

...MINUTES...

OF THE
FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE

Mt. Vernon Baptist Association

HELD WITH
HELENA BAPTIST CHURCH,
PHILLIPS COUNTY, ARK.,

OCTOBER 19th, 20th and 21st, 1900.

S. H. KING, Moderator, LON. SLAUGHTER, Ass't. Moderator,

POPLAR GROVE.

MARIANNA.

L. P. ANDERSON, Clerk,

TRENTON.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Called together by the Moderator for the purpose of hearing the introductory sermon.

AN INTERMISSION.

Messengers reassemble. Moderator and Clerk in their seats.

2. Letters read and messengers enrolled.
3. Election of officers for ensuing year.
4. Petitionary letters.
5. Call for correspondence.
6. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
7. Committees appointed—Mission—Associational, State, Home and Foreign. Education, Sabbath Schools, Nominations, Temperance, Finance, Religious Exercises, Correspondence and Messengers of Sister Associations.
8. Contributions from churches received.
9. Resolutions and propositions in order.
10. Report of Committees.
11. Report of Board.
12. Printing Minutes—number determined.
13. Reading Minutes before adjournment.
14. A parting address by the Moderator.
15. Publications.



PROCEEDINGS.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1900.

Pursuant to adjournment the Mt. Vernon Baptist Association met with the Helena Baptist Church, Helena, Ark., Oct. 19th, 1900, at 10 a. m., and was called to order by former Moderator, Major S. H. King.

After singing No. 721—Harvest Bells—and prayer by Elder A. N. Couch of Forrest City, the introductory sermon was preached by Elder A. A. Andrus of Palestine, who delivered from his text, Proverbs IX—I—Subject, "The Seven Distinctive Pillars of a Baptist Church"—a sermon strong, spiritual and logical.

After singing and prayer the Moderator appointed Brethren G. R. Robuek and L. P. Anderson to read to the Association the church letters. Churches represented by their messengers and by letter were enrolled as follows:

- Level Valley—Brit. Ables, W. H. Hall.

Helena—L. M. Bookhart, W. W. Rivers, T. M. Oldham, R. T. Pitchford, L. J. Wilkes, J. W. Sanford.

Salem—W. H. Allison, B. Q. Carey, C. F. Thompson, J. E. Thompson.

Rehobeth—S. H. King, G. H. Vineyard, J. B. Lowe.

Trenton—L. P. Anderson, Miss Fannie Porter, Miss May Kendall.

Motion to adjourn to 2 p. m. carried.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

ENROLLMENT OF MESSENGERS² CONTINUED.

- Clarendon - J. M. Dooley, W. M. King, H. A. McGee,
 Brinkley - A. Flora, S. L. Holloway.
 Good Hope—S. D. Johns, W. I. Gibson, C. M. James,
 Poplar Grove - W. H. Heustiss, John Cox, Jr., Joe B.
 Hodges.
 Forrest City - W. H. Paslay, A. N. Couch, J. B. Sanders,
 F. M. Pruett.
 Haynes— G. R. Robuck, J. A. Smith.
 Forest Chapel - Sister Thompson, A. C. James.
 Oak Grove— F. L. Gustavus.
 Marianna - J. P. Farrar, P. R. Turner, Lon. Slaughter, N.
 J. Williams.
 Enon - J. A. Thomas.
 New Hope - W. A. Bobbitt, W. T. Moore.
 Colt - T. G. Hewlett, Sister Anna Stone.
 Bible Union - By letter.
 Rama - By letter.
 Raymond—H. W. Graves.
 Shiloh - J. P. Hardin, J. W. Walters.
 Palestine - A. A. Andrus.
 Cypress Grove - M. J. Day, Dan Russell.
 Park Grove - Thos. F. Knight, Steve Baker, Samuel Byrdling.
 Philadelphia - S. D. Sawyer.

After reading letters the association proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year.

A motion was made and carried, that on account of the feeble health of our Brother S. H. King, who has served Mt. Vernon Association long and faithfully as its honored Moderator, be elected Moderator and that an Assistant Moderator also be elected.

Bro. J. B. Wise nominated Elder J. A. Smith as Assistant Moderator. A. Flora put in nomination Deacon Lon.

Slaughter. A. Flora and L. P. Anderson were appointed as tellers. G. R. Robuck was appointed to assist the tellers in counting the vote, which resulted in a tie; whereupon a second vote was ordered to be taken, and Deacon Lon. Slaughter was declared elected to the office of Assistant Moderator. Bro. W. H. Allison nominated L. P. Anderson for Clerk. A. N. Couch nominated J. A. Smith; J. B. Wise nominated L. J. Wilkes; The nominations of J. A. Smith and L. J. Wilkes being withdrawn, the Clerk was instructed by a unanimous vote of the body to cast its vote for L. P. Anderson as Clerk. On motion the Clerk was instructed to cast vote of Association for W. H. Paslay as Treasurer.

H. C. Rosamond introduced the following visiting brethren: Dr. A. J. Barton (Secretary of State Missions), Little Rock; Dr. Clark, Arkansas Baptist; J. H. Peay, editor of the Gleaner; Dr. Morris, pastor 2nd Centennial Baptist Church, Helena, and President of the Colored Southern Baptist Convention; Bro. W. W. Gardner of the Orphans' Home at Monticello; Elder Kline, new pastor at Marianna, was extended a hearty welcome.

The Moderator announced the following committees:

DIVINE SERVICE—Deacons of this Church, G. R. Robuck, A. Flora

STATE MISSIONS—W. H. Paslay, S. L. Holloway, A. A. Andrus.

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS—Lon. Slaughter, A. N. Couch, G. R. Robuck.

HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS—A. A. Andrus, W. H. Allison, J. B. Sanders.

PUBLICATIONS—A. N. Couch, W. W. Rivers, J. P. Farrar.

EDUCATION—L. P. Anderson, T. G. Hewlett, L. J. Wilkes.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—G. R. Robuck, P. R. Turner, W. A. Bobbitt.

ORPHANS' HOME—H. C. Rosamond, M. J. Davis, T. E. Knight.

TEMPERANCE—T. M. Oldham, B. Q. Caréy, Brit Ables.

OBITUARY—W. A. Bobbitt, W. W. King, Sam Breeding.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION—J. A. Smith, J. B. Wise, Hodges Vineyard.

NOMINATIONS—G. R. Robuck, L. J. Wilkes, F. L. Gustavus.

FINANCE—Charley Thompson, A. Flora, J. B. Hodges.

Caldwell Baptist Church, recently organized by Elder J. B. Wise, sent a letter asking admission into our organization. On motion of T. M. Oldham it was received as a part of our body.

Committee on Divine Service made report per Chairman W. W. Rivers, as follows:

BAPTIST CHURCH.

Friday, 7 p. m. Elder J. H. Peay

Saturday, 11 a. m. Dr. Clark

Saturday, 7 p. m. A. N. Couch

Sunday, 11 a. m. Dr. A. J. Barton

Sunday, 7 p. m. S. L. Holloway

METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday, 11 a. m. A. N. Couch.

Sunday, 7 p. m. W. H. Paslay

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday, 11 a. m. A. J. Smith

CENTENNIAL BAPTIST CHURCH (Col.).

Sunday, 11 a. m. W. H. Paslay.

Sunday, 1:30 p. m., Sunday School, Bro. Sanders.

Sunday, 7 p. m. Dr. Barton

Moved by W. H. Paslay that Bro. Gardner be granted time after preaching Friday night to present the claims of the Orphans' Home.

The Association adjourned after the Benediction.

FIRST DAY—Evening Session.

At 7:15 p. m. the Association was called to order by Assistant Moderator Lon. Slaughter.

Devotional exercises were conducted by J. A. Smith, after which Bro. Peay, editor of the Gleaner, preached a strong sermon from Acts, 5:8—"Stephen full of faith and power did great wonders and miracles among the people."

At this point a letter from Raymond Church was read and H. W. Graves enrolled as a messenger.

Committee on Orphans' Home made their report per Chairman H. C. Rosamond:

Since our last report to you we have made some progress. Our future is hopeful. We have now thirty children in the Home. Ten have been baptized, and are faithful church members. We have a good school taught in the building. The larger boys cultivate the farm. Our main building is enclosed but not finished on the inside. Two associations have agreed to finish and furnish one room each at a cost of \$80.00 per room. Will Mt. Vernon join hands with them? We feel that this body should not be behind in grand works. Our noble Matron has made sacrifices that ought to inspire all hearts to stand by her. We recommend that all our churches take collections for this work. The Master left us the poor as a heritage. These children must be trained for Christ. Every dollar we put into the care and training of orphan children is treasure laid up in Heaven.

H. C. Rosamond.
Thomas E. Knight.
W. J. Davis.

After discussion by H. C. Rosamond and W. W. Gardner the report was adopted.

A cash collection of \$23.80 was taken and given to Bro. Gardner for the Home.

Dr. Barton, having recently visited the home, spoke in the most complimentary terms of the management.

Motion to adjourn carried.

SECOND DAY—Morning Session—Oct. 20th, 1900.

After singing, and devotional exercises by W. W. Gardner, Moderator S. H. King called the body to order at 8:30.

W. H. Paslay, Treasurer, made his report for the year 1899, 1900, to-wit:

Dr.		Cr.	
Oct. 17, '99.		Oct. 17, '99.	
Balance on hand	\$ 60 34	S. S. Board	\$ 1 00
Association Missions, 136 45		Bro. Penn	30 00
State Missions	22 35	Bro. Smith	30 50
Home Missions	17 09	Clerk	15 00
Foreign Missions	14 58	State Missions	32 30
Ministerial Ed'n	2 50	Foreign Missions	14 50
S. S. Work	1 00	Home Missions	17 00
Orphans' Home	14 05	Orders and postage	62
Minutes	29 85	J. W. Graham	28 70
Helena Ch. S. Mis'ns	10 00	Printing Minutes	25 00
Helena Ch. Min. Ed'n	10 00	Postage on Minutes	5 50
Association Missions	15 00	Orphans' Home	14 00
J. W. Graham	28 70	Ministerial Ed'n	10 00
Rehobeth	10 00	Bro. Sawyer	50 00
Bro. Belsha	6 00	Orders and Postage	25
Philadelphia Church	1 70	State Missions	10 00
Rehobeth	10 00	Bro. Sawyer	30 00
Miss B. Williams	3 00	Orders and Postage	16
Rehobeth Church	3 30	Foreign Missions	7 10
Individuals	80	Balance on hand	72 48
Total	\$396.71	Total	\$396.71

Moved by H. C. Rosamond that the report of the Treasurer be adopted as read. Carried.

On request of Good Hope Church a letter of admission from this Association was on motion granted it.

The Committee on Temperance made report through Chairman T. M. Oldham:

Your Committee would respectfully submit for your consideration the following:—That there is a disposition on the part of professing Christians to cover up the great Hydra-headed

monster evil, the use of intoxicants of any and all names as beverages in the general term of temperance. But we believe that effects of any intoxicant are of such a nature that they *can not* be used even temperately with any degree of safety, and we further believe that the Baptist who uses it disgraces his profession and wounds the very cause he professes to love. We further believe that the churches are too slack in the disciplining of members who use intoxicants and are thereby retarded in growth and usefulness, and are to a very great extent responsible for at least the general traffic and consequent evil growing out of the use of intoxicants, and believing these things we offer the following resolution, to-wit:

Resolved, That we favor the extermination of liquor traffic for beverage purposes and that as citizens, and especially as Baptists, we use our influence to that end by such means as to us seem best.

T. M. Oldham.
Brit Ables.
B. Q. Carey.

Moved that the report on temperance be adopted as read. After an interesting discussion by H. C. Rosamond, J. B. Wise, A. A. Andrus, A. N. Couch, J. H. Peay, Dr. Barton and B. Q. Carey, the motion to adopt was carried.

L. J. Wilkes made the report on education. It was discussed by L. J. Wilkes, W. W. Rivers, Dr. Clark and Elder Peay, the report was adopted as follows:

Webster's definition of *education* is "the bringing up as of a child, instructions, formation of manners." It comprehends all that series of instruction and discipline which enlightens the understanding, corrects the temper, and shapes the manners and habits of youth for future usefulness. To give children a good education in the arts and sciences is important; to give them a religious education is indispensable. An immense responsibility rests on parents and guardians who neglect the proper training of children. Webster includes in his definition, "moral and religious knowledge in faith and practice." God has endowed man with a physical and spiritual nature, and in His wisdom has left us the means for the development of each. The idiot has neither physical or moral responsibility, but sane man is under great responsibilities, both to his fellow-men and to his God; and hence as these powers of mind, body and soul are educated in like proportion is he able to discharge the duties

of correct citizenship. Developing the mind makes better citizens, makes us more capable of properly enjoying the social life; but this would be an education in part only. The highest education is of the heart, which means spiritual development and consecration to God, and in order to have it we must have proper facilities. Thanks to a kind Benefactor we have them.

We would recommend as a suitable place to get the above described training and development, our own Mt. Vernon High School at Trenton, which has begun its first year under most favorable auspices, to Mountain Home College, Central and Ouachita.

We beg parents to see to the proper education of their children.

L. P. Anderson.

L. J. Wilkes.

T. G. Hewlett.

Committee on Publication made the following report through Chairman A. N. Couch:

There can be no more important matter in the homes than the character of the literature upon which the mental man is fed. The very best books are none too good for the home and center table. Paramount is the Bible, the word of God, which we as Baptists take as our only rule of faith and practice. Some one has said that the Bible is a Baptist Bible. There are good books on denominational subjects, which every Baptist home should have for the children and to lend any one seeking to know the way of the Lord more perfectly.

We believe that every Baptist should take our State paper, the Arkansas Baptist, and we also believe the Baptist Gleamer should receive kind consideration from the brotherhood.

As Southern Baptists we feel that the Southern Baptist series of Sunday School literature should be used as long as it remains in orthodox lines.

The Home and Foreign Mission journals are well adapted to keep us in touch with our general mission work.

Respectfully submitted,

A. N. Couch,

W. W. Rivers,

J. P. Farrar.

After discussion by A. N. Couch, A. A. Andrus, Dr. Clark, J. H. Pray of the Gleamer, it was adopted as read.

At 11 a. m. according to appointment Dr. Clark preached. Math. 1:25 was used as his text. Adjourned to 2 p. m.

SECOND DAY—Afternoon Session.

Moderator S. H. King called body to order.

After singing and prayer business was resumed.

W. A. Bobbitt made the report for Committee on Obituary as follows:

Quite a number of our members have died since our last meeting. God has graciously spared our ministers and active deacons. Death's dark angel has entered the home of our dear Bro. Paslay and taken to rest and to reward Sister Paslay, thus bringing great sadness into the home of our good brother.

We pray God to give grace and the comfort of the Holy Spirit to all of our bereaved brethren and sisters.

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. Bobbitt.

W. W. King.

Sam Breerling.

Moved and carried to adopt as read.

Committee on Ministerial Education reported through Chairman J. A. Smith:

The importance of having an educated ministry is felt by all Baptists. Great issues are to be met. The distinctive doctrines of the Bible are to be explained. In fact preachers have the largest and most responsible work to be done by any set of men under heaven. This being true they ought to have the best preparation possible.

Onachita College is offering excellent opportunity to all young preachers who wish better preparation for the work to which God has called them, by giving them free tuition, and aiding those who need help to pay their board. The board of ministerial education of Onachita College ask the Baptists of Kansas each year for a sum of money sufficient to carry on this work. If enough money to help pay the board of all who need help is not given, some must go away from school. There are about twenty young ministers now in school at Onachita; several of whom need help. Brethren let us help them. For several years this Association has been giving one hundred dollars a year to this great work.

Your committee recommend that the churches of this Association be now asked to pledge at least one hundred dollars for ministerial education in Onachita College.

J. A. Smith.

J. B. Wise.

The report was spoken to by H. C. Rosamond and J. A. Smith, when it was adopted as read.

PLACES FOR MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Lavel Valley	\$ 5 00	Poplar Grove	\$ 5 00
Helena	10 00	Marianna	10 00
Saban	5 00	Oak Grove	2 00
Rehobeth	40 00	Emon	2 00
Trenton	5 00	Forrest City	10 00
Brinkley	10 00	Haynes	5 00
Mrs. Kendall	5 00		
Total		\$84.00	

The Committee on Nominations made the following report through the chairman, G. R. Robuck:

Your committee recommend Forrest City as the next place for the meeting of the Association, at 10 a m., on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1901. That H. C. Rosamond preach the introductory sermon, alternate, J. A. Smith. On Associational Mission Board—S. L. Holloway, G. R. Robuck, F. L. Gustavus, J. B. Hodges and L. J. Wilkes.

G. R. Robuck.

F. L. Gustavus.

L. J. Wilkes.

The report was adopted without discussion.

The report on Home and Foreign Missions was made by W. H. Allison as follows:

Our Lord's great commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," is binding upon every member of our church. The field is the world. Our work is to spread the gospel. Two-thirds of the world is without Christ and eternal life, and we are responsible in a degree for the present condition. Have we sent the gospel to all the world? If not why not? If we omit a duty it is as great a sin as to commit some overt act. Have we done what we could to give the gospel to every creature? Our missionaries in the foreign field have been doing excellent work; but the harvest is great and the laborers are few, and the cry comes from many sections, "come and help us." In Mexico, Cuba, Porto Rico, Brazil, Japan and China, there are many calls to us for men and bibles. In some of these fields our workers

often go hundreds of miles to teach, and baptize those confessing their sins. We are in great need of more workers. What we need is more funds to send those willing to go. Our pastors should instruct our people in the Christian grace and duty of contributing of our means to the spread of the gospel. Your committee would recommend more preaching on missions, and that we urge our churches to endeavor to get a liberal contribution from each member for our mission work especially.

A. A. Andrus.

W. H. Allison.

J. B. Sanders.

After discussion of above report by A. N. Couch, S. D. Johns, L. M. Bookhart and Dr. Barton, it was adopted.

Moved by W. H. Paslay that report on Associational Missions be considered after preaching tonight. Motion prevailed and so ordered.

The Committee on State Missions not agreeing, a majority report and a minority report were presented to the Association, the former by W. H. Paslay, the latter by A. A. Andrus.

Moved by A. Flora that both reports be put on the table; lost. A motion to adopt minority report was lost. A motion was made and seconded to adopt majority report, discussed by A. A. Andrus, A. N. Couch, S. L. Holloway, H. C. Rosamond, Lon. Slaughter, J. A. Smith, W. A. Clark and State Secretary Dr. A. J. Barton.

A motion to adjourn till 7:30 p. m. prevailed.

SECOND DAY—Evening Session.

The Association was called to order at 7:30 by Assistant Moderator Deacon Lon. Slaughter. Bro. A. N. Couch of Forrest City gave us a strong sermon from Heb. 12: 1-2.

After singing, A. N. Couch made the following report on Associational Missions:

Recognizing the importance of preaching the gospel—since Jesus directed this great work—and believing that no one can preach this gospel unless he is called of God, also believing that the laborer is worthy of his hire; we feel that as an association we will be held accountable for those who are lost in our bounds, unless we undertake great things for God and

have faith in Him to give us results in keeping with His power. We are not faithful watchmen upon the tower unless we do these things.

We believe that Mt. Vernon should have a live missionary whose duty it shall be to go and labor in the destitution of this Association. We recommend that we set out the stake, take in more ground. Let us also supplement the salary of the pastors of weak churches, so that they can have regular services at least once a month. We believe it would be best for the Associational Board to meet every three months and pray and plan; that they report the work done by the missionaries, and the progress of the work, in our Arkansas Baptist papers. We recommend enlargement along all lines, prayers, work and contributions, and that each pastor do all he can to supply the destitution, reporting same to our Associational Board. Let us occupy this field til the Lord comes or tells us to come home.

Lon Slaughter.
A. N. Couch
G. R. Robuck.

After discussion by W. H. Paslay, H. C. Rosamond and Dr. A. J. Barton, it was adopted and the following pledges were taken for next year:

New Hope	\$ 5 00	Forrest City	\$15 00
Level Valley	5 00	Haynes	15 00
Helena	25 00	Forest Chapel	5 00
Salem	15 00	Oak Grove	5 00
Rehobeth	20 00	Marianna	20 00
Trenton	15 00	A. A. Andrus (\$5 paid)	10 00
Brinkley	10 00	G. R. Robuck	5 00
Colt	5 00	W. A. Bolhitt (\$1 paid)	2 50
Enon	2 50	J. P. Hardin	2 50
W. H. Paslay	10 00	W. J. Hall (paid)	2 00
J. A. Smith	10 00	A. N. Couch	5 00
L. M. Bookhart	5 00	J. E. Thompson (paid)	1 00
Poplar Grove	10 00		
		Total	\$225.50

On motion of A. N. Couch, Treasurer W. H. Paslay was instructed to write to all churches not represented here and as

them to contribute to the work of Associational Missions.

Here Bro. Paslay took up a collection for our afflicted and long-suffering brother, Elder J. W. Graham. The contributions amounted to \$33.85.

Next order of business was a continuation of the subject of State Missions, spoken to by A. A. Andrus, S. L. Holloway and Dr. A. J. Barton.

On motion the Association adjourned.

THIRD DAY—Morning Session.

Sunday, October 21, 10 o'clock.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.

Your Committee on Sunday School are made sad to see that some of the churches of this Association are taking so little interest in the Sunday school work.

Salem, Rehobeth, Trenton, Monroe, Brinkley, Haynes, Good Hope, Forrest City and New Hope are the only churches reporting Sunday School to this body. There are about forty-four churches in this Association, and our instructors tell us the Sunday School is a work of the church—then why not report your school to this body, so that we can see what you are doing? We take no pleasure in making the foregoing observation, only as we hope to make your plain duty more keenly felt so that you will give us a full report of your Sunday School work at our next annual meeting.

The Sunday School Convention employed Elder J. S. Compere for one month and Elder J. B. Wise for one and one half months, at a salary of \$50 per month and expenses, to do Sunday School colportage and general missionary work, with the following results:

Sermons preached.....	70	Baptisms	9
Religious visits.....	77	S. S. organized.....	1
Miles traveled.....	288	Total expenses.....	\$130.76
Conversions	22	Amount paid	97.20
Churches organized	1		
Churches disbanded	1	Balance due J. B. Wise, \$33.56	
Prayer meetings held.....	3		

We ask the privilege of taking up a collection to pay the balance due Bro. Wise for his faithful work.

Your Committee, seeing so great a need for active mission work in the destitute parts of this Association, submit the following suggestions: First—That we believe it is wise for this As-

Association to continue the Sunday School Convention under the officers of President, Secretary and Treasurer. Second—That all funds collected by the Sunday School Convention be turned over to the Treasurer of the Association. Third—That this Association put a man in the field for full time to do general missionary work. Fourth—That the Associational Board meet every three months, and make through the Arkansas Baptist, a full report of all collections and the mission work done.

G. R. Robuck, Chairman.

P. R. Turner.

W. A. Bobbitt.

After discussion by G. R. Robuck and L. J. Wilkes the Sunday School report was adopted.

L. J. Wilkes and G. R. Robuck were nominated as President of the Sunday School Convention, but the nomination of Bro. Wilkes being withdrawn the Clerk was instructed to cast the ballot of the body for G. R. Robuck as President of the Convention.

By a unanimous vote the Moderator was instructed to cast the vote of the body for L. P. Anderson as Secretary of the Sunday School Convention.

By a unanimous vote the Clerk was instructed to cast the vote of the body for P. R. Turner as Treasurer of the Sunday School Convention.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PLEDGES.

Helena..... (\$5 pl.)	\$10 00	Salem.....	\$ 5 00
Behoboth.....	2 50	Trenton.....	10 00
Brinkley.....	5 00	Haynes.....	10 00
Marianna.....	10 00	Enon.....	1 00
Mrs. E. Kendall.....	5 00	Collection.....	2 70
Total.....			\$61.20

A motion was carried that the Association adjourn till 3 p.m.

At 11 a. m. Dr. Barton gave us a great discourse from Phil

13:14. Subject, The Dissatisfaction of a Sanctified Man.

THIRD DAY—Afternoon Session.

Report of the trustees of Mt. Vernon High School, per L. J. Wilkes.

We, the undersigned trustees of Mt. Vernon Associational High School, located at Trenton, Ark., would beg to make the following report:

At a session of the above association, held at Poplar Grove Church, in St. Francis County, Oct., 1898, that body appointed a board of trustees and instructed them to locate, build and operate said school, and report to this body. The following persons were appointed, viz: S. L. Holloway, G. R. Robuck, Lon. Slaughter, L. J. Wilkes, Wm Allison, Alex Tebelman, S. H. King, Ira Gorum and M. J. Manning. Pursuant to the above instructions the trustees held their first meeting at Trenton, Ark., Feb. 13, 1900, the following members being present: S. L. Holloway, Lon. Slaughter, Alex Tebelman, Wm. Allison and L. J. Wilkes. S. L. Holloway was elected Chairman and L. J. Wilkes Secretary and Dr. J. W. Bean Treasurer. After prayerful consideration the board decided to accept the two acres of land generously offered by Mrs. Virginia Kendall of Trenton, and to erect a suitable building thereon. S. L. Holloway, Dr. J. W. Bean, W. H. Allison, were elected the Building Committee. The building has been erected and paid for and we desire to present it to the Association with the deed. The board elected Prof. L. P. Anderson, A. M., from Roanoke College, Va., Principal for this year, he to take charge of same and operate it, his compensation to be the receipts therefrom. The school opened on Sept. 10, 1900, with 29 pupils. The progress and prospects are very satisfactory to the board. Size of building, 50x30, two stories. The second story is divided into two rooms for classes, and a library room; the lower story is arranged for an auditorium; two large porches; with a front and a rear stairway. All material used is first class. Value of building, furnishings and ground, \$2,500 00. All liabilities paid, except about \$200 00 on furnishing. Chapel exercises held every morning. The moral and religious training a prominent feature of the school. As the terms of six of the trustees have expired it will be necessary for this body to elect their successors. Trustees named herein whose time has expired, as follows: Lon. Slaughter, S. L. Holloway, G. R. Robuck, L. J. Wilkes, Alex Tebelman and S. H. King. Special mention is due Dr. J. W. Bean for his untiring energy and interest in the building of the school. We recommend, First—That a cash collection be taken and personal pledges be made for the payment of the debt now due. Second—That all the pastors of our Association lend their prayers, their influence and in any way they can foster the interest of this school in paying up its debt.

on furnishings and in securing boys and girls for same.
 Third - That the Clerk of this Association be instructed to advertise this school in the minutes of this Association.

S. L. Holloway, Chairman Board.
 L. J. Wilkes, Secretary.

After discussion by S. L. Holloway, S. D. Johns, A. A. Andrus, L. P. Anderson it was adopted as read.

The following trustees were nominated by A. Flora: S. L. Holloway, G. R. Robuck, Lon. Slaughter, for three years; L. J. Wilkes, A. Tebelman, S. H. King, for two years. The motion was carried.

PLEDGES FOR THE SCHOOL.

Lon. Slaughter	\$10 00	A. A. Andrus	\$ 5 00
Charley Thompson (pd)	10 00	G. R. Robuck	5 00
S. H. King	(pd) 5 00	Cash	4 10
A. Flora	10 00	W. H. Paslay	(pd) 2 50

A motion was carried instructing L. J. Wilkes to solicit funds for the Mt. Vernon High School by correspondence.

Finance Committee, per Charley Thompson, made the following report:

Associational Missions	\$167 00
State Missions	32 50
Home Missions	25
Foreign Missions	1 50
Ministerial Education	16 50
State Sunday School work	2 00
Orphans House	34 05
J. W. Graham	34 05
Minutes	31 05

Total

\$318 90

C. F. Thompson.

A. Flora

J. B. Hodges.

The motion above report was adopted.

The question of the adoption of majority report on State Missions was again resumed. A motion to make an amendment to the amendment of majority report was not carried.

whereupon a motion to adopt the following report as amended prevailed:

MAJORITY REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Notwithstanding strenuous efforts have been made for several years to reach and supply the destitute portion of our state with the gospel of Christ, yet alarming destitution still prevails, and we *can not*, we *must not* relax our efforts in this God-given, soul-saving work. Railroads are multiplying, the resources of the state are being rapidly developed and we must keep pace with this forward movement. Our churches should be educated in regard to their duty in aiding in this great work. Our pastors should catch the enthusiasm and come to the aid of our state board with their counsel and prayers and means to push forward this great and good work. Since there is some dissatisfaction in regard to the present plans of the board we recommend that we express our confidence in their integrity, faithfulness and devotion to the Master, in their planning and work entrusted to their hands. That the state be divided into two or more districts and evangelists be employed who shall be required to devote their whole time in traveling and preaching to the poor and destitute of our state, and that if this or a similar policy is adopted we pledge ourselves to increase our contributions as the exigencies may demand.

W. H. Paslay, Chairman.

S. L. Holloway.

A motion to recommend Bro. W. H. Paslay as a member of state board carried by a rising vote.

The following resolution, introduced by A. Flora, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this body tender their thanks to the Helena Baptist Church and its friends for their kind and generous hospitality during their stay with them.

On motion W. H. Paslay was elected messenger to the Southern Baptist Convention at New Orleans in May, and H. C. Rosamond alternate.

L. M. Bookhart, Lon. Slaughter, A. A. Andrus, G. R. Robuck and J. B. Wise were chosen messengers to Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Bro. Lon. Slaughter moved that messengers in attendance from our Association be allowed to fill out our quota from any

members of the Mt. Vernon Association in good standing who may be at the Convention, if any of the appointees fail to go. Motion prevailed.

Resolved, That the Clerk of this Association be authorized to have six hundred copies of the proceedings of this meeting printed, including the Constitution, Rules of Decorum, Order of Business and an advertisement of Mt. Vernon High School, and that he be allowed \$15.00 for his services.

W. H. Paslay.

Motion carried.

W. W. Rivers moved that the executive board of this Association be made a committee to co-operate with the Co-operative Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention. Motion carried.

The following was offered, which according to the Constitution can not be acted on for a year:

Resolved, That this body meet at 10 a.m. on Thursday before the third Sunday in October of each year.

Lon. Slaughter.

There being no other business to come before the body it was moved and carried that we adjourn to meet with Forrest City Baptist Church at 10 a.m. on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1901.

Our Moderator, Major S. H. King, made a very pathetic talk thanking God for his goodness in giving him health to be present with us, and for the great love and kindness of the brethren. Bro. Paslay responded to the words of Bro. King in fitting and feeling terms.

After singing No. 240, "Harvest Belts," and extending the parting hand, the Benediction was preached by Elder W. H. Paslay.

S. H. King, Moderator.

Lon. Slaughter, Assistant Moderator.

L. P. Anderson, Clerk.

RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be opened by singing and prayer.

ARTICLE 2. The Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot by the members present.

ARTICLE 3. The Moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any member not satisfied with his decision may appeal.

ARTICLE 4. The Moderator shall be entitled to the privilege of speaking as other members, but not to vote unless a tie.

ARTICLE 5. All questions shall be introduced by motion, and if seconded shall be opened for discussion, unless withdrawn by the mover or his second. When a subject has been discussed a reasonable time the Moderator shall, when the question is called for, proceed to take it by calling for the yeas and nays, and if a call for a division is made, he shall call for a standing vote.

ARTICLE 6. Any member wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Only one shall speak at the same time, and shall not be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject to make personal reflections.

ARTICLE 7. No person shall speak more than once upon any subject, until all who wish to speak have had an opportunity, nor more than twice without permission.

ARTICLE 8. Every subject introduced for discussion shall be decided before another is offered, unless it be laid over by

motion with the consent of the mover and the Association.

ARTICLE 9. The names of the messengers shall be called whenever the Association shall direct, and absentees marked. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

ARTICLE 10. The appellation of "Brother" shall be used in addressing each other.

ARTICLE 11. Any member violating the rules shall be subject to reproof by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 12. Amendments or alterations may be made to these rules when a majority may deem it necessary.

ARTICLE 13. Any case coming before the Association, not provided for in these rules shall be governed by general parliamentary rules.

FIRST DISTRICT.

SECOND DISTRICT.

THIRD DISTRICT.

[illegible]

CONSTITUTION.

1. This confederation of churches shall be called by the name of "Mount Vernon Baptist Association."

2. The object of this Association shall be to promote the glory of God on earth by the preaching of the gospel of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour; the universal spread of the Bible, the word of the true and living God, and by other appropriate means.

3. This Association shall consist of messengers from the churches now forming this union, and such other Baptist churches as may hereafter be received as constituent members thereof.

4. Every church shall be entitled to three representatives without regard to the number of their members, respectively, and to an additional one for every fifty members exceeding fifty; provided, That no church shall ever be entitled to more than five. A certificate of appointment or letter from their respective churches shall be evidence that they have been so delegated.

5. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, a Clerk or clerks, a Corresponding Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by ballot, by a majority of the members present, immediately after the names of the delegates are enrolled, which officers shall perform all duties, respectively, usually devolved on such officers, and continue to exercise their respective functions until they shall be superseded by a

subsequent election.

6. The Clerk shall preserve a regular record of the Association and have it present at the meeting of the body, and when they vacate their offices deliver the same, with all other books and papers relative to said office to their successors.

7. The Association shall regard the churches as independent bodies in all their internal affairs and exercise no ecclesiastical jurisdiction, or claim any legislative or judicial prerogative over them; nevertheless, the Association may exercise authority over its own members, the representatives of the churches, and power to withdraw from all churches which may depart from the gospel as understood and held by this body by becoming either heterodox in faith or disorderly in practice, and should therefore regard the churches united in the Association with a vigilant eye for good and may give at its own discretion, and in its own way, advice or information when sought to, any church connected with it.

8. It shall be the duty of the Association to ascertain the general condition of its constituent churches; devise means to promote their harmony and increase their spirituality and efficiency, to promote the cause of truth and righteousness.

9. The Association shall hold annual sessions, to convene on Thursday before the first Lord's Day, in October, in each year, and not adjourn until all the business shall have been regularly finished, except when circumstances imperiously demand. The place of meeting shall be determined at each previous session and published in the minutes.

10. Baptist churches not before united in the Association, or those dismissed from other associations, may be admitted as members into this union on application by a written petition or letter, presented by one or more messengers duly appointed by such church or churches, provided they give satisfactory evidence that they are orthodox in faith and correct in the practice of the gospel ordinances.

11. Every minister of the gospel (either ordained or

licentiate) whose membership is in or who may be a pastor of any church belonging to this body, shall be ex-officio a member of the Association, with the privilege of offering resolutions and speaking, but not of voting unless specially delegated by some church.

12. When in session the Association will be governed by such rules of decorum as it may adopt for itself.

13. It shall be the duty of the churches, respectively, annually to report to the Association their general condition; the number of members in fellowship; the number baptised, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored, and dead during the year, and the names and postoffice addresses of all ministers (whether ordained or licensed), designating each, and also the name and address of their clerks. They shall also report on any special matter required, and send up such contributions as they may willingly contribute to aid the body to disseminate more widely the truth as contained in Holy Scriptures and the establishment of the Redeemer's kingdom on earth.

14. The neglect or failure of a church to be represented by a messenger, or messengers, in the Association for three consecutive years shall be cause to withdraw from such church at the discretion of the Association.

15. This Association may correspond by letter or messenger with any other religious body of the same faith or order.

16. A board consisting of five members, any three of whom shall constitute a quorum, shall be elected at each annual meeting, whose duty it shall be to devise means to carry forward the benevolent objects of the Association, and the officers of this Association shall be ex-officio members of the board.

17. The minutes of the Association shall be publicly read and corrected, if necessary, and then signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association adjourns.

18. Any amendment may be made to this constitution at

any meeting of the Association by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided the same shall have been published in the minutes of the preceding year.





Ordained Ministers and Their Post Offices.

T. E. Knight, Clarendon.

M. J. Day, Turner.

J. A. Thomas, Wiville.

J. B. Wise, Elder Kime,
Marianna.

S. D. Sawyer, S. L. Holloway,
Brinkley.

J. W. Graham, Cypert.

A. A. Andrus, Palestine.

J. A. Smith, J. A. Bell,
Haynes.

H. C. Rosamond, W. H. Gid-
dens, Helena.

W. H. Paslay, A. N. Couch,
J. D. Barnett and W. D.
Hargraves, Forrest City.

