

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE



THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

STEVENS CREEK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

OIL TROUGH CHURCH, INDEPENDENCE COUNTY,

SEPTEMBER 8 & 9, 1893.

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REV. J. J. STEVENS, MODERATOR,  
JUDSONIA, ARK.

J. W. POLLARD, CLERK,  
JUDSONIA, ARK.

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ECONOMIST PRINT, SEARCY.

## ASSOCIATION MINUTES.

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Pursuant to adjournment, the Stevens Creek Baptist Association assembled at Oil Trough church, Independence county, Ark., Friday, September 8, 1893, at 11 A. M. Rev. W. S. Griffin, who had been appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon, being absent as, also, Rev. R. T. Middleton, alternate, the Introductory Sermon was delivered by Rev. W. H. Middleton, followed by Rev. J. J. Goad. Text: Matt. 28: 19-20.

The former Moderator and Clerk being present, the Association was called to order by the Moderator and proceeded to business.

The letters from the churches composing the Association were called for and the following responded and the messengers' names therefrom enrolled as follows: Salem, J. J. Stevens; Holly Springs, J. W. Pollard; Harvey's Chapel, W. A. Crutchfield, W. H. Middleton; Union Hill, S. B. Vick, G. W. Scoggin, E. L. Fraser; Independence, W. S. Scoggin, W. B. Morgan, J. J. Goad; Bethel, not represented; Providence: J. J. McDaniel, Sam Arnell; Philadelphia, not represented; Oil Trough, W. E. Newsom, D. L. Reddit, J. W. Outlaw; Shady Grove, not represented.

The Association then went into a permanent organization by electing Rev. J. J. Stevens Moderator and the re-election of J. W. Pollard, Clerk. After a few appropriate remarks by the officers-elect, the Association proceeded to business. A call was made for petition letters from churches wishing to unite with the Association. Received none. On motion took recess until 3 P. M.

At 3:30 P. M. Moderator called the Association to order.

Prayer, led by W. A. Crutchfield, after which call was made for corresponding messengers from sister Associations; the following responded and the messengers' names therefrom enrolled as follows: Carolone, George Erwin; Osceola, Rev. W. C. Brown. Visiting ministers were invited to seats and Revs. R. M. Moore and J. J. Goad came forward and had their names enrolled. The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

Committee on Arrangement—E. L. Fraser, G. W. Scoggin, J. J. McDaniel.

Devotional Exercises—D. L. Reddit, W. E. Newsom, J. W. Outlaw.

Finance—W. H. Middleton, S. B. Vick, Sam Arnell.

Sabbath Schools—W. H. Middleton, W. A. Crutchfield, S. W. Scoggin.

Prayer Meeting—J. J. Goad, George Erwin, R. M. Moore.

Religious Publication—S. B. Vick, W. B. Morgan, E. L. Fraser.

Foreign Missions—J. J. Goad, S. B. Vick, W. C. Brown.

Home Destitution—R. M. Moore, J. W. Outlaw, W. E. Newsom.

Obituaries—G. Erwin, W. A. Crutchfield, Sam Arnell.

Ministerial Education—D. L. Reddit, W. B. Morgan, E. L. Fraser.

On motion J. L. Pollard was elected Treasurer.

After retiring the Committee on Devotional Exercises returned and reported that Rev. W. A. Crutchfield would preach at night. Adjourned till Saturday 9. a. m. Benediction by Rev. W. C. Brown. Preaching Saturday at 8. p. m. by Rev. W. A. Crutchfield. Text: Heb. 2: 3.

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9—MORNING SESSION.

Association met and called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Rev. D. L. Reddit. Minutes read and approved. Roll called; quorum present. The Moderator then called for the report of committees. Committee on Finance made their report. Report received and committee discharged. (See appendix A) Treasurer made his report. Report received. (See appendix B) Committee on Prayer Meeting made their report.

Report received and committee discharged. (See appendix C) Committee on Sabbath Schools made their report. Report received and committee discharged. (See appendix D).

Visiting Ministers invited to seats and Rev. R. C. Medaris, State Sunday School Secretary and Evangelist, came forward and had his name enrolled, whereupon he made the following proposition for Co-operative Associational work. (1.) That we ask the Association to endorse the appointment of a State Sunday School and Bible Board and their election of a Corresponding Secretary and Evangelist. (2.) That the Association appoint an Executive Board and elect an Associational Missionary and that we be permitted to commission him as our missionary for that territory and help support him. (3.) That the Association advise their Executive Board to, in connection with the State Secretary, arrange to hold one or more Sunday School Conventions or Institutes during the year. (4.) That each church pledge a certain amount for our state work next year, the same to be paid quarterly if possible. These pledges can be redeemed by children's day offerings, birthday offerings, quarterly or special collections in church or Sunday School, or in other ways as each church may choose.

By motion and second the above propositions for Co-operative Associational Work were accepted and adopted by the Association, whereupon the Moderator appointed an Executive Board consisting of three, viz.; J. J. Goad, G. W. Scoggin, E. L. Fraser, whose duty is as follows: (1.) That it shall be the duty of said board to correspond with the State Sunday School Board in the Associational Mission work. (2.) That it shall receive all Associational Mission funds. (3.) That it shall be their duty to employ a missionary to labor in the destitute parts of the Association and shall give him such instructions as they think proper; (4.) They shall pay said missionary out of said funds and shall make an annual report at the next Association.

Committee on Religious Publications made their report. Report received and committee discharged. (See appendix E). Committee on Home Destitution made their report. Report received and committee discharged. (See appendix F). Committee on Foreign Missions made their report. Report received and committee discharged. (See appendix G). Committee on

Ministerial Education made their report. Received and committee discharged. (See appendix H).

On motion adjourned until 3 p. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. by Rev. R. C. Medaris, text: Psa. 126:5-6.

At 3:30 p. m. Moderator called the Association to order. Opening prayer by R. M. Moore.

Committee on Obituaries made their report. Received and committee discharged. (See appendix I).

The Moderator then appointed as messengers to meet with the State Sunday School Board at Conway, Faulkner county, Ark., in November, 1893, J. J. Goad, E. L. Fraser, Sam Arnell, D. L. Reddit, J. J. Stevens.

By motion and second Rev. S. B. Vick was appointed as a delegate from this association to become a member of the State Sunday School Board at its next meeting, in November, 1893, at Conway, Faulkner county, Ark.

The following Corresponding Messengers were appointed, by the Moderator, to sister Associations: Independence, Rev. D. L. Reddit; Little Red River, J. W. Pollard, Rev. R. M. Moore, J. J. Stevens; Caroline, W. H. Middleton, W. A. Crutchfield.

The following resolution was then presented by E. L. Fraser, and on motion was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be and are hereby tendered the kind and generous people of this church and community for the kind, liberal and hospitable manner in which they have entertained the messengers and visitors during this session, and that we tender our thanks to the Moderator and Clerk for the faithful, courteous and efficient manner in which they have discharged their duties.

E. L. FRASER.

Motion prevailed that the next session of this Association be held at Harvey's Chapel church, in White county, Ark. It was agreed that Rev. W. S. Griffin should preach introductory sermon, with Rev. S. B. Vick alternate, at the next session of this Association.

The clerk was instructed to superintend the printing of the minutes, that he have 300 copies printed and distributed pro-rata according to membership and money sent by the churches, and that he have \$5.00 for his services.

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The following resolution was presented by the Secretary:

Resolved, That this Association meet on Saturday instead of Friday.

Resolution was adopted.

Motion carried that we take up the following queries: 1st, What Are Some of the Leading Causes of the Spiritual Decline in the Churches of the Present Time? After considerable discussion by Rev. D. L. Reddit, S. B. Vick, W. A. Crutchfield and others it was decided that the greatest cause was negligence of duty on the part of church members.

Query No. 2. If God Foreknew All Things from the Foundation of the World, and Created Man Pure and Holy, in His Own Image and for His Own Glory and Honor, Why Did He Endow Him with the Power or Privilege to Violate His Law and Fall from that Pure State in Which He Was Created? By motion and second, said query was tabled.

After singing a hymn, the Association adjourned to meet with Harvey's Chapel church, Saturday before the second Sunday in September, 1894. Benediction by Rev. W. C. Brown. Thus closed the third annual session of Stevens Creek Baptist Association, peace and harmony prevailing.

J. J. STEVENS, Moderator.

J. W. POLLARD, Clerk.

## APPENDIX.

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(A.) We, your Committee on Finance, submit the following report: Received from the churches for printing minutes \$20.90.  
S. B. VICK, Chairman.

(B.) Your Treasurer submits the following report:

Received from churches for printing minutes . . . . .	\$17.80
Paid for printing minutes . . . . .	\$13.00
Paid for postage . . . . .	1.76
Paid Clerk fee . . . . .	5.00
Paid for stationary . . . . .	.25
<b>Total for all expenses . . . . .</b>	<b>\$20.01</b>
	<b>\$17.80</b>
Bal. due . . . . .	\$2.21

J. W. POLLARD, Treas.

(C.) Your Committee on Prayer Meeting make the following report: Prayer is an ordinance of divine service and it is the key, so to speak, that unlocks the door of mercy. It is essential to a successful christian life and we humbly beseech all the churches to keep up stated prayer meetings, at least once a week, and report the same at the next session of the Association.  
J. J. GOAD.

(D.) Your Committee on Sabbath Schools submit the following report: We find that there is a great deficiency in the Sunday School work in most of our churches, therefore we recommend that the brethren go to work at once to build up a Sunday School interest, for we believe there is no better way to implant good and lasting principles in the minds of the young than through Sabbath Schools. We regret that there is as little interest taken in this branch of christian instruction as at present and we earnestly solicit the pastors to look carefully after this important cause and urge the members of the churches go into the Sabbath School work and organize schools at all their churches, for we believe that the aged as well as the young, will be spiritually benefitted.  
W. A. CRUTCHFIELD.

(E.) Your Committee on Religious Publication submit the following report: We feel that too great stress cannot be placed upon the importance of reading the holy scriptures, the divine injunction being to search the scriptures. While we have many excellent papers published in the various states, we think fidelity to our own state enterprise, as a denomination, demand that we give our most hearty support to the Arkansas Baptist, so ably edited by Rev. W. A. Clark, at Little Rock.

E. L. FRASER.

(F.) Your Committee on Home Destitution submits the following: Knowing the many places in the bounds of this Association that are destitute of Baptist preaching, and seeing the great necessity of preaching the gospel, we would pray the churches to devise some means to supply those destitute places with Baptist preaching.

W. H. MIDDLETON.

(G.) Your Committee on Foreign Missions submits the following report: Seeing the great need of having the gospel preached in heathen countries as evidenced by the reports of our missionaries, we feel it our duty to render all possible assistance and we would insist that the churches of this Association institute some system of collecting for this purpose as we would in any other business matter. We should recollect that we were once the beneficiaries of the benefactors that supported the gospel that brought us to Christ, so we should go to all nations as directed by Christ to the first church, with our means and our prayers.

W. C. BROWN

(H.) Your Committee on Ministerial Education submits the following report: That the qualification of a minister should be, first, a regenerate heart; second, satisfaction of a call from God; third, good biblical and grammatical education. We therefore recommend Ouachita College as a good institution for young ministers to attend; also Mountain Home College.

D. L. REDDIT.

(I.) Your Committee on Obituaries submit the following report: By consulting the letters from the various churches represented we find only one death reported whose name is not given.

SAM ARNELL.



Your Committee on Home Mission, the District Board of Stevens Creek Association for the year ending Sept. 9, 1893, submit the following report: Received from the churches for Associational Missions, \$7.07. J. W. OUTLAW.

Your Committee on Arrangement submit the following report: First day, 11, A. M., Introductory sermon. Adjourn until 2. P. M. After prayer, reading of letters, enrolling messengers names, election of Moderator and Clerk, call for petitionary letters, call for correspondence, visiting ministers invited to seats, appointment of the various committees. Second day: After prayer, reading of minutes, roll called and absentees marked, call for reports of various committees, election of Treasurer, queries and resolutions, selection of place for next meeting, election of introductory preacher, appointment of messengers to sister Associations. J. J. McDANIEL.

Received of the Treasurer of the Stevens Creek Baptist Association, for Associational or Home Destitution Work, \$7.07.

E. L. FRASER.

Clerk of the Association Mission Board.

## ORDAINED MINISTERS.

NAMES.	POSTOFFICES.
D. L. Reddit .....	Oil Trough, Ark.
J. J. Goad .....	Bradford, Ark.
W. H. Middleton .....	Searcy, Ark.
W. A. Crutchfield .....	Searcy, Ark.
S. B. Vick .....	Bradford, Ark.
S. Crews .....	Mt. Piegah, Ark.
J. S. Griffin .....	Judsonia, Ark.
J. J. Stevens .....	Judsonia, Ark.

## LICENTIATES.

A. J. Fraser .....

Pleasant Plains, Ark.

## FORM OF CHURCH LETTER TO ASSOCIATION.

The.....Church, to the Stevens Creek Baptist Association of Arkansas, when assembled with..... church.....county, Sept....., 189..... Annual Report of..... church for the year ending....., 189..... Greeting.

Brethren, we send, as delegates to aid and assist you with their advice and counsel in your deliberations,..... and.....as alternates.

## FORM OF STATISTICAL REPORT.

Changes in Membership during last year.....  
 Bapitized .....  
 Received by Letter.....  
 Received by Relation or Voucher.....  
 Restored .....  
 Total Accessions.....  
 Dismissed by Letter.....  
 Excluded.....  
 Deceased.....  
 Total Diminution.....  
 Present Membership.....  
 There are... ordained ministers in our church, whose names and addresses are as follows:  
 .....County,..... P. O. Ark., and.....  
 .....licentiates,.....County,..... P. O. Ark.  
 Prayer Meeting every.....  
 Sabbath School every.....  
 No. of Sabbath School officers and teachers.....  
 No. of Sabbath School students.....  
 Total in Sabbath School.....  
 Amount contributed for Association Missions \$.....  
 Amount contributed for State Missions \$.....  
 Amount contributed for Foreign Missions \$.....  
 Amount contributed for Association Minutes \$.....  
 Total contributions for all purposes.....  
 Our regular meetings occur on the..... Sunday and Saturday before, in each month. Rev..... is our pastor; P. O. address,.....,.....County, Ark.  
 Done by order of the church on the..... day of....., 189..... Moderator,..... Clerk of..... Church..... P. O., Ark.

## CONSTITUTION.

**PREAMBLE:** We, the Messengers from the Churches hereunto subscribed, being thoroughly convinced of the great utility of Christian combination, in order to cultivate and perpetuate union, love; fellowship and intelligence throughout the respective Churches within our bounds and to advance the Redeemer's Kingdom in these parts of the country, do unanimously agree to adopt the following Articles:

Article I. Name.—This Association shall be known as the Stevens Creek Baptist Association.

Art. II. Messengers.—The Messengers composing the Annual Meetings shall consist of Messengers sent by the Churches.

Art. III. Numbers.—The Messengers sent from each Church shall not exceed three.

Art. IV. Meetings.—The Association shall meet annually, at such time and place as shall have been previously appointed.

Art. V. Officers.—The Officers of the Association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by a majority at the Annual Meeting.

Art. VI. Objects.—This Association shall have no power to control or regulate the internal affairs or discipline of any church, but it may adopt and recommend all such measures as shall be considered best calculated to produce harmony and prosperity in the churches and advance the Redeemer's Kingdom; advise and consult upon such matters as the churches may at any time present for its consideration and advice, and may receive churches into the fellowship of this Association, in good order, and dismiss by letter when in good order; inquire into the state of religion within her bounds, and any church holding any unscriptural doctrines or practices shall be reported to the Association, and on proof shall be excluded from the Association, and the cause be placed on the minutes. The Association shall not exercise any legislative power over any of the churches, but shall be a common bond of union of the same.

Art. VII. Amendments.—No Amendment shall be made to this Constitution, except by request of the churches.

Art. VIII. This Association shall have no power to make any appropriations of any moneys, only as the churches direct.

Art. IX. That no churches in this Association shall receive members from any church of our faith and order without a letter, or until the church from which they might come shall have first been declared out of order by a council from other churches.

## RULES OF DECORUM.

Art. I. This Association shall commence with religious exercises and a sermon from some preacher who shall have been previously appointed, unless the Association shall otherwise direct.

Art. II. The Moderator, of the previous 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 the Moderator and Clerk elected.

Art. III. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the meeting during the session, and he shall have a right to speak on all subjects, by calling a member to the chair, and shall not be entitled to a vote, except in case of a tie.

Art. IV. The Committee on Finance shall receive all the money appropriated by the churches, and report to the Association the amount, and place it in the hands of the Treasurer.

Art. V. A Committee of Arrangements shall be appointed at the commencement of each session, whose duty it shall be to regulate the order of business.

Art. VI. The churches shall designate their Messengers, and report their condition by letter.

Art. VII. Preachers in good standing, of our faith and order, when attending our Annual Meetings shall be invited to seats with us and have the right to speak on all subjects that come before the body.

Art. VIII. Any member may speak three times on the same subject under debate before the meeting, but not oftener without leave, and when speaking shall stand and address the Moderator. No member shall absent himself from the Association during the session without leave.

Art. IX. Any person who shall violate the Constitution or Rules of Decorum shall be reported to the church for disorderly conduct.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Art. I. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union; and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creed and opinion should be tried.

Art. II. We believe there is but one living and true God.

Art. III. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and

New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule for faith and practice.

Art. IV. We believe that man, in his creation, was upright but he has fallen from that into sin.

Art. V. Adam being our representative, we believe when he fell we all fell in him; and man in his fallen state is not able by anything he can do to recover himself from his sinful state.

Art. VI. We believe that the offering of Christ has met the demands of the law and laid the grounds of pardon in the government of God.

Art. VII. We believe the spirit of God in the Gospel is the efficient cause of sinners coming to Christ for pardon.

Art. VIII. We believe that all who come to Christ and receive a free pardon of all their sins will never be lost, but will persevere through grace to glory.

Art. IX. We believe that baptism is an ordinance of Christ contained in the New Testament, and that immersion is the mode; that when persons believe and are baptised, they are legally added to, and lawful members of Christ's church.

Art. X. We believe the Lord's supper to be an ordinance of the gospel, commanded by Christ and practiced by the Apostles.

Art. XI. We believe in a universal resurrection of the dead and final judgment through Jesus Christ, and the glory of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked to be eternal.

Art. XII. We believe that the Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest or religious devotion.

# REPORTED STATE OF CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGBRS.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE	Date of meeting	Rec'd by Letter Voucher	Rec'd by Note or Voucher	Restored	Deaths	Excluded	Total Membership	Sabbath Schools	No. N. Y. Sunday School	No. N. Y. Officers and Teachers	Ordnained Ministers	Contribution for Minutes	Association Missions	Total for all Purposes.
Holly Springs.	J. W. Pollard.	Jessie Whitlow.	Pleasant Plains	J. W. Pollard.	Judsonia.	11-15-97		1				50				1	\$2.00		\$2.00
Balem.	J. J. Stevens.	W. A. Crutchfield	Searcy.	J. J. Edwards.	Searcy.	11-15-97						50				1	3.00	\$1.25	\$4.25
Independence.	J. J. Goad, S. W. Scoggin, W. B. Morgan.	J. J. Goad.	Bradford.	G. W. Goad.	Denmark.	11-15-97						50				1	4.00		4.00
Providence.	J. J. McDaniel, Sam Arnell.	J. J. Stevens.	Judsonia.	J. C. Humphries.	Clear Water.	11-15-97						50				1	2.00	55	2.55
Union Hill.	S. B. Vick, E. L. Frazer, G. W. Scoggin.	S. B. Vick.	Bradford.	G. W. Scoggin.	Denmark.	11-15-97						50				1	3.50		3.50
Oil Trough.	D. L. Reddit, W. E. Newsom, J. W. Outlaw.	J. N. Shunk.	Sulphur Rock.	W. E. Newsom.	Oil Trough.	11-15-97						50				1	4.00		4.00
Harvey's Chapel.	W. H. Middleton, W. A. Crutchfield.	W. A. Crutchfield	Searcy.	J. N. Wyatt.	Searcy.	11-15-97						50				1	2.00		2.00
<b>TOTAL.</b>												250	3	19	140	156	\$20.90	\$3.05	\$23.95