



OF THE
THIRTY-SEVENTH ANN'L SESSION
OF THE



HELD AT
ARKADELPHIA,

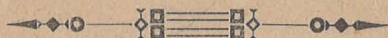
September 26th, 27th and 28th, 1885.

Next Session to be Held at Ozan Church, on Saturday Before the 4th Sabbath in
September, 1886.

OFFICERS: J. P. Copeland, Moderator, - Wolf Creek.
E. A. Heard, Clerk, - - - - Arkadelphia.

ARKADELPHIA:
SOUTHERN STANDARD PRINT
1885.

MINUTES



The 37th annual session of Red River Baptist Association met with Arkadelphia church, Sept. 26, 1885.

The introductory sermon was preached by Bro. N. J. Price by previous appointment—text, Romans, 4th chapter and 16th verse.

At 1:30 o'clock, the body was called to order by Bro. Copeland, Moderator. Read 8th chapter of Romans. Prayer was then offered by Bro. Jenkins, of Denton, Texas.

Letters from the churches comprising this body was presented, and Bro. Jones, of Prescott; Z. T. Rogers and R. G. Edwards, were appointed to read. Two letters claiming to be from Providence church, the one represented by Bro. N. J. Price, J. M. Price and A. J. Fomby, were received; the other was not, and the letter returned to Bro. Coleman.

Messengers names enrolled and the roll was called.

Moderator appointed Bro. Haris, of Shover Spring, and Bro. Jones, of Prescott, to take the vote for Moderator and Clerk, who reported Bro. Copeland re-elected Moderator, and T. A. Heard, Clerk.

The delegates from Clear Spring church, having misplaced the church letter, by motion was received and their names enrolled.

Bros. Goodin, Deaton and J. V. Browning, in connection with the messengers of this church, were appointed a committee on divine service.

Called for petitionary letters—received none.

Dr. A. B. Miller, pastor of the 2nd Baptist church of Little Rock, and Bro. A. W. Files, treasurer of said church, were invited to address the association in the interest of their church, asking aid to help build a meeting-house, after which a collection of \$82.50 was raised in cash and pledges to be paid by 1st of January.

Committee on divine service reported: Bro. Miller, of Little Rock, to preach to-night; Bro. G. W. Reeves, of Fort Smith, to-morrow at 11 o'clock, followed by Bro. Early of Morilton; Bro. C. M. Haris, of Shover Spring, at 11 o'clock at the M. E. Church; Bro. Collins of Mississippi, at the Colored Baptist

church, at 3 o'clock; Bro. Bell, at 7 o'clock, followed by Z. T. Rogers.

Called for correspondence and visiting brethren. T. J. Butcher, of Union Association; Wm. Daniel, of Saline; A. B. Miller, of Carolina; P. H. Hill, of Pine Bluff; M. D. Early, of Russellville; O. S. Jones and W. E. Atkinson, of Union. Letter from Caddo river and letter from W. A. Forbes, from Mason City, Mo. All the brethren were cordially invited to seats in his body, also Bro D. D. Corbin.

The following resolutions were read by Bro. Atkinson, of Prescott, and after being ably discussed by Bros. Atkinson, Early and Conger, were adopted:

RESOLVED—1st. That it is the sense of this association, that the establishment of a first class college in our state is necessary to our denominational prosperity.

2nd. That we are in sympathy and hearty accord with the effort now being made by the Arkansas Baptist convention, to establish a school of high order, at some suitable place in our state, for the purpose of educating our children.

3rd. That we will encourage the establishment of such a school with our means, to the extent of our ability, and when established we will support it with our patronage and our influence.

Reported that Dr. J. R. Graves, of Memphis, was passing on the train for Little Rock, and prayer was offered by the body in his behalf.

On motion, adjourned to Monday morning, at 9 o'clock.

SABBATH.

Prayer meeting conducted by Bro. Early after Sabbath school. Subject of prayer was for greater interest in the Sabbath school. At 11 o'clock the pulpit was occupied by Bro. Reeves, of Fort Smith; at 3 o'clock, Bro. Weeks, of Prescott; at 7:30 o'clock, Dr. Womark, editor of the Arkansas Evangel. The word was preached from the Bible, substantiating the doctrine of the Baptist church, and many made to rejoice. Collection for state mission, \$44.

SECOND DAY.

Monday morning—Met pursuant to adjournment, after singing hymn, "Near the Cross." Prayer was offered by Bro. Gunter.

The body was called to order and proceeded to business.

The following committees were announced by the Moderator:

Sabbath Schools—J. T. Hall, Chairman; H. J. P. Horn and J. C. Brown.

Temperance—L. H. Hitt, Chairman; W. D. Morton and Ezra Cates.

Documents—E. Merrill, Chairman; R. K. Hall.

Finance—M. D. Bell, Chairman; R. H. W. French and A. J. Fomby.

Obituaries—H. H. Coleman, Chairman; N. J. Price and N. J. Davis.

Missions—G. W. Clingon, Chairman; W. P. Barton and Z. T. Rogers.

Literature—E. Merrell, Chairman; R. S. Wallis and J. M. Price.

Education—B. J. Dunn, Chairman; G. B. Carter and J. A. Fortson.

Destitution—R. G. Edward, Chairman; N. J. Davis and W. N. Johnson.

Bro. H. H. Coleman read and offered a resolution. The Moderator decided it out of order. Bro. Coleman then appealed to the body. Bro. Horn was then called to the chair and the resolution was then re-read, and the Moderator was sustained by a majority vote of the body.

Bro. Tillman Howel asked permission to talk to the association, which was willingly granted him.

Bro. Early proposed that a prayer be offered that brotherly love prevail in this body, and by request a fervent prayer was made by him to that end.

Report of the committee on education was read, and its great importance was fully discussed by many of the brethren and the following report was adopted:

Your Committee on Education respectfully submit the following report:—

We recognize knowledge as the world's great civilizer, and education as the handiwork of religion. We, Baptists, as followers of our Master, have more to fear from ignorance and less to fear from a broad and liberal culture of mind and heart than any people under the sun. We feel that it is our imperative duty as Christians to foster our institutions of learning, and that the education of our children is one of the greatest responsibilities resting upon us. In the language of Dr. Mayo, "Every state, city and county has under it an open slough, through which the all-pervading national barbarism, home and foreign, that rolls its foul and festering subterranean tide from Maine to Mexico, disgorges its hideous malaria. The fumes of this malaria of evil and wickedness will make the head sick and the heart faint, unless every good man and woman continually cast in labor and prayer, without ceasing, as disinfectants." We know of no way to dry up the sources of every sort of folly and wickedness except God's original method, to put a wise, good man in place of every foolish one; to put a good mother in every family, a good minister in every church, a good teacher in every school. We desire God's blessing upon our efforts to educate our children, and especially do we desire His blessing upon the great enterprise of building a State college, at which the Baptists of the future may be trained.

Respectfully submitted.

B. J. DUNN.

On motion, adjourned to 1:30 o'clock.

At 1:30 o'clock the body met and prayer was offered by Bro. Atkinson, of Prescott.

The following report on temperance was read and a motion to adopt was carried:

We, your committee on temperance, beg leave to submit that,

WHEREAS, Intemperance is a great and growing evil, hindering the work of Christ and threatening our civil liberties; that we recommend that the brethren of this association use all the means with which God has blessed them to prevent the manufacture and sale of all intoxicating liquor. Respectfully submitted, L. H. HITT, JR., Chairman.

Report on destitution read as follows, and was adopted:

We, your committee, report that their is destitution in the boundaries of this association, to wit: The northwest portion of Pike county and the northeast portion of Howard. We also find considerable destitution in Clark county, in the following localities: 1st. "That portion of Clark county lying north of the Caddo River. 2d. That portion of Clark county to its southwestern boundary, lying along both sides of the Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad."

We, your committee, recommend that the above destitutions be supplied in the wisdom of this body.

R. G. EDWARDS, Chairman.

W. N. JOHNSON.

N. J. DAVIS.

The committee on documents recommend that the next session of this association be held with Ozan church, commencing on Saturday, before the 4th Sabbath in September next. Report adopted without any discussion.

Bro. D. S. Howell asked leave of absence, which was granted.

Bro. Coleman, Chairman of committee on Obituaries, read the following which was adopted :

The Committee on Obituaries report the death of Brother Frank J. Browning, on the 1st of September last. He lived through the month he would have been 85 years of age. All who knew him concur in the belief that he was a good man. For a half century he has filled the office of Deacon worthily and well. He lived in peace with his brethren, and in the outside world he was without reproach. His whole existence was an admirable illustration of the benign influence of the Christian religion.

H. H. COLEMAN.

Bro. Clingan, Chairman of committee on Mission, read his report and the following was adopted :

In as much as the "truth as it is in Jesus" is that which "makes wise unto salvation" be it resolved that.

1st. This body appoint a new missionary board.

2d. That it be the duty of said board to raise all the means possible, and disburse the same to the best advantage, by employing men to occupy the most important points of distitution.

3d. That the Pastors all be requested to act as financial agents to raise funds and thus co-operate with the board.

The above report was adopted and the following brethren was appointed to consist of the home mission, board, E. Merrell, Chairman, S. S. McDaniel, D. D. Corbin in the western portion, and T. A. Heard Chairman, H. J. P. Horn and J. L. Bozeman, in the eastern part of this association.

Bro. J. T. Hall presented his report on Sabbath School, and the following was adopted :

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, make the following our report:—

We find the Sabbath school cause greatly neglected in our Association, and not that interest, zeal and effort put forth by the churches and ministers as should characterize us as true lovers of the Lord Jesus Christ. Brethren, this is a great, grand and glorious work of God in the hand of the churches in training the young, the rising generations, and lead them to Christ. This can be done best and most effectually in the Sabbath school.

Only eight churches in this Association report Sabbath schools, and some of them only part of the time.

Brethren, think for a moment of the vast numbers of children in the bounds of this Association who are deprived of the holy and blessed influence of the Sabbath school, many of them unable to read God's word and deprived of the privilege of hearing the gospel preached, and so many, oh, so many of us making no effort to point them to Christ. We have nothing new to recommend, but trust God will put it into the hearts of his children to rise up and do their duty—go labor in His vineyard and do what our hands find to do.

J. T. HALL, Chairman.

Appointed the following brethren as messengers: To Cad-do Association—Welch, Clingan and Corbin. Southwestern—Merrell and McCraw. Union—Bell, Rogers and N. J. Price. Cross—Moncrief. Carolina—Copeland and Merrell. Pine Bluff—Robinson and J. M. Price. Arkansas State Convention—Copeland, Heard, Clingan, Merrell and Bell.

Bre. E. Merrell, Chairman committee on literature, made the following report, which was adopted:

We your committee on Literature report as follows:

1st. The bible, the only true book on earth, should be the rule and guide of our faith and should be studied more by ministers and members of the Baptist churches in Red River Association.

1st. We recommend the Arkansas Evangel, published by Dr. Womack, of Little Rock.

3d. The "old banner," The Tennessee Baptist, published by Dr. J. R. Graves, Memphis, Tenn.; also Battle Flag, edited by D. B. Ray.

E. MERRELL, Chairman.

Committee on finance report the amount sent for minutes, \$47.75; home mission, \$23; foreign mission, \$5.80.

M. D. BELL, Chairman.

Bro. Isaac F. Welch was appointed to preach the next introductory sermon, and Bro. D. D. Corbin as alternate.

A motion and second was made to appoint a committee of seven to labor with the two churches claiming to be Providence church—object of that committee to be—to sustain brotherly love and good feeling. After some discussion, a motion was made and carried to table the same.

Resolved by this body that a vote of thanks be heartily tendered to Arkadelphia church friends for kind manners in which this body has been sustained.

Ordered that the Clerk have 700 copies of these minutes printed and distributed to the churches, and be allowed \$15.00 for his services.

Bro. Frank White, of Benton, occupied the pulpit at 11 o'clock and preached a good sermon.

While singing a hymn the parting hand was extended by the brethren and adjourned to meet with Ozan church on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in September, 1886.

T. A. HEARD,

Clerk.

J. P. COPELAND,

Moderator

TREASURER'S REPORT.

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

To amount on hand last session.....	\$ 10 95
To amount received from Finance Committee for home Missions	23 00
To amount for foreign missions.....	5 80
To collection for foreign missions.....	20 00
To Finance Committee for Minutes.....	47 00
	<hr/>
	\$106 75
By amount paid printing Minutes.....	\$24 00
By amount paid postage.....	3 00
By amount allowed for clerk.....	15 00
By amount sent to H. A. Tupper.....	25 80
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	\$ 67 80
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	\$ 38 95

Leaving cash on hand for home missions, \$23.00; Association fund.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

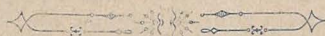
R S Wallis, Arkadelphia.
 D S Williams, Arkadelphia.
 N J Davis, Arkadelphia.
 D M Shaw, Arkadelphia.
 H H Coleman, Dobyville.
 James Gunter, Curtis.
 Z T Rogers, Arkadelphia.
 Geo W Clingan, Arkadelphia.
 J P Copeland, Wolf Creek.
 J B Roundtree, Wolf Creek.
 N J Price, Boughton.

E Merrell, Bingen.
 G M Shaw, Clear Springs.
 J E Kennedy, Amity.
 D D Corbin, Murfreesboro.
 T J Fund-rburk, Caney Fork.
 M D Bell, Hollywood.
 John Evans, Curtis.
 W J Gardner, Dobyville.
 D E McGraw, Caney Fork.
 Isaac F Welch, Alpine.

LICENTIATE MINISTERS.

E Herrell, Prescott.
 J R Hardy, Boughton.
 J D Rogers, Bingen.
 D G Wells, Gurdon.
 J A Fortson, Arkadelphia.
 W A Ingle, Arkadelphia.
 G F Williams, Okolona.
 Reuben Thomas, Antoine.

Robert Dunn, Arkadelphia.
 A A McDaniel, Murfreesboro.
 D S Bunch, Gurdon.
 R H Waddell, Murfreesboro.
 A T Howell, Amity.
 W M Stevens, Clear Springs.
 O A McDaniel, Caney Fork.



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 baptised 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 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 abstracts 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, 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.

RULES OF DECORUM.

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.

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 determine the point of order.



TABULAR STATEMENT.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	DELEGATES.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Dismissed by Letter.	Restored.	Excluded.	Dead.	Total in Fellowship.	Subscription for Minutes.	Home Mission.	Foreign Mission.	Sabbath Meetings.	PASTORS.	POSTOFFICE.
Arkadelphia	Clark	T A Heard, J T Hall R S Wallis	12	15	2	1		94	\$2 50	\$12 00	\$53 00			G W Reeves	Arkadelphia
Mt. Bethel	"	D C Denson, J L Bozeman, H Edwards	10	10	14		1	85	2 00	7 35			4	N J Davis	"
De Gray	"	G W Clingan, D M Shaw, W L Terrell		2	7	1	11	115	2 00				2	G W Clingan	"
Shiloh No 2	"	J A Fortson, J W Bankston, W R Toby	12	3	9			24	1 00				3	N J Davis	"
Unity	"	J A Medlock, H J P Horn, R G Edwards	1	3	6	1	1	92	2 00	17 00			1 & 3	R S Wallis	"
Gum Spring	"	N B Neal, J R Dawson, Thomas Ingle		1	11	2	2	35	1 25				1 & 3	G W Clingan	"
Amity	"	D J Hollingshead, L T Fulmer	3	14	12	1	1	69	1 50				4	I F Welch	Amity
Union	"	Gooden Deaton, Isaac F Welch, L L Deaton	15		8	2	2	71	2 25				1	F Welch	Alpine
South Fork	"	Z T Rogers G B Carter	4	17	6	1	13	58	1 00				2	W J Gardner	Dobyville
Hollywood	"	M D Bell, J B Huff, J R Journagan	2	10	1		2	51	2 00				3	I F Welch	Hollywood
Okolona	"	J C Brnard, R K Hall, D J Hall	12	7	2		1	82	3 00				4	N J Price	Okolona
Pleasant Hill	"	J V Browning, Jefferson Norton	8	8	2		2	51	1 60				2	N J Price	Curtis
Terre Noir	"	H H Coleman		1				55	1 00					No Pastor	Hollywood
Clear Spring	"	J W Brock, W P Barton, W M Stephens	7	5	13	3	1	78	2 50				3	G M Shaw	Clear Spring
Bethlehem	"	D S Bunch, Ezra Cates, Elias Bear	4	2		2		53	1 50				1	A M Tennison	Gurdon
New Home	Nevada	J C Brown	2	3	8			63	1 50				4	J P Copeland	Prescott
Providence	"	N J Price, A J Fomby, J M Price	15	6	12		33	89	4 00				3	N J Price	Boughton
Piney Grove	"	L E Hitt, James R Wilson, B F Butcher	5	1	3			44	2 25				1	L H Hitt	"
Washington	Hempstead	W N Johnson, J W Holt	1	2				17	1 00				2	J W Harris	Washington
Shiloh No 1	"	D S Howel			3			25	1 00				4	E Merrell	Wallaceburg
Ozan	"	E Merrell	6	4	15		2	108	3 35				2	J J Burgers	Bingen
Pleasant Grove	"	F D Barrow, A J McCraw	10	1	4	1	4	112	2 50				1	N J Price	Hickory Creek
Pleasant Home	Pike	A J Riley			2			13	40				2	G W Shaw	Antoine
Maple Spring	"	G W Stephens, W M Cooley	5	4				30	50					H G York	Murfreesboro
Macedonia	"	S S McDaniel	2		5			26	90			3 15	2	D D Corbin	"
Wolf Creek	"	J P Copeland	2	7	1		2	36	1 00				2	E Merrell	Wolf Creek
Caney Fork	"	R F Kelly, J L Davis, R B McKinney	3	4				13	50	50	1 55		1	D D Corbin	Leard
Liberty Hill	"	R H W French	2	1	5		4	27	1 50				1	D D Corbin	Antoine
Walton Valley	"	W D Morton	3	2				15	50			1 00	3	D D Corbin	Caney Fork
Totals.....			147	135	141	11	81	14	1561	46 20	36 85	58 70			