

1895

MINUTES

—OF THE—

TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Etowah Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

Antioch Baptist Church,

☞October 11, 12 and 13, 1895.☞

OFFICERS:

REV. W. L. CULBERTSON, Moderator.....Hoke's Bluff, Ala.

W. P. SMITH, Clerk and Treasurer.....Seaborn, Ala.

*The next session to be held with Pilgrim
Rest Church, Etowah County, Ala., be-
ginning Friday before second Sun-
day in October, 1896.*



ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Reading letters from churches,
2. Election of officers.
3. Inviting visiting ministers and brethren to seats
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Call for correspondence.
6. Appoint committees.
7. Report of Standing Committee. (Committee may report at any time when the time is not occupied.)
8. Miscellaneous business.
9. Call roll, and read the minutes.
10. Fix order of printing and distributing minutes
11. Adjournment.

MINUTES



Of the Twelfth annual meeting of the Etowah Baptist Association held with Antioch Baptist Church, October 11, 12 and 13, 1895.

STEELE'S, ALA., October 11, 1895.

The Etowah Baptist Association met with Antioch Baptist Church, according to previous appointment. Introductory sermon was preached by Elder W. W. Wester. Subject: "Temptation of Christ."

AFTERNOON.

As a consequence of the death of Bro. H. R. Culbertson, our former Moderator, the Association was called to order by the oldest minister present, Bro. V. H. Dean, by reading the 86th psalm, after which Bro. W. E. Zediker led in prayer.

Called for letters from the Churches. Appointed W. L. Culbertson and H. P. Smith to read letters. Enrolled delegates as follows:

- ANTIOCH—W. M. Shaw, G. G. Wright and R. T. Moore.
ATTALLA—N. N. Venn, J. M. Smith and C. T. Starkey.
BETHANY—J. W. Gilliland.
BRISTOE'S CREEK—J. M. Winn, C. G. P. Ross and W. H. Hunt.
EAST GADSDEN—B. T. Smith and G. E. Jones.
FAIR VIEW—J. M. Sitz, W. C. Smith and E. D. Howard.
GADSDEN—G. D. Motley, J. V. Dickenson and S. J. Carrelton.
LIBERTY COOSA—W. L. Culbertson, A. H. Barnes, J. W. Heaton, J. H. Wisdom and W. W. Wester.
MACEDONIA—J. P. McKinney and A. B. McKinnon.
MT. ARARAT—W. L. Marker, F. M. Noah and J. E. Ables.
MT. CARMEL—V. H. Dean, J. L. Jones, Perry Clayton, J. H. Sitz and A. J. Gilliland.
NEW HARMONY—C. W. C. Tucker, W. C. Aldridge and G. T. Griffith.
PILGRIM'S REST—G. H. Myrick, J. E. Smith, G. C. Jenkins, E. H. Griffin and J. M. Gray.
PLEASANT VALLEY—D. W. Cartee and L. F. Burgess.
UNION No. 1—H. P. Smith, O. Q. Norton, J. P. Harbour and J. P. Bearden.
UNION No. 2.—J. A. Gallant, P. J. Brown and W. A. Culbertson.
WALNUT GROVE—J. D. Pettit and Neal Palmer.
WHITE'S CHAPEL—A. J. West and W. H. Lafollett.
WHITE'S SPRINGS—J. A. Watkins, E. P. Little and R. R. Yates.

Appointed C. T. Starkey, and W. E. Zediker as tellers. On motion the offices of Clerk and Treasurer were made one. Elected W. L. Culbertson, Moderator and H. P. Smith, Clerk and Treasurer. By move and second, "order of business" of last session was made the order of business for this session.

Visiting brethren called for when Bro. Zediker presented himself and was accorded a seat in the Association.

Call for petitionary letters.

Rev. W. V. Huff presented a letter from Center Baptist Church. By "move and second" the Church was admitted into the Association.

Reported as correspondents from Cahaba Valley Association Brethren P. S. Montgomery and G. W. Lovell.

Moved that the appointment of standing committees be postponed till tomorrow. Appointed pastor and delegates of Antioch Church as a committee on devotional exercises.

Supplied vacancies on standing committees as follows ;

Foreign Missions—V. H. Dean and W. W. Wester.

Digest of Letters—C. T. Starkey, R. R. Yates and O. Q. Norton.

By "move and second" the seventh item in regular order of business was stricken out.

Moved that the regular order of business be suspended.

Moved by Brother Dean that we meet at 8:30 a. m., for devotional exercises. The same to be conducted by some one appointed by the Moderator. Association to begin business at 9 a. m. Dismiss at 11 a. m. for preaching Meet at 1:30 p. m. for business and adjourn ad libitum.

Report of Committee on devotional exercises as follows :

C. T. Starkey to preach at Antioch Church tonight. Saturday night J. D. Pettit to preach at Antioch Church. J. E. Smith at Deerman's Chapel, and G. E. Jones at Shiloh. Appointed Bro. A. J. West to conduct devotional exercises tomorrow morning.

Adjourned.

SECOND DAY.

After reading the 34th psalm and prayer, the Association was called to order by the Moderator. Read and adopted minutes of previous day.

Appointed standing committees as follows :

Foreign Missions—J. E. Smith, J. W. Heaton and R. T. Moore.

Home Missions—J. D. Pettit, G. E. Jones and J. M. Winn.

State Missions C. T. Starkey, W. C. Smith and A. J. West.
 Digest of Letters and State of the Churches G. D. Motley, N.
 N. Vann and A. J. Gilliland.
 Associational Missions -B. F. Smith, J. L. Jones and O. Q. Nor-
 ton.
 Sabbath Schools -A. H. Barnes, W. M. Shaw and W. A. Culbert-
 son.
 Temperance V. H. Dean, L. F. Burgess and G. C. Jenkins.
 Education—W. W. Wester, R. R. Yates and J. P. Harbour.

Motion and seconded that we reinstate the committee on temperance.

Read report on Associational Missions. Motion and second to adopt, which was discussed by Brethren J. D. Pettit, J. E. Smith, C. T. Starkey and W. A. Culbertson.

REPORT ON ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

To the Etowah Baptist Association—

Your Committee on Associational Missions submit the following report :

Since the work intended to be fostered and encouraged by the work of this committee is being, to some degree, at least, pressed by our beloved Brother Pettit, we recommend:

1. That the Churches aid and encourage Bro. Pettit in the work. That they adopt also his systematic plan of mission collections, which we believe will come as near reaching every member as any plan we might adopt.

II. That we attempt to cultivate and develop the missionary spirit in our Churches by holding four 5th Sunday meetings during the year in different parts of the Association.

1. Let these meetings be appointed and a program arranged and advertised from time to time.

2. Let the meetings last two days at least -Saturday and Sunday.

3. Let the program be such as will give our people instructions on the doctrine and facts of missions.

4. Let the preachers attend (sound this loud) and others as the churches may see fit to send.

5. Let the 11 o'clock service on Sundays be devoted to the following subjects in order: At the first meeting, "Ministerial Education;" second, "Foreign Missions;" third, "Home Missions;" fourth, "State Missions."

6. At the close of these services let collections be taken for each of these enterprises in the order mentioned.

Respectfully submitted

J. N. BELTON.

Moved that the plan suggested by Bro. Pettit for raising missionary money be placed upon the minutes which is as follows:

Let there be a committee of one appointed for every ten members of the Church, designating one of the number as chairman and one as treasurer.

Then give each one of the committee the names of ten members of the Church, with instructions to collect ten cents for mission money and turn the same over to treasurer of committee.

Read report on "Foreign Missions;" moved and second to adopt, after which it was discussed by V. H. Dean. Moved that the report be amended by striking out last sentence, which read as follows: "We would urge our pastors to post themselves and preach on this part of their duty at least once a year, taking up a collection at the same time."

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your Committee on "Foreign Missions" beg to submit the following report:

Owing to the short time given us and the absence of more recent news from the fields, necessarily our report must be principally made from data given in last report of Foreign Board. From this we learn that in the foreign fields the following statements are made:

Italy—Missionaries and native assistants, 28; members, 353; churches, 18; out stations, 46. When we consider the situation of this country we may well exclaim, "What hath our God wrought?"

Brazil—Missionaries and native assistants, 18; Churches, 14; Baptisms, 133; members, 610; out stations, 23.

China—Missionaries and assistants, 62; Churches and out stations, 66; Baptisms, 118; Members, 1,131.

Mexico—Missionaries and assistants, 29; Churches and out stations, 46; Baptisms, 226; members, 1,120.

Japan—Missionaries and assistants, 11; Churches and outstations, 9; Baptism, 6; members, 40. When we consider that this is a new mission we are constrained to give God all the glory and take courage.

Africa—Missionaries and assistants, 15; Churches, 4; Baptisms, 37; members, 239.

We see from Treasurer's report that the net contributions to this work the last convention year was One Hundred and Twenty-three Thousand, Two Hundred and Sixty-two Dollars and Forty-two Cents (\$123,262.42), of which Alabama is credited with the meagre sum of Seven Thousand, Seventy Dollars and Seventy-seven Cents (\$7,070.77). Brethren shall it longer be said that over 110,000 members in the churches in our loved State have given such a small sum for this grand work? We would, therefore, urge upon our Pastors to post themselves and preach on this part of their duty, at least once a year, taking up a collection at the same time for Foreign Missions. All of which is

Respectfully submitted,

V. H. DEAN,
A. J. WEST,
Committee.

Read report on State Missions. Moved and seconded that the report be adopted.

STATE MISSIONS.

Your Committee on "State Missions" beg leave to submit the following report:

We find that our State mission work for the past year has been very successful with satisfactory results, as far as our Board was able to prosecute that work, but the need of that work is very great. The harvest is white, but the laborers are few. The importance of this great work lies in the fact that all of our mission work largely depends on the successful prosecution of our State mission work. This would not be so if all of our Pastors were awake to the cause of missions, but I find that many of our Pastors never preach on missions, hence many of the churches give nothing or little for missions, and I don't know how this lack is to be met unless through State mission work. We give it as our opinion that this is the key to our general missionary work. We insist that this matter be given careful thought by this body.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. PETTIT, Chairman.

The following report on the death of Ministers and Deacons was read. Motion to adjourn for sermon on Temperance:

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

It is the sad duty of your committee to report that two of our aged and most useful brethren have departed this life since the last session of this body, to-wit: Elder H. R. Culbertson and Deacon Cepeland.

Elder H. R. Culbertson, former Moderator of the Etowah Association, who has been Moderator from its organization till his death, which occurred on the 17th day of July, 1895, whose life and labors have been earnestly and faithfully devoted to the cause of his Master almost in the immediate bounds of this Association for a period of thirty-seven years, the result of which made him a great power for good throughout his field of labor. But he is gone, never more to preside over God's hosts in the transaction of business pertaining to his kingdom in this Association.

Brethren of the ministry: Let us emulate his virtues and imitate his example until we, like our brother, have finished our course with joy, and have been called from labor to reward; therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of Bro. Culbertson, the Association has lost a faithful and efficient Moderator; therefore be it

Resolved, That the denomination has lost a true and tried friend to the cause of God and humanity. But God knoweth best, therefore let us bow in humble submission to His will.

Furthermore, we recommend that the Association raise funds to erect a suitable monument to his memory.

J. D. PETTITT,
A. H. BARNES,
J. W. GILLILAND,
Committee.

AFTERNOON.

Motion pending from forenoon. There was a motion made that the letter from sister of Liberty Coosa Church, to sisters of other Churches, be appended to report on deceased Ministers and Deacons read in forenoon. The report, as adopted, is as follows:

LIBERTY COOSA RESOLUTIONS.

We, the Sisters of the Liberty Coosa Church, at Hoke's Bluff, Ala., to the Sisters of the Churches of the Etowah Association, send greeting—

WHEREAS, Our Heavenly Father, in His All-wise Providence, has seen fit to remove from our midst, our beloved pastor, the Rev. H. R. Culbertson, whose memory will ever live in the hearts of the people for whom he labored so long. And, although it has thus pleased Him to sorely afflict us, it becomes us to be humble in His sight, and submissive to His will. Therefore be it

Resolved, That we humbly bow to the will of Him that seeth not as man seeth: nor judgeth as man judgeth, and that we will endeavor to derive spiritual benefit from the lesson we have received.

Resolved, That we will cherish the memory of our dear brother and his faithfulness and punctuality as a pastor of the Church, and also as Moderator of Etowah Association. Be it further

Resolved, That we raise money sufficient to have a suitable monument erected over the spot, wherein reposes the remains of our beloved Pastor, and we respectfully solicit aid from the Sisters of the Churches of the Etowah Association. Also from the brethren, if they feel disposed to help in the noble work.

MRS. MARY E. BOOZER.
BARBARA FORD.

Moved that the Pastors of the different Churches of the Association be and constitute a committee for the purpose of raising money to erect a monument to the memory of Rev. H. R. Culbertson, with Mrs. Mary E. Boozer as chairman of this committee, to whom report may be made and funds forwarded.

Read report on Education.

Motion and second to adopt, after which report was discussed by V. H. Dean, and then was adopted.

EDUCATION.

We your Committee on Education submit the following report:

We are glad to report the general interest of education within the boundaries of this Association steadily but rapidly increasing. There are at present five chartered institutions of learning within the limits of our Association, all of which are doing good work, each contributing largely and effectively we trust, toward the christianizing of our people. These institutions are greatly in demand, not only for the good of our own people, but especially for the good of

those who are rapidly coming into our midst from other sections, and countries. But as none of the schools are under the auspices of our denomination, the Bible cannot be expediently used as a text book, and taught at large, hence we have nothing to report on a denominational line in our bounds, and would recommend the Howard and Judson as our denominational school. We are doing but little in the way of ministerial education. We have young ministers in our Association who desire to enter school, but cannot because of their financial embarrassment. We would urge that some safe and effective steps be taken in this direction.

Respectfully submitted,

W. L. CULBERTSON, Ch'm'n Com.

Report of committee on time, place and nominations as follows:

Time—Friday before second Sunday in October, 1896.

Place—Pilgrim's Rest.

Introductory Sermon—J. V. Dickinson; J. N. Belton, alternate.

Temperance—W. Y. Adams; W. E. Zediker, alternate.

Missionary Sermon—C. T. Starkey; J. D. Pettitt, alternate.

Moved that we suspend regular order of business and take up miscellaneous business.

Moved and seconded that first line of second clause of the Constitution of this Association be amended to read: "The officers of this Association shall be Moderator and Clerk, who shall also be Treasurer."

Resolved that the delegates be requested to have the above resolution presented to their Church at their first meeting and report to the clerk their approval or disapproval, and when a majority shall approve, it shall be a part of the Constitution.

The following resolution was offered by G. D. Motley:

WHEREAS, The demands of the present age and the rapid advancement of the race in all departments of knowledge has become so manifest, therefore be it

Resolved, That we, as Baptists, demand that the Bible be read in all the public schools of our State.

Appointed following named brethren to fill vacancies to Baptist State Convention: G. D. Motley, S. S. Carolton and A. E. Goodhue.

Moved that Brethren J. D. Pettitt and W. L. Culbertson be appointed to go to Southern Baptist Convention. Read report on "Home Missions." Moved that it be adopted, after which it was discussed by Bro. J. V. Dickenson, and then was adopted.

HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee not having any access to the statistics of the Board is unable to report as to the general work. But we find by examining the letters from the several Churches that there has been a greater spirit of interest in regard to missions within our Association this year, and that it is on the increase. May God help us to be up and doing, and giving for the Master.

W. C. SMITH,
J. M. SMITH,
Committee.

Moved and seconded that Bro. Jones make a statement in regard to the amount promised him by the Association to pay his expenses in school at Hoke's Bluff.

Bro. J. V. Dickenson offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Association to recommend that every Baptist in the bounds of this Association give staidly and systematically a portion of their means in the future for the support of the gospel.

Read report of committee on "Digest of Letters and State of the Churches."

By "move and second" it was adopted.
Adjourned.

THIRD DAY,

Association called to order by the Moderator.

Moved and seconded that funds for the erection of a monument to the memory of Rev. H. R. Culbertson be forwarded by November or December.

The following resolution was offered :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are due and are tendered the members of Antioch Church and their friends who have so bountifully entertained the present session of this body.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. V. H. Dean :

Resolved, That we request our Pastor to preach at least one sermon on the subject of Missions every year and take up a collection at the same time.

Moved and seconded that we take up a collection for minutes. Moved that the motion be tabled.

Adjourned for ten minutes.

Read report on Finance. A motion was made and seconded to adopt.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

		Benefit of G. E. Jones' Education.
Antioch.....		\$ 1.00
Pilgrim s.....		4.30
Macedonia.....		50
		\$4.70
State Missions.....	\$12.08	
Home Missions.....	12.10	
Foreign Missions.....	16.92	
Minutes.....	19.35	
		\$60.45
Less amount paid.....	12.08	
		\$48.37

J. W. GILLILAND,
WM. MARKER,
W. P. CLAYTON,
Committee.

Read report on Sunday Schools. Motion and second to adopt, after which it was very ably discussed by the following named brethren: W. M. Shaw, J. D. Pettit, G. E. Jones and C. T. Starkey.

REPORT OF SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to make the following report:

We notice that only nine churches out of some twenty three, have reported Sabbath Schools. Brethren this should not be so, if we are the light of the world. The only definition we know of a Sabbath School is the Church at work. Then comes the inquiry: Are those Churches without a Sabbath School at work?

We recommend that a more lively interest be taken in this line of the blessed Master's work. We also believe that each district in the Association should revive the District Sabbath School Conventions, and that we should have an Associational Convention somewhere in the bounds of the Association, where the four districts can come together in the upbuilding of the Sabbath cause. Brethren, let's get on a higher plane.

Respectfully submitted,

W. W. SHAW,
JOE L. JONES,
Committee.

The following resolution was offered to be appended to Sunday School report:-

Resolved, That we urge the pastors of the different churches to preach at least one sermon a year on the subject of Sunday Schools, and endeavor to organize a Sunday School where there is none.

Move and second to adopt, after which report was further discussed by G. D. Motley and W. E. Zediker, when the resolution was adopted. Move to adjourn for Missionary Sermon. After assembling together Bro. Pettitt preached a very able sermon on Missions. At the close of the sermon appointed Brethren C. T. Starkey, E. B. Moore and A. H. Barnes to take up collection, which resulted in a contribution of \$7.73. As a result of services held at other churches \$6.86 was collected.

AFTERNOON.

Session called to order by the Moderator.

Moved and seconded that Bro. Pettitt receive \$9.79 of amount collected today for "missions" and amount contributed by Church for State Missions, \$12.08. Moved that we take up a collection for Bro. Pettitt, which was the means of obtaining \$7.74.

"Motion and second" that the delegates be requested to use plan suggested by Bro. Pettitt for raising "missionary money," the first quarter's collections to be paid Bro. Pettitt for missionary work in Association.

The following query was read:

Is it the sense of this Association that Baptist Churches should receive members on the immersion administered by Pedo Baptist ministers? When the query was put to the house it was unanimously voted no.

Moved and seconded that the clerk retain \$5.00 for his services and pay the remainder, \$14.75, to Bro. W. E. Zealiker to print the minutes.

Moved and seconded that we take up the propriety of placing a "missionary" in the field. Read and adopted minutes. Adjourned.

H. P. SMITH,
Clerk and Treasurer.

W. L. CULBERTSON,
Moderator.

CONSTITUTION.

The name of this Association shall be "The Etowah Baptist Association."

The Officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, who shall also be Clerk and Treasurer, who shall perform such duties and perform them in such manner as is ordinarily required of such officers. They shall be elected at or near the opening of each annual session of the body.

The membership of the Association shall be such churches as shall see fit and be permitted to represent themselves in its session by delegates.

Each church shall be entitled to one delegate for each twenty-five members or fractional part thereof, but every church shall be entitled to at least two delegates.

The object of this Association shall be the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom, not only within its bounds, but throughout the world. It shall aid and encourage, by means of its influence, those grand institutions and agencies which, in the providence of God, have been established by the wise and good among our brethren for the spread of the Gospel throughout the world for the distribution of the Bible among those destitute of it, for the education of

young men for the work of the ministry, as well as for the cause of education generally; for the promotion of the Sunday School cause, the cause of temperance, etc.

The Association shall employ such means and adopt such measures as shall seem best calculated to cultivate Christian unity and fellowship among the brethren within its bounds, to provoke the brethren to love and do good work, to stir up the pure minds of the brethren by way of remembrance, to secure individual advancement in the divine life, in every way as individuals; to illustrate to the world the reality of the religion of Jesus Christ.

BY-LAWS.

1. Preparatory to the organization of the Association an introductory sermon shall be preached by a member appointed at the previous session, and another shall be named at the same to perform the duty in case of the failure of the first.
2. The service being performed, the Moderator, or if he be absent, the oldest minister present shall open the Association by prayer.
3. He shall call for letters from the churches, when the delegates shall present them and take their seats in order.
4. When the Association is regularly organized, as prescribed in the Constitution, the correspondence from other Associations shall be called for, the letters read and the messengers received by the right hand of fellowship from the Moderator. The messengers shall be invited to seats in the Association and accorded the privilege of speaking on any subject before the body, but not of voting on any. Other visiting brethren may be invited to seats with the same privilege and prohibition.
5. Subjects not embraced in the last minutes may, at the discretion of the Association, be taken up at any time when there is no business directly before the body.
6. Any subject not contained in the minutes must be regularly brought forward by motion which shall be seconded before it can be taken up. After this it shall be considered as property at the disposal of the Association, unless it be withdrawn by the mover.
7. No one shall speak oftener than three times on the same subject, unless permitted by the Association. The speaker shall always rise to his feet and address the Moderator.
8. Silence and decorum shall be observed by every member of the Association while the body is in session, and more especially in the time of debate. All personal reflections and remarks tending to wound the feelings of brethren shall be strictly avoided.
9. No member of the Association shall leave the house while the Association is in session, without leave from the Moderator.
10. In order to expedite business, committees shall be raised at the discretion of the Association, who shall be named by the Moderator.
11. The meeting of the Association shall, on each day of the session, be opened and closed with prayer.
12. The minutes of each day shall be read at its opening and close of business, after prayer, each succeeding day, when the names of the delegates shall be called, and the whole minutes of the session shall be read at its close and signed by the Moderator and Clerk.
13. Any alteration of these By-Laws may be made at any meeting of the Association by two-thirds of the members present.

RULES OF ORDER.

The rules of order usually observed by deliberative bodies of this kind shall be observed by this Association.

If any point of order be raised by any member of the body, it shall be decided by the Moderator, but appeal may be taken from his decision to that of the body?

"Well's Parliamentary Practice" shall be used as authority in regard to questions of order.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

There is one and but one God, who is a spirit, omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent, eternal, unchangeable, infinite in goodness and wisdom, of inviolable truth, perfectly just, of immaculate holiness, the Creator of all things, the preserver of all, and the supreme ruler over all.

The Godhead is a Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Ghost—three persons in one divine essence.

The Son became incarnate, thus uniting in himself the divine and human natures that he might become the mediator between God and man; man's final judge, and by his life, death and resurrection the Redeemer and Savior of His people.

The Holy Spirit is the sanctifier and comforter of God's people. He is, through the divine word, the author of the new spiritual life produced in man in his regeneration.

The Holy Scriptures were given by divine inspiration as a revelation of God's will to man concerning him, and constitute to him an infallible rule of faith and practice.

Adam and Eve, the first man and woman, were created holy, and for a time served the Creator acceptably, living innocently and happy in His favor; but Adam having been placed under a covenant of works, violated it and brought the penalty of the violation upon himself and his descendants.

All men partaking of the consequences of the fall, are both totally depraved and guilty of actual transgression of God's laws.

No man can free himself from his native depravity, or from condemnation. No man can save himself. There is no way of salvation but by Jesus Christ.

The Christian Sabbath is the first day of the week and should be kept holy and consecrated to the service and worship of God in obedience to the command: "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," and in commemoration of the resurrection on that day of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The ordinances of the gospel are two—Baptism and the Lord's supper. The Great Head of the Church required the perpetual observance of these ordinances by the churches as such and under their authority.

Baptism is the immersion of the believer in water by one duly qualified and authorized to administer the rite. It is prerequisite to church membership.

A gospel church is a company of Baptized believers, organized under the laws of its Great Head, for the advancement of God's kingdom in the world. The officers of the church are its pastors and deacons. Each church is an independent body, subject only to the commands of its Great Head. The work required of the church is missionary in its character. "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

The Holy Spirit continues the work of sanctification upon those whom He has regenerated to the end of life, and thus saves all who are regenerated from apostasy.

All who will be finally saved were chosen of God the Father before the foundation of the world, and given to Jesus Christ in the covenant of grace; yet all who will be lost will have rejected of their own will a proffered salvation.

The bodies of all who die will be raised from the dead and reunited to their spirits for the judgment of the great day.

In the last day Jesus Christ will come to judge the world, and having assembled all men before him, will pass sentence upon them according to their works.

Heaven is a place to which the righteous will be received, and made perfectly happy in their presence and enjoyment of God forever.

Hell is a place into which the wicked will be cast, to suffer everlasting punishment for their sins.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

C. T. STARKEY.....	Attalla, Ala.	J. A. MAY.....	Walnut Grove, Ala.
F. M. SALLS.....	Crudup, "	J. D. PETTIT.....	" "
W. W. WESTER.....	Hoke's Bluff, "	J. V. DICKINSON.....	Gadsden, "
W. L. CULBERTSON.....	" " "	JACOB GRAY.....	Stanfield, "
K. S. STEEL.....	" " "	J. T. ASTIN.....	Attalla, "
J. R. TROTTER.....	East Gadsden, "	V. H. DEAN.....	Gadsden, "
J. N. BELTON.....	Hoke's Bluff, "	A. J. WEST.....	Hoke's Bluff, "
W. Y. ADAMS.....	" " "	B. F. KIRKLAND.....	Etowahnton, "
J. E. SMITH.....	Markton, "	P. M. ARCHER.....	Stanfield, "

LICENTIATES AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

W. C. SMITH,	Brice, Ala.	G. W. JENKINS.....	Markton, "
ABE THORNTON.....	East Gadsden, "	R. D. HUFF.....	Attalla, "
G. E. JONES.....	Hoke's Bluff, "	C. W. C. TUCKER.....	Crudup, "
B. F. SMITH.....	Gadsden, "	J. M. FLOOD.....	Gadsden, "

STANDING RESOLUTION.

Resolved, That any member in good standing in a church of this union, who may be present at any Association with whom we correspond, shall be considered as a messenger to the same.



STATISTICS OF ETOWAH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—1895.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S P. O.	Increased by Decrease by						Memberships Reported.	Present Membership.	Officers and Teachers.	Pupils.	Superintendent's Name and P. O. Address.	Preaching Sabbaths.	Reports.
					Baptism	Letter.	Voucher.	Restoration	Letter.	Exclusion.							
Antioch	St. Clair	G W Loving	W J Smith	Steele's	57	2	7	4	3	1	63	9	70	W M Shaw, Steele's	w	1	
Attalla	Etowah	C T Starkey	B F Sitz	Attalla	86	3	4	4	4	4	83	11	102	T L Swanson, Attalla	w	4	
Bethany	Etowah	J E Smith	R W Brock	Hill	54	7	9	2	7	1	63	6	45	W C Smith, Hill, Ala.	w	4	
Bristoe's Creek	Etowah	J A May	J M Wynne	Aurora	81	7	9	2	7	1	63	6	45	J Brooks	w	4	
Cave Springs	Etowah	B F Smith	W V Huff	Attalla	75	6	1	5	10	9	85	12	130	A E Goodhue, Gadsden	w	1	
East Gadsden	Etowah	W G Adams	G H Bearden	Gadsden	272	3	15	9	16	4	277	16	130	A E Goodhue, Gadsden	w	1	
Fairview	Etowah	G E Jones	G S Vann	Gadsden	46	3	15	9	16	4	277	16	130	A E Goodhue, Gadsden	w	1	
Gadsden	Etowah	J V Dickinson	G S Vann	Gadsden	46	3	15	9	16	4	277	16	130	A E Goodhue, Gadsden	w	1	
Greenwood	Etowah	W L Culbertson	E E Hollingsworth	Hoke's Bluff	174	3	35	1	33	2	175	6	99	A H Barnes, Hoke's Bluff	w	4	
Liberty Coosa	Etowah	W L Culbertson	W R League	Turkeytown	34	3	4	4	4	2	35	5	75	M J Hall, Turkeytown	w	2	
Macedonia	Etowah	J N Repton	W L Marks	East Gadsden	62	4	4	4	4	1	34	5	75	M J Hall, Turkeytown	w	2	
Mt. Ararat	Etowah	W L Culbertson	Log L Jones	East Gadsden	193	27	7	1	7	1	190	6	50	J T Pittman, Gadsden	w	3	
Mt. Carmel	Etowah	J N Belton	W B Heston	Gadsden	60	3	12	1	12	1	70	4	34	B F Killian, Crudup	w	3	
New Harmony	Etowah	J E Smith	G H Myrick	Crudup	159	10	8	2	5	1	162	4	34	B F Killian, Crudup	w	2	
Pilgrim's Rest	Etowah	J F Smith	G H Myrick	Crudup	159	10	8	2	5	1	162	4	34	B F Killian, Crudup	w	2	
Pleasant Valley	Etowah	J F Smith	G H Myrick	Crudup	159	10	8	2	5	1	162	4	34	B F Killian, Crudup	w	2	
Union, No. 1	Etowah	J A May	J P Swindall	Attalla	55	1	1	1	10	4	43	6	40	L M Norton, Seaborn	w	3	
Union, No. 2	Etowah	J C Buckner	J P Swindall	Attalla	143	17	8	1	1	1	126	6	40	L M Norton, Seaborn	w	3	
Walnut Grove	Etowah	W A Culbertson	J P Swindall	Attalla	142	2	2	2	5	2	157	7	85	J F Campbell, Walnut Grove	w	4	
Walnut Grove	Etowah	J C Buckner	W A Culbertson	Gadblint	142	2	2	2	5	2	157	7	85	J F Campbell, Walnut Grove	w	4	
White's Chapel	Etowah	A J West	O A J Phillips	Walnut Grove	79	4	5	2	7	2	82	7	75	R R Yeats, Gadsden	w	4	
White Springs	Etowah	A J West	J P Stephens	Sonoma	161	4	5	2	7	2	80	7	75	R R Yeats, Gadsden	w	4	
Pleasant Hill	Etowah	R R Yeats	R R Yeats	Gadsden	41	4	1	1	12	10	47	7	75	R R Yeats, Gadsden	w	4	

Total..... 151,990 118 7 16 190 35 3 17 1823, 80 793

23
441
1906
2072



A. B. ZEDIKER,

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

A Graduate of Collier University. † † † †
† † † Posted on all the Latest Methods.

Gadsden, Alabama.

W. EVEREST ZEDIKER,

PENMAN, PRINTER, PREACHER,

WE TEACH

*Penmanship, including both Business and
Ornamental writing, Flourishing, Letter-
ing, Card writing and Stipple Work*

WE TEACH

*Business Course, including Book-keeping,
Short-hand, Typewriting, and Com-
mercial Law.*

WE TEACH

*Oratory, including elocution, in all its phases of Deliv-
ery, Pronunciation, Manner and Voice.*

WE PRINT

The best paper in the State. The best job work in the county.

WE PREACH

*The truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth—the
Bible our Text-Book.*

1895

THE CAMP FIRE

JAMES F. ZEDIKER, SON & CO., PUBLISHERS.

516 BROAD STREET.

GADSDEN, ALABAMA.

The especial attention of the Baptist denomination is called to the fact that THE CAMP FIRE is published by a Baptist firm.

THE CAMP FIRE

Is emphatically a paper for the people. A paper for the home and fireside. A paper that is doing more to bring new people, new capital, skill and enterprise into Alabama, and particularly to Etowah county than all other papers in North Alabama combined. Every issue of our paper is read by more than FIVE THOUSAND PEOPLE, and mostly in the North and West. It is and will be our constant effort to remove prejudice and false ideas from the minds of the Northern people, by telling the facts as we find them in regard to this country and its people.

THE CAMP FIRE

Will bring hundreds of new families into your midst, and while we are doing this gratuitous work, we most earnestly solicit your support in the way of subscriptions, job work and advertising. We are here a stranger, in an untried field. Our success means much for our community and our State, more for your material prosperity than you can understand or believe.

THE CAMP FIRE

Is not a political paper. It is independent in all things, and will be plain and outspoken in advocating what it believes is for the interest of the masses of the people. It will be clean, morally, elevating in tone and teaching. A family paper for North and South, East and West.

ONLY FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR.

The cheapest, the best, the safest paper in the county. Good solicitors wanted. Produce taken on subscription during the winter. Address

CAMP FIRE.

Gadsden, Ala.