

Minutes of the  
SIXTY-EIGHTH  
ANNUAL SESSION  
Of the

**Tuscaloosa**  
**Baptist**  
**Association,**

Held with Siloam Church, Bibb County, Alabama, October 10th and 11th, 1900.



OFFICERS;  
J. H. CURRY, Moderator.  
J. T. BEALLE, Clerk.



The next Session to be held with Windham Springs Church, 22 Miles North of Tuscaloosa, Beginning Wednesday after First Sunday in September, 1901.

Sunday Sun Print, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



Minutes  
OF THE  
TUSCALOOSA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,  
Session of 1900.



SCOTTSVILLE, OCTOBER 10th., 1900.

The Tuscaloosa Baptist Association met here with the Siloam Church at 10:30 o'clock, a. m. Devotional exercises by the Moderator.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. J. W. Dossett. Text, Romans, 12:5—"So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another."

Letters from the Churches were presented and delegates voted for Moderator. Rev. J. H. Curry was re-elected by unanimous vote.

LIST OF CHURCHES AND NAMES OF DELEGATES:

- Bethany :—S. E. Hodge,  
Bethel :—N. N. Browne,  
Bibbville;—A. C. Riley.  
Big Creek—  
Big Hurricane— L. L. Pumphry, T. J. Dockery, C. S. Williams.  
Big Sandy:—B. M. Phifer.  
Blocton 1st:—W. W. Perry, J. B. Davie, J. J. Little, T. E. Sanders, Rev. J. W. Dossett.  
Blocton, 2nd—

Brookwood:—R. C. Walker.  
 Carroll's Creek—  
 Cottondale:—J. H. Ryland.  
 Duncanville:—C. D. Smith.  
 Flatwoods—  
 Gilgal:—M. B. Smith, J. L. Albright, A. W. Thompson.  
 Hopewell—  
 Little Sandy:—M. B. Scott.  
 Mount Moriah:—R. Hays, W. F. Goodson, B. W. Clifton.  
 Mount Olive—  
 Mount Paran:—Henry Snyder, R. E. Hobson.  
 Mount Pleasant—  
 Mount Zion:—R. E. St. John, Daniel Black.  
 Northport:—J. H. Curry, R. S. Cox, J. T. Bealle, E. C. Sumner.  
 Piney Grove:—C. B. Greene, R. E. Hobson.  
 Pleasant Hill—  
 Ruhama—  
 Sardis:—J. T. Hayes.  
 Shultz Creek:—J. A. Lowry, M. L. Logan.  
 Siloam:—M. W. Perry, J. A. Waggoner.  
 Tuscaloosa:—Rev. L. O. Dawson.  
 Vance:—E. J. Carlyle, R. Hogan.  
 Windham Springs—  
 Woodstock:—J. C. Arnold.

Received correspondence as follows: .

Rev. H. R. Schramm—Cahaba Association.  
 Rev. E. E. George—Etowah Association.  
 Revs. F. M. Hobson, W. G. Hobson, Barney Thompson—Liberty Association.  
 Rev. C. A. Locke—Birmingham Association.  
 S. Smitherman—Shelby Association.

Returned correspondence as follows:

Any brother in good standing in any Church of this Association, is hereby authorized to present Minutes, and represent us in any Sister Association.

Adjourned for dinner.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met at 2 o'clock, p. m.

Brothers J. W. Dossett and J. B. Davie read the letters.

Committees to report at this Meeting:

On Preaching:—Pastor and Deacons of Siloam Church, with R. C. Walker and M. L. Logan.

On Documents—N. N. Browne, J. H. Ryland, Claude D. Smith.

On Nominations:—J. T. Hays, R. Hogan, J. C. Arnold.

On Finance:—W. W. Perry, M. B. Scott, R. E. Hobson.

Rev. E. E. George, pastor at Alabama City, addressed the Association on the work in his field, and a collection of \$12 49 was taken to aid in building a house of worship there.

Standing Committees to report at next Session:

Temperance:—W. W. Perry, J. J. Little, James L. Albright.

Sunday Schools:—J. B. Davie, E. J. Daffin, A. C. Riley.

State Missions:—R. S. Cox, J. R. Hallman, L. L. Pumphrey.

Home Missions:—J. S. Yerby, R. J. Moseley, J. S. Quarles.

Foreign Missions:—Robison Brown, B. C. Sumner, W. F. Goodson.

Education:—B. F. Giles, M. B. Smith, R. Hogan.

Periodicals:—N. N. Brown, A. W. Thompson, E. J. Carlyle.

Orphanage:—J. W. Loveless, J. A. Lowry, Daniel Black, Jr.

Aged and Infirm Ministers:—E. Coleman, J. C. Arnold, B. W. Clifton.

The Report on Temperance was read and after short discussion re-committed, and J. W. Dossett and L. O. Dawson were added to the Committee.

Adjourned to 9:30 o'clock, a. m., tomorrow. Prayer by W. G. Hubbard.

### SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional Exercises by Moderator.

H. R. Schramm asked for help to pay debt on Mount Hebron, a new Church in Cahaba Association. A collection of \$2.56 was taken for it.

Report on Periodicals read and adopted as follows:

REPORT ON PERIODICALS:—It is not a question as to whether or not the people read, but what they read. Do they read such matter as will educate the mind and heart morally? It

is a fact that we live in an age of reading, and the country is flooded with unwholesome matter—such as will demoralize and corrupt the minds and morals of the people who read it, and we are sorry to say that many young people love to read this hurtful literature. This being true it is our plain and imperative duty to see that our homes have the best and that all impure and trashy reading matter is kept out from that sacred precinct.

The Bible is the book above all other books, for by heeding its instructions many of us believe we have eternal life. We should see that our Sunday Schools are furnished with good Bible literature, such as will teach the faith once delivered to the Saints. We recommend our Southern Baptist Convention Sunday School helps published by the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tennessee, the Foreign Mission Journal, the Alabama Baptist and the Sermonizer, as helps to a deeper and clearer knowledge of the Scriptures. We beg to recommend the book entitled, "The Devil in Robes," or "The Sin of Priests." No lover of the religion of our Lord Jesus Christ can well do without the information given therein.

Respectfully Submitted,

JOSEPH TIBBS.

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The Committee on Aged and Infirm Ministers reported none in this Association.

Report on Temperance read and adopted, as follows:—

**REPORT ON TEMPERANCE:**—This Association stands on record as being unalterably opposed to the use of Liquor in any form as a beverage. The strong positions taken last year and the year before are here and now emphasized.

We urge all Christian people who may be in the least degree influenced by our advice to abstain from the use of alcoholic drugs as they do from other harmful things. We remind them that the Bible says "no drunkard can enter the Kingdom of Heaven."

We believe that drunkenness in the Church calls for discipline.

We condemn the liquor traffic as a part of the Devil's own plan to destroy human souls.

While we prefer a dispensary to the open saloons, we prefer Prohibition to either, and pray God that the time may come when the demand for Liquor will cease, and our nation become

a sober people.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 BASIL PHIFER,  
 J. W. DOSSETT,  
 L. O. DAWSON,  
 Committee on Temperance.

**REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.**—We note an increase in Sunday School work, and more interest being taken than ever before: but, while we are thankful for the increased interest and the forward movement, there is yet room for improvement along this line. Young men are out of the Sunday Schools that should be in them, children that should be in the Sunday School, are seen rambling about on the Sabbath, and we should make more earnest efforts to bring them in. We should pray God for more earnest workers along this line, so that the Sabbath day might be made a day of rest and worship, and revered more than it is by some. To this end let us pray God for more laborers, and let us make greater efforts than ever before to advance this good work.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 S. E. HODGE,  
 E. J. DAFFIN,  
 JOHN PATRICK,  
 Committee on Sunday Schools.

Rev. L. O. Dawson urged the Churches to send delegates to the Sunday School Convention, which meets every fifth Sunday.

Reports on State Missions and Home Missions were read.

Rev. S. E. Hodge preached the Missionary Sermon from the text: Mat. 3:8 "Will a Man rob God? Collection for Missions taken, amounting to \$5.85.

Adjourned for dinner.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met at 1:30 o'clock, p. m. Prayer by C. A. Locke.

Rev. G. S. Anderson addressed the Association in behalf of the Institute work, and the following amounts were subscribed to be paid by November 1st. 1900:

Tuscaloosa ..... \$20.00

Big Sandy.....	5.00
Sardis .....	2.00
Gilgal .....	2.00
Siloam.....	2.00
Mount Zion .....	2.00
Mount Moriah.....	2.00
Northport .....	5.00
Cottdale.....	2.00
Bethany.....	2.00
Blount, 1st.....	2.00
Mount Paran .....	1.00
Mount Pleasant.....	1.00
Piney Grove .....	1.00
Shultz Creek .....	1.00

Report on Foreign Missions read, and all the reports on Missions were discussed and adopted, as follows:

**STATE MISSIONS.**—The State Board of Missions was out of debt at the meeting of the State Convention last November. The work of the Board has changed little, except in multiplying opportunities and needs. Alabama's material wealth is being rapidly developed and there is advancement in her educational work. Baptists are responsible for the progress of the Gospel, for our principles prevail in the State. Our able State Secretary is watching every point with jealous eye, and a wise and judicious use is made of every dollar forwarded to him in so far as a consecrated, zealous man can use it. Many of our people seem to think that there is little need for Mission work in the State, but we think the day is far distant, when that desirable condition of affairs shall prevail. As long as the State continues to grow in wealth and population, so long will the needs for this work enlarge. The growth in wealth does not diminish the demand for religious work; the advancement of education does not lessen the need of religious teaching; and surely an increase in population can be no argument for less religious labor. The fact is, as you must see, every year gives us more to do in the State, and we should give liberally to our Alabama work.

Respectfully Submitted,

JOHN T. BEALLE, Chairman.

**HOME MISSIONS.**—Home Mission work means first of all the effort to properly evangelize our own country. I should be very

far from joining in the cry that we have heathens enough at home as a reason for concentrating all our efforts at home. At the same time we must not forget that there is great destitution at our very doors; and certainly those who are so close to us have special claims upon us. But there is another side to this which puts us under even greater obligations to look after our home field. It is the absolute importance of the home field for the proper and successful evangelization of the world. For years our country has been forging to the front among the nations of the world. Since our war with Spain, the strides of this country to the very forefront have been simply marvelous. Today, no nation of the earth has any more prominence of power and influence than has our own United States. With no nation do such great responsibility and such great power rest for the world's evangelization as with ours. How shall we meet this responsibility, if we fail to make our own land what it ought to be religiously; if we fail to build up our own waste places, thus establishing well our base of supplies; or if we fail to see that our own land is permeated and saturated with the pure Gospel of Jesus Christ, what must be the ultimate effect upon the evangelization of the heathen world? If the light in us be darkness, how great is that darkness? Infinitely worse would this be than to allow the light-houses around along our coasts to go out in the blackness of night. But we are specially concerned now with the question of the peculiar relation of our own Southland to the evangelization of the world. If Baptists are right in their views of the Word of God, then there is no part of all the earth so important nearly to the proper evangelization of the world as that part of our country which is within the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention of the United States. About three-fifths of all the Baptists of the world are within the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention. Over a million and a half of these are white Baptists. But is there any real need in the South for work by our Home Board? It may occur to some that the section of the world which contains three-fifths of the Baptists of the world can hardly be any longer a great missionary field. Moreover, in nearly all the States there are State Mission Boards, which are doing what they can towards State Evangelization. Cannot these organizations do the needed work? Let us see if they can. From statistics which I have recently read, I gather the following points: When the Southern Baptist Convention was organized in 1845,

there were only about 8,000,000 people, all told within the territory covered by it. Of these about 6,000,000 had reached the age of responsibility. Of these there were 1,250,000 who were professors of religion. Thus there were at that time, only a little over 4,500,000 responsible souls in the whole territory of the Convention, who had not professed faith in Christ. How is it now in the same territory? There are about 25,000,000 souls. Of these about 20,000,000 have reached the age of responsibility, and of these not more than 8,000,000 are professors of religion, leaving at least 12,000,000 responsible souls in our Southern States, who are without God and without hope in the world. Thus, with all our thousands of Churches and all our State Boards, and all our colleges and schools, we are not nearly keeping step in our home evangelization with our rapidly increasing population. This alone ought to make us double and redouble our efforts. There is just now the most imperative need for enlarged work for our negro population. Hitherto, for special reasons, Southern Baptists have not been able to do much for the negro. Now, however, the way is opening and the need is most imperative. We have amongst us about 8,000,000 negroes. Many of them, under present conditions, are breaking loose from their churches. Bar-rooms, bad-leaders and many forms of temptation, are playing havoc with their moral and religious lives. What is to become of them? What is to become of them? What is to become of us if we fail to reach them with the Gospel?

And, finally, besides all this work, Cuba is now upon the Home Board. Whether wisest to make that work a part of the Home Mission work or not, may be with some a question, but as a matter of fact, it was given into the care of the Home Board by the Southern Baptist Convention after full deliberation, just as Mexico and Porto Rico have been relegated by our Northern brethren to the Home Mission Society of the North.

Now I want to say before closing. Pastors of the Southern Churches, Brethren and Sisters in our Southern Zion: What answer will you make to this presentation of facts as to our Home Mission work? The half has not been told, but enough has been said to give you at least a glimpse of what lies before us. We need funds—funds in large amounts—to carry on this work. It cannot be done as it ought to be done with such contributions as we have been making before. Can we not this year try at least to double what we have been giving for Home Missions. This work has not had the attention from us that it ought to have

had. It has not even had the relative attention it deserved. The people some have not seen its importance—they have not grasped the imperative needs of the field, nor the far reaching and momentous importance of properly possessing and building up the field at home. May the Spirit of God move us to do our full duty.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. H. RYLAND, Chairman.

**FOREIGN MISSIONS.**—From the last report to the Southern Baptist Convention the following facts are obtained: On the Foreign field we have 113 Churches, 140 Out Stations, 94 Missionaries, 29 Ordained Natives, 104 Unordained Native Helpers, 1,341 Baptisms, Total membership 6,537, Sunday School Scholars 2,408. These Native Christians contributed \$7,094.88.

In the above figures there is shown an encouraging increase in every department. During the last year there have been great disturbances in China. War has intercepted our Missionaries in their operations. As it has been through all the ages, we are being tried in fiery crucibles. We specially deplore the fact that some of our home press have erroneously blamed the Missionaries with the troubles in China. We earnestly solicit Christians everywhere to join us in prayer and renewed effort in this great work.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. W. DOSSETT.

The Committee on Education not being present, the report of last year with a little added, was adopted, as follows:

Your Committee is gratified to report that our Theological Seminary, at Louisville, continues to advance in influence and usefulness, Dr. Whitsitt, the faithful and learned President, who served the Seminary so long and so ably, has resigned, and Dr. E. Y. Mullens has been elected to succeed him. We have been rejoiced to see with what practical unanimity of good feeling the election of Dr. Mullens has been received by our people; and we predict that, under his wise and Godly leadership, the Seminary will continue its hitherto phenomenal growth.

The various Church Schools, throughout the State, many Private Schools, the Public Schools, the Normal, Industrial and Mechanical Schools and Colleges, and the State University, are all being liberally patronized in the pursuit of secular knowledge, and we believe our people are rapidly becoming more in-

telligent.

While it is the chief duty of our Churches to advance the cause of missions, and while our missionary efforts should be in no wise diminished, but rather intensified—yet, is it undoubtedly our duty to look after the proper teaching and theological training of our Ministers, and for that reason we should make liberal contributions to ministerial education, and give our great Theological Seminary, our Howard College, Judson Institute, and Alabama Central Female College, our warmest sympathy and most cordial support.

The Central College at Tuscaloosa should have our especial sympathy and support. The buildings have undergone thorough repairs and is a most beautiful and substantial structure. Rev. B. F. Giles is the new president and his helpers in every department, like himself, are eminently qualified for the work assigned them. A large number of girls and young ladies are in its halls and its possibilities for good are great.

Report on Documents read, discussed, and adopted, as follows:

**REPORT ON DOCUMENTS:**—We, your Committee on Documents, find that nearly all of our Churches have Sunday Schools; comparatively few have Prayer Meetings, while a few are pastorless. We also find that, with the exception of two or three Churches, the additions by baptism have been few. No new Churches have asked to be received into our body at this Meeting.

Our aged and well beloved Brother Nathan Williams has gone on to await his reward since our last Meeting.

We urgently recommend that at our present Meeting, we devise some plan by which the debt hanging over the Church house at Woodstock be early liquidated.

Respectfully Submitted,

N. N. BROWNE, Chairman.

The following Committee was appointed to inquire into the condition of the debt of the Woodstock Church, and if possible devise plans for its liquidation: Robison Brown, R. S. Cox and L. O. Dawson.

Report on Orphan's Home read and adopted, as follows:

**REPORT ON ORPHAN'S HOME:**—We, the Committee on

Orphan's Home, consider the Baptist Orphanage at Evergreen a meritorious institution, and one in which each Church in this Association should take a deep interest. We believe that each Church should take a collection quarterly for this cause, and we suggest that this body at once, take a collection for its benefit. We realize that this is a year for action and not for talk only. The Winter is approaching and the children need something substantial.

Respectfully Submitted,

W. F. GOODSON.

Report of Committee on Nominations read and adopted, as follows:

**REPORT ON NOMINATIONS:**—The next session of this Association will be held with Windham Springs Church, beginning on Wednesday, after the first Sunday in September, 1901.

To preach Introductory sermon:—R. S. Cox; alternate, S. E. Hodge.

To preach Missionary Sermon:—John T. Bealle; alternate, J. W. Loveless.

Executive Committee:—F. S. Moody, J. S. Yerby, Milton Perry, A. C. Riley, J. M. Loller, J. R. Mosely, B. C. Sumner.

Delegate to Southern Baptist Convention:—L. O. Dawson; alternate, John T. Bealle.

Delegates to State Convention:—B. H. Williams, Joseph Tibbs, S. E. Phifer, H. F. Hill, T. W. Palmer, J. B. Davie.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. T. HAYS, Chairman.

Amended as follows: The place of meeting be referred to the Executive Committee.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

**RESOLVED**, That the thanks of this Association, be and hereby tendered, to the Siloam Church, and the surrounding neighborhood, for the very bountiful entertainment accorded to the Messengers during the present Session.

A motion that a Committee of three be appointed, two of which shall be the Moderator and Clerk, to arrange a programme for the next Meeting of the Association.

Adjourned. Gave parting hand.

JOHN T. BEALLE, Clerk.

J. H. CURRY, Moderator.

### DISTRICT MEETINGS.

REPORT OF FIRST DISTRICT:—The meeting of the First District, was held with the Church, at Mount Zion, on Friday, before the 4th Sunday in July, 1900

Introductory Sermon, by John T. Bealle.

Delegates present:—Woodstock—J. C. Arnold; Vance—J. S. Quarles; Mount Pleasant—F. W. Thompson, S. S. Shuttleworth, N. Mathews, Marvin Copeland; Cottondale J. H. Ryland, Mike Lynch, Bud Burks; Bethel—J. W. Mathews, N. N. Browne; Gilgal—M. B. Smith, B. D. Skelton, J. W. Thompson; Mount Zion—R. E. St. John, J. T. Thrower, W. B. Hutchins, D. B. Black, Jr; Hopewell—L. W. Johnson; Duaneville—Claud Smith, Harold Curry.

The next meeting will be held with Coaling Church, Bethel, beginning on Friday, before the Fourth Sunday in July, 1901.

Introductory Sermon, by John T. Bealle; alternate R. S. Cox.

Preachers and Deacons meeting on Thursday before.

#### SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION,

1st. What does it take to constitute a Baptist Church?  
Opened by M. B. Smith,

2nd. And what is the Church? By Sam Black.

3rd. What are our Churches to-day compared with one hundred years ago? By N. N. Browne.

4th. What are the duties of the Deacons, and what are the duties of the Churches towards their Deacons, By J. W. Thompson.

J. S. QUARLES, Moderator.

J. W. WILLINGHAM, Clerk.

REPORT OF SECOND DISTRICT:—The Second District Meeting was held with the Flatwoods Church, on Friday and Saturday before the Third Sunday in August, 1900. The next meeting will be held with the Piney Grove Church, beginning on Friday before the Third Sunday in August, 1901.

Introductory Sermon by W. L. White; alternate, J. H. M. Anders.

#### SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION.

1st. What God has done for me? By L. R. Finnell.

2nd. Who should be members of our Churches, and why? By S. E. Hodge.

3rd. What is a Church for? By R. E. Hobson.

4th. The officers of a Church and their duties. By Isaac Martin.

J. T. BEALLE, Chairman.

G. W. SANDERS, Clerk.



## CONSTITUTION.

1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by their different Churches in our Union, who, producing their credentials, shall be entitled to seats.

2. The members thus chosen and convened, shall be known by the name of "The Tuscaloosa Baptist Association," which shall have the privilege to enact and carry out plans for Missionary purposes in all their bearings, but so that the Churches and individual members are left free; and the matter of giving or withholding, shall not be a bar to membership.

3. This Association shall usurp no authority over the Churches in our Union, or infringe upon any of their internal rights; but shall merely be considered an advisory council, in all matters relative to their internal concerns; nevertheless, it becomes necessary, in some cases, to have a uniform rule of procedure, viz: If one Church commit an offense against another, it shall be the duty of the offended to labor with the offender for satisfaction; if she fail of success, she shall call the aid of two or more Churches in our Union to assist in laboring for satisfaction, and if final satisfaction, in the opinion of the helps thus called, be not obtained, the aggrieved may bring the case before the Association, which shall be taken up and decided upon according to its merits. If a serious difference should arise in an individual Church, which, upon due labor cannot be reconciled, she shall call the aid of two or more sister Churches to assist in the work; and if a reconciliation be not effected, the helps so called, or the church, may bring the case before the Association, to be acted on according to its merits; but the Association will take cognizance of no case of the above kind, unless a due course of procedure shall have been previously pursued, according to the economy of the Church discipline, found in the 18th chapter of the Gospel of St. Matthew, and other parts of the Scriptures, which define the nature of offences, and the manner of bringing offenders to trial.

4. The Churches of our Union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association, written communications, specifying the names of their delegates, their number in fellowship, baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated, and deceased, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

5. Every Church belonging to this Association shall be entitled

to representation in the following manner: Each Church is entitled, and is requested to send, four delegates, and any Church with a membership exceeding 75, for every additional 25 members, shall be entitled to one additional delegate. Any Church failing to represent herself as prescribed in the Constitution, shall state reason at the next annual session. Any delegate retiring from the Association without leave, before adjournment, his name shall be stricken from the minutes of the session.

6. New Churches may be admitted to our Union by delegates bearing petitionary letters. If, upon due examination, they be found orderly and orthodox, the Moderator and Brethren shall manifest their admission by giving the delegates the right hand in token of Christian fellowship.

7. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum, which she is authorized to form and amend according to her own views.

8. At every session of the Association, a Moderator shall be appointed by, and from the delegates present, whose duty it shall be to see that the rules are strictly observed, and to take the voice of the Association on all subjects legally introduced. A Stated Clerk shall be appointed, who shall continue in office until the Association shall elect his successor, and whose duty it shall be to take proper and correct minutes of every session of this body, which he is to present to the view of the Association annually. An assistant Clerk may be elected each year, if necessary.

9. The Association shall have power to exclude from the Union any Church that may violate the Constitution, or depart from the orthodox principles of the constitution.

10. The Association shall furnish the Minutes of every session to the Churches making contributions for that purpose.

11. Every query sent by a particular Church, must be included in her letter, certifying that she endeavored to reconcile it, but failed. In such a case, the Association shall take it under consideration, and the voice of the majority shall be considered an advisory answer, which shall be entered on the minutes.

12. Queries which immediately concern the general Union of the churches, sent by a particular church, or introduced by a proper motion, shall be taken up and decided as soon as practicable.

13. Any Church in our Union having a preacher whom she deems worthy of ordination, shall call a presbytery of Ministers from sister Churches, to officiate in the work; and all presbyteries in the ordaining of Ministers or Deacons, or in the constituting of Churches, shall be governed by the Abstract of Faith, adopted by the Association.

14. The Association shall have a fund, supplied by the voluntary contributions from the Churches, by their delegates, and paid over to the committee on finance. This committee shall be appointed annually, whose duty it shall be to receive in charge, the Association fund, and dispose of the same agreeably to order, and make at every session, a fair and circumstantial report of the proceedings.

15. This Association shall not adjourn any session until she shall have finished all business on hand, except in extraordinary cases.

16. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, before the session rises.

17. The Association shall, in all cases, (except to amend the Constitution) be governed by a majority of the members present.

18. Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any session of the Association, when two-thirds of its members are present.

### ARTICLES OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.

2. We believe that the Scriptures, comprising the Old and the New Testament, are the Word of God, the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of Election, and that God chose his people in Christ, before the foundation of the world.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

5. We believe in man's incapability, by his own free will and ability, to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Christ only.

7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

8. We believe that the Saints shall be preserved in Grace, and never fall finally away.

9. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are Ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of Baptism, and that by immersion is the Apostolic mode.

10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and the General Judgment, and that the felicity of the righteous and punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

11. We believe that no minister has any right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel, but one who is regularly baptized, called, and comes under the imposition of the hands of a Presbytery.

12. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's Table.

### RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a discretionary right to call to order at any time.

3. A member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.

4. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, and on obtaining permission, proceed.

5. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify same by naming the person, or otherwise.

6. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection. Every motion made and seconded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it.

7. Each case taken up by the Association, shall be decided on or withdrawn before another shall be offered.

8. When a question is taken up, allowing time for the debates, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association on the subject in such mode as he may determine.

9. The Moderator shall announce the decision to the body.

10. Any member wishing to retire, must have permission of the Moderator.

11. No member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition, unless by permission of the Association, nor more than once until every one wishing to speak shall have spoken.

12. The appellation of "Brother," shall be used in the Association by members in their address to one another.

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

14. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other person, provided he call some one to his seat during the time. He shall not vote on any question unless the Association be equally divided.

16. Any one violating these rules, shall be reprov'd by the Moderator, at his discretion, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

#### ORDER OF EXERCISES.

1. Devotional Exercises.
2. Presentation of Letters from the Churches, and Election of Officers.
3. Receive Correspondence.
4. Return Correspondence.
5. Open the door for the reception of New Members.
6. Appoint Special Committees, viz:—1. On Preaching; 2. On Documents; 3. On Nominations; 4. On Finance.
7. Reports of Standing Committees, viz:—1. On Temperance; 2. Sunday Schools; 3. State, Home, and Foreign Missions; 4. Education; 5. Aged and Infirm Ministers; 6. Periodicals; 7. Executive Committee.
8. Orphan's Home.
9. Miscellaneous Business.
10. Appointment of Standing Committee.
11. Give parting hand.

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 For Sunday School Literature, write the "Baptist Sunday School Board," Nashville, Tenn.

The churches of this Association are earnestly requested to raise for Mission, and other work of the denomination the following amounts:

Bethany.....	\$12 00	Pleasant Hill.....	5 00	Mt. Zion.....	15 00
Bethel.....	15 00	Sardis.....	15 00	Northport.....	150 00
Bibbville.....	5 00	Big Sandy.....	50 00	Shultz Creek.....	12 00
Flatwoods.....	15 00	Blocton 1st.....	60 00	Siloam.....	8 00
Gilgal.....	25 00	Blocton 2nd.....	10 00	Tuscaloosa.....	400 00
Hopewell.....	15 00	Cottondale.....	12 00	Vance.....	20 00
Little Sandy.....	12 00	Mt. Moriah.....	15 00	Windham Springs.....	10 00
Piney Grove.....	10 00	Mt. Olive.....	10 00	Woodstock.....	10 00
Big Creek.....	15 00	Mt. Paran.....	10 00	Brookwood.....	40 00
Big Hurricane.....	12 00	Mt. Pleasant.....	10 00	Carroll's Creek.....	5 00

FINANCIAL TABLE

CHURCHES.	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Minutes	Associational Purposes	Ministerial Education	Orphan's Home	Pastor's Salary	Repairs, Fuel, the Poor, Etc.	Sunday Schools, Etc.	Total	Value of Church Property
Bethany.....	75	2 12	75	1 10	50		5 00	55 00	10 00	15 22	500	
Bethel.....	2 00	2 00	2 00	75	25				2 00	69 00	300	
Bibbville.....				80	30		1 18	60 00	47 00	3 00	1 10	200
Big Creek.....	5 00	5 00		60	25		1 18	60 00		3 00	122 03	300
Big Hurricane.....				1 50	50		3 59	23 63		2 00	29 63	300
Big Sandy.....	15 65	4 50	7 35	1 75	50		3 59	23 63	16 00	8 00	57 34	1000
Blocton 1st.....	7 35	7 30	7 30	1 50	1 00		8 58	534 00	43 24	112 00	722 27	2400
Blocton 2nd.....												300
Brookwood.....	6 00	6 25	6 00	2 00	50	1 00	2 00	294 90	67 95	24 72	411 32	450
Carroll's Crk.....												200
Cottondale.....		1 00	50	30	50						2 30	1000
Duncanville.....	2 00	2 93		50	50		1 45	75 00	12 77		93 70	600
Flatwoods.....	2 40	3 15	2 65	50	1 00		1 45	35 30	43 35		92 80	400
Gilgal.....	3 00	3 00	3 00	1 00	1 00		1 20	120 00		3 00	135 40	1250
Hopewell.....	4 27	3 72	1 82	75	75	98		30 00		3 20	43 29	1000
Little Sandy.....	3 31	3 75	2 35	50	50		1 93	20 00		2 00	34 34	800
Mt. Moriah.....		1 00	2 63	1 50	50		2 00	36 50		4 50	48 68	400
Mt. Olive.....												250
Mt. Paran.....	50	1 00	1 00	1 00	50			18 00		6 00	28 00	250
Mt. Pleasant.....												200
Mt. Zion.....	22 92	3 90	11 55	1 25	25		20 00	20 00			21 50	300
Northport.....				2 00	2 00	11 67	20 00	325 00	350 00	18 20	767 24	2000
Piney Grove.....												500
Pleasant Hill.....	6 00	2 40	2 40	75	50		3 45	17 00		4 00	36 50	500
Shultz Creek.....				1 25	50		10 95			4 00	16 70	500
Siloam.....				1 03	50		1 50		25 00	8 00	36 00	
Tuscaloosa.....	287 00	85 00	86 00	2 50	2 50	50 00	53 00	1500 00	1143 51	105 00	334 51	20 000
Vance.....	5 43	8 45	9 80	75	50		7 63	62 25			94 87	500
Windham Spg.....	1 15	1 15	1 10	73	75		1 50	15 00			21 40	450
Woodstock.....	3 00	1 00		1 00	1 00		2 00	50 25	36 00	15 00	118 25	2 000
Total	\$277 73	\$150 62	\$148 25	\$27 30	\$17 75	\$63 65	\$127 02	\$3300 83	\$1754 82	\$334 62	\$33239	\$38 250

◆——STATISTICAL TABLE——◆

CHURCHES.	CO.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S POST OFFICE	Membership										S S Superintendent's Name and Post Office
					Membership Last reported	Baptism	Letter Restoration	Letter Exclusion	Erasures	Deaths	Present Membership	S S Officers And Teachers	Sunday Pupils		
Bethany .....	Tusca	S. E. Hodge .....	J. H. Price .....	Humphrey.	82	5	1	6	3	1	81	4	32	R. L. Hughes, Humphrey	
Bethel .....	Tusca	W. G. Hubbard .....	N. N. Browne .....	Coaling	55	1	2	2	1	1	53	5	30	S. M. Black, Coaling	
Bibbville .....	Bibb	A. C. Riley .....	W. Woodstock	Woodstock	40						37				
Big Creek .....	Tusca	J. D. Ray .....	H. C. Koster .....	Coker .....	76	1		3		1	73	4	34	E. Coleman, Northport	
Big Hurricane .....	Tusca	C. R. Miller .....	John Lawrence .....	Brookwood	106		1	3		2	104	7	50	Silas Kyzar, Brookwood	
Big Sandy .....	Tusca	I. R. Schramm .....	B. M. Puffer .....	Phifer .....	172		2	4	1	4	165	4	50	B. M. Phifer, Phifer	
Blocton 1st. ....	Tusca	J. W. Dosselt .....	J. B. Dave .....	Blocton .....	123	7	8	8		1	126	8	75	W. W. Perry, Blocton	
Blocton 2nd. ....	Bibb										52				
Brookwood .....	Tusca	A. G. Hash .....	M. W. Murray .....	Brookwood.	72	3	11	15	3	1	67	8	91	J. F. Elliott, Brookwood	
Carroll's (1 <sup>st</sup> )k. ....	Tusca	Felix Mills .....	S. L. Hassell .....	Northport.	29			9		1	29				
Cottondale .....	Tusca	G. W. Sowell .....	J. H. Ryland .....	Cottondale.	66	12	14	6	1	3	84	6	40	J. Holman, Cottondale	
Duncanville .....	Tusca	J. D. Ray .....	C. D. Smith .....	Duncanville	13	1		2		1	13				
Flatwoods .....	Tusca	J. T. Bealle .....	J. H. Anders .....	Northport	38			1		1	36	5	40	H. W. Sloan, Northport	
Gilgal .....	Tusca	W. J. Raddick .....	A. W. Thompson .....	Tuscaloosa.	117	1	1	2		1	116	5	40	A. W. Thompson, Tusca,	
Hopewell .....	Tusca	J. T. Bealle .....	D. A. Browne .....	Cottondale.	46	1		1		1	49	3	46	G. W. Rowe, Tuscaloosa	
Little Sandy .....	Tusca	J. T. Bealle .....	J. Henry Ryan .....	Cottondale.	32					1	31	2	20	J. H. Blake, Blocton	
Mt. Moriah .....	Bibb	G. W. Freeman .....	Zrasmus Hayes .....	Tuscaloosa.	56	1		5		1	51	7	30		
Mt. Olive .....	Tusca	J. H. M. Anders .....	W. N. Bryant .....	Northport	98						98				
Mt. Paran .....	Tusca	S. E. Hodge .....	S. H. Doekery .....	Northport	31	3		1			36	3	60	Henry Snyder, Northp't	
Mt. Paranant .....	Tusca	R. S. Cox .....	M. Copeland .....	Cottondale.	45										
Mt. Zion .....	Tusca	C. A. Loeke .....	J. W. Willingham .....	Cottondale.	114	7	4	6		2	115	5	50	C. E. Rice, Northport	
Northport .....	Tusca	J. H. Curry .....	D. L. Brown .....	Northport.	184	2	4	5		4	181	8	123	C. E. Rice, Northport	
Piney Grove .....	Tusca	J. Kizziah .....	W. Franklin .....	Northport.	63						63	3	50	R. E. Hobson, Northport	
Pleasant Hill .....	Tusca										13				
Sardis .....	Tusca	J. W. Loveless .....	W. W. Williams .....	Pearle .....	48	8		1			55	6	55	J. T. Hayes, Pearl	
Shultz Creek .....	Bibb	G. W. Freeman .....	J. A. Lowry .....	Riverbend.	68	23	2	2		1	91				
Siloam .....	Bibb	G. W. Freeman .....	J. A. Wagoner .....	Centerville	40	1	10				48	4	30	A. J. Wood, Scottville	
Tuscaloosa .....	Tusca	L. O. Dawson .....	Robison Brown .....	Tuscaloosa.	450	39	36	15	1	9	500	32	400	T. W. Palmer, University	
Vance .....	Tusca	James Hogan .....	R. W. Vance .....	Orange	53	12		7	1	2	55	5	55	R. T. Moore, Vance	
Windham Spg. ....	Tusca	J. B. Ferguson .....	J. M. Lollar .....	Vance .....	41	16	4	1	3	1	61	4	56	J. M. Lollar, Oregonia	
Woodstock .....	Bibb	J. D. Ray .....	Paul Keeton .....	Woodstock	42		5	1		3	43	5	41	J. M. Rolan, Woodstock	
					2265	143	109	10	96	10	14	37	2526	143	1498



