense or excuse.

ART. 4. We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who by appointment of the Father freely took upon Him our nature, yet without sin, honored the Divine law by His obedience and by his death made a full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead he is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections he is in every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate and all sufficient Savior.

ART. 5. We believe the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is justification, and justification includes the pardon of sin and promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood, by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

ART. 6. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent and obedient faith; and that



nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel, which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

ART. 7. We believe that in order to be saved sinners must be regenerated or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; is affected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with divine truth so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel, and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, and faith, and newness of life.

ART. 8. We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces wrought in our souls by the regenerating spirit of God, whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger, and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy, at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our prophet, priest and king, and relying on him alone as the only and all-sufficient Savior.

ART. 9. We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners, that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God and active imitation of His free mercy, that it encourages the use of means in the highest, degree; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the gospel; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

ART. 10. We believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of His holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration, and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the sealer and the comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means—especially the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

ART. 11. We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare, and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

ART. 12. We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of His moral government; that it is holy, just

and good, and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin, to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy Law, is one great end of the Gospel and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

ART. 13. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by his laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his word; that its only Scriptural officers are bishops or pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

ART. 14. We believe that Christian baptism is immersion in water of a believer, into the name of Father, and Son, and the Holy Ghost, to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior, with its effect, in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

ART. 15. We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's day or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreation; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

ART. 16. We believe that civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good order of human society, and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of conscience and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

ART. 17. We believe there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and sanctified by the spirit of our God are truly righteous in His esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked and under the curse, and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

ART. 18. We believe that the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from the grave for final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment and the righteous to endless joy, and that this



judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell on principle of righteousness.

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## CONSTITUTION.

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We, the Missionary Baptist Churches of Christ in the States of Texas and Arkansas, having been baptized upon a profession of our faith in Christ, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches in order to perpetuate a union amongst us and preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other. We, therefore, propose to maintain and keep the order and rules of an association according to the following plan:

1. The association shall be composed of members chosen by different churches in our association who, on producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

2. The letters from the different churches are to express their members in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored and dead since last association; also inscribe upon the backs of their letters the name of church, postoffice, delegates, pastor and clerk.

3. The members thus chosen and convened shall be known as the Texarkana Missionary Baptist Association, who shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage or to infringe on any of the eternal rights of churches in the association, but shall be considered an advisory council in matters respecting their internal concerns, for the benefit of all such churches; but the association shall have power to exclude any church from its body who shall violate or deviate from the rules of the orthodox principles of the Gospel.

4. Every church in this association shall be entitled to three delegates or messengers, and should any church fail to represent herself she shall state her reasons in her letter to the next association.

5. New churches may be admitted into this association, who shall petition by letter and delegates, and, upon examination, if found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the association, and the reception thereof manifested by the moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

6. This association, when convened, shall be governed by regular and popular rules which they are authorized to form for themselves.

7. The association shall elect a moderator from among themselves by ballot, whose duty it shall be to see that the Rules of Decorum be attended to, and take the vote of the association in all questions properly brought before it and to organize the next association; also a clerk, whose duty it shall be to take proper and correct minutes of the proceedings; also a treasurer, whose duty it shall be to receive and disburse all money coming into his hands as directed by the association, giving and taking receipts for the same, and make a report of the same to the association.

8. The association shall in all cases be governed by a majority of members present except in the reception of new churches, which shall require a unanimous vote.

9. Every query sent by a particular church must be included in her letter, certifying that she has endeavored to settle it, but could not; in which case the association shall take it under consideration and give its advice.

10. Business which immediately concerns the association at large, when sent by a particular church as from it or handed in by a member shall be taken up and decided as soon as an opportunity will admit.

11. The association shall correspond with other associations as may be agreed upon when in session.

12. The association shall elect one of their ministers to preach the introductory sermon and his alternate at the next association.

13. The association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of her proceedings.

14. Amendments to this constitution may be made at any time when two thirds of the churches composing the association deem it necessary.

15. The minutes of the association shall be read and corrected (if necessary) and signed by the moderator and attested by the clerk before the association adjourns.

16. The association shall at each annual session appoint a Missionary Board, which shall choose its own officers, which shall consist of a president, vice-president, clerk and treasurer. Said board is required to report at each session of the association.

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## RULES OF DECORUM.

1. Each session of the association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. But one shall speak at a time, and he shall arise and address the moderator.



| CHURCHES.         | PASTORS.          | POSTOFFICES.        | CLERKS.           | POSTOFFICES.        | MEMBERSHIP |                  |           |            |                    |            |        |          | DAY<br>OF MEETING. |                      |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------|------------------|-----------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------|----------|--------------------|----------------------|
|                   |                   |                     |                   |                     | By Baptism | Rec'd by Letter. | Restored. | Statement. | Dis'm'd by Letter. | Expulsion. | Death. | Dropped. |                    | Total<br>Membership. |
| Antioch.....      | S. A. Crawford..  | Texarkana, Ark....  | J. T. Rice.....   | Fouke, Ark.....     | 6          | ...              | 5         | 1          | ...                | 6          | ...    | ...      | 28                 | .....                |
| Harmony.....      | T. L. Fulbright.. | New Boston, Tex..   | R. G. Nelson....  | Texarkana, Ark..    | 4          | ...              | 1         | ...        | 2                  | 2          | ...    | ...      | 31                 | 3d.                  |
| Olive Street...   |                   |                     | C. W. Matthews..  | Texarkana, Ark..    | 3          | 18               | 1         | 2          | 7                  | 3          | 1      | ...      | 104                | Every.               |
| New Hope.....     | G. F. Pinkham..   | Dalby Springs, Tex. | J. T. Kennedy.... | Hodgson, Tex....    | 1          | 1                | 2         | ...        | ...                | ...        | ...    | ...      | 40                 | .....                |
| Ward's Creek...   | G. E. Pinkham..   | Dalby Springs, Tex. | Joseph Peters...  | Dalby Springs, Tex. | ...        | 7                | 2         | 2          | ...                | 4          | 2      | ...      | 32                 | 2d., Sat. before.    |
| First, Texarkana. | C. W. Daniels...  | Texarkana, Tex....  | W. A. Tilson....  | Texarkana, Tex....  | 15         | 20               | 2         | ...        | 6                  | 5          | 4      | 3        | 243                | Every.               |
| Pisgah.....       | R. T. Ridling...  | Texarkana, Ark....  | Delia Turner....  | Boggy, Ark.....     | 6          | 4                | ...       | ...        | 3                  | ...        | ...    | ...      | 61                 | 4th.                 |
| Mt. Pisgah.....   |                   |                     | R. A. Elkins....  | Texarkana, Ark..    | 1          | 4                | ...       | ...        | 2                  | ...        | ...    | ...      | 24                 | 2d.                  |
| Pleasant Grove..  | E. D. Meredith..  | Park, Tex.....      | D. T. Meredith..  | Park, Tex.....      | 29         | 8                | 6         | 4          | ...                | ...        | ...    | ...      | 74                 | 3d., Sat. before.    |
| Bethlehem.....    | M. A. Gunter...   | Pope, Tex.....      | G. F. Mitchell... | Pope, Tex.....      | 50         | 7                | 13        | ...        | 11                 | 8          | 2      | ...      | 91                 | 4th., Sat. before.   |
| College Hill....  | E. D. Meredith..  | Park, Tex.....      | J. L. Alexander.. | De Kalb, Tex....    | 1          | 10               | 1         | ...        | 3                  | 4          | 1      | ...      | 79                 | 1st., Sat. before.   |
| Mt. Zion.....     | John Winham...    | Edson, Ark.....     | Jessie Paulk...   | Texarkana, Ark..    | 2          | 14               | 3         | ...        | 2                  | 1          | 1      | 5        | 45                 | 1st., Sat. before.   |
| Myrtle Springs..  |                   |                     | J. O. M'Cutcheon  | Hooks, Tex.....     | ...        | ...              | ...       | ...        | 2                  | ...        | ...    | ...      | 58                 | 3d., Sat. before.    |
| Rock Creek.....   | E. D. Meredith..  | Park, Tex.....      | B. F. White.....  | New Boston, Tex..   | ...        | 4                | ...       | ...        | 1                  | 2          | ...    | ...      | 61                 | .....                |
| Sand Hill.....    | W. B. Rhea.....   | New Boston, Tex..   | C. P. Lindsey.... | Siloam, Tex.....    | ...        | 2                | ...       | ...        | 2                  | 2          | 2      | ...      | 44                 | 4th., Sat. before.   |
| Bethsadia.....    | G. E. Pinkham..   | Dalby Springs, Tex. | W. H. Spence....  | Hodgson, Tex....    | ...        | 6                | ...       | ...        | ...                | ...        | ...    | ...      | 20                 | 4th., Sat. before.   |
| Hubbard's Chapel  | E. D. Meredith..  | Park, Tex.....      | W. D. Wood.....   | De Kalb, Tex....    | 7          | 3                | 1         | ...        | 3                  | ...        | ...    | ...      | 46                 | 4th., Sat. before.   |
| New Boston.....   | T. L. Fulbright.. | New Boston, Tex..   | J. A. Ellis.....  | New Boston, Tex..   | ...        | 11               | ...       | ...        | 5                  | 4          | 2      | ...      | 71                 | 2d and 4th.          |
| Bethel.....       | E. D. Meredith..  | Park, Tex.....      | Joe Corzine....   | Roberts, Ark....    | 5          | ...              | ...       | ...        | ...                | ...        | ...    | ...      | 31                 | 2d., Sat. before.    |
| De Kalb.....      | T. W. Jordan....  | .....               | Judge S. Owen...  | De Kalb, Tex....    | ...        | 1                | ...       | ...        | 1                  | ...        | 1      | ...      | 35                 | 4th.                 |
| Center Ridge....  | W. J. Simmons...  | Park, Tex.....      | W. L. Helms....   | Maud, Tex.....      | ...        | ...              | ...       | ...        | ...                | ...        | ...    | 1        | 29                 | 3d.                  |
| Tennessee.....    | John Winham...    | Edson, Ark.....     | W. F. Buffington  | Edson, Ark.....     | 4          | 4                | 2         | ...        | 3                  | ...        | 1      | ...      | 58                 | 2d., Sat. before.    |
| Pleasant Ridge... | T. T. Martin....  | New Boston, Tex..   | W. L. Duran....   | New Boston, Tex..   | ...        | 6                | ...       | ...        | 7                  | 2          | ...    | ...      | 34                 | .....                |
| Dalby Springs...  | J. B. Merchant..  | Dalby Springs, Tex. | Y. F. Adecock...  | Dalby Springs, Tex. | ...        | ...              | ...       | ...        | ...                | ...        | ...    | ...      | 10                 | 4th.                 |
| West Bowie.....   | J. T. Jenkins.... | Rolyat, Tex.....    | W. T. Butler....  | Rolyat, Tex.....    | 1          | ...              | ...       | 1          | 6                  | ...        | ...    | ...      | 20                 | 2d., Sat. before.    |
| Sylvanerie.....   | .....             | .....               | A. L. McDonald    | Boyd, Ark.....      | ...        | ...              | ...       | ...        | ...                | ...        | ...    | ...      | 20                 | .....                |
| Pleasant View...  | .....             | .....               | .....             | .....               | ...        | ...              | ...       | ...        | ...                | ...        | ...    | ...      | 13                 | 3d., Sat. before.    |
| Totals.....       |                   |                     |                   |                     | 135        | 130              | 39        | 10         | 57                 | 51         | 21     | 9        | 1392               |                      |

\*Dismissed by letter to join Red River Association.

\*Not reported this year. Statistics of last year.

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