

## PROCEEDINGS.

SATURDAY, September 23d, 1876.

The Concord Association met pursuant to adjournment, with Poteau Church, Scott county, Arkansas, on Saturday, the 23d day of September, 1876.

On account of the absence of Elders J. M. Clevenger and J. S. Fields, Brother H. Been, together with the Clerk and Deacons of Poteau Church, were appointed a committee on preaching, who appointed Elder A. J. Rippy, who preached the introductory sermon from the 81st psalm, 8th, 9th and 10th verses. Theme, Result of Obedience.

After dinner the Moderator of last session, Eld. S. J. Fuller, called the Association to order. Prayer by the Moderator.

Committee on Preaching: The Deacons and Pastor of Poteau Church, together with Brothers H. Been and J. H. Smith.

Letters were called for and read by Brethren A. J. Rippy, J. J. Holland and J. H. Smith.

The note from Cedar Knob Church was referred to a committee of three consisting of Brethren H. Been, A. S. Jackson and J. S. Ledbetter.

Brother E. W. Glass was received as a Messenger from Union Church.

Petitionary letters were received from Pleasant Grove and James' Fork, the former of these churches having adopted our abstract of principles. The letter from James' Fork was referred to a committee, composed of Brothers C. Cagle, H. Been and A. J. Rippy.

Bethesda Church was received and the hand of fellowship was given to the Messengers, and also to the Messengers from Pleasant Grove.

Brethren J. H. Patterson and Sylus Goforth were added as Messengers from Mount Pleasant Church.

The following brethren were chosen annual officers: Moderator—E. L. Compere; Clerk—M. L. Eggleston; Treasurer—J. J. Holland.

It was ordered that committees be appointed on the following subjects: Finance, Documents, Sabbath Schools, Temperance, Domestic Missions and Ministerial Education.

Committee on Finance: Brothers R. H. McConnell, E. Davis and J. F. Burt.

Committee on Documents: Brothers A. F. Ross, A. J. Rippy and J. J. Holland.

A special committee on the relation Aaron Fitzgerald sustains to the Missionary Baptist: Brothers A. J. Rippy, R. H. McConnell, H. Been, J. S. Ledbetter, and J. H. Smith, Committee.

The following corresponding Messengers were present and received:

From Clear Creek: Bro. Jessie Garner.

From Choctaw and Chickasaw—Bro. D. Curnutt.

Dardanelle, represented by letter; appointed Brethren J. H. Smith, S. J. Fuller, H. Been, A. F. Ross, R. H. McConnell and E. L. Compere a committee on the Dardanelle letter.

From Washita: Bro. Isaac McGlamery.

Adjourned till Monday, 8½ o'clock.

Preaching Saturday night by Elder J. J. Holland, from 5th chapter, 15th and 16th verses, of Ephesians. Theme, Exhortation to Watchfulness.

## SABBATH EXERCISES.

Prayer meeting at 10 o'clock by Elder A. F. Ross.

Missionary sermon by Elder E. L. Compere.

Afternoon service; preaching by Elder A. F. Ross, and followed by Elder S. J. Fuller. At night by Elder Curnutt and followed by Elder Patterson.

On Sabbath morning the Moderator announced the following committees:

On Temperance: Bros. S. J. Fuller, J. J. Holland and Nathan Marshal.

On Domestic Mission: Bros. R. H. McConnell, S. J. Fuller, E. Baker, W. Thomas, J. O'Neal and J. H. Smith.

On Sabbath Schools: Bros. A. F. Ross, A. J. Rippy, J. A. Bennett, and Wm. Pettigrew.

On Ministerial Education: Bros. Holland, Moore and Rippy.

MONDAY, 25th, 8½ o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder J. S. Ledbetter.

The minutes read, corrected and approved.

Letter from Washburn Creek Church received and read.

By motion Bro. Wm. Pettigrew was invited to a seat with us.

The following correspondents were appointed:

To Mountain Association, Bros. W. V. McNeely, and S. J. Fuller. Bros. J. H. Smith to write the corresponding letter.

To Dardanelle Association: Bros. Marshal, McNeely and Ross; E. L. Compere to write corresponding letter.

To Clear Creek: Bros. Compere, Rippy, Fuller, Eskridge, Moore, Ross, McConnell and Pettigrew. J. J. Holland to write the corresponding letter.



**This Association open correspondence with Washita Association.**

**To Washita Association: Bro. E. J. Condry, and Bro. J. H. Smith to write the corresponding letter.**

**To Choctaw and Chickasaw Association: Bros. Davis, Christopher, Ross, L. F. Patterson, Spiller, McDonald, Washburne and G. H. Council. A. F. Ross to write the corresponding letter.**

**To the State Convention: Elder A. F. Ross, and he to write the corresponding letter.**

**Committee's report, to which was referred the petitionary letter from Jones' Fork, received, amended and adopted. (See appendix A.)**

**Eleven o'clock. Elder N. Marshal preached from Acts 3d chapter, 15th verse. Theme, Repentance.**

**Committee report on Cedar Knob Church, note received and adopted. (See appendix B.)**

**The committee's report on the relation that A. Fitzgerald sustains to the Missionary Baptist received and adopted. Substitute for the report. (See appendix C.)**

**Report on finance received and adopted. (See appendix D.)**

**The body request Bro. J. J. Holland, Treasurer, to report the Sabbath collections at Charleston, in the hands of ex-Treasurer M. S. Buckley.**

**Treasurer's report received and adopted. (See appendix E.)**

**Committee's report on Documents referred back.**

**Special committee's report on the Dardanelle letter. Received and laid over for 9 o'clock to-morrow.**

**Adjourned. Prayer by Elder A. J. Rippy.**

**Elder Fuller preached at night, followed by Elder Compere. Text, "He that serveth me, will my Father honor."**

**TUESDAY, 26th, 8½ o'clock.**

**Not pursuant to adjournment.**

**Prayer by Elder Curnutt.**

**Minutes read, corrected and approved.**

**By motion, the Treasurer requested to call on ex-treasurer M. S. Buckley for the funds in his hands.**

**On motion, reconsider the report in the case of Bro. A. Fitzgerald. Substituted. (See appendix C.)**

**And all the speeches in the case be limited to five minutes.**

**The report of the special committee on the Dardanelle letter called up, amended and adopted. (See appendix F.)**

**The Moderator and Clerk were requested to have a notice of the report published in the Independent, the Independent Arkansian and the Van Horn Press, and Dr. Wm. Pettigrew have the same notice published in the Western Baptist.**

**Committee on nominations—Bros. R. H. McConnell, J. H. Smith.**

**Committee to report the executive committee, G. H. Council, J. C. Mc-**

**8 o'clock, preaching by Elder D. L. Moore and Elder J. S.**

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

Prayer by Bro. Eskridge.

The committee on nominations report : To preach the introductory sermon, Elder S. J. Fuller, Elder E. L. Compere, alternate. Missionary sermon, Elder Nathan Marshal, J. J. Holland, alternate. Temperance lecture, Elder A. J. Rippey, G. H. Council, alternate.

Committee report on Ministerial Education received and adopted. (See appendix G.)

The report of the committee on Sabbath Schools received and adopted. (See appendix H.)

Report of the Committee on Temperance received and failed to be adopted, without amendment or substitute.

Report of the Committee on Missions received and adopted. (See appendix I.)

Appointed the brethren on Domestic Missions the committee to carry out the design of the report ; Bro. McNeely in the place of Bro. Fuller.

Committee on Documents report to hold the next session at Oak Bower. Received and adopted.

Committee on the executive committee report, the Senior Deacon of each church the executive committee.

G. H. COUNCIL, Chairman.

*Resolved*, That the clerk have fifteen dollars for attending to the printing and distribution of the minutes, and the balance of the minute money be used in printing and distributing the minutes, and that the minutes shall contain our Rules of Decorum, Articles of Faith, Constitution and Rules of Order, and that the minutes be distributed pro rata.

Adjourned to meet on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in September, A. D. 1877.

Prayer by Bro. Fuller. Benediction by Moderator.

E. L. COMPERE, Moderator.

M. L. EGGLESTON, Clerk.

## APPENDIX.

APPENDIX A.—Your committee, to whom was referred the petitionary letter from James' Fork Church, beg leave to report, having had the subject under consideration, find there are some obstacles in the way of her reception, and we recommend that this body postpone her reception until the next session, for the purpose of having said obstacles removed.

C. F. CAGLE, Chairman.

The above report was amended as follows :

We advise the sister church, known as James' Fork Church, to call a council from the neighboring churches to sit with her in conference, and assist in removing all existing troubles from her body.

APPENDIX B.—Your committee to whom was referred the note from Cedar Knob Church, respectfully beg leave to report that we recommend



that this body drop Cedar Knob Church from her roll, as we find that she will not agree to the decision of this association at her last session.

H. BEEN, Chairman.

**APPENDIX C.**—*Resolved*, That this Association declare the effort made by Elder A. Fitzgerald to effect an alliance with the sect known as the Free-will Baptist, an un-baptistic.

**APPENDIX D.**—Your committee on finance report as follows;

Received for printing minutes,	-	-	-	-	\$53 35
Last day's collection,	-	-	-	-	3 75
For home missions by the churches,	-	-	-	\$41 65	
Sabbath collection,	-	-	-	13 45	

Total for home mission,	-	-	-	\$55 10	
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Total for minutes,	-	-	-	-	\$57 10
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All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. H. McCONNELL, Chairman.

**APPENDIX E.**—J. J. Holland, Treasurer, in account with Concord Association.

To cash for minutes, September, 1875,	-	-	\$48 55
Sabbath collections,	-	-	5 70
			<hr/>
			\$54 25

By clerk's fee,	-	-	\$10 00	
By printing minutes,	-	-	38 55	\$48 55
			<hr/>	
				\$ 5 70

Paid on the minutes of 1874 the Sabbath collection in the hands of ex-treasurer,

	-	-	\$10 45
Total balance in ex-treasurer's hands,	-	-	21 00

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\$31 45

leaving a balance in the hands of ex-treasurer M. S. Buckley of \$31 45.

**APPENDIX F.**—We, your special committee appointed to take into consideration a letter from the Dardanelle Association, report, that we agree with her as to the necessity of adopting a more efficient system for the promotion of domestic missions and the dissemination of Baptist literature among the brethren, and agree to co-operate with her in the organization of a general body for the accomplishment of these ends, and for the establishing of a Baptist Institution, somewhere in the bounds of said General Body, for the education of our children, under our own control. We recommend Charleston, in Franklin county, Arkansas, as the place, and Friday before the 4th Sunday in November, 1876, as the time to assemble said General Body, and that each church send one delegate. We hope that Clear Creek and Mountain Associations will also co-operate with us as requested by the Dardanelle Association to join us.

We request the Western Independent, the Van Buren Press, Independent Arkansian and Western Baptist to publish the time and place of the meeting of the delegates for the purpose above named.

J. H. SMITH, Chairman.

APPENDIX G.—Your committee on ministerial education beg leave to report that in our judgment the subject is one of vital importance, and one upon which in a great measure depends our future success. While we would not depreciate the usefulness of those uneducated ministers, whose praise is in all the churches over this entire country, for which we have great reason to thank the Lord for such manifestations of His power, yet we feel the want of an educated ministry. We therefore recommend that all possible steps be taken to accomplish that end. We therefore recommend the churches of this association to respond to the request of the Dardanelle Association.

J. J. HOLLAND, Chairman.

APPENDIX H.—Committee on Sabbath Schools.—We regard the Sabbath School as being one of the most efficient instrumentalities under our control to bring the young to "Jesus." And we much regret that there are so few reported in our Association.

It is a great work, and one in which all can engage.

Parents do not take the interest which becomes them. They should encourage their children to attend punctually and constantly, and aid them in preparing their lessons at home, supplying them with suitable books and at least with one sound Sunday School paper, such as "Kind Words."

O may every friend of the children do their duty, that this nursery of the church will give the spiritual cultivation which, attended by the Holy Spirit, will lead many immortal Souls to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Let us endeavor to establish and carry on a Baptist Sunday School at every church within the bounds of Concord Association, that we may spread the truth and train up the children for usefulness.

Respectfully,

A. F. ROSS, Chairman.

Amended by requesting Bro. Wm. Pettigrew to visit our churches and encourage the churches in this work.

APPENDIX I.—Your committee on Domestic Missions recommend that each church in the bounds of our Association be requested to appoint a committee of sisters or brothers, to solicit contributions, and that said committees keep a list of the names of those who contribute, with the amount contributed, and that the amount thus raised be stated in the letters from the churches to the Association, and that the funds be sent to next Association by the delegates, and that a committee of brethren be appointed by this Association to assist in carrying out this recommendation, all of which is respectfully submitted.

R. H. McCONNELL, Chairman.



## ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1 Reading of letters from the churches.
- 2 Reception of new churches.
- 3 Election of officers.
- 4 Reception of corresponding Messengers.
- 5 Invitation of visiting brethren to seats.
- 6 Reports from corresponding Associations.
- 7 Appointments of corresponding Messengers.
- 8 Appointment of special committees.
- 9 Appointment of standing committees.
- 10 Report of executive board.
- 11 Reports of standing committees.
- 12 Reports of special committees.
- 13 Report of Treasurer.
- 14 Determine place of meeting for next session.
- 15 Elect ministers to preach introductory and missionary sermons, and some brother to lecture on temperance.
- 16 Miscellaneous business.

## CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be known as the Concord Association of Western Arkansas.

ART. 2. It shall be composed of Messengers from Baptist churches known to be in good standing. Each church with fifty members or less shall be entitled to three messengers. Each additional fifty members shall entitle the church to one additional messenger.

ART. 3. The officers shall be a Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by ballot, at each annual session, and shall continue in office till their successors are chosen.

ART. 4—SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the body according to parliamentary usage.

SEC. 2. The Clerk shall keep a correct record of the proceedings, attend to the publication and distribution of the minutes, keep a regular file of the printed minutes of the sessions of the body, and deliver the same to his successor in office.

SEC. 3. The Treasurer shall take charge of the funds of the Association, holding them subject to an order from the Association or its Executive Committee, and render an account of the same to the annual session of this body.

ART. 5. The objects of this Association shall be, to promote fellowship among the churches; to secure unanimity of faith; to encourage concert in operation, and especially to cultivate the piety of the churches, and to aid in this last object, several days of each session shall be spent in devotional exercises.

ART. 6—SEC. 1. This Association shall in no case interfere with the internal regulations of the churches, but will act as an advisory council whenever it shall be necessary.

SEC. 2. It however claims authority over its own members, the mes-

sengers from the churches; and will withdraw from and disown all churches that depart from the principles of this compact, by becoming heterodox in faith or disorderly in practice.

ART. 7. Newly organized churches, or churches dismissed from other Associations, may be admitted into this body upon application by letter and messengers, at our annual meetings, and by their messengers agreeing to the abstract of principles herewith published.

ART. 8. Churches may be dismissed from this Association upon application at an annual meeting, for the purpose of joining any body we recognize, or for the purpose of forming a new Association; but any church departing from us without being regularly dismissed, shall be regarded as disorderly.

ART. 9. There shall be an executive committee consisting of one member from each church, and the officers of the Association shall be *ex-officio* officers of this committee. This committee shall have direction of the missionary operations of the Association, subject to its control, and make an annual report of its proceedings at each session of the Association. Beside the special objects entrusted to the committee, it shall also have authority to represent the Association in all matters requiring attention while the Association is not in session. This committee shall hold regular meetings on the Saturday preceding each fifth Lord's day of the year, at such places as may be designated by the committee. The committee shall meet for organization immediately after the adjournment of the Association. Three members shall constitute a quorum.

ART. 10. It shall be the privilege of this Association, in addition to its powers already granted, to conduct missionary operations within or without its limits, and for this purpose to choose a missionary or missionaries, as means may allow, designate the fields of labor, and pay them quarterly through their treasury, out of funds to be sent up along with the fund for publishing the minutes, to every annual meeting.

ART. 11. The annual meetings of the Association shall embrace the Lord's-day, and shall begin at 11 o'clock, on Saturday before the first Lord's-day of October, at which time the introductory sermon shall be preached. On each succeeding day the Association shall adjourn at 11 o'clock, a. m., for preaching.

ART. 12. This constitution may be altered or amended, except as to Art. 6, Sec. 1, at any regular meeting of the Association, by the two-thirds vote of the members who are in attendance.

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## RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. An Introductory and Missionary sermon shall be preached by ministers chosen by ballot at the preceding Association. In case of absence or failure, the sermon of either to be preached by an alternate, chosen at the same time and in the same way. Some brother shall also be chosen to deliver a temperance address.

3. A Committee of Arrangements, consisting of five members, besides



4. Moderator and Clerk, who shall be members *ex-officio*, shall be appointed by the Moderator to arrange and report the order of business.
5. Visiting brethren in good standing may be invited to seats, but not to vote.
6. A member not satisfied with any decision of the Moderator may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.
7. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise, address the Moderator, and on obtaining leave shall proceed.
8. No member shall be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection, and then by the Moderator.
9. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it. Every motion taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another is introduced.
10. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association, by yeas and nays, or otherwise.
11. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.
12. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject without permission of the Association.
13. The appellation of Brother shall be used in the Association, by members in their addresses one to another, and all titles unknown to the Scriptures, such as "Rev.," "D. D.," "Parson," and the like, shall not be employed or appear upon the minutes.
14. The names of members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.
15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoint another to his seat during the time, but shall not vote on any question unless the Association be equally divided.
16. Any member violating these rules may be reproved by the Moderator, at discretion, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.
17. These rules may be amended or altered at any regular meeting of this body, by a majority vote of the members present.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe there is one, and only one, living and true God, Jehovah, and that in the unity of the God-head there are three persons—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired word of God, constituting the only and all-sufficient standard of Faith, Doctrine, Discipline and Practice.
3. We believe that Election is the sovereign exercise of that Eternal Love, by which God hath, according to his infinite wisdom, chosen his people in Christ before the world was, and hath predestinated them unto the adoption of children, through sanctification of the Spirit, and belief of

# CHURCHES. PASTORS. CLERKS. POST OFFICE.

Bethlenem .....		F M I. vin.....	Boonville .....
Boonville .....		G W Potter.....	Boonville .....
Bethesda .....	W. V. McNeely..	J B McDonough..	Bloomer .....
Bethel .....	A. J. Rippy.....	A Scott .....	Black Jack .....
Cedar Grove.....	I. J. Holland .....	M L Eggleston..	Cha leston .....
Charleston .....	E. L. Compere..	A H Washburn..	aldron .....
Cedar Creek .....	T H Watkins.....	P C Redding..	Webb City .....
Enon .....	A A Spiller.....	W W Pettus .....	Dayton .....
Friendship .....		E P Davis.....	Witcherville .....
Fellowship .....	A J Rippy .....		
Ft. Smith.....			
Grand Prairie .....	J M Clevenger..	G W Tigner.....	Sub Rosa.....
Greenwood .....	J A Land .....	L D Collins.....	Greenwood ...
Hepzibah .....	J M Clevenger..	M O B. ova .....	Charleston .....
Hopewell .....	S J Fuller.....	G C Towry.....	
Jones Creek.....	L N Watkins .....	J W Blair .....	Wald on .....
Lick Creek .....	S J Fuller.....	N P B ook .....	Sugar Grove .....
Lone Pilgrim .....	L H Patterson ..	W A Moore .....	Enterprise .....
Macedonia .....	J M Ledbetter ..	J L Florence .....	Witcherville .....
Mount Nebo .....			Greenwood .....
Mount Zion .....	C T. Cagle.....	J A Bennett.....	Greenwood .....
Mount Hope .....	A S Jackson .....	J M Phillips.....	Roseville .....
Mount Pleasant.....	J M Ledbetter ..	T K Wallis.....	Hartford .....
Mount Lebanon .....	H Dildy .....	J N Gilliam .....	Greenwood .....
New Hope .....	J M Ledbetter ..	H H Mousor .....	James Fork .....
New Bethel.....	Watkins .....		James Fork .....
Oak Grove.....	J A Land .....	C Anderson.....	Greenwood .....
Oak Bend .....			
Oak Bower .....	J A Land .....	U M Brown.....	Bloomer .....
Pine Mountain .....	A A Spiller.....	W Cary .....	Cha leston .....
Pleasant Grove .....	N Marshall .....	W A Shaw .....	Waldron .....
Pleasant Hill .....	J J Holland .....	J L Miller .....	James Fork .....
Pilgrim's Rest.....	M M Spear .....	W N Phillips.....	Chocoville .....
Pleasant Valley .....	J Barnes .....	G B Anderson ..	Sugar Loaf .....
Poteau .....	N Marshall .....	J I Smith .....	Wald on .....
Sharon .....	J S Ledbetter ..		Charleston .....
Smyrna .....	J S Fights .....	J H Brady .....	Greenwood .....
Union .....	J M Clevenger..	D B Glass .....	Washburn .....
Washburn Creek .....	B C Owen .....	J M Moo e .....	Black Jack .....