



MINUTES

OF THE

STEVENS CREEK
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH

Mt. Hope Church.

Oct. 12-13, 1900.

Tenth Annual Session.

OFFICERS:

R. T. MIDDLETON, Moderator.

L. RAY, Clerk and Treasurer.

Next session to be held with Union Hill Church, beginning
October 11th, 1901.

PROCEEDINGS.

— 0 —

Friday Morning Session.

Pursuant to an adjournment Stevens Creek Baptist Association convened at Mount Hope Church, at 10 o'clock a. m., October 12th, 1900. Officers present, R. T. Middleton, Moderator, and G. H. Davis, Clerk, and Treasurer absent. The Moderator appointed L. Ray Clerk and Treasurer pro tem. Adjourned to meet at 2 p. m.

Afternoon Session.

After singing, and prayer by R. L. Lafferty, the body was called to order. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. G. N. Joyner. Text, 2d Corinthians, 2: 17.

The first order of business was calling for letters from the churches comprising the Association. The following churches reported: Union Hill, Mount Hope, Holly Springs No. 2, Holly Springs No. 1, Salem and Independence.

Mount Pleasant, Plateau, Providence, Bradford, Fellowship, Pleasant Plains and Russell made no report.

After reading of the letters the roll was called and the following messengers answered for their respective churches:

Union Hill - J. W. Fraser.

Mount Hope - J. D. Tucker, J. W. Sutherlin and W. M. Tucker.

Holly Springs No. 1 - J. D. Donnell, J. T. King.

Holly Springs No. 2 - J. A. Smith.

Salem - A. F. Edwards.

Independence - T. H. Goad.

The next order of business was the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows:

Rev. R. T. Middleton, Moderator; L. Ray, Clerk and Treasurer.

The Moderator called for petitionary letters. None received.

Called for visiting ministers to sit with the body: Rev. R. L. Lafferty registered as Corresponding Messenger from Red River Association.

Called for visiting brethren: Bro. G. Irwin was enrolled.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

RELIGIOUS EXERCISES—W. M. Tucker, J. W. Sutherlin and J. D. Tucker.

FINANCE—G. W. Fraser, J. D. Donnell and W. B. Morgan.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—G. N. Joyner, J. A. Smith and J. T. King.

PRAYER MEETING—G. Irwin, A. F. Edwards and G. H. Goad.

FOREIGN MISSION—G. W. Fraser, G. Irwin and W. M. Tucker.

HOME DESTITUTION—G. N. Joyner, J. D. Tucker and J. W. Sutherlin.

EDUCATION—W. B. Morgan, G. H. Goad and J. T. King.

ORPHAN'S HOME—J. W. Sutherlin, G. N. Joyner and G. W. Fraser.

TEMPERANCE—W. M. Tucker, A. F. Edwards and G. H. Goad.

PUBLICATION—W. B. Morgan, J. D. Donnell and G. Irwin.

OBITUARIES—J. D. Tucker, J. A. Smith and G. W. Fraser.

The Treasurer being absent, no report for 1899 and 1900.

The Committee on Religious Exercises appointed Rev. R. G. Lafferty to preach Friday night.

Adjourned to meet Saturday morning at 8:30.

Saturday Morning Session.

After singing, and prayer by R. T. Middleton, the Finance Committee requested further time to make a final report.

The Committee on Sunday Schools made the following report:

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, submit the following report: We must truly say we consider the Sunday school work to be one of most importance, as important a subject as could be brought before a body of Christian workers. Having been engaged in Sunday school work more or less for the last fourteen years, we can say there is no better place to instruct the young and rising generation, in the true principles of christianity, than in the Sunday school. We believe every church could and should have a good Sunday

school at all times, and try to get young and old, especially little children, to take part in the work. Just think what a vast amount of good might be accomplished if every child in the bounds of this association should attend Sunday school every Sunday and there be taught the principles of christianity as laid down in the bible. It would be one of the greatest powers in the world in christianizing the world. We would urge the pastors of this association to insist that each church organize and maintain a Sunday school all the time, and report its results to this association at its next meeting. May God help us to be alive to this work.

G. N. JOYNER, }
J. T. KING, } Committee.
J. A. SMITH, }

Report received and committee discharged.

Prayer Meeting.

We, your committee on prayer meeting, submit the following report: We believe that God is a prayer hearing God, and there is no other way to receive spiritual blessings than through prayer, and we further believe that it is the duty of the pastor of each church to more fully instruct in that direction.

G. H. GOAD, }
G. IRWIN, } Committee.
A. F. EDWARDS, }

Report received and committee discharged.

Foreign Missions.

The spirit that animates the religion of Christ is essentially a missionary spirit. Christ came to offer salvation to all men, and the announcement of his advent was a missionary proclamation. His last command was to preach the gospel to every creature. Obedience to this command is just as binding upon us as the command to repent, or any other command, and the expansion and perpetuation of the kingdom of Christ depends upon it. The gospel of Christ is just as much a blessing to humanity today as it ever was, and the whole world needs its regenerating power, its hallowing influences, its refining and civilizing agencies as much as ever before. Hence every consideration connected with man's duty to God and to his fellow men, makes it obligatory upon us to send and carry the gospel to those who are without it. This is an age of marvelous energy and great activity in missionary effort, and we are glad to know that the Baptist denomination is accomplish-

ing much in this mighty work. Our Home Board is prosecuting its work with increasing vigor in the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention and sends the gospel throughout this field according to the means placed in its hand. The Foreign Board is carrying on its work with commendable zeal, but is somewhat handicapped for the lack of funds. We have missionaries in China, Japan, Brazil, Africa, Mexico and Italy. We do not know the amounts that have been raised during the past years; we are convinced that the amounts raised are far short of the demands. We would respectfully urge the necessity of a campaign of education on the subject of Home and Foreign Missions. What the people need to prompt them to duty is information. To this end we would recommend the placing in the hands of our people such literature as is best suited to that purpose, and that the pastors of the Churches preach on the subject of missions as often as may be advisable, and every effective instrumentality not contrary to the Word of God should be used to waken our interest on this subject. Respectfully submitted,

G. W. FRASER,
G. IRWIN,
W. M. TUCKER, } Committee.

Report received and committee discharged.

A motion to adjourn until 2 p. m.

Afternoon Session.

After singing, and prayer by Bro. G. W. Fraser.

Report of the committee on Education:

We, your committee on education, submit the following report: Realizing the great need of our people being educated, especially our ministers, in a scriptural sense, we recommend that they "study to show themselves approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

G. H. GOAD,
J. T. KING,
W. B. MORGAN, } Committee.

Report received and committee discharged.

Orphans' Home.

We, your committee on Orphans' Home, beg leave to submit the following report: We, realizing the certainty of death among parents as well as children, do realize the need of an Orphans' Home for the children who may be thrown out to

the mercies of the world. As other denominations are striving to care for the orphans of our country, we believe that Baptists, for humane feeling and in order to teach them aright, should have a home for them. We are glad to recommend the Orphans' Home at Monticello, Ark., and do hope the Baptists of Stevens Creek Association will do what they can to make it a happy home, and that the secretary of this association communicate with the said Home and report the same in our next annual meeting, and that the various delegates of this body urge their churches to aid said Home.

G. N. JOYNER,
G. W. FRASER,
J. W. SUTHERLIN } Committee.

Report received and committee discharged.

At the association there was \$9.39 given to Bro. R. L. Lafferty for the Orphans' Home. May God bless the good people.

Temperance.

We, your committee on Temperance, submit the following report: We believe that improvement should be made in the way of temperance further than is being done. We believe intemperance to be a great hindrance to the advancement of the Gospel, and should be studied and become the subject of the prayers of God's people. We recommend the study of the word of God and total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors. And we earnestly urge all pastors to instruct all church members in regard to temperance.

W. M. TUCKER,
A. F. EDWARDS,
G. H. GOAD, } Committee.

Report received and committee discharged.

Publications.

We, your committee on publications, submit the following report: We especially recommend the Arkansas Baptist, and all sound Baptist literature.

W. B. MORGAN,
J. D. DONNELL,
G. IRWIN, } Committee.

Report received and committee discharged.

Obituaries.

We, your committee on obituaries, make the following report: After examining the letters from the different

churches we find that some of the members have been called from our midst by the will of our Heavenly Father. May our Lord's blessings comfort the hearts of the bereft ones.

J. D. TUCKER, }
 J. A. SMITH, } Committee.
 G. W. FRASER, }

Report received and committee discharged.

Finance.

We, your committee on finance, submit the following report: Received from churches:

Union Hill, minute fund,	-	-	-	81.50
Mount Hope, " " "	-	-	-	1.50
Holly Springs No. 2, " " "	-	-	-	1.50
Holly Springs No. 1, " " "	-	-	-	1.00
Salem, " " "	-	-	-	1.25
Independence, " " "	-	-	-	2.50
Public collection,	-	-	-	1.96
				<hr/>
Total,				811.21

W. B. MORGAN, }
 J. D. DONNELL, } Committee.
 G. W. FRASER, }

Report received and committee discharged.

The committee on religious exercises made the following report: Rev. Yarbrough from Heber to preach Saturday night and Sunday at 11 o'clock, and Rev. R. L. Lafferty Sunday night.

Report received and committee discharged.

Motion prevailed to allow the clerk \$1.00 for his services. The clerk was ordered to have 200 copies of the minutes printed.

The following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED: That we extend our sincere thanks to Mt. Hope church and the good people of this community for their generous treatment while with them. G. H. GOAD.

Motion carried to hold the next meeting with Union Hill Church, Jackson county, near Denmark, beginning at 10 a. m. Friday before the 2d Sunday in October, 1901.

Bro. S. B. Vick was appointed to preach the introductory sermon, with J. J. Goad as alternate.

Bro. R. T. Middleton volunteered to attend the next Red River Association.

Adjourned to meet with Union Hill Church Friday before the 2d Sunday in October, 1901.

Statistical Report.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	POST OFFICE	Days of Meeting in Mo.	Received by Letter	Received by Baptism	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Died	Present Membership	No. in Sunday Schools For Missions For Minutes
Independence	J. J. Gold	W. H. Edens	Denmark	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	43	\$2.50 0 0
Union Hill	D. L. Redditt	J. W. Pollard	Denmark	1	2	13	1	0	2	0	42	1.50 0 0
Mt. Hope	S. Crews	J. D. Tucker	Dewey	1	2	1	2	3	0	2	40	1.50 0 0
Holly Springs No. 2	R. T. Middleton	Jesse Byrd	Clay	4	2	3	0	1	1	2	36	1.50 0 0
Holly Springs No. 1	J. A. Raby	T. J. James	Step Rock	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	60	1.00 0 0
Salem	G. N. Joyner	J. H. Edwards	Judsonia	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	51	1.25 0 0
Bradford											31	
Providence											38	
Plateau											35	
Russell											28	
Fellowship											16	
Pleasant Plains											21	
Mt. Pleasant											45	
Totals,				9	19	3	4	3	4	4	486	89.25 40

Constitution.

PREAMBLE: We, the messengers from the churches hereunto subscribed, being thoroughly convinced of the great utility of Christian combination, in order to cultivate and perpetuate union, love, fellowship, and intelligence throughout the respective churches within our bounds, and to advance the Redeemer's kingdom in these parts of the country, do unanimously agree to adopt the following articles:

ARTICLE 1 Name - This Association shall be known as the Stevens Creek Baptist Association.

ART. 2. Messengers—The messengers composing the annual meetings shall consist of messengers sent from churches.

ART. 3. Number The messengers from each church shall not exceed three.

ART. 4. - Meetings—The association shall meet annually at such time and place as shall have been previously appointed.

ART. 5. Officers—The officers of the association shall consist of Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by a majority at the annual meeting.

ART. 6. Objects—This association shall have no power to control or regulate the internal affairs or discipline of any church, but it may adopt and recommend all such measures as may be best calculated to produce harmony and prosperity in the churches and advance the Redeemer's kingdom; advise and consult upon such matters as the church may at any time present for its consideration and advice; and may receive churches into the fellowship of this association in good order, and may dismiss by letter when in good order; inquire into the state of religion within her bounds, and any church holding any unscriptural doctrine or practice shall be reported to the association, and on proof shall be excluded from the association, and the cause be placed on the minutes. The association shall not exercise any legislative power over any of the churches, but shall be a common bond of union of the same.

ART. 7. Amendments—No amendments shall be made to this constitution except by a request of the churches.

ART. 8. This association shall have no power to make any appropriations of money, only as the churches may direct.

ART. 9. That no church in this association shall receive members from any church of our faith and order without a letter, or until the church from which they might come shall first have been declared out of order by a council of other churches.

Rules of Decorum.

ARTICLE 1. This association shall commence with religious exercises and a sermon from some preacher who shall have been previously appointed, unless the association shall otherwise direct.

ART. 2. The moderator of the previous session shall preside, and the former clerk shall act, provided they attend, until the letters from the churches connected with the body shall have been read and the moderator and clerk elected.

ART. 3. It shall be the duty of the moderator to preside over the meeting during the session, and he shall have a right to speak on all subjects by calling a member to the chair, and shall not be entitled to a vote except in case of a tie.

ART. 4. The committee on finance shall receive all money appropriated by the churches and report to the association the amount, and place it in the hands of the treasurer.

ART. 5. A committee of arrangements shall be appointed at the commencement of each session, whose duty it shall be to regulate the order of business.

ART. 6. The churches shall designate their messengers and report their condition by letter.

ART. 7. Preachers in good standing of our faith and order, when attending the annual meeting, shall be invited to seats with us, and have the right to speak on all subjects that come before the body.

ART. 8. Any member may speak three times on the same subject under debate before the meeting, but no oftener without leave, and when speaking shall stand and address the moderator. No member shall absent himself from the association during the session without leave.

ART. 9. Any person who shall violate the constitution or rules of decorum shall be reported to the church for disorderly conduct.

Articles of Faith.

ARTICLE 1. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and it is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and shall remain to the end of the world the true center of Chris-