

# MINUTES

Of The 18th. Annual Session Of The

## BIG CREEK

## MISSIONARY BAPTISTS ASSOCIATION,

Held With

## Liberty Baptist Church,

FULTON Co., ARK., SEP. 24-26, 1892.

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### OFFICERS:

ELD. J. R. COOPER, Moderator, - Mam. Spg., Ark.  
ISHAM A. LOVELACE, Clerk, - - - - - Bexar, Ark.

### CENTRAL MISSION BOARD:

J. D. BRATCHER, - - - - Bexar, Ark.  
SAMUEL MILLER, - - - - - Union, „  
Dr. J. F. BARNES, - - - - - „ „  
G. W. GIBSON, - - - - - Oxford „  
ISHAM A. LOVELACE, - - - - Bexar, „

## ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR 2ND. DAY SESSION.

1. Roll call.
2. Reading the minuts of Satuesday.
3. Call for churches not represented Saturday, renewed.
4. Renew the invitation for churches bearing petitionary letters.
5. Renew the invitation for visiting ministers.
6. Renew the invitation for corresdonping messengers.
7. Call for report of committee on Sabbath Schools.
8. Call for report of committee on Finance.
9. Call for report of committee on Baptist Literature.
10. Call for report of committee on Home Missions.
11. Call for report of committee on Foreign Missions.
12. Call for report of committee on Christian Education.
13. Call for report of Mission Board.
13. Arrange corrspondance to sister association.
15. Select a new place for holding the next association.
15. Select a brother to preach the introductory sermon.
17. Miscellaneous business.

## **MINUTES.**

The Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association met in its 18th annual session with Liberty Baptist Church, Fulton county, Ark., Saturday Sept. 24th, 1892, at 10 o'clock, a. m. According to election last session, Eld. J. R. Cooper preached the introductory sermon, followed by Eld. J. P. Lovelace: Text—Acts v-29: "We ought to obey God rather than man." After preaching, the association was called to order by the Moderator, J. P. Lovelace, and the association proceeded to business.

1. Eld. W. H. Bowling and Bro. J. W. Butler were appointed reading clerks, names of churches called, letters presented and messenger's names enrolled.

2. Bros. E. R. Lucas and J. F. Barnes were appointed tellers and an election for moderator and clerk had, which resulted in the election of Eld. J. R. Cooper, Moderator and Isham A. Lovelace, Clerk.

3. On motion, an adjournment was taken until 3 p. m. Prayer by Eld. J. E. Cargill.

### EVENING SESSION.

After singing and prayer by Eld. H. B. Clinton, the Association was called to order by the Moderator and work resumed.

1. Call for petitionary letters. None.

2. Call for corresponding messengers of sister associations. None.

3. An invitation was given to visiting ministers and accepted by Eld. H. B. Clinton, who was welcomed a seat.

4. Appointment of committees.

1. On Religious Exercises—J. W. Butler, R. E. Richardson and J. G. Carroll.

2. Baptist Literature—J. D. Bratcher, Elds. M. A. Chadwick and T. F. Cargill.

4. Sabbath Schools—E. R. Lucas, T. S. Crowder and W. W. Standford.

4. Home Missions—S. M. Wren, Elds. J. P. Lovelace, J. E. Cargill.
5. Finance—J. C. Jones, A. A. Tollerson.
6. Foreign Missions—Jno. Bell, Elds. H. B. Clinton, N. T. Chadwick.
7. Christian Education—J. W. Butler, S. J. Wilson, V. P. Lomont.

On motion, association adjourned till Monday, 9 a. m.  
Prayer by Eld. W. H. Bowling.

### SECOND DAY SESSION.

At 9. a. m. the Moderator called the Association to order after singing and prayer by Eld. J. P. Lovelace.

1. Roll called and absentees marked.
2. Minutes of Saturday read and approved.
3. Called for churches not represented Saturday. Macedonia church presented her letter which was read and messenger's names enrolled.
4. Called for petitionary letters. None.
5. Called for corresponding messengers of sister associations. Bro. D. J. Smith of Rocky Bayou was received and extended the right hand of fellowship by the Moderator.
6. An invitation was given to visiting ministers. Eld. W. M. Duren accepted and was welcomed a seat.
7. Report of committee on Sabbath schools, was read and after speeches by Elds. Lucas and J. P. Lovelace was adopted. (see appendix A.)
8. Report of committee on Baptist Literature was read and after speech by Eld. Duren, adopted. (see appendix B.)
9. Report of committee on Home Missions was read and after speeches by Elds. Cooper, Bowling, Clinton, Duren and J. P. Lovelace, adopted. (see appendix C.)
10. The Moderator appointed Bros. as Central Mission Board. viz: J. D. Bratcher, Samuel Miller, G. W. Gibson, Dr. J. F. Barns and Isham A. Lovelace.
11. Report of committee on Finance read and adopted.
12. Report of committee on Foreign Missions read and adopted. (see appendix E.)
13. Report of Committee on Christian Education read and after speeches by Elds. Duren, J. E. and T. F. Cargill, was adopted. (see appendix F.)

A recess of one hour was taken.

### EVENING SESSION.

After an hour the association reassembled and resumed work, after prayer by Rev. J. L. Bowling.

1. Report of Central Mission Board was read. Pending its adoption a collection in cash and pledges was taken amounting to \$61.35. (see appendix. G.)

2. Report of Missionary Board was read and adopted. (see appendix. H.)

3. Correspondence was arranged as follows.

To White River—J. G. Carroll, Elds. S. M. Wren, J. E. Cargill and James Herron.

Rocky Bayou—W. F. Carter. Elds. J. P. Lovelace, M. A. Chadwick, J. L. Bowling and S. M. Wren.

Union—David McElmurry, M. S. Bishop, Elds. J. R. Cooper and H. M. McElmurry.

4. Spring River Church, Fulton Co., Ark., was selected as the next place of the meeting of the association.

5. Eld. J. E. Cargill was elected to preach the Introductory Sermon, Eld. W. H. Bowling to be his Alternate.

6 On motion, it was decided to have a Ministers and members meeting to convene with Bethlehem Church, Fulton Co., Ark., Friday at 11 a. m. before the 5th. Saturday in October A. D. 1892.

7 Eld. M. A. Chadwick was elected to preach the Introductory Sermon, Eld. J. R. Cooper to be his Alternate.

8 The Central Mission Board was appointed a committee to assign subjects for essays.

9. Elds. J. P. Lovelace and W. H. Bowling were elected delegates to the state Baptist convention.

10. Eld W. H. Bowling gave notice that he would, at the next annual meeting, offer an amendment to the constitution. (see appendix, I.)

11. The clerk was authorized to have 300 copies of the minutes printed.

12. On motion, the association adjourned to meet with Spring River Church, Fulton Co., Ark., on Saturday, at 11 a. m. before the 4th Sunday in Sept. 1893.

### CLOSING.

Prayer by Eld. W. M. Duren. While singing the Messen-



gers took the parting hand. Eld. J. R. Cooper Moderator.  
Isham A. Lovelace, Clerk.

### Appendix A.

We, your committee on Sabbath School would beg leave to submit the following report: whereas, it is a scriptural command to train up the child in the way it should go, and whereas the Sabbath School is an auxiliary to the church in bringing about said result. Therefore we, your committee on Sabbath Schools would urgently recommend to the churches in the bounds of Big Creek association the importance of organizing and running an evergreen sabbath school in all the churches—Respt. submitted.

E. R. Lucas, Chairman.

### Appendix B.

Dear Brethren. We, your committee on Baptist Literature would respectfully submit the following. Believing as we do that owing to the neglect of the direct reading of the Bible and the reading of other literature without the due and prayerfull study of the Holy Scriptures has caused a great part if not all the Dissensions, Isms and Sisms of the day. We would earnestly and prayerfully recommend the study and reading of the Holy Bible by all of our own people, it being the only literature that is safe and sure not to lead us into error. We also believe the Arkansas Baptist, our State Organ, to be sound in faith and in accord with the preachings of the Bible. Respt. submitted J. D. Bratcher, Elds. M. A. Chadwick, T. F. Cargill. com.

### Appendix C.

We, your committee on Home Missions beg leave to submit the following. We find within the bounds of our association great destitution and we ought to take some steps to occupy all of our bounds and to give the Gospel to those who are starving for the bread of life. We therefore recommend that the association appoint a Mission Board consisting of five Brethren to collect funds through any method that may seem proper to them and to take full contrroll of the mission work in our bounds and employ a

missionary &c.

Eld. S. M. Wren, Chairman.

### Appendix D.

We your committee on Finance beg leave to submit the following report. Amt. received from the churches \$11,20, Amount received by public collection \$1,15, Total \$12,35. G. C. Jones and A. A. Tollerson, committee.

### Appendix E.

We your committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to report that we request each church in Big Creek Association to contribute of their means as God has prospered them for support of Foreign Missions during the next associational year and report the amount contributed to the next association. The Foreign Mission Board is in debt and they must have help or the work must be abandoned.

Eld. H. B. Clinton, Chairman.

### Appendix F.

We, your committee on Christian Education beg leave to submit the following. Whereas the cause of Christian Education is now universally recognized by Baptist as being of paramount importance in uplifting the masses to a higher plain of christian civilization. Whereas our public schools in many places are largely brought under Infidels and worldly sentiments. We would therefore recommend that our association would rally to the support of the Mt. Home and Outchita Baptist Colleges believing it to be our duty to educate our children in our schools.

V. P. Lomont, Chairman.

### Appendix G.

Dear Brethren, we your Central Mission Board appointed at your last meeting respectfully submit the following. We employed Eld. J. R. Cooper as Missionary to travel and preach in the eastern bounds of the association, agreeing to pay him \$1,50 per day; he has worked 61 days amounting to \$91,50 and we have paid him \$91,50. We also owe Eld. W. H. Bowling a ballance on last year amounting to \$31. We also have on subscription not paid the amount of \$40,25. Respt. submitted, J. D. Bratcher

Samuel Miller and. J. W. Battles, Central Board.

### Appendix H.

I, your Missionary employed by your Board to travel in the eastern bounds of Big Creek association for the past associational year, report as follows. Miles traveled, 880. Sermons preached, 70. Exhortations, 9. Conversions, 9. Received by letter, 3 Baptisms, 9. Received by recommendation, 1. Days work, 61. Received for services, \$91 50.

Respdetfully submitted, Eld. J. R. Cooper. Missionary.

### Appendix I.

Notice is hereby given that at the next meeting there will be a resolution offered to allow all ordained ministers of this association seats in the body without having to be elected as messengers and boards connected by reason of appointment from the body. Eld. W. H. Bowling.

## CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This association shall be known by the name of "Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association."

ART. 2. The members composing the annual meetings of the association shall consist of the messengers sent by the churches.

ART. 3. The messengers sent by the churches to the annual meetings, shall not exceed four from each church.

ART 4. The association shall meet annually, at such time and place as shall have previously been appointed.

ART. 5. The officers of this association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasure, who shall be chosen by a majority of the Messengers, annually, at the annual meeting of the body.

ART. 6 This association shall have no power to control or regulate the internal affairs or discipline of any church, but it may adopt or recommend all such measures as shall be considered best calculated to produce the harmony and peosperity of the churches, and to advance the Redeemer's Kingdom, and advise and consult upon mat-



ters as the churches may at any time present for their consideration and advice. It may receive churches in this association, or dismiss churches from the body, inquire into the state of Religion on its bounds, and suggest measures for its advancement, and be a common bond of Union among the churches, but shall not exercise any legislative power over the churches.

ART. 7. This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a vote of two thirds of the members present, provided notice has been given at a previous meeting.

### RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The association shall commence with Religious exercises and a sermon from some preacher, who shall have been previously appointed, unless the association shall otherwise direct.

2. The Moderator of the session shall preside, and the former clerk shall act (provided they attend) until the letters from the churches connected with the body shall have been read and a moderator and clerk appointed.

3. It shall be the duty of the moderator to preside over the meetings during its session, and appoint committees (unless the association shall otherwise direct), preserve order, reprove improprieties (except an appeal is made to the meeting by two members). He shall have a right to speak on all subjects, calling a member to the chair, and examine and correct the minutes if necessary.

4. The Clerk shall keep a correct copy of the proceedings of the meeting, read the letters and documents, and may call any member to assist him at the close of the meeting. He shall take charge of the papers and documents, unless otherwise directed.

5. The churches shall designate their messengers, and report their condition by letter.

6. Preachers in good standing in other Baptist churches or associations with whom we are in fellowship, when at-

tending our annual meeting, shall be invited to a seat as correspondents, and these meetings shall always be opened and closed with prayer.

7. Every member may speak twice on one subject in debate before the meeting, but no more without leave; and when speaking stand and address the Moderator, and use decorous and christian language; and no member shall absent himself from the association during the session without leave; and any person who shall violate these Rules or Constitution shall be reprov'd as the association shall think proper.

8. These Rules may be amended by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting.

9. The churches shall contribute funds for the ordinary expences of the body, such as printing the minutes and paying the traveling expences of such members as the association may send to other bodies.

10. A public collection shall be taken up at each session, and applied to such benevolent purposes as the association may direct.

### CHURCHES AND MESSENGERS.

- Mt. Zion.—Eld. W. H. Bowling, J. C. Cochran, J. D. Bratcher, V. Wood.  
 Shady Grove.—J. R. Cooper, R. E. Richardson, A. A. Tollerson, G. C. Jones.  
 Liberty.—J. W. Battles, E. R. Lucas, Elds. N. T. and B. L. Chadwick.  
 Liberty Hill.—Eld. J. P. Lovelace, W. R. Fountain, Isham A. Lovelace.  
 New Prospect.—J. W. Barnes, T. J. Brice, Wm. Floyd.  
 Pleasant Grove.—T. S. Crowder, J. M. Lemmons, C. L. Foust.  
 Viola.—Z. T. Carroll, Elds. S. M. Wren, T. F. and J. E. Cargill.  
 Enterprise.—James Herron.  
 Union.—M. S. Bishop, J. L. Evans, W. W. Standertford.  
 Spring River.—V. P. Lomont, John Bell.  
 Cross Roads.—Eld. M. A. Chadwick.  
 Little Strawberry.—J. W. Daily, W. F. Carter, J. T. Porterfield.  
 Oak Grove.—J. F. Johns, David McElmurry, H. McElmurry.  
 Bethlehem.—S. J. Wilson.  
 Shiloh.—E. M. Rice.  
 Pleasant Ridge.—H. Stephens.

# STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE BIG CREEK MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHES	ADDRESS	PASTOR	CLERK	Days of meeting	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Rec'm'd'n	Restored	Dismiss'd by letter	Excluded	Died	Total membership	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Val of ch Property	Minute Fund	amt paid Pastor
Mt Zion	Union	J P Lovelace	S W Cochran	3 2 9	1	7						100	\$16,35	\$40.		\$1,50	\$75
Shady Grove	Salem	J R Cooper	S M Oliver	4 14 1	2					1	3	106			\$2,50	\$1,50	
Liberty	Viola		E R Lucas									56				.60	
Liberty Hill	Oxford	W M Duren	I A Lovelace	1 9				5		1		76			\$1,50	\$1,65	
New Prospect	Oxford	J P Lovelace	T J Brice	4 1				2	1	1		17			\$2,00	.40	\$15
Pleasant Grove	Ten Mile	W H Bowling	R W Holloway	2 1 2			1	1	3			33	\$1,35			.75	\$30
Viola	Viola	W H Bowling	Z T Carroll	4 4 5	1							35				\$1,00	\$30
Enterdisce	Vidette	J E Cargill	C A Webb	3 1						1		24				.55	\$18
Mt Pleasant	Afton	J R Cooper	J B Hackette									21	\$2,30			.50	
Bethlehem	Salem	J R Cooper	S J Wilson	1 1	1					1		5				\$1,00	
Shiloh	Flora	T F Cargill	w A Mize	1 10 2	1			3		2		52					
Union	Mammoth Spr'g	J R Cooper	J L Evans	3 1	1							13					
Spring River	Hardy	J R Cooper	Ed McKanghan	2 8 3	1						1	31				.50	
Cross Roads	Union	H B Clinton	H L white	4 1				3		1		42				.50	
Little Strawberry	Salem	H B Clinton	J T Porterfield	2				4		14		30					
Oak Grove	Moody Mo	J E Cargill	J F Johns					6		2		19				75	
Mackedonia	Union	J E Cargill	M L Butler	2 7 3	1 1			1		5	1	48			\$2,00	\$1,00	\$25
Pleasant Ridg	wild cherry	w H Bowling	J A Shelton	1 3 2				2		1		29			\$1,00	.50	
TOTAL				37 56	28 8	3	34	32	7 728	\$5	\$40 \$9	\$12 70	\$19 7				