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MINUTES

OF THE

Selma Baptist Association,

WITH THE

Benton Church, Lowndes County, Alabama

1896.

H. S. D. MALLORY, Moderator, Selma, Ala.

J. F. SAVELL, Secretary, Selma, Ala.

M. H. TRAYLOR, Treasurer, Benton, Ala.

MINUTES

OF THE SELMA ASSOCIATION.

FIRST DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Fourteenth Annual gathering of the Selma Association assembled Aug. 11th, 1896, in the Baptist church of Benton, Lowndes county, Alabama, at 10:30 a. m.

In the absence of the Moderator, J. E. Barnes called the brethren to order, and H. S. D. Mallory was elected temporary Chairman; J. E. Barnes, temporary Secretary.

After devotional exercises, permanent officers were elected as follows: H. S. D. Mallory, Moderator; J. F. Savell, Secretary.

D. B. Edwards and H. A. Haralson were appointed a Committee on Enrollment, and reported as follows:

Ash Creek—L. B. Bradley and W. W. Robinson.

Benton—S. W. Walker, Jack Dudley and E. S. Martin.

Bethany—A. Edwards, D. G. Lyon, J. C. Fortune and W. J. Dunklin.

Center Ridge—W. C. Swink, W. A. Rowell, J. A. Burton and W. A. Gay.

Hopewell—J. L. Hinson, O. A. Coleman and G. A. Coleman.

Macedonia—C. P. Bruner, O. P. Woodruff, Jr., T. E. Perkins, W. J. Gaston and C. C. Bruner.

Mt. Gilead—A. D. Lawhon, Jas. Bryant, H. W. Edwards, W. E. Mealing and M. H. Traylor.

New Bethel—T. S. Hagood, J. H. Strickland and W. T. Hagood.

Orrville—B. F. Ellis, W. T. Cowen, Paul Carson, G. W. Burt and A. J. Dunaway.

Pleasant Hill—J. P. Maxwell, J. W. Bailey, E. D. Bailey and J. R. Crumpton.

Providence—J. M. Ellis, L. W. Moseley, W. L. Moseley, W. E. Purifoy and Frank Averett.

Ruhama—No delegates, no letter.

Selma, 1st ch.—A. J. Dickinson, H. S. D. Mallory, H. A. Haralson, Law Lamar, J. J. Babcock, F. M. Stillwell, J. L. Clay and I. R. Eskew.

Selma, 2d ch.—J. F. Savell, J. A. McMullen, R. W. Barnes and William Norris.

Shiloh—D. B. Edwards, P. W. Johnson, H. H. Miley, J. O. Hain and Virgil Hatcher.

Sister Springs—J. P. Melton, J. S. Hooper and W. D. S. Morgan.

Town Creek—J. B. Powell, Will Simmons, R. S. Ellis, Joe Walker and S. W. Quarles.

W. A. Parker, I. A. White and A. J. Dickinson were appointed a Committee on Order of Business, which reported as follows:

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

That we meet at 10 a. m. daily, and adjourn at 1 p. m. Meet at 3 p. m. and adjourn at pleasure.

That the business of the Association be taken up in the following order:

1. Introductory Sermon—dispensed with.
2. Orphans' Home.
3. Temperance.
4. Literature.
5. Missions.
 1. State.
 2. Home.
 3. Foreign.
6. Missionary Sermon.
7. Education.
8. Ministerial Education.
9. State of Religion in Churches.
10. Sunday School.
11. Woman's Work.

That 15 minutes be allowed in beginning of each session for miscellaneous business.

That devotional exercises be interspersed at discretion of Moderator.

The Association recognized as visitors: Ponder, J. E. Barnes, J. G. Harris, representing the Alabama Baptist, and he, with A. G. Moseley, fraternal delegates from the Montgomery Association; A. R. Hardy, of Greensboro; S. W. Averett, who addressed the body in behalf of the Judson.

The introductory sermon was dispensed with because of the absence of W. M. Blackwelder, who was appointed to preach on this occasion.

A resolution on Temperance was offered by A. J. Dickinson, and discussed by the same, also by W. A. Parker, Sr., J. G. Harris and J. R. Crumpton, and adopted as follows:

Resolved, That this Association is heartily in favor of every effort looking to the suppression of the sale and consumption of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and commends the recent action of the Southern Baptist Convention on this question to the attention of our churches.

Special Committees to report during this assembly were appointed as follows:

On Finance—Paul Carson, S. W. Quarles, J. R. Crumpton.

On Nominations—W. J. Dunklin, O. A. Coleman, Joe Walker.

On Time and Place—G. W. Burt, Jas. Bryant, L. W. Moseley.

On Apportionment—H. A. Haralson, E. S. Martin, J. M. Ellis, A. Edwards, A. D. Lawhon, W. C. Swink, Law Lamar, W. D. S. Morgan.

On State of Religion in the Churches—J. A. Fortune, D. B. Edwards.

At this point the order of business was suspended, and the Second Baptist church of Selma was received as a new church upon application, accompanied by letter.

After singing a hymn, J. G. Harris presented the claims of the Alabama Baptist.

J. B. Powell was appointed to preach the missionary sermon at 11 a. m. Wednesday, W. J. Elliott, the regular appointee, being absent.

Adjourned for dinner with prayer by W. A. Parker, Sr.

FIRST DAY—EVENING SESSION.

Assembled at 3 p. m.

After devotional exercises the Moderator called the Association to order, and joined J. B. Powell in prayer.

The Secretary was then instructed to cast the ballot for M. H. Traylor for Treasurer of the Association.

Report on the Orphanage, by J. W. Bailey, was then received, and discussed by Mrs. Ansley, the Matron of the Home, J. G. Harris, W. A. Parker, Sr., who read a letter from J. W. Stewart in regard to the Orphanage, and A. J. Dickinson, who offered an amendment. The report was adopted, with the amendment, to read as follows:

THE BAPTIST ORPHANAGE

Was permanently located at Evergreen two years ago last November, and the property purchased at a cost of five thousand dollars. The debt has all been paid, and this valuable property is now free from encumbrance. It consists of eighty acres of land lying on Main Street, of which thirty acres are in farm, thirty in woods and twenty in pasture. All has been enclosed with substantial woven wire fence, and a commodious barn has been arranged.

In this Home have been received 29 boys and 31 girls; and out of it have gone, by adoption, 10 boys and 12 girls; by apprenticeship, 2 boys. We do not apprentice girls, and only apprentice boys in exceptional cases.

The children attend the Agricultural School, and most of them are doing well. They all attend Sunday School and church, and are under firm, steady, loving control in the Orphanage. Eight of them have been baptized.

We have more applications to take children than we can approve for want of room. We are in pressing need of a cook room, a laundry room, a dining room, and, since the terrible scourge of measles through which we have just passed, we find that we greatly need a sick room.

Will not the friends of the institution provide the means for the addition of these much needed appliances?

While we are doing this, let us also provide four more dormitories so that we can care for at least sixty children.

Brethren, shall we undertake to make these much needed additions, relying upon you to help us nobly in this as you did in paying for the property?

THE AMENDMENT.

Resolved, That the Selma Association raise \$180.00 for the Orphans' Home during this Associational year.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. BAILEY,
Ch'n of Committee

During the discussion a collection was taken for the Orphanage, \$13.01 cash and \$32.00 in individual pledges.

Congregation stood and sang "To the work."

Report on Religious Literature was discussed by A. J. Dickinson and I. A. White, and adopted as follows:

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

We confine ourselves to the literature which can and should be in every Baptist home in this Association. The Alabama Baptist, a high-toned religious paper, is the medium through which we keep ourselves posted on all subjects of our denomination. The Sunday School literature printed by our Board at Nashville, Tenn., is best suited to the needs of our people. The Foreign Mission Journal, published at Richmond, Va., informs us in regard to all our foreign work, and the State Mission Quarterly, published in Selma, enlightens us in regard to all of our State work. All of these we heartily commend to the brethren of this Association.

Respectfully submitted,

P. W. JOHNSON,
Ch'n of Committee.

Report on Ministerial Education was discussed by H. A. Haralson, W. A. Parker, Sr., A. J. Dickinson. Report was amended by Bro. Dickinson and adopted as follows:

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Bro. Moderator and Brethren:

Your Committee recommend that this subject be earnestly and prayerfully considered and discussed by this Association. Our ministers have always been, and of right should continue to be, the

leaders in the denomination in all religious affairs and enterprises—not that they have claimed any ecclesiastical authority or prerogatives, except such as are willingly recognized and permitted by the sovereign and liberty-loving local church—and then in only a very modest way, yet in fact they are our spiritual guides and advisors, and their influence in the congregation is paramount. They are our religious educators; from the pulpit they expound to us the Scriptures as directed by the Holy Spirit, and, in their communities, very largely give direction to all moral sentiment. There are in Alabama at least 1,000 Baptist ministers in charge of churches. They will largely determine what our people are to be and what they will accomplish in the future. Without cessation they are moulding Baptist opinion and thought.

As population shall increase, so, by natural growth, our members will increase, and the number of our Baptist ministers. New men are continually coming in to take the place of the veterans who have fallen in the fight, and been gathered home.

There never was a period when an educated ministry was not needed, but in this day of quickened thought, of multiplied agencies of education, people are demanding more culture, more technical learning, broader, more clearly defined and accurate views and opinions in their teachers, secular as well as religious, than ever before.

We Baptist people occupy too important a position to neglect any necessary agency in our advancement. We cannot afford either to stand still or go backward. The wonderful progress of the past is a sure sign that God has been with us and has a noble purpose for us.

It is not possible that we can sustain our position, much less go forward, unless we have competent leaders. Very many of our young men can educate themselves. Many more can do so only in part, or not at all. It would not be too much if every Association in the State educate at least one young minister, in addition to those educated by the churches and by individuals. Your Committee can not conceive of a wiser investment for a Christian Association to make.

We think this branch of our work has suffered somewhat the past year from want of financial support.

Let not this Association be laggard in the work.

Respectfully submitted,

H. A. HARALSON.

AMENDMENT.

Resolved, That we recommend that the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary be given a warmer place in the hearts of our people and a more earnest co-operation, which its strict loyalty to our Baptist tenets and people, together with its strict orthodoxy, so richly merits.

On motion of A. J. Dickinson, the Association ordered the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules of Decorum codified and published in the minutes of this year. The Committee appointed for this work consisted of A. J. Dickinson, I. A. White and J. F. Savell.

Association adjourned with prayer by A. J. Dickinson to meet at 10 a. m. Wednesday.

SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Association met at 10 a. m. I. A. White led in the devotional exercises by reading Psalm 145.

Prayer.

After singing "Stand up for Jesus," and joining in prayer with A. G. Moseley and W. C. Bledsoe, the Moderator declared the body ready for business.

Minutes of the previous day were read and approved.

Report on State Missions was read, and, in connection with it, a letter from State Secretary W. C. Bledsoe, asking this Association to contribute \$600.00 to State Missions during the year. Brethren Bledsoe, Law Lamar and Dickinson discussed the subject as presented.

A. R. Hardy spoke in behalf of Greensboro church.

By motion of W. A. Parker, the report was so amended as to include a request of the churches outside of Selma to raise \$100.00 for Greensboro church, the amount to be paid by Jan. 1, 1897. Carried.

Report on State Missions was adopted as follows:

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Our State Convention is now well advanced in the 75th year of its organization. This proud, historic heritage of three quarters of a century is yet full of promise. Our fathers sowed and we have reaped and gathered much, but the "feast of tabernacles" is not yet.

Our present Board of Missions was organized by this Convention to more actively encourage and support missionary and educational work in the State, and to cultivate the spirit of beneficence in our people. Its work and results are well known to those whose interest is intelligent and sympathetic.

The State Board of Missions now has the supervision of the work formerly directed by the Bible and Colportage and Ministerial Educational Boards.

In their last report this Board presented some pleasing facts and figures, and some that are quite otherwise. The last year, while in some respects one of the hardest, was also one of the most fruitful in our history. More and better work was done, more monies collected, and more contributors, doubtless, enlisted than any preceding year.

Fourteen missionary colporters, twenty-six missionary pastors and two evangelists have been in the employ of the Board. But these are but "drops in the bucket" of what is required.

But the report recites, on the other hand, the following facts concerning the 115,000 Baptists of the State: "The great majority of them are anti-missionary in practice. Hundreds of churches and thousands of individual members have never given a cent to missions; of the seventy-six Associations in the State, by far the greater number take no interest in the State Convention, or in any branch of the mission work fostered by it."

The Book Department reported a debt of more than \$1,600.00, which, however, is offset by out-standing claims of more than \$2,000.00. This Department could be made very efficient, but, so far as can be gathered, little is being accomplished through it.

A plan of co-operation between the white and colored Conventions of Alabama, proposed by the Home Mission Society of New York and our Home Board of Atlanta, for the evangelization and education of the negroes of the State, was approved, and more and better work in this direction will bless this worthy people.

Appeals for help to rebuild the Baptist church at Greensboro, Ala., which is, in part, our debt, we commend to the earnest consideration of the churches of the Association.

At the last session of our State Convention Rev. W. B. Crumpton, who for the past ten years most faithfully and efficiently served as Corresponding Secretary, resigned his office. The Board is to be congratulated in securing the services of Rev. W. C. Bledsoe to discharge the exacting duties of this office. We commend him and his work to your sympathy, prayers and co-operation.

Respectfully submitted,

I. A. WHITE,
Chairman.

Report on Home Missions was read as follows:

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

For more than fifty years the Home Mission Board has existed. Its purpose is to help weak churches in centres of population where the State Boards are too weak to meet the demand; to Christianize

our foreign population and the Indians; to instruct and elevate the colored Baptists of the South, and to evangelize the Island of Cuba.

Some feel that there is no longer a need of the Home Board; but just as there is a need for co-operation in each State, that the stronger districts may help the weaker, just so is there a need for a similar co-operation of our Southern States. While some of our States could easily supply their own demands, others where the denomination is weak would be filled with destitution.

The fact that nearly every first church in our Southern cities was fostered by the Board until it was able to stand alone, the gratifying results of our frontier work, and the growth of the Baptist cause in Cuba, commends the cause of Home Missions to our earnest consideration and hearty support.

Respectfully submitted,

A. G. MOSELEY,

By request.

In connection with the above, the report on Foreign Missions was read and the two subjects were discussed by Moseley, White, Hardy and Parker, and the report on Foreign Missions was then amended to read as follows:

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Foreign Missions would report that the Board, during the year just closed, shows that God has done more for the work than ever before by a large increase of converts from heathenism, while we ourselves have done less, and permitted the work to be embarrassed by a \$30,000 debt. This debt must be removed by special contributions at once. "The gospel mission movement" calls for more loyal co-operation on our part. We recommend that each of our churches take the Foreign Mission Journal, and take special collection for the Foreign Mission debt as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. DICKINSON.

At 12 o'clock P. T. Hale, of Birmingham, read the 3d Epistle of John, and J. B. Powell preached the missionary sermon from the 8th verse.

A collection of \$9.25 cash was taken, and the two reports were adopted.

Adjourned for dinner.

SECOND DAY—EVENING SESSION.

After song service, and prayer by W. C. Bledsoe, the Moderator called the body to order, and the report on Education was read.

P. T. Hale made a plea for Howard College, and brethren promised to try to raise for the Howard the following amounts: I. A. White, \$250.00; J. B. Powell, \$100.00; Benton and Shiloh churches, \$75.00.

Report on Education adopted as follows:

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

There is not a work that can engage our attention, interest and affection, which is fraught with such rich possibilities for usefulness and good, as the education of the youth of our country. Here in Alabama we have a broad field for the philanthropist and the Christian. Our young men and young women are, in native ability, inferior to none. But it is painful to report vast intellectual and social forests that are yet unexplored. The Baptists of the State, appreciating this fact, have done a great work in establishing and maintaining schools, and in enlisting interest in the subject of Education.

While your Committee is proud of this work, yet the fact stares us in the face that there are numbers of our youth, growing into manhood and womanhood, who are utterly lacking in social and intellectual culture, and unfit for the higher spheres of life simply because they have not had trained and cultivated those talents which God has graciously given them.

The Judson and Howard have done faithful, efficient and lasting work, and we commend them to a still deeper and more substantial interest in your hearts. We recommend the establishment and earnest support of schools which give pupils especial training and preparation for these institutions.

Finally, let us bring every available means to remove the indebtedness of the Howard. Should the college be taken from us it will be a blow from which we can hardly hope to recover. The outlook is brighter, and if we rally around it with our united effort we may yet establish it upon a substantial basis.

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL CARSON,

For Committee.

List of churches was called, to which the respective delegates responded, showing that the condition of the churches, spiritually and financially, was generally good.

Standing Committees to report at next assembly were announced as follows:

STANDING COMMITTEES TO REPORT TO ASSOCIATION OF 1897.

On State Missions—W. A. Parker, Sr., H. A. Haralson, E. S. Martin, D. B. Edwards.

On Home Missions—J. B. Powell, D. G. Lyon, G. A. Coleman.

On Foreign Missions—W. M. Blackwelder, S. W. Quarles, Joe Walker.

On Sunday Schools—F. M. Stillwell, G. W. Burt, A. D. Lawhon, J. W. Bailey.

On Temperance—A. J. Dickinson, W. L. Moseley, W. A. Rowell, Paul W. Johnson.

On Education—J. M. Fortune, J. O. Hain, J. S. Hooper.

On Ministerial Education—I. A. White, J. P. Maxwell, Jack Dudley.

On Literature—Law Lamar R. W. Barnes, W. W. Robinson.

On Woman's Work—Paul Carson, T. S. Haygood, O. P. Woodruff, Jr.

On Orphans' Home—Alfred Edwards, W. J. Gaston, W. E. Mealing.

Committee on Apportionment made their report, asking the churches to contribute the following amounts:

REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT.

CHURCHES.	Missions.....	Ministerial Education.	Orphanage...	Total
Selma, 1st ch	\$600 00	\$50 00	\$20 00	\$670 00
Ash Creek	15 00	5 00	5 00	25 00
Benton	20 00	5 00	5 00	30 00
Bethany	30 00	10 00	10 00	50 00
Center Ridge	30 00	20 00	15 00	65 00
Mt. Gilead	80 00	20 00	15 00	115 00
Hopewell	25 00	10 00	5 00	40 00
Orrville	15 00	55 00	20 00	90 00
Pleasant Hill	75 00	25 00	10 00	110 00
Providence	100 00	25 00	10 00	135 00
Selma, 2d ch	50 00	20 00	5 00	75 00
Sister Springs	5 00	5 00	3 00	13 00
Shiloh	50 00	10 00	10 00	70 00
Town Creek	80 00	15 00	25 00	120 00
Macedonia	5 00	5 00	5 00	15 00
New Bethel	10 00	5 00	15 00	30 00
Ruhama	5 00	5 00	2 00	12 00

These amounts, if possible, to be raised regularly during the year.

Respectfully submitted,
H. A. HARALSON,
Ch'n Committee.

Report on Nominations was adopted as follows:

To Preach the Introductory Sermon—I. A. White.

To Preach the Missionary Sermon—A. J. Dickinson.

Delegates to the State Convention—H. S. D. Mallory, J. R. Crumpton, J. B. Powell, Graham Moseley, I. A. White, A. J. Dickinson, P. W. Johnson, D. B. Edwards, L. Lamar, J. P. Melton.

To Southern Baptist Convention—A. D. Lawhon, J. F. Savell.
Respectfully submitted,

A. A. COLEMAN,
Ch'n Committee.

Report on Sunday School work was discussed by L. Lamar and F. M. Stillwell, and adopted as follows:

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The most important function of the church is teaching.

The Sunday School is an organized and systematized method of teaching the gospel.

It is a false construction of the great commission that disciples should preach only, as preaching is generally understood to mean; but that they shall teach the gospel. If Saving Truth is disseminated by the preacher alone, how much less of gospel will reach the sinful than if every disciple becomes a teacher.

We believe the preacher's words and have faith, but we are exhorted to know the reasons for the faith which is in us.

The best method of obeying this exhortation is through the instrumentality of the Sunday School, which, as a feature of every church should be thoroughly organized, and up to date in lesson literature and methods of teaching, in order that all ages, from the youngest to the oldest disciple of Christ, may be taught His Word; and let the influence of the gospel reach, through them, all the unsaved of the congregation.

The improvement of his Sunday School is the most important and far-reaching work that the layman can do for Christ and His church.

Respectfully submitted,

LAW LAMAR,
Ch'n Committee.

Report on Woman's Work was then discussed by Powell and Dickinson, and amended by motion of the latter, and adopted as follows:

REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

When we think of the wonderful progress of Christianity in recent years, and begin to view the devotion and sacrifices of Christian toilers to this end, we find that women have largely aided in the work.

We, who are obeying the marching orders of the Captain of our Salvation, have had such sympathy and support, such energy and zeal as might be expected from hearts aglow with the love of Christ. And were our Saviour on the earth to-day, surely he would say, "She hath done what she could," for many of our noblest women, amid life's busiest day, have taken from rest and pleasure calls, time and money to push on the Master's work.

We need not devise plans and means for them. It is only ours to recognize their wise economy, faith, devotion and liberality, which has been shown in their lives from the time of our Savior till now.

We see the results of their efforts in every department of life. Taking the smallest child in the Sabbath School, she has given it the religious instruction that form a safeguard to morals, and fits one for any line of church work. Often they have been the builders of churches, and, in many places, they are keeping alive that blessed spirit that guides men up to God.

The women in our church have often in their work proved to be the support and right arm of the pastor.

We have, just now, no means to determine what has been done in this Association during the past year. But we would urge the organization of a Woman's Society in every church, and more than all a united thanksgiving to God that, under the leadings of his divine grace, women have been so useful to his cause and church. And let us ever pray that they may continue to reach out into the world of sin, not merely to give physical relief, but for the moral and spiritual benefit of all mankind.

In short, God hasten the day when her influence shall be felt everywhere, welcomed everywhere, pure as the breath of the morning, and merciful, yet powerful as the ministry of angels.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. POWELL,
Ch'n Committee.

AMENDMENT.

That a meeting be arranged next session specially for the ladies, and under their auspices.

On motion, the Association decided to have a program arranged for the meeting of 1897, and a Committee was appointed for the same, consisting of A. J. Dickinson, W. A. Parker, I. A. White and H. A. Haralson.

Treasurer's report was read and approved as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

M. H. Traylor,

To Selma Association:

1895.		
Aug. 14.	To am't from Finance Committee.....	\$100 04
1895.		
Aug. 14.	By voucher No. 1, J. E. Barnes, minutes, and Clerk's fee.....	\$29 00
	By voucher No. 2, J. W. Stewart, Orphan's Home....	23 81
	By voucher No. 3, W. B. Crumpton, Missions	47 23—\$100 04

M. H. TRAYLOR,

Treasurer.

I. A. White then offered the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are hereby tendered to this church and community for their splendid hospitality during the session of this body. Carried.

The Treasurer was then instructed to forward all money in his possession to its respective places.

By order of the Association the Secretary was allowed \$10 for his services, after all other necessary bills were paid.

Association then adjourned to meet with Pleasant Hill church on Tuesday before the 3d Sunday in August, 1897.

J. F. SAVELL,
Secretary.

H. S. D. MALLORY,
MODERATOR.

RECORD OF THE SELMA ASSOCIATION.
ORGANIZED IN 1883 WITH 11 CHURCHES AROUND SELMA.

YEAR.	PLACE OF MEETING.	MODERATOR.	CLERK.	TREASURER.
1883	Shiloh(organ.)	Ellis, B. F.	Baker, E. F. ..	Edwards, H. W.
1884	Mt. Gilead. . .	Baber, E. F.	Eskew, I. R. ..	Edwards, H. W.
1885	Center Ridge.	Baber, E. F.	Traylor, M.H.	Moseley, J. B....
1886	Providence. . .	Baber, E. F.	Eskew, I. R. ..	Ellis, J. B.
1887	Pleasant Hill.	Mallory, H.S.D.	Eskew, I. R. ..	Ellis, J. F.
1888	Town Creek..	Lawhon, A. D.	McIver, J. M.	Ellis, J. F.
1889	Orrville	Lawhon, A. D.	McIver, J. M.	Ellis, J. F.
1890	Shiloh	Mallory, H.S.D.	Moseley, W.F.	Ellis, J. F.
1891	Mt. Gilead. . .	Mallory, H.S.D.	Moseley, W.F.	Ellis, J. F.
1892	Providence... .	Ellis, B. F.	Moseley, W.F.	Ellis, J. F.
1893	Bethany. . . .	Ellis, B. F.	Barnes, J. E..	Ellis, J. F.
1894	Hopewell	Ellis, B. F.	Barnes, J. E..	Traylor, M. H...)
1895	Center Ridge.	Ellis, B. F.	Barnes, J. E..	Traylor, M. H...)
1896	Benton	Mallory, H.S.D.	Savell, J. F...	Traylor, M. H...)

APPENDIX.

THE STATE BOARD OF MISSIONS

To the Selma Association in Session at Benton Baptist Church, Ala.:

DEAR BRETHREN:

We herewith extend to you our Christian greeting, and pray that the Holy Spirit may guide and bless you in your deliberations. As your servants for Christ's sake we beg to call your attention to the state of our work as indicated in the last issue of the State Mission Journal. The State Convention at its last session in Selma greatly enlarged our sphere of operation by adding to that hitherto committed to us the pushing of evangelistic effort and institute work. We have been greatly disappointed that this instruction to increase our work has not been attended by the necessary increase of contributions to enable us to carry out these instructions to the extent indicated by that body. While our brethren have done better than heretofore in this regard, still our present income is utterly inadequate to meet the demands of the program of the Convention. We therefore appeal to you, as a part of the constituency of the Convention, to give us your sympathetic co-operation in this onward

movement for our Lord's glory in our beloved State. To efficiently carry out the work of the Board we will need not less than \$15,000 during the coming year. To raise this amount we are of the opinion that we will need to receive not less than \$600.00 from the churches forming your constituency. Being compelled to make our contracts with our missionaries in advance, and to limit our appropriations to our probable income to avoid incurring a debt we would be unable to meet, it is necessary that we should know now what the income will probably be. So we would ask you to approve of the above request of \$600.00 from the liberality of the churches of your body, or such amount as you, the representatives of the churches, may deem meet, and that you apportion the same to your several churches as they may be able to pay. Trusting that you will see fit to give us your co-operation in this effort to advance our Lord's cause and enhance his glory by a hearty co-operation, we would ask that you authorize the proper parties to make answer to us of your decision that we may govern ourselves accordingly.

It also becomes our duty to call your attention to the action of the State Convention at its last session with reference to colporter missionary work, and urge upon you the consideration of the employment of a suitable person to labor in that capacity within your own bounds. May we add that it is hoped that this work will be done by an additional contribution to that above solicited for State Missions.

Trusting that your meeting will be richly blessed of heaven, we are your servants for Christ's sake.

STATE BOARD OF MISSIONS,

W. C. BLEDSOE, Sec'y,

Montgomery, Ala.

In reply to the above the Association pledged its full sympathy for and hearty co-operation with the Board in all its work.

STATISTICS OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS AND WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S SOCIETIES.

Churches.	Superintendent.	Post Office.	SUNDAY SCHOOL.							Contributions reported from Women's Societies.								
			Officers and Teachers.	No. of Pupils.	Average Attendance.	No. Baptized from S.S.	No. Periodicals Taken	Missions.....	Ministerial Education.	Orphans' Home....	Church Expenses.....	Sundries.....	Missions.....	Ministerial Education.	Orphans' Home.....	Church Expenses.....	Sundries.....	
Ash Creek..	M. E. Bell.....	Gordonsville	218	12														
Benton.....	W. S. Walker..	Benton.....	417	12														
Bethany.....	A. Edwards.....	Collirene	747	27		23	\$ 1 31	\$ 5 00										
Centre Ridge	R. F. Rowell..	Carlowville..	631	18		435	10 00											
Hopewell...	D. A. Coleman	Mt. Willing..	667	45		60	6 25		\$ 3 75									
†Macedonia	W. W. Stabler.	Macedonia..	648	20				5 00							\$10 00			
Mt. Gilead..	James Bryant.	Benton.....	629	20		30			15 70									
New Bethel.	J. R. Strickland.	Braggs.....	523	20					11 60									
Orrville.....	J. E. Dunaway.	Orrville.....	650				15 00								*28 04			
Pleasant Hill	Dr. W. R. Hardy	Pleasant Hill	1060	45			10 00		2 30		\$2 98	4 00	\$16 85			\$15 80		
Providence..	Lewis Johnson..	Orrville..	625									11 25						
Ruhama. ...	Law Lamar...	Selma.....	231	90	135	8	2		100 00									
Selma, 1st Ch	R. W. Barnes.	Selma.....	1284	68		1	6	12 25							161 89			
Selma, 2d Ch	P. W. Johnson..	Selma.....	6			7								2 55	5 00	\$ 5 25	5 65	
Shiloh.....	J. P. Melton...	Dallaston	518	8		21			1 50					1 25				
Sister Springs	T. E. Whatley.	Soapstone												22 47				
Town Creek.																		\$29 10

*For Howard College. †Union Sunday School.

STATISTICS OF SELMA ASSOCIATION, 1896.

Churches.	County.	Pastor.	Clerk.	Clerk's P. O.	Ordained Ministers.	Licensed Ministers..	Membership		Present	Preaching Sabbaths	Reports Prayer Meetings	Reports of Revival..	
							Last Reported	Death					
							Increase	Decrease					
							Restored	Letter	Letter	Exclusion	Death		
Ash Creek...	Lowndes.	J. B. Powell.....	L. B. Bradley...	Gordonsville	1	1	10	..	..	..	10	1st Sunday p. m.	..
Benton.....	"	W. A. Parker, Sr...	E. S. Martin.....	Benton.....	1	1	20	..	..	..	20	4th Sunday.....	Yes
Bethany.....	"	J. B. Powell.....	J. C. Fortune.....	Pleasant Hill	1	1	34	6	1	1	40	1st Sunday.....	Yes
Centre Ridge.	Dallas....	W. M. Blackwelder.	R. F. Rowell...	Carlownville..	..	..	34	4	1	1	37	2nd Sunday p. m.	No
Mt. Gilead....	Lowndes.	J. B. Powell.....	M. H. Traylor..	Benton.....	..	..	40	4	1	1	42	3rd Sunday.....	Yes
Hopewell.....	"	J. M. Fortune.....	W. N. Ray.....	Mt. Willing...	..	..	62	..	..	13	46	3rd Sunday.....	No
Macedonia....	"	J. M. Fortune.....	O. P. Woodruff.	Macedonia....	..	..	56	..	1	..	55	2nd Sunday.....	Yes
New Bethel..	"	I. A. White.....	J. R. Strickland.	Braggs.....	..	..	36	1	..	..	37	2nd Sunday.....	No
Orrville.....	Dallas....	W. M. Blackwelder.	G. W. Burt.....	Orrville.....	1	1	55	1	2	5	51	1st and at night 4th	Yes
Providence...	"	I. A. White.....	J. R. Crumpton.	Pleasant Hill	..	..	53	1	1	3	52	4th & Sat. bef. 4th.	Yes
Ruhama.....	Lowndes.	A. J. Dickinson....	T. W. Berry....	Tasso.....	..	..	74	1	1	3	71	2d & Sat. & Sun. 4th	No
Selma, First..	Dallas....	J. F. Savell.....	J. E. Long.....	Farmersville	1	1	9	..	..	..	322	Every Sunday....	Yes
Selma, Second	"	W. A. Parker, Sr...	Dan Brislin....	Selma.....	1	1	492	5	10	18	190	Every Sunday....	Yes
Shiloh.....	"	J. B. Powell.....	E. H. Lyde.....	Sardis.....	..	..	40	2	11	4	49	Sat. and Sun. 1st.	No
Sister Springs.	"	J. B. Powell.....	J. S. Hooper....	Tyler.....	..	..	33	..	..	1	32	2nd p.m. & 5th Sun.	No
Town Creek..	"	J. B. Powell.....	R. S. Ellis.....	Soapstone....	1	1	49	5	5	1	57	2nd and 4th.....	Yes





