

Minutes,

Of the
Grooked Creek Association of Baptists

1895

Twenty= Seventh Annual Meeting.

Held with Walnut Grove Church,

OCTOBER 18, 19, 21.

HARRISON,
REPUBLICAN PRINT.
ARKANSAS.

1895

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MINUTES.

The Association convened at Walnut Grove, Friday, Oct., 18, 1895, at 10 a. m.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. T. Bell, Moderator. Text, 4th chapter, 5th verse of Paul's letter to the Ephesians. Conclusion by Elder Lamb, of Cassville, Mo.

Adjourned to meet at 1:30 p. m.

The Association met at 1:30 p. m., according to adjournment. The 34th division of Psalms was read by the Moderator. Prayer was offered by Elder Wm. A. Collis, of White River Association.

Dr. J. J. Stephens was appointed Reading Clerk to assist W. H. Raley.

The Churches were then called in order, and the letters read, after which the Association commenced the regular form of business.

Petitionary letters were called for. None offered.

The Association was organized for the ensuing year by the election of the following officers: J. T. Bell, Moderator; Geo. W. Moore, Clerk; Wm. Speer, Treasurer.

Call for Corresponding Messengers was made, and J. Estes and J. H. Middleton were received from the Carroll County Association.

Call was made for visiting ministers, and David Scott, of Harrisonville Mo., and I. D. Lamb, of Cassville, Mo., came forward and received the hand of fellowship.

Brothers Waltrip and Wm. Speer, and delegates of Walnut Grove Church were placed on Committee of Divine Service.

The following committees were named: Committee on Sunday Schools, C. L. Mattox, Wm. Holt, and A. K. Tony; on Periodicals, Dr. J. J. Stephens, Joseph Daniels; on Destitution; Wm. Raley, H. D. Strickland; on Querries, Martin Davis, T. H. Cook; on Temperance; R. A. Martin, C. L. Mattox; on Finance, J. R. Wilson, J. H. Speer, on Obituaries, J. W. Childress, J. F. Pruit; on Resolutions, J. L. Brown, T. E. Brown; on Education, B. E. McFerin, Dr. J. J. Stephens; on Missions, C. L. Mattox, Wm. Holt, N. F. Bradley.

The Association, after having received the report of the Committee on Divine Service, adjourned to meet Saturday, October 19th at 9 o'clock a. m.

Met according to adjournment.

The 8th chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans was read by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder David Scott.

Constitution and rules of decorum were then read and the roll of messengers was called, absentees marked.

The call for corresponding messengers was renewed. None responded.

Call was renewed for visiting ministers and brethren. Prof. W. S. Johnson and Elder J. W. Hiatt, of Mountain Home, responded.

Reports of corresponding messengers to sister Associations were called for; none received.

Call made for corresponding messengers to visit sister Associations.

J. H. Speer and C. L. Mattox agreed to go to White River Association; J. T. Bell, J. W. Childress, T. H. Cook, C. L. Mattox and J. H. Speer agreed to go to Carroll County Association; J. R. Wilson and R. A. Martin agreed to go to Taney County Association; L. S. Scroggins, J. M. Warren and C. L. Mattox agreed to go to Union Association No. 2.

Call for Committee Reports.

The report of the committee on education was deferred till 2:30 p. m. for the convenience and accommodation of Prof. Johnson and Elder Hiatt.

The report of committee on periodicals was received and committee discharged.

Report of committee on Sunday Schools received and committee discharged.

The Association adjourned to meet at 1:30 p. m.

Met at 1:30 according to adjournment. Prayer by Maston Waltrip.

Report of committee on education called for at 2:30, according to previous agreement. The report was received with special commendations and committee discharged.

On solicitation of Brother Hiatt, messengers from all churches agreed to try to raise \$10 in each of their respective churches for the liquidation of the debt of the Mountain Home College.

Report of committee on destitution called for. Report received by a vote of 22 yeas to 6 nays.

The Association adjourned to meet Monday, October 21 at 9 a. m. Closing prayer by Brother C. L. Mattox.

Met according to adjournment. 8th division of the Psalms read. Prayer by R. A. Martin.

Owing to the absence of the committee on resolutions, Dr. J. J. Stephens and W. H. Raley were appointed.

Excuses were called for from churches not represented in the Association last year.

Report of committee on Querries again called. Report adopted.

Call for report on temperance. Report adopted with amendments.

Report of committee on obituaries called. Report adopted with amendments by standing vote.

The Association voted to set apart a page in the minutes to the memory of our former moderator, A. J. Roberts.

Report of committee on missions called. Report read.

Adjourned to meet at 2 p. m.

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by W. W. Buckner.

Call for report on missions. Report not adopted.

Call for finance report. Report adopted. The Association agreed that the 7th article in the rules of decorum should contain the clause that no speaker should keep the floor more than ten minutes.

Call for report on resolutions. Report adopted.

Boards were appointed in the four districts of Association as follows:

1st District. J. H. Speer, of Harrison, A. K. Tony, of Cross Roads, A. J. Walters, of Bellefonte.

2nd District. T. H. Cook, Bethel; J. R. Wilson, Enon; W. H. Raley, Sugar Loaf.

3rd District. John Speer, Walnut Grove; Wm. Holt, Cave Hall; George W. Moore, Mt. Zion.

4th District. T. K. Baley, Antioch; Ed Sams, New Hope; J. R. Benegar, Mt. Pleasant.

Ex-Treasurer A. K. Tony turned over \$4.75 to Treasurer Wm. Speer.

A collection was taken to obtain means for missionary support which resulted in \$10.65, out of which W. W. Buckner was paid balance due him for mission work.

The Association voted to convene with Bellefonte Church at 10 a. m., Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1896, Elder C. L. Mattox to preach the introductory sermon, N. F. Bradley, alternate.

The clerk was empowered to superintend the printing and distributing of 600 copies of the minutes, and was given authority to solicit reputable advertisements to help defray the expense of the same, and allowed \$3.00 for his services.

Minutes were read and approved.

J. T. BELL, Moderator.

GEO. W. MOORE, Clerk,

Boone, Ark.

Hill Top, Ark.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

TEMPERANCE.

Your committee on temperance begs leave to submit the following:

We believe that the whiskey traffic is the greatest evil of our land and has broken up more happy homes, caused more heart-aches and more women and children to go in poverty than any other evil in the land: Therefore we would recommend that we pledge ourselves to do all in our power, reasonably, to discourage the use of whiskey as a beverage, and would further ask of our brethren of all the Christian World to join with us at the ballot box, against the licensing of the traffic; and that we as Baptists, totally abstain from the same, and that we will not knowingly support for office, any man who, by word or deed, encourages its sale.

C. L. Mattox }
R. A. Martin } Committee.

RESOLUTIONS.

We your committee on resolutions beg leave to submit the following:

Whereas Summit Church having received Elder I. B. Lovel, an excluded member from Mt. Pleasant Church, into their fellowship without his making the necessary acknowledgment to the church from which he was excluded:

We would therefore, advise that they rescind the act of his reception, unless he make the necessary acknowledgement to the church from which he was excluded.

Be it further resolved that the committees on destitution and on missions, hence forth shall be one. Also that the Association tender its thanks to the Walnut Grove Church and vicinity for the hospitable manner in which they have cared for the visitors and delegates. Also for the faithfulness with which the clerk and moderator have served us.

James T. Brown,	} Committee
W. H. Raley,	
J. J. Stephens,	

DESTITUTION.

Your committee on destitution submits the following:

Where as there is great destitution in the bounds of Crooked Creek Association, and where as every effort to put out a missionary has been almost a total failure: Your committee would, therefore, recommend that each district put out a missionary to work in its own destitute parts, and this body advise the district churches to put out one or two missionaries to work in the destitute parts, and report the result at the next Association; said missionaries to depend upon the churches for their support, and that they be empowered to solicit contributions for missionary aid, report number of days labored, sermons preached, and amounts received.

W. H. Raley,	} Committee.
H. D. Strickland,	

EDUCATION.

Your committee on education begs leave to submit the following report.

Realizing that the greater the powers and faculties of the mind are developed, the more sensibly we can comprehend the beauties in holiness, and the nearer we approach the likeness of God, and the better we can understand the workings of nature: Therefore, we earnestly advise that the youth of our land be educated intellectually, physically, and spiritually. To do this we deem it highly necessary for us to avail ourselves of all the means of education at our command. Therefore we recommend the institutions of the State, and

IN MEMORY
OF
Brother A. J. Roberts.

Brother A. J. Roberts was born in Searcy County, N. C., April 26, 1823, and died in February, 1894. He professed religion and joined the Baptist Church in 1842; was deacon 28 years, and had been moderator of Crooked Creek Association for 15 years.

Ever in his seat at church, always ready in person and purse when charity called, he was ready, too, to encourage the way-fallen christian, and guide the wayward ones.

He had been married twice, and was a most devoted husband and a loving father. He left two sons, two daughters, and a host of friends to mourn his loss.

CONSTITUTION.

We, the Church of Jesus Christ called Baptists, being assembled through our delegates, at Bellefonte, Boone County, Ark., on Saturday before the second Sabbath in May, A. D. 1869, agree to form ourselves into an association for the purpose of instruction, education and the promotion of the cause of our blessed Redeemer.

ARTICLE I. The Association shall be composed of Messengers, or Delegates chosen by the Churches in our Union, who, on presenting letters certifying to their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

Article II. The Messengers thus chosen, when convened, shall be known as the "Crooked Creek Association," who shall be not merely an advisory counsel, but also for the advancement of the cause and Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Article III. Each church in the Association shall be entitled to four delegates and any church failing to represent herself shall render the reason to the next Association.

Article IV. Letters from the churches shall state the number received by experience, baptism, letter, recommendation or restoration; those dismissed by letter, excommunicated or deceased since the last association; also the whole number in fellowship.

Article V. New churches may be admitted into the association, who petition by letter and delegates, adopting or subscribing to our articles of faith, constitution and rules of decorum, the Moderator giving the hand of fellowship.

Article VI. The association shall elect a moderator and clerk by the suffrage of the members present.

Article VII. The association shall have a fund for support which shall be supplied by voluntary contribution of the churches sent by the hands of their messengers, which shall be at disposal for association purposes only.

Article VIII. Donating or withholding our means for religious purposes shall be at the free volition of any member, and is no bar to fellowship.

Article IX. Questions may be sent by churches in their letters or brought in by motion and second and may or may not be investigated as the association may determine.

Article X. The association shall, in all cases, be governed by a majority of the members, except in the reception of members, which shall be unanimous.

Article XI. The association shall have power to withdraw her fellowship from any church in her union who, after due admonition shall be unsound in her faith and practice.

Article XII. Some of her ministers shall be appointed by the association each session to preach the introductory sermon at the next.

Article XIII. She may correspond with any association as she

Article V. We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him, is justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness, that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood, by virtue of which faith His perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God, that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every blessing needful for time and eternity.

Article VI. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel, and that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by the cordial, penitent and obedient faith, and nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own determined depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel, which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

Article VII. We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, that it is affected in a manner above our comprehension, by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel, and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

Article VIII. We believe that faith and repentance are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces wrought in our souls by the regenerating spirit of God, whereby, being convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy, at the same time receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on him as the only all-sufficient Savior.

Article IX. We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which He graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners, that being perfectly consistent with the moral agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God and active imitation of his free mercy, that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe in the gospel; that it is the foundation of christian assurance, and to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

Article X. We believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of His holiness, and that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the healer and comforter, in the continued use of the appointed means—especially the word of God, self-exami-

nation, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

Article XI. We believe that such only are real believers as endure to the end, and that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from the superficial professors, that a special providence watches over their welfare, and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Article XII. We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of His moral government; that it is holy, just and good, and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen man to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from the love of sin, to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the Holy law, is one great end of the Gospel and of the means of grace, connected with the establishment of His visible church.

Article XIII. We believe that the visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only scriptural officers are Bishops, or Pastors, or Deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are found in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

Article XIV. We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, administered by a legal administrator, to show faith in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior, with its effects in our death to sin, and resurrection to a new life; that it is pre-requisite to the privileges of a church relation, and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the undying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

Article XV. We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's day, or the Christian Sabbath and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations, by the observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for the rest that remains for the people of God.

Article XVI. We believe that government is of Divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society, and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except only in things opposed to the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

Article XVII. We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of our Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in His esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief, are in His sight wicked and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

Article XVIII. We believe that the end of the world is approaching; that at the last day Christ will descend from Heaven and raise the dead from their graves to final retribution; that a solemn separation will take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy, and that the judgment will fix forever the final state of man in Heaven or Hell on principles of righteousness.



RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Moderator shall cause each session to open and close with prayer.
2. Ministers present invited to seats are privileged to speak with us on all subjects, but vote on none.
3. Those who speak shall rise to their feet and respectfully address the brother Moderator.
4. No motion shall be entertained without a second.
5. If when a motion has been made and seconded, a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question, should this question be discussed, and if negatived, the subject shall be dropped.
6. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the minutes unless ordered at the time.
7. No one shall speak more than three times on any subject without special leave of the Association, and not more than 10 minutes.
8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator; if so his name shall be left off the minutes.
9. The stand shall be supplied with preaching from time to time during the session, only by consent of the Association.
10. The Moderator shall decide by his vote all questions upon which there is no majority.
11. The Moderator shall state and explain questions before the Association and take the sense of the Association in all cases where a vote is taken, except by ballot.
12. No motion shall be entertained until the one under discussion has been disposed of, except a motion to adjourn, postpone, amend or put the main question.
13. The Moderator shall call to order any member who, while speaking, uses any discourteous language, or departs from the subject under discussion.
14. These rules may be amended at any time when a majority of the members may deem it necessary.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	P. O.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	MESSENGERS.	Increased.			Dec'd.		Ordained Ministers.	Church days.	Membership.	Pastoral support.	Missions.
					By Exp. and Bap.	By Letter.	By Statement.	By restoration.	By Letter.	By Exclusion.	By Death.			
Antioch	Cassville	N F Bradley	W F Ellis	A A Dupham, W F Ellis,	2	6	2					39 4	15 00	1 25
Bellefonte	Bellefonte	T L Thomson	A J Walters	Chas Hall, W S Sullivan.		1			1			50 2	67 00	
Bethel	Self	R W Raley	J D Alexander	M Waltrip, T H Cook, S P Farmer, J D Alexander.										
Cave Hall	Harrison		Lean Hawkins	W R Speer, W H Holt, Jos Wilkins, Jos Daniels.	8				2	2		58 2		
Cross Roads	Elmwood	W W Buckner	J J Stephens	A K Toney, I Davis, Martin Davis, J J Stephens.		1			1			37 3		
Enon	Boone	J T Bell	G W Martin	J T Bell, R A Martin, J R Wilson,	1	2				1	1	59 4	38 30	5 00
Harrison	Harrison		P C Maggard	J H Speer, C L Mattox,	1	1			6	5	1	58 4		54 65
Highland	Harrison	W W Buckner	J L Brown	J L Brown, C Childress,	10	15	5		4			80		
Harmony	Murray	N F Bradley	Joe Vaughn	N F Bradley.							1	16 3	1 00	
Hopewell	Harrison	Jos Baker	J W Childress	J W Pettit, J W Childress,	1	4			1		1	22 1	10 35	
Sugar Loaf	Sycamore	J Baker	W H Raley	R W Raley, W H Raley.	2	1			8	1	2	20 4	15 00	
				M Long, J Q A Speer, Wm Holt,	1				7	1	3	59 3	25 00	
Walnut Grove	Gaither	C L Mattox	J Mc McGinn	J S McGinn,	7					2	1	94 1		
Orion	Harrison	J W Pettit	Thos Brown	Thos Brown, W W Brown.	1						2	50 1		
New Hope		J E Keiley	Joe P Ponder	Henry D Strickland, C H Miller,	20	4		1	1	2	3	55 3	9 00	
Union	Parthenon	R C J Matlock	J L Jones	M C Martin,	1				3			3		
Lead Mine	Lead Hill	E L Baker	Uriah Honeycutt	Eld J W Hurd, J Rowan,	1				1		1	21 1	15 75	
Mt. Zion	Hill Top	W W Buckner	W C Morgan	Geo W Moore, Ben McFerin.					15	2	1	37 1	5 50	

Bellefonte has one Sunday School, with a membership of 44.
 Bethel has one Sunday School; number of scholars not reported.
 For amount raised for printing minutes, see page 5.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. Annual Introductory Sermon.
2. Call of the Association to order by the Moderator, if present.
3. Call for church letters and enroll messengers.
4. Election of officers.
5. Call for petitionary letters for membership.
6. Call for corresponding letters and messengers.
7. Appoint committees.
8. Read constitution and rules of decorum.
9. Call and correct roll and note absentees.
10. Call for report of messengers to corresponding bodies.
11. Appoint messengers to corresponding bodies.
12. Call for report of committees in order.
13. Miscellaneous business.
14. Resolutions.
15. Appoint place for next meeting of Association.
16. Appoint some one to preach the introductory sermon.
17. Appoint some one to have the minutes printed.
18. Adjournment.



FORM FOR ASSOCIATION LETTER.

TO THE CROOKED CREEK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION WHEN CONVENED WITH (place)
(time)

DEAR BRETHREN.—We, the Church of Jesus Christ, known as Missionary Baptists, worshipping at send as messengers to represent us in your body and During the past year our church has been increased, by baptism by letter by statement by restoration Decreased, by letter by exclusion by death Ordained ministers Licentiates Present membership Present pastor contribution for pastoral support for minutes day of church meeting ... by order of the church on

..... Moderator,

..... Clerk. P. O.

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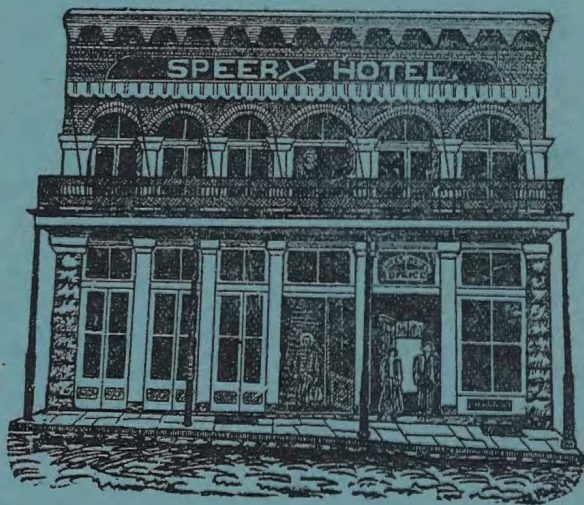
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