

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

BOILING SPRING

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

Held at

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH,

CLAY COUNTY, ALA.,

SEPTEMBER 27th, 1884.

SELMA, ALA.

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1884



MINUTES.

BETHEL CHURCH, September 27th, 1884.

The Boiling Spring Baptist Association met according to adjournment.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. W. M. Garrette, from Hebrews 2:3, followed by Eld. F. S. Haskel.

After an intermission of one hour, the messengers assembled in the academy.

The body was called to order by the Moderator.

Prayer by the Moderator.

The Moderator requested Brethren E. A. Stansell and W. B. Mathews to receive and Brethren J. A. Wright, J. H. Fullerton and A. J. Preston to read the letters from the churches.

The Preaching Committee reported Elds. M. M. Driver and W. A. Scott to preach at the arbor.

The names of the messengers were enrolled as follows :

FIRST DISTRICT.

Bethlehem—W. N. Bean, J. C. Bean, J. M. Camp, S. L. Manning, W. J. Henry, W. J. Young; O. T. Stephens, alternate.

Sardis—David Lackey,* A. W. Summers, E. K. Lackey; J. M. Roden, alternate.

Liberty—E. A. Stansell, J. C. Stansell, J. L. W. Davis; D. L. Wilkerson, alternate.

Ebenezer—S. V. Hughes, J. T. Hughes, W. F. Word.

Providence—Not represented.

Salt Creek—W. B. Wade, Albert Adams, L. N. Butterworth, A. J. Adams, J. A. Wright; M. G. Batton and M. R. Butterworth, alternates.

Union—Not represented.

Mt. Pisgah—J. N. Parker, J. W. Jentry,* W. J. M. Odell.*

SECOND DISTRICT.

Hephzibah—J. H. Howle, David Stephens, B. Browning, Thos. Morison.

Bethel—J. H. Armstrong, H. W. Armstrong, N. T. Leverett; A. Leverett, alternate.

Pleasant Hill—N. C. Kennedy, J. H. Morris, J. M. Campbell, S. W. Stuard, W. H. Wood; W. M. Garrette, alternate.

New Harmony—M. G. Herrin, E. J. Reed, W. F. Stephenson,* C. W. Wallis; J. C. Taylor, alternate.

✓Bethsaida—J. C. Abel, J. L. Chandler,* A. J. Smith.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Mt. Moriah—E. F. Lester,* W. G. Preston, I. H. Garrette; E. A. Smith, alternate.

Ramah—W. B. Mathews, J. H. Fullerton, J. B. Payne, T. J. McClintock; J. H. Hardy, alternate.

Christiana—J. T. Thompson, J. R. McKinney, G. W. Barfield; W. H. Taylor, alternate.

Pleasant Grove—H. C. Mason, W. H. Hardy, J. E. Garrette, F. M. Ford, W. J. Lake.

Good Hope—W. W. Payne, Isaac Haynes, R. C. Miller; W. E. Ragan, alternate.

The election of officers being in order, the Moderator requested Elds. W. T. Davis, J. N. Moore and Bro. Robert Griffin, of the Cary Association, to act as tellers.

Eld. T. H. Howle was re-elected Moderator, and J. C. Bean re-elected Clerk.

The Moderator agreed to serve, thanked the brethren for their renewed confidence, and announced the body organized and ready for business.

On motion, adopted the former order of business.

Read the rules of Decorum.

Committee appointed to arrange preaching, viz: W. W. Payne, W. H. Hardy and N. C. Kennedy, to confer with the deacons of Bethel Church.

Called for letters from churches desiring membership with this body.

Correspondents were called for from sister Associations, and received from

Carey—Elds. M. M. Driver, W. T. Davis, L. W. H. Walker, J. N. Moore, W. A. Scott, and Brethren Y. McMath, Robert Griffin and Aaron Bell.
Arbacoochee—Rev. D. J. Dodd and Brethren J. H. Bowman, W. H. Wright, Y. H. Edmondson and C. J. Lee.

Ten Island and Tallassahatchie—Bro. W. M. Rhodes.

Harmony—A. W. Johnson.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

The Committee on Preaching reported Revs. J. N. Moore and D. J. Dodd to preach at candle light; and Rev. F. S. Haskel to occupy the stand on Sabbath at 9 o'clock A. M.

On motion, adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock Monday.

SABBATH DEVOTION.

Sabbath, 9 A. M., sermon by Rev. F. S. Haskel. At 11 o'clock the Missionary Sermon was preached by Rev. T. H. Howle, from Matt. 21 and latter part of the twenty-eighth verse: "Go work to-day in my vineyard." At night by Rev. F. S. Haskel, followed by Bro. A. J. Preston.

The appointments were all filled with much ability and earnestness; the congregations were large, good order prevailed, and we had abundant reason to thank God and take courage.

MONDAY, 8 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Assembled pursuant to adjournment. The body was called to order by the Moderator, and led in prayer by Rev. A. F. Allen.

Called the roll, and the absentees were marked thus *

Renewed the call for correspondents.

Called for the reports of standing committees.

The Committee on Domestic Missions not being ready to report, was granted more time.

The report on Foreign Missions was read, and ably discussed by Elds. A. F. Allen, W. M. Garfette, W. T. Davis, F. M. Campbell, M. M. Driver, and other brethren.

On motion, the report was recommitted.

The Committee on Preaching reported that Elds. M. M. Driver and F. S. Haskel would occupy the stand at 11 o'clock A. M.

The report on Domestic Missions was read and adopted. (See Appendix A.)

The report on the Bible was read and adopted. (See Appendix B.)

The report on Sabbath Schools was read and adopted. (See Appendix C.)

On motion, adjourned one hour for refreshments.

1 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The body re-assembled in the house; was called to order by the Moderator, and led in prayer by Rev. W. J. Campbell.

The Committee on Preaching reported Brethren A. J. Preston and D. J. Dodd to preach at the stand at 2 o'clock P. M.

The report on Obituaries was read and adopted. (See Appendix D.)

The report on Family Worship was read and adopted. (See Appendix E.)

The report on Temperance was read and adopted. (See Appendix F.)

On motion, suspended the regular order of business, and was led in prayer by Rev. W. H. Preston, in behalf of the churches.

A financial committee was appointed as follows: J. H. Howle, J. B. Payne, T. J. McClintock, W. J. Lake and W. J. Young.

The Committee on Publications stated that they were not prepared to report.

The report of the Executive Committee was read and adopted. (See Appendix G.)

The report on Foreign Missions was again read, and after striking out two clauses, the report was adopted. (See Appendix H.)

Appointed correspondents to sister Associations as follows:

Carey—Brethren J. S. Moore, W. H. Hardy, N. T. Leverett and J. C. Bean.

Arbacoochee—E. Miller, W. H. Preston, W. M. Garrette and W. G. Preston.

Harmony—F. M. Campbell, J. D. Johnson, M. G. Herrin and J. H. Morris:

Ten Island and Tallassahatchie—A. F. Allen, J. A. Wright and A. J. Preston.

Coosa River—J. G. Nall, J. M. Barrett, W. W. Adams and E. A. Stansell.

On motion, this body will hold its next annual session with Bethlehem Church, five miles south-east of Oxford.

On motion, the Committee on Preaching was instructed to appoint brethren to preach the Introductory and Missionary Sermons at the next session of this body.

Called for report on Queries. One being presented, was read and tabled.

Called for reports of ministers.

Rev. F. M. Campbell was appointed to preach the next Introductory Sermon; Rev. J. G. Nall, alternate. Rev. A. F. Allen to preach the Missionary Sermon; Rev. W. J. Campbell, alternate.

The report on Finance was read and adopted. (See Appendix I.)

On motion, ordered that the Clerk have ten dollars for his services, and the balance of the Minute Fund be appropriated for Minutes.

On motion, the Moderator and Clerk were instructed to appoint the standing committees.

The report of the Treasurer was read and adopted. (See Appendix J.)

Appointed an executive committee as follows: J. A. Wright, J. H. Fullerton and J. C. Taylor.

On motion, dispensed with the reading of the Minutes.

After prayer by Bro J. D. Johnson, the Association gave the parting hand.

The body adjourned to meet with Bethlehem Church, Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1885.

T. H. HOWLE, Moderator.

J. C. BEAN, Clerk.

W. G. PRESTON, Treasurer.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

The general meeting of the First District will be held with Salt Creek Church, convening on Friday before the third Sabbath in July, 1885.

The general meeting of the Second District will convene with Pleasant Hill Church Friday before the third Sabbath in July, 1885.

The general meeting of the Third District will convene with Christiana Church, Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in July, 1885.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

- Resolved*, 1. That we add to the list of our annual reports the subject of dancing.
2. That this body consider no queries except such as are sent up by the churches composing this Association.
3. That the money sent up for Foreign Missions be sent to the Foreign Mission Board immediately.
4. That the Executive Committee immediately forward the Foreign Mission funds.
5. That the Clerk distribute the Minutes according to the amount paid by the several churches.
6. That we extend a most hearty and sincere expression of our thanks to the brethren of Bethel Church and the citizens of this community for their friendly hospitality toward this Association during its session in their midst.

STANDING RESOLUTIONS.

7. That this Association is in profound sympathy with all movements which look to the suppression of the sale and drinking of intoxicating liquors.
8. That it is the sense of this Association, that the reported desecration of the Sabbath day by members going to and from market, is totally at variance with the Sacred Scriptures, and not to be tolerated.
9. That every minister of this Association be requested to have as many as two appointments each month during the next Associational year, and report to this body the amount of labor performed by him at the next regular session.

STANDING COMMITTEES TO REPORT NEXT SESSION.

Domestic Missions—J. W. Stephens, J. T. Thompson, W. H. Hardy.
 Foreign Missions—W. M. Garrette, T. J. McClintock, Isaac Haynes.
 The Bible—A. J. Preston, H. C. Knight, W. B. Mathews.
 Obituaries—J. G. Nall, E. A. Stansell, J. M. Camp.
 To Receive Queries—J. S. Moore, J. R. McKinney, Albert Adams.
 To answer Queries—J. H. Preston, H. W. Armstrong, E. A. Smith.
 Family Worship—J. M. Barrett, J. W. Chandler, J. C. Abel.
 Temperance—F. M. Campbell, E. Miller, J. H. Howle.
 Sabbath Schools—W. J. Campbell, N. T. Leverett, W. F. Wade.
 Dancing—A. F. Allen, W. J. Young, A. W. Summers.
 Publications—J. D. Johnson, N. C. Kennedy, M. G. Herrin.

The next session of the Southern Baptist Convention will be held at Augusta, Georgia, Wednesday, May 6th, 1885. P. S. Mell, Athens, Ga., President; Lansing Burrows, Augusta, Ga., and Oliver F. Gregory, Charlotte, North Carolina, Secretaries.

The next Session of the Baptist State Convention will be held with the Baptist Church at Tuskegee, Ala., on Friday before the third Sabbath in July, 1885. Jon. Haralson, Selma, President; Benj. B. Davis, Eufaula, Secretary.

APPENDICES.

REPORT ON DOMESTIC MISSIONS. [A.]

We submit the following report: Whereas, we know of no destitution within our bounds, we feel grateful to almighty God.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. PRESTON, Chm'n.

REPORT ON THE BIBLE. [B.]

Your committee to whom was referred the duty of writing a report on the Bible, offer the following as our report: Bible means book, and it is the Book of books. It makes wise, it sanctifies desire and inspires hope, it imparts joy, it is comforting and consoling, it is sanctifying and saving, it is the way-bill from earth to Heaven, it tells us how to live, it contains the thundering threats and sweet promises of God, it brings light to our dark and benighted minds. When in trouble we read the Bible, and are consoled with the sweet promises found therein. It is the telescope through which we look, and, aided by the Spirit, are able to see the Kingdom of God by faith. It is God's revelation from God to man. We are first made wise by the reading of the Bible, for it is our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ through faith. And now, brethren, this being true, let us read this good book more, and make it the man of our counsel until we grow wise unto salvation. And let us encourage others to read this book of wisdom until heathenism and unbelief shall banish from our gospel-blest country, and we be able to hear that welcome plaudit: "Well done, good and faithful servants, come up higher."

All of which we submit.

F. M. CAMPBELL, Chm'n.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS. [C.]

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools submit the following: We learn that some of the churches in our bounds are engaged in this glorious and Heaven-ordered enterprise, and we trust that the time is near by when all of our churches will wake up to the great and important obligation resting upon them to teach the children the great and glorious truths contained in God's blessed word. We would suggest that the Sabbath School interest is growing in favor and influence, that it is taking possession of the hearts of many of God's people with more earnestness and Heavenly zeal than at any age of the church. There are thousands of children of every nationality on the Lord's day gathered at the various places of worship, with devout teachers, studying God's word with more interest than any age of the past. Where God's word has been preached, pious teachers meet together with their children eager to learn the

plan of redemption set forth in God's blessed word. But while there are many of the churches that are engaged in this glorious enterprise, we find there are many standing in idleness and neglecting this great and important duty of teaching their children the way and plan of salvation.

So dear brethren, let us wake up to our duty in this great work of Sabbath Schools, that when the Lord of the Heavens shall call for us, we may come forth bearing many sheaves.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. STEPHENS, Chm'n.

REPORT ON OBITUARIES. [D.]

Your Committee on Obituaries submit the following report: Through the mercies of an All-wise Providence we are blessed with the privilege of meeting this time without having to record the death of any of our deacons or ministerial brethren.

J. M. BARRETT, Chm'n.

REPORT ON FAMILY WORSHIP. [E.]

Your Committee on Family Worship beg leave to make the following report: What is family worship? It is heartfelt religion. There is no true family worship without true and genuine religion. How many members of the Boiling Spring Association, who have the care of families, can say, "I call my family around the family altar once a day and ask God to bless them and to help you to train those whom he has entrusted to your care in a way that will be acceptable unto God?" Dear brethren, it is around the family altar that we receive our earliest and most lasting impressions. Therefore, let the head of each family daily call those who have been entrusted to his care, and ask God to bless them as becomes him as a Christian; also to 'train them up in the way they should go so when they are old they will not depart from it.'

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. YOUNG, Chm'n.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE. [F.]

Your Committee on Temperance make the following report: 1st. What is temperance? It is a moderate indulgence of the appetite; therefore we should be temperate in all things for the good of our bodies and for the cause of Christ. 2nd. Can we be temperate in eating? We answer yes; but there are some things that it is wrong for us to eat, therefore we cannot be temperate in eating such. 3rd. Can we be temperate in drinking? We answer yes; but there are some things that it is wrong for us to drink, therefore we cannot be temperate in drinking such. We conclude that anything that will dethrone a person is wrong for a well person to drink. This will bring up intoxicating liquor in all of its ramifications of which we wish to speak in particular. The manufacturers and sellers open their doors and say: "Men and women, here is the life-sustaining element," while they know that it is the accursed stuff that will disgrace you and your children, and will destroy both soul and body, and leave your children beggars and companions widows, for which they wish to make gain and a living. "Come and buy of us," and so we buy; and in the year 1883 there were \$92,000,000 more expended in the United States for spirituous liquors than for bread and meat. And \$87,000,000 more than for bread, meat and missions, according to the report of the State Convention, and we don't wonder at this when we see that in the United States there are four bar-keepers to one church, six bar-keepers to one preacher; and while there is spent for religious purposes \$1.10 per head, and educational purposes \$2.02 per head, the amount spent for spirituous liquors is \$17.00 per head. So we see that there is more than five times as much spent for spirituous liquors as for educational and religious purposes.

So, dear brethren, while we know that the thing called whiskey is the king-

dethroning moral destroyer and God-dishonoring thing, ought not our hearts be stirred up to a diligence of our duties that we owe to God by obeying His word where he says: "Touch not the unclean thing?" But it may be said by some that it is not wrong to be a moral dram drinker; but we emphatically say that it is, for the Scripture teaches us to shun the appearance of evil; and surely there is no Christian but who knows that there is that appearance in so doing. So, now, dear brethren, in conclusion, may God help us to turn all of our powers against the accursed stuff called whiskey; and let people know that the Missionary Baptist Church is no home for a drunkard, so that we can continue to say that the temperance cause is still on the increase in the Boiling Springs Baptist Association.

WILLIAM M. GARRETT, Chm'n.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. [G.]

We, your committee, beg leave to make the following report: We have done nothing as a base, having no instructions for missionary enterprises in our bounds. We have, therefore, nothing to report.

W. W. PAYNE, Chm'n.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS. [H.]

Your committee beg leave to make the following report: We are pleased to learn from the reports presented to the Southern Baptist Convention by their Board that the cause of Foreign Missions is slowly but gradually taking a strong hold on the hearts of the Baptist denomination. In answer to this noble impulse the churches of the Boiling Springs Association should join in with the missionary host and contribute liberally for the support of the Gospel in heathen lands.

The Board of Foreign Missions in their thirty-ninth annual report, says: "In view of the increased liberality of our churches, a growing missionary spirit in students for the ministry, the general prosperity and gradual expansion of our missions and the opening of new fields all over the world, the friends of Foreign missions should thank God and take courage. Ten names have been added to our list of American missionaries. In no year since 1845 (the organization of the Convention) have so many or more promising missionaries been enrolled by this Board." The cry comes to us from China, Africa, Brazil, Mexico, and Sunny Italy, for more fervent prayers, more laborers, and more money to carry on the good work begun in those benighted lands. Our Heavenly Father is now opening the door to the heart of the world, and the Holy Spirit is awakening the hearts of all true Christians to make greater efforts to enter in at the straight gate.

The express command of Jesus Christ is, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." "Go teach all nations." How are we going to evade this law? That it is of just as much force to-day as when it was uttered, appears from the precious promise annexed, "Lo, I am with you, even unto the end of the world."

The conviction forces itself upon our minds, that we are all called upon to lend a helping hand and engage earnestly in the Foreign Mission work by all the means at our command, consistent with other claims upon us.

Let every minister of Christ in this Association awake to this mighty enterprise, and if they can not go and preach the Gospel of the Living God to the heathen, let them do all they can by their influence to sustain others engaged in this grand and noble work.

Brethren, if you desire something to do in the vineyard of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, here is work in abundance for you. May God help you to do it willingly and cheerfully.

Respectfully submitted,

JAS. G. NALL, Chm'n.

FINANCIAL REPORT. [I]

Your committee on Finance submit the following report:

Amount for Minutes.....	\$26 90
“ “ Clerk’s fee.....	2 10
“ “ Home Missions.....	5 40
“ “ Foreign “.....	20 05
Total.....	\$54 45

J. H. HOWLE, Chm’n.

TREASURER’S REPORT. [J]

Your Treasurer makes the following report: I find a balance on hand of last year’s collections (1883) divided as follows:

For Home Missions.....	\$ 2 05
“ Foreign “.....	6 65
“ State “ and other collections.....	6 30
“ Indigent Ministers.....	5 75
	\$20 75

ACCOUNT FOR THIS YEAR (1884).

Received from Finance Committee for Minute fund and Clerk’s fee....	\$29 00
For Home Missions.....	5 40
“ Foreign “.....	20 05
Total.....	\$54 45

W. G. PRESTON, Treas.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICE.

A. F. Allen, DeArmanville; B. S. Wilcox, Chinnabee; E. Z. T. Davis, Munford; J. G. Nall, Kentuck; W. H. Preston, Rocky Mount; H. C. Knight, Christiana; J. W. Stephens, Delta; E. Miller, Oak Lone; J. M. Barrett, Kentuck; F. M. Campbell, Heflin; W. J. Campbell, Chulafinnee; T. H. Howle, Delta; W. M. Garrett, Delta; J. W. Chandler, Oxford; J. G. Robertson, Lineville.

LICENTIATES.

A. J. Preston, Christiana; Wm. Odell, Oxford; R. G. Davis, Oxford; E. A. Hanson, Oxford; W. W. Adams, Kentuck; J. D. Johnson, Chulafinnee; P. L. Chandler, Oxford; Jere Stephens, Delta; J. S. Moore, Lineville; L. P. Harnett, Lineville.

205
630
373
540

17, 50

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.
3. The Moderator shall be deemed a judge of order, and shall have the right to call to order at any time.
4. Any member not satisfied with his decision on any point of order, may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.
5. But one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise to his feet, and, on obtaining leave, proceed to speak, not exceeding fifteen minutes at any time, without leave from the Association.
6. The Moderator, when addressed for leave to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise.
7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject or use words of personal reflection; and every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by him that made it.
8. Every case taken up by the Association shall be first decided or withdrawn before another is offered.
9. When anything is taken up by the Association, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays.
10. The Moderator shall pronounce the decision of the body immediately after it is decided.
11. No person shall depart during the services of the Association without leave.
12. The appellation of "Brother" shall be used in our addresses to each other.
13. The names of the members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.
14. No brother shall be allowed to indulge in any practice that has a tendency to interrupt in time of public speech.
15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as any other member, provided he appoint some other to his seat while he is speaking, but shall not vote unless the Association is equally divided.
16. Any person breaking this Decorum shall be reprov'd at the discretion of the Association, but only on the day the breach is made.
17. All cases coming before the Association shall be decided by a majority of the members present, except the reception of churches in our union, which shall be unanimous.
18. The Rules of Decorum shall be read at the opening of each session of this body.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. The ordained and licensed ministers, together with the lay members who are regularly chosen delegates, and who are in good standing in our union, shall compose this Association. Ministers are not considered as delegates, but are considered as members, and have the same privilege of debate and vote as other members, and of performing any other duty assigned them by the body.

II. The members so chosen shall produce letters or other evidence from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with the state of their churches since their last representation.

III. The members thus chosen and convened shall be called the Boiling Spring Baptist Association.

IV. This Association shall sit as an advisory council, and shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor infringe on the internal rights of the churches, but shall have power to withdraw from any church proved to be unsound in faith and practice according to the Scriptures; and any church that fails to represent itself for two associational meetings, shall be deemed in disorder. It shall then be the duty of the Association to appoint two or more brethren to visit said church to ascertain the cause of its delinquency, and report the same to the next Association.

V. If one church commits an offense against another, it shall be the duty of the offended to labor with the offender; and if it fails to obtain satisfaction, it shall call the aid of two or more sister churches; and if satisfaction can not be obtained, the aggrieved church may lay the case before the Association for advice; and if a serious difficulty should arise in an individual church, which, after due labor, it can not reconcile, it may call to its aid two or more churches of its union; and if the difficulty be not then removed, it shall be the duty of the church to bring the case before the Association, to be acted on as above prescribed; but the Association shall take cognizance of no case unless a due course of procedure shall have been taken.

VI. Any church desiring admittance into this union shall petition by letter and messengers, and, if found orthodox, shall be received by the Association through the Moderator's giving the messengers the right hand of fellowship.

VII. Each church in our union shall have three delegates until it has fifty members, and then one additional delegate for every twenty-five members after the first fifty.

VIII. Any church has a right to authorize any brother over whom it has jurisdiction to exercise in public, if, in its judgment, it may deem him worthy; but in licensing, we recommend the churches to call to their aid experienced members from other churches. In cases of ordination we recommend that two or more ordained ministers be called to aid in the same, and that a report be made at the next Association.

IX. This Association may correspond with any Baptist benevolent institution she may deem expedient, and shall be considered a co-worker with all the missionary enterprises of the day, as far as authorized or required by the Scriptures.

X. This Association shall have power at the convening of each session to elect a Moderator and Clerk, who shall hold office until the next regular election.

XI. Any amendment may be made to this form of Constitution at any time when two-thirds of the Association may deem it expedient.

XII. Any church wishing a letter of dismission shall make application therefor by letter.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES, WITH PROOF.

1. We believe in one only true and living God—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, these three in one.—1 Cor. 8:4; Isaiah 44:6; 45:5,21; "Thou hast created all things," Rev. 4:11; Gen. 1; Heb. 3:4; Jer. 10:12; Ex. 15:11; Isa. 6:3.

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.—Proof: 2 Pet. 1:21; Acts 1:16; 3:21; Rom. 3:2; 2 Tim. 3:16; Heb. 1:2; 2 Pet. 3:16.

3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.—Proof: Rom. 5:12; 14:19; Gen. 3:6,24; Ps. 51:5.

4. We believe in man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and holiness.—Proof: Eph. 2:1,3; Isa. 53:6; Gal. 3:10,22; Rom. 3:19.

5. We believe in the doctrine of election through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truths.—John 3:16; Eph. 2:4,10; 1 John 4:10; Phil. 2:6,7; Heb. 2:15,16.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the merits of Jesus Christ.—Proof: Tit. 3:7; Phil. 3:9; Rom. 5:1,5,9; Gal. 2:16,19.

7. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace, and not finally fall away.—Proof: Matt 10:22; John 10 28,29; 4:14,17; 2:7.

8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects, and conscientiously do believe that the true mode of baptism is immersion.—Proof: Matt. 28:20; Acts 2:42; Mark 1:4,9.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and general judgment."—Proof: Acts 24:15; Luke 14:14; John 5:28; Matt. 13:49; 24:31; 25:32.

10. We believe that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.—Proof: Matt. 25:26; Ps. 9:17; Dan. 12:2.

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

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

☞ In the Statistical Table we see the amount for Minutes is \$27.40, which does not correspond with the report of the Financial Committee.

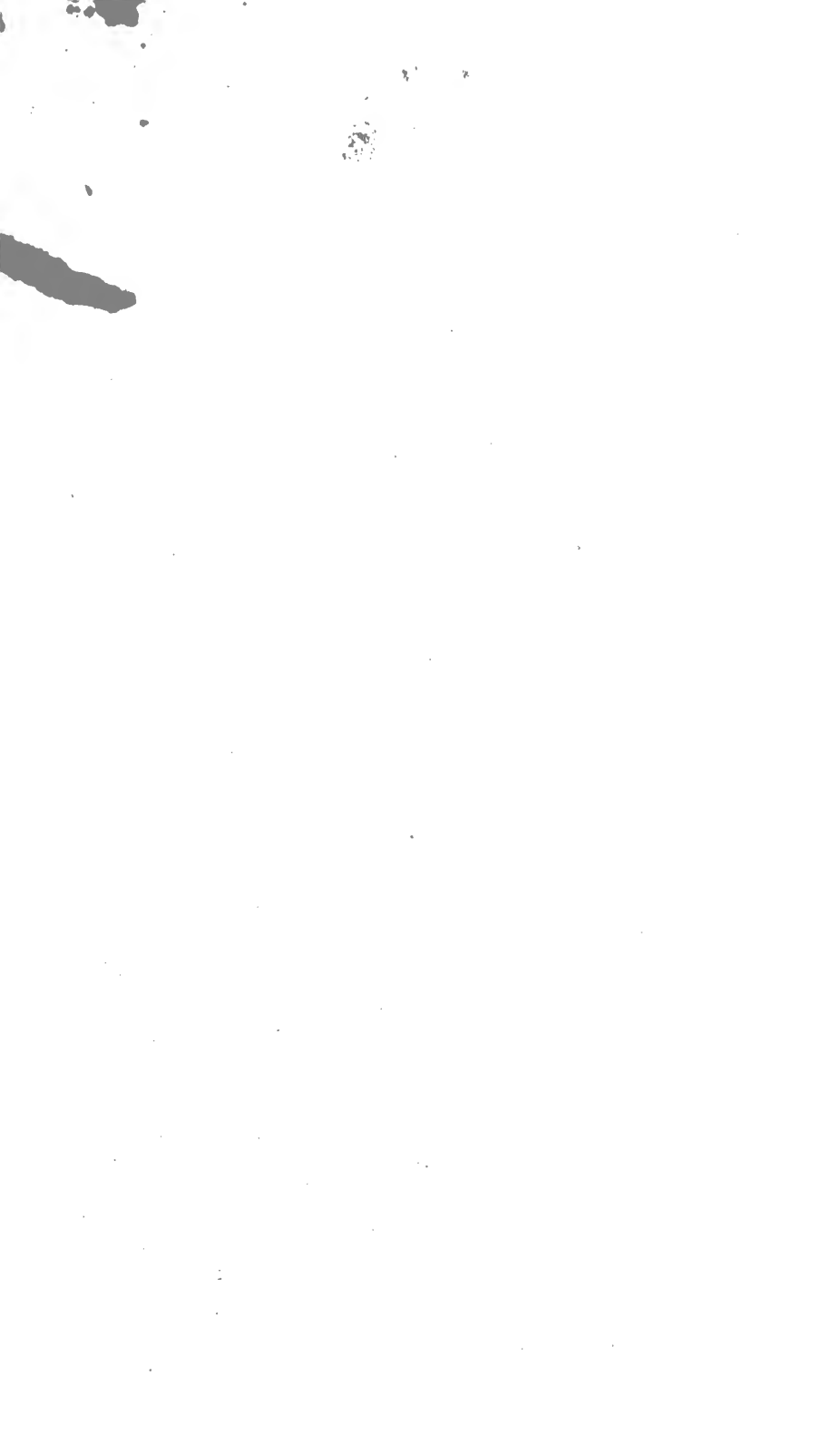
☞ Clerks of churches, please write plainly the statistics of the churches.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY	PASTORS.	POSTOFFICE	CLERK'S ADDRESS.	Received by Baptism	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Total Membership.	Sabbath of Meeting.	Minute Fund.	Clerk's Fee.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.
Bethlehem.....	Cleburne..	A. F. Allen.....	DeArmanville..	J. C. Bean, Oxford.....	6	2	5	1	1	138	3	\$ 3 50	\$		\$ 6 00
Sardis.....	Talladega	J. M. Barrett..	Kentuck	David Lackey, Chinnabee	7	1		3		31	2	95			
Ebenezer.....	"	B. S. Wilcox....	Chinnabee	W. F. Wade	2	5		5		42	4	1 30			
*Providence....	Talladega	J. G. Nall.....	Kentuck	J. A. Wright, Kentuck...	5	2	4	3		103	3	2 00			
*Union.....	Cleburne..	J. W. Chandler..	Oxford.....	R. G. Davis, Oxford..	7	3	2	2	2	24	2	65			
Mt. Pisgah....	Talladega	J. M. Barrett..	Kentuck	E. A. Stansell	2	9				32	1	1 50			
Liberty.....	Cleburne..	W. J. Campbell..	Chulafinnee..	J. H. Howle, Oakfuskee..	3	1	4	2		82	2	1 50			
Hephzibah	Clay.....	W. T. Davis....	Lineville.....	N. T. Leverett, Oak Lone..	3	14				73	2	2 00	1 00		10 00
Bethel.....	Cleburne..	J. W. Chandler..	Oxford.....	J. H. Abel, Chulafinnee..	1	1	2			26	4	1 00			
Bethsaida.....	"	W. J. Campbell..	Chulafinnee..	J. M. Campbell,	4	8	12	4		101	1	3 00			
Pleasant Hill..	"	W. J. Campbell..	"	M. G. Herrin, Heflin....	3	4	2			66	3	1 50			
New Harmony..	Clay.....	D. J. Dodd.....	Oakfuskee....	A. M. Smith, Rocky Mount	1	3	10	2	1	55	2	2 00			
Mt. Moriah....	Clay.....	W. M. Garrett..	Delta.....	J. H. Hardy, Delta	1	11	2	2		76	3	2 00	2 85		1 20
Ramah.....	Randolph	J. G. Robinson..	Lineville.....	J. R. McKinney, Christiana	6	5	1	3	1	69	4	1 50	35		
Christiana....	Clay.....	H. C. Knight....	Christiana....	J. E. Garrett, Lineville...	8	3	9	3	3	100	2	1 50	25		1 50
Pleasant Grove.	Clay.....	W. M. Garrett..	Delta.....	J. L. McClintock, Delta..	3	2	7			52	4	1 50	50		
Good Hope....	"														
Mt. Olive.....	"														
Total.....					5261	779	2615	1070		\$27 40	\$ 2 10	\$ 2 85	\$18 70		

*Not represented.





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