

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

White River Valley Baptist Association

—HELD WITH—

HICKORY GROVE CHURCH,

JACKSON COUNTY, ARKANSAS,

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1888.

OFFICERS:

F. M. BRANNAN, Moderator.

J. G. SMITH, Clerk.

Next Session to be held with Bold Spring Church. The District Meeting with Litchfield Church, Jackson County, Arkansas.

NEWPORT

HERALD JOB OFFICE PRINT.

1888.



MINUTES.

The White River Valley Association held its Sixteenth annual session with Hickory Grove Church, Jackson county, Arkansas, on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1888.

The opening exercises were conducted by Eld. E. M. Brannan, who preached the introductory sermon, from Second Timothy, 4th chapter and 2d verse, viz: "Preach the word."

The Moderator then called the body to order, to effect a permanent organization. Bro. D. T. Martin was appointed reading clerk. Roll of churches called, letters read and delegates enrolled as follows: Bold Spring, Sam Erwin; Cedar Grove, J. W. Harral and G. W. James; Liberty, J. R. Moxley, J. Ottinger, John Moxley and S. Ottinger; Oak Grove, S. P. Hite; Pleasant Valley, J. T. Smith; Hickory Grove, Dr. J. H. Strider, Wm. P. Hurley, Eli Jackson, P. S. White and J. G. Smith; Macedonia, J. H. Martin, S. Scribner and F. M. Brannan.

The Moderator then declared the body opened, and ready for the election of officers for the ensuing year. This resulted in the election of Elder F. M. Brannan, moderator, and J. G. Smith, clerk.

Call for Petitionary Letters. When Bro. J. P. Foushee represented that he was from Litchfield Church, but had no letter or articles of faith, and after some discussion, it was decided to suspend final action until Monday.

The Moderator then called for Corresponding Letters from Sister Associations:

Rocky Bayou Association—D. T. Martin.

Spring River Association—Jesse Crooms.

Independence Association—None.

Mount Zion Association—None.

Visiting Ministers were invited to seats with the body, when John Shook was received.

The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

Committee on Divine Service—J. H. Strider, W. P. Hurley and Eli Jackson.

Committee on Arrangement of Business—J. G. Smith, J. R. Moxley and Stephen Ottinger.

Committee on Finance—S. Scribner, J. S. Ottinger and John Martin.

Committee on Publication—J. G. Smith, W. P. Hurley and Sam Erwin.

Committee on Sabbath-schools—J. R. Moxley, John Harral and J. H. Strider.

Committee on Education—S. Ottinger, John Moxley and Eli Jackson.

Committee on Foreign Missions—J. G. Smith, J. H. Strider and J. R. Moxley.

Committee on Home Missions—J. Ottinger, John Moxley and John Martin, (and by motion and second, D. T. Martin was added.)

Committee on Temperance—J. G. Smith, Sam Erwin and Stephen Ottinger.

The Association then adjourned until Monday morning at 8 o'clock.

F. M. BRANNAN, Moderator,

J. G. SMITH, Secretary.

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MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 8, 1888.

The Missionary Baptist Association, of the White River Valley, met pursuant to adjournment.

Opening Exercises by Elder F. M. Brannan.

Calls for Report of Committee on Arrangement of Business, who reported as follows, to-wit:

1. Call Roll and mark Absentees.
2. Reading and correcting Minutes.
3. Call for Petitionary Letters.

4. Report of Committees.
5. Unfinished Business.
6. Miscellaneous Business.
7. Where shall the next Association be held, and who shall preach the Introductory Sermon? Who shall be his Alternate?
8. Where shall the District meeting be held, and who shall preach the Introductory Sermon? Who shall be his alternate?
9. Shall we correspond with other Associations?

J. G. SMITH, Chairman.

The report was adopted.

Call for Petitionary Letters, whereupon the Letter from Litchfield Church was read and messengers invited to seats.

Call for Report on Finance asked for and was granted further time.

Call for Report on Publication, which was read, as follows:

We, your Committee to whom was referred the subject of publication, beg leave to submit the following:

WHEREAS, Publication is one of the greatest means we have of giving and receiving information, religiously and morally, and has to be kept up by the people, we recommend that the Baptists take, read and sustain our home paper, published at Little Rock, it being sound in the faith and doctrine of our Lord Jesus Christ.

J. G. SMITH, Chairman.

The above report was adopted.

The report of the committee on Education was called for, and read, as follows: "Be it therefore Resolved, That we patronize Arkansas College, situated at Arkadelphia, Clark county, Arkansas, as far as is consistent with our financial interests, but we, as a committee, think that all men ought to go where their interests are best served."

JOHN C. MOXLEY,
E. E. JACKSON,
J. S. OTTINGER. } Committee.

Pending the adoption of the report, J. G. Smith offered the following: "Be it further Resolved. That this body obligate itself to support Bro. John Shook in Ouachita college, for the ensuing scholastic year, and that we do now subscribe the amount necessary." Whereupon the delegates subscribed the amounts herein set forth, obligating themselves to pay, if the churches fail: Cedar Grove, \$5.00; Liberty, \$10.00; Macedonia, \$15.00; Pleasant Valley, \$10.00; Oak Grove, \$5.00; Hickory

Grove, \$50.00; Wm. Henly, \$5.00; D. T. Martin, \$5.00; Litchfield, \$15. The report was then adopted.

By motion and second Dr. J. H. Strider, of Fitzgerald, Ark., was appointed to collect and account for the money raised by the various churches for the purposes mentioned in the report on education.

By motion and second it was ordered that one-half the amount subscribed be collected and forwarded to J. H. Strider by the 1st day of November, 1888.

The report on Sabbath-schools was then read, as follows: "We consider Sabbath-schools to be a good institution, if properly conducted, and with proper literature. Therefore we would recommend to this body, that if they engage in Sabbath-schools to use strictly Baptist literature." J. R. MOXLEY, Chairman.

After considerable argument the report was adopted.

Call for the report on Home Missions, which was read, as follows: "Knowing that there is some destitution within the bounds of the White River Valley Association, we would be glad that they were supplied with the Gospel, but how to perform this we know not. Talk is plenty and cheap, but our means are limited, and the will to give is at a low ebb, so we recommend that this body do move, and say less. We hear of some churches in our bounds that are not supplied, and our ministers seem dormant. We see no propriety in establishing new churches, and letting them die, for want of preaching. We would further recommend that the destitute churches of this body call the preachers of this association to the pastoral care, and that the ministers accept, and go to work, ever trusting in God, to whom all things belong, praying that the lay members may be prompted to action. Brethren, let us be found doing our part; work while it is day, for night cometh, when no man can work.

J. OTTINGER, Chairman.

The above report was adopted.

The report on Foreign Missions was read, as follows: "Whereas, we believe that it is right to support the cause of missions, believing it to be the spirit of the Gospel, and that the command of the Master to go into all the world and preach the Gospel, is right, and that this command should be obeyed, but owing to the destitution of our home mission work, within the bounds of our association, we think that all our efforts are re-

quired at home at the present time.

J. G. SMITH, }
 J. H. STRIDER, } Com.
 J. R. MOXLEY. }

After earnest discussion, the report was adopted.

The report on Temperance was read, as follows: "We would recommend to all, and especially to our members, to abstain from the use of all intoxicating liquors as a beverage; and that we would further recommend that our members use their utmost endeavors to remove the cause of the liquor traffic, or the open saloon, from the face of our fair country, and that by so doing we will forward the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ and His blessed religion." S. OTTINGER, Chairman.

The report was adopted, and the following resolution offered: "That the churches of the Association take some steps in regard to holding a member in fellowship who is engaged in the manufacture of spirituous liquors." Resolution filed for hearing at the next Association.

The Committee on Finance submitted the following report:

COLLECTED FROM THE CHURCHES:

Bold Spring.....	\$ 1 50
Liberty.....	2 70
Pleasant Valley.....	3 00
Macedonia.....	2 10
Taylor's Bay.....	-----
Pleasant Hill.....	-----
Hickory Grove.....	3 00
Oak Grove.....	1 00
Cedar Grove.....	1 00
Litchfield.....	1 00
Total.....	\$15 30

Report received and committee discharged.

The following resolution was offered: "Resolved, That this body change its time of meeting from Saturday before the first Sunday in October to Thursday before the third Sunday in September." J. R. MOXLEY.

Filed for hearing at the next Association.

Bold Spring elected as the church for the next Association, and Eld. G. W. James to preach the introductory sermon, and James R. Moxley his alternate.

The District Meeting to be held with Litchfield church, on

Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1889, and Eld. F. M. Brannon preach the introductory sermon, and J. R. Moxley his alternate.

The following brethren were appointed to deliver essays at the District Meeting on the subjects herein set forth :

J. R. Moxley—Church Membership.

J. G. Smith—Pastoral Support.

J. H. Strider—Office and Duties of Deacons.

S. R. Erwin—Prayer.

J. Ottinger—Sabbath-schools.

David Lewis—Attending Church Meeting on Saturday.

G. W. James—State of the Infant.

J. P. Foushee—Intemperance.

W. P. Hurley—Disorderly Members and Excluded Ministers.

S. P. Hite—Baptists Building their own Houses of Worship.

John Moxley—Duties of Pastors to their Churches.

Geo. Foushee—Family Worship.

Stephen Ottinger—Christian Piety.

John Martin—Duties of Churches to their Pastors.

Corresponding Messengers were appointed to sister Associations as follows :

Rocky Bayou—J. R. Moxley and F. M. Brannon.

Independence—J. G. Smith, S. Ottinger and G. W. James.

Spring River—Sam Erwin and J. Ottinger.

The following brethren were appointed to attend Baptist State Convention : John Moxley, Geo. Foushee, S. Ottinger, J. R. Moxley and Sam Erwin.

By motion and second it was carried that we represent in the Southern Baptist Convention, and J. G. Smith appointed to attend the same.

Resolved, That the delegates of the various churches composing the White River Valley Association, convened at Hickory Grove, tender thanks to the Moderator and Clerk for their faithfulness; and also to the brethren and friends of this community, for their hospitality extended while here. J. S. OTTINGER.

The Association then adjourned, to meet with Bold Spring church, Sharp county, Ark., on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1889.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To amount received from Finance Committee.....	\$15 30
To balance on hand.....	3 20
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	\$18 50
By printing Minutes and Clerk's fee.....	\$16 50
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To balance on hand	\$ 2 00
F. M. BRANNAN, Moderator.	
J. G. SMITH, Clerk.	

CHURCHES.	POST OFFICE.	MEETING DAYS SATURDAY BEFORE	PASTORS.	CLERK.	Rec'd by Baptism	Dis'm by Letter	Excluded	Died	Total
Bald Spring	Grange.....	3d Sunday....	W. James	S. H. Erwin....	3	4	0	0	80
Cedar Grove	Convenience..	4th Sunday...	G. W. James	O. P. James....	4	4	1	2	29
Liberty	Sulphur Rock	4th Sunday...	FM Brannan	JF Huddleston	28	4	1	1	2123
Macedonia	Sulphur Rock	3d Sunday....	FM Brannan	T. Brannan....					25
Pit Valley	Anvergne.....	3d Sunday....	J I Martin...	D. May.....	3	22	5	2	74
Oak Grove	Layton	4th Sunday...	John Ball...	S. P. Hite.....	2	1	4		19
Hicky Grove	Fitzgerald....	1st Sunday...	FM Brannan	J. G. Smith....	2	4			2 82
Pleasant Hill	Tupelo.....								
Taylor's Bay	Augusta.....								
Litchfield	Newport.....	1st Sunday...	FM Brannan	W. A. Foushee	18				18
Total in fellowship									330