

### MINUTES



OF THE

SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION.

OF THE

# CONCORD ASSOCIATION

#### WESTERN ARKANS

HELD WITH THE

## POTEAU CHURCH.

SCOTT COUNTY, ARKANSAS,

MHER 20d, 25th & 20th, 1876.



E. L. COMPERE. MODESCATOR. M. L. EGGLESTON, CLEEK.



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## PROCEEDINGS.

SATURDAY, September 27, 1875.

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The Concord Association met pursuant to adjournment, with Fellowship church, at Saline, Sebastian county, Ark., on Saturday, the 27th day of September, 1875.

The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. E. S. Compere. Text: "Persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses and out of the prophets." Theme: The Messiahship of Jesus.

Recess till 2 o'clock p.m.

2 o'clock P.M.

After dinner, the former moderator, Eld. S. J. Fuller, called the body to order. Prayer by Eld. J. A. C. Hudspeth,

Committee on Preaching—Pastor and deacons of Fellowship church, together with Bro. H. Been.

Letters from the churches were then read by Breth. J. M. Ledbetter, J. J. Holland and M. L. Eggleston.

Petitionary letters were received from Oak Bend and Lone Pilgrim.

The first of these churches had adopted our abstract of principles, and the messenger from the second agreed to our principles. A letter from Cedar Knob was read, and it was ordered that it be referred to a special committee of five, to be appointed after we are organized.

The following brethren were chosen annual officers: Moderator, S. J. Fuller; Clerk, M. L. Eggleston; Treasurer, J. J. Holland.

Finance Committee—G. H. Council, G. A. Graves, H. Been. Committee on Documents—A. J. Reppy, J. T. Mayfield, D. M. Brown. Adjourned till 8:30 a.m. on Monday.

On Sabbath morning the moderator announced the following committees:

On Sabbath-schools-J. J. Holland, J. H. Patterson, G. H. Council.

On Temperance-J. M. Ledbetter, J. P. Langston, H. Been.

On Domestic Missions-A. F. Ross, J. J. Holland, E. J. Wallies

Committee on the Cedar Knob Church—A. J. Reppy, H. Been, R. H. McConnel, Isaac Davis, J. A. C. Hudspeth, E. L. Compere, S. J. Fuller.

Preaching Saturday night by Eld. J. A. C. Hudspeth.

#### SUNDAY EXERCISES.

Prayer-meeting at 10 o'clock, conducted by J. M. Ledbetter.

Missionary sermon, by Eld. J. A. C. Hudspeth, from Luke, xxiv. 41.

Afternoon exercises—Preaching by Eld. A. F. Ross, from Luke, x. 44, followed by Eld. Compere.

Evening exercises—Preaching by Eld. J. M. Ledbetter, followed by Eld. S. J. Fuller.

Monday, September 29.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. Hudspeth.

The minutes were read, corrected and approved.

Report of special committee read, received and adopted. (See appendix A.)

Cedar Knob church was received and the hand of fellowship was given to the messengers, after they agreeing to adopt our abstract of principles.

Eld. J. A. C. Hudspeth was received as corresponding messenger from Dardenelle Association.

Bro. Jesse Garner was received as corresponding messenger from Clear Creek Association.

The following correspondence were appointed:

To Dardanelle Association—E. L. Compere, J. S. Fields, J. J. Holland, A. F. Ross, S. J. Fuller; Bro. Compere to write the corresponding letter.

To Clear Creek Association—A. F. Ross, A. J. Reppy.

To the State Convention-E. L. Compere, A. F. Ross.

By motion the clerk is instructed to send to the clerk of Mountain Association a copy of our minutes.

The report of the committee on home missions was read and received. By motion it was referred back to the committee, and Breth. R. H. Mc-Connel, J. A. C. Hudspeth and E. Been were added to the committee.

At 11 o'clock Eld, J. J. Holland preached from Jeremiah viii, 22.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

By motion, the Oak Bend church was added to district No. 2, and Cedar Knob and Lone Pilgrim to District No. 1.

The committee on home missions was called up again. Report read adopted as amended. (See appendix B.)

The report of the committee on documents was received, and the query sent up from New Hope church was laid on the table. It was moved that so much of the request be referred to a special committee composed of Breth. A. J. Reppy, J. H. Patterson and J. M. Ledbetter.

On motion a special committee was appointed to take the queries and request into consideration and report. Committee—Breth. Reppy,

Patterson and Holland.

Report of committee on Sunday-schools received and adopted. (See appendix C.)

On motion, the report on home missions was amended by requesting each church to appoint a committee of sisters to carry out the objects of the report, and that Bro. R. H. McConnel be appointed to encourage this work by corresponding with or visiting each church in our bounds.

On motion, the body unanimously invited Eld. J. A. C. Hudspeth to remain in our bounds so long as it may be necessary, to visit every church in the Association and labor to have the objects of the report on home missions fully adopted, provided that the executive committee can make arrangements with Bro. Hudspeth that will be satisfactory to him.

The report on finance was received, which is as follows:

The report of the committee on the request of Lone Pilgrim church was received and adopted. (See appendix D.)

The committee on queries reported as follows: 1. Is it right for Baptists to call on excluded members to pray, or unite with them in the stand? Answer—There is nothing unscriptural in calling on any man to pray whom we believe to be regenerated; but it is disorderly to affiliate in the pulpit with an excluded member.

Requests from Poteau, Oak Bower and Oak Bend churches to have the next session of the association convene with them. Answer— We recommend that the request of Poteau church be granted.

J. J. Homland, Chairman,

The report of the committee was adopted. [Poteau church is seven miles west of Waldron.]

The report of the special committee was received and adopted. (See appendix D.)

Adjourned to 8:30 Tuesday morning. Benediction by Eld. Compere. Temperance lecture at night by J. M. Ledbetter and S. J. Fuller.

TUESDAY, 8:30 a.m.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Bro. H. Been. Minutes read, corrected and approved. Report of the committee on temperance received and adopted. (See appendix E.)

Breth. H. Been, J. T. Mayfield and R. A. McConnel were appointed a

special committee on nominations.

Rosolved, That the clerk have ten dollars for attending to the printing and distribution of the minutes, and that he distribute to the churches according to the amount of money sent up.

The special committee on nominations reported: To preach the introductory sermon, Eld. J. H. Clevenger, Eld. J. S. Fields alternate; to preach the missionary sermon, Eld. E. L. Compere, Eld. J. J. Holland alternate; to deliver the temperance lecture, Eld. A. J. Reppy, alternate, Bro. G. H. Council.

H. Been, Chairman.

On motion, E. L. Compere and S. J. Fuller were appointed the associational Centennial committee, to excite our members to giving for Baptist education in Arkansas. This motion was at the suggestion of the State Centennial committee.

By motion all speeches were limited to five minutes.

Whereas, Our churches are greatly in need of a medium of communication; and, Whereas, the Western Baptist, published at Searcy, is a sound paper, and is the only Baptist paper in our State; therefore,

Resolved. That the Western Baptist is worthy of our patronage, and we most cordially recommend it to every Baptist in our bounds as a good Baptist local and family paper.

Resolved. That the clerks of the different churches are members of

the executive committee.

#### ORDINATION OF A. F. ROSS.

According to the order of the association, the presbytery for the ordination of Bro. A. F. Ross was organized immediately after the temperance lecture Monday night. Eld. S. J. Fuller led in the examination of the candidate, and Eld. J. A. C. Hudspeth in the ordination prayer. Just here, on account of the lateness of the hour, it was thought best by the presbytery and members of the association present to defer the remaining ordination exercises till the business of the association had been concluded. Accordingly Eld. E. L. Compere presented the Bible and delivered the charge on Tuesday at 12 m. The presbytery and members of the association gave Bro. Ross the hand of fellowship, and gave to each other the parting hand, while we sang the two hymns, "Am I a Soldier of the Cross" and "Children of the Heavenly King."

Adjourned to meet at time and place appointed.

Benediction by the moderator.

M. L. Eggleston, Clerk.

S. J. FULLER, Moderator,

#### APPENDIX.

#### [A.]

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CEDAR KNOB CHURCH.

The committee to whom was referred the letter from Cedar Kneb church would state that the representatives of that church have agreed to abide the decision of this committee, and we advise the reception of Cedar Knob church into this association; but with the express understanding that Cedar Knob can not be received into this body declaring non-fellowship for New Hope church. And we further advise these two organizations to cultivate a fraternal and harmonious relation, so that they may be enabled to co-operate together in our common cause.

A. J. REPPY, Chairman.

#### [B]

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

Your committee on domestic missions reports great destitution. The Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us," is coming from all parts of our association. Communities are very numerous within our bounds who are altogether destitute of hearing the glorious gospel of a blessed God proclaimed in its purity—a pure gospel, unadulterated with Popery, unmixed with the wisdom of this world. Many infant or weak churches need a missionary to feed them with the bread of life. Let us awake to our responsibility, and have a missionary to send to these solitary and destitute places, that he may revive dilapidated churches and organize new ones. Send him into the dark haunts of sin and folly that he may persuade sinners to flee from the dominion of Satan, and rally around the blood-stained banner of Prince Immanuel, make solitary places glad, and benighted minds delighted, and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

Brethren, with such a picture before us, are we not incited to be up and doing? A great work is to be done in our bounds, at our very doors, and may the brethren urge the importance of the work upon the churches that we may enter into it heart and hand and meet the great necessity.

We therefore recommend to all of the churches belonging to the Concord Association, and brothers and sisters, that they take this matter to heart, and do all they can to sustain missions that God may enable them to do. And we furthermore recommend to the association that the body appoint one member in every church to make out a list of the names of the persons, together with the amount that each one pays, the same amount to be specified in their letters, and say for what purpose, domestic or foreign missions, or any other missionary purpose, the same as be forwarded by their delegates to the next meeting of this association.

We further recommend that each pastor preach at least one sermon upd missions to the various churches of which he is pastor.

A. F. Ross, Chairman.

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## [C.] REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee on Sabbath-schools beg leave to report that it appears from the reading of the letters that there is only one Sabbath school reported. We hope, however, that there are others. We regret that so little interest has been taken in a subject of such vital importance to our Master's cause. We most earnestly recommend the churches of this association to organize and sustain a Sabbath-school in every church, and that the fathers and mothers in the churches take part in these school meetings, not only as teachers, but as members of the classes.

J. J. Holland, Chairman,

[D.]

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORDINATION.

Your committee on the request of Lone Pilgrim Church to ordain Bro A. F. Ross to the work of the ministry, recommend that Bro. Ross be ordained, and that Eld. S. J. Fuller examine the brother on doctrine and call, and that Eld. Hudspeth offer the ordination prayer, and Eld. Compere present the Bible and give the charge. Also that the ordination take place to-night. A. J. REPPY, Chairman.

(K.)

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee on temperance beg leave to report as follows: That we find the evils of intemperance still invading our borders, and proving detrimental in some respects to the cause of religion; and we advise the churches of this association to promptly execute the laws of Christ in reference to this alarming evil, and we think proper instruction by preach ing and spreading the truths of the gospel to be the best means of suppressing it. J. M. Ledsetter, Chairman,

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# STATISTICAL TABLE.

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# WESTERN BAPTIST.

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Why it should be read and supported in preference to all others :

1. It is a home paper.

2. It is as sound a Baptist paper as any on the globe
3. It gives more State religious news than any paper in or
out of Arkansas, or any paper ever published in the interest of Arkansas Baptists.

4. It is the unflinching wend and supporter of all Arkansas Baptist interests, such as schools, associations and their boards, the State Convention and its work, the Sunday School cause, and every thing calculated to develop the pions strength of our whole people.

5. If recommends earnest and active co-operation with the boards of the Southern Baptist Convention, and the perpetuity of

that largest and most efficient organization of Southern Baptists
6. It is the fast friend of education, and will labor and wait for the day when denominational schools will be built up in various sections of the State for the education of our sons and daughters.

7. It is bringing into notice religious sections and interests of

which but little has been known herefore.

8. It is developing the writing talent of brethren in different sections of the State, who for want of encouragement, have kept in the back-ground.

It has enlisted among its friends and admirers, many of the ablest and most influential ministers and laymen in various parts of

the State, and is steadily growing in favor with Baptists.

10. It has entered upon its second volume with bright prospects, if we consider the exceeding hardness of the times, and has too warm a place in the hearts of Arkansas Baptists to be allowed to fail.