

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

UNITED ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE

Antioch Church, Van Buren county, Ark., Commencing Friday, Sept. 9, 1881.

OFFICERS:

ELD. THOS. MOODY, Moderator.
W. H. LINDSEY, Clerk.
J. R. JONES, Treas.

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The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. E. Drake, from a part of the 18th, 19th and 20th verses of the 28th chapter of Matthew. Theme: "Christ's Commission to His disciples."

The former Moderator not being present, on motion Elder J. E. Drake was elected Moderator *pro tem.* until the body was permanently organized. The Moderator announced the Association in order for the transaction of business. Elders G. W. Ford and J. A. Johnson were appointed reading clerks.

The letters from the several churches were called for and read and the names of messengers enrolled. (See statistical table.)

On motion the regular rule was suspended, and a call made for petitionary churches; whereupon letters were presented from Springhill, Gold Creek, Gravel Hill, Desota, Sunny Side and New Bethel churches.

On motion the above named churches were received, the Moderator extending to their messengers the right hand of fellowship.

On motion Bro. D. H. Huncyett was received as a delegate from Gravel Hill church; the name of Bro. Andrew Harris was also inserted as a delegate from Canaan church.

The Association then proceeded to a permanent organization, which resulted in the election of Elder Thos. Mooly, Moderator; W. H. Lindsey, Clerk; J. R. Jones, Treasurer.

On motion an invitation was extended to visiting brethren to participate in our deliberations, when Elders G. W. Reeves and J. C. Hud-

pet, came forward and were seated with the body.

The following committees were appointed by the Moderator, viz:

On Arrangements—Elder T. Nutt, and Bros. J. R. Jones and A. Childers.

Devotional Exercises—Bros. S. E. Lamar and D. B. Norwood, with the Deacons of Antioch church.

On motion adjourned till 7 o'clock p. m., with prayer by Elder Reid.

7 o'clock, p. m.—Association met pursuant to adjournment, and after an able sermon by Elder Hudspeth the Moderator resumed the appointment of committees as follows:

Home Missions—Elders G. W. Ford and B. W. Harmon, and Bro. G. W. Ball.

Foreign Missions—Elders W. M. Mills, T. Nutt and J. E. Drake.

Ministerial Education—Elders B. W. Harmon, G. W. Reeves and J. C. Hudspeth.

Publications—Elders J. E. Drake, J. Mayall and Bro. J. R. Jones.

Finance—Bros. T. I. Matthews, J. B. Garrett and J. J. Matthews.

Sabbath Schools—Elders W. D. Mollitt, E. N. Kitchens and W. M. Mills.

On motion a Temperance Committee, consisting of Elders J. A. Johnson, B. W. Harmon and G. W. Ford, was appointed.

On motion Bro. Hudspeth was requested to prepare his sermon of to-night and send the same to the Evangel for publication.

On motion adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock. Benediction by Elder J. E. Drake.

SATURDAY SEPT. 10th.

8 a. m.: Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Bro. S. E. Lamar. On motion the minutes of yesterday were read and with the necessary corrections approved. Committee on arrangements made their report which was adopted. (See Appendix, A)

Call for correspondents: Elder J. C. Hudspeth was received from the Russellville Association; also Rev. B. W. Harmon, Superintendent of State Missions.

The following was adopted: Resolved, that this Association correspond with the State Convention, Carolina, Russellville, Red River, Saline and Dardanelle Associations.

Messengers to the Baptist State Convention: Elders B. W. Harmon, Thos. Moody, P. Nutt, W. P. Mollitt, G. W. Ford, J. K. Brouday, E. N. Kitchens, W. M. Mills and Bros. W. H. Lindsey, J. W. Buckner, J. H. Hammons, S. E. Lamar, J. J. Matthews and J. B. Garrett. Messengers to Russellville Association: Elders Moody, Ford, Mollitt, Johnson and Mayall, and Brothers Childers and Massengill. Messengers to Little Red River Association: Elders Harmon and Farmer, and Bros. Parris and Matthews.

Messenger to the Dardanelle Association, Elder J. E. Drake.

On motion agreed to correspond with the Saline Association by letter, and Elder Ford was appointed to write such letter.

Messenger to the Carolina Association, Elder Farmer.

Adjourned till 2 o'clock p. m.

2 p. m.: Association met pursuant to adjournment; prayer by Elder Broadway. Elder Thos. Moody was elected Missionary for the next Association year. \$116.50 in money and pledges was received for Missionary. On motion the following Executive Board was elected: 1st district, E. J. Hamilton; 2d district, G. W. Ball; 3rd district, M. Sugg and D. B. Norwood; J. R. Jones, chairman.

On motion the regular order of business was suspended to receive the messengers from Peder, a petitioning church.

On motion agreed to hold the next annual session of this body with the New Bethel church, situated 15 miles from Conway and 15 miles from Vivian, Faulkner county, Ark., on Friday before the second Sunday in October, 1882.

Ministers to preach the Introductory and Missionary sermons at the next session were chosen as follows: Introductory, Elder Ford; alternate Elder Moody. Missionary, Elder Moody; alternate, Elder Broadway. The report of the committee on home missions was called for, read and adopted. (Appendix B) The committee on foreign missions submitted their report, which was on motion adopted. (Appendix C) The committee on publication made their report which was adopted. (Appendix D) Committee on Ministerial education read their report; adopted. (Appendix E) Report of committee on Sabbath Schools was read and adopted. (Appendix F) Report of Missionary was read and adopted. (Appendix G) Report of committee on temperance read and adopted. (Appendix H) Report of finance committee was submitted and adopted. (Appendix I)

The following query was then submitted: "If a Minister in good standing receive a letter from a church which is afterwards dissolved, and he become disgraced, how can he be reached?" After careful consideration the following was adopted: Whereas, it is rumored that Elder L. D. Pearle, who is holding a letter from a church now defunct, has been guilty of conduct disgraceful to a Christian minister: Therefore, be it resolved that this body appoint a committee to examine into his conduct, and if possible get him to submit his case to the discipline of the church, and that on failure to do so that this committee appoint an ex-parte council to act in the case, and if said rumors prove true that he be asked to surrender his credentials, and if he fails to do so that he be published as an immoral man in our state paper. Elders Harmon and Ford and Bros. Ball, Lindsey and Wilcox were appointed on said committee.

The query from Gravel Hill church asking if this association favored inter-communication of local churches, was on motion tabled.

On motion a letter of dismissal from this body was granted to Bayou church, and the clerk ordered to furnish the same. On motion it was ordered that the secretary superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes, and that he retain \$10 for his services.

Resolved, that the thanks of this body be returned to our Moderator and clerk for the efficient manner in which they have discharged the duties of their respective offices. Resolved, that the thanks of this body

be rendered to our friends of this community, for their kindness and hospitality during the session of this body. On motion the minutes were suspended. All of the business having been attended to, a parting hymn was sung and the right hand of fellowship extended.

Thus closed a very harmonious meeting of the Seventh Annual Session of the United Association. Prayer by Elder E. Sansby.

THOS. MOODY, Moderator.

W. H. LINDSEY, Clerk.

Preaching at 7. p. m. by Elder Sansby. After services a collection for foreign missions, amounting to \$5.15.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

Sept. 11, 1881.

8 a. m.: An able and interesting Sabbath School address by Elder Moffitt, followed by Elders Farmer and Moody. Preaching at 10 a. m. by Elder Harmon, Superintendent of State Missions. Collection for state missions amounting to \$10.20. Received of the United Association \$10.20, public collection.—B. W. HARMON.

Preaching at 4 p. m. by Elder Moody, and at 7 p. m. by Elder Moffitt.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

APPENDIX A.

We, your committee on arrangements submit the following order of business.

1st, Invite visiting brethren to seats with us; 2nd, Call for correspondence; 3rd, Appointment of committees; 4th, Arrange correspondence; 5th, elect a Missionary; 6th, Elect Executive Board; 7th, Time and place of holding next meeting; 8th, Elect ministers to preach the next introductory and missionary sermon; 9th, Call for report of committees; 10th, General business; 11th, adjournment. T. NUTT, Chairman of Com.

APPENDIX B.

Your Committee on State Missions would report as follows: We are fully aware that there is great destitution in various parts of the state, not from the fact that there is any lack of ministerial labor or the unwillingness of our people to support the cause, but from a want of a well organized plan to give direction and tone to our missionary work. We therefore recommend that all missionary bodies of this state become auxiliary to the Arkansas Baptist State Convention as that body is now making all possible effort to carry out a plan that will largely supply the destitute places. We would further recommend that the missionary of this Association become also the missionary of the State Convention, and that he report all work done to the said state convention that it may be spread upon the minutes of the same, that we may be able to show to

the world the work we are doing and that this Association send at least two messengers to the state convention. We also ask that at a suitable time during the meeting of this body that the Superintendent of Missions present the claims of State Board and take up a collection for same.

G. W. FORD, Chairman of Committee.

APPENDIX C.

We, your committee on foreign missions would report that we fully realize the imperative command "Go teach all nations," and we further believe that it behooves the great Baptist denomination to stand foremost in the work of giving the gospel to the world. We recommend to this Association that it put itself on record as a friend of foreign missions, by taking a collection for the same and forwarding it to the Sec. of the S. B. F. mission society.

W. M. MILLS, Chairman.

APPENDIX D.

We your committee on publications would report that we recognize the press as one of the most potent influences that can be brought to bear for the education of the people, and upon the circulation of good literature depends the S. S. missions and ministerial education. We recommend the Arkansas Evangel, published at Dardanelle by the Ark. B. P. P. Co., a paper fully representing our denominational views and work in this state. Also Ford's Christian Repository.

J. E. DRAKE, Chairman.

[At the request of many brethren I recommend the Baptist, edited by Dr. Graves at Memphis.—CLERK.]

APPENDIX E.

We, your committee on ministerial education would report the following: Education is a subject of vital importance to all, but especially so to us. It is a necessity, but we feel impressed with the idea that our people are not all properly aroused to the importance and magnitude of our interest in education. By education we mean the development and culture of the entire man; physically, mentally and morally. Yet, mental and moral or religious education more directly concern us. It is a serious mistake to conclude that it is necessary to educate the few only. All should be educated, our ministers, deacons and all. The education of the head without that of the heart may be no better than a curse. A question of great importance is, how shall we arouse our people from their lethargy on this subject, and how shall we most successfully prosecute the work of education? It appears to us that our present arrangement for the education of the people is deficient. One deficiency is, too many schools without any permanency and on too low an order. We are in great need of higher grade schools on a better basis. In almost every community our great want is preparatory or academic schools in which our sons and daughters may be properly prepared for our colleges and universities. Many of our young ministers cannot obtain a collegiate education, but could and would obtain a good academic if we had such schools. How shall we have such schools is an important question. We suggest that they can be built up by individual enterprise, and by proper co-operation. Our religious education should be conducted in strict

conformity with a true interpretation of the scriptures, and hence it becomes intensely denominational. B. W. HAUSTON, Chairman.

APPENDIX F.

We, your committee on Sabbath schools report as follows: Whereas, the Sabbath school cause has been greatly neglected, we would insist on a deeper interest among the pastors and churches whose duty it is to propagate this great and glorious work. It is the duty of every church to establish a Sabbath school under its own supervision, that our children may be taught the truths of the bible, that our families may not be divided, and that our Baptist Zion may strengthen and Christ's kingdom be built up on earth. We recommend good and sound Baptist literature. Kind Words is recommended as our Sunday School paper. We also recommend the Baptist Book House, Memphis, Tenn.

W. D. MORFITT, Chairman of Committee.

APPENDIX G.

Your missionary would report the following: I have labored from the 1st of Oct., 1880 till the 1st of May 1881., which was one half my time as agreed upon at the last Association, during which time I organized our church; held protracted meetings with Oak Mountain, Gold Creek, Lone Grove and Conway churches, all of which were greatly revived, and I trust, much good accomplished. I received for my support the amount of \$60.10. Brethren I must say that the destitution is great in the bounds of this Association. I hope that you will put a live missionary in the field for the next Associational year. T. NUTT, Missionary.

APPENDIX II.

We, your committee on temperance would report that we are fully aware of the wide spread evil of intemperance. When we examine the statistics of our country we are made to know that the use of alcoholic drinks is costing our state more than all of our educational and church enterprises, and in addition it is the fruitful cause of nine-tenths of the crime in our nation; filling almshouses, jails and penitentiaries. We recommend to this Association that it place itself on record as the unconditional friend of the cause of temperance. J. A. JOHNSON, Chairman.

APPENDIX I.

We, your finance committee report as follows: We find for printing minutes, \$45.75; for home missions \$11.50. T. I. MATTHEWS, Ch'm'n.

Articles of Faith.

1. We believe that the scriptures comprising the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.
2. We believe in the living God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
2. We believe in the doctrine of original sin by the fall of Adam.
4. We believe that man is in a state of total depravity, by reason of which he is totally incapacitated to recover himself from the effects thereof.
5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God alone, by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.
6. We believe in the doctrine of election. That God hath from the beginning chosen us unto salvation through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth.
7. We believe in the perseverance of the saints, and that they who believe shall be finally and eternally saved.
8. We believe that baptism is the immersion of a believer in water by a regularly ordained minister of the gospel, and that it is a prerequisite to the Lord's supper, and that all who come to the Lord's table must come according to the Lord's word.
9. We believe that a gospel church is a body of true believers in Christ, who have been regularly baptised on a profession of faith in Christ, and that there are but two offices in the church, viz. Elder or pastor, and deacon.
10. We believe in the resurrection of the bodies of all men, and in a future and general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.
11. We believe it to be the duty of each church to extend and circulate the word of God, as far as its ability will enable it.

Rules of Discipline.

1. This Association shall commence with religious exercises and a sermon from a preacher that has been previously chosen, unless the Association shall otherwise direct.
2. The Moderator and clerk of the former session shall hold their offices, if present, until the letters from the churches connected with the body, shall have been read and a moderator and clerk chosen.
3. It shall be the duty of the moderator to preside over the body during its session, and to appoint committees, unless the Association shall otherwise direct, and preserve order; and he shall have a right to speak on all subjects, calling a member to the chair; he shall also be allowed to examine and correct minutes, if necessary.
4. The clerk shall keep a correct copy of the proceedings of the meeting, read letters and documents, and at the close of the meeting take charge of all papers unless otherwise directed; he may call any member to assist him.
5. A committee of Arrangements consisting of three shall be elected by ballot at the commencement of each session, whose duty it shall be to regulate the order of the religious services, and by whom

performed unless otherwise directed by the body. 6. Ministers in good standing in other Baptist churches or associations with whom we are in fellowship, when attending our annual meeting shall be invited to a seat, and these meetings shall always be opened and closed with prayer. 7. Every member may speak twice on any subject in debate before the body, but no more than twice without leave, and when speaking shall stand, address the moderator, and use decorous, Christian language, and no member shall absent himself from the body while in session without leave. Any person violating these rules shall be reproved as the Association may think proper. 8. These rules may be amended by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting. 9. The churches shall contribute funds to meet the ordinary expenses of this body, such as printing the minutes, paying the traveling expenses of such members as may be sent to other bodies. 10. A public collection may be taken up at the option of the body, at each session, and applied to such benevolent purpose as the Association may direct.

CONSTITUTION.

1. This Association shall be known as the United Association. 2. The messengers composing this Association shall be chosen annually by the churches, and shall not exceed three in number for each church, until such church numbers 100, then one for each additional 50. 3. The Association shall meet annually at such time and place as it may select. 4. The officers of this Association shall be a moderator, clerk and treasurer, who shall be chosen annually. 5. The Association shall have no power to regulate the internal affairs of any church, but may withdraw her fellowship from any church that becomes disorderly, either in doctrine or discipline. 6. This Association shall have an Executive Board, consisting of the treasurer, who shall be president, and four other members who shall be chosen annually, by ballot. 7. This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided notice has been given at a previous meeting.

Ordained and Licensed Ministers in the United Association with their Post Office Address.

B. W. Harison, Conway, Faulkner Co. Ark.; Thos. Moody, Morrilton Conway co.; G. W. Ford, Plummersville, Conway co.; E. Sausby, Pope Co.; J. E. Drake, land, Van Buren Co.; T. Nutt, Scotsville, Pope Co.; A. M. Mills, Greenbrier, Kerner, Co.; E. N. Kitchens, Conway, Faulkner, Co.; W. A. Hutto, Bee Branch, Green Co.; S. K. Broudayaw, Plummersville, Conway co.; J. Mayall, Lack Monmouth, Conway co.; J. A. Johnson, Morrilton, Conway co.; B. M. Stephens, Greenbrier, Faulkner co.; C. W. Hollendsworth, Springfield, Conway co.; J. W. S. Leslie, Mearcy, co.; W. D. Moffit, Appleton, Pope co.; I. R. Hall, Sr., Greenbrier, Faulkner co.; Jas. Reid, Center Bldge, Conway co.; J. W. Gwinn, Euola, Faulkner, co.; A. L. Maynard, Euola, Faulkner co.

LICENSEES.

J. W. Palmer, Mt. Vernon, Faulkner, co.; D. H. Hureycutt, Center Bldge, Conway co.; J. J. Cook, Perryville, Perry co.; W. W. Reid, Center Bldge, Conway co.; E. M. Scott, Greenbrier, Faulkner county.

