

AS BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MINUTES

OF THE

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

CONCORD

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

CEDAR GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH,

Scott County, Ark.

OCTOBER 20, 22 and 23, 1888.

OFFICERS :

J. N. PENNINGTON, Moderator, H. N. SMITH, Clerk,
H. H. MOUSER, Treasurer.

Next session to be held with Hopewell Baptist Church, Boonville,
Logan County, Arkansas, on Saturday before the third
Sunday in October, 1889.

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AMERICAN BAPTIST PRINT,
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MINUTES.

SATURDAY, OCT. 20th, 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Association came together by singing. Eld. H. H. Mouser offered prayer and preached the Introductory Sermon from Matthew 23rd chapter and 14th verse. Adjourned for dinner.

We were called together at 2:30 P. M., by singing. The Moderator read the 1st Psalm and offered prayer. Brethren Jos. H. Smith, E. L. Compere and J. G. Tripp were then appointed by the Moderator to read the Letters from the churches.

A letter from Mt. Olive and one from Black Fork church asking admittance into the Concord Association was presented and read and on motion, these churches were received into full fellowship.

The Moderator then appointed a preaching Committee consisting of the pastor and deacons of the Cedar Grove church, Bro. B. L. Barnes, of Dayton church, Bro. J. M. Singleterry of Poteau church, and Bro. G. H. Council of Fellowship church. We next went into the election of officers which resulted in the election of Eld. J. N. Pennington, Moderator, Bro. H. N. Smith, Clerk and Eld. H. H. Mouser, Treasurer.

The Preaching Committee then made the following report.

Preaching to night at Cedar Grove, by Eld. R. P. Claborn and Eld. C. Burns; at Pleasant Grove, No. 2, by Eld. G. W. Evans and Eld. J. N. Pennington; at Shiloh, by Eld. James Edmonson and Eld. J. G. Tripp; at Freeman, by Eld. J. W. Miller and Eld. H. H. Mouser; at Sulphur Springs, by Eld. L. F. Patterson and Eld. W. M. Morris.

It was then agreed that the Moderator appoint Committees on the following subjects:

Finance, Documents, Temperance, Nominations, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Religious Literature, Deceased Ministers and Deacons, Ministerial Education, and Sunday-schools.

A motion prevailed to turn over the Sunday collections for Home Missions to Eld. J. H. York. A motion to adjourn till Monday morning at 8 o'clock, carried.

MONDAY, OCT. 22th, 8 o'clock, A. M.

Called together by Singing. The Moderator read the 10th chapter of Romans. Eld. J. W. Miller offered prayer.

The Clerk read the minutes of Saturday, which were corrected and approved.

The Moderator then appointed the following Committees:

On Documents.—D. M. Bryant, J. W. Cross and B. D. Barnes.

On Temperance.—J. W. Miller, W. D. Looper, and J. M. Ledbetter.

On Nominations.—J. W. Condry, John Anderson and E. Ross.

On Home Missions.—L. F. Patterson, W. I. Goff and L. T. Hale.

On Religious Literature.—B. D. Barnes, James Mathews and C. Burns.

On Foreign Missions, James Edmonson, H. H. Mouser, and A. A. Spiller.

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons.—J. M. Ledbetter, R. Bean and James White.

On Ministerial Education.—J. J. Holland, R. P. Claborn, and W. G. Gray.

On Sunday-schools.—J. D. Aultman, John Rawlings, Jr., and T. Hale.

On Finance.—G. A. Bryant, R. Godwin and J. M. Singleterry.

The roll of Messengers was then called and corrected.

It was ordered that the Clerk write to the churches who are not represented and ask them to report their statistics to him to be placed in the minutes. Correspondence from other Associations was next taken up, and, on motion, Brethren W. M. Morris and E. H. Harlan were seated as corresponding Messengers from Short Mountain Association. Eld. E. L. Compere was seated as corresponding Messenger from Ouachita Association.

The rain prevented the Missionary Sermon being preached on Sunday and a motion prevailed to have that sermon preached at 11 o'clock, A. M. to-day.

It was agreed to appoint corresponding Messengers to Ouachita and Short Mountain Association, also to the General Association.

To Short Mountain Associations when convened with Mascedon church, eight miles Northwest of Hacket City, on Saturday before the first Sunday in October 1889, were appointed Brethren L. F. Patterson, H. H. Mouser, G. H. Council, J. W. Cross, R. P. Claborn, A. A. Spiller, J. C. White, J. M. Ledbetter and J. G. Tripp. Bro. H. H. Mouser moved that Bro. L. F. Patterson prepare a letter to that Association. Carried.

To the Ouachita Association when convened with Brush Creek church, about 35 miles South of Waldson on the Caddo Gap road in Montgomery county, were appointed Brethren Thos. Mills, W. J. Briscoe, J. G. Tripp, D. M. Bryant, E. B. Cacy, R. P. Claborn, C. Burns, J. J. Holland, F. H. White, and Wm. Byars. On motion the Moderator (J. N. Pennington) was appointed corresponding Messenger.

to the Ouachita Association and he was requested to prepare a letter to that Association.

To the General Association when convened with Poteau church, in Scott county on Saturday before the second Sunday in September 1899, the Moderator appointed the following Messengers: R. P. Chaborn, J. J. Holland, H. H. Mouser, James H. Smith and A. A. Miller.

On motion Bro. W. G. Gray was excused from further attendance upon the Association on account of sickness at home. J. T. Hayner was also excused on account of sickness at home.

It was agreed that any member of the Concord Association who may be visiting any Association with which we are in correspondence, be seated as Messengers from this Association.

The Committee on Home Missions handed in their report. For report see Appendix (A.)

After the brethren had made several speeches upon this report, we adjourned for 11 o'clock services.

Eld. J. M. Ledbetter preached the Missionary Sermon from John 19th chapter and 30th verse.

Brethren J. H. Holland, James Edmonson and B. D. Barnes were appointed as Committee on collections.

The collection for Foreign Missions, which amounted to \$10.20, was turned over to Eld. E. L. Compere.

The collection for Home Missions was paid over to the Chairman of the Finance Committee. Bro. James H. Smith and wife each gave monthly ten cent pledges for Foreign Missions.

Called together at 2:30 P. M., by singing. Bro. J. G. Tripp offered prayer.

We then took up the report of the Committee on Home Missions now pending. This business was suspended that the letter from Moss Creek church might be read. The report on Home Missions was adopted with two resolutions, which see in Appendix (A.)

The Committee on Nominations read their report, which was adopted without debate. For report see Appendix (B.)

The report of the Committee on Religious Literature was read and adopted without debate. For report see Appendix (C.)

On motion we adjourned till to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

TUESDAY, OCT. 23rd, 8:30, A. M.

Called together by singing. The Moderator read the 12th chapter of Romans. Bro. L. F. Patterson offered prayer. The minutes of yesterday were read, corrected and approved.

On motion Eld. James Edmondson was given five minutes in which to address the Association in behalf of the American Baptist

Publication Society. He made an earnest appeal in behalf of that Society and distributed a large amount of its literature.

The Association now passed to the adoption of reports of Committees.

The Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons read their report, which was adopted without discussion. For report see Appendix (D.)

The Committee on Temperance read their report. After several speeches had been made on the subject of Temperance, the report was adopted. For report see Appendix (E.)

It was agreed that speeches on the reports of Committees be limited to five minutes.

Recess five minutes.

Came together by singing. Eld. E. L. Compere read the 11th chapter of Paul's Letter to the Hebrews. Eld. A. A. Spiller offered prayer.

Eld. E. L. Compere preached an able sermon from 1st and 2nd verses of the 12th chapter of Hebrews, Eld. J. J. Holland followed with a feeling exhortation and Eld. J. W. Miller offered prayer. Adjourned till 2 o'clock, P. M.

Called together by singing. Prayer by Eld. L. T. Hale.

Committee on Finance read their report. It was adopted without debate. For report see appendix (F.)

Committee on Documents reported. It was adopted after some discussion. For report see Appendix (G.)

The following resolution was here adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee to memorialize the General Assembly on the prohibition question, be specially instructed to insist that Native wine be classed under the law with other drinks that intoxicate.

The Committee on Foreign Missions made their report, which was adopted without debate. For report see Appendix (H.)

Committee on Ministerial Education read their report. It was adopted without discussion. For report see Appendix (I.)

Sunday-school. For report see Appendix (J.)

Eld. J. N. Pennington made report as missionary in the Eastern boundry of the Association. The report was received and adopted. For report see Appendix (K.)

Business was here suspended to sell some missionary quilts. Two quilts were sold for \$10, which was given to Eld. J. N. Pennington for missionary work.

The Treasurer handed in his report, which was adopted. For report see Appendix (L.)

A motion made to turn all the Home Mission fund over to Bro. J. H. York, carried.

A motion prevailed to pay the Clerk \$10 for his services, the resq of the Minute fund to be paid for the printing and distribution of Minutes to the churches in proportion to amount of money sent up by each church. It was agreed to print the "Rules of Decorum," "Constitution" and the "Articles of Faith," in the Minutes.

It was agreed to recommend Eld. W. B. Herndon as missionary to be appointed by the Ex. Committee to preach in the destitute portions of pountry within the bounds of this Association.

The Clerk was appointed to correspond with the churches who are not represented in this body, and to secure the organization of Ladies' Missionary Societies in those churches. The Minutes of today were read and approved. We adjourned till time and place appointed for holding next Annual session of the Association.

I take this opportunity of remarking that the best of feeling among the brethren prevailed during the entire session, and, but for the rainy weather, the meetings would have been very largely attended. All seemed to enjoy themselves throughout the session and joined in the singing of the parting hymn and in shaking hands before dismissal. Many cups of joy were full to over flowing. Prayer by Eld. E. L. Compere. Benediction by Eld. J. J. Holland.

J. N. PENNINGTON, Moderator.

H. N. SMITH, Clerk.

APPENDIX.

REPORT (A.)

WHEREAS, Great destitution exists within the bounds of this Association, therefore we recommend that steps be taken to supply this great destitution by the appointment of a missionary to work in the bounds of this Association.

L. F. PATTERSON, Chairman.

With the above report the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That this Association earnestly request that each Church belonging to the Association raise, at least, ten dollars for Home Missions during this Associational year to be paid in quarterly installments.

Resolved, That the Messengers of this Association be appointed by this Association to act in conjunction with the Ladies' Missionary Societies in raising the amount stated in the first resolution.

REPORT (B.)

Your Committee on Nominations beg leave to report the following: That at our next Association Bro. J. J. Holland preach the Introductory Sermon, [Bro. J. W. Miller alternate; that Bro. L. F. Patterson preach the Missionary Sermon, Bro. H. H. Mouser, alternate; that Bro. J. G. Tripp deliver a Temperance Lecture, Bro. R.

P. Claborn alternate; that Bro. P. E. Windham deliver a lecture on Sunday-schools and Bro. J. M. Ledbetter alternate.

Executive Committee,

{ WM. TYLER.
G. H. COUNCIL.
B. D. BARNES.
JOHN CROSS.
WM. BYERS.
J. W. CONDRY.

REPORT (C.)

We, the Committee on Religious Literature, beg leave to submit the following report: Among the many thing necessary for us to know, there is nothing so important as a knowledge of the relationship existing between us and our Creator, and the great plan of salvation, whereby, we may become followers of the Lord Jesus Christ. Aside from the Bible, it is impossible for us to know these important truths therefore, we recommend the prayerful study of the Bible. In addition to this we recommed that every Baptist family within our bounds subscribe for and read the *Arkansas Baptist*, published at Little Rock the *American Baptist* of St. Louis, Mo., and the *Foreign Mission Journal*. We also recommend that our brethren supply themselves with our denominational books that they may be informed in the doctrines of of our great denomination. These books may be obtained from the National Baptist Publishing Company, St. Louis, Mo.

B. D. BARNES, Chairman.

REPORT (D.)

Your Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons beg leave to report as follows: That during the last Associational year, we have lost one minister by death, Bro. M. K. Pitts (of Amity church) whose earthly labors are ended and who has gone to realize the Master's reward.

J. M. LEDBETTER, Chairman.

REPORT (E.)

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following report: We consider the use of ardent spirits a great barrier to National prosperity, the destroyer of human happiness and an adversary of good morals. We believe it to be a great evil of crime and death, therefore, we recommend to the churches that they abstain from the evil and deal strictly with members who use it to excess.

J. W. MILLER, Chairman.

REPORT (F.)

We, your Committee on Finance, report that we received for,

Home Mission	\$ 5 20
Foreign Missions	10 20
Printing Minutes	30 65
Total	\$46.05

Paid to H. H. Mouser, Treasurer for Home Mission.....	\$ 5.20
For Minutes.....	30 65
Paid to E. L. Compere, for Foreign Missions.....	10.20
Total.....	<u>\$46.05</u>

Respectfully submitted,

G. A. BRYANT, Chairman.

REPORT (G.)

We, your Committee on Documents, find that Hopewell, Dayton, Palestine and Poteau churches have all asked for the next session of this Association. We recommend Hopewell.

D. M. BRYANT, Chairman.

REPORT (H.)

Your Committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to report that beyond all question Christ did organize the church and that to it he gave the commission to preach the gospel to every creature, and as each member is responsible for the execution of that commission, therefore, we earnestly insist on the churches of this body to make liberal contributions for the support of the gospel in foreign lands.

H. H. MOUSER, Chairman.

REPORT (I.)

Your Committee on Ministerial Education beg leave to report: That in our judgment the subject is one of vital importance, while we feel profoundly thankful for our uneducated Ministers whose labors have been abundantly blessed in our churches, yet, we feel the need of an educated ministry, who will be able to repulse various heresies, with which we have to contend. We therefore recommend, and earnestly insist on our people throughout our land, to use all laudable means to accomplish that end. Respectfully submitted,

J. J. HOLLAND, Chairman.

REPORT (J.)

We, your Committee on Sunday-schools, beg leave to report: That there is no subject of greater importance and of such necessity as Sunday-schools. If the children of our land are not trained for good, they will be led into evil paths; if not brought up for Christ, they will be lead in the paths of sin and death. We therefore, recommend that the pastor urge upon their churches to establish Baptist Sunday-schools and use only Baptist Literature. We recommend such literature as the Bible, the Sunday-school Question Book by A. C. Dayton and the Sunday-school Baptist published by D. B. Ray.

J. D. AULTMAN, Chairman.

REPORT (K.)

Missionary report of Eld. J. N. Pennington in Eastern boundary of Concord Association. Preached sermons, 75; days labored, 61; baptized, 47; miles traveled, 512.

Received from Sharon, Missionary Society.....	\$ 5.25
“ “ White Oak “ “	1.10
“ “ Hopewell “ “	14 45
“ “ Shiloh “ “	13.50
Total.....	\$34.30

J. N. PENNINGTON.

P. S. The sisters have on hand and want to sell to raise missionary money two quilts.

J. N. P.

REPORT (L.)

Treasurers report,

Received for Minutes.....	\$30 65
“ Home Missions	5 20
“ Foreign “	10 20
Total	\$46.05
Paid to Clerk for printing Minutes.....	\$30 65
“ “ Eld. J. H. York, as Missionary	5.20
“ “ Eld. E. L. Compere, for Foreign Missions....	10.20
Total	\$46.05

H. H. MOUSER, Treasurer.

J. H. York's Missionary Report, Huntington, Ark., April 20th, 1888. Days of labor, 95; sermons preached, 100; exhortations, 50; miles travelled, 200; churches organized, 1; conversions, 25. Received in cash \$30.

J. H. YORK.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

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

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired Word of God, constituting the only and all-sufficient standard of Faith, Doctrine, Discipline and Practice.

3. We believe that election is the sovereign exercise of that 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 a 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 faith in 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 statedly, and have covenanted together to maintain the ordinances of Christ, discharge the duties and enjoy the privileges in the New Testament appertaining to the Church of Jesus Christ.

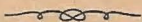
10. The only proper officers of a Christian church are Bishops, or Pastors, and Deacons.

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 of Jesus Christ, to be observed in the church as such, in the remembrance of Christ, and to show forth his death till he come.

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.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be known as the Concord Association of Western Arkansas.

ART. 2. 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. 3. The officers shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by ballot at each annual session and shall continue in office until their successors are chosen.

ART. 4. Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the body according to parliamentary usage. § 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 the same to his successor in office. § 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. 5. 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. 6. Section 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. § 2. It however, claims 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 heterodox in faith or disorderly in practice.

ART. 7. 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. 8. Churches may be dismissed from this Association upon application at an 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. 9. 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 make an annual report of its proceedings at each session of the Association. Besides the special object entrusted to this Committee it shall also 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 preceeding each fifth Lord's day in the year, at such places as may be designated by the Committee. The Committee shall meet for organization immediatly after the adjournment of the Association. Three members shall constitute a quorum.

ART. 10. It shall be the privilege of this Association, in addition

to its powers already granted, to conduct missionary operations within or without its limits, and for this purpose to choose a missionary, or missionaries, as means may allow, designate the fields of labor and pay them quarterly through their treasurer out of the funds to be sent up along with the fund for publishing the Minutes to every annual meeting.

ART. 11. The annual meetings of the Association shall embrace the Lord's day, and shall begin at 11 o'clock on Saturday before the third Lord's day in October of 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. 12. This constitution may be altered or amended, except as to Article 6. Section 1. at any regular meeting of the Association, by the two-thirds vote of the members in attendance.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. This Association shall be opened and closed by 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 a time, who shall rise, address the Moderator, and, on obtaining leave, shall proceed.
6. No member shall be interrupted while 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 or withdrawn 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 more than 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 one to another, and all titles unknown to the Scriptures such as "Rev." "D. D.," "Parson," and the like, shall not be employed nor appear upon the Minutes.

12. The names of members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

13. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoints 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 may be reprovved 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 vote of the members present.

I again ask the clerks of the various churches to use great care in writing letters to the Association, giving in complete statistics,—the name of the Pastor, Clerk, P. O. and days of meeting.

H. N. SMITH, Clerk.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

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The American Baptist

REV. D. B. RAY, Editor.

The AMERICAN BAPTIST is a large, eight page weekly, religious, new paper, devoted to the interests of the Baptists all over the country. It has the

LARGEST CIRCULATION

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D. B. Ray, the editor, is the author of the "Baptist Succession," "Text Book on Campbellism," "Church Discussion," etc., which have reached a large circulation.

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