



MINUTES

Buckner Baptist Association,

26th Annual Session,

✻ 1896 ✻



## ANNOUNCEMENTS.



The next meeting of this Association will be held with Cedar Creek Church, Scott county, on Saturday before the third Lord's day in October, 1897.



### SPECIAL SERMONS.

Introductory Sermon—John Byers.

Alternate—G. W. Evans.

Missionary Sermon—James Edmundson.

Alternate—T. N. Watkins.



### OFFICERS, 1896-7.

Moderator—W. P. HALL, Mansfield.

Clerk—J. B. WILLIAMSON, Witcherville.

Treasurer—G. H. COUNCIL, Witcherville.



### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

G. H. Council,

James Bruce,

B. D. Barnes,

W. J. Brisco,

E. B. Casey.



## ✻MINUTES.✻

The 26th annual session of the Buckner Association of Western Arkansas, pursuant to adjournment, met with Palestine Church, Sebastian county, Arkansas, on Saturday, the 16th day of October, 1896, at 11 o'clock, a. m. The assembly came together by singing led by Bro. G. W. Evans, Moderator, and prayer by Bro. Thomas Rippy.

Bro. Washburn being absent the annual introductory sermon was preached by Bro. W. P. Hall, the alternate, who read as a foundation for his discourse the first chapter of the 4th Epistle of St. John. The Association then joined in singing with much spirit the old, familiar hymn, "Amazing Grace! how Sweet the Sound." Prayer by Bro. Hall. Song, "Oh, for a Closer Walk with God." Text, John 5th chap. 39 verse. The discourse was a forcible portrayal of the fallacy of works, proving that man's only redemption was by a spiritual birth, and closing with an earnest appeal to the brethren to live more devoted and to the ministers to go forth with more zeal for the Master's cause. Bro. Hall was followed by Bro. J. J. Holland, of Ouachita Association, Montgomery county. After which a committee on Divine service, consisting of the deacons of Palestine Church, with Brothers J. D. Moore, J. W. Condy and B. D. Barnes. was appointed by the Moderator. On motion adjourned until 1:30 o'clock. Benediction by Bro. H. P. Olaborn.

Association came together at 1:30 p. m. by singing "We'll Wait till Jesus Comes." The Moderator read the 15th Psa m. Prayer by Bro. H. L. Been, of Concord Association. A committee consisting of Bros. J. H. Byers, J. C. Williamson and W. L. White, was appointed to read church letters.

After reading letters and announcement from the Clerk that the roll of messengers was completed, a motion to go into the election of officers was sustained. Bro. H. L. Been was appointed to take the vote for Moderator; Bro. G. H. Council for treasurer and Bro. T. A. Rippy for clerk, which resulted in the election of Bro. W. P. Hall, Moderator; G. H. Council, Treasurer, and J. B. Williamson, Clerk.

Committee on devotional exercises reported as follows: Bro. H. L. Been to preach at Palestine church at 7 p. m., followed by Bro. John Anderson.



Letters from Lone Star church, White church, and Arbor Grove Church, asking to affiliate with this Association were read and on motion were each received. Petitionary letter from Long View read. Motion to receive discussed by Bros. R. P. Claborn, H. C. Ridling, G. W. Evans and J. J. Holland. Motion lost and letter returned to messengers. The hand of fellowship was then extended by the Association to the messengers of the churches received. On motion the Moderator was given until Sunday at 11 o'clock to announce the appointment of committees. On motion of Bro. G. W. Evans, adjourned until Monday morning at 8 o'clock. Benediction by Bro. J. W. Miller.

Saturday night, preaching as per announcement by Brothers Been and Anderson.

#### SUNDAY MORNING.

9 a. m.—Prayer meeting conducted by Bro. John W. Miller. Benediction by Bro. H. L. Been.

11 a. m.—Came together by singing. Bro. R. P. Claborn being appointed to preach the missionary sermon, read as an introductory to the same, part of the 9th chapter of St. John. Song, "Amazing Grace." Prayer by Bro. John W. Miller, of Short Mountain Association. Text, 4th verse of the 9th chapter of St. John. The sermon was a forcible exposition of the importance of missionary work, demonstrating that the Apostles, John the Baptist and Christ were missionaries, and the great commission was to preach the gospel to all creatures; pure undiluted gospel and that dead works must be destroyed. Taken altogether the discourse was a pathetic appeal, largely fraught with divine grace, in behalf of the missionary cause. At the close of which a collection amounting to \$16.16 cash and \$2.50 subscription was taken up. Total collection \$18.66. Brothers Edmundson, White, Condry and Anderson were appointed to take up the collection. The Moderator then announced the following committees to wit:

On Religious Literature—B. D. Barnes, J. H. Anderson, L. Walker.  
 On Temperance—R. P. Claborn, D. S. Billington and Wm. Herald.  
 Foreign Missions—James Edmundson, S. C. Bennings W. N. Condry.  
 Domestic Missions—G. W. Evans, W. J. Brisco, W. L. Moore.  
 Nominations—W. M. Tyler, R. R. Pace, James Stephens.  
 Sabbath Schools—Thomas Condry, Walter White, Stephen Witcher.  
 Education—J. C. Williamson, S. L. Edwards, John Byers.  
 Obituaries—T. N. Watkins, I. J. Lucas, J. G. Harris.  
 Circular Letter—George Pierce, J. R. Adams, J. P. Phillips.  
 Church Letters—H. C. Ridling, S. T. Jones, J. F. Tucker.  
 Names and Addresses of Preachers—L. S. Smith, M. A. Williams, B. B. Brown.

Finance—G. H. Council, J. M. Young, Thomas Rainwater.

The committee on preaching announced that Bro. J. H. Byars would preach at 3 o'clock, followed by Bro. J. A. Sims. At night Bro. L. W.

Wright, followed by Bro. J. W. Miller. At Salem Bro. H. L. Been, followed by Bro. T. N. Watkins. At Nebo, Bro. J. P. Stephens, followed by Bro. J. H. Anderson. After which the congregation was dismissed until 3 o'clock p. m. Benediction by Bro. R. P. Claborn.

Came together at 3 o'clock by singing. Bro. Byars read as a lesson from the first chapter of Galatians down to 17th verse. Prayer by Bro. G. W. Evans. Text, 16th verse of chapter read. Bro. Byars preached with great force of utterance, and was followed by Bro. J. A. Sims in a short but pertinent discourse. Benediction by Bro. Clark.

Sunday night.—Preaching by Bro. L. W. Wright, followed by Bro. W. P. Hall. Bro. Wright read the 8th chapter of Romans beginning at 22d verse. Song, "There is a Fountain Filled with Blood." Prayer by Bro. T. N. Watkins. Song, "I know that Jesus loves me." Text, 2d Peter, 3d chapter, 9th verse.

#### MONDAY MORNING.

8 o'clock. Came together by singing "Oh, for a Closer Walk with God." Moderator read 34th Psalm. Prayer by Bro. John W. Miller. Minutes read and approved. Motion to seat Bros. L. W. Wright, J. W. Miller and J. M. Balding sustained. Motion to receive Bro. H. L. Been, messenger from Concord Association, was discussed by Brothers R. P. Claborn, J. J. Holland, L. F. Patterson, J. W. Condry, M. A. Stozier, and G. W. Evans, after which motion sustained and Bro. H. L. Been seated. On motion Bro. J. J. Holland, of Ouchita Association and Bro. Clark, editor of the Arkansas Baptist, were seated. Motion to seat Bros. R. R. Pace, W. D. Looper, William Ezell, H. P. Scott, I. C. McAllister, H. R. Fowler, M. A. Stozier and W. C. Dudden was sustained and the brethren invited to seats in this body.

J. B. Williamson, chairman of the committee appointed at last Association to organize a Sabbath School Convention, made report of the work performed, which report was adopted as read and committee discharged.

The following messengers answered to their names at the call of the roll, to wit:

Lynch Prairie—F J Blair.

Shiloh No. 2—C C Breuton, J S Gist.

Shiloh No. 1—S C Bennings, James Ware, J L Reynolds.

Dayton—W M Tyler, S J Witcher, James Bruce.

Amity—James Edmundson, J H Anderson, J G Harris.

Mountain View—H H Travis.

Pleasant Grove No. 2—J P Stephens, A R Tudor, A B Casey.

Shady Grove—H A Condry, J H Byars, S L Edwards.

Poteau—T J Condry, J W Condry, L F Patterson.

Palestine—R. L. Cross, A. Solesbee, J M Young.

Pleasant Grove No. 1—J W Tripp.

Long Ridge—T J Sykes, A L Sykes, D H Vester.



Cedar Creek—Willie Herald, Charles Morgan, Joseph Myers.

Mt. Harmony—L S Smith, S A Stockton, G R Stephens.

Mt. Gilead—J R Adams.

Rock Creek—L L Cockrell.

Pleasant Grove No. 3—A L Partain, W F Lynch.

New Home—Lewis Walker, G W Pearce, W L Moore.

Hartford—W L White, J M Hopkins.

Pilgrims' Rest—R P Claborn, J P Byers.

Fellowship—J. C. Williamson, J. B. Williamson, A Davis.

Pine Log—W J Brisco.

James Fork—G W Evans, J B Chastain, J C Anthony.

Waldron—T N Watkins, J M Singleterry.

Unity—Jesse Pitts.

Lone Oak—W P Martin, J F Martin.

Arbor Grove—R J Rupp, J H Smith.

White Church—D S Billington.

Freeman—S T Jones.

At 11 o'clock preaching by Bro. Clark, of Little Rock. Bro. Clark read the 10th chapter of Romans, commenting at length on the same. Prayer by Bro. R. P. Claborn. At the close of the sermon, on motion of Bro. G. W. Evans, the Association adjourned until 2 o'clock.

After recess came together by singing, "Yes, we'll lay down the Bible and go home." Moderator read the 25th Psalm. Prayer by Bro. Jas. Edmundson. Committee on temperance reported and after remarks by Bros. R. P. Claborn and G. W. Evans the report was adopted. Committee on education read report, which was discussed by Bros. J. C. Williamson and W. A. Clark, after which adopted as read. Committee on Sabbath Schools reported and was discussed by Bros. J. W. Condry, J. A. Sims, J. H. Anderson, H. H. Travis, R. P. Claborn, J. H. Byars and J. W. Miller, after which adopted as read. Committee on nominations reported and report adopted after striking out all the churches except Cedar Creek. Committee of Foreign Missions reported. After remarks by the chairman, Jas. Edmundson and S. C. Benning, the Association adjourned to 7 p. m.

Came together by singing "Rock of Ages." Prayer by Bro. J. H. Anderson. Bro. J. W. Miller selected as a text the 17th verse of the 6th chapter of Revelations, from which he delivered an animating discourse. Bro. T. N. Watkins followed with an eloquent and touching prayer, after which the Association resumed business, continuing the discussion of missions. Bro. L. W. Wright having the floor made an eloquent address. After which a collection was taken—amounting to five dollars and thirty cents. The report was then adopted as read. Committee on domestic missions read their report. After remarks by the chairman the report was adopted. Committee on finance reported and report adopted as read. On motion one page of the minutes was given

for an advertisement of Buckner College. Committee on religious literature reported and report adopted as read. Committee on ministers' names and post offices reported and with corrections adopted. Committee on circular letter recommended Bro. G W Evans to write the next circular letter which recommendation, after some discussion, was adopted. Committee on church letters reported and after a sharp discussion between G H Council and G W Evans against and J B Williamson for its adoption the report was rejected. Committee on obituaries reported and after remarks by Bro. T. N. Watkins, the report was adopted. Bro. W. P. Hall submitted his report as missionary of Buckner Association, which report was adopted as read. On motion the clerk was allowed ten dollars for printing and distributing minutes.

J. B. Williamson offered the following resolution: Resolved, That the thanks of this body are eminently due and are hereby tendered to the members of Palestine church and community for their liberal hospitality and in presenting this resolution they desire to say that they will ever remember and appreciate the labor of the ladies in the careful preparation of the viands so sumptuously prepared by their hands, which resolution was unanimously adopted by a rising vote. Messengers were then appointed as follows: To General Association, Bros. G W Evans, J H Anderson, J G Harris, R R Pace, James Edmundson, T N Watkins, W P Hall and H H Travis. To the Muskogee, Seminole and Wichita Association, R P Claborn, R R Pace, T N Watkins, J H Anderson and H H Travis. To Short Mountain Association, G W Evans, L S Smith, J G Harris, J H Anderson, G H Council and Lewis Walker: To Ouchita Association, J S Gistand C C Brewton. To Concord Association, J. Edmundson, J G Harris, L S Smith, S A Steckton T J Sykes, H H Travis, G W Evans, A L Sykes and J P Havener. To Dardanelle Association: W P Hall and G R Stephens. On motion minutes read and adopted. On motion adjourned to meet with Cedar Creek Church, Scott county, Arkansas, near Gipson P. O., Saturday before the third Lord's day in October, 1897, at ten o'clock a. m.

J. B. WILLIAMSON, Clerk.

W. P. HALL, Moderator.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

TEMPERANCE—We, your committee, beg leave to report as follows: As the temperance sentiment in the state is increasing the drink habit and the liquor traffic is becoming more and more disreputable. We are for the home and against the saloon, and join hands with all good citizens of whatever name or order. Resolved, That we reaffirm the past record of this Association on the temperance question, and that we advise our churches to continue in fellowship no person who publicly advocates the saloon business or suffers his property used for in any way.

R P. Claborn, D. S. Billington, William Herald, Com.



**EDUCATION.**—We recognize the worth, merit and progression of the ministering brethren within the bounds of the Buckner Association; yet we feel the great central fact, “the truth shall make you free” has all the weight, might and power today as when it fell upon the ears of our ancient brethren, notwithstanding the shades of multiplied cycles intervene, and while we realize the great need of that wisdom unto salvation yet we desire such literary training as will make us approved workmen in our grand and glorious calling, and we feel that we could not do more than to reiterate the report that appears in our minutes of 1865, to wit: “While we fully appreciate the efficiency of all our brethren, whether possessing high literary attainments or not, yet we do recognize the need worth of education and would earnestly urge especially upon our young brethren that they use such means as may be within their reach to obtain at least a fair education, and we would call attention to the fact that within the bounds of this Association is an institution of learning, to wit: Buckner College at Witcherville, Ark., of which our dear brother, J. B. Williamson, is principal, where a thorough course can be obtained at reasonable rates. We would further urge upon all Baptists that this College is the creature of the General Association of Western Arkansas and the Indian Territory and is still its property, and under its present management deserves our prayers, our sympathy and our support. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. C. Williamson, S. L. Edwards, John Bvers, Com.

**SABBATH SCHOOLS**—While we appreciate the grand and glorious work accomplished by our brethren in the Sabbath school cause during this associational year, yet we feel the need of a more united effort among the the brethren of Buckner Association, and as we have had organized within the bounds of this Association a Sabbath School Convention since the last meeting of this body, we earnestly solicit the co-operation of every member composing this body and urge them to stand by this institution and hold its interests up to a Throne of Grace with their prayers. The importance of this work should drive every parent to a Throne of grace to seek wisdom, for the destiny of precious souls are involved, which must live in the realms of eternal light and glory, or be damned to all eternity. We recommend that every Baptist Sunday School and Church within the bounds of Buckner Association send at least two delegates to represent them in the annual meetings of the convention. We also recommend that each Sabbath school use the Bible as a text book and the literature published by the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tenn.

T. J. Condry, W. L. White, S. J. Witcher, Com.

**NOMINATIONS**—We, your committee, find that our churches have called for the next session of this body—Cedar Creek, James Fork, Dayton and French Prairie, and we fail to agree upon the place. We recommend that this body settle the location. And that Elder John



Evans preach the introductory sermon, Eld. G. W. Evans, alternate. The missionary sermon by Eld. Jas. Edmundson and Eld. T. N. Watson alternate. Executive Committee—G. H. Council, B. D. Barnes, James Bruce, W. J. Brisco and E. B. Casey. W. M. Tyler, Chm.

**FOREIGN MISSIONS**—We your committee on foreign missions submit the following report: We should be obedient to the injunction of our Lord and Master who says: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." While all of us cannot go and preach the gospel, we should aid those that can go by our prayers and with our money and means. While many of our brethren's hearts are bleeding in account their inability to contribute anything to the spread of the gospel, they should not cease to pray and ask God to bless them that they might be enabled to help send the gospel of Christ to all the world. The more fortunate brethren should remember that it is a matter between them and their God whether they contribute of their means as God has prospered them or not. We admonish the brother and sisterhood of our churches to obey the injunction from on high and lay by on the first day of the week as God has prospered them, for the promulgation of the gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Respectfully submitted, James Edmundson, Chm.

**DOMESTIC MISSIONS**—We find great destitution in the bounds of this Association and we feel that this destitution should be supplied at the earliest convenience. We recommend that money and pledges be taken up in the churches, same reported to the clerk of this Association by the first of March. We further recommend that the pastors of the churches preach a sermon on domestic and foreign missions during the months of November and December 1896, and there can be secured money and pledges that the missionary can be put in the field by the 10th of June, 1897, and all his time given till the meeting of this body.

G. W. Evans, W. L. Moore, W. J. Brisco, Com.

**FINANCE**—We have received for domestic missions \$36.96; minutes, \$3.10; foreign mission, \$.30. Total, \$64.41, which has been paid to the treasurer.

J. M. Young, Chm.

We, the committee on religious literature beg leave to report as follows:

We recommend, 1st, reading the Bible prayerfully and making it our special study; 2nd, the Arkansas Baptist, published at Little Rock, also the Texas Baptist, published at Waco, Texas. We recommend the Sunday school literature published by the board of the Southern Baptist Convention at Nashville, Tenn.

J. H. Anderson, Lewis Walker, Com.

**Report of committee on names and addresses of preachers and licentiates.**

James Edmonson, Hackett; J. H. Anderson Slatonville; L. D. Looper, Brothel; J. C. Williamson, Hartford; G. W. Evans, Peoria; J. C. An-

thony, Peoria; R. M. Evans, Peoria; C. Burris, Poteau; G. W. Pierce, Cauthron; L. F. Patterson, Winfield; P. E. Windom, Winfield. R. P. Claborn, Mansfield; W. P. Hall, Mansfield; George Beam, Poteau; J. P. Stephens, Farmer; J. O. Mitchell, Waldron; L. B. Blackourn, Brawley; A. G. Washburn, Hackett, T. N. Watkins, Waldron; J. H. Byers, Waldron; L. S. Smith, Milltown; W. P. Martin, Burnville; D. L. Moore, Witcherville; R. R. Pace, Huntington; J. G. Harris, Hackett.

LICENTIATES—G. W. Eliot, Blansett; L. D. Turner, Mansfield; H. H. Travis, Gipson; D. S. Delaughter, Cauthron; J. W. Cross, Witcherville; H. Knoy, Witcherville; W. F. Lynch, Greenridge.

L. S. Smith, W. P. Martin, J. H. Muse, Com.

CIRCULAR LETTER—We, your committee, recommend that Bro. G. W. Evans be appointed by this body to write the next circular letter.

G. W. Pearce, J. R. Adams, J. T. Phelps, Com.

We, your committee on obituaries wish to report as follows: We know of no minister of the Buckner Association who has died since our last meeting, except our much beloved brother A. H. Gordon, who is greatly missed among us as a minister of the Gospel. It is said by the people of Hackett City that his presence is greatly missed as a physician and citizen. We also state that old Sister Mitchell has just departed this life. She professed faith in Christ at the age of 14, joined the church at 17, and was a faithful member for 60 years. We greatly miss them, but trust our loss is their gain.

Thos. N. Watkins, J. G. Harris, Com.

MISSIONARY'S REPORT—Of work for Buckner Association: Churches organized, 3; deacons ordained, 2; miles traveled, 480; days labored, 54. Received for work: Shady Grove church, \$7.30; Unity church, \$4.70; Poteau church, J. M. Hon, \$1.00; John O. Mitchell, \$1.00; Bro. Frizzell, Waldron, \$1.00; West Harmony, J. A. Spain, 25 cents; J. W. Condrick, \$2.25; total \$17.00. W. P. Hall, Missionary.

Your committee appointed at our last association to organize a Sabbath school convention to be known as the Buckner Sabbath School Convention beg leave to report that they have performed that duty, and that said body has been organized with the following officers elected under the annexed constitution, to-wit: J. B. Williamson, president; G. W. Evans, vice president; J. C. Pettus secretary; G. W. Evans, corresponding secretary; J. C. Williamson, treasurer; James Edmison, lecturer. Executive committee: R. R. Pace, John Cross, J. Burris, W. P. Hall.

J. B. Williamson, Chm. Com.

### *Constitution Buckner Association S. S. Convention.*

Art. I. This convention shall be known as the Buckner Association Sunday School Convention.



Art. II. Its object shall be to promote the Sabbath school interests in the churches composing the Buckner Association.

Art. III. Its membership shall consist of delegates elected from the Sabbath schools represented in the Buckner Association at the rate of one delegate to every fifty members or fractional part thereof.

Art. IV. Its officers shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and lecturer, belonging to the Buckner Association and who shall be elected annually and continue in office until their successors are elected.

V. It shall be the duty of the president to preside over all meetings of this body and to assist the lecturer in his work so far as he is able.

VI. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep a correct minute of the proceedings of each meeting of this body and to transmit annually to the clerk of the association a tabulated statement of all the Sabbath schools represented at least one month before the annual session of the Buckner Association.

VII. It shall be the duty of the vice president to preside in the absence of the president and to aid him with his influence in all his work.

VIII. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to take charge of the funds of his convention and pay them out by order of the executive committee with consent of the president.

Art. IX. It shall be the duty of the lecturer to visit all Sabbath schools within the bounds of the Buckner Association, encourage them in their work and establish schools if possible where there are none.

Art. X. There shall be an executive committee consisting of five members who shall be appointed by the president immediately after each annual election whose duty it shall be to prepare programme for and select a place of each annual meeting of this body and to fill all vacancies that may occur by death, resignation or otherwise and to submit a written report of Sabbath school work together with any recommendations they may deem proper at such annual meeting.

Art. XI. This convention shall meet annually on Saturday before the first Lord's day in May of each year at such place as may be designated by the executive committee.

Art. XII. It shall be the duty of all Sabbath schools belonging to the Buckner Association to report to the secretary of this convention the number of scholars and teachers in their several schools together with the name of the superintendent and his post office and anything of interest pertaining to the school at least one month before the meeting of the convention.

Art. XIII. All ministers and superintendents of Sabbath schools in Buckner Association shall be considered members of this body ex-officio.

Art. XIV. This constitution may be altered or amended at any

regular meeting by a two-third majority voting for such change.

Art XV. At any annual meeting a call meeting may be had by a two-third majority vote. The rules of decorum shall be the same as those of Buckner Association, with the exception of rule II.

G. W. Evans, J. W. Cross, W. P. Hall.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe there is one, and only one, living and true God, Jehovah, and in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired words of God, constituting the only and all sufficient faith, Doctrine, Discipline and Practice.

3. We believe that election is the sovereign exercise of eternal love by which God hath, according to His infinite wisdom, chosen His people in Christ, before the world was, and hath predestined them unto the adoption of children through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth, and doth keep them by His power through faith unto salvation.

4. We believe that man was created holy, but by wilful violation of the law of his Maker, he fell into a state of sinfulness, and brought death upon his race, who being by natural descent in the unholy image of Adam, are children of wrath by nature, and without natural or spiritual power to live a holy life or attain to a happy state.

5. We believe that sinners are saved by grace through Jesus Christ, and in no other way.

6. We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated or born again; that regeneration is effected by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth and the proper evidences thereof are Repentance, Faith and obedience unto Christ.

7. We believe that such only are true believers as endure unto the end in holiness of life, and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

8. We believe the scriptures teach that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God.

9. A Christian church is a congregation of immersed believers who meet stately and have covenanted together to maintain the ordinances of Christ, discharge the duties and enjoy the privileges of the New Testament appertaining to the Church of Jesus Christ.

The only proper officers of a Christian Church are Bishops or Pastors and Deacons.

11. Christian Baptism is the immersion of a believer in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, by a regularly ordained Baptist minister in good order.

12. The Lord's Supper is a positive and commemorative ordinance in Jesus Christ, and to show forth His death till He comes.

13. The first day of the week is the Lord's Day and should be observed as a day of rest from common labor, and all worldly business, and devoted to religious duties.

14. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and that the felicity of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.



## CONSTITUTION

Art. 1. This Association shall be known as Buckner Baptist Association of Western Arkansas.

Art. II. It shall be composed of messengers from Baptist churches known to be in good standing. Each church with fifty members or less, shall be entitled to three messengers. Each additional fifty members shall entitle the church to one additional messenger.

Art. III. The officers shall be, a Moderator, a Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by ballot at each annual session, and shall remain in office until their successors are chosen.

IV. Sec. 1 It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the body according to parliamentary usage.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a correct record of the proceedings, attend to the publication and distribution of the minutes, keep a regular file of the printed minutes of the sessions of the body and deliver them to his successor in office.

Sec. 3. The treasurer shall take charge of the funds of the Association, holding them subject to the order of the Association or its executive committee; and render an account of the same to the annual session of this body.

Art. V The objects of this Association shall be to promote fellowship among the churches; to secure unanimity of faith; to encourage concert in operation; and especially to cultivate the piety of the churches, and to aid in this last object, several days of each session shall be spent in devotional exercises.

Art. VI. Sec. 1. This association shall in no case interfere with the internal regulations of the churches; but will act as an advisory council whenever it shall be necessary.

Sec. 2. It however claims the authority over its own members, the messengers from the churches and will withdraw from and disown churches that depart from the principles of this compact by becoming heretodox in faith and disorderly in practice.

Art. VII Newly organized churches, or churches dismissed from other Associations, may be admitted into this body upon application by letter and messengers at our annual meetings, and by their messengers agreeing to the abstract of principles herewith published.

Art. VIII. Churches may be dismissed from this Association upon application at annual meeting for the purpose of joining any body we recognize, or for the purpose of forming a new Association; but any church departing from us without being regularly dismissed, shall be regarded as disorderly.

Art. IX. There shall be an executive committee consisting of five members from the several churches and the officers of the Association shall be ex-officio members of this committee. The committee shall have direction of the missionary operations of the Association subject to its control and to make an annual report of its proceedings at each session of the Association. Besides the special object entrusted to this committee, it shall have the authority to represent the association in all matters requiring attention while the Association is not in session. This committee shall hold regular meetings on Saturday preceding each Lord's Day in the year at such places as may be designated by the committee. The committee shall meet for organization immediately after the adjournment of the Association. Three members shall constitute a quorum.

Art. X. It shall be the privilege of the Association in addition to its powers already granted to conduct missionary operations within or without its limits, and for this purpose may choose a missionary or missionaries as means may allow, designate the fields of labor and pay them quarterly through their treasurers.

urer out of the funds to be sent up along with th the fund for publishing the minutes of each annual meeting.

Art. XI. The annual meetings of this Association shall embrace the Lord's Day, and shall begin at 11 o'clock A. M. on Saturday before the third Lord's Day in October in each year at which time the introductory sermon shall be preached. On each succeeding day the Association shall adjourn at 11 o'clock A. M. for preaching.

Art. XII This constitution may be altered or amended, except as to Art. VI, Sec. 1, at any regular meeting of the Association by the two third vote of the members present.

## RULES OF DECORUM.

1. This Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. An Introductory and Missionary sermon shall be preached by ministers chosen at the preceding Association. In case of absence or failure the sermon of either to be preached by an alternate to be chosen at the same time and in the same way. Some brother shall also be chosen to deliver a temperance address.
3. Visiting brethren in good standing may be invited to seats but not to vote.
4. A member not satisfied with any decision of the Moderator may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.
5. But one member shall speak at the same time, who shall rise, address the Moderator and on obtaining leave shall proceed.
6. No member shall be interrupted while he is speaking unless he depart from the subject or use words of personal reflection and then by the Moderator.
7. Every motion made and seconded shall come under consideration unless withdrawn by him who made it. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided before another is introduced.
8. When a question is taken up after allowing time for debate the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association by yeas and nays or otherwise.
9. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.
10. No member shall speak twice on the same subject without permission of the Association.
11. The appellation of Brother shall be used in the Association by members in their addresses to one another and all titles unknown to the Scriptures such as "Rev.," "D. D.," "Parson," and the like shall not be employed nor appeal on the minutes.
12. The names of the members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.
13. The Moderator shall have the same privilege of speaking as any other member provided that he appoint another to his seat during the time but shall not vote on any question unless the Association be equally divided.
14. Any member violating these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator at discretion, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.
15. These rules may be amended or altered at any regular meeting of this body by a majority of the members present.



## ORDER OF BUSINESS IN CHURCH CONFERENCE.

1. Inviting visiting brethren to seats with us in conference.
2. Extending an opportunity for the reception of members.
3. Reading the minutes of the last meeting.
4. Call for references.
5. Call for acknowledgements.
6. Call for the peace and fellowship of the church.
7. Call for church dealing in Gospel order.
8. Call for new business.
9. Call for miscellaneous business.
10. Motion to adjourn.

## CIRCULAR LETTER.

Since the last meeting of this organization there has been organized within the bounds of the Buckner Association a Baptist Sunday School Convention, an institution which not only qualifies the youths of our land for the responsibilities that must soon rest upon them as one by one they step into life's arena to battle with the stern realities and arduous duties, but prepares them for an eternal existence in God's kingdom where splendor and glory are immortal and joy and peace shall never end; and as it is to be sustained and nourished by spiritual as well as temporal means, watered by tears of sympathy and love, I am that the growth of this noble institution which our parents have planted in our midst, will depend in a large measure on the efforts we put forth, strengthened by the power of God who never fails to crown his laborers with joy ineffable when their immortal spirit wings its way to the flaming judgment bar and is ushered into the presence of the Infinite and eternal. Then, since the reward is so great and the field so plain and the fearful responsibility imposed upon the parents and teachers within the bounds of this body, it becomes a question of vital importance because every christian is responsible to God to the extent that God has worked in him to will and to do in the promulgation of the truth which we are told in the word of eternal wisdom will make us free not only in time but throughout the boundless realms of eternity. The Sabbath school is the nursery to the church from which it receives the tender plants, which when watered with God's mercies and nourished with the vitalizing elements of omniscient wisdom its buds and blossoms into spiritual manhood and womanhood, whose motives, sentiments and character like the full blown flower and ripened fruit are pure and spotless and whose every aim is to honor and glorify God's name and with an influence accompanied by power from on high reach the great prison house of sin and point its inmates to the Lamb of God who can loose their fettered limbs and lead them into the glorious light of an eternal day; who can wash sin-stained garments in His precious blood and they become even whiter than snow; who can give a crown that is incorruptible and shines above the splendor of the sun. Thus we see that the Sabbath school is of untold worth, as the destinies of souls are involved, and who can value the price of even one soul? And it is to the members who compose this body that I make this earnest appeal. for God will require at our hands in His own good pleasure the talents which in the dispensation of His providence He has entrusted to your care. Don't think the battle over and the victory won and that there is nothing for you to do. The battle is rag-

(Concluded on page 16.)



# STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCH.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	POST OFFICE.	Additions.			Decrease.			Total Membership.	Finance.			Days of Meeting.	S. S. Officers.	Scholars.
				By Baptism.	By Letter.	Restored.	Died.	Dis. by Letter.	Excluded.		Home Missions.	Minutes.	Foreign Missions.			
Lynch Prairie	J. J. Tate	W. V. Nash	Grow	1	3		1	3	1	26		50				
Shiloh No. 2	W. P. Hall	W. P. Hall	Blansett	1	4				1	58	5 00	1 00				
Shiloh No. 1	No Pastor	S. C. Benning	Belva	14		1		5	1	82		60		3		
Dayton	John Hulsey	B. D. Barnes	Dayton	1	4		2	2		90		70		4		
Amity	J. G. Harris	H. J. Roberts	Hackett City	2		3		10		56				2		
Mountain View	E. P. Windham	P. White	Gilson	3	7					28	25	45	30		4	31
Pleasant Grove No. 2	J. P. Stephens	Frank Blair	Farmer	10	8	1		7	3	56		95		1		
Shady Grove	John H. Byars	S. L. Edwards	Waldron		3			2	3	56	7 30	1 50			7	55
Poteau	L. F. Patterson	I. M. Hon	Winfield	14	1			2	2	215	3 25		5 00			
Palestine	G. W. Evans	J. M. Young	Greenwood	13	4			3	1	84	3 80	1 30		2	5	50
Pleasant Grove No. 1	No letter											50				
Long Ridge	D. M. Bryant	J. W. Carolan	Carolan		3			2	1	20		85		1		
New Providence	L. W. Wright	William Peck	Matonville	9	19	4	1	12		86				1		
Cedar Creek	Thomas N. Watkins	H. H. Harwell	Gilson	3	2	1		3		57		1 00		3		
Mt. Harmony	D. L. Moore	S. E. Sterling	Greenwood	1			1	6	4	11		35		3		
Mt. Gilead	J. W. Pearce	J. A. Nix	Brawley	4	1	1				28				1		
Rock Creek	R. P. Claborn	L. L. Cochran	Mansfield	1				1		19	1 50	50		3		
Pleasant Grove No. 3	R. P. Claborn	W. F. Lynch	Green Ridge	1		1	2		1	51		1 70		1		
New Home	George Beam	Lewis Walker	Cauthron	6	2	1		2	4	49	1 25	60				
Hartford	J. C. Williamson	J. M. Hopkins	Hartford					2	2	66	1 85	80		3		
Pilgrims' Rest	W. P. Hall	J. P. Byars	Mansfield	2	6			6	2	58		20		1		
Fellowship	J. C. Williamson	M. A. Strozier	Witcherville		2			5	1	84	2 50	1 00		1	8	50
Pine Log	Jas. P. Stephens	J. W. Brisco	Poho	4	4			2		10		50		4		
James Fork	G. W. Evans	G. William Evans	Peoria	25	9	2			8	102	2 50	1 50		1		
Waldron	J. H. Byars	D. L. Richardson	Waldron		4	1	1	13	1	77		1 00		2	40	
Unity	J. H. Byars	W. A. Bates	Brawley	11	1	3		1		94	4 70	1 15		3		
Sugar Loaf Mountain	H. C. Ridling	W. O. Evans	Sugar Loaf							14		25		2		
Lone Stair	W. B. Martin	S. C. Martin	Burnville	5	6				1	19				2	4	50
Arbor Grove	George Beam	S. L. Hinder	Hoothe	14	4					18		55		3		
Freeman	G. W. Evans	S. T. Jones	Hoothe							32		1 00		4		
Ross Creek		W. C. Wood	Waldron									40				
White Church	W. P. Hall	H. A. Billington	Parke									60				

N. B.—The following named Churches to wit: Black Fork, Cedar Grove, Hickory Grove, Hopewell, Hackett City, Sugar Creek, Bass Creek, White Oak, Salem, Glendale, and Pleasant Valley failed to send letters, consequently no statistics can be given.—CLERK.



(Continued from page 13.)

ing furiously everywhere, even in the limits of Buckner Association. The evil one has his forces marshaled for the conflict and who knows when he may capture one of your precious sons or daughters? The cry "Gather the people together, men, women and children, and even the stranger within your gates and let them be taught the law concerning Israel," has never, through the lapse of time, lost any of its earnestness. and today the command is to you christian parents, gather in the men, women and children, the stranger within your gates and teach them the law of Israel. the mercies of a long-suffering and patient God and point them to the Immaculate Lamb of God, the redeemer of mankind and the Savior of the world. Remember that not only yours, but your neighbor's children bear the stamps of immortality—living jewels and they will outlive the splendor of the sun and all the stars which decorate the broad arch of heaven. They must live forever, and that in happiness or misery, either as angels of light or spirits damned, for all eternity and to you more than any other persons in the world is committed the power and the duty of forming the character of the child, and hence to the parent it is said: "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." O, the immense responsibility of parents! It is enough to make the bravest man tremble. At any rate, it is enough to drive every parent and Sunday school teacher to a throne of grace to seek wisdom there and pray God for strength to herald the glad tidings of salvation to earth's remotest bounds and that influence which you have exerted for God's cause will live long after you have passed into eternity's mystic realm, and as your immortal spirit is bathing its snowy wings in the light and glory of God's throne and shouting praises to his matchless name, your happiness will be untold, for with angelic eye you can behold sons and daughters whispering prayers of thankfulness to God's name for your faithfulness, and as your spirit wings its flight through wide, wide domains of eternal bliss and glory, glad voices of the redeemed will herald your achievement that of a duty faithfully performed throughout the boundless extent of God's eternal kingdom.

May God bless you and help you to sustain the Sabbath school cause and with your prayers hold its interest up to a throne of grace.

J. C. WILLIAMSON.

# BUCKNER COLLEGE.

Witcherville, : Arkansas

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