

MINUTES

OF THE

ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Boiling Spring Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

BETHSAIDA BAPTIST CHURCH,

CLEBURNE COUNTY, ALA.,

September 10th, 11th and 12th, 1870

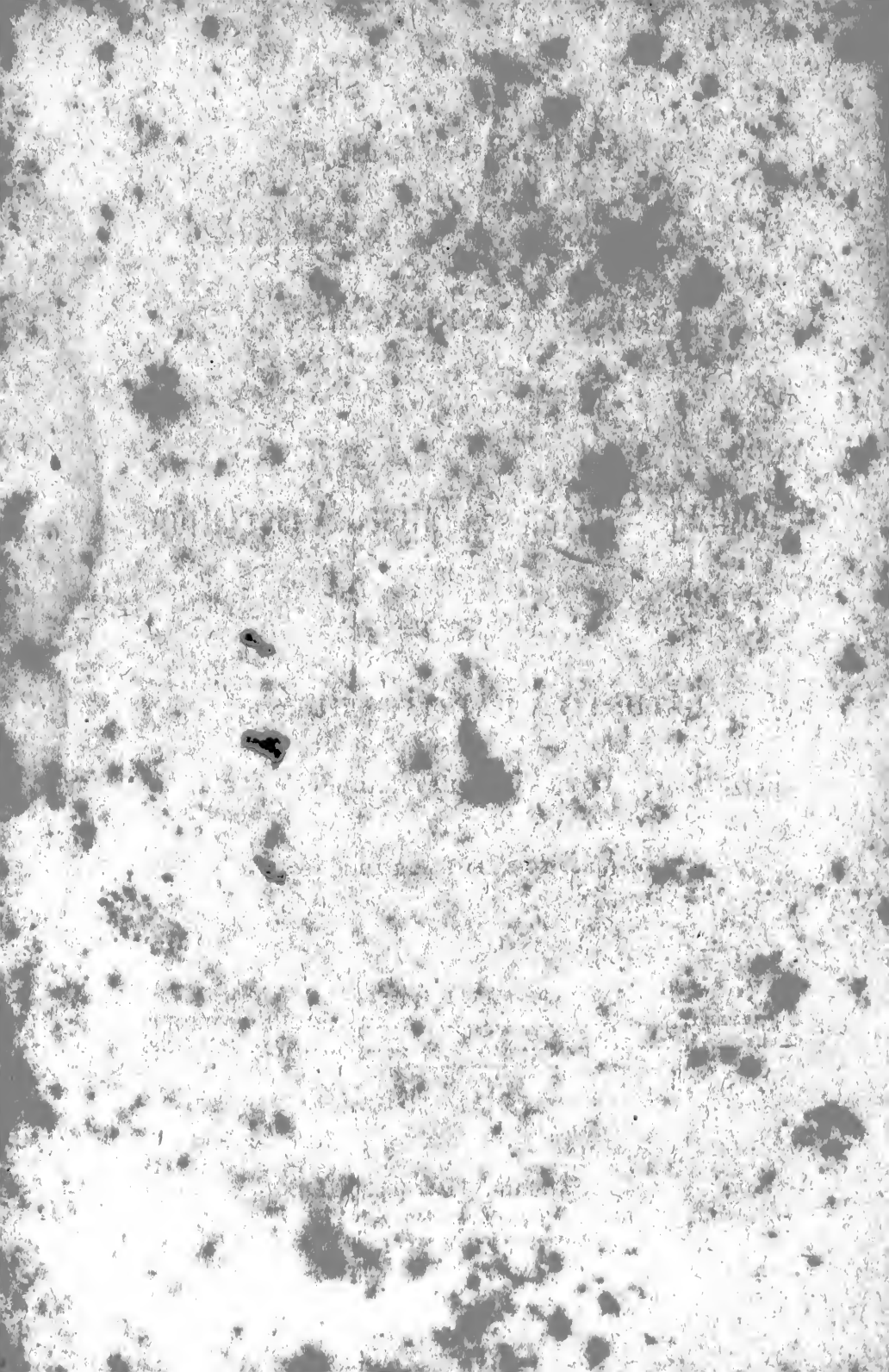
OFFICERS:

MODERATOR.....JOHN GARRETT.
CLERK.....W. O. JENKINS.

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1870.



MINUTES.

BETHSAIDA, CLEBURNE COUNTY, ALA., }
Saturday, Sept. 10th, 1870, 11 o'clock, A. M. }

1. The Boiling Spring Baptist Association met, pursuant to adjournment, with the Bethsaida Baptist Church.

2. The Introductory Sermon was preached by brother W. O. Jenkins, from 1st Corinthians vi: 20. "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's;" followed by brother J. D. Jordan. After which the Association took a recess of one hour for refreshment.

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

3. The Association assembled in the house, was called to order by the Moderator, and after prayer by brother J. Garrette, proceeded to business.

4. The Moderator requested brother W. O. Jenkins and brother J. T. Smith to receive the letters sent from the various Churches.

5. Brethren S. G. Jenkins and W. T. Davis were appointed to read the church letters, which show the names of the Churches represented, and the delegates from each, respectively as follows:

Bethlehem.—Brethren O. S. Bradfield, S. H. Bean, and Jas. Tramel.

Bethsaida.—Brethren J. F. Burchfield, Jerry Kennedy and J. W. McClintock.

Hepsabah.—Brethren J. H. Bowman, T. J. Strong and M. K. Morrison.

Pleasant Hill.—Brethren J. W. Denmon,* F. M. Campbell, and W. M. Garrette.

Ramah.—Brethren R. Fullerton, John Mitchell and F. M. Murphy.

Mount Moriah.—Brethren C. Davis, N. M. Daniel and E. A. Smith.

Mount Olive.—Brethren Hiram Sims, J. P. Sims and T. S. Ashcraft.*

Christiana.—Brethren Thomas Thompson, Tobias Cockral and H. C. Knight.

Union.—None.

Providence.—Brethren B. Millsaps,* Henry Grogan,* and A. M. Grogan.

Salt Creek.—Brethren James Adams, Elias Adams, and J. N. Cullins.

Shiloh.—Brethren H. E. Allen, J. P. Ward,* and J. M. Rhodes.

Hopeful.—Brethren C. C. Barrett,* W. J. Camp and M. R. Dowdy.

* Absentees.

6. After reading the letters and enrolling the delegates, proceeded to elect officers by ballot. Elder S. G. Jenkins and brother G. B. Jenkins, by request, acted as tellers. Elder John Garrett, was re-elected Moderator, and Elder W. O. Jenkins re-elected Clerk.

7. The Moderator announced the Association organized in order and ready for business.

8. On motion the Association adopted the form of last year's minute for the present session.

9. Called for petitionary letter from Churches desiring membership.

10. Visiting brethren from other Associations invited to seats with us,

11. Called for correspondents from other Associations.

From *Arbacooche Association*.—Elders Ellerson and Miller, and brethren Kenchen Morris, A. Leverett, H. W. Armstrong, U. E. Umphries, J. A. Cannady, E. A. Whitfield, and Joel C. Waid.

Coosa River.—Elder S. G. Jenkins, Rev. W. A. Nall, and brethren F. W. Smith, G. B. Jenkins, Jr., W. B. Mashburn, E. Adaholt, Thos. Morrison, with letter and minutes.

Ten Island.—Elder W. Woodall, with minutes.

Carey.—Elders W. T. Davis and William Teague, and brother G. B. Jenkins.

12. Appointed a Committee on Preaching, viz: N. M. Daniel, M. K. Morrison, T. Strong, with the deacons of Bethsaida Church.

13. Appointed a Committee on Finance, viz: E. A. Smith, Thomas Thompson and Elias Adams.

14. Committee on Preaching reported brother William Teague to preach at candle light, followed by brother J. T. Smith, and Elder S. G. Jenkins at 3 o'clock P. M., Sabbath.

15. Adjourned to meet Monday morning, 9 o'clock.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Sabbath School Address by Elder J. A. Shadix, followed by Elder M. Garrett. Missionary Sermon by Elder John Garrett, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Elder S. G. Jenkins preached at 3 o'clock, P. M., followed by Elder J. F. Watson; Elder W. T. Davis at candle light. The congregations were large and orderly.

MONDAY, 9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

16. Met according to adjournment.

17. Prayer by Elder S. G. Jenkins, and proceeded to business.

18. On motion suspended the regular order of business for the purpose of hearing from the two aggrieved parties of Union Church,

18. On motion the two parties of Union Church were requested to hand in their letters and aggrievances. Brother J. A. Shadix presented one letter, and brother J. H. Armstrong stated the letter he had was misplaced.

20. On motion the Association requested the visiting lay brethren from the different Associations to act as Committee to hear the grievances of the two parties of Union Church, and to ascertain whether the case was in order and ready to come before the body or not. The Committee withdrew from the body and proceeded to their business.

21. Called the roll and marked absentees.

22. Invited visiting ministering brethren.

23. Renewed the call for correspondence.

24. Renewed invitation to visiting brethren.

25. Called for reports of Committees appointed last meeting.

Committee on Domestic Missions reported. Report adopted. See appendix A.

Committee on the Bible reported nothing written.

26. On motion the Clerk was appointed to write a report on the Bible. See appendix B.

Committee on Sabbath Schools reported. Report adopted. See appendix C.

Committee on Obituaries reported. Report adopted. See appendix D.

Committee on Temperance reported. Report adopted. See appendix E.

Committee on Queries reported. Report adopted. See appendix F.

Committee on Executive Business reported. Report adopted. See appendix G.

Committee on Finance reported. Report adopted. See appendix H.

Treasurer reported. Report adopted. See appendix I.

27. On motion suspended the regular order of business to hear from the Committee.

We, the Committee, find that Union Church has taken constitutional steps, and that the matter is in order properly to come before your body.

G. B. JENKINS, *Chairman.*

28. Adjourned until 2 o'clock, P. M., for refreshment.

MONDAY EVENING.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder Wiley Woodall.

29. Appointed Correspondents to other Associations :

To Carey.—W. O. Jenkins, John Garrett.

To Ten Island.—Elders A. F. Allen, W. O. Jenkins.

To Arbacoochee.—Elders J. A. Adams, J. Garrett, W. O. Jenkins, Revs. J. T. Smith, P. R. Tennerson, brethren H. C. Knight, M. R. Dowdy.

To Tallassahatchee.—Revs. A. F. Allen, O. S. Bradfield and S. H. Bean.

To Coosa River.—Brethren J. F. Burchfield, Jerry Kennedy and J. H. Bowman.

30. The following Committees were appointed to report at our next meeting.

On Domestic Missions.—Brethren James A. Adams, Jas. D. Jordan, and N. M. Daniell.

On the Bible.—Brethren A. F. Allen, J. M. Barrett, C. Davis.

On Sabbath Schools.—Brethren J. T. Smith, E. A. Smith and F. M. Campbell.

On Obituaries.—Brethren P. R. Tennerson, O. S. Bradfield, T. Thompson.

On Temperance.—Brethren W. O. Jenkins, W. M. Garrett and T. Strong.

On Queries.—Brethren C. Davis, John McClintock, F. M. Murphy.

On Executive Business.—Brethren E. A. Smith, W. M. Garrett and S. H. Bean.

31. Brethren J. H. Armstrong and J. A. Shadix reported the difficulty of Union Church settled, which was cordially received, and we pray and trust that the Lord may guide and direct, and she live in peace.

32. On motion, a letter was granted to Shiloh Church.

33. On motion, dispensed with the appointments of brethren to deliver a Sabbath School Lecture, and Missionary Sermon, until next session, and appointed brother J. D. Jordan to preach the Introductory Sermon, and brother John Garrett, alternate.

34. *Resolved*, That the next meeting of this Association be held with the Church at Hepsabah.

35. *Resolved*, That the Clerk have three hundred copies of Minutes printed.

36. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the brethren and friends for their hospitality to the members and correspondents of this Association.

37. On motion, read and adopted the Minutes.

38. After singing a hymn, extending the parting hand, and prayer by brother J. T. Smith, the Association adjourned to meet, according to a previous motion, with the Baptist Church at Hepsabah, one or two miles east of Riddles Bridge, on Saturday before the second Sabbath in September, 1871.

JOHN GARRETT, *Chairman.*

W. O. JENKINS, *Clerk.*

APPENDIX.

A.—REPORT ON DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

We, your Committee, beg leave to report, that in our bounds, there is some destitution, viz: on Horse creek,—and we would specially call your attention to this destitution. There has been no Baptist preaching there during this year, except what has been done by brethren James Adams and J. M. Barrett.

Brethren, we believe this destitution ought to be filled by regular monthly Baptist preaching, since we are conscious that much good might be done.

The destitution at County Line School house has been supplied regularly during the present year by brother P. R. Tennerson. All of which we would respectfully submit.

A. F. ALLEN, *Chairman.*

B.—REPORT ON THE BIBLE.

While the Bible itself is its highest commendation, too much cannot be said by way of inducing men to study it as the great Text Book of Divine Science—the only moral and intellectual guide, and the only infallible rule of Faith and Practice. It is the only book that completely fills all the high desires of our nature—that part of our being which thinks and wills, remembers and reasons, hopes and fears, joys and sorrows; which yearns for immortality, and so earnestly pleads for a life to come, cannot be satisfied with mere earthly things. Wealth only degrades it and lures it on after gewgaws as ephemeral as the morning dews. Renown only flatters and deceives it with fancies that float on the highest bubbles of man's most impotent deeds. Learning, such as man bestows, is only a meteor that flings a momentary glare on human aspirations merely to reveal the fact that the summit of human knowledge is to know that we are fools. The soul looks and hopes for a happiness not of earth.

Without the influence of the Bible, our social nature is but the gregarious instinct of the beast; our society, the pandemonium of fiends; and governments, the engines of anarchy, oppression and blood-shed. But when faithful to the teachings of God's word, every faculty of our physical and intellectual nature is a source of happiness to ourselves and of glory to God. This great gift of God to man lifts weeping humanity from the mire of iniquity; and while its blazing torch flings a flood of light over the "valley of the shadow of death," it illumines the road to the gate of the heavenly city, where Jesus stands ready to plait the garland of immortality and bliss upon our being; it is "the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes."

All men naturally desire their own true and substantial happiness ; but how multifarious and conflicting the means with which they attempt to attain that end ! Seekers of happiness ! let us point you to a treasure of wisdom and wealth that will supply every desire of your soul and make you happy. Open the dusty lids of that Bible and learn wisdom “unto salvation ;” there find that merchandise which is better than silver, the gain thereof than fine gold ; “it is more precious than rubies, and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared to it.” If you desire long life, pleasure, honor, peace, learn what God, as a lovely maiden, offers you : “Length of days is in her right hand, and in her left are riches and honor ; her ways are ways of pleasantness and all her paths are peace.”

Mothers in Jesus ! if you grieve the loss of a babe, the Bible is your comfort. Those little eyes, glazed and dim, will gaze on a Saviour—those little hands, now folded on that pulseless breast, will pluck the fruit from the tree of life—those little feet, now so still, will walk the golden streets of the New Jerusalem. Both you and the babe will, when God has wrested your dust from the tomb, “put on incorruption,” look back in triumph on empty graves, and embrace each other in the paradise of God, for such are God’s promises in His precious Book. O, blessed treasure !

Student of history, here is the only foundation upon which you can safely build ! Christian, you who have read from that scroll upon which experience records her bitter precept—that the life of a Christian is a perpetual warfare—read and burnish your weapons for the many conflicts with the world, the flesh, and the devil ! Draw your whole panoply from this army ! Go valiantly forth in the cause of Christ ! Press on till the last battlement of unbelief is levelled, the last bastion of sin swept, and a happy and triumphant entrance into the heavenly city obtained !

Respectfully submitted,
W. O. JENKINS, *Chairman.*

C.—REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

While your Committee believe that nearly all our brethren are convinced of the importance of Sunday Schools, yet it is a painful fact that so few are actually engaged in the work. It is true there are some who are engaged in the important enterprise ; and when we take into consideration the immense amount of good that has been accomplished by this instrumentality, and what we are bound to believe may still be accomplished by the blessing of God and a proper effort on the part of our Churches, and then when we find so many of the Churches doing nothing, and perhaps others that fail to make any report of what they are doing, that our hearts are not only slightly pained, but are deeply affected, and we are almost made to despair of ever being able to arouse our beloved brethren and sisters to an appreciative sense of what they owe to God, to their children and to their neighbors, and getting them to determine to make the necessary sacrifice to discharge that obligation.

We feel that the subject of Sabbath Schools has been greatly neglected. Is this the spirit of Baptists? Is it the spirit of the Boiling Spring Baptist Association to ignore Sabbath Schools? God forbid! We, your committee, deeply deplore this want of attention to our children. Does not this Association? Effort, energy and faith are the secrets of success. We regard the Sunday School enterprise as second to none except that great institution of the Lord Jesus, the Christian Church; nor as in organic opposition to it. The Sunday School is rather the combination of the two great religious and moral forces which God has established,—the Christian Church and the Family Institution. It is the union of home and Church power, exerted upon our children and our neighbors' children to lead them to Jesus, and through him to Heaven.

We would recommend to every pastor within the bounds of the Association to canvass this subject in his Church or Churches, and for the purpose of arousing the latent energies of our Churches, we would earnestly recommend the pastors of each Church to preach upon the subject of Sabbath Schools on Sabbath of their April meetings in 1871, and endeavor to induce them to organize a Sabbath School at that time and then to report full statistics of the same to the next meeting of this body. And we further beg, in the name of the Lord, the delegates from the Churches to come up to the help of their pastors in the important work of establishing Sabbath Schools in their Churches. Baptists claim to be positive people. Then, if we are, let us take a positive position on this subject. Finally brethren, may we not hope to hear, when we meet again, that there is a Sabbath School in every Church in the Boiling Spring Baptist Association.

Respectfully submitted.

W. O. JENKINS, *Chairman.*

D.—REPORT ON OBITUARIES.

We beg leave to report that we are apprised of no deaths of ministers or deacons in the bounds of our Association, for which we should be truly grateful to the preserving care of our Heavenly Benefactor.

Respectfully submitted.

THOMAS J. STRONG, *Chairman.*

E.—REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Temperance is that due restraint and amiable virtue that all men, and more especially Christians, should possess to enable them the more easily to soften their tempers, govern their passions, restrain their appetites and keep them in proper subjection, thereby mortifying the deeds of the flesh, which are many, and among them, not the least, is the love of strong drink, or the intemperate use of ardent spirits. To remedy or subdue this great and growing evil the best talent of the Church and State have been drawn out for years, and but little good accomplished.

Let us turn our thoughts for one moment and ask ourselves why this is so. The answer is obvious. Politicians have taken hold of it and carried it into politics, thereby making many strong enemies to the cause of temperance. Let the Church take the lead in temperance, not by constraint but by example and kind words. Let every Baptist feel it not only his or her privilege, but their duty to aid in this great and important work, and, in our opinion, more good will be accomplished in five years than a lifetime's restraint by the civil law.

J. T. SMITH, *Chairman.*

The above report was amended by act of the Association, as to request all Baptists in this Association not to make or vend ardent spirits for the cause sake.

F.—REPORT ON QUERIES.

No query present.

ELIAS ADAMS, *Chairman.*

G.—REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We, the Executive Committee, beg leave to make the following report as embracing our Missionary labors the past Associational year. We appointed brethren Elder James Adams and Rev. J. M. Barrett as our Missionaries to Horse Creek station. They report five days labor each, for which we allow them five (\$5 00) dollars each. We appointed Rev. P. R. Tennerson to County-Line Station. He reports eight days labor, for which we allow him eight (\$8 00) dollars.

Respectfully submitted,

E. A. SMITH, *Chairman.*

H.—REPORT ON FINANCE.

Your Committee beg leave to report that they find cash received for Minutes twenty-nine (\$29 85) dollars and eighty-five cents.

Respectfully submitted,

E. A. SMITH, *Chairman.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

J. T. SMITH, *Treasurer, in Account with Boiling Springs Association :*

DR.

Sept. To cash received of Finance Committee for Minutes... \$29 85

CR.

By cash paid W. O. Jenkins, clerk of the Association to have
300 copies of Minutes printed as per voucher No. 1.. \$29 85

1870.

DR.

Sept. Home Mission fund, cash on hand.....	\$17 00	
Cash paid by Christiana Church	5 00	
Cash paid by Pleasant Hill Church.....	3 00	
Cash paid by Bethsaida, Church.....	2 55	
		\$27 55

CR.

Order No. 1 paid to James Adams.....	\$ 5 00	
Order No. 2 paid to J. M. Barrett.....	5 00	
Order No. 3 paid to P. R. Tennerson.....	5 00	
		\$18 00

Remainder	\$ 9 55
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J. T. SMITH, *Treasurer.*

MINISTERS AND THEIR POST-OFFICES.

ORDAINED.

James D. Jordan..... Delta.	Jesse Thrasher..... Delta.
John Garret..... Delta.	James A. Shadix..... Delta.
Thomas Grogan..... Delta.	James A. Adams..... Silver Run.
W. O. Jenkins..... Delta.	A. F. Allen..... Oxford.

LICENTIATES.

J. Stevens..... Delta.	P. R. Tennerson..... Chulafinna.
S. S. Collier..... Delta.	J. T. Smith..... Chulafinna.
H. C. Knight..... Delta.	W. H. Norton..... Chulafinna.
J. M. Barrett..... Monford.	

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES FOR 1870.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	BY WHOM SUPPLIED.	POST-OFFICES.	Received by Baptism.	Received by Letters.	Received by Restoration.	Received by Vouchers.	Granted Letters.	Excluded.	Dead.	Total.	Sabbath of Meeting.	Minute Fund.
Bethlehem	Cleburne	T. P. Guinn	Oxford	6	10	1	1	14	1	1	58	2	2 25
Bethsaida	Cleburne	James Adams	Silver Run	12	5	1	1	10	1	1	49	4	2 50
Hepsabah	Cleburne	James D. Jordan	Delta	3	3	2	1	10	2	2	60	3	2 55
Pleasant Hill	Cleburne	W. O. Jenkins	Delta	22	11	1	1	11	1	1	77	1	3 00
Ramah	Clay	John Garrett	Delta	4	1	1	1	2	2	1	38	3	4 00
Mt. Moriah	Clay	Joon Garrett	Delta	1	4	1	1	16	1	1	62	1	3 00
Mt. Olive	Clay	James A. Shadix	Delta	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	19	1	75
Christianna	Clay	James A. Shadix	Delta	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	54	4	2 80
Union	Clay	James A. Shadix	Delta	7	12	1	1	9	1	1	48	2	2 00
Providence	Clay	M. Hudgens	Ashland	5	8	1	3	1	2	1	31	3	2 00
Salt Creek	Talladega	J. A. Shadix	Delta	13	6	1	1	8	2	1	79	3	2 75
Shiloh	Calhoun	John A. Scott	Corn Grove	10	4	1	1	4	4	1	30	1	1 50
Hopeful	Talladega	James A. Adams	Silver Run	2	3	1	1	5	1	1	25	2	1 25
				88	68	5	3	91	9	7	630		\$29 85

RECAPITULATION.—Baptized, 88; Received by Letter, 68; Received by Restoration, 5; Received by Vouchers, 3; Granted Letters 91; Excluded, 9; Dead, 7; Total, 630; Minute Fund, \$29 85.