

MINUTES.

FIRST DAY.

The Rocky Bayou Baptist Association met in its forty-sixth annual session with Concord Baptist Church in Izard county, Arkansas, on Saturday October 8, A. D., 1887, at 11 o'clock a. m.

Elder W. G. Stamper, who was elected at last session to preach the Introductory sermon not being present. the same was preached by his alternate, Elder W. M. Duren. Text: 3rd verse of Jude, "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

After an intermission of one hour the messengers from the various churches re-assembled in the church house. Singing, and prayer by Elder J. R. Moxley.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Elder John W. Miller. The names of the churches were called, the letters presented. and read by Bros. D. T. Martin and S. C. Cooper, and the names of the messengers enrolled. Two letters were presented, each claiming to represent Pleasant Valley Church; on motion it was ordered that said letters be placed in the hands of a committee for investigation.

The Association next proceeded to elect a Moderator and Clerk for the ensuing associational year. Elder T. W. Wright was appointed Teller. The election resulted in the choice of Elder W. M. Duren, Moderator, and S. C. Cooper, Clerk.

The Association then proceeded to business as follows:

1st. An invitation was extended to new churches desiring admission into this body. Whereupon two petitionary letters were presented by Newhope Church and Bethel Church each desiring admission. On motion said churches were received, and the Moderator extended to their messengers the right hand of fellowship, and welcomed them to seats with us.

2nd. Called for corresponding messengers from sister Associations. Whereupon Elder T. W. Wright, from White River; Elders J. R. Moxley and F. M. Brannan, from White River Valley; J. W. Henly, Elder J. P. Lovelace and M. A. Chadwick, from Big Creek, came forward, and the Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship and welcomed them to seats with us.

On motion it was ordered that the action of Elder John W. Miller, former Moderator, be legalized in changing the place

meeting of this body from Pleasant Valley to this place.

3rd. An invitation was extended to visiting ministers to seats with us; none present.

The Moderator appointed the following committees.

On Arrangement of business for Monday—Elder A. J. Whaley, A. A. Spradlin, S. F. Reeves.

On Religious Exercises—The deacons of Concord Church, together with Alex. Shell. On motion the Moderator was added.

On Baptist Literature—D. T. Martin, J. H. Collard and Elder J. E. Duren.

On Home Missions—Elder J. W. Miller and G. C. Rutlege.

On Foreign Missions—T. H. Banks, P. L. Stroud and A. N. McNairn.

On Sabbath-schools—D. T. Martin, A. N. McNairn and H. C. Duren.

On Finance—P. L. Stroud and J. H. Alexander.

On Ministerial Education—J. C. Miller, J. W. Gist and Willis Hankins.

On motion it was ordered that a committee be appointed to devise some means by which our lady members can assist us in our missionary work. Bros. P. L. Stroud, D. T. Martin, T. W. Wright, W. M. Duren and T. M. Brannan were appointed said committee.

Elders J. W. Miller, J. E. Duren and Bro. Willis Hankins were appointed a committee to investigate the two letters from Pleasant Valley Church, to report Monday morning.

On motion it was ordered that the lecture to be delivered to-night be left open for criticism.

On motion the Association adjourned till Monday morning, 9 o'clock a. m.

On Saturday night, according to previous appointment, the subject of Ministerial Education was opened for discussion by Bro. S. C. Cooper, followed by a number of brethren.

SECOND DAY.

Sunday morning, 10 o'clock a. m. Prayer meeting conducted by Bro. D. T. Martin. As 11 a. m., the stand was filled by Elder T. W. Wright, who delivered an interesting discourse, to a large and attentive audience. Text. Eph. 3:21, "Unto him be glory in the church, by Jesus Christ, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen." followed by Elder J. W. Miller. At 4 p. m., Elder J. R. Maxley preached from Matt. 3:3, followed by Elder T. M. Brannan.

THIRD DAY.

Monday morning 9 o'clock a. m., the Association met and was called to order by the Moderator. Singing, and prayer by Bro. W. Gist.

Bro. A. J. Whaley, from the Committee on Arrangements, made the following report, which on motion was received and adopted.

We, your Committee on Arrangements, beg leave to submit the following report:

1. Call the roll and mark absentees.
2. Read and approve minutes of Saturday.
3. Call for unrepresented churches.
4. Renew the invitation to new churches.
5. Renew the invitation to visiting ministers and corresponding messengers not here on Saturday.
6. Call for report of the Investigating Committee of the Pleasant Valley Church
7. Call for report of Committee on Home Missions.
8. Report of Committee on Woman's Work.
9. Report of Committee on Sabbath-schools,
10. Report of Committee on Finance.
11. Report of Committee on Ministerial Education.
12. Report of Committee on Baptist Literature.
13. Report of Committee on Foreign Missions.
24. Report of Missionary Board.
15. Report of Educational Board.
16. Report of Treasurer.
17. Arrange Correspondence to sister Associations.
18. Select a place to hold the next meeting of this Association.
19. Elect some one to preach the Introductory Sermon.
20. Elect a Treasurer.
21. Elect some one to lecture on Ministerial Education.
22. Miscellaneous Business.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. WHALEY, Chairman.

The Association proceeded in accordance to the foregoing report: Roll called and absentees marked; minutes of Saturday read. It was moved to insert the word "missionary" so as to make the Minute read "The Rocky Bayou Missionary Baptist Association," which motion was not agreed to, and the Minute as read was approved.

Called for unrepresented churches, none was present; renewed the invitation to new churches, none present; renewed the invitation to new churches and corresponding messengers not here on Saturday, none present.

Bro. J. W. Miller from the Committee on the letters from Pleasant Valley church made the following report, which on motion was received and adopted.

We, the Investigating Committee, by investigation find both parties out of order.

Respectfully,

J. W. MILLER, Chairman.

Bro. Miller, from the Committee on Home Missions, made the following report, which on motion was received and adopted.

We, your Committee on Home Missions, submit the following: Whereas we profess to be missionary Baptists; we believe we should prove our faith by our practice, and as there is some destitution in our bounds, we are in favor of occupying the field with ministers, who are able to defend our faith; and that our pastors preach at least two sermons in

the year to their churches on the subject of Home and Foreign Missions.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. MILLER, Chairman.

On motion J. W. Miller, W. M. Duren, A. J. Whaley, A. A. Spradlin, J. W. Gist, were appointed a Committee, to visit Pleasant Valley Church, to help it set itself right.

Bro. P. L. Stroud from the Committee on Woman's Work, read the following report, which on motion was received and adopted, after an animated discussion.

We, your Committee on Woman's Work, would report as follows: Whereas, by investigation we find that, in many of our churches in this and other States the sisters have organized Ladies' Aid Societies. And,

WHEREAS: We find that the church at Melbourne organized one of these societies eleven months ago, that has, under God, done a great work for Jesus: therefore be it

Resolved: That we urge upon our pastors and deacons to encourage and organize similar societies in all our churches. 2nd. That we request a report of their work to be incorporated in the letters to this body at its next session. 3rd. That the Clerks give a tabulated statement of the work of each society in the Minutes.

P. L. STROUD,

D. T. MARTIN,

T. W. WRIGHT,

F. M. BRANNAN,

W. M. DUREN.

Brother D. T. Martin, from the Committee on Sabbath-schools, made the following report, which on motion was received and adopted, after an animated discussion.

We, your Committee on Sabbath-schools, beg leave to report the following: Knowing that the Sabbath was instituted for the purpose of studying the word of God, and for the purpose of reaching every child in the land, and knowing it to be the duty of all christians not only to read the Bible for themselves but to endeavor to get others to read and study it, we recommend that a Sabbath-school be organized in every neighborhood, and that the Bible be used as a text book so that all may read and comment on the word of God. We care not that these schools be known as Baptist schools but as neighborhood schools. We recommend that some suitable persons in each school be appointed to visit the families of such persons as do not attend such schools to induce them to attend such schools, so that all may study the Word of God, and we further recommend, if the schools wish any helps "The International Lesson Helps" as published by the Baptist Publication Society, The Little Reaper, and Kind Words, and that each church report to this body at its next session the number of members of the church who are engaged in the Sabbath-school work.

Respectfully submitted,

D. T. MARTIN.

RECESS.

Resumed business. Bro. P. L. Stroud, from the Committee on Finance, made the following report, which on motion was received and adopted.

We, your Committee on Finance, report amount on hand for printing minutes, \$20.75.

P. L. STROUD,

J. H. ALEXANDER,

Committee.

Bro. D. P. Martin, from the Committee on Baptist Literature, made the following report:

We, your Committee on Literature beg to submit the following report: 1st; We recommend the brethren to carefully read and search the Word of God, believing it to be the best literature for our brethren to read extant. We take pleasure in recommending the *Foreign Mission Journal*, published at Richmond, Va. The *Arkansas Baptist*, published at Little Rock, Ark., the *Baptist*, published at Memphis, Tenn., and *The American Baptist*, published at St. Louis, Mo.

D. F. MARTIN, Chairman.

F. H. Banks, from the Committee on Foreign Missions, made the following report, which, on motion, was received and adopted.

Your Committee on Foreign Missions would report as follows:

WHEREAS, The blessed Redeemer commanded his church to "Go, teach all nations;" and

Whereas, We find that millions of our race are in heathen darkness, and sitting in the region and shadow of death, without the knowledge of God and the glorious comforts and truths of the gospel,—and

Whereas, We find those nations are pleading with uplifted hands and streaming eyes with us to send them the gospel—and

Whereas, The abundant blessings of God upon his people have done in the far away lands of earth, proves to all christians that it is in accordance with His will; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we earnestly solicit the pastors, deacons, and clerks of our churches to encourage and take up collections for the foreign fields during the next Associational year. 2nd, that it is the opinion of this body that no christian man or woman can fill up their full measure and stature in Christ Jesus as they should, and oppose or discourage this Heaven ordained work.

F. H. BANKS,

P. L. STROUD,

A. N. MCNABIN,

Committee.

Elder James E. Duren, President of the Missionary Board, made the following report, which on motion, was received and adopted.

We, the Missionary Board of Rocky Bayou Association, beg leave to report the following:

WHEREAS, There was sufficient means pledged by the churches to put a Missionary in the field a part of the time, and there appeared to be some destitution in our bounds, the President called the Board together to consider the matter. The Board decided to employ a missionary, and made an effort to obtain one, but could not without taking one that was engaged in pastoral work, and he thought that it would injure the cause more than it would do good. JAMES E. DUREN, President

Bro. J. B. Pritchett, from the Board on Ministerial Education, made the following report, which, on motion, was received and adopted.

We, your Board on Ministerial Education, beg leave to submit the following report and recommendation: Our Board met on the evening of the adjournment of the session 1886, and organized by electing Bro. T. N. Estes, President, and Bro. J. B. Pritchett, Secretary, and called another meeting at which we allowed Bro. M. S. Kennard \$10.00 on the education of Bro. Jesse C. bbs. We also had a meeting called by the President, but had not a quorum. Owing to the lack of funds and the co-operation of the churches, your Board has been unable to accomplish

as much as they desired, and this body demands for the furtherance of our ministers cause. Your Board, recognizing the fact that we live in an age of improvement, of activity, of wickedness in high places, of false teaching, and that the powers of darkness are on every side of us is satisfied from past experience that the only way to successfully combat with all the powers brought to bear against the church is to educate the ministry so they may be fully equipped for the conflict which awaits the church in the near future. We, therefore, recommend first to accomplish the desired end, that the several churches composing this Association redeem their pledge made two or three years ago for ministerial education, by sending the amount promised to our Treasurer. Secondly, we earnestly request the churches who have a pastor, whom they believe will be more efficient by having a better education, to release his time as much as possible, even if they have to make some sacrifice to accomplish this object, and present him to this Board so they may lend him such assistance as they think he needs and they are able to give. Thirdly, we recommend each church to appoint one efficient man, at their first conference meeting, after the adoption of these recommendations, who shall be known as the church agent for Ministerial Education, whose duty it shall be to solicit funds from the members of the church and others, and keep the subject before the church and people, and to make a quarterly report to the President of the Board of amounts collected and such other matters as they believe will be of benefit to the Board; also to forward the amounts collected to our associational Treasurer, all of which is fraternally submitted.

J. B. PRITCHETT.

D. T. MARTIN,

LEANDER JENNINGS.

Bro. R. L. Landers was re-elected Treasurer, and held to report at next session.

The Association proceeded to arrange correspondance to sister associations as follows:

To Little Red River—J. W. Sims, J. H. Collard.

To Blue Mountain—Elder J. W. Twilley, T. A. Danner, and J. H. Fox.

To Independence—J. W. Sims, D. T. Martin, Elders A. J. Whaley, J. W. Twilley.

To White River Valley—Elder A. J. Whaley, D. T. Martin, Alex. Shell, G. C. Rutlege.

To Spring River—Robert Gray, Elder J. W. Miller.

To Big Creek—H. C. Duren, B. S. Stroud J. C. Miller, Elder J. W. Miller.

To white River—Alex. Shell, Elder W. M. Duren, P. L. Stroud, J. H. Alexander. William Lawrence.

Proceeded to select a place to hold the next session of this body. Fairview Baptist Church, some four miles from Philadelphia, Izard county, Ark., was selected.

Proceeded to select some one to preach the Introductory Sermon: Elder James E. Duren, with Elder J. W. Twilley, alternate, was selected.

Bro. D. T. Martin was elected to Lecture on Ministerial Education at next session, and Saturday night was set apart as the time.

On motion \$2.10 was appropriated and placed in the hands of

the clerk to buy an associational book, in which to keep recorded our Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum.

It was moved to change the time of meeting of this body from Saturday to Friday night, which was not agreed to.

Bro. T. N. Estes was re-elected Financial agent for Home and Foreign Mission Funds.

Bros. S. C. Cooper, P. L. Stroud, J. H. Alexander were appointed a committee to visit Hidden Creek Church, which was reported as having gone "Anti-Missionary," and report the facts in the case at the next session of this body.

On motion the clerk was authorized to have as many copies of the Minutes of the present session printed as the money would print, after retaining \$5 for his services.

On motion the association adjourned to meet with Fairview Baptist Church on Saturday before the second Saturday in October A. D. 1887. While singing 'Shall I meet you in glory' the messengers took the parting hand.

Elder W. M. DUREN, Moderator.

S. C. COOPER, Clerk.

MESSENGERS.

Antioch—M. C. Muncy, S. J. James, J. W. Miller.

Bethel—A. J. Whaley, S. F. Reeves, J. M. Cobbs, W. S. Cobbs.

Cedar Grove—G. C. Rutlege.

Concord—B. S. Stroud, G. W. King, J. H. Bone, H. Stroud.

Fairview—W. M. Duren, J. S. M. Beaver, Jas. McCuiston, W. R. Bole.

Franklin—J. Jones, W. L. Reid, D. T. Martin, A. N. McNairn.

Melbourne—William Lawrence, Thos. H. Banks.

Mt. Nebo No. 1—J. J. Jones, McElmurry, J. W. Gist.

Mt. Nebo No. 2—W. J. Blue.

Mt. Pleasant—Henry Taylor, Alex. Shell, W. H. Cook.

Mt. Zion—C. C. Jordon, J. H. Collard.

Philadelphia—A. J. Dodd, A. A. Spradlin, B. W. Bledsoe.

Pilgrim's Rest—T. A. Danner, J. H. Fox.

Piney Bayou—Sam. Pool, W. M. Goodman, S. H. Moss.

New Hope—W. H. Hankins, J. D. Dozler,

Rocky Bayou—P. L. Stroud, S. C. Cooper, J. H. Alexander, J. W. Twilley.

Saints Rest—A. Payner, J. J. Vest.

Table Rock—Willis Adams, William Eakin.

Zion Hill—J. C. Miller, J. E. Duren, Abner McElmurry, H. C. Duren.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST-OFFICE.	Received by baptism.	Received by Letter.	Received by Relation.	Restored.	Excluded.	Dismissed.	Deceased.	Total membership.	Days of Meetings.
Antioch	No pastor	S J James	LaCrosse				1	6		1	70	33
Bethel	A J Whaley	W S Cobbs	Barrenfork					2		1	14	1
Cedar Grove	J L Brown	J M Barnes	Jamestown	12	5	1					99	1
Concord	W M Duren	H Stroud	Zion	2	1	1				1	38	4
Fairview	W M Duren	R T Wilson	Violet Hill	7	7						45	2
Franklin	W M Duren	A N McNairn	Franklin	16	3		1	1	1	1	49	3
Melbourne	T W Wright	T H Banks	Melbourne	12	3						45	1
Mt Nebo, No 1	J H Soden	A M Halley	Violet Hill	8	4			4	1		36	4
Mt Nebo, No 2	J J Vest	W J Blue	Barrenfork	1						1	81	3
Mt Pleasant	J W Miller	W H Cook	LaCrosse	1			1	2	1	2	42	2
Mt Zion	H C Sanders	J A Massey	Banner	9			1	4			86	2
New Hope	J J Vest	J D Dozler	Calico Rock								14	
Philadelphia	W M Duren	J W C Gardner	LaCrosse	14	8					1	64	2
Pilgrim's Rest	T H Sanders	L J Bracy	Victor	1		1		1			53	3
Piney Bayou	J J Vest	W M Halney	Pineville	7		5					22	3
Rocky Bayou	J W Twilley	P L Stroud	Melbourne	4	1			1		2	46	4
Saint's Rest	J J Vest	J R Wood	Melbourne	7	1			1			50	4
Table Rock	W H Vest	T H Pate	Calico Rock	10	2	1	1		8	1	36	
Zion Hill	W M Duren	H C Duren	Zion	8	5	1					64	1
				119	84	10	5	15	27	11	963	

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

CHURCHES.	Value of Church Property.		Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Mission Fund.	Mission Pledges.
	Pastor					
Antioch					\$ 75	\$ 1 50
Bethel					1 00	4 00
Cedar Grove	\$100	\$5 00			1 00	5 00
Concord			\$ 2 05		1 00	5 00
Fairview			1 40		1 00	10 00
Franklin			5 60		1 50	16 00
Melbourne	\$700	150	1 70		1 50	20 00
Mt Nebo, No. 1	300				1 00	2 00
Mt Nebo, No. 2					1 00	5 00
Mt Pleasant	50	2 00			1 00	2 80
Mt Zion					1 50	2 00
New Hope					75	
Philadelphia		50	10 25		1 50	10 00
Piney Bayou					1 00	
Pilgrim's Rest	500	40			1 00	
Rocky Bayou	300	100			1 50	5 00
Saint's Rest			2 40		1 00	2 50
Table Rock					1 00	5 00
Zion Hill	300	35		6 75	1 50	5 00
	\$2 180	\$475	\$9 40	\$27 75	\$27 00	\$93 50