

KANSAS BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

Fortieth Annual Session

OF THE

Red River Baptist Association

Held with the

Wolf Creek Church at Saline Camp,

September 22, 1888.

OFFICERS: { G. W. REEVES, Moderator, Arkadelphia.
T. A. HEARD, Clerk, Arkadelphia.

Quachita
Baptist College,
Philadelphia, Ark.,

J. W. Conger, Pres't.

Under the auspices of the Arkansas Baptist Convention.

Two hundred and sixty-two pupils last enrollment, Board, \$10 and \$12 per month. Tuition moderate; healthful locality; prohibition for a radius of ten miles; cultured and moral community. All departments of college work. For further particulars, address the President.

The Minutes.

The Red River Baptist Association met with the Wolf Creek Church at the Saline Camp Ground, September 22nd, 1888, in its Fortieth Annual Session. Preaching by Bro. E. Morrill on Friday night previous, and at 9 o'clock Saturday morning by Bro. H. J. P. Horn. At 11 o'clock the Introductory Sermon was preached by Bro. N. J. Price, by previous appointment: Text; "He must increase." His sermon made a good impression.

Bro. J. P. Copeland made an address of welcome to the delegate visitors and assigned them homes. The congregation was then dismissed for refreshments, to meet again at 1 o'clock. Prayer was offered by Dr. Searcy.

At 1 o'clock the delegates assembled under the shed. Bro. Browning, the moderator, being absent Bro. G. W. Reeves, of Arkadelphia, was nominated moderator *pro tem*. After reading the Thirty-Second Psalm and offering prayer the letters from the Churches were presented, and Bros. Ross and Copeland was appointed to read. After being read the names of delegates was called and absentees noted.

Next order of business being the election of moderator and clerk: Bros. Horn, Bozeman and Merrill were appointed to take the vote; which resulted in the election of G. W. Reeves as moderator, and T. A. Heard as clerk.

Bro. Reeves thanked the brethren for the honor conferred upon him, and called for petitionary letters from churches for membership. A letter was read from Mount Olive Church, there being some irregularity from the usage of Baptist Churches in restoring excluded members from other Baptist Churches, objections were raised to the reception of said church, and a committee of three was, by motion, appointed; consisting of Bros. Copeland, N. J. Price and I. F. Welch, to confer with the delegates from Mount Olive Church.

Bros. C. C. York, of Ozan; J. B. Langley, of Pleasant Hill, and J. P. Copeland, of Wolf Creek, were appointed a committee on Preaching. This committee read the following appointments:

To-night: Bro. Burkhead, from Texas, at 8 o'clock.

Sabbath morning: Prayer meeting, conducted by Bro. Burns, of Arkadelphia.

At 9 o'clock: Preaching by Dr. Searcy, of Hope.

At 11 o'clock: Preaching by Bro. Reeves, of Arkadelphia.

At 3 o'clock p. m.: Preaching by Bro. Forbes, of Lonoke.

At night: Preaching by Bro. Early, of Little Rock

All visiting brethren, in good standing, were invited to seats. Bro. M. D. Early, Permanent Secretary of State Mission Board; Dr. J. B. Searey, Agent for the Ouachita College and Foreign Mission Work; W. A. Forbes, of Lonoke, and Elijah Burkhart, of Texas, responded and took seats in the body.

Called for correspondence from sister churches. Bro. J. J. Mays, Union Association, presented himself; some objections being raised to receiving him on the ground that correspondence from us was objected to by Union Association at its last session, and by motion and second the Moderator appointed Bros. I. F. Welch, of Alpine; R. K. Hall, of Okolona, and E. Merrill, as a committee on the reception of Bro. Mays, of Union Association, as a messenger from Union Association.

A motion to appoint a special committee on the Home Mission Board, of the Southern Baptist Convention located at Atlanta, Georgia, was carried and Bros. J. A. Ross, of Mount Bethel church; R. K. Hall, of Okolona church, and J. P. Copeland, of Wolf Creek, were appointed as said committee.

Bros. J. A. Ross, J. H. Holt and I. F. Welch were appointed a committee on Ouachita College.

Appointed Brethren as Messengers to the Arkansas Baptist State Convention to meet at Jonesborough on Thursday before 1st Sabbath in November next. E. Merrill, of Ozan; H. C. York, of Ozan; L. H. Hitt, Pine Grove; W. N. Johnson, of Washington Church. Bro. Merrill moved that, in case of failure of any of them, that those appointed be authorized to make the number to five; which was agreed to. The moderator and clerk of this association were appointed messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention, to meet at Memphis, Tennessee, in May, next.

A letter was read from the ladies of the Foreign Band, of Ozan, Church, which was ordered published in these minutes as follows:

“Ozan Church, September 20th 1888.

“To Red River Association:—We the Ladies of the Foreign Missionary Band, have given the mites: \$10 last Spring, paid Bro. Early \$11 with the letter. May the Lord bless our feeble efforts, is our prayer. Total amount; \$21. Mrs. EMMA SCROGGIN, Sec’y.”

Bro. Copeland, as chairman on the reception of Mount Zion Church, read the report, which was adopted after inserting a resolution.

“We, the committee appointed to investigate the petitionary letter from Mount Olive Church, make this our report:

On investigation we find that Mount Olive Church has materially erred and departed from Baptist usage by admitting members who had been excluded from sister churches. Thereby showing disrespect for sister churches and defeating the ends for which discipline was intended. “Therefore we recommend that Mount Olive church rescind

their act in restoring said members and refer them to the churches from which they were excluded for restoration."

JIM. P. COPELAND.

N. J. PRICE.

I. F. WELCH.

"*Resolved*, that we approve Mt. Olive church, that we have the kindest feeling for them, that we believe that their irregularity was inadvertent; and that so soon as they shall correct their irregularities we will be glad to receive them into the fellowship of this body."

Adjourned to meet after preaching to-night; prayer was offered by Dr. Searcy.

After sermon, the Association was called to order by the Moderator who read out the appointments of the following committees:

FINANCE:—W. N. Johnson, D. J. Hollinshead and John B. Langley.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS:—H. G. York, John Evans and Polk Burk.

LITERATURE:—N. J. Price, J. V. Browning, G. W. Clingan.

TEMPERANCE:—L. H. Hitt, Z. T. Rogers, S. S. McDaniel.

DESTITUTION:—G. M. Shaw, W. U. Davis, H. M. L. Conine.

STATE MISSIONS:—N. J. Price, D. C. Denson, W. A. F. Wells.

FOREIGN MISSIONS:—I. F. Welch, E. S. Smith, Wm. Askew.

OBITUARIES:—T. J. Bennett, R. J. Price, J. W. Wilson.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION:—J. H. Holt, G. W. Shaw, E. Merrill and W. A. Forbes.

DOCUMENTS:—Jim. P. Copeland, J. B. Langley, D. J. Hollinshead.

NOMINATION:—G. B. Carter, J. C. Brown, H. G. York.

Bro. Copeland as chairman of the committee on Home Mission of the Southern Baptist Convention read the following report which, after being discussed by Bros. Copeland, Searcy and Early, was adopted and collection of \$14.47 was taken up for the Cuban work:

"Your committee on the above work would submit the following:

The work of the Home Band of the Southern Baptist Convention is intended to embrace all the Southern States together with the Island of Cuba.

It has aided in building many churches in the various states during the years which have elapsed since the war. In Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas, especially, has it done a great work during the past ten or twenty years. In our own state within the past ten years we have received from its treasury ten thousand dollars with which to prosecute our work in this state.

It has also aided in some of the states in building churches and in holding ministers' institutes for the benefit of our colored brethren and proposes to extend this work to this state if properly seconded by our State Board.

One of the greatest fields of this Board is the work in Cuba. A little over two years ago the Lord opened this door and the work was brought before the Foreign Band and owing to the largeness of the work then on the hands of that Board, it decided it could not undertake the work. Eld. I. T. Tichener then brought the work before the Home Board and after much prayer this board decided to under-

take the work. The hand of God has from the very beginning, been directing our efforts in that Island of the Roman Cross. So that to-day, through the leader ship of Eld. A. J. Diaz, our missionary at Havana over 1100 Cubans have been baptised in less than two years and 8000 or more are now seeking baptism at his hands.

To meet the demands on that field we must have a house of worship which will accomodate the thousands who are begging, for the bread of life.

The board has asked Arkansas for \$1,000 to help on this work. Your committee would therefore recommend that this Association co-operate with the Home Board and do all they can to secure this amount. All of which respectfully submitted.

J. P. COPELAND, Chairman."

Bro. Ross moved that the interest of the Ouachita College be set for the hour of 10 o'clock Monday. Motion was carried.

On motion the Association adjourned to Monday morning at 8:30 o'clock. Benediction by the moderator.

SABBATH:—At 8 o'clock prayer meeting was conducted by Bro. Burns, Arkadelphia; at 9 o'clock the pulpit was occupied by Dr. Searcy, of Hope; text: "A name which is above every name." At 11 o'clock sermon by Bro. Burns, of Arkadelphia; subject: "Consecration." At 3 o'clock p. m. sermon by Bro. Forbes, of Lonoke; subject: "Blind Bartemus." At the close a good religious feeling prevailed and many came forward for prayers. At night Bro. Early, of Little Rock, delivered a lecture on the "Signs of the Times." The congregations during the day was very large and attentive.

MONDAY MORNING:— The Association met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator read 12th Chap. Romans; prayer was offered by Bro. Atkinson, of Prescott.

Renewed the invitation of visiting brethren. Bro. W. E. Atkinson responded and was invited to a seat.

Bro. Hitt, chairman of the committee on Temperance, read his report, and after being discussed by Bro. S. S. Langley and others, was amended and adopted.

"We, your committee on Temperance, submit the following: "Intemperance is the ulcer of civilization. That it threatens to undermine our free institutions, overturn this constitutional government. It dishonors, it blights our hopes, desolates our homes. It ruins usefulness for time, and happiness for eternity.

We recommend that our people check its progress by total abstinence, by discipline, and that our pulpit and press pour out God's denunciations against it as a plain duty which we owe to God and humanity.

L. H. HITT, JR., Chairman."

Bro. G. W. Shaw read the report of the committee on destitution, which was adopted.

"We, your committee on Destitution, beg leave to make the following report: "We find that there is small destitutions in the north-east and south-east portion of Pike Co., also that Gurdon, Curtis, Beirne, Smithton and Wheelen stations on the railroad stand

in need of help from this body.

G. M. SHAW, Chairman.

Bro. Copeland, chairman of committee on Documents read his report. After considerable debate, and a movements to amend, the motion was carried to strike out Mount Bethel church and insert Hollywood church and was adopted.

"We, your committee on Documents, make this our report: We find from the reports from the several churches that God has greatly prospered His cause in our bounds the past year. That through the earnest, faithful preaching of the gospel many have been brought to a knowledge of the truth. All of which should strengthen and encourage us to even greater efforts the coming year. We further find from the letters that Mt. Bethel, Okolona and Hollywood churches have petitioned the next session of this body to meet with them. We recommend the next session of this association to be held with Hollywood church, Clark Co. Respectfully,

JIM P. COPELAND, Ch.

JNO. B. LANGLEY.

D. J. HOLLINGSHEAD.

On motion a committee on Nominations was raised, and G. B. Carter, J. C. Brown and H. G. York were appointed said committee.

The committee on Obituaries read the following report, which was adopted:

"We, your committee on Obituaries, ask to report as follows: "We are thankful to our Heavenly Father that we have had no deaths in our ministry since your last session. All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. J. BENNETT.

R. J. PRICE.

J. H. WISDOM."

Bro. N. J. Price read his report on Literature, which was adopted:

"We, your committee on Literature, beg leave to make the following report. "We recommend the careful and prayerful study of God's Word. 2nd: We recommend that every Baptist family subscribe for and read the Arkansas Baptist, also the Baptist edited by Graves & Moody, Memphis, Tenn. 3rd. For use in our Sunday schools we recommend "Kind Words" published at Atlanta, Georgia, under the auspices of the Southern Baptist Convention, and the literature of the American Baptist publication society at Philadelphia.

N. J. PEICE, Chairman."

The hour having arrived Bro. J. A. Ross read his report on the Ouachita College, and after being very enthusiastically addressed by Bro. Forbes, of Lonoke, W. E. Atkinson, of Prescott, J. B. Searcy, general agent, the report was adopted:

"Your committee to whom was referred the subject of Ouachita College would say that the subject of Christian education is one vitally connected with the best interest of our denomination and of Master's service, the physical, mental and moral training of the youth's of our land constitute the grandest work our hands find to do.

We hail it as an omen of blessed prospect that the general subject of education is receiving more attention than ever before.

Through the means of the common schools many poor children are being instructed in the elements of an education that would not be but for these schools, but in some places the moral training of these schools are very objectionable, and we expect this to grow worse instead of better.

To meet our absolute wants we must have a Christian school of high order. A laudable ambition should stimulate this desire. But necessity is laid upon us and we must educate our sons and daughters or others will do it for us, and if they do they will follow their own methods, and we will have no means of helping ourselves.

The Romanites, the Methodists and the Presbyterians all have their schools in our State. In point of wealth, intelligence and numbers we would not suffer by a comparison with them. Shall we not have our own college? It seems to us that the answer of every Baptist in the state would be yes. Really our people have spoken out upon this subject three years ago in the State Convention at Hope when they appointed a board of trustees and authorized them to locate and establish a college in the state. This Association was honored with that location, and thus became the headquarters of the educational interest of the denomination in the state. Two years of unparalleled success has already crowned the labors of this college. The third session opened last Monday with an increase of fifty per cent. of boarding pupils over any previous opening. To meet the absolute demands of the prosperity of this college it became necessary to have a large and commodious building. Such a building as will be worth when completed about \$30,000. We began operations without a dollar in our treasury, but trusting in God and our brethren we went to work and have taken in cash, notes, pledges and real estate to the amount of about \$22,000. The Business committee has contracted for the new building and its walls are reaching the second story. It is a fine structure of brick, 70x120 feet, with three stories above the basement, built upon the most approved artistic style.

If we had the money with which to pay for this building, the goal of success would be reached. But we have not got the money, and the building cannot be finished without it. The Baptists of Arkansas have the money and could pay for this building without making an undue sacrifice, but a few men cannot carry it. We want if possible to enlist every Baptist in the state in this enterprise, and we want this Association to set the example for all other associations in the state. The building contractor is disposed to help us carry this burden to the extent of his ability by giving us time. But we must have at least \$6,000 by the first of next month from some source; with this we believe we will be over the shoals. We want every Baptist in this association to pay every cent he can to help raise the money. Submitted,

J. A. ROSS.

I. F. WELCH.

J. H. HOLT.

Report on Ministerial Education was read by Bro. Holt, and after being discussed by Dr. Searcy and Bro. Copeland was adopted:

"The importance of educating our young ministers needs no argument. We would recommend to your body that you at once take steps to educate Bro. J. H. White, of O'Zan church, and Wm. M. Stephens, of Clear Springs church, who are worthy and promising

men. To do this we would recommend that a brother and sister be appointed in each church who shall raise means for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted, J. H. Holt, Chairman.

Report on Foreign Missions was read and adopted:

"Your committee on Foreign Missions would report that this department of our work is rapidly on the increase, and calls for largely increased efforts on our part.

The work of our Foreign Board is divided between Papal and Pagan lands. Our Papal missions are in Italy, Brazil and Mexico. Our missionaries are actively engaged in their fields among the Roman Catholics. The Station missions embraces the ancient city of Rome, the home of the Pope. The Brazillian mission is among the Portugees, and is a very fruitful field. Our Mexican mission is among Spanish speaking people, the same as those of the Cuban mission, under the support of the Home Mission Board, and the work there under Powell is very similar to that done by Bro. Dias in Cuba. These fields are ripe for the harvest, but however much importance these Papal fields, our Pagan fields constitute our chief work. These people are heathen, they have no knowledge of the true God. We have a mission in the Empire of China. This is our oldest mission field; for more than forty years we have in some measure been occupying that field. Our oldest missionary, Dr. Yates, has recently laid down his armor and taken up his crown. Also Sis Graves of this mission; has recently passed to her reward. But a new force has been sent forward. We also have a mission in Africa.

The Southern Baptist Convention at its last session instructed the F. M. Board to enlarge its work. So a dozen new missionaries have recently been appointed, and many others are needed and will be appointed if the means are furnished. To meet this work we are asked for increased contributions. Our state is asked for \$2,500 this year, and this association will be asked for \$250 of that amount. We hope each in our bounds will contribute to this work as early as possible.

I. F. WELCH, Chairman.

The following persons were appointed in their churches to take collection for Ministerial Education, to be applied to ministers of this association at Ouachita College, located at Arkadelphia, Clark county, Ark: Bethlehem, A. B. Harper; South Fork, G. B. Carter; Macedonia, Matilda Davis; Walton Valley, Jane Morton; Providence, A. J. Price; Ozan, J. H. Holt; Pleasant Grove, J. A. McGraw; Enon, E. S. Smith; Shiloh, Lou. Fortson; Maple Springs, J. C. Cooley; Mountain Home, J. Kar; New Home, J. C. Brown; Piney Grove, J. W. Wilson; Clear Springs, J. M. Dean; Mount Bethel, Emma Bozenan; Wolf Creek, Jim Copeland; Arkadelphia, J. T. Hall; Unity, J. M. Hart; Caney Fork, R. T. Kelley; Okolona, W. U. Davis; Amity, D. J. Kenedy; Hollywood, U. Jordan; Ephesus, J. B. Luck; Pleasant Hill, T. J. Allerson; Midway, G. W. Maynard; Liberty, Hill S. S. Langley; Alpine, H. Cagle.

On motion the body adjourned to one o'clock this evening.

At 11 o'clock the stand was occupied by Bro. Box, of Prescott.

T. A. Heard as chairman of the board, read his report, stating that Bro. Fundeburk had been employed a short time to preach in the destitution in Pike county, for which the board had agreed to pay him \$20.00, and the report was received and Bro. Fundeburk was paid.

Bro. Eearly read the report of the committee on State Missions, which was adopted.

Your committee to whom this work has been referred, would submit the following:

“The rapid development of our state demands that our people come fully up to the responsibilities which are now falling down upon us.

New towns are springing up in many parts of our state, and many sections of our country being filled with people from abroad. In these towns and country districts God is looking to us to plant the Gospel, build houses and organize churches. To do this requires the co-operation of the whole people.

Our State Convention has, for one of its objects, the accomplishment of this end. God has given his divine approval to this department of our work.

During the past few years many of our towns have been assisted in building up for the Master. Also our District Associations have been helped by the board to occupy much of the destitution in the country.

What we most need to-day to take Arkansas for Christ, is co-operation one with another, and some systematic plan by which all our people can be gotten to contribute of their means with which to prosecute this work.

Your committee would therefore recommend that the delegates composing this Association bring the cause of mission before the churches, and in such way as will best suit them, do all they can to secure from every member the small sum of fifty cents during their present Associational year, for the cause of missions to be divided between the various missions, as the cause may demand.

2. We would most earnestly beg that the pastors will teach the people on this great duty, and help the churches in developing this grace of the Gospel. Respectfully submitted,

N. J. PRICE, Chairman.

Bro. Copeland moved that the speeches be confined to ten minutes. Carried.

Bros. Harper and Bear, delegates from Bethlehem church, were granted leave of absence.

Report of the Committee on Finance was read, and by motion was recommitted for amendment.

Report of the Committee on Correspondence from Union Association was read by Bro. Welch, and the Moderator appointed Bros. Copeland and Ross as a committee as recommended in said report.

Your committee to whom was referred the matter of Correspondence between this and the Union Association, beg leave to report the following:

"We have investigated the matter submitted to us, and find that the action of Union Association in seeking to adjudge of the qualifications of our corresponding messenger, was a violation of the conditions of true fellowship and of the rights of our Association; but we hope the matter can be adjusted without the severance of our correspondance. We recommend, therefore,

1st. That the messenger of the Union Association be seated.

2nd. That the said Association be requested to amend her action refusing to seat our Messenger, Bro. Bennett.

3d. That we appoint messengers to represent us in the next session of that body, who shall constitute a committee to represent us in the adjustment of the difficulty, and that our letter of correspondence set forth our grievances.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

E. MERRELL, Chairman.

I. F. WELCH, }

G. W. BURNS, } Com.

J. H. HOLT, }

R. K. HALL, }

Report on Sabbath Schools read and adopted.

Your committee to whom was committed the subject of Sunday Schools, beg leave to submit the following report:

"The Sunday School work is of such vital importance that we, as Baptists, cannot afford to neglect it. We are glad to know that some of our churches are alive to this important work, but regret very much that we see from the reading of the letters of the churches composing this association, that this important work has been neglected to an alarming extent. This ought not so to be. If we have the thought we ought to teach it to our children. No church can afford to be without a Sunday School, it is so essential to its prosperity. We therefore recommend that the pastors of our churches see to it that they have Sunday Schools organized in their churches, for the Sunday School is the work of the church.

H. G. YORK, Chairman.

Appointed correspondence as follows to the Saline Association:

T. A. Heard, G. W. Reeves, H. J. P. Horn; South Western, H. G. York, E. Merrell, S. S. Langley; Union, J. A. Ross, J. P. Copeland; Judson, J. O. Browning; Caddo, I. F. Welch and J. P. Copeland.

Report of the Committee on Finance:

Amount sent for minutes,	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 49.90
Association funds,	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.15
Foreign missions,	-	-	-	-	-	-	25.50
State missions,	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.05
Am't. raised present session for Home Mission paid Bro. Early							14.47
Am't. sent up by Pleasant Hill church paid Bro. Early,							4.00
Am't. collection on Sabbath for missions paid Bro. Heard,							34.25
Am't from Pleasant Hill c'h for foreign missions p'd J. B. Searcy							5.00
Am't for Ouachita College paid J. B. Searcy,							62.00

\$217.32

W. N. JOHNSON, Chairman.

Report of the Committee on Nominations was read and adopted.

"We, your Committee on Nominations, make the following

report:

"We would recommend that the Executive Board be composed of the following named brethren: J. A. Ross, J. H. Holt, Dr. James Wallis, J. R. Chapel, and J. C. Barnard, and that Bro. G. W. Reeves preach the next introductory sermon and Bro. J. P. Copeland be his alternate.

Respectfully submitted.

G. W. CARTER, Chairman.

Resolution offered by Bro. Ross:

Resolved, 1st, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the Methodist brethren for the use of their camp ground so generously tendered to us.

Resolved, 2d, That we also tender to the brethren and sisters of Wolf Creek Church and surrounding community our heartfelt thanks for the liberal hospitality with which they have entertained us during the session of this body.

J. A. Ross.

The Clerk was ordered to have 900 copies of the minutes printed and distributed, and be allowed \$15.00.

By motion and second the reading of the minutes was dispensed with. Prayer was offered by Bro. Heard, and while singing a hymn the parting hand was extended, and the body adjourned to meet with Hollywood church on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in September, 1889.

T. A. HEARD, Clerk.

G. W. REEVES, Moderator.

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 the foreknowledge of God, the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit into 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 has been regularly baptised, called and comes under the imposition of the hands of the presbyter.
11. We believe that none but regular 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. This 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 nature of the compact. It nevertheless claims authority over its own members, the delegates from 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, 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 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 sending three delegates to the annual meeting of this Association, with 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 minuted.

ART. 7. This Association shall have a fund, to be supplied by 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.

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 the endeavored to solve the same and have failed; nor of any difficulty between the churches unless they have pursued the directions in the xviii chapter 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.

Rules of Decorum.

1. When the delegates of the several churches shall assemble at the place appointed for the session of the Association, the Moderator shall open 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 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 one 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.



Treasurer's Report.

T. A. Heard as Treasurer in account with Red River Association:

Dr.		Cr.	
To amount of Cash on hand	\$ 9 17	By Am't pd Bro, Early S. M..	\$22 45
" Cash fr'm Sis'r S.C. Langley	1 65	" Bro. Searcy F. M'ry..	36 91
" " Bro. Ross fr'm Mt. Bethel ..	8 15	" Bro. Fundeburk M'ry..	20 00
" Cash allowed for minues.....	49 90	" Paid for printing Min'ts	25 00
" Collections on Sabbath.....	34 25	" To pay postage.....	4 00
" From Association missions....	11 15	" Allowed as Clerk.....	15 00
" Foreign missions.....	25 50	" Minute fond on hand..	25 49
" State missions	11 05	" Associ't'n fund on hand	1 97
	<u>\$150 82</u>		<u>\$150 82</u>

Ordained Ministers.

R. S. Wallis, Arkadelphia,	T. J. Fundeburk, Caney Fork.
D. S. Williams "	John Evans, Curtis.
G. W. Reeves "	W. J. Gardner, Dobyville.
Z. T. Rodgers "	I. F. Welch, Alpine,
Geo. W. Clingan "	D. E. McGraw, Caney Fork.
M. L. Langley Jr. "	D. M. Shaw, Arkadelphia.
H. J. P. Horn "	T. J. Bennett, Bengin.
H. H. Coleman, Dobyville.	Rufus White, Hope.
James Gunter, Curtis.	J. O. Browning, Mauchester.
Jim. P. Copeland, Wolf Creek.	L. H. Hitt, Boughton.
N. J. Price, Boughton.	J. H. Stuart, Bengin.
Elijah Merrill, Bengin.	Polk Burk, Murfreesboro.
G. M. Shaw, Clear Springs.	J. R. Hardy, "
J. E. Kenedy, Amity.	T. W. Adams, Arkadelphia.
H. G. York, Bengin.	

Licentiates.

E. Herrall, Boughton.	W. M. Stephens, Clear Spring.
D. G. Wells, Gurdon.	J. M. Dean, "
H. A. McDaniel, Murfreesboro.	C. E. Cate, Arkadelphia.
D. S. Bunch, Beirne.	C. M. Myreck, "
A. T. Howell, Amity.	J. H. White, Bengin.
J. L. Anderson, Arkadelphia.	W. U. Davis, Okolona.
C. E. Toby, Arkadelphia.	

General Synopsis.

Number Baptized.....	185	Number of Ordained Ministers.....	29
" Received by Letter.....	129	" Licentiates.....	14
" Restored.....	20	" Sabbath Schools.....	17
Total increase.....	334	" Teachers and Pupils ..	1020
Number Dismissed by letter..	75	Value of Church Property....	\$14000
" Excluded	34	Church Expenses.....	\$3900
" Dead	20	Pastors' Salary.....	\$2300
Net Increase	210	Am't Foreign Missions.....	\$108 57
Total Membership.....	2080	" State Missions.....	\$86 20
		" Home Missions.....	\$9 85
		" Association Missions.....	\$9 85

TABULATED STATEMENT.

Churches.	Cou'ty	Names of Delegates.	\$ For Minutes	Baptiz'd	By Let'r	De by L.	Restor'd	Exclu'd	Dead.	Total	State M.	For'n M	S Me't'g		Pastors.	Post Offices.
Arkadelphia....	Clark	T. A. Heard, G. W. Reeves, G. W. Burnes.....	3 00	14	29	22		1	2	182	40 00	45 00	3 8 15	Assoc'n Missions	G. w. Reeves..	Arkadelphia
Unity	"	J. M. Hart.....	1 50		3	1			1	85		4 46			G. w. Burns...	"
DeGray	"	G. W. Clingan and W. L. Terrell.....	1 70	7	1	23	2	8	2	122		12 70			H. J. P. Horn.	"
Shiloh.....	"	John Evans, J. E. Shaw and W. A. F. Wells..	1 00	2	3			3	3	39					James Gunter.	"
Gum Springs...	"	(Responded by Letter).....	1 50	11	7	1	1			41					G. w. Burns...	"
Mt. Bethel.....	"	I. A. Ross and D. C. Denson	2 00	13	11			2	2	110	15 15	13 15			B. F. Milan...	"
Pleasant Hill...	"	J. V. Browning and J. B. Langley.....	1 50	13	1			2	1	71	10 00	5 00			N. J. Price	Curtis.
Amity.....	"	H. M. L. Conine and D. J. Hollingshead.....	1 50	3	4			1	1	78	10 00	5 20			I. F. welch....	Amity.
Aeon.....	"	E. S. Smith, J. J. Dwiggin and P. M. Smith.	75	2		4		2		15					J. J. Dwiggin	Alpine
Union.....	"	I. F. Welch.....	1 50	1		6				55		4 15			J. E. Kenedy..	"
Clear Springs...	"	G. M. Shaw, J. M. Dean and J. W. Brock	2 35	4	1	11	1	2	4	170			L. H. Hitt....	Clear Spring		
Bethlehem	"	A. B. Harper and Elias Bear.....	2 00	36	11	1	2			82			H. J. P. Horn.	Gurdon.		
Okolona.....	"	R. K. Hall, W. U. Davis and J. H. Smart.....	3 00	7					2	87	5 45		N. J. Price....	Okolona.		
South Fork.....	"	Z. T. Rogers and G. B. Carter.....	1 55	8	11	10	2	2	1	108			Z. T. Rogers...	Dobyville.		
Midway.....	"	G. Maynard.....	1 00		7	2			1	26			G. M. Shaw...	Midway.		
Hollywood.....	"	W. N. May, V. Jordan and A. J. Measles.....	1 50	5	1	3				43		4 50	I. F. welch....	Hollywood.		
Wolf Creek....	Pilke	J. P. Copeland, J. R. Chapel and G. w. Stokes	1 50		8	8		1		57			H. G. York...	wolf Creek.		
Walton Valley..	"	G. W. Hays.....	60	1				2	1	14			J. R. Hardy...	Cany Fork.		
Maple Spring....	"	J. S. Saunders and J. C. Cooley.....	1 00	1	1	2				31			T. J. Bennett.	maple spring		
Cany Fork.....	"	Polk Burk, T. J. Fundeburk & S. S. McDaniel	95			2		1	1	24		3 00	Polk Burk	murfreesboro		
Macdona.....	"	L. M. Keeling, S. A. Fuller and J. R. Hardy..	1 00	1		7		2		21			L. Autry.....	"		
Liberty Hill....	"	S. S. Langley, H. Johnson and T. J. Langley..	1 50							27			G. m. Shaw....	Antoine.		
Mountain Home	Clark	J. S. Karr, J. H. Wisdom and J. A. McLendon			2					16		5 00	"	Clear Spring		
Ephesus.....	Nevada	E. B. Rocket, W. J. Gentry and and A. B. Luck	1 50		5	5				28			R. H. white...	Lanesburg.		
New Home.....	"	W. Austin, J. C. Brown and M. Kay.....	2 50	11	7	3	1	1		69			N. J. Price....	Prescott.		
Prideance.....	"	N. J. Price, W. D. Sutton and A. J. Price.....	2 00		1		6			60	5 60		W. R. Barrow	Boughton.		
Piney Grove....	"	L. H. Hitt, J. W. Wilson and B. F. Butcher..	2 00	11			1	4		47		6 50	"	"		
Pleasant Grove.	Hem'd	w. Askew, C. L. Lewis and S. F. Leslie.....	3 00	9	5		2	1	1	102			T. J. Bennett .	Hickory C'k		
Ozan.....	"	E. Merrell, H. G. York and T. J. Bennett.....	4 00	9	8	11	9	2	1	150		11 00	H. G. York....	Bengin.		
Washington....	"	J. L. Brown, J. W. Holt and W. N. Johnson..			4	6				17			(No pastor.)	washington.		
Holly Grove....	Clark	(Not represented)	1 50							24			Z. T. Rogers...	Bierne.		
Gurdon.....	"	(Not represented)								21			(No pastor.)	Gurdon.		
Total.....			4950	168	181	137	27	3	24	108	86	20	10	85		