

MINUTES

—OF THE—

Fifty-Eighth Annual Session

—OF THE—

SALEM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

—HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT—

HENDERSON, PIKE COUNTY, ALA.,

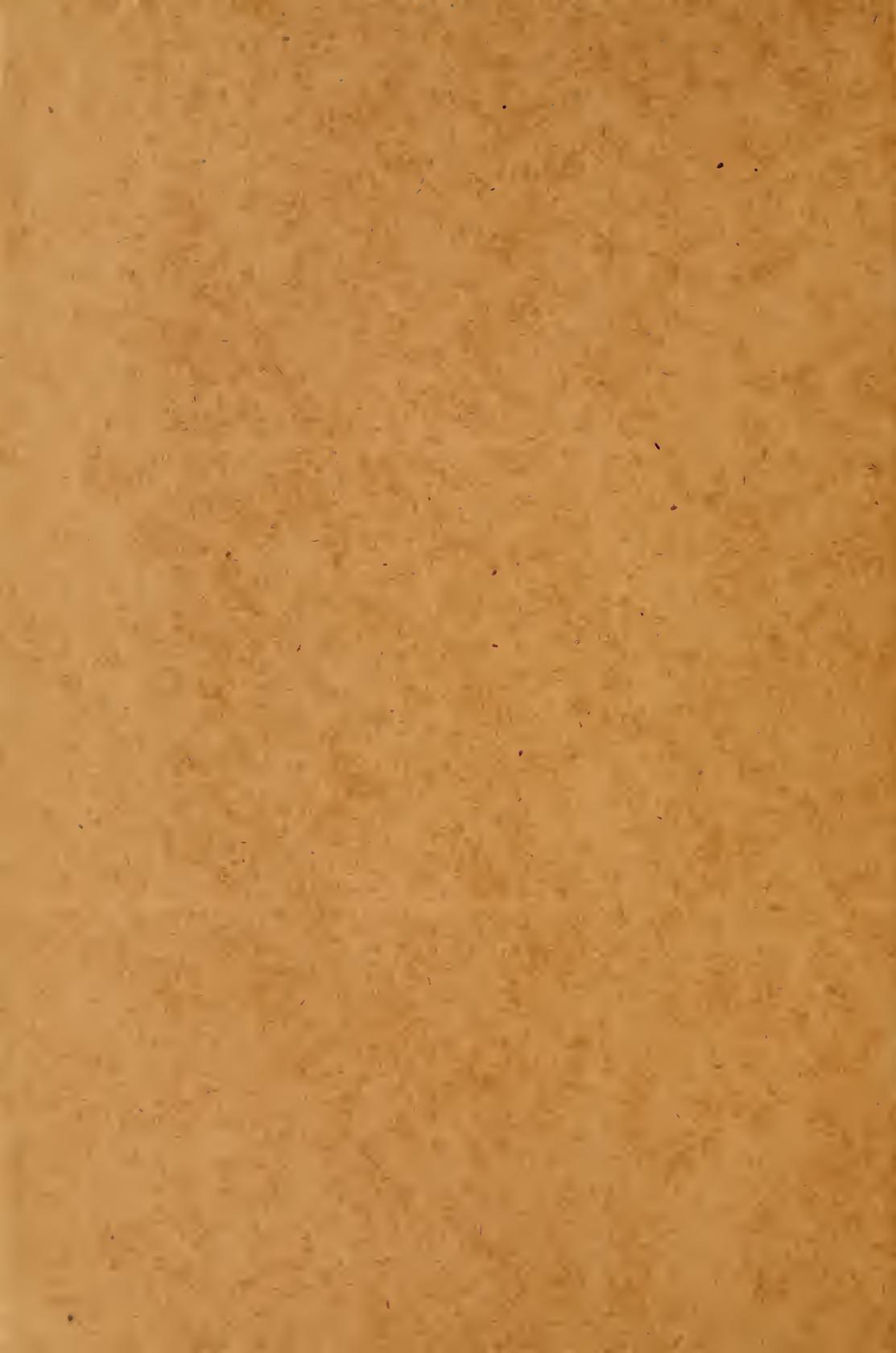
Commencing Thursday, Oct. 1st, 1896.

OFFICERS:

D. C. ALLEN, Moderator ----- Brundidge, Ala.
W. B. DARBY, Clerk ----- Troy, Ala.



Montgomery, Ala.:
ALABAMA BAPTIST PRINT,
1896.



MINUTES.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Session of the Salem Association convened with the Baptist Church at Henderson, Pike county, Alabama, on Thursday, the First day of October, 1896, and continued three days.

Eld. W. A. Cumbie preached the Introductory Sermon from the text, "Let us lay aside every weight," a part of the first verse of the XII chapter of Hebrews.

At 1:30 p. m. the messengers assembled and were called to order by Eld. D. C. Allen, former Moderator, Dr. A. B. Campbell, of Troy, leading in prayer.

The Moderator called for the letters from the churches, and every one except Starkeville and Troy Second were represented, which were read by Drs. A. B. Campbell of the Troy, and W. C. Jordan of the Eufaula Association.

The election of officers resulted in the re-election of Eld. D. C. Allen, Moderator, and W. B. Darby, Clerk and Treasurer.

The Moderator then thanked the Association for its continued confidence, and declared the organization complete and ready for business.

The call for petitionary letters was responded to by Bros. E. R. McKee, and B. F. Rodgers, messengers of Pea River Baptist church, with a letter asking admission to us, which upon motion was received, the Moderator, for the Association, extending the right hand of fellowship.

The Moderator then announced the committees—

On Preaching—T. W. Law, with deacons of Henderson church.

On Finance—W. C. Sanders, R. D. Windham and W. R. Hardin.

On motion, the hours for meeting and adjourning were fixed, to meet at 8:30 a. m., and adjourn at 11 o'clock for preaching and refreshments; re-assemble at 1:30 p. m., and adjourn at pleasure.

On call, the following correspondents presented themselves, and were enrolled :

From New Providence Association—Eld. J. H. Stephens, W. L. Davis, L. R. Rouse, F. P. Mount, W. M. Greene and Geo. Warrick.

From Pea River—Rev. Isaac Johnson, J. L. Lewis and Wm. R. Archer.

From Alabama Association—Rev. J. F. Sims.

From Montgomery Association—Bros. J. R. and J. J. McLendon.

From Troy Association—Dr. A. B. Campbell, F. H. Allred and J. E. Roye.

From Eufaula Association—Bro. W. C. Jordan.

From Centennial—Bro. F. E. Tompkins.

On call for agents, Dr. A. B. Campbell was enrolled for the State Board of Missions; W. C. Jordan for the Alabama Baptist, and Eld. W. A. Cumbie for the Baptist Orphanage.

The Moderator then announced the committees as follows:

On Documents—J. T. Nunnelee, J. R. G. Mills and I. B. Armstrong.

On Bible Cause—W. F. Newsom, E. Smith and J. H. Tillery.

On Periodicals—J. D. McLendon, E. R. McKee and J. A. Stokes.

On Nominations—C. M. Stinson, W. H. Manning and M. J. McKee.

On Deceased Ministers—Elds. W. A. Cumbie, J. M. Loffin and J. W. Stewart.

On motion, the Association adjourned until 8:30 tomorrow.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION.

Was called to order at 8:30 a. m. by the Moderator, Eld. E. M. Brooks leading in prayer.

The roll was called and revised, and the minutes of the first day's proceedings read and approved.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

The report on Education was read by Eld. W. A. Cumbie, chairman, as follows:

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Your committee submits the following report:

We wish to emphasize the oft repeated phrase, "We must educate the present, and lay a solid foundation for the instruction and elevation of future generations."

Our chief business as the churches of Christ is to work, not only for the good of our race in this age, but largely for those who are yet to come on the stage of action.

Our race seems to be growing less and less vigorous in physical ability. If possible this must be checked by better methods of living and culture, so that it may be truthfully said there are physical giants in these days.

We must pray and work for sound minds in sound bodies. Much has been done, and much more must be done, in order to attain to that high degree of mental culture which it is our duty to reach and our privilege to enjoy.

Christian parents ought to fully realize the fact that it is a sin, and a bad, far-reaching sin, to neglect the physical and mental condition of their children. In order to produce the highest type of manhood and womanhood, moral culture should have the chief place in our educational system. A well developed man, both physically and mentally, but destitute of moral restraints, is a dangerous being. As Baptists we ought to feel the deepest interest in our denominational schools. Nothing is perfect under the sun. Teachers in those schools

will sometimes err and injure the cause of education and retard our progress, but let us be patient, stand by our institutions of learning, and trust God in his own good time and way to right these wrongs for us.

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary—your committee has unabated confidence in that "School of the Prophets," and rejoices in the good it has done in the past and will do in the future. Howard College and the Judson Female Institute are heartily commended to our people as worthy of a much larger patronage from us than they have received in the past. It is the duty of this generation of Alabama Baptists to pay off all debts against these schools, endow and fully equip them for better and grander work in the ages to come.

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. CUMBIE, Chairman.

Discussed at length by Elds. W. A. Cumbie and A. B. Campbell, and unanimously adopted.

The Moderator then read and submitted the report on Temperance, as follows:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The greatest evil, perhaps, of modern civilization is the saloon. The habit of dram drinking and drunkenness is bad enough; but a licensed institution, set up and authorized by law to ruin men, break the hearts of mothers, wives and sisters, desecrate homes, fill premature graves, and to damn souls, is a prodigious monster. Nations in past ages have been cursed and polluted to the verge of ruin by saloons and drunkenness. What, then, shall the civil governments and churches expect while saloons and drunkenness are made sources of public revenue? Two million of drunkards in the United States! Three million of helpless, trembling children at the mercy of this two million drunken demons! A million heart-broken wives crouched in dark corners trembling in rags and tears! Every sober person constantly exposed to drunken violence! A horrid, but real picture! The great variety of evils resulting therefrom can be known only to the infinite mind. Is it right, and can it be longer tolerated in Christian countries? O God, hasten the day of deliverance from this legalized monster!

"Whiskey destroys the strongest man,
It blights the fairest flower;
While it sparkles but a span,
It reigns with deadly power."

D. C. ALLEN, Chairman.

Spoken to at great length by brethren J. D. McLenon, D. B. Mills, J. M. Loffin, W. C. Sanders, P. B. Floyd, J. F. Sims and D. C. Allen, and unanimously adopted.

The hour of 11 having arrived, the Association adjourned for preaching and refreshments.

NOTE—Dr. A. B. Campbell preached a glorious sermon to a large and appreciative congregation. Theme, "Love." Collection, \$10.07.—CLERK.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Assembled pursuant to order, and resumed consideration of reports of standing committees.

The Report on Missions was read by Eld. D. B. Mills, as follows:

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

It is with profound gratitude to our heavenly Father, we report to you that God is rapidly preparing all nations of the earth for the reception of his gospel, and that prudent Christian men are earnestly striving to proclaim the glad tidings to every creature. We also believe that every nation has opened their doors to our missionaries, and that God is putting it into the hearts of his believing children to press in at the doors and break the bread of eternal life to the heathen. What are we of the old Salem doing in the Master's vineyard? Are we doing our whole duty? I fear not, and the fault lies at the door of we preachers. Brethren, let us preach missions every Sunday, talk missions every day, and thereby discharge a very grave responsibility.

Respectfully submitted,

D. B. MILLS, Chairman.

Discussed by Elds. D. B. Mills, Dr. A. B. Campbell, J. M. Loflin, J. F. Sims, W. C. Jordan, P. B. Floyd, and adopted.

On motion, the Association resolved to raise the sum of three hundred dollars for missions the ensuing year, and appointed Eld. W. A. Cumbie, P. B. Floyd and J. F. Brightwell a committee to apportion said amount to the churches as nearly equal as possible in proportion to numbers, etc.

The report on Sunday Schools was read by S. J. Andress, chairman, as follows:

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We find that very few of the churches report any Sunday Schools. This we regret, because we know they exist and should be reported as church enterprise and work, and thereby stimulate a livelier interest in such work. Now, let us do better next year, and report our Sabbath Schools to the Association, and let us continue to strive to enlist our entire membership so that we may the more effectually shape the minds of our little ones.

Respectfully submitted,

S. J. ANDRESS, Chairman.

Spoken to by brethren J. L. Lewis, W. B. Darby, D. C. Allen, J. R. McLendon, J. M. Loflin, and adopted.

On motion, the Association adjourned until 8:30 a. m. tomorrow.

THIRD DAY'S SESSION.

At 8:30 a. m. called to order by the Moderator; prayer by Eld. J. J. Macon.

The report of the Treasurer was read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

The report on Bible Cause was read as follows, and adopted:

REPORT ON BIBLE CAUSE.

Your committee knows of no destitution within our borders, yet we believe that we should continue colporteur work as far as we may be

able, and we would recommend that an amount be set aside for this work.
Respectfully submitted,

W. F. NEWSOM, Chairman.

The report on Periodicals was read and adopted.

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

In our introductory we were admonished to lay aside the weights which impede our progress as the people of God, and we, knowing that ignorance of our distinguishing tenets is a very great hindering weight, would recommend a more diligent study of the Bible as the only guide to our faith and practice; such helps as the Alabama Baptist, Ford's Christian Repository, the American Baptist Flag, the Baptist and Reflector, our Mission journals, and Convention literature for the Sunday Schools. Also, instead of the dime novels, we would recommend the 10-cent publications of our Baptist publishing houses, which, if circulated and read, would strengthen our faith and develop us into what we claim—the people of God on earth.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. McLENDON, Chairman.

(Here the brethren, led by Dr. Campbell, raised the cash and tendered old Bro. Brooks the Alabama Baptist.)

The report on Documents was read and adopted.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your committee finds that three churches, namely: St. John's, Spring Hill and Richland, ask for the next session; also, an item in the Henderson letter directing your attention to the importance of regular series of fifth Sunday meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. NUNNELEE, Chairman.

The report on Deceased Ministers was read as follows by Eld. W. A. Cumbie, Chairman:

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

With mingled feelings of sorrow and joy the following is respectfully and humbly submitted:

ELD. JOHN BUNYAN YOUNGBLOOD,

of Good Hope church, was born in this county March 29, 1869, and died of consumption at his father's home, March 20, 1896. He was baptized into the fellowship of Good Hope church July 26, 1883, by Eld. Jesse M. Green, now of California. In May, 1894, he was liberated by his church to preach, and ordained July 27, 1895, Elds. John L. Youngblood, W. C. Avant and W. A. Cumbie, presbytery.

Bro. Youngblood was a pillar to the church, a dutiful son, a loving brother, a true friend, true to his fellow-man, and true to God, and was ever faithful to preach the wonderful riches of God's Word as long as his health would permit it.

Your committee is sad because of the death of such a promising young minister, but we rejoice because of his present and everlasting felicity in that house not made with hands eternal in the heavens.

W. A. CUMBIE, Chairman.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Eld. W. A. Cumbie offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend to the favorable consideration and liberal patronage of the churches comprising this Association the Baptist Orphan's Home at Evergreen.

Adopted.

A collection amounting to \$4.35 was taken up for the Orphan's Home.

Also, a collection of \$3.96 for charitable use.

On motion, the Clerk was instructed to have 500 copies of our minutes printed by some Baptist printing company, and distributed among the churches, and retain the balance of the minute fund for his services.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Your Committee begs to report:

For Minutes.....	\$ 28 80
Orphan's Home.....	17 85
Home Board.....	15 95
State Board.....	30 00
Foreign Board.....	20 00
Ministerial Education.....	17 84
Total.....	\$130 44
Indigent Minister, Eld. E. M. Brooks.....	\$ 9 20
Colporteur funds—Treasurer.....	13 44—\$ 22 64
Missions, previously paid.....	1 40
Total.....	\$154 48

Your committee have carefully examined and compared the Treasurer's report and find it correct.

We also find that Bro. Brooks has received through the Executive Committee \$22 81, the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. SANDERS, Chm.

The report on Nominations was read and adopted.

1st. We recommend that our next session be held with St. Johns church, on Thursday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1897; and that Eld. J. M. Loflin preach the Introductory.

2d. Delegates to the State Convention, Elders W. H. Cumbie, D. C. Allen Bros. J. D. McLendon and C. N. Mallett.

3rd. Delegates to Southern Baptist Convention—Eld. D. C. Allen.

4th Executive Committee—W. C. Sanders, T. J. Youngblood and J. W. Andress.

5th. That the 1st Fifth Sunday meeting be held with Ebenezer church, commencing on Friday before the fifth Sunday in November next.

Eld. W. H. Cumbie read the following:

Resolved, That we recommend Bros. John A. Jones and B. H. Ogletree, of our Henderson church, as licentiate Ministers, and in

every way worthy of the sympathy and material assistance of the Board of Education. They wish to attend Howard College.

Unanimously adopted.

Also, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That we, the messengers and visitors, hereby tender our profound thanks to the church and friends at Henderson for the kindness and hospitality bestowed us during the session; and especially to the ladies who have labored so diligently to make us contented and happy.

The report of the special Apportioning Committee was then read, as follows :

We respectfully ask for Missions the ensuing year the amounts opposite the name of the church :

From Chapel Hill.....	\$14 35	From Richland.....	\$10 75
Lebanon.....	6 50	Enon.....	17 00
Harmony.....	10 75	Providence.....	9 75
Ebenezer.....	23 00	Antioch.....	14 75
Mt. Moriah.....	17 00	Good Hope.....	26 00
Zebulon.....	4 50	Shady Grove.....	6 50
White Rock.....	23 00	St. Johns.....	35 25
Bethel.....	18 00	Henderson.....	29 00
Spring Hill.....	41 00	Starkville.....	7 25
Pea River.....	6 25	Troy, Second.....	2 50

The Moderator announced the Standing Committees, as follows :

On Education—Eld. J. M. Loflin, T. W. Law and S. J. Andress.

On Temperance—Eld. D. B. Mills, W. C. Sanders and P. B. Floyd.

On Missions—Eld. W. A. Cumbie, J. R. G. Mills and W. R. Hardin.

On Sunday Schools—J. D. McLendon, J. W. Stewart and W. F. Newsom.

There being no further business, the Association adjourned to meet with the church at St. Johns on Thursday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1897.

D. C. ALLEN,

W. B. DARBY, Clerk.

Moderator.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

W. A. Cumbie.....Troy,	Ala.	E. M. Brooks.....Frescoe,	Ala.
D. B. Mills.....Troy,	"	J. D. Allen.....	"
J. B. Nelson.....Harmony	"	T. J. Welsh.....Banks,	"
J. J. Macon.....Milo,	"	D. C. Allen.....Brundidge	"
J. M. Loflin.....Henderson,	"		

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. The delivery of Introductory Sermon.
2. Call for and read letters from the churches.
3. Organize by election of officers.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Appoint Committees on Preaching and Finance.
6. Appoint the hours for meeting and adjourning.
7. Call for Correspondents.
8. Call for agents, etc.
9. Appoint Committees on Documents, Bible Cause, Periodicals, Nominations and Deceased Ministers.
10. Call for report on Education and Temperance.
11. Read minutes, call and revise the roll.
12. Call for Treasurer's report.
13. Call for reports on Missions and Sunday Schools.
14. Call for reports of the Committees under 9th item.
15. Miscellaneous business.
16. Appoint Committees on Education, Temperance, Missions and Sunday Schools for next session.
17. Report of Committee on Finance.
18. Fix Clerk's salary and arrange for printing minutes. Read and approve minutes.
19. Adjourn.

NOTE.— The above order of business was arranged at the 53d session of the Salem Association. The Clerk was instructed to have it printed on the "fly leaf" of the minutes, with this note appended, requiring all succeeding Clerks to observe this arrangement—CLERK.

Compliments — W. B. Darby

— This is the 2nd Package mailed to you
of 1876 — minutes.