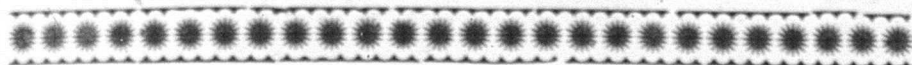


*J. W. Butler,
Salem, Ark.*



PROCEEDINGS

... OF THE ...

BIG CREEK

MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

— HELD WITH —

ENTERPRISE CHURCH,

Vidette, Fulton County, Arkansas, September 22, 23 and 24, 1898.



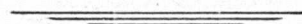
TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION.



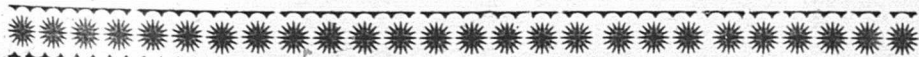
— OFFICERS. —

W. H. BOWLING, Moderator, Salem, Arkansas.

F. W. HARRIS, Clerk, Union, Arkansas.



Next session to be held with Macedonia Church, Byron, Arkansas,
commencing on Thursday before the Fourth Sunday in Sept., 1898.



CULP PRINT, Mammoth Spring, Ark

PROCEEDINGS.

Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association convened with Enterprise church, Vidette, Arkansas, at 11 a. m., Thursday, September 22, 1898.

Elder J. R. Cooper was chosen at the last Association to preach the annual sermon, but he not being present at 11 a. m., the annual sermon was postponed until 7:30 p. m.; and Elder J. H. Soden preached at 11 a. m —Text Matthew vii, 11. Conclusion by Elder H. B. Clinton, Adjourned until 3:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Pursuant to adjournment the Association met at 3:30 p. m. After singing and prayer the Moderator called the house to order and proceeded with business as follows:

W. H. Bowling and T. G. Hawkins were appointed reading clerks. Call for churches. Response by Salem, Mt. Zion, Viola, New Prospect and Crossroads, whose messengers were received and enrolled.

By motion all messengers who were present were allowed a vote in all the proceedings whether the letters from their respective churches were present or not.

A permanent organization was effected by electing Rev. W. H. Bowling Moderator, and F. W. Harris, Clerk. With a few chosen remarks the Moderator-elect assumed the chair. New churches called for. No response.

Call for corresponding messengers; no response. Call for visiting ministers; whereupon Rev. J. C. Holeman, of White River Association, responded and was given the right hand of fellowship by the Moderator and invited to a seat with the brethren. The Association took a recess while the Moderator made out the list of the several committees. The house came together again by singing, and the Moderator announced the following committees:

1. On Devotional Exercises, messengers from Enterprise church with pastor in charge.
2. On Baptist Literature, Rev. H. B. Clinton, Bros. F. Baker and J. H. Chadwick.

3. On Sunday Schools, Elds. G. W. Davis, S. M. Oliver and J. D. Bookout.

4. On Home Missions, Elds. B. L. Chadwick, J. R. Cooper and Bro. Lee Gibson.

5. On Associational Missions, Elds. T. G. Hawkins, Henry Porterfield and Bro. James Esel.

6. On State Missions, Bro's G. W. Finley, D. McElmurry and G. W. Gibson

7. On Foreign Missions, Eld's. J. H. Soden, S. M. Oliver and J. R. Cooper.

8. On Christian Education, Bro's. Robt. Thompson, J. D. Cochran and W. T. Livingston.

9. On Destitution, Eld's. J. H. Soden, S. M. Oliver and B. L. Chadwick.

10. On Temperance, Eld's. H. B. Clinton, G. W. Davis and T. G. Hawkins.

11. On Orphans' Home, Bro's. Z. T. Carroll, Henry Porterfield and F. Baker.

The committee on Devotional Exercises announced that Eld's. J. R. Cooper and T. G. Hawkins would fill the pulpit at 7:30 p. m. and W. H. Bowling and G. W. Davis would occupy the stand at 11 a. m., Friday morning. Adjourned with prayer by H. B. Clinton.

EVENING SESSION.

Pursuant to arrangements by the committee on Devotional Exercises, Rev. J. R. Cooper preached the annual sermon. Evening lesson 25 Division of the Psalms. Text, Phillipians i, 27, concluded by T. G. Hawkins.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

After singing and prayer, the Moderator called the house to order and proceeded with business.

1. Roll call.

2. Minutes of preceeding day's session read and approved.

3. Call for absent churches. Response by Macedonia and Oak Grove.

4. Renewed call for visiting ministers. No response.

5. Renewed call for corresponding messengers. Response by Bro. N. G. Tracy, of White River Association, who was given the

right hand of fellowship by Moderator and invited to a seat with the brethren.

6. Report of committees called for. Responses as follows:

(A) By committee on Baptist Literature, the report was amended by inserting the words National Baptist of Philadelphia and the report as amended was adopted. (See appendix A.)

(B) By report of committee on Sunday Schools, report adopted as read. (See appendix B.)

Adjourned for recess. After five minutes recess the audience re-assembled by singing, and devotional exercise was conducted by Rev. W. H. Bowling, preaching from Heb. x, 7.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Pursuant to adjournment the Association re-assembled at 2:30 p. m. After singing and prayer the Moderator called the house to order and proceeded with business.

At this point of business the Association received the sad intelligence that Bro. and Rev. J. E. Cargill was at home languishing on the bed of affliction and very near the point of death, and his brother, T. F. Cargill, requested the Association to engage in a word of prayer in his behalf, whereupon the Moderator called the house to prayer in his (J. E. Cargill's) behalf, led by Rev. T. G. Hawkins.

1. Call for report of committee on Associational Missions. Committee responded, and by request the report was read the second time. The vote was taken to adopt the report of committee, which was lost. A motion to reconsider the report was lost.

2. Call for report of committee on Home Missions. Report adopted as read. (See appendix C.)

3. Renewed call for churches not represented yesterday. Response by Liberty, Liberty Hill, Pleasant Grove and Enterprise.

4. Renewed call for new churches. Response by F. M. A. Ballard, J. I. Hand and W. H. Hand, bearing a petitionary letter from Union Hill church which was received by the Association and the Moderator gave the messengers the right hand of fellowship and invited them to seats with the brethren.

5. Call for report of committee on State Missions. Report adopted as read. (See appendix D.)

6. Call for report of committee on Foreign Missions. Report adopted as read. (See appendix E.)

7. Committee on Devotional Exercises announced that Eld's. J. C. Holeman and T. J. Halliway would fill the stand at 7:30 p. m.

8. Call for report of committee on Christian Education. A motion to resubmit to committee was lost. Moved to adopt the report; report adopted as read. (See appendix F.)

9. Call for report of Finance committee. Motion to table the report of Finance committee until 9 a. m. Saturday morning; motion carried. A motion to adjourn was lost.

10. Call for report of committee on Destitution. Report adopted. (See appendix G.)

11. Call for report of committee on Temperance. Report adopted as read. (See appendix H.)

12. Call for report of committee on Orphans' Home. By motion the report of this committee was laid over until Saturday morning 9:30 a. m. Adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

Pursuant to the arrangements of the committee on Devotional Exercises Rev. J. C. Holeman preached at 7:30 p. m. Text, Luke v, 31 and 32, concluded by T. J. Halliway.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

Pursuant to adjournment the Association re-assembled at 9 a. m. After singing and prayer the Moderator called the house to order and proceeded with business.

1. Renewed call for churches not represented. No response.
2. Renewed call for visiting messengers. No response.
3. Renewed call for visiting ministers. No response.
4. Called up the report of the Finance committee which was tabled until this hour. The committee reported \$10.45. The report was adopted and the money turned over to the clerk to pay for the publication of the Associational minutes.

5. Call for report of committee on Orphans' Home. Committee responded. Report adopted as read. (See appendix I.)

Rev. W. H. Bowling then called Eld. J. H. Soden to the chair and proceeded with a very interesting talk in behalf of the noble enterprise, and Sister Hielt, who has given her home at Monticello and her life work for the maintenance and care of the orphan Baptist children of Arkansas, and proceeded to take up a collection for same,

and received \$5.25.

6. Report of Association Board. (See appendix J.)

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

The following resolution, introduced by Rev. T. G. Hawkins, was adopted:

Resolved, That the ministers and members of Big Creek Association meet each fifth Sunday in a Missionary mass meeting and Sunday School Convention with some church in the bounds of this Association and that a President, Vice-President and Secretary be appointed by this body to arrange and conduct said meeting, who shall render a report at each annual meeting of the Association, whereupon Rev. T. G. Hawkins was elected President, R. E. Richardson Vice President and F. W. Harris Secretary, and Pleasant Grove church, Fulton county, was selected as the place for holding the meeting beginning Friday before the fifth Sunday in October, 1898.

Resolution by Rev. S. M. Oliver:

Be it Resolved, By this Association that they recommend each church in this Association to select one or more preachers and send them to some destitute point to do mission work, and that they contribute to them and that the preachers take up collections on the field and that they report to the church the amount of work done and the amount collected on the field, and that the church report the same to the next meeting of the Association.

Corresponding messengers were appointed to other Associations as follows:

(A) Rocky Bayou—Rev's. J. H. Soden, H. B. Clinton, Henry McElmurry, J. F. Baker and Bro. R. E. Richardson.

(B) White River—Wm. Grissaw, Bro's. W. H. Hand, Z. T. Carroll and Rev. W. H. Bowling.

(C) Union—Bro. Henry Porterfield, Rev's. T. J. Halliway, G. W. Davis, J. H. Soden, J. R. Cooper, R. E. Richardson and Bro. A. D. Barker.

(D) Spring River—Bro. J. R. Cooper and R. E. Richardson.

Macedonia church was chosen as the place to hold the next annual meeting of the Association.

1. Rev. J. H. Soden was chosen to preach the introductory sermon at next annual meeting and Rev. W. H. Bowling alternate.

2. By motion W. H. Bowling, G. W. Davis, T. G. Hawkins

and F. W. Harris were elected delegates to the State Convention, and Rev. W. H. Bowling recommended as a member of the State Board.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Resolved, That we tender to the good people of this vicinity our grateful thanks for the open-souled hospitality with which we have been entertained during the sitting of this body. Carried.

Adjourned to meet with Macedonia church on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1899, at 11 a. m.

There was preaching at 11 a. m. by Rev. J. R. Cooper. Subject, The Resurrection.

W. H. BOWLING, Moderator.

F. W. HARRIS, Clerk.

APPENDIX A.

We, your committee on Baptist Literature, beg leave to submit the following:

The Word is Truth—God's Word is Truth. Therefore we recommend a careful and prayerful study of God's word as of paramount importance, also that each brother in the bounds of this Association subscribe for and read at least one Baptist paper. We further recommend our State paper, the Arkansas Baptist, as sound in Baptist faith, and also the National Baptist of Philadelphia.

Respectfully submitted,

H. B. CLINTON,

F. BAKER,

J. H. CHADWICK

} Committee.

APPENDIX B.

Whereas, We find that there is great neglect among our churches in regard to Sunday school work and we earnestly recommend that churches in this Association urge and maintain a Sunday school work. We further recommend that they use none other than the Bible and pure Baptist literature, and that each church report to the Association the work done.

Respectfully submitted,

S. M. OLIVER,

G. W. DAVIS,

J. D. BOOKOUT,

} Committee.

APPENDIX C.

We, your committee on Home Missions, beg leave to submit the following: We earnestly and prayerfully recommend that every church in this Association contribute liberally to Home Missions; that each pastor preach on this subject this fall and take collections for Home Missions and that he send such funds as he may collect to the Home Mission Board. Respectfully submitted,

J. R. COOPER,
B. L. CHADWICK, } Committee.
W. L. GIBSON,

APPENDIX D.

We, your committee on State Missions, beg leave to submit the following: We believe the State Board is doing a great work in supporting our cause in destitute places. We therefore recommend that this Association co-operate with our State Board by contributing to the State Mission funds, and by recommending some one as a delegate to our State Convention and as a member of the State Board.

G. W. GIBSON,
DAVID McELMURRY, } Committee.
G. W. FINLEY,

APPENDIX E.

We, your committee on Foreign Missions, beg leave to submit the following: We believe that mission work is in accordance with the teachings of the Bible as taught by Mark's gospel, Mark xvi. 16, and Matt. xxviii, 19 and 20, and other Scriptures, and in compliance with those Scriptures we should endeavor to send it to all the world, and we recommend that each pastor preach to each church that he has the care of at least once a year on Foreign Mission.

J. H. SODEN,
S. M. OLIVER, } Committee.
J. R. COOPER,

APPENDIX F.

We, your committee on Christian Education, beg leave to submit the following: Education is knowledge and "Knowledge is power." In this age there is proclaimed from almost every hilltop and in every valley the teachings of man for the commandments of God, deceiving if it were possible the very elect. It is therefore necessary that we have educated Christian men and women; that they dig down deep into God's store house of knowledge, the Bible, and thereby be enabled to teach the pure Gospel as was once delivered to the Saints.

We therefore recommend that the Baptist of this Association use every means reasonable within their power to educate their sons and daughters. We further recommend the Baptist schools and colleges of this State as worthy of our support.

ROBERT THOMPSON,	} Committee.
J. D. COCHRAN,	
W. T. LIVINGSTON,	

APPENDIX G.

We, your committee on Destitution, beg leave to submit the following: We find certain locations destitute of Baptist preaching, to-wit: Mud Springs, Burk school house. Lone Rock, Pine Hill Creek and the entire south boundary line of this Association, and we recommend that missionary work be done at those points, and also at Welcome Hill and Mackvey school house.

B. L. CHADWICK,	} Committee.
S. M. OLIVER,	
J. H. SODEN,	

APPENDIX H.

Your committee on Temperance is of the opinion that the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is a monstrous evil, which not only opposes the best interests of society and government, but the religion of Jesus Christ. We would therefore recommend that engaging in the manufacture and sale, either directly or indirectly, or the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage be made a

test of church fellowship by each church composing Big Creek Association.

T. G. HAWKINS,
H. B. CLINTON,
G. W. DAVIS, } Committee.

APPENDIX I.

We, your committee on Orphans' Home, beg leave to submit the following: We recommend the home at Monticello, Arkansas, to all our people and we believe that said institution should receive voluntary aid from the brethren of our Association to help feed the hungry and clothe the needy. We further recommend that our pastors bring this matter before our people and solicit contributions to sustain this noble enterprise.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. PORTERFIELD,
Z. T. CARROLL,
J. F. BAKER, } Committee.

APPENDIX J.

The Associational Mission Board submitted the following: We employed Eld. B. L. Chadwick, the missionary elected by this body for the year 1898, to preach at Lone Rock and Wideman. We agreed to pay him \$1.50 per day. Days work done, 7. Amount paid, \$7.50. This report may not be altogether correct, as our secretary is not present.

J. H. SODEN, Chairman.

J. W. BUTLER, Sec'y.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

G. W. Davis, B. L. Chadwick, Jacob Skiver, T. J. Hallway, M. A. Chadwick, G. W. Suggs, W. H. Bowling, J. L. Bowling, H. B. Clinton, F. G. Hawkins, J. E. Cargille, T. F. Cargille, J. R. Cooper, S. M. Oliver, R. E. Richardson, N. T. Chadwick, R. T. Farthing, Robert Hammock, John Williams.

LICENSED PREACHERS.

J. F. Baker, John Chadwick, Henry Porterfield.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This Association shall be known by the name of Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association.

ART. 2. The members composing the annual meetings of the Association shall consist of the Messengers sent by the churches.

ART. 3. The messengers sent by the churches to the annual meetings shall not exceed four from each church.

ART. 4. The Association shall meet annually, at such time and place as shall have previously been appointed.

ART. 5. The officers of this Association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by a majority of the Messengers, annually, at the annual meeting of the body.

ART. 6. This Association shall have no power to control or regulate the internal affairs or discipline of any church, but it may adopt or recommend all such measures as shall be considered best calculated to produce the harmony and prosperity of the churches, and advise and consult upon the matters as the churches may at any time present for their consideration and advice. It may receive churches in this Association, or dismiss churches from the body, inquire into the religion in its bounds, and suggest measures for its advancement, and be a common bond of union among the churches, but shall not exercise any legislative power over the churches.

ART. 7. This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided notice has been given at a previous meeting.



STATISTICAL

TABLE.

Churches.	Pastors.	Clerk.	Postoffice,	Days of meeting	Baptism.	Received by letter,	Restoration.	Voucher,	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Died.	Total Membership.	Months of school.	Kind of Literature.	Superintendent.	Number of members.
Oak Grove....	W H Bowling	D S Syconeer	Moody....	2			1	1				22		Baptist	G C Jones	40
Liberty,	R F Farthing	G P Keeth	Viola.....	3	2			1	8	5	2	68				
Diamond Spgs	R F Farthing	A Wikins	Ruth	1	1	4			7	2	1	21				
Liberty Hill	J H Soden	W S Taylor	Oxford ...	1		3			4	2	2	71		Bible	J D Patterson	36
Pleasant Grove	W H Bowling	E Z Brotcher	Ten Mile..	1	9	1			2	3	1	70		Bible	J F Christy	30
Enterprise	J C Holeman	J C Webb	Violetta...	1					1	3	3	54				
Salem.....	W H Bowling	Wm Grissaw	Salem.....	4							5	10				
New Prospect	H B Clinton	F Baker	Oxford....	4								42				
Crossroads	J H Soden	J P White	Union....	3						1		43				
Macedonia	J H Soden	B M Talley	Byron	2		2	1					36		Bible	J C Bray	40
Mt. Zion.....	W M Duren	S W Cochran	Union	3	7				3		3	11		Baptist	S W Cochran	40
Viola		Ida Carroll	Viola.....	4	2	1	1		6		10	37				
Union Hill....	J R Williams	W H Hand	Wake	4	6	9						21				
Shadev Grove	J H Soden															

Totals

27 20 3 2 31 16 27 596

FINANCIAL EXHIBITS.



Churches.							
Oak Grove.....	\$ 3.40	Associational Mission					
Liberty,	\$	Foreign Mission					
Diamond Spgs		State Mission					
Liberty Hill		Home Mission					
Pleasant Grove	1.30	Minute Fund					
Enterprise		Value of Church Property					
Salem.....		Pastors' Salary					
New Prospect		Repairs on Building					
Crossroads		Pledges to Associational Mission for next year.					
Macedonia							
Mt. Zion.....							
Viola							
Union Hill....							
Shadey Grove							
Totals	4.70 15. 10.20 1,440 143.50 22.75						