

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

LIBERTY BAPTIST

ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

CHAMPAGNOLLE CHURCH, UNION CO., ARK.,

September 9, 10 and 11, 1882.

J. M. HART, Moderator.

GEO. E. MURPHY, Clerk.

MINUTES.

FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

UNION COUNTY ARKANSAS, September 9, 1882.

The thirty-seventh annual session of the Liberty Baptist Association met with the Champagnolle Church, Union county, Arkansas, on Saturday before the second Sabbath in September, 1882.

Introductory sermon was preached by Eld. G. Norsworthy, (Eld. J. U. H. Wharton, who was appointed at the previous meeting, being absent,) using as a text John iii: 8, "We therefore ought to resolve such that we might be fellow-helpers to the truth." After which an intermission of one hour was had to partake of refreshments furnished on the grounds.

ONE O'CLOCK P. M.

House called to order by J. M. Hart, former Moderator. Delegates were called on for letters from the various churches in the Association, which were read and names of delegates enrolled as per statistical table.

On motion, the Association proceeded to permanent organization by electing by ballot, J. M. Hart, for Moderator, and Geo. E. Murphy, Clerk.

On motion, the order of business of previous meeting was adopted. By regular order, ministers and visiting members of our faith were invited to seats with us.

Next in regular order was the appointment of the following committees:

On Preaching—O. Lamar, W. A. Betts and A. R. Cobb. The

deacons of Champagnolle Church were also requested to assist said committee.

Documents—J. H. McKinny, A. J. Williams and M. P. Newsom.

On Finance—E. M. Bull, A. W. Tiffin and W. J. Rodgers.

On Sabbath Schools—Elds. I. M. Wise, B. F. Tubb and Bro. W. F. Owen.

On Nominations—B. W. M. Warren, J. R. Durell and J. M. Gatheright.

On Publications—B. W. M. Warnen, Robt. Leverett and H. T. Hawkins.

Ministerial Education—H. T. Hawkins, O. G. Quinn and R. M. Burnett. Bro. S. T. W. Meek was requested to assist.

On Temperance—Eld. G. Norsworthy and Breth. B. W. M. Warren and J. M. Welsh.

On Foreign Missions—Eld. J. U. H. Wharton and Bro. L. W. Ellen. Breth. L. Swilly, G. E. Murphy and Eld. G. Wise were requested to assist.

On motion and second, a special committee was appointed to report on Camden and its work. The following named are said committee: Elds. I. M. Wise, A. W. Tiffin and Bro. O. G. Quinn.

On motion, the Moderator was added to said committee.

On motion, the following were appointed as a special committee on Memorials: H. T. Hawkins, W. W. Griffin and D. D. Pumphrey.

By regular order, a call was made for Correspondence.

Bartholomew Association responded in person of Bro. S. T. W. Meek. On motion, received.

Columbia Association responded in person of Eld. G. Wise. On motion, received.

Ouachita Colored Baptist Association responded by letter and delegates Breth. Simon Jones and A. Anderson.

Next in regular order returned the following correspondence:

To Bartholomew Association, Breth. B. W. M. Warren and L. Smith.

To Columbia Association, Eld. I. M. Wise and Breth. L. N. Davidson and R. W. Darden.

To Ouachita Colored Baptist Association, Eld. J. U. H. Wharton and Bro. A. J. Williams.

To Concord Association, Elds. W. G. Simmons, M. P. Newsom and Breth. J. M. Gatheright, L. Swilly and John Jones.

Next in regular order, the following delegates were appointed to the Arkansas State Convention: Eld. I. M. Wise, J. M. Hart, J. U. H. Wharton and Bro. H. T. Hawkins.

On motion, delegates to State Convention be empowered to insert the name of any member of our Association as a delegate, if there is a vacancy among those regularly appointed.

On motion, the Association adjourned until 8:30 o'clock Monday morning.

SATURDAY NIGHT.

The stand was occupied by Eld. W. G. Simmons, who had an attentive audience.

SUNDAY MORNING.

Sunday morning Prayer Meeting was conducted by Eld. A. W. Tiffin.

At 11 o'clock Eld. G. Wise preached at the church, after which a collection for Missions was taken up. [Failed to get the amount. —Clerk.]

At the same hour Eld. I. M. Wise preached at the Academy. He also preached at night.

Eld. J. M. Hart preached Sunday evening at 2 o'clock.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

UNION COUNTY, ARKANSAS, September 11, 1882.

After singing by the body and prayer by Bro. J. M. Gatheright, it was moved to call the house to order.

By regular order, the reports of committees were called for.

DOCUMENTS.

Committee on Documents made the following report, and on motion was adopted:

We, your committee on Documents, submit the following report: The number of baptisms during the year is 48. Total number of members, 954, which is an increase of 20 over that of the year previous. We find two churches not represented, Hopewell No. 1 and Union, La. El Dorado, Camden and Zion Hill reports Sabbath schools. El Dorado, Camden and Ebenezer report regular prayer meetings. We find a few of the churches in a flourishing condition. The church at El Dorado asks that the next session of your body be held with her.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. WILLIAMS, *Chairman.*

PUBLICATIONS.

Committee on Publications made the following report, and on motion, was adopted:

Your committee on Publications submit the following report: We live in an age of culture and progress. Railroads, telegraphs and publications bring us in contact with the finest minds of the times. And in order to keep pace with the rapid movement around us, we must read, think and study. First, let us take that Book of books, which is a lamp to our feet and a light to our pathway. Study and love its sublime truths and be governed by its holy precepts. Cast aside, as deadly poison, the light, trashy periodicals which becloud the mind, stain the soul and lead their votaries alone to ruin, and place in the hands of our children, who are soon to fill our places in society, church and state, such books and such papers as teach the truth and nothing but the truth. And in this line of thought we heartily recommend the *Arkansas Evangel*, *Baptist Messenger* and *The Baptist*.

Respectfully submitted,

B. W. M. WARREN, *Chairman.*

NOMINATIONS.

The committee on Nominations made the following report, and on motion, was adopted:

Your committee on Nominations report that they have selected

El Dorado as the place for holding the next session of this body. Time—Saturday before the second Sabbath in September, 1883. Eld. I. M. Wise to preach the introductory sermon; J. U. H. Wharton as alternate.

Respectfully submitted,
JAS. R. DURELL, *Chairman.*

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

The committee on Ministerial Education made the following report, which upon motion, was adopted:

We, your committee on Ministerial Education, submit that it is a subject on which we, as a denomination, perhaps attach too little importance, and while we will present but few of the reasons why we should bend all of our energies to secure the proper development of our ministry, we hope that our churches will see to it that the opportunity for the proper education of our ministry is not neglected. A proper preparation for the ministry is two-fold; one spiritual, the other intellectual. The first is the work of God, the latter is the result of personal effort. We realize the importance of both. Let us see to it that no opportunity for the mental development of our preachers be neglected. We should not rest satisfied to have our young brethren, whom God has called to this sacred office and work, enter the field not fully prepared for his mission in life, for we need and must have workmen that needeth not to be ashamed. When we remember that ministers "are to teach all nations," and that they are to be instant in season and out of season to discharge their varied duties, we see the necessity of development and culture. With our present educational advantages we should be loth to have our brethren go to work without a proper preparation. If we, as churches, do our duty it is not necessary, and any man who will not use due diligence and properly improve every opportunity for his spiritual and mental development, is not worthy the high and holy vocation.

Respectfully,
O. G. QUINN, *Chairman.*

Immediately after the above was adopted a collection was taken up, amounting to \$10.15, which was appropriated to the purchasing of some books for Eld. A. W. Tiffin. Afterwards a collection of \$6.60 was made to purchase Eld. B. F. Tubb some needed books.

TEMPERANCE.

The committee on Temperance read the following report, and on motion, was adopted:

Your committee on Temperance feel unable, in the short time allowed, to make a report satisfactory to this body or to themselves, but we deem it unnecessary to enumerate the many evils that are produced by the monster. Yes, we may say Demon Alcohol! for if not a demon itself it is one of the devil's most deadly weapons with which he destroys the human race. The word of God is the sword of the spirit, and we consider alcohol the sword of the devil, and with it he does his most deadly work—destroys unnumbered thousands, not only temporally but spiritually. A part of our Savior's mission to earth was to destroy the work of the devil, and He bids his children to follow in his footsteps. Hence, every christian is under the most sacred obligations to raise his voice and exert his influence for the suppression of its sale and its use as a beverage. Christians are commanded to shun even the appearance of evil. "Yea, taste not, handle not the unclean thing." The moral and reflecting portion of the unconverted are raising their voices against it, and now is a most favorable time for christians to take the lead and use their utmost endeavors to drive this deadly enemy of the human race from our land. One enemy in camp can do more injury than a host outside. Therefore we would recommend the

churches of this Association to be very strict in their discipline, for the remedy of this great evil must commence in the churches. Unless christians show by their acts, as well as words, that they are opposed to the sale and use of this deadly evil as a beverage, they will succeed but poorly in inducing the world to abandon its use. Let christians remember that drunkenness is classed with the most abominable sins. Let them take a bold stand for their Savior and His cause. Frown down the use of of this deadly evil, and by the blessings of God banish the monster, not from our midst, but from our land, and then will the churches prosper, for God will bless them.

Respectfully submitted,
G. NORSWORTHY, *Chairman.*

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The committee on Foreign Missions read their report, and on motion, the report was tabled to attend to a motion in regard to preaching.

On motion, the report on Foreign Missions taken up, and on motion, was adopted as follows:

Your committee on Foreign Missions would report that in our candid opinion no subject engaging the attention of this body promises greater immediate results than means put into our Foreign Mission fields. God has signally blessed the labors of our missionaries, and other promising fields are rapidly opening. Men of God are offering themselves to occupy these fields, but sad to tell, the means are wanting. Our Foreign Mission Board are calling loudly for money, and are dependent on the churches for support. The churches are under sacred obligations to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Will we hear and heed the command. This depends on the direct efforts of the pastors in developing the spirit of christian liberality in their respective churches. We therefore recommend and urge it to be the duty of our pastors to preach at least one sermon in the year on this subject, and take up a collection for Foreign Missions, sending the amounts raised to Dr. Tupper, Richmond, Va., and that the amounts so raised be reported through the letters to the next session of this body.

Respectfully,
J. U. H. WHARTON, *Chairman.*

On motion, the Association adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

TWO O'CLOCK P. M.

House called to order and proceeded to hear reports of committees.

FINANCE.

The committee on Finance made the following report, and on motion, was adopted:

We, your committee on Finance submit the following report: We find sent up from the different churches the following amounts:

For Minutes,.....	\$ 43 70
For Home Missions,.....	27 85
For Bro. J. B. Hartwell, Missionary to California,.....	25
Total,.....	\$ 71 80

We have paid over to the chairman of the Executive Board, O. Lamar, \$28.10, the amount of mission funds in our hands.

Respectfully submitted,
E. M. BULL, *Chairman.*

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The committee on Sabbath Schools made the following report, and on motion, was adopted:

It is the decided conviction of your committee that the most hope-

ful feature of religious work is among the young. Therefore when Sabbath School work is neglected great things are lost. Behold the waste and desolation among our churches where this God-honored work is slighted. The Holly Sabbath violated; parents worldly minded, and children growing wild and reckless. Stay, God, deal gently with our Baptist families, for they have woefully sinned in neglecting the Sabbath School cause. Our needs are great in this world. Your committee would therefore recommend that a Sunday School Board of five members be appointed to originate and conduct a Sunday School Convention within the bounds and in connection with the meeting of this Association. Would also beg leave to nominate the following members: Rev. J. M. Hart, President; Judge W. C. Langford, Prof. W. L. Hodge, S. B. Lide and I. M. Wise.

Respectfully submitted,

I. M. WISE, *Chairman.*

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CAMDEN.

Special committee to report on work at Camden, made the following report, and on motion, was adopted:

It is our Savior's command and example "to preach repentance and remission of sin, beginning at Jerusalem." Therefore we have heavy and sacred argument to look well to the centers of influence. Furthermore, it is our observation that the best and most lasting results, as a general rule, are found where the places of importance are continuously occupied, and our views of Bible Christianity faithfully maintained. From the certain knowledge that your committee have of Camden, and the fields of the present prosperity of the town, and unmistakable evidence of much greater in the future; of the permanent growth of the place and rapid flowing in of a good population, we have no hesitancy in saying that it is an important place, and should be occupied by the Baptists by all possible means, and that without delay, as the field is now open and waiting to be occupied. We are sad in saying there are so few churches in the whole of Ouachita county, and but one besides the little struggling band at Camden trying to hold services not more than once a month. "Truly the field is white unto the harvest." Our people in Camden are striving nobly to hold forth the precepts and ordinances of our Lord, and deserve and should have the sympathy of Liberty Association, whether in receiving the direct aid of this body's Executive Committee, or from the churches and our brethren individually. We respectfully state that what our cause in Camden most needs is a parsonage. If, by some means or other, such could be obtained, the Baptist's there would have a sure footing for future work. We are very proud to say and assure our people that all the assistance heretofore rendered Camden has not been misapplied. Our church's prospects there are truly promising, which can be seen in the Association's statistical table. We therefore do most earnestly call the attention of our brotherhood composing this body, and that of the entire state, to the pressing need of the Camden church. Also recommend that at a convenient time during the present session of this Association, a collection be taken up to assist in building a parsonage there, which, of course, will be the property of the denomination.

Respectfully submitted,

I. M. WISE, *Chairman.*

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS.

The special committee on Memorials made the following report, and on motion, was adopted:

Your committee on Memorials have the sad duty to perform of reporting, since your last annual meeting, the decease of our beloved brethren John W. Crisp, of Salem Church; Joseph Armor, of Champagnolle; Levy Davidson, of Pleasant Grove, and Wm. Crain, of

Union. For years we have been accustomed to meet some of these dear old servants of the Master at our Assaciation, and to-day we sadly miss their council; their silvery locks, genial smiles and the warm shake of their generous hands. But while westill gather at the River, they have passed over and are now clasping the hands of friends on the deathless shore of immortality. Thank God, brethren, for the strong hope we cherish of meeting these good men in a land free from sin, temptation and pain, where parting will be no more.

Respectfully submitted,

H. T. HAWKINS, *Chairman.*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee made the following report, and on motion, was adopted:

Your Executive Committee submits the following statement for the year just closed: Owing to the straightened financial condition of our country, we have had no funds on which to do anything in supplying the destitution within our own bounds. We have destitution that should be supplied with the ministry, but your committee have been unable to supply the field. We fear that too many of our churches are suffering from a drouth of the Graces of the religion we profess. By order of your last session your committee turned over the funds on hand to the State Convention's Board for purposes set forth in your instructions. We have received from the churches at the present session, \$27.85, and twenty-five cents for the support of Bro. J. B. Hartwell, missionary in California; total, \$28.10.

O. LAMAR, *Chairman.*

H. G. P. WILLIAMS,

J. M. PERDUE,

H. T. HAWKINS,

W. C. LANGFORD.

The following resolution was read and adopted:

Resolved, That we hereby return our thanks to the church and citizens of Champagnolle and vicinity, for their hospitality extended to us during this session of our Association.

H. T. HAWKINS.

On motion, the Clerk received \$15 for his services and the balance to be used in having the minutes printed and distributed, giving the *Arkansas Evangel* the preference of printing.

On motion, the Association adjourned.

J. M. HART, *Moderator.*

GEO. E. MURPHY, *Clerk.*

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	POSTOFFICE.	DELEGATES.	Baptized.	By Letter.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Restored.	Died.	Total.	Minute Fund.	PASTOR.	Days of Meeting.	
<i>FIRST DISTRICT.</i>													
Camden.....	Camden, Ark.....	Elder I. M. Wise and J. R. Durrell.....	10	12	...	...	...	2	51	1 50	I. M. Wise.....	.....
Pleasant Ridge.....	Camden, Ark.....	*William Hale, William Rodgers and J. B. Allen.....	...	...	4	...	1	1	39	2 25	B. H. Hultsman...	1st
Salem.....	Mt. Holly, Ark.....	H. T. Hawkins, *A. E. Davis and *Robert Crisp.....	1	2	7	2	...	1	21	1 50	J. U. H. Wharton	4th	
Pleasant Grove.....	Lisbon, Ark.....	O. G. Quinn, L. N. Davidson and R. W. Darden.....	...	1	...	1	1	1	48	1 25	B. F. Tubb.....	1st	
Shiloh.....	Three Creeks, Ark	J. C. Robinson, John McWilliams and J. D. Goode.....	...	1	2	1	...	...	22	1 00	H. T. Britt.....	3d
Hopewell No. 3.....	Newport Ldg, Ark	Elder A. W. Tiffin, J. W. Stevens and J. Y. Stevens.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	55	1 75	D. N. Mullin.....	4 & 2
<i>SECOND DISTRICT.</i>													
El Dorado.....	El Dorado, Ark...	J. M. Hart, O. Lamar, J. M. Perdue and R. T. Lee.....	1	...	6	3	...	...	96	5 00	J. M. Hart.....	1 & 3
Holly Grove.....	Summerfield, La.	*S. A. Jones, R. M. Burnette and *W. L. Reynolds.....	4	1	83	2 35	T. J. Brashier.....	4th
Hopewell No. 1.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
New Hope.....	Three Creeks, Ark	Elder J. U. H. Wharton, *C. G. Britt and L. W. Ellen.....	6	4	1	1	...	...	70	1 90	J. U. H. Wharton	3d
Spring Hill.....	Blanchard Spgs; "	L. Swilly, A. R. Cobb and William Owen.....	11	2	2	2	1	...	60	2 50	J. U. H. Wharton	1st	
Zion Hill.....	El Dorado, Ark.....	Elder B. F. Tubb, W. D. Ward and J. M. Welsh.....	...	3	...	...	...	...	85	1 50	H. T. Britt.....	4th
Ebenezer.....	El Dorado, Ark.....	A. J. Williams, J. R. Leverett and E. M. Harden.....	4	...	...	1	1	1	41	2 80	B. F. Tubb.....	3d
<i>THIRD DISTRICT.</i>													
Union Ark.....	Champagnolle, "	W. A. Betts, J. H. McKinney and D. D. Pnmpfrey.....	5	4	4	3	3	2	76	2 00	J. U. H. Wharton	2d	
Cane Creek.....	Hillsboro, Ark.....	Elder W. G. Simmans, Cliff Dearing and James Simmons.....	...	1	3	...	1	...	39	2 00	A. J. Calloway.....	1st	
Spring Hill, La.....	Oakland, La.....	G. E. Murphy, J. M. Gatheright, J. H. Slade and T. K. Moore.....	1	4	6	1	2	2	92	2 25	J. M. Hart.....	4th	
New London.....	New London, Ark	Elder G. Norsworthy, W. S. Terrel and *D. Barfield.....	...	3	2	...	...	...	25	1 50	J. G. McCain.....	3c
Mt. Olive.....	Lone Well, La.....	*J. B. McCormick, *John Nolan and J. A. Murray (Letter).....	2	1	5	...	1	2	40	2 80	W. G. Simmons...	2c	
Hillsboro.....	Hillsboro, Ark.....	*H. G. P. Williams, *J. B. Hudson and *R. D. Newton (Letter).....	...	1	2	...	...	5	28	2 50	J. M. Hart.....	2c
Union, La.....	Lapile.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
Oakalona.....	Oakland, La.....	Elder M. P. Newsom and J. H. Gatheright.....	1	5	1	...	...	...	21	1 50	M. P. Newsom.....	2c
Champagnolle.....	Champagnolle.....	Elder J. G. McCain, W. J. Owen and W. W. Griffin.....	6	...	1	2	...	1	30	2 50	G. Norsworthy.....	1st	
Liberty.....	Hillsboro, Ark.....	B. W. M. Warren, L. Smith and E. M. Bull.....	...	2	...	1	32	2 25	G. Norsworthy.....	4th	

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