

Fragment of the

Minutes of 1864
of

located in
Union County, Arkansas
and in the
Adjacent part of Louisiana

Typescript donated by Rev. D.D. Tidwell.
original owned by W. F. Hood.
April, 1937.

FRAGMENT OF AN 1864 MINUTE OF
LIBERTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
(South Arkansas and North Louisiana)

This fragment is of the Liberty Baptist Association of South Arkansas and North Louisiana. The four churches- Mount Olive, Holly Grove, El Dorado, Springhill, La. ; two preachers (elders)- W.C. Johnson, S.T. Cobb; and one layman- R.B.Sanders (Saunders in 1858 minutes) are common in the 1858 minutes of Liberty Association and this 1864 fragment.

Checked March 10, 1961 by George T.Blackmon
Ouachita Baptist College, Arkadelphia, Ark.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order by the Moderator.-Singing and prayer by Elder J. P. Everett.

On motion.-Br. B. Tatum, a delegate from Mt. Olive church, without a letter, was admitted to a seat with us.

On motion.-The committee of Arrangements were called on to report, which report was received and adopted, and the committee discharged.

Called the Roll and marked absentees.

On motion.-Took up the query laid on the table on yesterday, and the following resolution was adopted as answer thereto.

RESOLVED, That the churches composing this body, be recommended to be very careful to nourish and encourage their various gifts, but quit the practice of giving written license before ordination, and calling every one a preacher who desires to exercise the gift of exhortation, as we believe such a course unscriptural, and the thought of being hastily pushed forward into the ministry and being called a preacher, has prevented many from exercising the gift of exhortation, and thereby their valuable services lost to the church.

Called on committee on Documents for their report, and at their request, they were granted further time,

Called for Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools, which report was received and adopted, and committee discharge. (See Appendix A).

Called for Report of Committee on Finance, -Report received and adopted, and committee discharged. (Appendix B.)

Called for Miscellaneous Business-None presented.

On motion, The Association voted to hold her next Annual Session with Eldorado church, Union county, Arkansas, to commence on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in September, A.D. 1865.

Adjourned until 1 o'clock, P.M., for preaching.

The sermon on Ministerial Aid, was delivered at 11 o'clock, A.M., by Elder W. C. Johnson, according to appointment, in a very impressive manner to a large and attentive audience.

1 o'clock, P.M.-After a recess and dinner, the Association met pursuant to adjournment, -Singing and prayer by Elder S. T. Cobb.

On motion, Went into the selection of a Minister to preach the Introductory Sermon at our next session, which resulted in the selection of Elder S. T. Cobb.- Alternate, J. H. Lagrone.

RESOLVED, That we have a sermon preached at 11 o'clock on Sabbath of our next Annual Session, on the Organization, progress, and history of the church.-Appointed to preach said sermon, Elder W. C. Johnson.- Alternate, S. T. Cobb.

Called for the report of committee on Documents, which report was received, read and adopted. (Appendix C.)

On motion-Set apart Thursday the 27th October, to be observed as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer, to Almighty God, that He would turn away His wrath, and remember us as a people in

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much mercy.

Query sent up by Holly Grove church, "Could not the manner of dismissing church members be bettered by giving them a final dismissal at their own request, and not express in the letter, "when joined to another church of same faith and order"?"

On motion - The above query be answered No, and we earnestly recommend the churches to adhere to the Old Landmarks.

On motion - The Clerk is instructed to superintend the printing of the Minutes, and distributing them to the churches in proportion to their contribution, and the Clerk is further instructed to send one copy of the Minutes to each of the Churches in this Association, and not represented in this session - and also, one copy to each of the churches which seceded from this body some time ago.

On motion-Resolved, That in consequence of the distracted condition of our country, the Association do not exercise the right given by the Constitution, requiring the churches failing to represent themselves, to give the reason why, & and that the Clerk write to them on the subject.

On motion - Resolved, That the Executive Board appointed at our last Session, be continued invested with the same powers as heretofore delegated to them.

On motion-Resolved, That the Clerk be paid seventy-five dollars for his services, and that the balance of the funds sent up, after deducting his salary, be expended in printing the Minutes.

On motion-Our present Treasurer, J. W. Hopkins, is continued.
Adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.-Singing and prayer by Elder J. P. Everett.

SABBATH, Oct. 2nd, 1864, 9 o'clock, A.M.

The Association met in prayer-meeting.

At 11 o'clock, Elder J. P. Everett, delivered the Missionary Sermon, agreeably to appointment, to a very large and attentive congregation, after which, a public collection was taken up, amount-

ing to one hundred and thirty-nine dollars, to be paid over to the Executive Board, for the purpose of employing Missionaries to our Soldiers and blacks.-Text. Prov. 3rd ch. and 9th verse.

After recess and dinner, the congregation reassembled, and an appropriate Communion Sermon by Elder W. C. Johnson, after which the Association by invitation from the church, partook of the Sacrament with solemnity and feelings, appropriate to the occasion.

On motion-The thanks of the Association be extended to the brethren and friends of this vicinity for their kindness and hospitality in entertaining the delegates and visitors of this session.

On motion-Adjourned to meet with ElDorado church, at El-Dorado, Union county, Arkansas, on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in September, A.D. 1865.

SAML. T. COBB, Moderator.

(Attest) J. W. HOPKINS, Clerk.

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APPENDIX

(A)

Report on Sabbath Schools.

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools report as follows:-We feel it unnecessary to urge the utility of Sabbath Schools, as it has been done from time to time. We want action! We deem reports by committees altogether unnecessary, when they do not have the direct effect.

W. C. Johnson,)
J. H. Lagrone, (Committee
T. Ingram.)

(B.)

Your committee on Finance report as follows:-The churches have sent to this Association for Minutes and Associational

purposes, \$451.27 cts.

J. H. Gray, ()
D. Cook,) Committee.
R. B. Sanders. (

(C.)

We, your committee on Documents, submit the following report:

After an examination of all the letters, we find the following that claims your attention.

1st. Springhill, La., recommends the setting apart a day to be observed in humiliation and prayer, that God would turn away His wrath, and remember us as a people in much mercy.

2nd. Holly Grove sends up the following query, viz:—"Could not the manner of dismissing church members be bettered by giving them a final dismissal at their own request, and express in the letter, "when joined to another church of the same faith and order?"

J. P. Everett, ()
R. G. Terrel) Committee.
J. G. McCane, (

(D.)

We, your committee on Missions, beg leave to submit the following report:

The spread of the Gospel should be a subject of great interest to every child of God, and no doubt, one of the many sins for which we are now suffering the scourge of Almighty God, is in consequence of our comparative neglect of this important duty. While

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we have been blessed as a people with such high privileges, we have not regarded as we should, those who are destitute of the Word of Life, and means of Grace, and though we are now surrounded by a blockade, and involved in a horrible war, so that if we de-

sired, we can do nothing in the way of Foreign Missions; but Dear Brethren, there remains much at home in this hour of peril to be done. A Missionary among our soldiers and blacks, might be instrumental in the hands of God, in doing much. Our fathers, husbands, sons, and brothers are in the tented field, and so far as our knowledge extends, the Chaplaincy has done but little good. They do not meet the wants of the soldiers, and while we behold this, will we remain idle spectators? Oh! Brethren, let it not be said. The churches composing this Association can do much in having the Gospel preached to the soldiers. The blacks also need to be instructed. No doubt that ignorance has made many of them our enemies. Then as laborers together with God, let us up and doing. Awake thou that sleepest, and God will give thee light.

J. P. Everett,)
W. C. Johnson, (Committee.
A. Jagers,)

(E.)

TREASURERS REPORT.

J.W. Hopkins, Treasurer:-

In account with the Association.	Dr.	
To amount of contributions from various churches..		\$451, 27.
" Collected on Sabbath,		\$139, 00.
		<u>\$590, 27.</u>
	Cr.	
By amount paid Executive Board,		\$139, 00.
" " Clerk's salary,		75, 00.
" " Printing and Distg. Minutes,		376, 27.
		<u>\$590, 27.</u>

J. W. Hopkins, Treasurer.