

ANS BAPTIST HISTORICAL

**MINUTES**

— OF THE —

**THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION**

— OF THE —

**RED RIVER**

**BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

— HELD WITH —

**CLEAR SPRINGS CHURCH,**

SEPTEMBER 28th, 29th AND 30th, 1884.

Next Session to be Held at Arkadelphia on Saturday Before the 4th Sabbath in September, 1885.

**OFFICERS:**

J. P. Copeland, Moderator,	- - - - -	Wolf Creek, Ark.
T. A. Heard, Clerk,	- - - - -	Arkadelphia. Ark.

**ARKADELPHIA:**

SOUTHERN STANDARD PRINT.

1884.

# MINUTES.

CLEAR SPRINGS CHURCH, Sept. 28, 1884.

The introductory sermon was preached by Brother N. J. Davis, by appointment, after reading 16th vs., 9th Chapt., 1st Corinthians and singing hymn—"Amazing Grace"—and prayer. Text, latter clause of 16th vs., 1st Corinthians—"Wo, is me, if I preach not the Gospel." After the sermon, prayer was offered by Bro. J. O. Browning, of Judson association. The congregation was then dismissed until 1:30 o'clock.

After refreshments the delegates met in the house and Bro. Copeland, the Moderator, read the 5th Chapt. of Thessalonians, sang hymn, "Nearer My God to Thee." Prayer was offered by Bro. Coleman.

Letters from the churches were called for and Brothers Waddell, R. G. Edwards and Browning were appointed to read the same.

Proceeded to the election of Moderator and Clerk. Brother Copeland was re-elected Moderator and T. A. Heard, Clerk.

Brothers G. Deaton, Speakman, McDaniel, Robinson and Cross were appointed a committee on Divine Service.

Petitionary letter from Oak Hill church, which was read and received, and the hand of fellowship was extended by the Moderator.

Appointed the following committee on Sunday Schools: R. H. Waddell, Chairman; H. J. P. Horn and J. C. Brown.

Temperance—G. W. Clingan, Chairman; B. F. Malcom and E. Merrell.

Documents—Bro. Jas. Bennett, Chairman; L. H. Hitt and N. J. Price. On motion of the Moderator D. S. Howel was added.

Finance—Bros. H. Edwards, Chairman; Wilson and Rogers.

Obituaries—Bros. H. H. Ccleman, Chairman; N. J. Davis and H. J. P. Horn.

Missions—R. H. Waddell, Chairman; Polk Burke and W. J. Gardner.

Literature—Bros. E. Merrell, Chairman; G. Deaton and G. A. Robinson.

Education—Bros. W. J. Cross, Chairman; M. D. Bell, J. H. Bennett, J. L. Bozeman and J. D. Rogers.

Destitution—Bros. E. Merrell, Chairman; D. D. Corbin and J. B. Langley.

Bible Work—Bros. H. J. P. Horn, Chairman; H. H. Coleman and J. O. Browning, of Judson Association, requested to act.

Called for correspondence and visitors. Bro. W. A. Clark, State Evangelist; Bro. J. H. Denson, of South Western Association; Bro. J. O. Browning, of Judson Association. A letter from Caddo River was read and received. All of the above brethren were cordially welcomed by the Moderator to seats in the body.

Committee on Divine Service presented their report, which was read and the different appointments announced. The report is as follows: Bro. L. H. Hitt to preach to-night, followed by Bro. Jas. Bennett. Bro. W. A. Clark at 11 o'clock to-morrow, Bro. Denson to follow. Bro. Browning at 3 o'clock, followed by Bro. McGraw. Bro. Price at Crouch school house, followed by Bro. Davis. Bro. Corbin to-morrow night at Crouch school house, followed by Bro. Copeland. Bro. Clingan at 11 o'clock Monday, Bro. Clark to follow. Bro. Price to night, followed by Bro. Bell. Bro. Corbin at Smyrna, followed by Bro. Z. T. Rogers. Bro. Bennett at Crouch school house. Bro. Merrell at Bro. Brock's, Bro. Rogers to follow.

On motion, adjourned to 8:30 o'clock Monday morning. Prayer by Bro. Gardner.

#### SABBATH.

Baptising in Gentry's creek, at 8:30 o'clock, by Rev. Copeland. Prayer meeting at 9 o'clock, led by Bro. Davis. At 11 o'clock, sermon by Bro. W. A. Clark, State Evangelist; after which a collection of \$36 was had for State Missions. At 3 o'clock, sermon from Bro. Browning, of Judson Association. At candle lighting, sermon from Bro. J. B. Permenter, of Prescott. Notwithstanding the weather was threatening, the congregation was large and attentive. The Word preached by the brethren was gladly received.

#### SECOND DAY.

Monday morning—Met pursuant to adjournment. After reading the 8th Psalm by the Moderator, and singing, "Wait My Soul Upon the Lord." Prayer was offered by Bro. Merrell. The Association was called to order by the Moderator.

Called the roll and marked absentees.

Bro. W. A. F. Wells, of Shiloh Church No. 2, was excused.

Renewed the call for correspondence, and Bro. Permenter, of Union Association, was received and invited to a seat.

Bro. Clingan, Chairman of Committee on Temperance, made the following report, which was adopted.

Whereas, it is with pleasure that we report that the cause of Temperance has prospered among us, and we trust that it may continue so to do in the future. Notwithstanding the good results of the temperance move, it seems that the friends of intem-

perance have rallied and given their power unto the beast, viz: that of King Alcohol, and again he raises his deformed head and goes forth to destroy our fellow men, both morally and spiritually. Therefore, we recommend that we, as Baptists, take a firm stand against intemperance, and use all the means that is placed in our reach to prevent its success in our midst.

G. W. CLINGAN,  
E. MERRELL,  
B. F. MALCOM,  
Committee.

The following report was received from the Committee on Bible Work and adopted by this body:

In as much as the American Bible Society has broken faith with the Baptists, by refusing to publish the Bible translated by a Baptist Missionary for the Burmans, and, therefore, withheld God's word from the ripe field, we feel that we should withdraw our sympathy and support from said society, and give them to the society that has courage to publish the Bible translated according to the demands of honest criticism; and we, therefore, recommend that Baptists make all their contributions for Bible work to the American Baptist Publication Society.

The Association agreed to adjourn at the hour of 11 o'clock today, to hear a sermon from Bro. Clingan, to be followed by Bro. Clark.

Bro. Cross, as Chairman, made this report a supplement to the report on Education, of last session, which was adopted:

And, we further recommend that, as a helper to young Ministers, that this Association create a fund and appoint a committee to purchase a good library of Baptist literature, and the Clerk to be the custodian of the same and always accessible to Ministers within our bounds.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. Cross, Chairman.

Bro. Hitt moved that the chair appoint a committee of three to carry out the plan of establishing the Ministers' Library as recommended by the committee on Education, which was carried. Bro. H. H. Coleman, as chairman, E. Merrell and E. W. McGraw were appointed said Committee. The sum of \$7.25 was paid toward the Ministers' Library and put in the hands of Bro. E. Merrell for that purpose.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. Heard and adopted:

Resolved, that we, the Red River Association, appoint a committee on education for the purpose of co-operating with the Educational Commission, appointed by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, and also, to get money and pledges for the purpose of aiding this commission in the location of a Baptist College in Arkansas; and also, ask the Commission to consider the claim of Arkadelphia for the College. Whereupon Bro. H. J. P. Horn, of Unity church; J. H. Bennett, of Ozar; R. H. Waddell, of Wallaceburg, were appointed said Committee. On motion, Bro. J. P. Copeland, of Wolf Creek, was added to the committee.

Bro. Waddell, Chairman of committee on Sabbath Schools, read his report and the adoption was continued for the meeting this evening.

On motion, the Association adjourned for preaching, and to meet again at 1 o'clock. Prayer by Brother Browning.

Bro. Clingan preached at 11 o'clock, followed by Bro. Clark. Christians were made happy, sinners convicted, and twenty-eight asked the prayers of the Association.

At 1 o'clock the Association met. Prayer by Bro. John B. Langley. Proceeded to business.

Called up the report on Sabbath Schools, which was re-read by Bro. Waddell, and after some discussion, was adopted by a majority. Following is the report:

From the letters of the different churches previously read to your body, we find that only seven of the twenty-nine churches report Sabbath Schools. This your committee greatly deplore, and in the language of God's Word, "These things ought not so to be." We observe in the proceedings of your last Association, that much interest was manifested in this great work, and efforts made to effect a more active work in the Sunday School interest, which seemed to avail but little. Your committee would now suggest that the Association select some suitable brother in your bounds as a Sabbath School Missionary, to spend at least two or three months in the early spring visiting the different churches in your bounds, organizing and encouraging the interest of Sabbath Schools, and that the compensation be such as the Sabbath Schools and the brethren and friends may voluntarily contribute; and we further recommend that our Sabbath School work be strictly the work of our own church.

Respectfully submitted.

R. H. WADDELL, Chairman.

Committee on finances reported as follows: Received for printing the minutes \$50 35; Missionary purposes \$16 45.

H. EDWARDS, Chairman.

The following report on Missions was read and adopted.

We find from conversation with the brethren from various portions of your bounds that there is considerable destitution in some portions of the Association, and we further find that your suggestions as to our missionary work at your last session, were perhaps not as effective as you anticipated, and as your committee is at a loss for some better suggestion, we would most respectfully recommend that your body, acting as a committee of the whole, take this matter of Home Missions under advisement and adopt such means for disseminating the Gospel, as we believe it, as you may deem most feasible.

R. H. WADDELL, Chairman.

Motion to continue the present Home Mission Board was carried.

Bro. E. Merrell, Chairman of Committee on Literature, read the following as his report, which was adopted:

First of all we recommend the Bible, then "Orchard's History," D. B. Roy's "Baptist Succession" and S. H. Ford's "Mile Stone." We also recommend the "Tennessee Baptist," edited by Eld. J. R. Graves.

E. MERRELL, Chairman.

Bro. Bennett, Chairman of committee on Documents, read the following as his report, which was adopted:

We notice the letters from the churches bearing statements of increased membership. We consider that the 9th Art. of the Constitution will not permit us taking cognizance of query from South Fork Church. We recommend the next session of this body to be with Arkadelphia Church.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. BENNETT, Chairman.

Bro. E. Merrell, Chairman, read his report on Destitution. On motion, said report was recommitted

On motion, the Treasurer was ordered to distribute the Home Mission fund between Bros. Corbin, Hamlin and Williams. The collection of five dollars to be added to the fund sent up.

Called up the report on destitution, which after being re-read by Bro. Merrell, was adopted. Following is the report:

We, your committee on Destitution, report that there is a destitution in the bounds of this Association, to-wit: The Northwest part of Pike county and the Northeast part of Howard county. We recommend that this Association send a Missionary to preach in the destitution.

Respectfully submitted.

E. MERRELL, Chairman.

The Home Mission Board was authorized to employ a Sunday School Missionary according to the report on Sabbath Schools.

Bro. N. J. Price was appointed to preach the next introductory sermon, at Arkadelphia, and Bro. J. H. Bennett his alternate.

Bro. Cross moved that a collection now be taken for the use of the Library for the Ministers of the Association, and that all the delegates take an interest in getting good Baptist books as well as money. \$7.25 cash collected and some books promised. The cash was put in the hands of Bro. Merrell.

Appointed correspondents as follows: Caddo Association—Bros. Corbin, Copeland and McDaniel. Columbia—Bros. Robinson, McDaniel and Corbin. Judson—Bros. Copeland, Heard Cross, Huff, Horn and Edwards. South Western—Bros. J. D. Rogers, Waddell, Bennett and Merrell. Union—Bros. Bell and Z. T. Rogers. Arkansas State Convention—Copeland, Waddell and Horn. This body to pay half of the expense of the Messengers to the Convention.

Ordered, that the Clerk have eight hundred copies of these minutes printed and distributed to the churches, and be allowed \$15 for his services.

Whereas, There are yet unpaid pledges made at the session of this body at Okolona in 1881, for the support of Bro. E. Merrell, as missionary for that associational year, it appearing from the minutes that \$27.50 is owing from churches and individuals within the bounds of the Western Association; it is therefore requested by this body that said pledges be paid to Bro. E. Merrill.

Resolved, That we return a vote of thanks to the members and friends

of Clear Springs Church for the kind hospitality extended to us during this session.

While singing a hymn the parting hand was extended and the Association adjourned, to meet at Arkadelphia, on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in September, 1885.

J. P. COPELAND, Moderator.

T. A. HEARD, Clerk.

### TREASURER'S REPORT.

T. A. HEARD, Tre. surer, in account with  
THE RED RIVER ASSOCIATION.

To amount on hand from last session .....	\$ 5 65	
To am't rec'd of finance committee to print minutes....	50 35	
To home missions .....	16 45	
To amount from Gum Springs church.....	2 50	
To amount from Bro. J. C. Harris.....	1 00	
To amount of collection at the association.....	5 00	
		\$80 95
By amount for printing minutes .....		\$26 00
By amount paid for postage.....		4 00
By amount paid Bro. Corbin for missionary work.....		10 00
By amount paid Bro. Williams for missionary work....		10 00
By amount paid Bro. Hamlin on missionary work.....		5 00
By amount allowed as clerk.....		15 00
		\$70 00
Balance on hand.....	\$10 95	

### ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one true and living God.
2. We believe that the Scriptures, comprising the Old and New Testaments, are the words of God, and the only rules of our faith and practice.
3. We believe in the doctrine of election according to foreknowledge of God, the Father, through sanctification of the spirit unto obedience, and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.
4. We believe in the doctrine of Original Sin by the fall of Adam.
5. We believe in man's incapacity, of his own free will and ability, to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature.
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imparted righteousness of Christ, only.
7. We believe that the saints shall be preserved in Grace and never fall finally away.
8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are the ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of Baptism, and that Immersion is the Apostolic mode.
9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and in the general judgment, and that the felicity of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked, will be eternal.
10. We believe that no minister has any right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel but one who is regularly Baptised, called and comes under the imposition of the hands of the presbyter.
11. We believe that none but regularly Baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's Table.
12. We believe that the Lord's Day should be observed as a day of rest and religious devotion.

### CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Union shall be known and distinguished by the name and title of "The Red River Baptist Association."

ART. 2. This Association shall be composed of delegates from the churches in the Union. Each church shall be entitled to three 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. The Association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which it is composed; it shall regard them as independent bodies in matters of internal government, and shall only act as advisory counsel, assuming no authority, except what is expressly delegated to it by the churches, or evidently implied from 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 spirit 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 in 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 by 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 baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, restored, or deceased, since last session, and all other information which the churches may deem important, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

ART. 7. This Association shall have a fund, to be supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches, and all the 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 inspection 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. The 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 the churches, unless they have pursued the directions in the 18th chapter of Matthew, and have not been able to settle them. Then the 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 each 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 by the churches composing the Association.

## RULES OF DECORUM.

1. When the delegates of the several churches shall assemble at the place appointed for the session of the Association, the Moderator shall open the business by praise and prayer in person, or by proxy. If the former Moderator or Clerk be absent, the Association shall appoint one, pro tem.



2. Immediately after the opening session, the church letters shall be read by persons whom the Moderator may appoint, and the names of the delegates enrolled by the Clerk.

3. When the delegates' names are enrolled and called by the Clerk, the Association shall then elect by ballot, a Moderator and Clerk, the plurality of votes governing the election.

4. All motions and amendments to motions must be seconded before they can be entertained by the Moderator. When motions, or amendments to motions are made, the last one made shall be first in order, and so on in inverse order to the original motion, but the mover may at any time withdraw his motion.

5. Any person wishing to make a motion, or to speak of any matter before the Association, shall rise to his feet, and respectfully address the Moderator, and if he be in order, the Moderator shall signify the same by calling the person or otherwise, and no one, thus in order, shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or for personal reflections, nor shall any member speak more than twice on the same subject, without leave from the Association, or to explain some of his former remarks.

6. Whenever sufficient time has been allowed for discussion of any subject before the Association, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association, and declare the result, a plurality governing in all cases, except those provided for.

7. No member may vacate his seat without the consent of the Moderator, while the body is in session.

8. When one member shall speak to, or of one another, he shall call him brother.

9. The Moderator may have the names of the delegates called whenever it is necessary.

10. The Moderator may speak on matters of debate as other members, by calling some one to fill his seat while speaking, but not until all others have spoken who desire to speak.

11. The Moderator may invite visiting ministers in good order to seats in the council, who may speak, but not vote.

12. The Minutes of the Association may be read as it may think necessary.

13. The Moderator shall be the judge of order; the objector may appeal to the body, a majority of whom shall be determine the point of order.

## ORDAINED MINISTERS.

R S Wallis, Arkadelphia.

D S Williams "

N J Davis, "

H H Coleman, Dobyville.

James Gunter, Curtis.

M. L Langley, "

Z T Rogers, Arkadelphia.

J P Copeland, Wolf Creek.

J B Roundtree, "

N J Price, Boughton.

E Merrell, Bingen.

L H Hitt, Boughton.

G M Shaw, Clear Springs.

B F Cannon, Wallaceburg

Geo W Clingan, Arkadelphia.

D Bright, Amity.

J E Kennedy, "

D D Corbin, Wolf Creek.

M B Bell, Hollywood.

T J Funderburk, Caney Fork.

John Evans, Curtis.

W J Gardener, Dobyville.

D E McGraw, Caney Fork.

## LICENTIATE MINISTERS.

E Herrell, Prescott.

J R Hardy, Boughton.

J D Rogers, Bingen.

J H Barnett, "

J A Fortson, Arkadelphia.

W A Ingle, "

G F Williams, Okolona.

M P Thomas, Amity.

Reuben Thomas, Antoine.

D G Wells, Gurdon.

D M Shaw, Arkadelphia.

Robert Dunn, "

A A McDaniel, Caney Fork.

D S Bunch, Gurdon.

R H Waddell, Wallaceburg.

# TABULAR STATEMENT.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	DELEGATES.	Baptized.	Received by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Restored.	Excluded.	Dead.	Total.	Subscription for Minutes	Sabbath Meetings	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE
Arkadelphia	Clark	W J Cross, T A Heard	9	4				2	70	\$3 00		J O Browning	Arkadelphia
Unity	"	H J P Horn, F J Edwards, A W Brown	11	12	5		2	2	104	2 00	1&3	N J Davis	"
Mt. Bethel	"	J L Bozeman, H Edwards, N J Davis	11	14	7		1		70	1 50	4	G W Clingan	"
Gum Spring	"	T W Anderson, T T Ingle	4	2	13		2	2	52	2 00		"	"
DeGray	"	G W Clingan, J W Terrell, P M Dunlap	6		8		4	1	132	2 00	2	N J Price	Okolona
Okolona	"	R K Hall, Wm Kelley, R McMaster	1	3	2				68	3 00	4	W J Gardner	Dobyville
South Fork	"	G B Carter, W J Gardner, Jas Sloan	1	1	6		2	2	59	1 65	2	I F Welch	Hollywood
Holly Wood	"	M D Bell, B F Malcomb, J B Huff	4	13	2				45	1 50	2	A Tennon	Whelen Spring
Bethlehem	"	E Cates, H C Stroud, Wm Bunch	1	1					57	1 50	1	I F Welch	Alpine
Union	"	G Deaton, W A Thomason, L L Deaton		2	5				55	2 50	3	N J Price	Murtis
Pleasant Hill	"	Jno B Langley, E W Langley	8	1				2	41	2 00	2	J P Copeland	Clear Spring
Clear Spring	"	G M Shaw, T Speakman, J W Brock	5	11	2				90	2 00		"	Hollywood
Terre Noir	"	H H Coleman, L W Wimberly, Geo Maynard		1					35	1 00	2	N J Davis	Arkadelphia
Shiloh No 2	"	J A Fortson, W A F Wells, J W Bankston							23	1 00	1	I F Welch	Amity
Amity	"	D J Hollingshead, H E Tubs,	9	3	4	1	1		65	1 50	4	G M Shaw	Antoine
Pleasant Home	Pike	A J Riley, G B Ward	2		4				16	1 00	2	"	"
Liberty Hill	"	S S Langley R H W French, J B Roundtree			1	3			34	1 50	1	H G York	Murfreesboro
Maple Spring	"	W M Cooley	1	4	3	1			22	1 00	2	D D Corbin	Caney Fork
Walton Valley	"	J H Funderburk	1	1					10	50	3	"	"
Caney Fork	"	Polk Burk, E M Bryant		1	1				4	25	1	D E McGraw	Wolf Creek
Macedonia	"	D E McGraw, S S McDaniel	2	7	1				27	1 10	4	J P Copeland	"
Wolf Creek	"	J P Copeland, A A Stell, G W Stokes	4		1				38	1 50	2	N J Price	Boughton
Providence	Nevada	N J Price, A G Stewart, G A Robinson	20	4	10	1	1	4	115	3 65	3	J P Copeland	Prescott
New Home	"	T S Helms, J C Brown	13		2	2			66	1 50	4	L H Hitt	Boughton
Piney Grove	"	L H Hitt, J W Wilson	9	14	3	1			41	2 00	1	No Pastor	Wallaceburg
Shiloh No 1	Hempstead	R H Waddell, D S Rowel	1	3	5		1		28	1 50		J M Weeks	Bingen
Ozan	"	E Merrell, J D Rogers, J H Bennett	11	6	8			1	121	4 00	2	N J Price	Hickory Creek
Pleasant Grov.	"	C L Lewis, W A King		4	1			1	103	3 00	1	D D Corbin	Murfreesboro
Oak Hill	Pike	D D Corbin			5				9	75			