

MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

Quackia Baptist Association,

Held with

THE PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH,

ON TWO MILE CREEK, POLK COUNTY, ARK.

OCTOBER THE 17TH AND 18TH, A. D. 1873.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION:

HENRY C. BIDLING, - - - - - MODERATOR
BIG BEND, POLK COUNTY, ARK.

THOMAS WRIGHT, JUN., - - - - - CLERK,
DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, ARK.

HOT SPRINGS ARKANSAS:
COURTES JOB PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.

MINUTES.

The Ouachita United Baptist Association met with Pleasant Grove Church on Two Mile creek, Polk county, Ark., on Friday, October 17th, A. D., 1874.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. M. Green, from the 18th chapter and 30th verse of the Gospel by John, Elder H. C. Ridling concluding.

After a short intermission, the Association was called to order by Elder H. C. Ridling, and on motion, Thomas Wright, Jr., was chosen Clerk, *pro tem*.

On motion, Elder William Lawrence was exonerated from the charges brought against him by Saline Association, and allowed to retain a seat as delegate from Big Fork Church.

The following Churches presented letters by their delegates: (See Appen.).

Pleasant Hill and Mountain Fork Churches presented petitionary letters, and were received; and the right hand of fellowship given their delegates by the Moderator. Elder H. C. Ridling was chosen Moderator, and Thomas Wright, Jr., Clerk.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats, and to take part in the deliberations of the body, voting excepted.

On motion, the Moderator appointed the following committees, to wit: COMMITTEE ON PREACHING.—H. P. Cuffman, Neal Gish, John Morris. COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.—G. W. Gray, J. J. Eager, John Dilbeck. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.—William Lawrence, A. Campbell, Isaac McGlamery. On motion, a committee on destitution was appointed as follows, to wit: J. M. Green, M. C. Jordan and C. C. Pope. On Motion, the Clerk was granted leave to appoint an Assistant, whereupon he appointed Elder J. M. Green. On motion, adjourned till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

Saturday morning, 9 o'clock. Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by the Moderator. The roll of delegates' names called, and absentees noted.

Rules of decorum read.

Corresponding letters received from Cadlo River Association. Appointment of messengers deferred until next Association. Corresponding letter received from Little Vine Primitive Baptist Association, and on motion, the Moderator appointed the following committee to meet a convention of said Association at Mount Joy Church, on Friday before the second Sabbath in July, 1874.

Resolved, That two District Meetings be held as follows: First, with Sulphur Springs Church, to commence Friday before the third Sabbath in July next; Elder J. M. Green to preach the introductory sermon. Second, with Gum Springs Church, to commence Friday before the second Sabbath in August next; Elder J. M. Sherry to preach the introductory sermon.

Resolved, further, That each Church in their respective Districts, be required to send four delegates.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted, to wit: WHEREAS, a majority of the Churches composing this Association have given their voices against Foot Washing, as an ordinance in our Abstract of Faith; Therefore, *Resolved,* That our Abstract of Faith remain as published in our minutes for 1870; *And further Resolved,* That we recommend to all the Churches of this Association to observe Foot Washing who feel it a duty.

On motion, the time of holding this Association was changed, so as to meet hereafter on Friday before the third Sabbath in September, instead of October.

On motion, it was resolved to hold the next Association with Fountain Head Church, Polk county.

The following report was received and adopted: We, your committee on Destitution, ask to report as follows, to wit: We find a large scope of territory within the bounds of this Association that is destitute of Gospel preaching. The Western and Southern parts of our territory is nearly entirely destitute, as well as strong settlements in other parts. Therefore, we would recommend the propriety of this body adopting some plan, whereby said destitution can be supplied. Respectfully submitted.

J. M. GREEN, Chairman.

The following was received and adopted: We, your committee on Publication, would respectfully recommend "The Baptist," published by J. R. Graves, at Memphis, Tenn., as a sound religious paper. Also, would recommend that the "Southern Psalmist" be adopted by the Churches.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the brethren and friends in this vicinity for their kindness. On motion, adjourned to meet with Fountain Head Church, on Ouachita river, Polk county, on Friday before the third Sabbath in September, A. D., 1874. After prayer, a hymn was sung while the parting hand was given.

H. C. RIDLING, Moderator.

THOMAS WRIGHT, Jr., Clerk.

APPENDIX.

Constitution Of the Ouachita Association.

ARTICLE 1. This Union of Churches shall be known and distinguished by the name and title of the "Ouachita United Baptist Association."

ART. 2. This Association shall be composed of delegates from Churches in Union. Each Church shall be entitled to three (3) Delegates, who shall be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of their appointment by their several Churches before they take their seats.

ART. 3. The Delegates, when convened, shall organize themselves into a deliberative body, by the appointment of a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by ballot at each annual Association, and continue in office until their successors are chosen.

ART. 4. This Association shall not interfere with the rights of the Churches of which it is composed. It shall regard them as independent bodies in all matters of internal government, and shall only act as an advisory council, assuming no authority except what is expressly delegated to it by the Churches, or evidently implied by the very

nature of the compact. It nevertheless, claims authority over its own members—the Delegates from the Churches—and, in justice and propriety, must have power to withdraw from, and disown all Churches which depart from the principles of this compact, by becoming heterodox in faith, or disorderly in practice. It should, therefore, regard all Churches united under this Constitution with a vigilant eye for good. Its principal business shall be to promote the declarative glory of God, by extending the Kingdom of Grace on earth, through the medium of preaching the Gospel, and the means in accordance with that Gospel, to cultivate union and fellowship with all the Churches of Christ, especially with those united under this Constitution.

ART. 5. Newly constituted Churches, or Churches dismissed from other Associations of the same faith and order, may be admitted into this Union, on their sending up three delegates to the annual meeting of this Association, with a petition for admission, and, by their delegates, agreeing to the abstract of principles herewith published.

ART. 6. The Churches in this Union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association, a written communication, specifying the names of their Delegates, their number in fellowship, number baptised, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, restored, or deceased, since the last session, and all other information which the Churches may deem important, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

ART. 7. This Association may have a fund, supplied by voluntary contributions of the Churches; and all money thus contributed shall be transmitted from the Churches, and paid over, through the Committee of Finance, to the Treasurer; who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office during the pleasure of the Association. He shall retain and manage the funds agreeably to the order of the Association, and present, annually, for insertion in the minutes, a clear and succinct statement of all the receipts and expenditures.

ART. 8. This Association shall furnish the Churches with the Minutes of every session.

ART. 9. This Association shall take cognizance of no query sent up from the Churches, unless they have endeavored to solve the same, and have failed; nor of any difficulty between Churches, unless they have pursued the directions in the 8th chapter of Matthew, and have not been able to settle them. Then this Association shall take such matters into consideration, and act upon them at its discretion.

ART. 10. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of this Association to keep a regular file of the printed Minutes of every session of this body, and deliver over the same to his successor in office.

ART. 11. This Constitution may be altered or amended at regular meetings of the Association, by the concurring voice of two-thirds of the members then present; provided, such alteration or amendment be approved of by the Churches comprising this Association.

Rules Of Decorum.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.
3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a right to call to order at any time.
4. A member, not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.
5. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise on his feet, and, obtaining permission, proceed.
6. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise.
7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject, or is guilty of personal reflection. Every word made and recorded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it.
8. Every case taken up by this Association, shall be decided or withdrawn before another is offered.

9. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association on the subject, and the members on the affirmative side of the question shall signify the same by rising from their seats, and those in the negative shall retain theirs. The Moderator shall pronounce the decision before the standers resume their seats.

10. Any member wishing to retire, shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

11. No member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition without permission of the Association, nor more than once till every member wishing to speak shall have spoken; nor shall any proposition be made to close the subject till the debates have been carried through.

12. The appellation of "Brother" shall be used in the Association by members in their addresses to each other.

13. The names of members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

14. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

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 be made.

Abstract of Faith.

1. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there is a Trinity of persons in the Godhead—Father, Son and Holy Ghost; and these three are one.

2. We believe the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments is the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam, and that the depravity of his fallen nature was entailed upon his posterity; and in the impotency of man to recover himself by his own free will and ability.

4. We believe in the election through sanctification of the Spirit, and belief of the Truth.

5. We believe in the final perseverance of the Saints, and that they will never finally fall away and be lost.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the righteousness of Christ imputed to them, and that it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching, to save them that believe.

7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification; and are evidences of our own gracious state.

8. We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be never ending.

9. We believe that the visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful baptised persons, who have gained Christian fellowship with each other, and have given unto the Lord, and one another, and have agreed to keep up a Godly discipline agreeable to the rules of the Gospel.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the Church, and the only lawgiver, and the discipline is with the body, and should be faithfully kept up for the glory of God and the prosperity of his people.

11. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Gospel, and none but true believers have a right thereto, and should be administered by regularly ordained ministers, and that immersion is the only Gospel mode of Baptism.

STATISTICS.

Churches.	County.	Delegates.	BAPTISED.			CONTRIBUTIONS.	Sabbath Meetings	Pastors.	P. Office,	Licentiates.	Clerks.	
			BY LETTER.	BY EXAM.	BY EXAM.							
Shiloh.	Montgomery.	C. C. Pope, J. H. Burns,	5	0	4	26	\$175	1	J. B. Smith,	Mt. Ida.	C. C. Pope,	J. H. Burns,
Bethel.	Polk,	John S. Risenhorn,	5	1	2	8	120	1	J. J. Parklison,	Big Fork.		J. S. Risenhorn,
Mountain Fork,	Polk.	J. N. Williams,	3			10	100	3	T. P. Reece,	Dallas.		J. N. Williams,
Mt. Gilead.	Montgomery.	G. W. Gray, J. F. Jeffrey, D. M. Beck,	7	1	7	53	250	4	John Dilbeck,	Big Fork.		A. B. Anderson,
Big Fork.	Polk.	Wm. Lawrence, John Dilbeck, John Morris,		4	2	17	200	3	W. Lawrence,	Big Fork.		J. W. Barron,
Pleasant Grove.	Polk.	J. M. Green, Hiram Gann, H. P. Coffman,	5	3	1	39	250	3	J. M. Green,	Eagle Hill,	W. L. Wilson.	Hiram Gann,
Chrystal Hill.	Montgomery.	N. B. Goss,		4		14	175	3	Jos. Shirley,		N. B. Goss,	N. B. Goss,
Sulphur Springs,	Montgomery.	Jas. Standridge, A. J. Ausborn,		1	1	41	200	2	F. J. Ferguson,	Big Fork.		A. J. Ausborn,
Pleasant Hill,	Polk.	D. Cook, John Thornton,	0	3		21	150	4	J. M. Green,	Eagle Hill,	D. Cook,	John Thornton,
Concord,	Polk.	Levi Smith,	5	3	1	24	200	4	T. P. Reece,	Dallas.	W. W. McDaniel	T. J. Robinson,
Cosatot.	Sevier,	W. G. Flannigan, M. C. Jourdan, Jas. Lowe,	5	2		24	250	2	J. M. Green,	Eagle Hill,		M. C. Jourdan,
Antioch.	Scott.	A. Campbell, Isaac McGlamery, N. Gist,	0	5	0	57	35	3	A. Campbell,	Waldron,	I. McGlamery,	Neal Gist,
Gunn Springs.	Polk.	T. P. Reece, Tho. Wright Jr,		0	7	37	330	2	T. P. Reece,	Dallas.		J. R. Walters,
Mt Pleasant.	Polk.	J. S. Dewese, S. M. Kemp,	0	5	2	46	150	1	J. M. Green,	Eagle Hill,		S. M. Kemp,
Fountain Head,	Polk,	H. C. Rhjlling, John J. Eager,	4	4	1	43	100	3	G. H. Green.	Big Bend.,		John J. Eager.
Total,			48	44	50	20	470	30	00			