

MINUTES
OF THE
Forty-fourth Annual Session
OF THE
CADDO RIVER
Missionary Baptist Association

HELD WITH
Big Fork Church

Polk County, Ark.

September 6, 1901

ASSOCIATIONAL DIRECTORY

Moderator, H. T. HOWELL, Platta
Clerk, W. H. ANDERSON, Rock Creek
Treasurer, D. T. BRUNSON, Rock Creek

MESSENGERS TO RED RIVER ASSOCIATION

Eld. A. NELSON and Eld. D. T. BRUNSON

COMMITTEE ON CAMP GROUNDS

R. C. FIELDS, R. M. REECE, A. J. NEWCOMB, J. N. WASSON
Y. G. EDWARDS, and J. J. COLLIER

SUNDAY-SCHOOL CONVENTION

President, D. T. BRUNSON, Rock Creek
Vice-President, W. F. WILLIS, Amity
Secretary, J. C. THOMAS, Hickory Station

Next session to be held with Salem Church, Pike County, Ark.
beginning at eleven o'clock A. M., Saturday before the
second Sunday in September, 1902. Bro. J. A.
Shackelford to preach the Introductory
Sermon; T. J. Wright, alternate

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American Baptist Publication Society

Proceedings.

The forty-fourth annual session of the Caddo River Missionary Baptist Association assembled with Big Fork Church, Polk County, Arkansas, at 9:30 a. m. Saturday, September 6, 1901. In harmony with its adjournment with the Baptist Camp Ground, Caddo Gap, Montgomery County, Arkansas, the introductory sermon was preached by the appointed elder, T. J. Wright and H. T. Howell, who used as a text **John 4:26**, "Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption," after which the association adjourned to 2:30 p. m.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

The former moderator, J. J. Hughes, being present, called the association to order. After reading the first lesson of the Psalm of David and prayer, the moderator appointed Brothers W. S. Ward, W. L. Cockrell, with the messenger of Big Fork Church, on divine service. Letters were then called for. Brothers D. T. Brunson, A. J. Newcomb and J. N. Wasson were selected to read and names of churches and messengers were enrolled.

Antioch—John Welch.

Black Springs—Y. G. Edwards, W. I. Harbour, M. E. Prouse.

Deibel—W. H. Anderson and S. T. Robertson.

Bethlehem—J. R. Motley.

Big Fork—J. M. Standridge, J. D. Holmes, J. S. Foftis.

Board Camp—S. W. Hilton, Y. A. Hilton, J. T. Strickland.

Caney Valley—H. T. Howell, Bob Bishop, S. Y. Moran.

Corinth—Not represented by messenger.

Forest Hill—J. A. Shackelford and E. Burns.

Liberty No. 1—J. J. Collier, A. J. Newcomb.

Liberty No. 2—J. K. Wilcox, D. Lunsford.

Mount Pleasant—J. T. Miller, W. T. White, D. B. White.

Mount Home—B. D. Millsapp, W. M. Tackett, F. Nelson.

Mount Pisgah—T. J. Wright, R. Tallant, A. A. O'Neal.

Mount Zion—Not represented by messenger.

New Home—J. N. Houser, W. L. Cockrell.

Providence—C. C. Rowton, G. L. Tanner.

Pleasant Valley—J. N. Wasson, W. T. West.

Salem—W. D. Ward, J. L. Ray.

Sulphur Springs—W. M. Edwards, T. P. Edwards, J. J. Abel.

Valley Grove—D. T. Brunson, J. J. Hughes, A. Nelson.

Petitionary letters called for. One presented Sulphur Springs Church. Motion and second that this association receive the letter with its bearers, W. M. Edwards, T. P. Edwards, J. J. Abree. The organization being complete, and the election of officers for the next year being in order, J. J. Holland, R. M. Reece, J. J. Collier were appointed tellers, and the association went into an election for Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer. Results: Elder H. T. Howell was unanimously elected Mod-

erator W. H. Anderson Clerk and D. T. Brunson Treasurer. Invitations to visiting ministers, Elder J. J. Holland, of the Ouachita Association, was allowed a seat in the Association. Call for correspondence, none presented. Appointment of committees. By motion and second, that the moderator and clerk have until tomorrow to make out the committees. Call for the report of Preaching Committee. We, your Preaching Committee, make the following report: Saturday night at the church, J. J. Holland and E. Burns; at the home of Brother Cotton, T. J. Wright and J. R. Motly; at the Willbeck school house, B. D. Millsapp and A. A. Bates. Sunday at 11 a. m., A. A. Bates and T. J. Wright; at 3 p. m., J. A. Shackelford and J. M. White; at night, A. Nelson and J. R. Motly; at Cherry Hill, H. T. Howell. Monday at 11 a. m., at the church, Elder W. L. Compere, of Mena. By motion and second, that this body now adjourn until 8:30 a. m. Monday morning; closing prayer by D. T. Brunson.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION.

After reading the fourth chapter of First Peter and prayer by Elder J. J. Hughes, the body was called to order. Call for the reading of Saturday's minutes, which were read and adopted. Call for the reading of the roll, which read and absentees marked. Motion and second that the clerk so state in the minutes why Brother B. D. Millsapp and W. M. Tackett were absent. On Sunday at 11 a. m. there came a runner from the home of Brothers W. M. Tackett and B. D. Millsapp stating that the little child of Brother W. M. Tackett was dangerously sick and they were excused by the moderator. By motion and second, that speeches be limited to five minutes. By motion and second that Elder W. L. Compere and Brother J. J. Mershon, of Mena, have a seat in this body. Report of committees were called for.

A.—Duties of Churches to Pastors, W. D. Ward, chairman, was well discussed by the brethren.

B.—Duty of Pastors to Churches, T. J. Wright, chairman, was read and ably discussed by the body.

C.—State of Religion, D. T. Brunson, chairman, was read and adopted.

D.—Destitution, by J. J. Collier, chairman, was read and adopted.

E.—Report on Temperance, A. Nelson, chairman, was read and discussed with great vim and power by the brethren.

Brother W. L. Compere, the eloquent little preacher of Mena, made a rousing and feeling speech on the subject; having consumed his five minutes, was allowed five minutes more.

F.—Report on Documents, A. J. Newcomb, chairman, was read and adopted.

G.—Report on Finance, J. K. Wilcox, chairman, was read and adopted.

H. Treasurer's Report, D. T. Brunson, treasurer, read and adopted.

I. Missionary Report, J. Welch, chairman. We, your committee, had no missionary in the bounds of the Caddo River Association.

J. Report on Obituaries, J. N. Wasson, chairman, was read and adopted.

By motion and second the body adjourned until 1.30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The association met at 1:30.

Motion and carried that the minutes of the Sunday-school Convention be printed in the association minutes. Call for resolutions. By request of the messenger from New Home Church that they have a letter of dismission from the Caddo River Missionary Baptist Association to the Buckville Missionary Baptist Association. By motion and second New Home Church was granted a letter of dismission.

Resolution.—Whereas, We believe that the Missionary Baptist Church that have a legal and Gospel right to administer Gospel Baptism therefore, be it

Resolved, That we will not recognized any other baptism. S. G. Moran, Chairman.

This resolution was ably discussed and endorsed by the body.

Resolution.—Realizing that we have a name to live, but that the missionary Spirit is almost dead in our association; therefore be it

Resolved, by this body, That we earnestly request that every male member in every church send in ten (10) cents and every female member 5 cents to our next association for State Missions. Let us help our brethren and bear the burdens. E. Burns.

Motion and second that State Mission be struck out and Association Mission be inserted. Adopted.

Resolution.—Resolved, That the Caddo River Missionary Baptist Association meet with Salem Baptist Church, Pike County, Arkansas, on Saturday before the second Sunday in September, 1902. J. A. Shackelford. Which was unanimously carried.

Resolution of Thanks.—Resolved, That the thanks of this body be, and they are hereby, tendered the members of Big Fork Church, and the community, for the kindness and liberal hospitality shown us during our stay among them, and also to our moderator and clerk. W. T. West.

Motion and seconded that the clerk have 500 minutes struck and he have \$12 for his services rendered. A motion and second that the moderator appoint a correspondent messenger to the Red River Association, resulting in the appointment of Brothers A. Nelson and D. T. Brunson. By motion and second that Elder J. A. Shackelford and T. J.

Wright preach the next introductory sermon. A motion was then made and carried that this body now adjourn.

Closing prayer by Brother W. L. Compere and appropriate song was then sung while the messengers, brethren and sisters gave each other the parting hand amid tears of joy, hoping to meet again.

H. T. HOWELL, Moderator.

W. H. ANDERSON, Clerk.

Appendix.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES IN FULL.

A.—Duty of Churches to Pastors. It is the duty of the church to administer to their wants financially, according to the ability of the members composing the churches. Brethren, let each of us consider ourselves under obligation to help in this work. If each member would help in this work the burden would be light, and our pastors would not be neglected. We understand from the Word of God they that preach the Gospel shall live of the Gospel. The most of our preachers are poor men. The scriptures teaches us, "He that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord." W. A. Ward and M. E. Brunson, Committee.

B.—Duty of Pastors to Churches.—The pastor should preach the Word in its purity, reprove and rebuke with long suffering, and doctrine and should strive to influence every member to fill his station in the church and to do his whole duty in the work pertaining to matters of the church and by so doing lead them to Christ, whom we are taught is to take away the sins of the world. He should use all the efforts possible to convert sinners to Christ and to edify the church. T. J. Wright, Chairman.

C.—State of Religion. We, your Committee on Religion, submit the following report: We find from the reading of the letters and information obtained from the messengers of this association that God by His omnipotent power has seen fit to bless us, and there has been a good work done, and that religion is in a prosperous condition in the bounds of this association, and we pray God to continue his blessings upon us. D. L. Brunson, Chairman.

D.—Destitution.—We, your Committee on Destitution, make the following report: We find in the bounds of the Caddo River Association great destitution. May the Lord awaken us to a true sense of our duty as Missionary Baptists, that we may devise some plan by which we can send the Gospel to these destitute parts, for the Gospel is the power of God unto every one that believes. J. J. Collier, Chairman.

E.—Report on Temperance. We, your Committee on Temperance, make the following report: We believe that temperance is gaining ground in our land, and we plead with every Baptist in the bounds of this association to give their undivided influence in the behalf of this great work. A. Nelson, Chairman.

F.—Report on Documents. We, your Committee on Documents, submit the following report: We find sent up by the churches for Home Missions: \$5.55; Foreign Missions, \$1, and two churches calling for the next session of this body. A. J. Newcomb, Chairman.

G.—Report on Finance. We, your Committee on Finance, find on

Read for minutes, \$28.27; for Home Missions, \$5.55; for Foreign Missions, \$1. Total, \$34.82. Respectfully submitted, J. K. Wilcox.

Treasurer's Report. Amount of funds at close of last association, \$28.27; paid out during last year for printing minutes, \$16; to W. H. Anderson as clerk, \$12.50; amount on hand, \$6.37. Total, \$34.87. Amount paid in the treasury for this year for minutes, \$28.27; for Home Missions, \$5.55; for Foreign Missions, \$1. Balance on hand from last year, \$6.37. Cash on hand, \$41.19. D. T. Brunson, Treasurer.

Missionary Report. We, your committee, find no missionary in the bounds of the Caddo River Association. John Welch, Chairman.

Obituaries. God, in His all wise providence, has removed from us our beloved and much esteemed sister, Lizzie Ponder, of Caney Valley Church, age 45 years; Sister Sada Smith, age 45 years; lived a devoted member of the Baptist Church for 20 years. Brother I. J. Cotton died December 25, 1900, age 78 years; lived a consistent member of Big Fork Church for many years. Brothers D. T. Smith, W. M. Hughes and Sister Tilla Bright, members of Mt. Moriah Church, died in the year 1901. Sister Jane Rowton, of Providence, died September 25, 1900; joined the Baptist Church in 1880. Brother M. C. Haygood, of Bethel Church, died October 23, 1900, age 70 years; member for 12 years. Sister Mary Wilson, of Mt. Zion Church, died February, 1901. Brother C. Flanagan, Sister Emily Peel and Sister McDonald, of Pleasant Valley Church, died in February, 1901. Sister Ella Bagget, age 44 years. Respectfully submitted, J. N. Wasson.

Churches, Pastors, Clerks, Postoffices and Counties.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	POSTOFFICE	COUNTY
Amos	R C Fields	John Welch	Caddo Gap	Montgomery
Board Camp	H T Howell	R L Thompson	Board Camp	Polk
Black Springs	H T Howell	L P Guthry	Black Springs	Montgomery
Bethel	J A Shackelford	T Robertson	Rock Creek	Pike
Big Fork	H T Howell	H A Standridge	Eggar	Polk
Bethlehem	D Carnish	W I Taylor	Kirby	Pike
Caney	A Wilson	J B Hitchcock	Platta	Montgomery
Caney Valley	J A Shackelford	C H Motley	Amity	Clark
Forest Hill	T J Wright	Y M Nicholson	Hickory Sta.	Montgomery
Liberty No. 1	J A Shackelford	T J Collier	Ophir	Montgomery
Liberty No. 2	James Embry	J K Wilcox	Eggar	Polk
Mount Pleasant	J J Hughes	D B White	Langley	Pike
Mount Home	T J Wright	W M Tackett	Hickory Sta.	Montgomery
Mount Zion	D T Driggers	M L Pate	Platta	Montgomery
Mount Moriah	B D Millsapp	P H Bright	Ussery	Garland
Mount Pagan	B D Millsapp	M L Huggins	Welch	Montgomery
New Home	W T Segman	W L Cockrell	Chandler	Garland
Pleasant Valley	R C Fields	W T West	Manfred	Montgomery
Providence	J J Holland	L F Loudermilk	Black Springs	Montgomery
Red Bird	J A Shackelford	A F Wilson	Wilson	Pike
Spring Springs	J J Holland	W M Edwards	Red Bird	Montgomery
Valley Grove	W P Taylor	J F Kendrick	Rock Creek	Pike

Statistical Table.

CHURCHES.	Rec. by Baptism	Rec. by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Restored	Died	Present Mem'ship	Days of Meeting	Minute Fund	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Value of Church Property	Pastor's Salary	Orphans' Home
Antioch	1	2				1	21	1st	\$ 85					
Board Camp	7	2	3	4			68	2nd	2 30		\$ 1 00		\$ 50 00	
Black Springs	9	2			2		44	1st	1 50			\$150 00	36 25	\$4 25
Bethel	6	3	4	1	1	1	42	2nd	1 65	\$ 25		300 00	21 00	
Big Fork	28	2	2	1	1	1	116	4th	2 10	15		300 00	64 00	
Bethlehem	7	1		2	1	1	30	4th	1 40			200 00	13 65	
Corinth							9	1st	30					
Caney Valley	10	1	6		1	3	64	3rd	1 20			200 00		
Forest Hill		1		3			28	1st	60				7 00	
Liberty No. 1	7				1		43	3rd	1 50					
Liberty No. 2					1		27	2nd	1 00					
Mount Pleasant	6	2	3	1	1		45	2nd	90				10 00	
Mount Home	11	3					64	3rd	1 05			300 00		
Mount Zion	11	7	1				35	3rd	1 50			135 00		
Mount Moriah			11			3	48	2nd	1 00	50				
Mount Pisgah	1	4			1		29	4th	1 00	50				
New Home		1					25	2nd	1 10					
Pleasant Valley			3			3	34	2nd	1 00					
Providence			2				42	2nd	1 00				11 50	
Salem	3	3	2	2			43	1st	1 60			350 00	14 00	2 25
Sulphur Springs		2					11	3rd	50					
Valley Grove	7						28	4th	1 00			200 00	7 50	5 00
Total	75	43	37	14	11	13	894		\$26 95	\$1 40	\$1 00	\$2135 00	\$235 50	\$12 50

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES.

D Bright, Ussery	A A Bates, Big Fork
D T Brunson, Rock Creek	W J Chelwood, Chandler
D T Driggers, Platta	T P Edwards, Red Bird
James Embry, Eggar	R C Fields, Rock Creek
H T Howell, Platta	J J Hughes, Rock Creek
J J Holland, Red Bird	B D Millsapp, Hickory Station
J R Motley, Kirby	A Nelson, Hickory Station
J G Pate, Welch	G C Smith, Lodi
W P Taylor, Kirby	J A Shackelford, Hickory Station
T J Wright, Welch	W F Willis, Amity
J M White, Lodi	R P Wilkinson, Lodi

LICENTIATES AND THEIR POSTOFFICES.

Green Diggs, Hickory Station	G S Driggers, Hickory Station
E Burns, Hickory Station	H L Huggins, Welch
S M Gilbert, Hickory Station	Ottis Martin, Hickory Station

Sunday-School Convention.

HICKORY STATION, ARK., August 10, 1901.

The Caddo River Baptist Sunday School Convention met with Mount Home church on Friday, August 10, 1901, at 11 a. m. The introductory sermon was preached by Brother D. T. Brunson, and A. Nelson. The convention then adjourned to 3 p. m.

FIRST DAY, AFTERNOON SESSION.

The convention was opened by reading and prayer. The secretary being absent, by motion and second that W. M. Tackett act as secretary *pro tem*.

Call for the reading of the constitution.

Call for the letters from the churches and schools. Letters read. Churches and messengers names enrolled.

Valley Grove Church—R. L. Hughes, J. F. Hendricks, Miss Lilla Stafford and Miss Katie Arnold.

Mount Home Church—J. C. Thomas, G. A. Drigger, W. T. Drigger.

Mount Home Sunday School—Rush Thomas and Misses Hattie Tackett, Lilla Coldwell and Emma Driggers.

Went into election of officers for another year. Results—D. T. Brunson, president; W. T. Willis, vice-president; J. C. Thomas, secretary.

Motion and second that Brothers W. F. Willis, of Bethel, and A. Nelson, of Valley Grove, and B. D. Millsapp, of Mount Home Churches, have seats in the convention.

Appointed committee on programme—Brothers B. D. Millsapp, G. A. Driggers, Sister Emma Driggers and E. Burns.

Preaching committee report—Friday night preaching by W. F. Willis and B. D. Millsapp.

By motion and second the convention adjourned until 8 a. m., Saturday morning.

• SECOND DAY, MORNING SESSION.

The convention was opened by Brother W. F. Willis by reading the 4th chapter of First Peter and prayer by G. A. Driggers.

Next call for the report of Sunday School superintendents, and several responded with good reports.

Call for essays by Sunday School appointments.

First. "What is the duty of parents to the Sunday School"—W. F. Willis, which was ably discussed by the body and endorsed.

By motion and second preaching at 11 a. m. was omitted.

By motion and second Brother Harvey and Brother Z. M. Nicholson, of Forest Hill Church, were allowed seats in the convention.

Essay 2. "What is the effect and results of moral training,"—D. T. Brunson, was ably discussed by the brethren and endorsed by the convention.

Third. "Why should we pray?"—A. Nelson. Adopted.

Adjourned until 2 p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

The convention was opened by Brother A. Nelson by reading the 11th chapter of Jeremiah, and prayer.

Received delegates from Caney Valley, M. C. Herring. Liberty church, A. Diffe and Sister Annie McDonald.

Essay 4. "Why did Jesus weep at the grave of Lazarus?" Ap-
pointee being absent it was moved and seconded that Brother B. D.
Millsapp take the subject; which was ably discussed by the brethren.

By motion and second that this body hold its next session with
Forest Hill Church, Montgomery county, Ark., commencing on Friday
at 11 a. m., before the first Sunday in August, 1892.

Call for resolutions.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the members of Mount
Home Church and Sabbath School for their kind hospitality shown us
while with them.

W. T. Willis.

Resolved, That every member use their best energy towards
establishing Sunday School in every Baptist church in the Caddo River
Association and all churches in our bounds work for the advance-
ment of the Sunday School.

B. D. Millsapp.

Call for the preaching committee report. Brother Ottis Martin
and E. Burns Saturday night.

The convention then adjourned to meet at 8 a. m., Sunday
morning.

MORNING SESSION.

The convention was opened by the president by reading the 8th
Psalm and prayer by D. T. Driggers.

Services at 11 a. m. by Brother W. F. Willis and D. T. Driggers.

After services the convention adjourned to meet with Forest Hill
Church on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1902. Following
is the programme to be rendered at Forest Hill Church, commencing
on Friday, August, 1902:

Introductory sermon—J. J. Hughes, and W. F. Willis alternate.

1. Should the principles of missions be taught in Sabbath
Schools?—W. H. Anderson.

2. Why should we use literature in our Sunday Schools?—W. F.
Willis.

3. Should we have Sabbath School teachers that do not belong
to the church?—D. T. Brunson.

4. Why was Jesus troubled at the grave of Lazarus?—J. M.
Smith.

5. Give the scriptural authority for the Sabbath School.—
A. Nelson.

Essay of her own choice—Sister S. F. Brunson.

Essay of her own choice—Sister Jessie Thomas.

Essay of her own choice—Sister Emma Driggers.

Essay of her own choice—Sister Ella Coldwell.

Essay of her own choice—Sister Hattie Tackett.

Respectfully submitted,

G. A. Driggers.

E. Burns.

Emma Driggers.

D. T. BRUNSON, President, Rock Creek.

W. F. WILLIS, Vice-President, Amity.

J. C. THOMAS, Secretary, Hickory Station.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. When the delegates of the several churches shall assemble at the place appointed for the session of the association, the moderator shall open business by praise and prayer in person or by proxy. If the former moderator or clerk be absent, the association shall appoint one in his stead.

2. Immediately after opening the session, the church letters shall be read by persons the moderator may appoint, and the names of the delegates be enrolled by the clerk.

3. When the delegates' names are enrolled and called by the clerk, the association shall then elect by ballot a moderator and clerk, the plurality of votes governing the election.

4. All motions and amendments to motions must be seconded before they can be entertained by the moderator. When motions or amendments to motions are made, the last one made shall be the first in order, and so on in inverse order to the original motion; but the mover may at any time withdraw his motion.

5. Any person wishing to make a motion or to speak on any matter before the association, shall rise to his feet and respectfully address the moderator, and if he be in order the moderator shall signify it by calling the name of the person; and no one thus in order shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or for personal reflections; nor shall any member speak more than twice on the same subject without leave from the association, or to explain some of his former remarks.

6. Whenever sufficient time has been allowed for discussion of any subject before the association, the moderator shall take the voice of the association and declare the result, a plurality governing all cases except those provided for.

7. No member may vacate his seat without the consent of the moderator while the body is in session.

8. When one member shall speak to or of another he shall call him brother.

9. The moderator shall have the names of the delegates called whenever it is necessary.

10. The moderator may speak on matters of debate as other members, by calling some one else to fill his seat while speaking; but not until all others have spoken who desire to speak.

11. The moderator may invite visiting ministers, in good order to seats in the council, who may speak but not vote.

12. The minutes of the association may be read as may be necessary.

13. The moderator shall be judge of the order; the objector may appeal to the body, a majority of whom shall determine the point of order.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in a true and living God.

2. We believe that the Scriptures, composing the Old and New Testaments, are the words of God and the only rules of our faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of election according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the spirit unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin by the fall of Adam.
5. We believe in man's inability of his own free will and ability to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature.
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imparted righteousness of Christ only.
7. We believe that the saints shall be preserved in grace and never fall finally away.
8. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are the ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of baptism, and that immersion is the apostolic mode.
9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and in the general judgment, and that the felicity of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.
10. We believe that no minister has any right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel but one who has been regularly baptized, called and comes under the imposition of the hands of the presbytery.
11. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's Supper.
12. We believe that the Lord's day should be observed as a day of rest and religious devotion.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This union shall be known and distinguished by the name and title of the Caddo River Baptist Association.

ART. 2. This association shall be composed of delegates from the churches in the union. Each church shall be entitled to three delegates, who shall be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of their appointment by their several churches before they take their seats.

ART. 3. The delegates, when convened, shall organize themselves into a deliberative body by the appointment of a moderator and clerk, who shall be chosen by ballot at each annual association, and continue in office until their successors are chosen.

ART. 4. This association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which it is composed. It shall regard them as independent in matters of internal government, and shall act as advisory counsel, assuming no authority except what is expressly delegated to it by the churches, or evidently implied by the nature of the compact. It nevertheless claims authority over its members, the delegates from churches, and in justness and propriety must have power to withdraw from, and disown, all churches which depart from the spirit of this compact by becoming heterodox in faith or disorderly in practice. It should, therefore, regard all churches united under this constitution with a vigilant eye for good. Its principal business shall be to promote the declarative glory of God, by extending the kingdom of grace on earth through the medium of preaching the gospel, and the means in accordance with the gospel to cultivate union and fellowship with all the churches of Christ, especially those united in this constitution.

ART. 5. Newly constituted churches and churches dismissed from other associations of the same faith and order, may be admitted into this union by sending three delegates, their number in fellowship, number baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, restored and deceased since last session, and all other information which the churches may deem important, which shall be read and minuted.

ART. 6. This association shall have a fund to be supplied by

voluntary contributions of the churches. All the money thus contributed shall be transmitted from the churches and paid over through the Committee on Finance to the treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot and hold his office during the pleasure of the association. He shall receive and manage the funds agreeably to the order of the association, and present annually for inspection in the minutes, a clear and succinct statement of all receipts and expenditures.

Art. 7. This association shall furnish the churches with the minutes of every session.

Art. 8. The association shall take cognizance of no query sent up from the churches unless they have endeavored to solve the same and have failed; nor of any difficulty between the churches unless they have pursued the direction in the 18th chapter of Matthew, and have not been able to settle them; then the association shall take such matters into consideration and act upon them at its own discretion.

Art. 9. It shall be the duty of the clerk of the association to keep a regular file of the printed minutes of each session of this body, and deliver over the same to his successor in office.

Art. 10. This constitution may be altered or amended at regular meetings of this association by the concurring voice of two-thirds of the members present, provided such alteration or amendment be approved by the churches comprising the association.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

FIRST DAY.

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Appointment of preaching committee.
3. Call for letters from the churches.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Election of officers.
6. Invitation to visiting ministers to seats.
7. Call for correspondents.
8. Appointment of committees.
9. Call for a report of the committee on preaching.

SECOND DAY.

1. Call for the reading of the minutes.
2. Roll call and marking of the names of absentees.
3. Call for reports of committees.
4. Call for resolutions.
5. Appointments for next session.
6. Call for treasurer's report.

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