

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

Twentieth Anniversary,

OF THE

Shelby Missionary Baptist

ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

Cahaba Valley Church,

SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA.

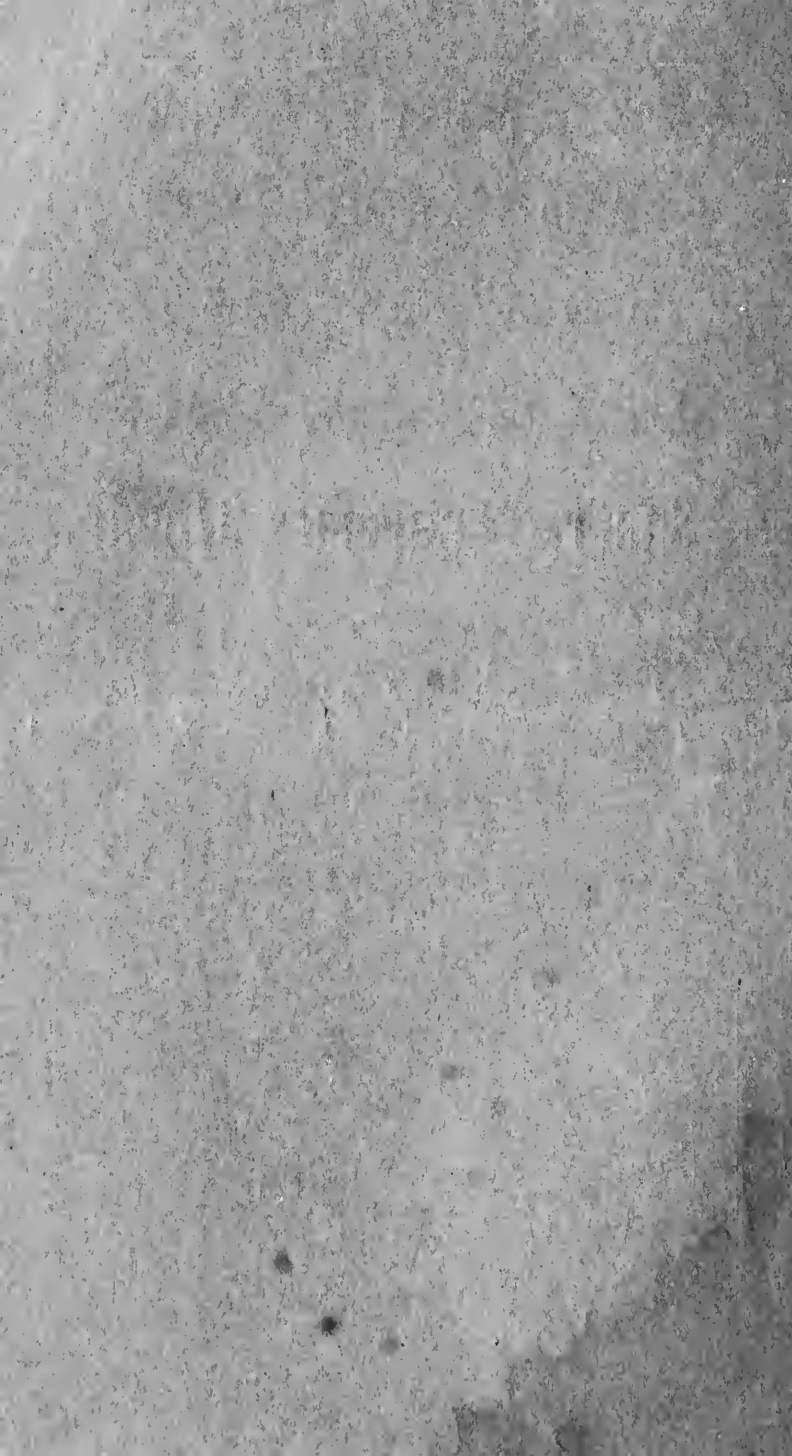
On the 7th, 9th, and 10th of October, 1871.



COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA:

WILLIS ROBERTS, PRINTER

1871.



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CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Contributions for Minutes Associa- tional Purposes.	Total Membership	Deceased	Exclusion	Letter	Restoration	Letter	Diminution	Exclusion	Letter	Restoration	Letter	A & 4 th Baptism	Sab. of Preaching.
Cahaba Valley	R. W. Wood	Montevallo	T. I. Miles, L. T. McGuire, T. Fancher and H. C. Fadden.	2 00	127	1	1	13	3	9	2	2	3	2	3	2	2
Dogwood Grove	J. C. Hand	"	Wm. Acker, M. F. Lawley, T. B. Dison	2 00	88	2	2	6	6	4	4	4	4	4	6	18	1
Enon	J. M. Langston	Centerville	No Representation	3 50	46	2	1 & 3	4	4	4	2	2	2	2	4	2	2
Montevallo	T. C. Boykin	Montevallo	S. J. Perry, R. W. Nolen, Thos. McCauley	3 00	55	2	4	8	8	3	3	3	3	3	8	11	4
New Antioch	T. B. Dison	"	D. N. Hodgens, * S. Carlton, S. Booth	3 00	30	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	4
Six Mile	N. H. Williams	Thomas	W. V. Arnold, P. M. Fancher, J. L. Peters	2 50	43	11	10	3	3	4	6	6	6	6	10	11	11
Union, Bibb	R. Wood	Day's Mills	R. Wood, A. J. Day, Thornton Fancher	2 00	28	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	4
Union, Shelby	W. W. Armstrong	Wilsonville	T. C. Boykin, * Wm. Lucus, D. M. Lucus	4 00	63	3	3	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3
Bethesda	J. H. R. Garden	Columbiana	L. J. Carden, P. T. Ray, J. R. Ray	2 00	21	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	3
Beaver Creek	T. C. Boykin	"	J. H. R. Carden, C. W. O'Hara, B. F. O'Hara	1 50	18	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Rebel +	J. H. Hand	"	S. W. Morgan, Wm. Davis, * John Ware, *	2 00	21	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Columbiana	J. H. R. Carden	"	J. H. Hand, Wm. Watson, L. J. Hand*	3 00	76	3	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Evergreen	W. W. Armstrong	"	T. P. Holcomb, Wm. Adams, W. L. Gardner	4 00	63	15	2	3	3	5	8	1	1	1	1	1	1
Liberty	W. W. Armstrong	"	W. W. Armstrong, Blanton Moore, Thos. Store	1 25	17	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Mt. Calvary	W. W. Armstrong	"	No Representation	2 00	17	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Pleasant Hill	W. W. Armstrong	"	J. J. Miner, L. R. Kindrick, * J. H. Brasher*	2 00	17	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Balem	W. W. Armstrong	"		2 00	17	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

+ Bethel Church was constituted Sept 23rd, 1871, with 20 members.

* Absentees marked thus *

Contributions for Minutes Associa- tional Purposes.	Total Membership	Deceased	Exclusion	Letter	Restoration	Letter	Diminution	Exclusion	Letter	Restoration	Letter	A & 4 th Baptism	Sab. of Preaching.
24 95	737	7	5	99	14	14	99	14	14	14	14	86	56

MINUTES.

SATURDAY, Oct. 7th, 1871.

The Delegates composing the SHELBY ASSOCIATION convened with Cahaba Valley Church, in Bibb county, Ala.

Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. J. C. Hand, from the 35th verse of the 4th chapter of the Gospel by St. John.

After an intermission of thirty minutes, the delegates assembled in the Church. Eld. T. P. Holcomb, former Moderator, called the body together and offered prayer.

Brethren J. H. R. Carden and L. T. McGuire were appointed to read, and the letters were called for, received, read and the names of the delegates enrolled. [For names of delegates names see table of statistics.]

On motion the door was opened for the reception of churches petitioning for admittance when a petitionary letter was presented from Bethel Church, by her delegates.—Letter was received, read and the church being found orthodox, was received by the Moderator's extending to the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

The former Moderator and Clerk were re-elected.

Called for Correspondence, when Elders Daniel Ward and Joab M. Langston, with a letter and minutes from the Mulberry Association; Eld. James Grimes, from the Canaan, with letter; Eld. Benjamin Stephens, from the Cahaba; Brethren R. Blake and Peter Smith, a licensed minister, from the Tuscaloosa, were received as messengers and welcomed among us by the Moderator's extending to them the right hand of fellowship.

ON PREACHING—James Gould and L. J. Carden, from the 2nd District, W. V. Arnold, together with the Deacons of Cahaba Valley Church, from the 1st District,

ON FINANCE—S. W. Morgan, Pleasant Fancher and R. W. Nolen.

ON DOCUMENTS—J. H. R. Carden, J. L. Peters, W. W. Armstrong, W. V. Arnold and Wesley Armstrong.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS—J. C. Hand, A. J. Day, W. W. Armstrong, R. Wood and L. J. Carden.

ON MISSIONS—J. H. R. Carden, L. J. Carden, W. V. Arnold, J. L. Peters and J. C. Hand.

ON TEMPERANCE—J. H. R. Carden, L. J. Carden, W. W. Armstrong, Wesley Armstrong, J. J. Miner, Pleasant Fancher and W. V. Arnold.

Prayer by Eld. R. Wood, and the Association adjourned until Monday morning 10 o'clock.

SUNDAY, Oct. 8th.

Under appointment of last session, Eld. J. H. R. Carden preached the Missionary Sermon from the 28th and 29th verses of the 12th chapter of Paul's epistle to the Hebrews; and was followed by Eld. J. C. Hand, after which a collection was taken up for the support of Domestic Missions, amounting to \$13 60.

MONDAY, Oct. 9th.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Association met and prayer was offered by Eld. W. W. Armstrong.

Called the roll and marked absentees.

The Constitution, Abstract of Principles and Rules of Decorum were read.

On motion, the query that was presented at our last session, was taken under consideration, and was discussed by Bro. J. H. R. Carden, R. Wood, Wm. Watson, J. C. Hand, J. J. Miner and T. P. Holcomb, also Bro. W. B. Haralson, from the Alabama Association, was granted the privilege of speaking. Each of them addressed the Association, setting forth their views, after which, on motion of Bro. J. J. Miner, the query was thrown out of the Association unanswered.

The Association adjourned for 30 minutes.

In the afternoon the Association met and proceeded to return correspondence.

To the Mulberry Association—W. V. Arnold, P. M. Fancher.

To the Cahaba Valley—T. P. Holcomb, Thos. Stone.

To the Canaan—Wm. Lucas and Benjamin Douglas.

To the Tuscaloosa—J. C. Hand and R. Wood.

To the Coosa River—T. C. Boykin, A. A. Sterrett, and D. T. Castleberry.

To the Ten Island—J. H. R. Carden.

To the Alabama Baptist State Convention.—T. B. Dison, T. C. Boykin, J. L. Peters, T. P. Holcomb, also any other brother that may attend the Convention.

Elder J. H. R. Carden was appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next session, Eld. T. C. Boykin, alternate. Eld. J. Hand, the Missionary Sermon, Eld. R. Wood, alternate.

By request of Bethesda Church, the next session will be held with her, commencing on Saturday before the 2nd Sabbath in October, 1872.

Report of the Domestic Missionary was read and received. (See Appendix A.)

On motion, the Committee on Missions was relieved and the subject of Missions was discussed before the body, and after deliberation, it was decided that the present plan of

missionary operations is not the best, and that the most destitute cannot be reached by it.

Report of Committee on Finance was received, and committee discharged. (See Appendix B.)

After prayer by Eld. J. H. R. Carden, the Association adjourned until Tuesday morning 9 o'clock.

TUESDAY, Oct. 10.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, and prayer was offered by the Clerk. The following plan for missionary operations was offered and adopted:

WHEREAS, Our present plan of missionary operations has, not, as we think, proved successful in fully accomplishing our design, and is not the best, therefore—

Resolved, That this Association appoint an Executive Committee, consisting of one member from each church, and that it be made the duty of this Committee—each of them—to labor in their respective churches and communities, in raising a fund for the support of Domestic Missions, to meet on Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in March, 1872, ascertain the amount of funds raised, and then employ one or more missionaries—as the fund which shall have been raised will justify, and destitution requires, to labor within our bounds; and that the time of performing this labor commence when the committee shall deem it best; that the committee ascertain where the most destitute portions are, and appoint their missionary, or missionaries their field of labor, and that they be paid quarterly for their services, according to the contract that may be made between them and the committee. And when said missionaries shall have been employed, the committee furnish the Domestic and Indian Mission Board, at Marion, Alabama, their names, to be appointed by said Board as missionaries in our bounds; and that the committee report to our next annual meeting.

The following are the names of the committee appointed to carry into effect the above named plan, viz: Brethren T. Fancher, John Holsomback, Greenville Jones, H. R. Lyman, D. N. Hodgens, W. V. Arnold, Thornton Fancher, Wm. Lucas, L. J. Carden, James Gould, A. A. Sterrett, Wm. Watson, Wm. Wilder, A. Stone, Sr., J. J. Miner and W. C. Powell. Bro. A. A. Sterrett was appointed chairman, and shall have the right to call the committee together at any time when it may become necessary. And at any time when as many as five of this committee shall have been assembled by the call of the chairman, they shall constitute a quorum and transact any business that may come before the committee.

Report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools was received and committee discharged. (See Appendix C.)

Report of the Committee on Documents was received and committee discharged. (See Appendix D.)

Report of the Committee on Temperance was received and committee discharged. (See Appendix E.)

Directed that the Clerk pay over to Elder T. P. Holcomb, the amount sent up for China Mission, (\$5,50) to be paid over by him to the Foreign Mission Board, which has been done.

The District Meeting for the 1st District will be held with Six Mile Church, on the 1st Sabbath in August, 1872.

The District Meeting for the 2nd District, will be held with Beaver Creek Church, on Saturday before the 3rd Sabbath in September, 1872.

Directed that the Clerk have as many of these minutes printed as the funds will justify—reserve seventy-five copies for correspondence—transcribe the present Minutes in the Association Book—receive \$15,00 for his services. When the Minutes are printed, those belonging to the 1st District to be handed to Eld. T. C. Boykin, to be, by him, carried to R. W. Nolen, distributing agent for the 1st District; Bro. Nathaniel Thomas was appointed distributing agent for the 2nd District. Also, directed that the minutes be distributed according to the amount of money sent up from each church.

Resolved, That the Association return thanks to the brethren and friends of Cahaba Valley Church, for their hospitality during the session.

Prayer was offered by Eld. J. H. R. Carden, and the Association adjourned to meet at the time and place designated.

T. P. HOLCOMB, Moderator.

C. W. O'HARA, Clerk.

Appendix A.

DEAR BRETHREN: Having been appointed at your last session, as your Domestic Missionary, I report, I have done about as well as I could—being feeble a portion of the time.

During the first nine months prospects were gloomy, though among the destitute good attention was given by the few in attendance. I would occasionally visit churches and find so few manifest an interest in the cause of missions, I could but turn aside and weep. Since that time I have been in some good meetings. I have had the labors of Brethren Carden, Armstrong, Lloyd and O'Hara—they did good service. I traveled fifteen hundred miles, preached sixty sermons, delivered twenty-one addresses, made fifty-two family visits, baptised twenty-seven willing converts, about seven professions made not yet baptized, distributed

six Bibles and assisted in the constitution of one church.
T. P. HOLCOMB, Missionary.

Appendix B.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Sent up from churches for minutes.....	\$20 00
“ “ “ “ “ Associational purposes	14 25
Total.....	\$34 25
Sent up from churches for Domestic Missions...	\$16 75
Collected on Sabbath for “ “ ...	13 60
“ “ subscription “ “ ...	38 75
Total for Domestic Missions.....	\$69 10
Sent up from churches for China Missions.....	\$5 50
“ “ “ “ “ Indian “	1 00
Total	\$6 50

Respectfully submitted,

S. W. MORGAN, }
P. FANCHER, } Com.
R. W. NOLEN. }

Appendix C.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report that we have had the same under consideration, and we are happy to say that schools are increasing in number and interest. Much good has been done, and we fully believe much more may be done, if parents would take more interest. It is with regret we are compelled to say this good cause is too much neglected in some places, perhaps for the want of proper books and instructors.

J. C. HAND, Chairman.

Appendix D.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee, have examined the letters from the churches, and find nothing of special interest to report, with the exception, that two churches rather indicated a threat of withdrawal from the Association, in the event that the Association decided upon certain questions, contrary to their views. The attitude of the Association, at present, is of such a nature as to engender strife and discord, and we earnestly request the Association to advise the churches to exercise more care in sending up their letters, and not commu-

nicate anything that will be liable to mar the peace and harmony of the Association. We learn that brother C. W. O'Hara has been licensed by Bethesda Baptist Church to preach. We would recommend our churches to patronize our southern denominational literature, to wit: The Baptist, South Western Baptist & Index, and Kind Words, The Child's Delight, and our Sabbath Schools to patronize the Southern Publishing House. Respectfully submitted,

J. H. R. CARDEN, Chairman.

Appendix E.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

Having been appointed to report on Temperance, we, your committee beg leave to report that the evils of intemperance are fearfully on the increase; and as Christians are commanded to abstain from every appearance of evil, and to come out from the world and be separate, and to touch not taste not, handle not the unclean thing; we, therefore recommend that the Association advise the churches not to hold in fellowship any member who walks disorderly, or indulges in the practice of habitually using intoxicating drinks; makes for sale, or sells spirituous liquors. And we also recommend the Association to inform the churches she will not hold in fellowship any church that retains in fellowship members who are guilty of the above named sins.

J. H. R. CARDEN, Chairman.

Corresponding Letter.

To SISTER ASSOCIATIONS: Receive this, our Letter, with our Minutes and Messenger, as a token of our regard towards you, and the expression of our desire to continue correspondence with you. Viewing ourselves as co-workers together in the great cause of Truth, and as gentle yet firm opposers of error, we wish to keep a close alliance.

Our next session will be held with Bethesda Church, Shelby county, eight miles northeast of Columbiana, commencing on Saturday before the 2nd Sabbath in October, 1872, at which time meet with us. May God bless you abundantly. Amen.

T. P. HOLCOMB, Moderator.

C. W. O'HARA, Clerk.

Received of C. W. O'Hara, Clerk, \$69 10 for services as Missionary. Oct. 3, 1871.

T. P. HOLCOMB.



