

MINUTES

OF THE

Twenty-Fifth Annual Session

OF THE

Mud Creek Missionary Baptist

ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

The Concord Baptist Church,

JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALA.,

October 17th, 18th and 19th, 1896.

A Complete Roll of the Delegates appear in a Tabular
Statement at the end of these Minutes.

The next Session will be held with Mud Creek Church,
Commencing on Saturday before the 3d Sunday
in October, 1897.

MINUTES

—OF THE—

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Mud Creek Missionary Baptist Association,

—CONVENED WITH—

Concord Baptist Church, Sat. Oct. 17th 1896.

The body came together by singing hymn No. 204, in perennial singer. After prayer by Elder A. White, hymn No. 64, in Baptist Psalmody was sung.

The appointee being absent, by request of the body, the introductory sermon was preached by Elder John M. Henry, from Birmingham Association, text found last clause 37 verse of 8th chapter of the Acts, reads as follows: "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Also a portion of the 6th verse and 9th chapter, reads: "Lord what wilt thou have me to do. After prayer by Elder W. J. Ray, the body adjourned until two o'clock for dinner.

SATURDAY EVENING.

The body came together by singing. After prayer by Elder J. N. McFalls, a move was made that Elder J. H. Mauldin act as Moderator, protem, (our former Moderator being absent), which was carried.

Elder W. J. Ray, from Coosa River Association, and Elder A. J. Batson, were appointed to read the letters from the various churches.

The body then went into an election of Moderator and Clerk, resulted in the choice of A. White Moderator, and I. V. Salter Clerk.

Petitionary letters were called for. Received none. Correspondence called for. Received from Birmingham Association, Elders B. M. Waldrop, J. M. Henry, Bros. J. B. Tarrant and S. G. Robertson; from Coosa River Elder W. J. Bay; from Harmony Bros. John Nicholson, N. Megs and T. G. Caffee.

Committees were appointed as follows:

DEVOTION—Iry Smith, Tol Cargit, Joe Franklin, together with deacons of this Church.

DOCUMENTS—Wm. Black, S. J. Waldrop, T. N. Crowder.

NOMINATIONS—D. G. Knight, C. B. Hood, Wm. Batson.

FINANCE—D. M. Waldrop, R. T. Vines, Icam Hammonds.

DISCEASED MEMBERS—A. J. Summers, P. H. Jones, J. T. Golden.

A move was made to discard the committee on indigent members. Carried.

A move was then made to hear the reading of our constitution, rules of decorum and abstract of principles, which were read by Elder John M. Henry. Moved and second we continue to adopt them as they are. Carried.

A move was then made to give any member of our body power to represent our association in any association. Which was carried.

A move was then made to adjourn until half past 9 o'clock to-morrow, and meet for singing, to be conducted by Bros. W. D. Riley and H. J. Summers. After singing hymn No. 10 in Perennial Singer prayer was offered by Elder B. M. Waldrop.

SUNDAY MORNING.

Singing began half-past 9 o'clock. First lesson was led by Bro. W. D. Riley in Perennial singer, followed by Bro. H. J. Summers.

An intermission was given to reassemble for preaching.

The congregation came together by singing hymn No. 641 in Baptist Psalmody. As the appointee was absent Elder W. J. Ray was requested to preach the missionary sermon, to be followed by elder J. N. McFalls.

After singing hymn No. 982 in Baptist Psalmody the 10th chapter of Romans were read, prayer by Elder W. J. Ray. Text found 17th chapter of John 8th verse. After preaching a collection was taken up for the mission cause to be disposed of as this body sees fit. Received \$11.54.

Adjourn for dinner to meet again half-past two o'clock, for preaching by Elder A. White.

SUNDAY EVENING.

The congregation came together by singing hymn No. 523 in Baptist Psalmody. Prayer by Elder A. White, text found 8th chapter Joshua, latter part of 4th verse, read, "Go not far from the city, but be ye all ready." After prayer by Elder J. M. Henry, the congregation was dismissed to meet Monday morning 9 o'clock.

MONDAY MORNING.

The body was called to order. The first 20 verses of 5th chapter of Mathew were read by the Moderator. After singing hymn No. 574 in Baptist Psalmody prayer was offered by Elder J. N. McFalls.

The Moderator then called for the reports of the various committees. Elder J. H. Longcrid was introduced to the body by Elder J. M. Henry, as a representative from Howard College. Moved and seconded he be seated, carried.

Moved and seconded all ordained ministers in our body be seated with us, with all the rights and privileges of our association. Carried.

Moved and seconded Elder W. R. Ivey, from Birmingham Association be seated with us. Carried.

COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee on Documents, after examining the letters from the various churches, find only one request for the next session of this body, that Mud Creek.

WM. BLACK, Chairman

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATION.

We, you, Committee on Nominations find nothing to claim out attention except a call for the next session of this body at Mud Creek. We recomend that Mud Creek Church entertain the next session of this body, to commence Friday before the third Sunday in Oct. 1897, and the introductory address be delivered by Elder G. H. Bean, at 11 o'clock on Friday, and the missionary sermon to be preached by Elder J. N. McFall, at 11 o'clock on Sunday.

D. G. KNIGHT, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

We, your Committee on Finance, have received for minutes \$8.36; associational purposes \$6.51; missionary money, by different churches, \$16.70; missionary money, by Sunday's collection, \$11.54; Monday's collection for Howard College \$4.45; total \$47.56.

D. M. WALDROP, Chairman.

HOME MISSION.

Dear brethren, your last session ask me to write upon the subject of missions, I will claim that Satans mission among men is to lead them astray and to disobey God, but our heavenly farther loved us so much that he sent his only begotten Son into the world to redeem us from that fallen state, the Savior being sent upon the mission of redemption, set about his work, by teaching, by mirecals and parable, to convince man of his power to redeem man from the fallen state he is in, and when he had thus taught the people, He began to show forth the true principles of christian love, which worketh in all men to do good, and many believeth on him. And he continued to instruct them that believed, and said, "as I have loved you, also ye ought to love one another, greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his own life for his brothers." Speaking of their discipleship and of his death, He began to give them command, "go ye into all the world and teach all nations, teaching them whatsoever I have taught you to observe in all things, in season and out of senson, with prayer and long suffering take up thy cross and follow me, if you would be my deciple you must do the will of my father, which sent me, I come not to destroy, but to bring life and salvation to every one that believeth. A light that shineth in darkness, and that light lighteth up the pathway of every man that believeth. Blessed is he that knoweth the will of my father, and doeth it.

Dear brethren, the life of Christ is so full of good works that it draws all men unto him, if we would be like him we must dis-

charge our whole duty that we owe to our fellow man, and to our church and God, by taking care of our christian influence, and by holding up the gospel with our means that cometh from the hand of God. The gospel has been handed down through eighteen centuries by inspired christians men and women, by translation, great labor and expense, yea when we read the history of martidom, and see them that passed under the hand of persecection, we can say through lamentation keeping the command of our dear Savior, "Go ye into all the world and preach my gospel to every creature, and so I am with yon always even unto the end of the world."

Dear brethern, we are made to rejoice at the close of the nineteenth century, where we can see men and women of every nation receiving the light of the gospel, and their souls being made free, and their lives hid with Christ.

Brethern we see the past generation marching on to victory, and giving God the praise, we find no less duties resting upon us. The command is preach the gospel to every creature. It is of interest to inquire what Southern Baptist have done, and are doing. In 1845 the Southern Baptist Convention was organized, at that meeting the foreign mission board was appointed during the fifty years three hundred and ten missionaries have been sent out, and \$1,814,800 have been contributed by our churches. The board is sustaining missions in China, Africa, Japan, Italy, Brazille and Mexico. The report to last convention shows number of churches 85 with a membership 3,403, out stations 114 male missionaries 40, females 51, ordained natives 30, unordained 50, houses of worship 22, baptized last year 381, amount contributed last year \$6,458.72. The work of the state and home boards are equally as encouraging, still there is Baptist that are omissionary. Let us not be one of these. The gospel was given to us, we must give it to others by contributing our money and labors to the spreading of the gospel, if we would enjoy the blessings that cometh by the gospel.

Shall we content ourselves without preaching the gospel? Let us go on to victory and reap the reward, "well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joys of thy Lord." Submitted by
S. H. PARSONS, Committee.

The report of the committee on education was read and adopted. After which a speech was delivered by Elder J. H. Longcrier in the behalf of Howard College. After which a collection was taken up which amounted to \$4.45.

RECEIPT.

Recieved of Mud Creek Association \$4.45 for Howard College.
J. H. LONGCRIER.

Oct. 19th, 1896.

After singing, prayer was offered by Elder J. H. Longcrier. The body then adjourned until 2 o'clock for dinner.

MONDAY EVENING.

The body was called to order by the Moderator after singing hymn No. 548 in Baptist psalmody. Prayer was offered by Bro. S. H. Parsons, business of the morning was taken up.

EDUCATION.

We realize that there is a great necessity for education religiously than there ever has been before. We see the development of evil influences all around us with such attractive powers that our young and rising generation does not know right from wrong unless they be taught, and how can they be taught without a teacher, and how can a man teach without a preparation. Let us therefore brethren strive to establish a good school in every neighborhood, as we realize that our children are not our own, but jewels loaned unto us to polish for the masters kingdom, and cultivate their minds when tender to abhor sin in all of its deformed faces. Teach them to be truthful and honest, in fact moral in every sense. That when it pleases God to show them the light, that they may be better prepared to enter a spiritual life against the enemy of souls. Again education beautifies life in all classes of people, it makes their faces shine brilliantly, even in natural life, and an education of the heart prepares them for heaven. Again do not educate the mind and not the heart and hands, but let all be cultivated together, We plead for education because it fosters manhood, and especially we plead for the education of our young ministers. If they are not able to educate themselves let them ask for help, all God loving men will assist in this noble work. Notice, if you please, Pauls instruction to Timothy, Study to show theyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed let no man live for himself, but every man for another." We would recommend Howard College for a high school for young minister. The situation well known we submit this report with a hope that it may be practiced among us.

A. J. SUMMERS, Committeeman.

COMMITTEE ON DESEASED MEMBERS.

We, your committee on deseased members, with sorrow submit the names of several of our much loved in Christ that have been called to try the realities of the invisible world to us since our last meeting. To wit: Bro. T. L. Burchfield, of Smithville Church; Sister Margeret Vines, of Liberty Church; Bro. E. P. Hood and Sister Lucindia Hood, of New Bethel; Sister Armindia Reeves, of Rock Creek; also Sister Louisa Vines, Bro. H. N. Payne, of Concord; Bro. Burt Hyché and Sister Annis Thompson, of Oak Grove. Let us therefore brethren pray that their absence may be filled by the royal presence of God.

A. J. SUMMERS, Chairman.

Bro. Iry Smith, was appointed treasurer.

Moved and seconded that the Moderator appoint four standing committees to bring or send a report to the next session of this body, as follows:

SABBATH SCHOOL—D. G. Knight.

TEMPERANCE—S. J. Waldrop.

MISSION—T. R. Cargit.

EDUCATION—D. M. Waldrop.

Moved and seconded we give Elder W. R. Ivey and J. H. Longcrier, time to discuss the subject of temperance. Carried.

Moved and seconded the money carried over from last year, amount \$3.70, and the associational funds be equally divided between the Moderator and Clerk, for their services. Carried.

Moved and seconded the collection taken up on Sunday, be applied to the payment of the debt against Howard College. Carried.

RECEIPT.

Received of Mud Creek Association \$11.54 for Howard College debt.

J. H. LONGCRIER.

Oct. 19th, 1896.

Resolved. That we tender a vote of thanks to the good people of Concord Church, and community for the kind and hospitable manner in which they entertained us during our stay with them.

Resolved. That we adjourn to met with Mud Creek Church Friday before the third Sunday in Oct. 1897.

A. WHITE, Moderator.

I. V. SALTER, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be know as the Mud Creek Missionary Baptist Association.

ART. 2. It shall be formed of delegates from all the churches which may connect themselves with this body.

ART. 3. Any church may be admitted into this body by general consent of the members present at any regular session.

ART. 4. Any church may withdraw from this body at its own discretion, on proper application for dismission.

ART. 5. This body shall usurp no authority over the churches in our union, nor infringe on any of their internal rights, but merely be considered as an advisory council in all matters relative to their internal affairs.

ART. 6. The churches in the union shall transmit each annual session of the Association with a written communication specifying the names of their messengers, and the state of their churches since last session.

ART. 7. Every church in our union shall be entitled to three delegates. Any church failing to represent herself as above prescribed, shall state her reasons at the next session.

ART. 8. Newly constituted churches shall be admitted into our union by messengers bearing petitionary letters. If, upon due examination, they be found orderly and orthodox, their reception shall be manifested by the Moderator giving the messengers the right hand of fellowship.

ART. 9. The Association when convening shall be governed by a regular and proper rule of decorum, which she is authorized to alter or amend according to her own views.

ART. 10. At every session of the Association a Moderator shall be chosen by and from among the delegates present, whose duty it shall be to see that all the rules of decorum be strictly observed, and take the voice of the Association on all subjects legally introduced. A Clerk shall be chosen in the same manner, whose duty it shall be to make proper and correct minutes of the Association.

ART. 11. The Association shall have the power to drop from her union any church which may violate the Constitution or depart from the orthodox principles of the Gospel.

ART. 12. The Association shall furnish the churches with minutes according to the funds sent up for said purpose by the churches.

ART. 13. Queries that immediately concern the union of the churches, or introduced by a proper motion of the body, may be taken up and decided by the body.

ART. 14. The Association shall have a Treasurer, whose duty it shall be to receive all moneys from the finance Committee, and pay it out at the order of the Association.

ART. 15. We shall have the right to enact and carry out missionary work in all its bearings, so that giving or withholding shall not be a barrier of fellowship.

ART. 16. The Association shall not adjourn any session until it shall have finished all the business on hand, unless it be in extraordinary cases.

ART. 17. Minutes of Association shall be read and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, if necessary, before the session rises.

ART. 18. Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any session when two thirds of the members may deem it necessary.

RULES OF DECORUM.

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

ART. 2. The Moderator shall be deemed a judge of order, and shall have the right to call to order at any time; also, shall be his duty to see that the rules of decorum are attended, and to take the opinion of the Association on all questions properly brought before the body.

ART. 3. Any member not satisfied with his decision on any point of order may appeal to the Association on the same day that the decision is made, but at no other time.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a true record of the transactions of the Association.

ART. 5. But one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise and address the Moderator.

ART. 6. The Moderator when addressed for leave of speech, shall signify the same by naming them, or otherwise.

ART. 7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject under consideration, or use words of personal reflection, or with a view of calling to order for some particular purpose and motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association unless withdrawn by the one who made it.

ART. 8. Every case taken up by the Association, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall put the question, and, if necessary, the sense of the body may be taken up by rising to their feet.

ART. 9. When anything isken up by the Association it shall first be decided upon before another is proposed.

ART. 10. No person shall depart from the service of the Association without leave of the same.

ART. 11. The appellation of Brother shall be used in our address to each other.

ART. 12. The name of the members shall be called as often as necessary.

ART. 13. No person shall be indulged in any practice that has a tendency to interrupt in any time of public speech, or other practices that would dishonor the Association.

ART. 14. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges of speech as others, provided he appoint some member to take his seat while he is speaking, but shall not be entitled to vote unless the Association be equally divided then he shall have the casting vote.

ART. 15. No member of this body shall be permitted to speak more than twice on the same subject, without first obtaining leave of the Association, unless to explain.

ART. 16. Any person breaking the Rules of Decorum shall be reprovved at the discretion of the Moderator, but only on the day the breach is made.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

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

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

3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

4. We believe in a man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by his own free will and holiness.

5. We believe in the doctrine of election through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of truth.

6. We believe sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the merits of Jesus Christ.

7. We believe the Saints will persevere in grace and not finally fall away.

8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and the true believers are the only proper subjects, and do conscientiously believe that the true mode of Baptism is immersion.

9. We believe in the resurrection and general judgment.

10. We believe the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

11. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as have been called of God, and regularly baptized and approved by the church, and come under the imposition of hand by presbytery.

12. We believe that none but believers have a right to the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

- A. White, Toad Vine, Jefferson, Ala.
- J. H. Mauldin, Quinton, Jefferson, Ala.
- T. P. Vanderver Quinton, Jefferson, Ala.
- A. J. Batson, Earnest, Jefferson, Ala.
- G. B. Vines, Short Creek, Jefferson, Ala.
- G. H. Bean, Eza, Jefferson, Ala.
- J. N. McFalls, Earnest, Jefferson, Ala.

STATISTICS OF THE MUD CREEK MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1896.

CHURCH.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S P. O.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Membership last Re-	Increase by Baptism.	Increase by Letter.	Increase by Restora-	Decrease by Letter.	Decrease by Exclusion.	Decrease by Death.	Present membership.	Mission fund.	Minute fund	Associational fund
					ported.			tionn.							
Concord.....	H. A. Key.....	D. G. Knight.	Earnest	D. G. Knight, T. N. Crowder, R. F. Vines.....	59	8	4	1	3	1	1	66	\$5.00	65	65
Connellsville.....	L. N. Walker..	W. L. Herring	.....	W. L. Herring, P. A. Jones, E. P. Jones.....	25	15	18	.....	1	.....	.....	58	1.55	50	50
Freehill.....	A. White.....	.....	.....	C. B. Hood, G. H. Mauldin, A. J. Summers....	61	6	2	.....	5	.....	.....	64	.....	75	75
Hopewell.....	H. A. Key.....	D. R. Davis..	Toad Vine.	A. White, J. B. Sanford, D. H. Davis.....	59	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	61	.....	75	75
Liberty.....	J. J. Vance..	J. J. Vance..	Short Creek	I. V. Saiter, F. M. Vines, J. H. Hood.....	124	.....	.....	.....	4	2	1	118	.....	50	75
Mud Creek.....	J. C. Gilmer.	S. Y. Travis..	Razburgh..	J. C. Gilmer, T. R. Cargil, J. D. Cowen.....	75	11	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	88	10.15	\$1.50	\$1.07
Mt. Ida.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Bethel.....	A. White.....	D. T. Skelton.	Palos	J. C. Hood, L. B. Hood, D. R. Skelton.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	1	2	20	.....	50	30
Oak Grove.....	J. N. McFalls.	E. D. Hyche..	Ezra	G. H. Bean, W. H. Ba son, I. L. Hammonds....	92	19	1	.....	2	3	2	107	.....	78	78
Pleasant Hill.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rock Creek.....	.....	J. J. Waldrop	Toad Vine..	S. J. Waldrop, D. M. Waldrop, I. G. Smith....	70	5	2	.....	4	.....	2	80	.....	26	1.13
Smithville.....	O. J. Waldrop.	.....	.....	J. T. Golden, J. H. Snow, Joe Branklin.....	26	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	26	.....	50	25
Union Grove.....	T. P. Vandever	W. P. Taff.....	Horse Creek	F. M. Reid, Wm. Black, W. P. Taff.....	57	.....	1	.....	6	.....	.....	52	.....	50	1.00
					648	666	28	1	133	8	9	740	16.70	6.93	7.92

